

§ 52.11

after the single point of contact receives the explanation; or

(2) The Secretary has reviewed the decision and determined that, because of unusual circumstances, the waiting period of at least ten days is not feasible.

(c) For purposes of computing the waiting period under paragraph (b)(1) of this section, a single point of contact is presumed to have received written notification 5 days after the date of mailing of such notification.

§ 52.11 What are the Secretary's obligations in interstate situations?

(a) The Secretary is responsible for—

(1) Identifying proposed Federal financial assistance and direct Federal development that have an impact on interstate areas;

(2) Notifying appropriate officials and entities in states which have adopted a process and which select the Department's program or activity.

(3) Making efforts to identify and notify the affected state, areawide, regional, and local officials and entities in those states that have not adopted a process under the Order or do not select the Department's program or activity;

(4) Responding pursuant to § 52.10 of this part if the Secretary receives a recommendation from a designated areawide agency transmitted by a single point of contact, in cases in which review, coordination, and communication with the Department have been delegated.

(b) The Secretary uses the procedures in § 52.10 if a state process provides a state process recommendation to the Department through a single point of contact.

§ 52.12 [Reserved]

PART 55—FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT

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24 CFR Subtitle A (4-1-04 Edition)

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AUTHORITY: 42 U.S.C. 3535(d) and 4001-4128; E.O. 11988, 42 FR 26951, 3 CFR, 1977 Comp., p. 117.

SOURCE: 59 FR 19107, Apr. 21, 1994, unless otherwise noted.

Subpart A—General

§ 55.1 Purpose and basic responsibility.

(a) This part implements the requirements of Executive Order 11988, Floodplain Management, and employs the principles of the Unified National Program for Floodplain Management. It covers the proposed acquisition, construction, improvement, disposition, financing and use of properties located in a floodplain for which approval is required either from HUD under any applicable HUD program or from a grant recipient subject to 24 CFR part 58. This part does not prohibit approval of such actions (except for certain actions in high hazard areas), but provides a consistent means for implementing the Department's interpretation of the executive order in the project approval decision making processes of HUD and of grant recipients subject to 24 CFR part 58. The implementation of Executive Order 11988 under this part shall be conducted by HUD, for Department-administered programs subject to environmental review under 24 CFR part 50, and by authorized recipients of HUD financial assistance subject to environmental review under 24 CFR part 58.

(b) Under section 202(a) of the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973, 42 U.S.C. 4106(a), proposed HUD financial assistance (including mortgage insurance) for acquisition or construction purposes in any "area having special flood hazards" (a flood zone designated by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)) shall not be approved in communities identified by FEMA as eligible for flood insurance but which are not participating in the National Flood Insurance Program. This prohibition only applies to proposed HUD financial assistance in a FEMA-designated area of special flood hazard one year after the community has been formally notified by FEMA of the designation of the affected area. This prohibition is not applicable to HUD financial assistance in the form of formula grants to states, including financial assistance under the State-administered CDBG Program (24 CFR part 570, subpart I) and the State-administered Rental Rehabilitation Program (24 CFR 511.51), Emergency Shelter Grant amounts allocated to States (24 CFR parts 575 and 576), and HOME funds provided to a state under Title II of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 12701-12839).

(c) Except with respect to actions listed in § 55.12(c), no HUD financial assistance (including mortgage insurance) may be approved after May 23, 1994 with respect to:

(1) Any action, other than a functionally dependent use, located in a floodway;

(2) Any critical action located in a coastal high hazard area; or

(3) Any non-critical action located in a coastal high hazard area, unless the action is designed for location in a coastal high hazard area or is a functionally dependent use. An action will be considered to be designed for location in a coastal high hazard area if:

(i) In the case of new construction or substantial improvement, the work meets the current standards for V zones in FEMA regulations (44 CFR 60.3(e)) and, if applicable, the Minimum Property Standards for such construction in 24 CFR 200.926d(c)(4)(iii); or

(ii) In the case of existing construction (including any minor improvements):

(A) The work met FEMA elevation and construction standards for a coastal high hazard area (or if such a zone or such standards were not designated, the 100-year floodplain) applicable at the time the original improvements were constructed; or

(B) If the original improvements were constructed before FEMA standards for the 100-year floodplain became effective or before FEMA designated the location of the action as within the 100-year floodplain, the work would meet at least the earliest FEMA standards for construction in the 100-year floodplain.

§ 55.2 Terminology.

(a) With the exception of those terms defined in paragraph (b) of this section, the terms used in this part shall follow the definitions contained in section 6 of Executive Order 11988 and in the Floodplain Management Guidelines for Implementing Executive Order 11988 (43 FR 6030, February 10, 1978) issued by the Water Resources Council; and the terms "criteria" and "Regular Program", shall follow the definitions contained in FEMA regulations at 44 CFR 59.1.

(b) The definitions of the following terms in Executive Order 11988 and related documents affecting this part are modified for purposes of this part:

(1) *Coastal high hazard area* means the area subject to high velocity waters, including but not limited to hurricane wave wash or tsunamis. The area is designated on a Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) under FEMA regulations as Zone VI-30, VE, or V. (FIRMs as well as Flood Hazard Boundary Maps (FHBM) shall also be relied on for the delineation of "100-year floodplains" (§ 55.2(b)(8)), "500-year floodplains" (§ 55.2(b)(3)), and "floodways" (§ 55.2(b)(4)).

(2)(i) *Critical action* means any activity for which even a slight chance of flooding would be too great, because such flooding might result in loss of life, injury to persons, or damage to property. Critical actions include activities that create, maintain or extend