DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Internal Revenue Service

26 CFR Parts 1 and 31

[REG-142686-01]

RIN 1545-BA26

Application of the Federal Insurance Contributions Act, Federal Unemployment Tax Act, and Collection of Income Tax at Source to Statutory Stock Options; Hearing

AGENCY: Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

ACTION: Change of time of public hearing.

SUMMARY: This document contains a notice of change of time of public hearing on proposed regulations relating to incentive stock options and options granted under employee stock purchase plan.

DATES: The time of the public hearing originally scheduled for Thursday, May 14, 2002, beginning at 10 a.m. has been changed to begin at 9 a.m.

ADDRESSES: The public hearing will be held in the Auditorium, Internal Revenue Building, 1111 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC. In addition, all visitors must present photo identification to enter the building.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Concerning the hearing, and/or to be placed on the building access list to attend the hearing Treena Garrett, (202) 622–7180 (not a toll-free number).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The subject of the public hearing is proposed regulations (REG–142686–01) that was published in the Federal Register on November 14, 2001 (65 FR 57023).

The rules of 26 CFR 601.601(a)(3) apply to the hearing. A period of 10 minutes is allotted to each person for presenting oral comments.

After the deadline for receiving outlines has passed, the IRS will prepare an agenda containing the schedule of speakers. Copies of the agenda will be made available, free of charge, at the hearing.

Because of access restrictions, the IRS will not admit visitors beyond the immediate entrance area more than 30 minutes before the hearing starts. For information about having your name placed on the building access list to attend the hearing, see the FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT section of this document.

Cynthia E. Grigsby,
Chief, Regulations Unit, Associate Chief Counsel (Income Tax and Accounting).
[FR Doc. 02–11311 Filed 5–6–02; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4830–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

United States Patent and Trademark Office

37 CFR Parts 1 and 2

RIN 0651–AB51

Revision of Patent and Trademark Fees for Fiscal Year 2003


ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking.

SUMMARY: The United States Patent and Trademark Office (referred to as “we”, “us”, or “our” in this notice) is proposing to adjust certain patent fee amounts and a trademark fee amount to reflect fluctuations in the Consumer Price Index (CPI). Also, we are proposing to adjust, by a corresponding amount, a few patent fees that track the affected fees. The Director is authorized to adjust these fees annually by the CPI to recover the higher costs associated with doing business.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before June 6, 2002.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be submitted by e-mail addressed to matthew.lee@uspto.gov. Comments may also be submitted by mail addressed to: Office of Finance, Crystal Park One, Suite 802, Washington, DC, 20231, or by fax to (703) 305–8007, marked to the attention of Matthew Lee.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Matthew Lee by e-mail at matthew.lee@uspto.gov, by telephone at (703) 305–8051, or by fax at (703) 305–8007.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This proposed rule would adjust our fees in accordance with the applicable provisions of title 35, United States Code, as amended by the Consolidated Appropriations Act, Fiscal Year 2000 (which incorporated the Intellectual Property and Communications Omnibus Reform Act of 1999) (Public Law 106–113); and section 1113 of title 15, United States Code. This proposed rule would also adjust, by a corresponding amount, a few patent fees (37 CFR 1.17(e), (f), and (g)) that track statutory fees (either 37 CFR 1.17(a) or 1.17(m)).
In addition to this proposed rule, we have also prepared another notice of proposed rulemaking, to seek comment on a $50 per-class surcharge on the trademark application fee and the fee for filing certain other trademark-related documents where: (1) A Trademark Electronic Application System (TEAS) form is available for that document and (2) the document is filed on paper. That notice of proposed rulemaking deals with the current trademark application fee, not the CPI adjusted fee, and proposes that the current fee of $325 be used for the filing of a TEAS application. A paper application filed under the same fee schedule would be $375.

**Background**

**Statutory Provisions**

 Patent fees are authorized by 35 U.S.C. 41, 119, 120, 132(b) and 376. For fees paid under 35 U.S.C. 41(a) and (b), independent inventors, small business concerns, and nonprofit organizations who meet the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 41(h)(1) are entitled to a fifty-percent reduction.

 Section 41(f) of title 35, United States Code, provides that fees established under 35 U.S.C. 41(a) and (b) may be adjusted on October 1, 1992, and every year thereafter, to reflect fluctuations in the CPI over the previous twelve months.

