## UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION 1

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## IN THE MATTER OF:

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**Electronic Submission of Documents** 

EPA Docket No. 01-2015-0001

## STANDING ORDER AUTHORIZING FILING AND SERVICE BY E-MAIL IN PROCEEDINGS BEFORE THE REGION 1 REGIONAL JUDICIAL OFFICER

The Consolidated Rules of Practice Governing the Administrative Assessment of Civil Penalties and the Revocation/Termination or Suspension of Permits, set forth at 40 C.F.R. Part 22 ("Consolidated Rules of Practice"), state that "[t]he Presiding Officer... may by order authorize... electronic filing, subject to any appropriate conditions and limitations." 40 C.F.R. §22.5(a)(l), (b)(2). Note, however, that rulings, orders and decisions must be filed and served in accordance with 40 C.F.R. § 22.6, and complaints must be served in accordance with 40 C.F.R. § 22.5(b)(1). Accordingly, pursuant to this authority, the filing and service of documents, *other than the complaint*, rulings, *orders*, and decisions, in all cases currently before or subsequently filed with the Region 1 Regional Judicial Officer governed by the Consolidated Rules of Practice may be filed and served by e-mail.<sup>1</sup> See 40 C.F.R. §§ 22.5(a), (b)(1), (b)(2) & 22.6.

Note that this Standing Order does not require the use of e-mail for filing or service in lieu of other methods for filing and/or service. Rather, it authorizes the use of e-mail *in addition to* those methods already authorized in the Consolidated Rules of Practice. 40 C.F.R. § 22.5(b)(2).

In addition, the following conditions and limitations to facilitate filing and service by email are hereby adopted.

- A document is considered filed when the Regional Hearing Clerk receives it. 40 C.F.R. § 22.5(a)(1). All filed documents must be signed, accompanied by a certificate of service, and submitted to the Regional Hearing Clerk for filing in person, or by mail, courier, commercial delivery service, or email.
- Documents filed with the Regional Hearing Clerk by email after 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time will be treated as having been filed the next business day.
- For documents filed through non-electronic means, the inked date stamp physically applied by the Regional Hearing Clerk to the paper copy of the documents will continue

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> This Order *shall not* apply to proceedings under other provisions in Title 40 that do not expressly incorporate the Part 22 procedures.

to serve as the official record of the date and time of filing. The Regional Hearing Clerk is open to receive such paper filings between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday.

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- Any party choosing to submit a document to the Regional Hearing Clerk by e-mail for filing must address the c-mail to <u>R1\_Hearing\_Clerk\_Filings@epa.gov</u> (note: there are "\_" underscore characters between each word). The subject line of the electronic transmission shall include the name and docket number of the proceeding. Documents submitted electronically must be in Portable Document Format ("PDF"), and contain a contact name, phone number, mailing address, and e-mail address of the filing party or its authorized representative. *All* documents submitted for filing, regardless of submission method, must be signed and accompanied by a certificate of service in accordance with 40 C.F.R. § 22.5(a)(3).
- Documents submitted by email for filing shall be deemed to constitute both the original and one copy of the document in satisfaction of the duplicate-filing requirement at 40 C.F.R. § 22.5(a)(1).
- This authorization terminates as to any particular proceeding when an answer is filed pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 22.15. In addition, this authorization does *not* apply in proceedings under 40 C.F.R. § 22.13(b), or to consent agreements and final orders filed with the Regional Hearing Clerk pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 22.18(b) and Memorandum from Susan L. Biro, Chief Administrative Law Judge, OALJ, Amendment of Hearing Clerk Pilot Procedures as to CAFOS (March 14, 2013) (available at http://www.epa.gov/oali/orders/HrgClerk PilotProject Memo Amendment.pdf).
- Documents filed after an answer is filed must comply with the Chief Administrative Law Judge's Standing Order Authorizing Filing and Service By E-Mail in Proceedings Before the Office of Administrative Law Judges (November 21, 2013) (available at <a href="http://www.epa.gov/oalj/orders/2013/Standing\_Order\_2013-11-21\_E-Mail\_Filing\_&\_Service\_Signed.pdf">http://www.epa.gov/oalj/orders/2013/Standing\_Order\_2013-11-21\_E-Mail\_Filing\_&\_Service\_Signed.pdf</a>) and the Chief Administrative Law Judge's Standing Order Authorizing Electronic Filing in Proceedings Before the Office of Administrative Law Judges (August 11, 2014) (available at <a href="http://www.epa.gov/oalj/orders/2014/2014-08-11%20-%20E-Filing\_Standing\_Order\_Final.pdf">http://www.epa.gov/oalj/orders/2013/Standing\_Order\_2013-11-21\_E-Mail\_Filing\_&\_Service\_Signed.pdf</a>) and the Chief Administrative Law Judge's Standing Order Authorizing Electronic Filing in Proceedings Before the Office of Administrative Law Judges (August 11, 2014) (available at <a href="http://www.epa.gov/oalj/orders/2014/2014-08-11%20-%20E-Filing\_Standing\_Order\_Final.pdf">http://www.epa.gov/oalj/orders/2014/2014-08-11%20-%20E-Filing\_Standing\_Order\_Final.pdf</a>).
- This authorization applies only in proceedings in which the complaint clearly provides notice of the availability of electronic filing and service, and in which the complaint is accompanied by a copy of this notice and order. Prior to utilizing electronic service, the parties shall confer and reach agreement regarding acceptable electronic addresses and other logistical issues.
- The conditions and limitations set forth herein may be amended or revoked generally or in regard to a specific case or group of cases by further order of the Regional Judicial Officer in her sole discretion at any time. In addition, the Regional Judicial Officer may issue an order modifying these conditions and limitations if deemed appropriate in her discretion.

SO ORDERED.

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Dated: October 9, 2014

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LeAnn Jensen Acting Regional Judicial Officer