

7845.7400 HANDLING PERMISSIBLE EX PARTE COMMUNICATIONS.

Subpart 1. **Documentation.** Documentation is not needed for permissible ex parte communications with commissioners and decision-making personnel except as provided in subparts 2 to 4.

Subp. 2. **Written communications with staff.** Decision-making personnel who receive or generate a permissible written ex parte communication that is prohibited for commissioners under part 7845.7200 shall file a copy of the communication in the commission's public file with a notation of the sender and recipient within 48 hours after the communication is received or generated.

Subp. 3. **Oral communications with staff.** Decision-making personnel who receive or generate a permissible oral ex parte communication that is prohibited for commissioners under part 7845.7200 shall ensure that the substance of the communication and the name of the maker or recipient of the communication is recorded in a signed memorandum to the commission's public file within 48 hours. If a proceeding has been assigned to an administrative law judge, a copy of the memorandum must be sent to the judge.

Subp. 4. **Interim rate proceedings; compliance filings.** Commissioners and decision-making personnel may receive or generate written or oral ex parte communications with a party or participant in the setting of interim rates or the review of compliance filings following the issuance of a final order or order after reconsideration. Commissioners and decision-making personnel who receive or generate written or oral ex parte communications in these situations shall place a signed note in the commission's public file containing the name of the party or participant, date, docket number of proceeding, and topic as soon as practicable, but no later than the issuance of the interim rate order or the compliance filing order.

Subp. 5. **Informing the public.** The commission shall make information regarding ex parte communications that occur in these situations available to the public upon reasonable request at its office during regular business hours.

Statutory Authority: *MS s 216A.037*

History: *11 SR 1743; 34 SR 902*

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