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AUTHORITY: Pub. L. 99-590; Pub. L. 93-531, 88 Stat. 1712 as amended by Pub. L. 96-305, 94 Stat. 929, Pub. L. 100-666, 102 Stat. 3929 (25 U.S.C. 640d).

SOURCE: 47 FR 2092, Jan. 14, 1982, unless otherwise noted.

Subpart A—General Policies and Instructions

§ 700.1 Purpose.

The purpose of this part is to implement provisions of the Act of December 22, 1974 (Pub. L. 93-531, 88 Stat. 1712 as amended by Pub. L. 96-305, 94 Stat. 929), hereinafter referred to as the Act, in accordance with the following objectives—

(a) To insure that persons displaced as a result of the Act are treated fairly, consistently, and equitably so that these persons will not suffer the disproportionate adverse, social, economic, cultural and other impacts of relocation.

(b) To set forth the regulations and procedures by which the Commission

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shall operate; and implement the provisions of the Act.

(c) To establish standards consistent with those established in the implementation of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 (84 Stat. 1894, 42 U.S.C. 4601 et. seq., Pub. L. 91-646), hereinafter referred to as the Uniform Act.

(d) To insure that owners of habitations and other improvements to be acquired pursuant to the Act are treated fairly and consistently, to encourage and expedite acquisition by agreements with such owners, to minimize litigation, relieve congestion in the courts and to promote public confidence in the Commission's relocation program.

(e) To facilitate development of a relocation plan according to the Act and carry out the directed relocation as promptly and fairly as possible, with a minimum of hardship and discomfort to the relocation, in accordance with the Act.

§ 700.3 Assurances with respect to acquisition and displacement.

The Commission will not approve any programs or projects which may result in the acquisition of habitations and/or improvements, or in the displacement of any person, until such time as written assurances are submitted to the Commission that such projects or programs are in accordance with the Act. It will—

(a) Assure that, within a reasonable period of time prior to displacement, adequate, decent, safe and sanitary replacement dwellings (defined at § 700.55) will be available to all certified eligible heads of households.

(b) Carry out relocation services in a manner that will promote maximum quality in housing.

(c) Inform affected persons of their rights under the policies and procedures set forth under the regulations in this part.

§ 700.5 Superseding of regulations.

These regulations supersede the regulations formerly appearing in this part. However, any acquisition of property or displacement of a person occurring prior to the effective date of these reg-

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ulations shall continue to be governed by the regulations at 25 CFR part 700 in effect at the time of the acquisition or displacement.

§ 700.11 Manner of notice.

Each notice which the Commission is required to provide under these regulations shall be personally served, receipt documented, or sent by certified or registered first-class mail, return receipt requested. Each notice shall be written in plain understandable language. Recipients who notify the Commission that they are unable to read and understand the notice will be provided with appropriate translation and counseling. Each notice shall indicate the name and telephone number of a person who may be contacted for answers to questions or other needed help.

§ 700.13 Waiver of regulations.

(a) Any time limit specified for the filing of a claim or an appeal under the regulations in this part may, on a case by case basis, be extended by the Commission.

(b) The Commission may waive any requirement of these regulations in this part if such requirement is not required by law and if the Commission finds such waiver or exception to be in the best interest of individual Indian applicants, the Commission, and the United States. Any request for a Commission waiver shall be submitted in writing to the Commission and shall be justified on a case by case basis.

§ 700.15 Waiver of rights by owner.

Nothing in these regulations shall prevent a fully informed applicant from voluntarily waiving any of his/her rights under the regulations in this part. A waiver of rights shall in no way constitute an exemption from the requirement to relocate pursuant to the Act.

DEFINITIONS

§ 700.31 Applicability of definitions.

Except where otherwise noted, the definitions appearing in this subpart A apply to the regulations in this part.