

**22 COOPERATION:** All parties are expected to cooperate in every respect of the representation process. This obligation includes cooperating fully with the Regional Director, submitting all required and requested information, and participating in prehearing conferences and hearings. The failure to cooperate in the representation process may result in the Regional Director taking appropriate action, including dismissal of the petition or denial of intervention [§ 2422.15(c)]. Other potential outcomes include:

- a. Failure of the petitioner to make available necessary facts that are in his/her possession may result in prompt dismissal.
- b. Failure of other parties to furnish the “best evidence” available on an issue or particular matter may result in the acceptance of other information available on that point.
- c. Failure of the intervenor or incumbent to sign an election agreement because of a disagreement on the matters contained in § 2422.16(b) or because the incumbent simply refuses to cooperate may result in a Direction of Election or denial of status as a party.
- d. Failure of the intervenor or the incumbent to appear at the hearing held pursuant to § 2422.17, does not result in denial of its status as a party. The hearing simply proceeds without the party; but the record reflects that the party failed to make an appearance.

***NOTE: The Authority has not had an opportunity to rule on issues that arise from a party’s failure to comply with § 2422.15(a), Duty to Furnish Information or § 2422.15(c), Duty to Cooperate. The regions contact the Office of the General Counsel whenever questions arise concerning a party’s compliance with § 2422.15.***

## Cooperation