

political party. As used in this paragraph, *occasional, isolated, or incidental use* generally means—

(i) When used by employees during working hours, an amount of activity during any particular work period which does not prevent the employee from completing the normal amount of work which that employee usually carries out during such work period; or

(ii) When used by members other than employees during the working period, such use does not interfere with the labor organization in carrying out its normal activities.

(2) *Safe harbor.* For the purposes of paragraph (b)(1) of this section, the following shall be considered occasional, isolated, or incidental use of labor organization facilities:

(i) Any individual volunteer activity that does not exceed one hour per week or four hours per month, regardless of whether the activity is undertaken during or after normal working hours; or

(ii) Any such activity that constitutes voluntary individual Internet activities (as defined in 11 CFR 100.94), in excess of one hour per week or four hours per month, regardless of whether the activity is undertaken during or after normal working hours, provided that:

(A) As specified in 11 CFR 100.54, the activity does not prevent the employee from completing the normal amount of work for which the employee is paid or is expected to perform;

(B) The activity does not increase the overhead or operating costs of the labor organization; and

(C) The activity is not performed under coercion.

(3) The officials, members, and employees who make more than occasional, isolated, or incidental use of a labor organization's facilities for individual volunteer activities in connection with a Federal election are required to reimburse the labor organization within a commercially reasonable time for the normal and usual rental charge, as defined in 11 CFR 100.52(d)(2), for the use of such facilities.

(c) *Use of corporate or labor organization facilities to produce materials.* Any person who uses the facilities of a cor-

poration or labor organization to produce materials in connection with a Federal election is required to reimburse the corporation or labor organization within a commercially reasonable time for the normal and usual charge for producing such materials in the commercial market.

(d) *Use or rental of corporate or labor organization facilities by other persons.* Persons, other than those specifically mentioned in paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section, who make any use of corporate or labor organization facilities, such as by using telephones or typewriters or borrowing office furniture, for activity in connection with a Federal election are required to reimburse the corporation or labor organization within a commercially reasonable time in the amount of the normal and usual rental charge, as defined in 11 CFR 100.52(d)(2), for the use of the facilities.

(e) Nothing in this section shall be construed to alter the provisions in 11 CFR Part 114 regarding communications to and beyond a restricted class.

[41 FR 35955, Aug. 25, 1976, as amended at 45 FR 21210, Apr. 1, 1980; 67 FR 78681, 78682, Dec. 26, 2002; 68 FR 69595, Dec. 15, 2003; 71 FR 18614, Apr. 4, 2006]

§ 114.10 Nonprofit corporations exempt from the prohibitions on making independent expenditures and electioneering communications.

(a) *Scope.* This section describes those nonprofit corporations that qualify for an exemption in 11 CFR 114.2. It sets out the procedures for demonstrating qualified nonprofit corporation status, for reporting independent expenditures and electioneering communications, and for disclosing the potential use of donations for political purposes.

(b) *Definitions.* For the purposes of this section—

(1) *The promotion of political ideas* includes issue advocacy, election influencing activity, and research, training or educational activity that is expressly tied to the organization's political goals.

(2) A corporation's *express purpose* includes:

(i) The corporation's purpose as stated in its charter, articles of incorporation, or bylaws, except that a statement such as "any lawful purpose,"

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“any lawful activity,” or other comparable statement will not preclude a finding under paragraph (c) of this section that the corporation’s only express purpose is the promotion of political ideas;

(ii) The corporation’s purpose as publicly stated by the corporation or its agents; and

(iii) Purposes evidenced by activities in which the corporation actually engages.

(3)(i) The term *business activities* includes but is not limited to:

(A) Any provision of goods or services that results in income to the corporation; and

(B) Advertising or promotional activity which results in income to the corporation, other than in the form of membership dues or donations.

(ii) The term *business activities* does not include fundraising activities that are expressly described as requests for donations that may be used for political purposes, such as supporting or opposing candidates.

(4) The term *shareholder* has the same meaning as the term *stockholder*, as defined in 11 CFR 114.1(h).

(c) *Qualified nonprofit corporations.* For the purposes of this section, a qualified nonprofit corporation is a corporation that has all the characteristics set forth in paragraphs (c)(1) through (c)(5) of this section:

(1) Its only express purpose is the promotion of political ideas, as defined in paragraph (b)(1) of this section;

(2) It cannot engage in business activities;

(3) It has:

(i) No shareholders or other persons, other than employees and creditors with no ownership interest, affiliated in any way that could allow them to make a claim on the organization’s assets or earnings; and

(ii) No persons who are offered or who receive any benefit that is a disincentive for them to disassociate themselves with the corporation on the basis of the corporation’s position on a political issue. Such benefits include but are not limited to:

(A) Credit cards, insurance policies or savings plans; and

(B) Training, education, or business information, other than that which is

necessary to enable recipients to engage in the promotion of the group’s political ideas.

