

Federal Aviation Administration, DOT

§ 16.307

dismiss the case. The official authorized to issue the hearing order issues the consent order as an order of the FAA and terminates the proceeding.

Subpart H—Judicial Review

§ 16.247 Judicial review of a final decision and order.

(a) A person may seek judicial review, in a United States Court of Appeals, of a final decision and order of the Associate Administrator as provided in 49 U.S.C. 46110 or section 519(b)(4) of the Airport and Airway Improvement Act of 1982, as amended, (AAIA), 49 U.S.C. 47106(d) and 47111(d). A party seeking judicial review of a final decision and order shall file a petition for review with the Court not later than 60 days after a final decision and order under the AAIA has been served on the party or within 60 days after the entry of an order under 49 U.S.C. 40101 *et seq.*

(b) The following do not constitute final decisions and orders subject to judicial review:

(1) An FAA decision to dismiss a complaint without prejudice, as set forth in § 16.27;

(2) A Director's determination;

(3) An initial decision issued by a hearing officer at the conclusion of a hearing;

(4) A Director's determination or an initial decision of a hearing officer that becomes the final decision of the Associate Administrator because it was not appealed within the applicable time periods provided under §§ 16.33(b) and 16.241(b).

Subpart I—Ex Parte Communications

§ 16.301 Definitions.

As used in this subpart:

Decisional employee means the Administrator, Deputy Administrator, Associate Administrator, Director, hearing officer, or other FAA employee who is or who may reasonably be expected to be involved in the decisional process of the proceeding.

Ex parte communication means an oral or written communication not on the public record with respect to which reasonable prior notice to all parties is

not given, but it shall not include requests for status reports on any matter or proceeding covered by this part, or communications between FAA employees who participate as parties to a hearing pursuant to 16.203(b) of this part and other parties to a hearing.

§ 16.303 Prohibited ex parte communications.

(a) The prohibitions of this section shall apply from the time a proceeding is noticed for hearing unless the person responsible for the communication has knowledge that it will be noticed, in which case the prohibitions shall apply at the time of the acquisition of such knowledge.

(b) Except to the extent required for the disposition of ex parte matters as authorized by law:

(1) No interested person outside the FAA and no FAA employee participating as a party shall make or knowingly cause to be made to any decisional employee an ex parte communication relevant to the merits of the proceeding;

(2) No FAA employee shall make or knowingly cause to be made to any interested person outside the FAA an ex parte communication relevant to the merits of the proceeding; or

(3) Ex parte communications regarding solely matters of agency procedure or practice are not prohibited by this section.

§ 16.305 Procedures for handling ex parte communications.

A decisional employee who receives or who makes or knowingly causes to be made a communication prohibited by § 16.303 shall place in the public record of the proceeding:

(a) All such written communications;

(b) Memoranda stating the substance of all such oral communications; and

(c) All written responses, and memoranda stating the substance of all oral responses, to the materials described in paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section.

§ 16.307 Requirement to show cause and imposition of sanction.

(a) Upon receipt of a communication knowingly made or knowingly caused to be made by a party in violation of § 16.303, the Associate Administrator or