§ 291.105

§ 291.105 What must a complaint contain?

For purposes of this subpart, a complaint means a comprehensive written brief stating the legal and factual basis for the allegation that a shipper was denied open and nondiscriminatory access, together with supporting material. A complaint must:

- (a) Clearly identify the action or inaction which is alleged to violate 43 U.S.C. 1334(e) or (f)(1)(A);
- (b) Explain how the action or inaction violates 43 U.S.C. 1334(e) or (f)(1)(A);
- (c) Explain how the action or inaction affects your interests, including practical, operational, or other non-financial impacts;
- (d) Estimate any financial impact or burden:
- (e) State the specific relief or remedy requested; and
- (f) Include all documents that support the facts in your complaint including, but not limited to, contracts and any affidavits that may be necessary to support particular factual allegations.

§291.106 How do I file a complaint?

To file a complaint under this part, you must:

- (a) File your complaint with the Director, Minerals Management Service at the following address: Director, Minerals Management Service, Attention: Policy and Management Improvement, 1849 C Street, NW., Mail Stop 5438, Washington, DC 20240-0001; and
- (b) Include a nonrefundable processing fee of \$7,500 under \$291.108(a) or a request for reduction or waiver of the fee under \$291.109(a); and
- (c) Serve your complaint on all persons named in the complaint. If you make a claim under §291.111 for confidentiality, serve the redacted copy and proposed form of a protective agreement on all persons named in the complaint.
- (d) Complaints shall not be filed later than two (2) years from the time of the alleged access denial. If the complaint is filed later than two (2) years from the time of the alleged access denial,

the MMS Director will not consider the complaint and the case will be closed.

[73 FR 34640, June 18, 2008, as amended at 74 FR 46910, Sept. 14, 2009]

§291.107 How do I answer a complaint?

- (a) If you have been served a complaint under §291.106, you must file an answer within 60 days of receiving the complaint. If you miss this deadline, MMS may disregard your answer. We consider your answer to be filed when the MMS Director receives it at the following address: Director, Minerals Management Service, Attention: Policy and Management Improvement, 1849 C Street, NW., Mail Stop 5438, Washington, DC 20240-0001.
- (b) For purposes of this paragraph, an answer means a comprehensive written brief stating the legal and factual basis refuting the allegations in the complaint, together with supporting material. You must:
- (1) Attach to your answer a copy of the complaint or reference the assigned MMS docket number (you may obtain the docket number by calling the Policy and Management Improvement Office at (202) 208–2622);
- (2) Explain in your answer why the action or inaction alleged in the complaint does not violate 43 U.S.C. 1334(e) or (f)(1)(A);
- (3) Include with your answer all documents in your possession or that you can otherwise obtain that support the facts in your answer including, but not limited to, contracts and any affidavits that may be necessary to support particular factual allegations; and
- (4) Provide a copy of your answer to all parties named in the complaint including the complainant. If you make a claim under §291.111 for confidentiality, serve the redacted copy and proposed form of a protective agreement to all parties named in the complaint, including the complainant.

[73 FR 34640, June 18, 2008, as amended at 74 FR 46910, Sept. 14, 2009]

§ 291.108 How do I pay the processing fee?

(a) You must pay the processing fee electronically through Pay.Gov. The Pay.Gov Web site may be accessed through links on the MMS Offshore