

### III. Findings and Certifications

#### *Regulatory Flexibility Act*

The Secretary, in accordance with the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 605(b)), has reviewed and approved this rule, and in so doing certifies that this rule will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities. This rule makes a technical amendment to 24 CFR part 903 regarding the first PHA fiscal year covered by the deconcentration-related amendments of HUD's December 22, 2000 final rule.

#### *Environmental Impact*

This rule is exempt from the environmental review procedures under HUD regulations in 24 CFR part 50 that implement section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4332) because of the exemption under § 50.19(c)(1). This rule only makes a technical amendment to an existing regulation.

#### *Federalism Impact*

The General Counsel, as the Designated Official under section 6(a) of Executive Order 13132, *Federalism*, has determined that this rule does not impose substantial direct compliance costs on States or local governments or preempt State law within the meaning of the Executive Order. As a result, the rule is not subject to review under the order.

#### *Unfunded Mandates Reform Act*

Title II of the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1531–1538) establishes requirements for Federal agencies to assess the effects of their regulatory actions on State, local, and tribal governments and the private sector. This proposed rule does not impose any Federal mandates on any State, local, or tribal governments or the private sector within the meaning of Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995.

#### **List of Subjects in 24 CFR Part 903**

Administrative practice and procedure, Public housing, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

For the reasons discussed in the preamble, HUD amends 24 CFR part 903 as follows:

#### **PART 903—PUBLIC HOUSING AGENCY PLANS**

1. The authority citation for part 903 continues to read as follows:

**Authority:** 42 U.S.C. 1437c; 42 U.S.C. 3535(d).

2. Revise § 903.5(a)(1), (a)(4), and (b)(1) to read as follows:

#### **§ 903.5 When must a PHA submit the plans to HUD?**

(a) *5-Year Plan.* (1) The first PHA fiscal year that is covered by the requirements of this part as amended on December 22, 2000, is the PHA fiscal year that begins October 2001. This 5-Year Plan submitted by a PHA must be submitted for the 5-year period beginning October 1, 2001.

\* \* \* \* \*

(4) PHAs may choose to update their 5-Year Plans every year as good management practice and must update their 5-Year Plans that were submitted for PHA fiscal years beginning before October 1, 2001, to comply with the requirements of this part as amended on December 22, 2000, at the time they submit their next Annual Plan for fiscal years beginning on or after October 1, 2001. PHAs must explain any substantial deviation from their 5-Year Plans in their Annual Plans. (Substantial deviation is determined by the PHA in accordance with criteria provided by the PHA in its Annual Plan in accordance with § 903.7(r).)

\* \* \* \* \*

(b) *The Annual Plan.* (1) The first PHA fiscal year that is covered by the requirements of this part as amended on December 22, 2000 is the PHA fiscal year that begins October 1, 2001.

\* \* \* \* \*

Dated: January 29, 2001.

**Mel Martinez,**

*Secretary.*

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### **DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**

#### **Bureau of Indian Affairs**

#### **25 CFR Part 103**

**RIN 1076–AD73**

#### **Loan Guaranty, Insurance, and Interest Subsidy: Delay of Effective Date**

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.

**ACTION:** Final rule; delay of effective date.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the memorandum of January 20, 2001, from the Assistant to the President and Chief of Staff, entitled “Regulatory Review Plan,” 66 Fed. Reg. 7701 (Jan. 24, 2001), this document temporarily delays for 60 days the effective date of the rule entitled Loan Guaranty, Insurance, and

Interest Subsidy, published in the **Federal Register** on January 17, 2001, at 66 FR 3861. That rule concerns implementation of the Bureau's Loan Guaranty, Insurance, and Interest Subsidy Program to guarantee or insure loans made by private lenders to individual Indians and to organizations of Indians, and to assist qualified borrowers with a portion of their interest payments.

**DATES:** The effective date of the Loan Guaranty, Insurance, and Interest Subsidy rule, amending 25 CFR part 103, published in the **Federal Register** on January 17, 2001, at 66 FR 3861, is delayed for 60 days, from February 16, 2001 to a new effective date of April 17, 2001.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** David B. Johnson, Division of Indian Affairs, Office of the Solicitor, 202–208–3401.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** To the extent that 5 U.S.C. section 553 applies to this action, the action is exempt from notice and comment because it constitutes a rule of procedure under 5 U.S.C. section 553(b)(A). Alternatively, the Department's implementation of this action without opportunity for public comment, effective immediately upon publication today in the **Federal Register**, is based on the good cause exceptions in 5 U.S.C. sections 553(b)(3)(B) and 553(d)(3), in that seeking public comment is impractical, unnecessary and contrary to the public interest. The temporary 60-day delay in effective date is necessary to give Department officials the opportunity for further review and consideration of new regulations, consistent with the Assistant to the President's memorandum of January 20, 2001. Given the imminence of the effective date, seeking prior public comment on this temporary delay would have been impractical, as well as contrary to the public interest in the orderly promulgation and implementation of regulations.

Dated: January 31, 2001.

**Timothy S. Elliott,**

*Acting Deputy Solicitor.*

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