

From: Joseph Friedlander  
Sent: Monday, September 06, 2010 11:56 AM  
To: 3-tracks comments  
Cc: Clarke, Robert (OPLA)  
Subject: Re: Question

Hi, I don't know if this comment is too late but in general ANY fee increase (indeed any fee over say \$50) from small inventors is unreasonable in my view. We pay taxes already to support the PTO and while you certainly don't want frivolous inventions I know of no way to filter those out without also impacting real inventions. Consider the fact that small inventors are usually working people who do not have time or money to 'thread the maze' of regulations and the thicker it grows, the more you will choke off innovation.

A guide (if you have time) to my views is at  
<http://nextbigfuture.com/2010/06/patent-nonsense-some-problems-with.html>

In summary, there I say,

Given that the entire reason for the invention system and permitting patents at all is to encourage innovation, every dollar spent on legal and business games (AND PATENT FEES-- JF) is a dollar that will not be so spent on innovation. ... We are now in a great economic downturn caused, in the last analysis, (in the case of the USA and the UK at least) by a great increase in historical consumption patterns and a great decrease in historical production patterns. For about a century, from 1850 to 1950, the US and UK together produced nearly half the world's industrial production, were the center of inventions, and the high tech center of the world. (There were specific centers of excellence elsewhere, but we speak generally) We can be so again, but we need to decrease the ease of throttling innovation, and increase the ease of promoting innovation. Professor A.A. Bolonkin's proposed patent reforms (GOVERNMENT PAYS ALL FEES, IN EXCHANGE GETS CUT OF PATENT, LICENSES TO ALL COMERS) look like a good place to start.

Hoping for a great future for the PTO,

Respectfully yours,  
Joseph Friedlander