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PIONEER GENERATION FUND ACT 2014
(ACT 43 OF 2014)

PIONEER GENERATION FUND (APPEALS PANEL)
REGULATIONS 2015

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In exercise of the powers conferred by section 27 of the Pioneer Generation Fund Act 2014, the Minister for Finance hereby makes the following Regulations:

PART 1

PRELIMINARY

Citation and commencement

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Pioneer Generation Fund (Appeals Panel) Regulations 2015 and come into operation on 9 March 2015.

Definitions

2. In these Regulations, unless the context otherwise requires —
- “Appeals Secretariat” means the Appeals Secretariat comprising public officers appointed under regulation 6(1);
 - “applicant” means a person referred to in section 13(3) of the Act who makes a verification application or reconsideration application, as the case may be;
 - “application” means a verification application or a reconsideration application;
 - “chairperson” means the chairperson of the Panel appointed under section 15(1)(a) of the Act;
 - “deputy chairperson” means the deputy chairperson of the Panel appointed under section 15(1)(b) of the Act;
 - “identity card number”, for an individual, means the number of an identity card issued to the individual under the National Registration Act (Cap. 201);
 - “official website” means the Internet webpage relating to the Pioneer Generation package on the website at <http://www.pioneers.sg>;
 - “Panel” means the Pioneer Generation Appeals Panel;
 - “presiding member” has the meaning given to it in regulation 7(4);
 - “reconsideration application” means an application under section 14(2) of the Act for a reconsideration of the Panel’s decision.

PART 2

DETERMINATION OF APPLICATIONS

Matters to be considered in determining a Pioneer

3. For the purposes of section 13(1) of the Act, the Panel is to have regard to, and give such weight as the Panel considers appropriate to, all of the following matters:

- (a) the circumstances under which the individual became a citizen of Singapore after 31 December 1986;
- (b) the period the individual has been resident in Singapore;
- (c) whether the individual has any ties with Singapore, when these ties started and whether these ties are stronger with Singapore than those with any other country or territory;
- (d) the contributions the individual made to the development of Singapore, including (but not limited to) whether the individual made significant social, economic, defence, professional or cultural contribution to the development of Singapore as a nation.

Submission of verification application

4.—(1) For the purposes of section 13(2) of the Act, a verification application for an individual seeking to be determined as a Pioneer must —

- (a) be in writing;
- (b) state the individual's full name, identity card number, date of birth, date of citizenship and contact details, and such other personal particulars of the individual as may be required by the Panel in any particular case;
- (c) where the applicant makes the verification application on behalf of the individual, be accompanied by evidence that the individual consents to the applicant making the verification application on the individual's behalf;
- (d) where the applicant is a donee under a lasting power of attorney executed by the individual, be accompanied by a copy of the relevant lasting power of attorney registered under the Mental Capacity Act (Cap. 177A), and a declaration by the applicant that the copy of the relevant lasting power of attorney is a true copy;

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- (e) be accompanied by any evidence relevant to the verification application; and
 - (f) be delivered to the Appeals Secretariat, in such manner as may be specified on the official website.
- (2) To determine a verification application, the Panel may —
- (a) make such inquiries as the Panel considers necessary; and
 - (b) require the applicant to provide such additional information within a specified time, being no longer than one month each time the Panel specifies.
- (3) The Panel may refuse a verification application —
- (a) that is incomplete or not made in accordance with these Regulations; or
 - (b) if the applicant fails to comply with the Panel's request for information under paragraph (2)(b).

Submission of reconsideration application

5.—(1) For the purposes of section 14(2) of the Act, a reconsideration application in relation to an individual must —

- (a) be in writing;
 - (b) specify the Panel's determination that is the subject of the reconsideration application;
 - (c) where the applicant is a person referred to in section 13(3)(b) or (c) of the Act, be accompanied by the applicant's declaration that the individual's consent for the applicant to act on the individual's behalf, or any lasting power of attorney executed by the individual in relation to the applicant, as the case may be, has not been revoked;
 - (d) be accompanied by any evidence relevant to the reconsideration application; and
 - (e) be delivered to the Appeals Secretariat, in such manner as may be specified on the official website.
- (2) To determine a reconsideration application, the Panel may —
- (a) make such inquiries as the Panel considers necessary; and
 - (b) require the applicant to provide such additional information within a specified time, being no longer than one month each time the Panel specifies.

