

1961 of title 28 on such actual damages as specified in subsection (d) of this section, and the cost of suit attributable to such claim, including a reasonable attorney's fee pursuant to section 4304 of this title if such claim—

(1) results from conduct that is within the scope of a notification that has been filed under section 4305(a) of this title for a joint venture, and

(2) is filed after notification has become effective pursuant to section 4305(c) of this title.

(d) Interest

Interest shall be awarded on the damages involved for the period beginning on the earliest date for which injury can be established and ending on the date of judgment, unless the court finds that the award of all or part of such interest is unjust in the circumstances.

(e) Applicability

This section shall be applicable only if the challenged conduct of a person defending against a claim is not in violation of any decree or order, entered or issued after October 11, 1984, in any case or proceeding under the antitrust laws or any State law similar to the antitrust laws challenging such conduct as part of a joint venture.

(Pub. L. 98-462, § 4, Oct. 11, 1984, 98 Stat. 1816; Pub. L. 103-42, § 3(e)(1), June 10, 1993, 107 Stat. 119.)

AMENDMENTS

1993—Subsecs. (a) to (c). Pub. L. 103-42, § 3(e)(1)(A), (B), in introductory provisions inserted “of this section” after “subsection (d)” and in par. (1) substituted “joint venture” for “joint research and development venture”.

Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 103-42, § 3(e)(1)(A), (C), substituted “October 11, 1984,” for “the effective date of this Act” and substituted “joint venture” for “joint research and development venture”.

SECTION REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This section is referred to in sections 4305, 4306 of this title.

§ 4304. Award of costs, including attorney's fees, to substantially prevailing party; offset

(a) Notwithstanding sections 15 and 26 of this title, in any claim under the antitrust laws, or any State law similar to the antitrust laws, based on the conducting of a joint venture, the court shall, at the conclusion of the action—

(1) award to a substantially prevailing claimant the cost of suit attributable to such claim, including a reasonable attorney's fee, or

(2) award to a substantially prevailing party defending against any such claim the cost of suit attributable to such claim, including a reasonable attorney's fee, if the claim, or the claimant's conduct during the litigation of the claim, was frivolous, unreasonable, without foundation, or in bad faith.

(b) The award made under subsection (a) of this section may be offset in whole or in part by an award in favor of any other party for any part of the cost of suit, including a reasonable attorney's fee, attributable to conduct during the litigation by any prevailing party that the

court finds to be frivolous, unreasonable, without foundation, or in bad faith.

(Pub. L. 98-462, § 5, Oct. 11, 1984, 98 Stat. 1817; Pub. L. 103-42, § 3(e)(2), June 10, 1993, 107 Stat. 119.)

AMENDMENTS

1993—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 103-42 substituted “joint venture” for “joint research and development venture” in introductory provisions.

SECTION REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This section is referred to in section 4303 of this title.

§ 4305. Disclosure of joint venture

(a) Written notifications; filing

Any party to a joint venture, acting on such venture's behalf, may, not later than 90 days after entering into a written agreement to form such venture or not later than 90 days after October 11, 1984, whichever is later, file simultaneously with the Attorney General and the Commission a written notification disclosing—

(1) the identities of the parties to such venture,

(2) the nature and objectives of such venture, and

(3) if a purpose of such venture is the production of a product, process, or service, as referred to in section 4301(a)(6)(D) of this title, the identity and nationality of any person who is a party to such venture, or who controls any party to such venture whether separately or with one or more other persons acting as a group for the purpose of controlling such party.

Any party to such venture, acting on such venture's behalf, may file additional disclosure notifications pursuant to this section as are appropriate to extend the protections of section 4303 of this title. In order to maintain the protections of section 4303 of this title, such venture shall, not later than 90 days after a change in its membership, file simultaneously with the Attorney General and the Commission a written notification disclosing such change.

(b) Publication; Federal Register; notice

Except as provided in subsection (e) of this section, not later than 30 days after receiving a notification filed under subsection (a) of this section, the Attorney General or the Commission shall publish in the Federal Register a notice with respect to such venture that identifies the parties to such venture and that describes in general terms the area of planned activity of such venture. Prior to its publication, the contents of such notice shall be made available to the parties to such venture.

(c) Effect of notice

If with respect to a notification filed under subsection (a) of this section, notice is published in the Federal Register, then such notification shall operate to convey the protections of section 4303 of this title as of the earlier of—

(1) the date of publication of notice under subsection (b) of this section, or

(2) if such notice is not so published within the time required by subsection (b) of this section, after the expiration of the 30-day period