

§ 2.13

to limit or quash orders requiring reports or answers to questions shall be ruled upon by the Commission itself, but the above-designated Directors, Deputy Directors, Assistant Directors, Associate Directors, Regional Directors and Assistant Regional Directors are delegated, without power of redelegation, the authority to rule upon motions for extensions of time within which to file petitions to limit or quash orders requiring reports or answers to questions.

(d) Except as otherwise provided by the Commission, the timely filing of any petition to limit or quash such an order shall stay the requirement of return on the portion challenged if the Commission has not ruled upon the petition by the return date. If it rules on or subsequent to the return date and its ruling denies the petition in whole or in part, the Commission shall specify a new return date.

(e) All petitions to limit or quash orders requiring a report or answers to specific questions, and the Commission's responses thereto, are part of the public records of the Commission, except for information exempt from disclosure under § 4.10(a) of this chapter.

[41 FR 54485, Dec. 14, 1976, as amended at 45 FR 36343, May 29, 1980; 46 FR 26290, May 12, 1981; 48 FR 41375, Sept. 15, 1983; 50 FR 53304, Dec. 31, 1985]

§ 2.13 Noncompliance with compulsory processes.

(a) In cases of failure to comply with Commission compulsory processes, appropriate action may be initiated by the Commission or the Attorney General, including actions for enforcement, forfeiture, or penalties or criminal actions.

(b) The General Counsel, pursuant to delegation of authority by the Commission, without power of redelegation, is authorized:

(1) To institute, on behalf of the Commission, an enforcement proceeding in connection with the failure or refusal of a person, partnership, or corporation to comply with, or to obey, a subpoena, or civil investigative demand if the return date or any extension thereof has passed;

(2) To approve and have prepared and issued, in the name of the Commission

16 CFR Ch. I (1-1-00 Edition)

when deemed appropriate by the General Counsel, a notice of default in connection with the failure of a person, partnership, or corporation to timely file a report pursuant to section 6(b) of the Federal Trade Commission Act, if the return date or any extension thereof has passed;

(3) To institute, on behalf of the Commission, an enforcement proceeding and to request, on behalf of the Commission, the institution, when deemed appropriate by the General Counsel, of a civil action in connection with the failure of a person, partnership, or corporation to timely file a report pursuant to an order under section 6(b) of the Federal Trade Commission Act, if the return date or any extension thereof has passed; and

(4) To seek civil contempt in cases where a court order enforcing compulsory process has been violated.

[41 FR 54485, Dec. 14, 1976, as amended at 45 FR 39244, June 10, 1980; 50 FR 53304, Dec. 31, 1985]

§ 2.14 Disposition.

(a) When the facts disclosed by an investigation indicate that corrective action is warranted, and the matter is not subject to a consent settlement pursuant to subpart C of this part, further proceedings may be instituted pursuant to the provisions of part 3 of this chapter.

(b) When the facts disclosed by an investigation indicate that corrective action is not necessary or warranted in the public interest, the investigational file will be closed. The matter may be further investigated at any time if circumstances so warrant.

(c) The Commission has delegated to the Director, Deputy Directors, and Assistant Directors of the Bureau of Competition, the Director, Deputy Directors and Associate Directors of the Bureau of Consumer Protection, and Regional Directors, without power of redelegation, limited authority to close investigations.

[32 FR 8446, June 13, 1967, as amended at 42 FR 42195, Aug. 22, 1977; 48 FR 41375, Sept. 15, 1983; 50 FR 53304, Dec. 31, 1985]