 Section 41(d) of title 35, United States Code, authorizes the Director to establish fees for all other processing, services, or materials related to patents to recover the average cost of providing these services or materials, except for the fees for recording a document affecting title, for each photocopy, for each black and white copy of a patent, and for library services.

 Section 41(g) of title 35, United States Code, provides that new fee amounts established by the Director under section 41 may take effect thirty days after notice in the Federal Register and the Official Gazette of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

 Section 1113 of title 15, United States Code, authorizes the Director to establish fees for the filing and processing of an application for the registration of a trademark or other mark, and for all other services and materials relating to trademarks and other marks.

 Section 1113(a) of title 15, United States Code, allows trademark fees to be adjusted once each year to reflect, in the aggregate, any fluctuations during the preceding twelve months in the CPI.

 Section 1113(a) also allows new trademark fee amounts to take effect thirty days after notice in the Federal Register and the Official Gazette of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

**Fee Adjustment Level**

 The patent statutory fees established by 35 U.S.C. 41(a) and (b) are proposed to be adjusted on October 1, 2002, to reflect any fluctuations occurring during the previous twelve months in the Consumer Price Index for all urban consumers (CPI–U). The Office of Management and Budget has advised us that in calculating these fluctuations, we should use CPI–U data as determined by the Secretary of Labor. In accordance with previous fee-setting methodology, we base this proposed fee adjustment on the Administration’s projected CPI–U for the twelve-month period ending September 30, 2002, which is 2.4 percent. Based on this projection, patent statutory fees are proposed to be adjusted by 2.4 percent. Before the final fee amounts are published, the fee amounts may be adjusted based on actual fluctuations in the CPI–U published by the Secretary of Labor.

 Certain patent processing fees established under 35 U.S.C. 41(d), 119, 120, 132(b), 376, and Public Law 103–465 (the Uruguay Round Agreements Act) are proposed to be adjusted to reflect fluctuations in the CPI.

 A trademark processing fee established under 15 U.S.C. 1113 is proposed to be adjusted to reflect fluctuations in the CPI.

 The fee amounts were rounded by applying standard arithmetic rules so that the amounts rounded would be convenient to the user. Fees for other than a small entity of $100 or more were rounded to the nearest $10. Fees of less than $100 were rounded to an even number so that any comparable small entity fee would be a whole number.

**General Procedures**

 Any fee amount that is paid on or after the effective date of the proposed fee increase would be subject to the new fees then in effect. The amount of the fee to be paid will be determined by the time of filing. The time of filing will be determined either according to the date of receipt in our office or the date reflected on a proper Certificate of Mailing or Transmission, where such a certificate is authorized under 37 CFR 1.8. Use of a Certificate of Mailing or Transmission is not authorized for items that are specifically excluded from the provisions of § 1.8. Items for which a Certificate of Mailing or Transmission under § 1.8 are not authorized include, for example, for filing of Continued Prosecution Applications (CPAs) under § 1.53(d) and other national and international applications for patents. See 37 CFR 1.8(a)(2).

 Under 37 CFR 1.10(a), any correspondence delivered by the “Express Mail Post Office to Addressee” service of the United States Postal Service (USPS) is considered filed or received in our office on the date of deposit with the USPS. The date of deposit with the USPS is shown by the “date-in” on the “Express Mail” mailing label or other official USPS notation.

 To ensure clarity in the implementation of the new fees, a discussion of specific sections is set forth below.

**Discussion of Specific Rules**

 37 CFR 1.16  National Application Filing Fees

 Section 1.16, paragraphs (a), (b), (d), and (f) through (l), if revised as proposed, would adjust fees established therein to reflect fluctuations in the CPI.

 37 CFR 1.17  Patent Application and Reexamination Processing Fees

 Section 1.17, paragraphs (a) through (l), if revised as proposed, would adjust fees established therein to reflect fluctuations in the CPI.

 37 CFR 1.18  Patent Post Allowance (Including Issue) Fees

 Section 1.18, paragraphs (a) through (c), if revised as proposed, would adjust fees established therein to reflect fluctuations in the CPI.

 37 CFR 1.20  Post Issuance Fees

 Section 1.20, paragraphs (e) through (g), if revised as proposed, would adjust fees established therein to reflect fluctuations in the CPI.

 37 CFR 1.492  National Stage Fees

 Section 1.492, paragraphs (a)(1) through (a)(3), (a)(5), (b), and (d), if revised as proposed, would adjust fees established therein to reflect fluctuations in the CPI.

