Oregon
Kate Brown, Governor

Public Utility Commission
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January 14, 2021

AR 641 Division 1 Rulemaking Workshop 1 Agenda

The Administrative Hearings Division (AHD) will hold a workshop in AR 641 as follows:

DATE: February 12, 2020

TIME: 9:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

BY ZOOM: Link to Meeting,
Meeting ID: 862 9553 1089,
Passcode: nh?9=8vzYR

One tap mobile: +19712471195,,86295531089#,,,,*2964687640# US (Portland)
Meeting ID: 862 9553 1089
Passcode: 2964687640

Background

In the fall of 2020, the Commission opened the informal phase in AR 641, a rulemaking intended to address updates to Division 001 of the Commission's rules. Division 001 of the Commission's rules includes a series of procedural rules that govern many Commission processes. These rules are relevant to the filing of documents with the Commission, filing requirements in contested cases, service upon parties to a contested docket, rulemakings, ex parte contacts, settlements, declaratory rulings, submission of evidence in contested cases, discovery, and rehearing and reconsideration of Commission decisions.

Since these rules were last reviewed, the Commission has undergone changes. Specifically, more processes at the Commission have become electronic only. The COVID-19 pandemic changed Commission procedures in important ways, as reflected in a series of rule waivers and changes to how the Commission processes confidential filings. Finally, the Commission is in the process of replacing its antiquated docket and discovery systems and will have new tools for serving the public, particularly through the filing center, which may necessitate further revision of general procedural rules.

Agenda for Informal First Workshop

The priority of the first workshop of this rulemaking is to identify goals and objectives for the rulemaking. The Administrative Hearings Division has clear ideas about what we want to achieve through this effort, but this rulemaking also presents an opportunity to all stakeholders who participate at the Commission to identify process changes that will help improve Commission functions. Accordingly, we hope to hear from participants regarding broad areas where they think we should focus.

1) Introductions, review of agenda, and overview of areas governed by Division 1 rules

2) Review of AHD priorities for the rulemaking
    a. Modernize rules to address increased electronic fillings
    b. Add flexibility given COVID-19 impacts on the Commission
    c. Prepare for filing center changes associated with new technology
    d. Update discovery rules
    e. Update rules associated with the employment of former Commission employees
    f. Update service rules to align the filing center with the hours of Commission operation.

3) Stakeholder ideas and round table discussion
    a. Stakeholder review and reaction
    b. Stakeholder priorities for areas of focus
    c. Discussion

4) Discussion of next steps
    a. Review of options for next workshop
    b. Discussion of dates for next workshop

For questions or suggestions, please contact the Administrative Hearings Division by e-mail (puc.hearings@state.or.us). You may also contact me directly at 503-689-3622.

Nolan Moser
Chief Administrative Law Judge

IF YOU HAVE A DISABILITY AND NEED ACCOMMODATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS EVENT, PLEASE LET US KNOW
(503) 378-6678, Oregon Relay Service: 7-1-1, or e-mail puc.hearings@state.or.us