Shenzhen Proposes Ending Patent Grant Subsidies Two Years Early

Article By:

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On September 26, 2023 the Shenzhen Municipal Administration for Market Regulation released the Operation Rules for Special Funds in the Field of Intellectual Property Rights of the Shenzhen Municipal Administration for Market Regulation (Revised Draft for Comments)

(??????????????????????????????????)) proposing to eliminate financial subsidies/rewards for grants of both Chinese and foreign patents by the end of 2023. However, other local and national market distorting incentives remain.

深圳市市场监督管理局关于公开征求《深圳市市场监督管理局知识产权领域专项资金操作规程(修订征求意见稿)》
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深市监通告〔2023〕138号
为贯彻落实党中央、国务院决策部署,深入推动实施《知识产权强国建设纲要(2021—2035年)》,根据《国家知识产权局关于印发(推动知识产权高质量发展年度工作指引
(2022)〉的通知》(国知发运字〔2022〕15号)关于"在2023年底前全面取消对专利授权的各类财政资助,重点加大对后续转化运用、行政保护和公共服务的支持"有关要求、
《深圳市人民政府关于发展壮大战略性新兴产业集群和培育发展未来产业的意见》(深府〔2022〕1号)以及《深圳市市场监督管理局专项资金管理办法》(深市监规〔2020〕3号)
等有关文件要求,优化调整知识产权资助奖励政策,有效发挥财政资金政策引导作用,促进知识产权事业高质量发展,经前期广泛调研,深圳市市场监督管理局起草了《深圳市市场监
督管理局知识产权领域专项资金操作规程(修订征求意见稿)》。为保障公众的知情权和参与权,提高文件草拟质量,根据《深圳市行政机关规范性文件管理规定》(市政府令第305
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2023年9月26日

On January 27, 2021, the China National Intellectual Property Administration (CNIPA) announced in the "Notice of the CNIPA on Further Strictly Regulating Patent Application Behavior"

(??????????????????????????????) the end of all patent subsidies by 2025.

Subsidies for patent application filings and other stages of the patent prosecution process (e.g., requesting exam) will end by June 30, 2021. Only subsidies for granting of patents (including foreign patents) are allowed for now but local governments must cancel them by 2025. Shenzhen is proposing to end them by the end of 2023.

However, rewards remain to "promote the cultivation of high-value patents" including 500,000 RMB annual awards for entities. High-value patents have been previously defined as in the 14th Five-Year Plan Notice on Intellectual **Property** as:

1. Invention patents for strategic emerging industries;

2. Invention patents having corresponding foreign patents;

3. Invention patents maintained more than 10 years;

4. Invention patents with a relatively high pledge financing amount (mortgage);

5. Invention patents that obtained the National Science and Technology Award and the China Patent Award.

In addition, Shenzhen is retaining funding of up to 2 million RMB for entities that receive national or provincial patent awards. For example, Shenzhen will provide a one-time supporting reward of 300,000 RMB for winning the Gold Guangdong Provincial Patent Award or Outstanding Inventor Award. This increases to 2 million RMB for winning the Gold National Patent Award.

The proposed changes do not affect national-level incentives such as the High and New Tech Enterprise (HNTE) program that provides for lower corporate income tax rates based partly on patent ownership.

The full text is available here (Chinese only). Comments are due by October 31, 2023.

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