

Department and to the carrier against whose tariff provision the complaint is made. Such a telegraphic complaint shall state the grounds relied upon, and must immediately be confirmed by complaint filed and served in accordance with this part.

(e) Answers to complaints shall be filed within six (6) working days after the complaint is filed.

§ 302.506 Burden of going forward with the evidence.

At any hearing involving a change in a rate, fare, or charge for the transportation of persons or property by aircraft, or the lawful classification, rule, regulation, or practice affecting such rate fare, or charge, the burden of going forward with the evidence shall be upon the person proposing such change to show that the proposed changed rate, fare, charge, classification, rule, regulation or practice is just and reasonable, and not otherwise unlawful.

§ 302.508 Computing time for filing complaints.

In computing the time for filing formal complaints pursuant to § 302.505, with respect to tariffs which do not contain a posting date, the first day preceding the effective date of the tariff shall be the first day counted, and the last day so counted shall be the last day for filing unless such day is a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday for DOT, in which event the period for filing shall be extended to the next successive day which is neither a Saturday, Sunday, nor holiday. The computation of the time for filing complaints as to tariffs containing a posting date shall be governed by § 302.16.

Subpart F—Rules Applicable to Proceedings Concerning Airport Fees

SOURCE: Docket No. 49830, 60 FR 6927, Feb. 3, 1995, unless otherwise noted.

§ 302.601 Applicability of this subpart.

(a) This subpart contains the specific rules that apply to a complaint filed by one or more air carriers or foreign air carriers, pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 47129 (a), for a determination of the reasonable-

ness of a fee increase or a newly established fee for aeronautical uses that is imposed upon the air carrier or foreign air carrier by the owner or operator of an airport. This subpart also applies to requests by the owner or operator of an airport for such a determination. An airport owner or operator has imposed a fee on an air carrier or foreign air carrier when it has taken all steps necessary under its procedures to establish the fee, whether or not the fee is being collected or carriers are currently required to pay it.

(b) This subpart does not apply to—

(1) A fee imposed pursuant to a written agreement with air carriers or foreign air carriers using the facilities of an airport;

(2) A fee imposed pursuant to a financing agreement or covenant entered into prior to August 23, 1994; or

(3) Any other existing fee not in dispute as of August 23, 1994.

§ 302.603 Complaint by an air carrier or foreign air carrier; request for determination by an airport owner or operator.

(a) Any air carrier or foreign air carrier may file a complaint with the Secretary for a determination as to the reasonableness of any fee imposed on the carrier by the owner or operator of an airport. Any airport owner or operator may also request such a determination with respect to a fee it has imposed on one or more air carriers. The complaint or request for determination shall conform to the requirements of this subpart and § 302.3 concerning the form and filing of documents.

(b) If an air carrier or foreign air carrier has previously filed a complaint with respect to the same airport fee or fees, any complaint by another carrier and any airport request for determination shall be filed no later than 7 calendar days following the initial complaint. In addition, all complaints or requests for determination must be filed on or before the 60th day after the carrier receives written notice of the imposition of the new fee or the imposition of the increase in the fee.

(c) To ensure an orderly disposition of the matter, all complaints and any

request for determination filed with respect to the same airport fee or fees will be considered in a consolidated proceeding, as provided in §§ 302.611 and 302.613.

§ 302.605 Contents of complaint or request for determination.

(a) The complaint or request for determination shall set forth the entire grounds for requesting a determination of the reasonableness of the airport fee. The complaint or request shall include a copy of the airport owner or operator's written notice to the carrier of the imposition of the fee, a statement of position with a brief, and all supporting testimony and exhibits available to the carrier on which the filing party intends to rely. In lieu of submitting duplicative exhibits or testimony, the filing party may incorporate by reference testimony and exhibits already filed in the same proceeding.

(b) All exhibits and briefs prepared on electronic spreadsheet or word processing programs should be accompanied by standard-format computer diskettes containing those submissions. Word processing and spreadsheet files must be readable by current versions of one or more of the following programs, or in such other format as may be specified by notice in the FEDERAL REGISTER: Microsoft Word, Word Perfect, Ami Pro, Microsoft Excel, Lotus, Quattro Pro, or ASCII tab-delineated files. Parties should submit one copy of each diskette to the docket section, one copy to the office of the Chief Administrative Law Judge (M-50), and one copy to the Chief, Economic and Financial Analysis Division (X-55), of the Office of Aviation Analysis. Filers should ensure that files on the diskettes are unalterably locked.

(c) When a carrier files a complaint, it must also submit the following certifications:

(1) The carrier has served the complaint, brief, and all supporting testimony and exhibits on the airport owner or operator and all other air carriers and foreign air carriers serving the airport by hand, by electronic transmission, or by overnight express delivery. (Unless an air carrier or foreign air carrier has informed the com-

plaining carrier that a different person should be served, service may be made on the person responsible for communicating with the airport on behalf of the carrier about airport fees.);

(2) The parties served have received the complaint, brief, and all supporting testimony and exhibits or will receive them no later than the date the complaint is filed;

(3) The carrier has previously attempted to resolve the dispute directly with the airport owner or operator;

(4) When there is information on which the carrier intends to rely that is not included with the brief, exhibits, or testimony, the information has been omitted because the airport owner or operator has not made that information available to the carrier. The certification shall specify the date and form of the carrier's request for information from the airport owner or operator; and

(5) Any submission on computer diskette is a true copy of the data file used to prepare the printed versions of the exhibits or briefs.

