

§ 302.6 Termination and suspension of district designation.

EDA may, upon 60 days prior written notice to the district organization, member counties or other areas as determined by EDA, and each affected State, terminate the designation status of an Economic Development District:

(a) When the district no longer meets the standards for designation as set forth above;

(b) When a district has not maintained a currently approved strategy in accordance with part 303 of this chapter; or

(c) When a district has requested termination.

[64 FR 5355, Feb. 3, 1999, as amended at 64 FR 69874, Dec. 14, 1999]

§ 302.7 Eligibility of non-distressed areas.

Areas in districts which are not themselves eligible for assistance under parts 305 or 308 may be eligible, as provided in § 301.2(c).

PART 303—PLANNING PROCESS AND STRATEGIES FOR DISTRICT AND OTHER PLANNING ORGANIZATIONS SUPPORTED BY EDA

Sec.

303.1 Definitions, purpose and scope.

303.2 Planning process.

303.3 Requirements for a strategy.

AUTHORITY: 42 U.S.C. 3211; Department of Commerce Organization Order 10-4.

SOURCE: 64 FR 5356, Feb. 3, 1999, unless otherwise noted.

§ 303.1 Definitions, purpose and scope.

(a) As used in this part 303. (1) *Planning organization* means an Economic Development District organization, Indian tribe, or other recipient of an EDA grant under part 306 of this chapter which grant is awarded in whole or in part to develop, update, or replace a CEDS, and

(2) *Strategy committee* means that committee or other entity identified by the planning organization as responsible for developing, updating, or replacing a strategy.

(b) This part describes the planning process of and requirements for strate-

gies developed and implemented by planning organizations supported by EDA. Though the strategy requirements are the same under all EDA programs which call for a strategy, the planning process and reporting and updating requirements for EDA supported planning organizations are more stringent.

[64 FR 5356, Feb. 3, 1999, as amended at 64 FR 69874, Dec. 14, 1999]

§ 303.2 Planning process.

(a) The strategy committee must be inclusive and representative of the main economic interests of the area covered by the strategy. Such interests include public officials, community leaders, private individuals, business leaders, labor groups, minorities, and others who can contribute to and benefit from improved economic development in the area covered.

(b) The planning organization must support the strategy committee with a staff skilled in economic planning or related fields.

(c) The planning organization must conduct an initial and continuous study and analysis of the opportunities for economic development and of problems contributing to economic and related distress in the area covered, such as, for example, unemployment, underemployment, outmigration, or low per capita income, and possible solutions to such problems.

(d) Planning organizations covered by this part 303 must submit an initial strategy to EDA in compliance with the requirements of § 303.3, as determined by EDA. Each year thereafter, the planning organization must submit an annual strategy report, acceptable to EDA.

(e) A new or revised strategy is required at least every five years, or sooner if EDA or the planning organization determines that the strategy is inadequate due to changed circumstances. Each strategy must be available for review and comment by appropriate government bodies and interest groups in the area covered. Strategies submitted by Districts require a 30 day opportunity for review and comment by the Governor or Governors, or designee(s), of the State or

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States in which they are located, prior to EDA approval.

(f) If EDA identifies any deficiencies, it will notify the organization in writing and provide the organization a reasonable opportunity to remedy such deficiencies.

(g) If any part of a district is in the Appalachian region (as defined in section 403 of the Appalachian Regional Development Act of 1965 (40 U.S.C. App.)) the district shall ensure that a copy of the district's CEDS is provided to the Appalachian Regional Commission.

[64 FR 5356, Feb. 3, 1999, as amended at 64 FR 69874, Dec. 14, 1999; 65 FR 71024, Nov. 28, 2000]

§ 303.3 Requirements for a strategy.

A strategy must be the result of a continuing economic development planning process, developed with broad-based and diverse community participation, and contain the following:

(a) An analysis of economic and community development problems and opportunities including incorporation of any relevant material or suggestions from other government sponsored or supported plans;

(b) Background and history of the economic development situation of the area covered, with a discussion of the economy, including as appropriate, geography, population, labor force, resources, infrastructure, transportation systems, and the environment;

(c) A discussion of community participation in the planning efforts;

(d) A section setting forth goals and objectives for taking advantage of the opportunities of and solving the economic development problems of the area serviced;

(e) A plan of action, including suggested projects to implement objectives and goals set forth in the strategy; and

(f) Performance measures that will be used to evaluate whether and to what extent goals and objectives have been or are being met.

[64 FR 5356, Feb. 3, 1999, as amended at 64 FR 69874, Dec. 14, 1999]

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PART 304—GENERAL SELECTION PROCESS AND EVALUATION CRITERIA

Sec.

304.1 Project proposal, application, selection and evaluation for programs under PWEDA.

304.2 How EDA evaluates proposals and applications for projects funded under PWEDA.

AUTHORITY: 42 U.S.C. 3211; Department of Commerce Organization Order 10-4.

SOURCE: 64 FR 5357, Feb. 3, 1999, unless otherwise noted.

§ 304.1 Project proposal, application, selection and evaluation for programs under PWEDA.

(a) *Local projects.* If you are or represent a party eligible to be an applicant, and are interested in a public works, economic adjustment, planning, local technical assistance or university center project grant, you should contact the appropriate Economic Development Representative (EDR) (or EDA Regional or headquarters office), identified in the NOFA. The EDR or other EDA official is available to provide program information, including the current published NOFA; provide a proposal form approved by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB), and provide assistance as needed in filling out the proposal form.

(1) After submission of the proposal to the appropriate EDR or Regional Office of EDA, the appropriate Regional Office Project Review Committee (PRC), consisting of at least three EDA officials, will review the proposal. The EDR or other appropriate EDA official will evaluate the proposal under § 304.2, program specific sections of this rule, and the NOFA, if applicable, before submitting it to the EDA Regional Office for its review.

(2) After review by the PRC, EDA will send a letter in a timely manner to each submitter advising either that:

(i) EDA invites the submitter to prepare and present a formal application on a standard application form, with attachments for the type of grant being requested; or

(ii) EDA returns the proposal because of specified deficiencies and suggests