 37 CFR 2.6  Trademark Fees

 Section 2.6, paragraph (a)(1), if revised as proposed, would adjust the fee established therein to reflect fluctuations in the CPI.

**Other Considerations**

 This proposed rule contains no information collection requirements within the meaning of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, 44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq. This proposed rule has been determined to be not significant for purposes of Executive Order 12866. This proposed rule does not contain
By other than a small entity—$760.00
(b) In addition to the basic filing fee in an original application, except provisional applications, for filing or later presentation of each independent claim in excess of 3:
By a small entity (§ 1.27(a))—$43.00
By other than a small entity—$86.00
* * * * *
(d) In addition to the basic filing fee in an original application, except provisional applications, if the application contains, or is amended to contain, a multiple dependent claim(s), per application:
By a small entity (§ 1.27(a))—$145.00
By other than a small entity—$290.00
* * * * *
(f) Basic fee for filing each design application:
By a small entity (§ 1.27(a))—$170.00
By other than a small entity—$340.00
(g) Basic fee for filing each plant application, except provisional applications:
By a small entity (§ 1.27(a))—$260.00
By other than a small entity—$520.00
(h) Basic fee for filing each reissue application:
By a small entity (§ 1.27(a))—$380.00
By other than a small entity—$760.00
* * * * *
(i) In addition to the basic filing fee in a reissue application, for filing or later presentation of each independent claim which is in excess of the number of independent claims in the original patent:
By a small entity (§ 1.27(a))—$43.00
By other than a small entity—$86.00
* * * * *
3. Section 1.17 is proposed to be amended by revising paragraphs (a)(2) through (a)(5), (b) through (e), (m), and (r) through (t) to read as follows:

§ 1.17 Patent application and reexamination processing fees.

(a) * * *
(1) * * *
(2) For reply within second month:
By a small entity (§ 1.27(a))—$205.00
By other than a small entity—$410.00
(3) For reply within third month:
By a small entity (§ 1.27(a))—$470.00
By other than a small entity—$940.00
(4) For reply within fourth month:
By a small entity (§ 1.27(a))—$735.00
By other than a small entity—$1,470.00
(5) For reply within fifth month:
By a small entity (§ 1.27(a))—$1,000.00
By other than a small entity—$2,000.00
(b) For filing a notice of appeal from the examiner to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences:
By a small entity (§ 1.27(a))—$165.00
By other than a small entity—$330.00
(c) In addition to the fee for filing a notice of appeal, for filing a brief in support of an appeal:
By a small entity (§ 1.27(a))—$165.00
By other than a small entity—$330.00
(d) For filing a request for an oral hearing before the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences in an appeal under 35 U.S.C. 134:
By a small entity (§ 1.27(a))—$145.00
By other than a small entity—$290.00
To request continued examination pursuant to § 1.114:
By a small entity (§ 1.27(a))—$380.00
By other than a small entity—$760.00
* * * * *
(m) For filing a petition for revival of an unintentionally abandoned application, for the unintentionally delayed payment of the fee for issuing a patent, or for the revival of an unintentionally terminated reexamination proceeding under 35 U.S.C. 41(a)(7) (§ 1.137(b)):
By a small entity (§ 1.27(a))—$655.00
By other than a small entity—$1,310.00
* * * * *
(r) For entry of a submission after final rejection under § 1.129(a):
By a small entity (§ 1.27(a))—$380.00
By other than a small entity—$760.00
(s) For each additional invention requested to be examined under § 1.129(b):
By a small entity (§ 1.27(a))—$380.00
By other than a small entity—$760.00
(t) For the acceptance of an unintentionally delayed claim for priority under 35 U.S.C. 119, 120, 121, or 365(a) or (c) (§§ 1.55 and 1.78):
$1,310.00.
4. Section 1.18 is proposed to be amended by revising paragraphs (a) through (c) to read as follows:

§ 1.18 Patent post allowance (including issue) fees.

(a) Issue fee for issuing each original or reissue patent, except a design or plant patent:
By a small entity (§ 1.27(a))—$655.00
By other than a small entity—$1,310.00
(b) Issue fee for issuing a design patent:
By a small entity (§ 1.27(a))—$235.00
By other than a small entity—$470.00
(c) Issue fee for issuing a plant patent:
By a small entity (§ 1.27(a))—$315.00
By other than a small entity—$630.00
* * * * *
5. Section 1.20 is proposed to be amended by revising paragraphs (e) through (g) to read as follows:
§ 1.20 Post issuance fees.

