

From: Mark Wilson <mark@techpatents.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 29, 2012 8:15 PM
To: fee.setting
Subject: Fee Setting Comments

Dear PPAC,

I attended your fee setting presentation in Sunnyvale, CA on February 23, 2012. During the presentation related to the proposed RCE fee, it was stated that there would be pilot programs for Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) submission and for entry of amendments after a Final action.

In view of the proposed RCE fee of \$1,700, it is imperative that Applicants have some vehicle to submit an IDS without having to pay an RCE fee. When a patent application has various foreign counterparts, there is often times a need to file an IDS after a Final action or after a Notice of Allowance. Requiring a fee of \$1,700 to have an IDS entered is an unfair burden on Applicants.

Additionally, there are all too many occasions where an RCE is required by an Examiner to have an amendment entered after a Final action. In view of the proposed RCE fee of \$1,700, it is would be critical to have some mechanism to get an amendment entered without having to file an RCE and pay the associated fee.

Please follow through with pilot programs for these issues as suggested during the fee setting presentation.

With respect to the proposed \$2,500 fee for filing an Appeal, it does not seem equitable to push such a large fee to the Applicant, especially in the case where the rejection is overturned on Appeal. If this fee is maintained, it would be equitable to refund the fee if the Applicant's appeal is successful and the decision of the Examiner is overturned on appeal.

Sincerely,
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