

From: Bbsenturia@earthlink.net
Sent: Thursday, January 20, 2005 8:48 PM
To: Comments, Regs; ssiddiqi@ncrc.org
Subject: RIN 3064-AC50
Re: No. 2004-53 and 2004-54
Regulation Comments
Chief Counsel's Office
Office of Thrift Supervision
1700 G Street NW
Washington, DC 20552

Dear Sir or Madam:

I think it is very important to make decisions which will result in strong communities across the economic spectrum. We all know the advantages of living in affluent communities and providing more opportunities for poorer communities is the purpose of the Community Reinvestment Act. Redlining is a practice that should disappear from our communities. The argument that communities should, like individuals, pull themselves up by their bootstraps is predicated on the presence of boots and bootstraps. If we do not level the playing field, poorer communities sink farther behind in terms of institutions, home ownership and standard of living. I urge you to withdraw your proposed changes to CRA regulations, which would seriously weaken the Act by allowing thrifts to obtain CRA credits by financing community development in affluent neighborhoods rather than lower-income neighborhoods, and depriving community organizations of the opportunity to express their concerns in required meetings when two thrifts merge. Please consider the negative impacts of these proposed changes. Thank you. Brenda Senturia