(e) For maintaining an original or reissue patent, except a design or plant patent, based on an application filed on or after December 12, 1980, in force beyond four years; the fee is due by three years and six months after the original grant:

By a small entity (§ 1.27(a))—$450.00
By other than a small entity—$900.00

(f) For maintaining an original or reissue patent, except a design or plant patent, based on an application filed on or after December 12, 1980, in force beyond four years; the fee is due by seven years and six months after the original grant:

By a small entity (§ 1.27(a))—$1,035.00
By other than a small entity—$2,070.00

§ 1.492 National stage fees.

(a) The basic national fee:

(1) Where an international preliminary examination fee as set forth in § 1.482 has been paid on the international application to the United States Patent and Trademark Office:

By a small entity (§ 1.27(a))—$365.00
By other than a small entity—$730.00

(2) Where no international preliminary examination fee as set forth in § 1.482 has been paid to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, but an international search fee as set forth in § 1.445(a)(2) has been paid on the international application to the United States Patent and Trademark Office as an International Searching Authority:

By a small entity (§ 1.27(a))—$380.00
By other than a small entity—$760.00

(3) Where no international preliminary examination fee as set forth in § 1.482 has been paid and no international search fee as set forth in § 1.445(a)(2) has been paid on the international application to the United States Patent and Trademark Office:

By a small entity (§ 1.27(a))—$530.00
By other than a small entity—$1,060.00

(4) * * *

(5) Where a search report on the international application has been prepared by the European Patent Office or the Japan Patent Office:

By a small entity (§ 1.27(a))—$455.00
By other than a small entity—$910.00

(b) In addition to the basic national fee, for filing or later presentation of each independent claim in excess of 3:

By a small entity (§ 1.27(a))—$43.00
By other than a small entity—$86.00

(d) In addition to the basic national fee, if the application contains, or is amended to contain, a multiple dependent claim(s), per application:

By a small entity (§ 1.27(a))—$145.00
By other than a small entity—$290.00

PART 2—RULES OF PRACTICE IN TRADEMARK CASES

1. The authority citation for 37 CFR Part 2 would continue to read as follows:


2. Section 2.6 is proposed to be amended by revising paragraph (a)(1) to read as follows:

§ 2.6 Trademark fees.

(a) * * *

(1) For filing an application, per class—$340.00

Dated: May 1, 2002.

Jon W. Dudas,

[FR Doc. 02–11270 Filed 5–6–02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–16–P 7

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

40 CFR Part 52

[CA 261–0337b; FRL–7171–4]

Revisions to the California State Implementation Plan, San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Proposed rule.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

40 CFR Part 52

[CA 261–0337b; FRL–7171–4]

Revisions to the California State Implementation Plan, San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: EPA is proposing to approve a revision to the San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District (SJVUAPCD) portion of the California State Implementation Plan (SIP). This revision concerns volatile organic compound (VOC) emissions from adhesives. We are proposing to approve a local rule to regulate this emission source under the Clean Air Act as amended in 1990 (CAA or the Act).

DATES: Any comments on this proposal must arrive by June 6, 2002.

ADDRESSES: Mail comments to Andy Steckel, Rulemaking Office Chief (AIR–4), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region IX, 75 Hawthorne Street, San Francisco, CA 94105–3901.

You can inspect copies of the submitted SIP revision and EPA’s technical support document (TSD) at our Region IX office during normal business hours. You may also see copies of the submitted SIP revision at the following locations:

California Air Resources Board, Stationary Source Division, Rule Evaluation Section, 1001 “I” Street, Sacramento, CA 95814.

San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District, 1990 E. Gettysburg Street, Fresno, CA 93726.


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This proposal addresses SJVUAPCD Rule 4653, Adhesives. In the Rules and Regulations section of this Federal Register, we are approving this local rule in a direct final action without prior proposal because we believe this SIP revision is not controversial. If we receive adverse comments, however, we will publish a timely withdrawal of the direct final rule and address the comments in subsequent action based on this proposed rule.

We do not plan to open a second comment period, so anyone interested in commenting should do so at this time. If we do not receive adverse comments, no further activity is planned. For further information, please see the direct final action.

Dated: March 29, 2002.

Laura Yoshii,
Deputy Regional Administrator, Region IX.

[FR Doc. 02–11175 Filed 5–6–02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560–50–P