- (3) The Panel may refuse a reconsideration application —
- (a) that is incomplete or not made in accordance with these Regulations; or
 - (b) if the applicant fails to comply with the Panel's request for information under paragraph (2)(b).

PART 3

PIONEER GENERATION APPEALS PANEL

Appeals Secretariat

6.—(1) There is to be an Appeals Secretariat, comprising one or more public officers appointed by the Minister, whose function is to provide administrative and secretariat support, and assistance, to the Panel in the carrying out of the Panel's functions.

(2) Every meeting of the Panel must have in attendance at least one public officer appointed by the Minister under paragraph (1).

Proceedings of Panel

7.—(1) The Panel —

- (a) is not required to meet in person;
- (b) is not required to interview any person who seeks the Panel's determination, but may do so if the Panel considers necessary;
- (c) may invite any person who, in the Panel's opinion, can give information in respect of any particular matter which is likely to be of assistance to the Panel in the determination of any application; and
- (d) may hold meetings, or allow its members to take part in meetings, by using the telephone, Internet or any other form of communication that allows reasonably contemporaneous and continuous communication amongst the members taking part in the meetings.

(2) The proceedings of the Panel are private.

(3) The quorum for a meeting of the Panel is 4 members, one of whom has to be the chairperson or deputy chairperson.

(4) The chairperson or in the chairperson's absence, the deputy chairperson, is to preside at any meeting of the Panel (called the presiding member).

(5) Any matter for the Panel's determination is to be decided by a majority of votes of members entitled to vote on the matter.

(6) If there is an equality of votes, the presiding member has a casting vote.

(7) If the Panel decides that it has to make a decision of a kind without a meeting, the Panel is taken to have made a decision of that kind at a meeting if —

- (a) without a meeting, a majority of members entitled to vote on the proposed decision indicate agreement with the decision;
- (b) the members have indicated agreement with the decision in accordance with a method determined by the Panel; and
- (c) all the members were informed of the proposed decision, or reasonable efforts were made to inform all the members of the proposed decision.

(8) For the purposes of paragraph (7) —

- (a) a member is not entitled to vote on a proposed decision if the member would not have been entitled to vote on that proposed decision if the matter had been considered at a meeting of the Panel; and
- (b) the decision is taken to be made when the last member who casts the majority vote indicates agreement with the proposed decision.

(9) The Appeals Secretariat must keep a record of all decisions made by the Panel under this regulation.

Disclosure of interest

8.—(1) Subject to paragraph (2), if a member of the Panel has any direct or indirect interest (whether pecuniary or otherwise) in any application that results in a conflict of interest or potential conflict of interest, the member —

- (a) must disclose the nature of the interest to the Panel after the relevant facts have come to the member's knowledge;

- (b) must abstain from participating in any consideration of, or voting on, the application; and
- (c) if the presiding member so directs, must withdraw from a meeting being held to consider the application.

(2) A disclosure under paragraph (1) is to be recorded by the Appeals Secretariat in the relevant records of any meeting or decision of the Panel.

(3) For the purpose of this regulation, an interest of a member's spouse, parent or step-parent, sibling or stepsibling, or child, stepchild or adopted child, is to be regarded as an interest of the member.

(4) For the purpose of determining whether there is a quorum, a member is to be treated as present at a meeting of the Panel or available to make a decision regarding an application, even if the member by reason of this regulation cannot participate in or vote on any matter concerning the application, or has withdrawn from the meeting.

Made on 6 March 2015.

LIM SOO HOON
Permanent Secretary
(Finance) (Performance),
Ministry of Finance,
Singapore.

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(To be presented to Parliament under section 27(4) of the Pioneer Generation Fund Act 2014).