

§ 201.160

orally or in writing shall include a statement of findings and conclusions, as well as the reasons or bases therefor, upon the material issues presented, as well as a statement of the appropriate rule, order, sanction, relief to be imposed, or the denial thereof. A copy of each decision when issued or when transcribed if orally rendered (and all orally presented decisions shall be stenographically recorded) shall be served on the parties to the proceeding, and furnished to interested persons upon request.

§ 201.160 Decision based on official notice.

Official notice may be taken of such matters as might be judicially noticed by the courts, or of technical or scientific facts within the general or specialized knowledge of the Administration as an expert body or of a document required to be filed with or published by a duly constituted governmental body: *Provided*, That where a decision or part thereof rests on the official notice of a material fact not appearing in the evidence of the record, the fact of official notice shall be so stated in the decision, and any party, on timely request, shall be afforded an opportunity to show the contrary.

§ 201.161 Exceptions to, and review by the Administration of initial or recommended decisions.

Within twenty (20) days after the service date of the initial or recommended decision, whether oral or in writing, unless a shorter period is fixed under § 201.54, any party may file exceptions to any conclusions, findings, or statements contained in such decision, and a brief in support of such exceptions. Such exceptions and brief shall constitute one document, shall indicate with particularity alleged errors, shall indicate pages of transcript and exhibit numbers when referring to the record, and shall be served on all parties pursuant to subpart D of this part. Whenever the presiding officer renders an initial decision, in the absence of the filing of exceptions thereto, or notice of review thereof by the Administration, such decision, shall upon the issuance of an appropriate order by the Administration, become the decision of

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the Administration. Upon the filing of exceptions to, or notice of review of, an initial or recommended decision, such decision shall become inoperative until the Administration determines the matter. Where exceptions are filed to, or the Administration reviews, an initial or recommended decision, the Administration, except as it may limit the issues upon notice or by rule, will have all the powers which it would have in making the initial decision. Whenever the Administration shall determine to review an initial or recommended decision on its own initiative, notice of such intention shall be served upon the parties within thirty (30) days after the date when the initial or recommended decision is orally rendered and, if in writing, served.

§ 201.162 Replies to exceptions.

Any party may file and serve a reply to exceptions within twenty (20) days after date of service thereof, unless a shorter period is fixed pursuant to § 201.54. Such reply shall indicate pages of the transcript and exhibit numbers when referring to the record.

§ 201.163 Request for extension of time for filing exceptions and replies thereto.

Requests for extension of time within which to file exceptions, and briefs in support thereof, or replies to exceptions shall conform to the applicable provisions of subpart E of this part. Except for good cause shown, such requests shall be filed and served not later than five (5) days before the expiration of the time fixed for the filing of such documents.

§ 201.164 Certification of record by presiding officer.

The presiding officer shall certify and transmit the entire record to the Administration when: (a) Exceptions are filed or the time therefor has expired, (b) notice is given by the Administration that the initial or recommended decision will be reviewed on its own initiative, or (c) the Administration requires the case to be certified to it for initial decision.