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board, commission, council, conference, panel, task force, or other similar group, or any subcommittee or subgroup thereof, which is not formed within the Department, but only during the period it is being used by the Department in the same manner as a Government-formed advisory committee.

(b) *Industry advisory committee* includes any advisory committee composed predominately of members or representatives of a single industry or group of related industries, or any subdivision of a single industry, made on a geographic, service, or product basis.

(c) *Department* means Department of Transportation.

(d) *Secretary* means the Secretary of Transportation.

§ 95.5 Use of advisory committees generally.

(a) Advisory committees are formed to provide a means of obtaining advice, views, and recommendations of benefit to the operations of the Government from industrialists, businessmen, scientists, engineers, educators, and other public and private citizens whose experience and talents would not otherwise be available to the Department. An advisory committee may be used when its counsel is desired on matters under consideration by any part of the Department. Unless specifically authorized by law to the contrary, no advisory committee may be used for functions which are not solely advisory. Determinations of action to be taken with respect to matters upon which an advisory committee advises or recommends may be made only by a full-time, salaried officer or employee of the Government.

(b) An advisory committee may be established to serve the Department as a whole, the Office of the Secretary, any operating administration, any combination of the Office of the Secretary and the operating administrations, or the operating administrations collectively. However, no advisory committee may be formed or used unless (1) the committee is specifically authorized by law, or (2) the committee is specifically approved, in writing, by the Secretary or his designee, to be in the public interest in connection with

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the performance of duties imposed on the Department or any part of it.

§ 95.7 Industry advisory committees: Membership.

Each industry advisory committee must be reasonably representative of the group of industries, the single industry, or the product segment thereof to which it relates, taking into account the size and function of business enterprises in the industry or industries and their location, affiliation, and competitive status among other factors. Selection of industry members shall, unless otherwise provided by statute, be limited to persons actively engaged in operations in the particular industry, industries, or segments concerned, except in cases in which the Secretary or his designee considers that such a limitation would interfere with effective committee operations.

§ 95.9 Meetings; other than industry advisory committees.

(a) Meetings of an advisory committee, other than an industry advisory committee, may be held only at the call, or with the advance approval, of a full-time, salaried officer or employee of the Department, with an agenda formulated or approved by that officer or employee.

(b) Each meeting shall be chaired by, or be conducted in the presence of, a full-time, salaried officer or employee of the Government who is required to adjourn the meeting whenever he considers it to be in the public interest.

(c) Minutes shall be kept of each meeting. As a minimum, the minutes must contain a record of the persons present, a description of the matter discussed and conclusions reached, and a copy of any report received, issued, or approved by the committee. The accuracy of all minutes must be certified by a full-time, salaried officer or employee of the Government who was present during the meeting to which the minutes pertain.

(d) The Secretary or his designee may waive any requirement of this section in any case in which he determines that:

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(1) Compliance with that requirement would interfere with the proper functioning of the committee or would be impracticable;

(2) Adequate provisions are made to assure otherwise that the operation of the committee is subject to Government control and purpose; and

(3) The waiver is in the public interest.

§ 95.11 Meetings; industry advisory committees.

(a) Meetings of an industry advisory committee may be held only at the call of a full-time, salaried officer or employee of the Department, with an agenda formulated by that officer or employee.

(b) Each meeting shall be chaired by a full-time, salaried officer or employee of the Government who is required to adjourn the meeting whenever he considers it to be in the public interest. The Secretary or his designee may waive the requirements of this paragraph in any case in which he determines that:

(1) Compliance with that requirement would interfere with the proper functioning of the committee or would be impracticable;

(2) Adequate provisions are made to assure otherwise that the operation of the committee is subject to Government control and purpose;

(3) The waiver is in the public interest; and

(4) The meeting will be conducted in the presence of a full-time, salaried officer or employee of the Government who is required to adjourn the meeting whenever he considers it to be in the public interest.

(c) A verbatim transcript shall be kept of the proceedings at each meeting, including the name of each person present, his affiliation, and the capacity in which he attended, except in any case in which the Secretary or his designee determines that a verbatim transcript would interfere with the proper functioning of the committee or would be impracticable and therefore waives the requirement as being in the public interest. In such a case the procedure prescribed in § 95.9(c) applies.

(d) No industry advisory committee may receive, compile, or discuss data

or reports showing the current or projected commercial operations of any identified business enterprise.

[33 FR 467, Jan. 12, 1968, as amended by Amdt. 95-1, 33 FR 6913, May 3, 1968]

§ 95.13 Antitrust laws.

The activities of advisory committees are subject to the antitrust laws and committee members are not immune from prosecution under those laws. The Department of Justice takes the position that it retains complete freedom to institute proceedings, either civil or criminal, or both, in the event that any particular plan or course of action is used to accomplish unlawful private ends, and to institute civil actions to enjoin continuance of any act or practices found not to be in the public interest and persisted in after notice to desist. This part is intended to minimize the possibility of violating the antitrust laws. Industry representatives and Government personnel officially connected with advisory committees should be advised of the antitrust aspects of the committee activity.

§ 95.15 Conflicts of interest statutes, orders, and regulations.

There is a body of statutes, orders, and regulations prescribed by the President, the Secretary, and other authorities, dealing with conflicts of interest and designed to prevent any conflict between the official duties and status of Government officers and employees and their private interest. Government officers and employees are required to comply with all applicable laws, orders, and regulations. Part 99 of this chapter sets forth a comprehensive list of the conflicts of interest statutes and guidelines for the employees of the Department to follow in the application of these statutes to part-time advisers and consultants to the Government. Any officer or employee appointed to serve on an advisory committee who has any doubt or question respecting a possible conflict of interest shall seek specific legal advice on his individual situation.