

In the United States Court of Federal Claims

NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF AMENDMENTS TO RULES

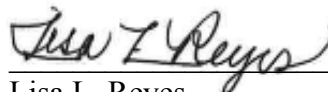
On April 29, 2016, the court posted notice on its website advising of proposed amendments to its rules and inviting public comment on the proposed amendments by June 13, 2016. In response to this invitation, several comments were received from a member of the private bar concerning the proposed amendments to Appendix H (“Procedure for Alternative Dispute Resolution”). Chief among these comments was the point that in the interest of ensuring the confidentiality of parties’ submissions in alternative dispute resolution (ADR) proceedings, the court should maintain its current practice of restricting filings in ADR proceedings to the orders and notices issued by the ADR judge or third-party neutral—a practice that does not include the filing of the parties’ ADR submissions. Use of a proposed separate ADR docket, it was noted, would result in the unwanted permanent retention of confidential submissions in the court’s electronic case filing system. The court, upon consideration, agrees with this comment and has modified proposed Appendix H accordingly.

In addition to omitting the proposed separate ADR docket from Appendix H, the court also has introduced a technical amendment to paragraph 9 of the court’s electronic filing procedures. Specifically, in the interest of providing a clearer instruction regarding size limitations of electronic filings, paragraph 9(b) of Appendix E (“Electronic Case Filing Procedure”) and paragraph 9(b) of the Supplement to Appendix B (“Electronic Case Filing Procedure in Vaccine Act Cases”) have been modified by clarifying that “[a] single filing may not exceed 11 separate Adobe PDF files, i.e., the main document and 10 attachments.”

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The court genuinely appreciates the comments that were submitted and extends a note of thanks for the time and effort that was expended in reviewing the proposed amendments and in offering thoughtful suggestions.

The rules amended by this notice are available on the court’s website at <http://www.uscfc.uscourts.gov>.



Lisa L. Reyes
Acting Clerk of Court

Issued: August 1, 2016