

## § 2651.0-3

accordance with, subpart E of part 4, 43 CFR.

(43 U.S.C. 1601-1624)

[40 FR 33175, Aug. 6, 1975]

### Subpart 2651—Village Selections

#### § 2651.0-3 Authority.

Sections 12 and 16(b) of the Act provide for the selection of lands by eligible village corporations.

#### § 2651.1 Entitlement.

(a) Village corporations eligible for land benefits under the Act shall be entitled to a conveyance to the surface estate in accordance with sections 14(a) and 16(b) of the Act.

(b) In addition to the land benefits in paragraph (a) of this section, each eligible village corporation shall be entitled to select and receive a conveyance to the surface estate for such acreage as is reallocated to the village corporation in accordance with section 12(b) of the Act.

#### § 2651.2 Eligibility requirements.

(a) Pursuant to sections 11(b) and 16(a) of the Act, the Director, Juneau Area Office, Bureau of Indian Affairs, shall review and make a determination, not later than December 19, 1973, as to which villages are eligible for benefits under the act.

(1) *Review of listed native villages.* The Director, Juneau Area Office, Bureau of Indian Affairs, shall make a determination of the eligibility of villages listed in section 11(b)(1) and 16(a) of the Act. He shall investigate and examine available records and evidence that may have a bearing on the character of the village and its eligibility pursuant to paragraph (b) of this section.

(2) *Findings of fact and notice of proposed decision.* After completion of the investigation and examination of records and evidence with respect to the eligibility of a village listed in sections 11(b)(1) and 16(a) of the Act for land benefits, the Director, Juneau Area Office, Bureau of Indian Affairs, shall publish in the FEDERAL REGISTER and in one or more newspapers of general circulation in Alaska his proposed decision with respect to such eligibility and shall mail a copy of the pro-

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posed decision to the affected village, all villages located in the region in which the affected village is located, all regional corporations within the State of Alaska and the State of Alaska. His proposed decision is subject to protest by any interested party within 30 days of the publication of the proposed decision in the FEDERAL REGISTER. If no valid protest is received within the 30-day period, such proposed decision shall become final and shall be published in the FEDERAL REGISTER. If the final decision is in favor of a listed village, the Director, Juneau Area Office, Bureau of Indian Affairs, shall issue a certificate as to the eligibility of the village in question for land benefits under the act, and certify the record and the decision to the Secretary. Copies of the final decisions and certificates of village eligibility shall be mailed to the affected village, all villages located in the region in which the affected village is located, all regional corporations within the State of Alaska, and the state of Alaska.

(3) *Protest.* Within 30 days from the date of publication of the proposed decision in the FEDERAL REGISTER, any interested party may protest a proposed decision as to the eligibility of a village. No protest shall be considered which is not accompanied by supporting evidence. The protest shall be mailed to the Director, Juneau Area Office, Bureau of Indian Affairs.

(4) *Action on protest.* Upon receipt of a protest, the Director, Juneau Area Office, Bureau of Indian Affairs, shall examine and evaluate the protest and supporting evidence required herein, together with his record of findings of fact and proposed decision, and shall render a decision on the eligibility of the Native village that is the subject of the protest. Such decision shall be rendered within 30 days from the receipt of the protest and supporting evidence by the Director, Juneau Area Office, Bureau of Indian Affairs. The decision of the Director, Juneau Area Office, Bureau of Indian Affairs, shall be published in the FEDERAL REGISTER and in one or more newspapers of general circulation in the State of Alaska and a copy of the decision and findings of fact upon which the decision is based shall be mailed to the affected village,