(d) When an airport owner or operator files a request for determination, it must also submit the following certifications:

(1) The airport owner or operator has served the request, brief, and all supporting testimony and exhibits on all air carriers and foreign air carriers serving the airport by hand, by electronic transmission, or by overnight express delivery. (Unless the air carrier or foreign air carrier has informed the airport owner or operator that a different person should be served, service may be made on the person responsible for communicating with the airport on behalf of the carrier about airport fees.);

(2) The carriers served have received the request, brief, and all supporting testimony and exhibits or will receive them no later than the date the request is filed;

(3) The airport owner or operator has previously attempted to resolve the dispute directly with the carriers; and

(4) Any submission on computer diskette is a true copy of the data file used to prepare the printed versions of the exhibits or briefs.

§ 302.607 Answers to a complaint or request for determination.

(a)(1) When an air carrier or foreign air carrier files a complaint under this subpart, the owner or operator of an airport and any other air carrier or foreign air carrier serving the airport may file an answer to the complaint as provided in paragraphs (b) and (c) of this section.

(2) When the owner or operator of an airport files a request for determination of the reasonableness of a fee it has imposed, any air carrier or foreign air carrier serving the airport may file an answer to the request.

(b) The answer to a complaint or request for determination shall set forth the answering party's entire response. When one or more additional complaints or a request for determination has been filed pursuant to § 302.603(b) with respect to the same airport's fee or fees, the answer shall set forth the answering party's entire response to all complaints and any such request for determination. The answer shall include a statement of position with a brief and any supporting testimony and exhibits on which the answering party intends to rely. In lieu of submitting duplicative exhibits or testimony, the answering party may incorporate by reference testimony and exhibits already filed in the same proceeding.

(c) Answers to a complaint shall be filed no later than fourteen calendar days after the filing date of the first complaint with respect to the fee or fees in dispute at a particular airport. Answers to a request for determination shall be filed no later than fourteen calendar days after the filing date of the request.

(d) All exhibits and briefs prepared on electronic spreadsheet or word processing programs should be accompanied by standard-format computer diskettes containing those submissions. Word processing and spreadsheet files must be readable by current versions of one or more of the following programs, or in such other format as may be specified by notice in the FEDERAL REGISTER: Microsoft Word, Word Perfect, Ami Pro, Microsoft Excel, Lotus, Quattro Pro, or ASCII tab-delineated files. Parties

should submit one copy of each diskette to the docket section, one copy to the office of the Chief Administrative Law Judge (M-50), and one copy to the Chief, Economic and Financial Analysis Division (X-55), of the Office of Aviation Analysis. Filers should ensure that files on the diskettes are unalterably locked.

(e) The answering party must also submit the following certifications:

(1) The answering party has served the answer, brief, and all supporting testimony and exhibits by hand, by electronic transmission, or by overnight express delivery on the carrier filing the complaint or the airport owner or operator requesting the determination;

(2) The parties served have received the answer and exhibits or will receive them no later than the filing date of the answer; and

(3) Any submission on computer diskette is a true copy of the data file used to prepare the printed versions of the exhibits or briefs.

§ 302.609 Replies.

(a) The carrier submitting a complaint may file a reply to any or all of the answers to the complaint. The airport owner or operator submitting a request for determination may file a reply to any or all of the answers to the request for determination.

(b) The reply shall be limited to new matters raised in the answers. It shall constitute the replying party's entire response to the answers. It shall be in the form of a reply brief and may include supporting testimony and exhibits responsive to new matters raised in the answers. In lieu of submitting duplicative exhibits or testimony, the replying party may incorporate by reference testimony and exhibits already filed in the same proceeding.

(c) The reply shall be filed no later than two calendar days after answers are filed.

(d) All exhibits and briefs prepared on electronic spreadsheet or word processing programs should be accompanied by standard-format computer

diskettes containing those submissions. Word processing and spreadsheets files must be readable by current versions of one or more of the following programs, or in such other format as may be specified by notice in the FEDERAL REGISTER: Microsoft Word, Word Perfect, Ami Pro, Microsoft Excel, Lotus, Quattro Pro, or ASCII tab-delineated files. Parties should submit one copy of each diskette to the docket section, one copy to the office of the Chief Administrative Law Judge (M-50), and one copy to the Chief, Economic and Financial Analysis Division, (X-55) of the Office of Aviation Analysis. Filers should ensure that files on the diskettes are unalterably locked.

(e) The carrier or airport owner or operator submitting the reply must certify that it has served the reply and all supporting testimony and exhibits on the party or parties submitting the answer to which the reply is directed and that any submission on computer diskette is a true copy of the data file used to prepare the printed versions of the exhibits or briefs.

