

**General Order 156, 5/30/1988 (Current as of June 11, 2015); Rules Governing the Development of Programs to Increase Participation of Women, Minority and Disabled Veteran Business Enterprises (WMDVBEs) in Procurement of Contracts from Utilities as Required by Pub. Util. Code § § 8281-8286**

<b>Event</b>	<b>General Order 156</b>	<b>Governing Appellate Rule</b>
<b>File Appeal</b>	Within 20 days after service of the Clearinghouse's final decision on the complaint. (Section 7.3.1)	Program Rule 3: File Notice of Appeal with Docket Office; File within time stated by General Order (GO) 156 § 7.3.1.
<b>Content of Appeal</b>	Indicate grounds. (Section 7.3.1). The Commission will not entertain complaints which do not allege violations of any law, Commission rule, order, or decision, or utility tariff resulting from such Commission action, but which instead involve only general contract-related disputes, such as failure to win a contract award. (Section 7.1)	Program Rule 5: State date and dollar amount of citation; indicate rationale for appeal as required by GO 156 § 7.3.1 and § 7.1.
<b>Compliance Filing</b>	Silent	Program Rule 7: Staff issuing citation must file complete citation and proof of service with Commission's Docket Office no later than 14 days after Notice of Appeal is filed. Staff

<b>Event</b>	<b>General Order 156</b>	<b>Governing Appellate Rule</b>
		must serve filing on Chief Judge and Appellant on same day.
<b>Exchange of Information</b>	Silent	Program Rule 9: Parties must exchange all information intended to be introduced into the record at hearing which is not included in citation or compliance filing no later than three business days prior to hearing.
<b>Hearing Date</b>	Between 10 and 20 days after the Judge is assigned. The Judge may for good cause or upon parties' agreement, grant reasonable continuance of hearing. (Section 7.3.5)	Program Rule 10: Hearing must commence as required by GO 156 § 7.3.5.
<b>Burden of Proof</b>	Appellant opens and closes. Judge has discretion to alter order. (Section 7.3.9)	Program Rule 11: The burden of proof is as set forth in GO 156 § 7.3.9.
<b>Evidence</b>	Formal rules do not necessarily apply; Judge may receive all relevant and reliable evidence. (Section 7.3.9.)	Program Rule 13: Rule 13.6 (Evidence) of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure applies.
<b>Hearing Venue</b>	SF or LA, as scheduled by the Judge. (Section 7.3.4)	Program Rule 12: Venue as set forth in GO 156 § 7.3.4.
<b>Party Representative</b>	At appellant's expense. (Section 7.3.8)	Program Rule 13: At appellant's expense.

<b>Event</b>	<b>General Order 156</b>	<b>Governing Appellate Rule</b>
<b>Transcript</b>	Appellant must pay costs per Commission procedures. (Section 7.3.6)	Program Rule 14: Appellant must pay costs per Commission's procedures.
<b>Interpreter</b>	Upon written request to the assigned Judge not less than three business days prior to date of hearing. (Section 7.3.7)	Program Rule 15: Upon a good faith showing of language difficulty and written request to the assigned Administrative Law Judge (Judge) and Commission's Public Advisor's Office not less than five business days prior to date of hearing. At Commission's expense.
<b>Submission</b>	Ordinarily at close of hearing; Judge may keep record open for good cause for a reasonable period to permit a party to submit additional evidence or argument. (Section 7.3.10)	Program Rule 16: The submission date is governed by GO 156 § 7.3.10.
<b>Issuance of Draft Resolution</b>	No later than 30 days after appeal submitted. (Section 7.3.11)	Program Rule 17: Draft decision issued expeditiously, and no later than 60 days after submission. Program Rule 18: Draft Resolution issued for public comment

<b>Event</b>	<b>General Order 156</b>	<b>Governing Appellate Rule</b>
<b>Ex Parte Communications</b>	Prohibited from date of service of the notice of appeal through the date the Commission's final order is mailed. (Section 7.3.12)	Program Rule 19: Prohibited from date of Clearinghouse decision (which is being appealed) issues to final order.
<b>Rehearing</b>	Silent	Program Rule 20: Resolution subject to rehearing.

**Additional Program Rules:**

- Rule 1: Applicability
- Rule 2: Definitions
- Rule 4: Extension of Time to File the Notice of Appeal
- Rule 6: Minimum Service Requirements for the Notice of Appeal; Note that new service requirements (on the Clearinghouse and an entity whose WMLGBTBE status is challenged in a third party appeal) were added by Resolution ALJ-299. Thus, General Order 156 § 7.3 is changed in this regard.
- Rule 6.1 Expedited Citation Appeal Procedure
- Rule 8: Service List and Parties to An Appeal; Note that Resolution ALJ-299 provided that a permissible party to a third party appeal is an entity whose WMLGBTBE status is challenged. Thus, General Order 156 § 7.3 is changed in this regard.
- Rule 21: Service of Rules and Resolution Adopting Them With All Citations and Clearinghouse Decisions Concerning General Order 156
- Rule 22: Applicable Procedure when Appellate Rules Are Silent