

prima facie case, is made at the close of the evidence offered in support of the notice or order, the administrative law judge may defer ruling thereon until the close of the case for the reception of evidence.

(c) When a motion to dismiss is granted so as to terminate entirely the proceeding before the administrative law judge, the administrative law judge shall file a decision in accordance with the provisions of §1720.525. If such a motion is granted only as to some allegations or as to some respondents, the administrative law judge shall enter this partial determination on the record and take it into account in the decision.

**§ 1720.330 Motions to limit or quash.**

Any person to whom a subpoena is directed may, prior to the time specified therein for compliance, but in no event more than 5 days after the date of service of such subpoena, apply to the administrative law judge to quash or modify such subpoena, accompanying such application with a brief statement of the reasons therefor. The administrative law judge shall have the discretion of granting, denying or modifying said motion.

**§ 1720.335 Consolidation.**

When more than one proceeding involves a common question of law or fact, the administrative law judge may order a joint hearing of any or all of the matters in issue in the proceedings and may make such other orders concerning the proceedings as to avoid unnecessary costs or delay.

DISCOVERY AND EVIDENCE

**§ 1720.405 Depositions and discovery.**

(a) At any time during the course of a proceeding, the administrative law judge may discretionally order the taking of a deposition and the production of documents by the deponent. Such order may be entered upon a showing that the deposition is necessary for the purpose of discovery or to preserve relevant evidence. Insofar as consistent with considerations of fairness and the requirements of due process and the rules of this subpart, a deposition shall not be ordered when it appears that it

will result in undue burden to any other party or in undue delay of the proceeding. Depositions may be taken orally or upon written interrogatories and cross-interrogatories.

(b) Any party desiring to take a deposition shall make application in writing to the administrative law judge setting forth the justification therefor and the time and place proposed for the taking of the deposition. The application shall include also the name and address of each proposed deponent and the subject matter concerning which each is expected to depose and shall be accompanied by an application for any subpoenas desired.

(c) An order that the administrative law judge may issue for taking a deposition shall state the circumstances warranting its being taken, and shall designate the time and place and shall show the name and address of each person who is expected to appear and the subject matter with regard to which each is expected to depose. The time designated shall allow not less than 5 days from date of service of the order when the deposition is to be taken within the United States, and not less than 15 days when the deposition is to be taken elsewhere.

(d) After an order is served for taking a deposition upon motion timely made by any party or by the person to be deposed and for good cause shown, the administrative law judge may determine the propriety of and issue any of the following orders:

(1) That the deposition shall not be taken.

(2) That it may be taken only at some designated place other than that stated in the order.

(3) That it may be taken only on written interrogatories.

(4) That certain matters shall not be inquired into.

(5) That the examination shall be held with no one present except the parties to the action, their counsel and a person qualified in the designated place to administer oaths and affirmations.

(e) The administrative law judge may make any other order which justice requires to protect the party or deponent from annoyance, embarrassment or oppression, or to prevent the unnecessary