§302.611 Review of complaints.

(a) Within 30 days after a complaint is filed under this subpart, the Secretary will determine whether the complaint meets the procedural requirements of this subpart and whether a significant dispute exists, and take appropriate action pursuant to paragraph (b), (c), or (d) of this section.

(b) If the Secretary determines that a significant dispute exists, he or she will issue an instituting order assigning the complaint for hearing before an administrative law judge. The instituting order will—

(1) Establish the scope of the issues to be considered and the procedures to be employed;

(2) Indicate the parties to participate in the hearing;

(3) Consolidate into a single proceeding all complaints and any request for determination with respect to the fee or fees in dispute; and

(4) Include any special provisions for exchange or disclosure of information by the parties.

(c) The Secretary will dismiss any complaint if he or she finds that no sig-

nificant dispute exists. The order dismissing the complaint will contain a concise explanation of the reasons for the determination that the dispute is not significant.

(d) If the Secretary determines that the complaint does not meet the procedural requirements of this subpart, the complaint will be dismissed without prejudice to filing a new complaint. The order of the Secretary will set forth the terms and conditions under which a revised complaint may be filed.

§302.613 Review of requests for determination.

(a) Except as provided in paragraph (e) of this section, within 30 days after an airport owner or operator files a request for determination of the reasonableness of a fee under this subpart, the Secretary will determine whether the request meets the procedural requirements of this subpart and whether a significant dispute exists.

(b) If the Secretary determines that a significant dispute exists, he or she will issue an instituting order assigning the request for hearing before an administrative law judge. The instituting order will establish the scope of the issues to be considered and the procedures to be employed and will indicate the parties to participate in the hearing. The instituting order will consolidate into a single proceeding all complaints and any request for determination with respect to the fee or fees in dispute.

(c) If the Secretary finds that the request for determination presents no significant dispute, the Secretary will either issue a final order as provided in §302.621 or set forth the schedule for any additional procedures required to complete the proceeding.

(d) If the Secretary determines that the request does not meet the procedural requirements of this subpart, the request for determination will be dismissed without prejudice to filing a new request. The order of the Secretary will set forth the terms and conditions under which a revised request may be filed.

(e) When both a complaint and a request for determination have been filed with respect to the same airport fee or

fees, the Secretary will issue a determination as to whether the complaint, the request, or both meet the procedural requirements of this subpart and whether a significant dispute exists within 30 days after the complaint is filed.

§302.615 Decision by administrative law judge.

The administrative law judge shall issue a decision recommending a disposition of a complaint or request for determination within 60 days after the date of the instituting order, unless a shorter period is specified by the Secretary.

§302.617 Petitions for discretionary review.

(a) Within 5 calendar days after service of a decision by an administrative law judge, any party may file with the Secretary a petition for discretionary review of the administrative law judge's decision.

(b) Petitions for discretionary review shall comply with §302.28(a). The petitioner must also submit the following certifications:

(1) The petitioner has served the petition by hand, by electronic transmission, or by overnight express delivery on all parties to the proceeding; and

(2) The parties served have received the petition or will receive it no later than the date the petition is filed.

(c) Any party may file an answer in support of or in opposition to any petition for discretionary review. The answer shall be filed within 4 calendar days after service of the petition for discretionary review. The answer shall comply with the page limits specified in §302.28(b).

§302.619 Completion of proceedings.

(a) When a complaint with respect to an airport fee or fees has been filed under this subpart and has not been dismissed, the Secretary will issue a determination as to whether the fee is reasonable within 120 days after the complaint is filed.

(b) When a request for determination has been filed under this subpart and has not been dismissed, the Secretary will issue a determination as to wheth-

er the fee is reasonable within 120 days after the date the request for determination is filed.

(c) When both a complaint and a request for determination have been filed with respect to the same airport fee or fees and have not been dismissed, the Secretary will issue a determination as to whether the fee is reasonable within 120 days after the complaint is filed.

§302.621 Final order.

(a) When a complaint or request for determination stands submitted to the Secretary for final decision on the merits, he or she may dispose of the issues presented by entering an appropriate order, which will include a statement of the reasons for his or her findings and conclusions. Such an order shall be deemed a final order of the Secretary.

(b) The final order of the Secretary shall include, where necessary, directions regarding an appropriate refund or credit of the fee increase or newly established fee which is the subject of the complaint or request for determination.

(c) If the Secretary has not issued a final order within 120 days after the filing of a complaint by an air carrier or foreign air carrier, the decision of the administrative law judge shall be deemed to be the final order of the Secretary.

Subparts G–H [Reserved]

Subpart I—Rules Applicable to Route Proceedings under Sections 401 and 402 of the Act

GENERAL PROVISIONS

§302.901 Applicability.

This subpart sets forth the special rules applicable to proceedings for conferment and/or modification of route authority under sections 401 and 402 of the Federal Aviation Act of 1958. For information as to other applicable rules, reference should be made to Subpart A of this part, to the Federal Aviation Act, and to the substantive rules (parts 201 and 211 for the form of applications) and orders of DOT.