

proposition is explained accurately, fully, and identically to each member. All votes shall be confirmed promptly in writing. Seven concurring votes and no dissenting votes shall be required for approval of a Committee action by such method.

#### **§ 991.26 Research and Development Projects.**

The Committee may establish or provide for the establishment of production research, marketing research and development projects designed to assist, improve, or promote the marketing, distribution and consumption or efficient production of hops. The expense of such projects shall be paid from funds collected pursuant to § 991.31.

#### **Expenses and Assessments**

##### **§ 991.30 Expenses.**

The Committee is authorized to incur such expenses as the Secretary finds are reasonable and likely to be incurred by it for such purposes as the Secretary may, pursuant to this part, determine to be appropriate, and for the maintenance and functioning of the Committee during each marketing year. The Committee shall submit to the Secretary a budget for each marketing year, including an explanation of the items appearing therein, and a recommendation as to the rate of assessment for such year.

##### **§ 991.31 Assessments.**

(a) Requirements for payment. Each person who first handles hops shall pay to the Committee, upon demand, that handler's prorata share of the expenses authorized by the Secretary for each marketing year. Each handler's prorata share for each variety of hops sold shall be the rate of assessment fixed by the Secretary times the number of pounds of that variety of hops sold, times the alpha acid factor for that variety of hops which the handler handles as the first handler thereof. The payment of assessments for the maintenance and functioning of the Committee and for such purposes as the Secretary may, pursuant to this part, determine to be appropriate, may be required under this part throughout the period it is in effect, irrespective of whether particular provisions thereof are suspended or become inoperative.

(b) Rate of assessment. The Secretary shall fix the rate of assessment to be paid by each handler. In order to provide funds for the administration of this part before sufficient operating income is available from assessments, the Committee may accept advance assessments and may also borrow

money for such purpose. Advance assessments received from a handler shall be credited toward assessments levied against the handler during the marketing year.

(c) Assessments not paid within a time prescribed by the Committee may be made subject to interest or late payment charges, or both. The period of time, rate of interest, and late payment charge will be as recommended by the Committee: *Provided*, That when interest or late payment charges are in effect, they shall be applied to all assessments not paid within the prescribed period of time.

(d) Excess funds. At the end of a marketing year, funds in excess of the year's expenses may be placed in an operating reserve not to exceed approximately one marketing year's operational expenses or such lower limits as the Committee, with the approval of the Secretary, may establish. Funds in such reserve shall be available for use by the Committee for expenses authorized pursuant to § 991.30. Funds in excess of those placed in the operating reserve shall be refunded to handlers: *Provided*, That any sum paid by a first handler in excess of that handler's prorata share of the expenses during any marketing year may be applied by the Committee at the end of such marketing year to any outstanding obligations due the Committee from such person. Each handler's share of such excess funds shall be the amount of assessments paid in excess of that handler's prorata share.

(e) Disposition of funds upon termination of order. Upon termination of this part, any funds not required to defray the necessary expenses of liquidation shall be disposed of in such manner as the Secretary may determine to be appropriate: *Provided*, That to the extent practicable, such funds will be returned prorata to the first handler from whom such funds were collected.

(f) The Committee may establish rules and regulations necessary and incidental to the administration of this section.

#### **Volume Limitations**

##### **§ 991.50 Marketing Policy.**

(a) The Committee shall meet on or before November 15 of each year to adopt a marketing policy for the ensuing marketing year or years. As soon as is practical following the meeting or meetings, the Committee shall submit to the Secretary recommendations for volume regulations deemed necessary to meet market requirements and establish orderly marketing conditions. Additional reports shall be submitted to

the Secretary if the Committee, subsequently adopts a new or revised policy because of changes in the demand and supply situation with respect to Alpha Acid.

(b) In determining such marketing policy, Committee consideration *shall include* but not be limited to:

(1) The estimated quantity of salable Alpha Acid held by producers and handlers;

(2) The estimated demand for Alpha Acid;

(3) Prospective production of Alpha Acid;

(4) Total of allotment bases for the current marketing year and the estimated total of allotment bases for the ensuing marketing year;

(5) The quantity of reserve Alpha Acid in storage;

(6) Producer prices of Alpha Acid;

(c) Notice of the marketing policy recommendations for a marketing year and any later changes shall be announced publicly by the Committee, and be submitted promptly to the Secretary and all producers and handlers. The Committee shall publicly announce its marketing policy or revision thereof and notice and contents thereof shall be submitted to producers and handlers by bulletins or through appropriate media.

(d) As soon as practical following the effective date of this part and the organization of the Committee, the Committee may adopt a marketing policy.

##### **§ 991.51 Recommendations for Volume Regulation.**

(a) If the Committee's marketing policy considerations indicate a need for limiting the quantity of Alpha Acid, the Committee shall recommend to the Secretary a salable quantity and allotment percentage for the ensuing marketing year. Such recommendations shall be made prior to November 15, or such other date as the Committee may establish.

(b) At any time during the marketing year for which the Secretary, pursuant to § 991.52(a), has established a salable quantity and an allotment percentage, the Committee may recommend to the Secretary that such quantity be increased with an appropriate increase in the allotment percentage. Each such recommendation, together with the Committee's reason for such recommendation, shall be submitted promptly to the Secretary.

(c) As soon as practical following the effective date of this part and the organization of the Committee, the Committee may recommend a salable quantity.