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(e) Regulate the course of the hearing and, if appropriate, exclude from the hearing persons who engage in misconduct;

(f) Strike all related testimony of witnesses refusing to answer any questions ruled to be proper;

(g) Hold conferences for the settlement or simplification of the issues by consent of the parties or upon the Hearing Officer's own motion;

(h) Dispose of procedural requests, motions, or similar matters, which shall be made part of the record of the proceedings, including motions referred to the Hearing Officer by the Regional Director and motions to amend petitions;

(i) Call and examine and cross-examine witnesses and introduce into the record documentary or other evidence;

(j) Request the parties at any time during the hearing to state their respective positions concerning any issue in the case or theory in support thereof;

(k) Continue the hearing from dayto-day, or adjourn it to a later date or to a different place, by announcement thereof at the hearing or by other appropriate notice;

(1) Rule on motions to correct the transcript which are received within ten (10) days after the transcript is received in the regional office; and

(m) Take any other action necessary under this section and not prohibited by the regulations in this subchapter.

§1422.13 Objections to conduct of hearing.

Any objection to the introduction of evidence may be stated orally or in writing and shall be accompanied by a short statement of the grounds of such objection, and be included in the record. No such objection shall be deemed waived by further participation in the hearing. Automatic exceptions will be allowed to all adverse rulings.

§1422.14 Filing of briefs.

A party desiring to file a brief with the Board shall file the original and three (3) copies within thirty (30) days from the close of the hearing. Copies thereof shall be served on all other parties to the proceeding. Requests for additional time in which to file a brief under authority of this section shall be made to the Regional Director, in writing, and copies thereof shall be served on the other parties and a statement of such service shall be filed with the Regional Director. Requests for extension of time shall be in writing and received not later than five (5) days before the date such briefs are due. No reply brief may be filed in any proceeding except by special permission of the Board.

§1422.15 Transfer of case to the Board; contents of record.

Upon the close of the hearing the case is transferred automatically to the Board. The record of the proceeding shall include the petition, notice of hearing, service sheet, motions, rulings, orders, official transcript of the hearing with any corrections thereto, stipulations, objections, depositions, interrogatories, exhibits, documentary evidence, and any briefs or other documents submitted by the parties.

§1422.16 Decision.

The Board will issue a decision directing an election or dismissing the petition, or making other disposition of the matters before it.

§ 1422.17 Election procedure; request for authorized representation election observers.

This section governs all elections conducted under the supervision of the Regional Director pursuant to §1422.7 or §1422.16. The Regional Director may conduct elections in unusual circumstances in accordance with terms and conditions set forth in the notice of election.

(a) Appropriate notices of election shall be posted by the Department. Such notices shall set forth the details and procedures for the election, the unit described in 22 U.S.C. 4112, the eligibility period, the date(s), hour(s) and place(s) of the election and shall contain a sample ballot.

(b) The reproduction of any document purporting to be a copy of the official ballot, other than one completely unaltered in form and content and clearly marked "sample" on its face,