

§ 209.335 Publication.

(a) Section 4 of the Administrative Procedure Act requires publication of general notice of proposed rule making in the FEDERAL REGISTER (unless all persons subject thereto are named and either personally served or otherwise have actual notice thereof in accordance with law), except to the extent that there is involved: (1) Any military, naval, or foreign affairs function of the United States or (2) any matter relating to agency management or personnel or to public property, loans, grants, benefits, or contracts. Except where notice of hearing is required by statute, this requirement does not apply to interpretative rules, general statements of policy, rules of agency organization, procedure, or practice, or in any situation in which the agency for good cause finds (and incorporates the finding and a brief statement of the reasons therefor in the rules issued) that notice and public procedure thereon are impracticable, unnecessary, or contrary to the public interest.

(b) General notice of proposed rule making published in accordance with the above will include: (1) A statement of the time, place, and nature of public rule making proceedings; (2) reference to the authority under which the rule is proposed; and (3) either the terms or substance of the proposed rule or a description of the subjects and issues involved.

§ 209.340 Laboratory investigations and materials testing.

(a) *Purpose.* The purpose of this section is to define and establish policies and procedures applicable to the performance of investigations and tests at Corps of Engineers laboratory installations for other governmental agencies and private organizations.

(b) *Applicability.* This regulation applies to Corps of Engineers Divisions and Districts operating soils, concrete, water quality and hydraulic laboratories, and to the Inter-Agency Sedimentation Project.

- (c) *References.* (1) AR 37–20.
 (2) AR 37–27.
 (3) ER 1–1–6.
 (4) ER 10–1–3, Appendix XIII.
 (5) ER 1110–1–8100.
 (6) ER 1140–2–303.

(d) *Policy.* Subject to the authority limitations contained in paragraph (f) of this section, laboratory investigations and materials testing may be performed for other agencies of the Federal Government, State and local units of government, foreign governments and private firms under the following conditions:

(1) The work will be performed on a cost reimbursable basis.

(2) Work may be performed for State and local units of government, foreign governments or private firms only when it is firmly established that private commercial laboratory facilities capable of performing such work are not available, or because of location or for other reasons it is clearly impractical to utilize such private commercial laboratory services. The requesting entity must further certify that such services cannot be procured reasonably and expeditiously through ordinary business channels.

(3) Performance of the work will not interfere with provisions of services essential to the mission of the Corps.

(4) Performance of the work will not require an increase in the permanent staff of the facility.

(5) Performance of the work will not require expansion of normal facilities.

(6) The work is within the scope of authorized activities of the laboratory at which the work is to be performed.

(7) Performance of the work will not be adverse to the public interest.

(8) Prior to undertaking laboratory investigations or materials testing for private firms, written certification will be obtained from such firms stating that the results of the work will not be used in litigation or for promotional purposes.

(e) *Terms of providing reimbursement for work performed—*(1) *Federal agencies.* Reimbursement for work for the Department of Defense, the Department of the Army, and other Federal Agencies will be in accordance with the procedures prescribed in AR 37–27.

(2) *State and local units of Government.* Funds to cover the total estimated cost of the work or an initial increment of