(4) It:

(i) Was not established by a business corporation or labor organization;

(ii) Does not directly or indirectly accept donations of anything of value from business corporations, or labor organizations; and

(iii) If unable, for good cause, to demonstrate through accounting records that paragraph (c)(4)(ii) of this section is satisfied, has a written policy against accepting donations from business corporations or labor organizations; and

(5) It is described in 26 U.S.C. 501(c)(4).

(d) *Permitted corporate independent expenditures and electioneering communications.* (1) A qualified nonprofit corporation may make independent expenditures, as defined in 11 CFR 100.16, without violating the prohibitions against corporate expenditures contained in 11 CFR part 114.

(2) A qualified nonprofit corporation may make electioneering communications, as defined in 11 CFR 100.29, without violating the prohibitions against corporate expenditures contained in 11 CFR part 114.

(3) Except as provided in paragraphs (d)(1) and (d)(2) of this section, qualified nonprofit corporations remain subject to the requirements and limitations of 11 CFR part 114, including those provisions prohibiting corporate contributions, whether monetary or in-kind.

(e) *Qualified nonprofit corporations; reporting requirements—(1) Procedures for demonstrating qualified nonprofit corporation status.* (i) If a corporation makes independent expenditures under paragraph (d)(1) of this section that aggregate in excess of \$250 in a calendar year, the corporation shall certify, in accordance with paragraph (e)(1)(i)(B) of this section, that it is eligible for an exemption from the prohibitions against corporate expenditures contained in 11 CFR part 114.

(A) This certification is due no later than the due date of the first independent expenditure report required under paragraph (e)(2)(i) of this section.

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(B) This certification may be made either as part of filing FEC Form 5 (independent expenditure form) or, if the corporation is not required to file electronically under 11 CFR 104.18, by submitting a letter in lieu of the form. The letter shall contain the name and address of the corporation and the signature and printed name of the individual filing the qualifying statement. The letter shall also certify that the corporation has the characteristics set forth in paragraphs (c)(1) through (c)(5) of this section. A corporation that does not have all of the characteristics set forth in paragraphs (c)(1) through (c)(5) of this section, but has been deemed entitled to qualified nonprofit corporation status by a court of competent jurisdiction in a case in which the same corporation was a party, may certify that application of the court's ruling to the corporation's activities in a subsequent year entitles the corporation to qualified nonprofit corporation status. Such certification shall be included in the letter submitted in lieu of the FEC form.

(ii) If a corporation makes electioneering communications under paragraph (d)(2) of this section that aggregate in excess of \$10,000 in a calendar year, the corporation shall certify, in accordance with paragraph (e)(1)(ii)(B) of this section, that it is eligible for an exemption from the prohibitions against corporate expenditures contained in 11 CFR part 114.

(A) This certification is due no later than the due date of the first electioneering communication statement required under paragraph (e)(2)(ii) of this section.

(B) This certification must be made as part of filing FEC Form 9 (electioneering communication form).

(2) *Reporting independent expenditures and electioneering communications.* (i) Qualified nonprofit corporations that make independent expenditures aggregating in excess of \$250 in a calendar year shall file reports as required by 11 CFR part 104.

(ii) Qualified nonprofit corporations that make electioneering communications aggregating in excess of \$10,000 in a calendar year shall file statements as required by 11 CFR 104.20(b).

(f) *Solicitation; disclosure of use of contributions for political purposes.* Whenever a qualified nonprofit corporation solicits donations, the solicitation shall inform potential donors that their donations may be used for political purposes, such as supporting or opposing candidates.

(g) *Non-authorization notice.* Qualified nonprofit corporations making independent expenditures or electioneering communications under this section shall comply with the requirements of 11 CFR 110.11.

(h) *Segregated bank account.* A qualified nonprofit corporation may, but is not required to, establish a segregated bank account into which it deposits only funds donated or otherwise provided by individuals, as described in 11 CFR part 104, from which it makes disbursements for electioneering communications.

(i) *Activities prohibited by the Internal Revenue Code.* Nothing in this section shall be construed to authorize any organization exempt from taxation under 26 U.S.C. 501(a), including any qualified nonprofit corporation, to carry out any activity that it is prohibited from undertaking by the Internal Revenue Code, 26 U.S.C. 501, *et seq.*

[60 FR 35305, July 6, 1995, as amended at 65 FR 38424, June 21, 2000; 67 FR 65211, Oct. 23, 2002; 75 FR 32, Jan. 4, 2010]

EDITORIAL NOTE: At 67 FR 78682, Dec. 26, 2002, §114.10(e)(2) was amended by removing “109.2” and adding “109.10”. However, this reference does not exist.

§ 114.11 Employee participation plans.

(a) A corporation may establish and administer an employee participation plan (i.e. a *trustee plan*) which is a political giving program in which a corporation pays the cost of establishing and administering separate bank accounts for any employee who wishes to participate. The cost of administering and establishing includes the payment of costs for a payroll deduction or check-off plan and the cost of maintaining the separate bank accounts.

(1) The employees must exercise complete control and discretion over the disbursement of the monies in their accounts.