

Guidelines for Conducting a 14(c)(1) Reconsideration Hearing before the Norton Corporation 14(c) Committee

These guidelines provide standards for conducting a reconsideration hearing requested by a 14(c)(1) applicant(s) who had all or part of their 14(c)(1) claim denied by a 14(c) Committee preliminary decision. These guidelines are also to be used to conduct a hearing requested by individuals other than an applicant who believe they may have been aggrieved by a preliminary decision.

- An individual that fails to submit a written request for a hearing within the provided sixty (60) day period shall not be afforded a hearing before the 14(c) Committee and the committee's preliminary 14(c)(1) decision shall stand.
- All written requests for a hearing must use the *Norton Corporation Request for a Reconsideration Hearing before the 14(c) Committee* form.
- A reconsideration hearing will be held within ninety (90) days from the date the reconsideration hearing form is received by the corporation. The 14(c)(1) Committee or a 14(c)(1) applicant may request additional time.
- ANCSA 14(c)(1) applicant(s) or individual(s) who requested a hearing must appear in person at the hearing and may be accompanied by legal counsel or other representatives.
- The 14(c)(1) Committee may be accompanied by legal council or other representatives.
- All parties to the reconsideration hearing may testify, call witnesses and present evidence in support of their positions. Oral argument will be allowed.
- An applicant or representative has the burden to demonstrate, to the satisfaction of the 14(c) Committee, that they are entitled to land under the Norton Corporation ANCSA 14(c)(1) policy
- The 14(c) Committee may request additional evidence before a final decision is made. A party will be given at least sixty (60) days from the hearing to provide additional information. If additional information is required after the hearing, a request shall be sent by certified mail/return receipt. After receiving a written request, a party will be given at least sixty (60) additional days to provide new information.
- The 14(c) Committee shall make a final decision after all information is reviewed. The decision shall be based upon all evidence previously submitted, evidence produced at the hearing and, if is requested by the committee, information received after the hearing.
- The final decision shall be made within ninety (90) days after the hearing, unless good cause exists for a delay as determined by the 14(c) Committee. The final decision shall be in the form of a written recommendation to the Board of Directors. A copy shall be sent by certified mail/return receipt to the applicant and any party participating in the hearing.
- The hearing will be tape recorded and retained for future reference. The tape may be used for a final review by the Board of Directors.
- A 14(c)(1) notice that details the committee's final decision will be posted in a public place in the community of Norton. The notice shall name the applicant, describe the size and location of the claim and define procedures for appealing the final decision to the Board of Directors.
- If a final decision of the committee is adverse to an applicant or any party participating in the hearing, the aggrieved party may appeal the decision to the Board of Directors. The Committee's final decision will outline appeal procedures.

These guidelines will be sent to 14(c)(1) applicants after receiving a request for a reconsideration hearing notice. Guideless will be read preceding all reconsideration hearings.