

§ 1806.22

7 CFR Ch. XVIII (1-1-03 Edition)

(c) *Scope.* The National Flood Insurance Program (the program) was authorized and created because the private insurance industry has been unable to provide insurance coverage at reasonable prices for such natural disasters as floods and mudslides. Subsidized and affordable insurance has been made available under the Act through an agreement between the Federal Insurance Administration and the National Flood Insurers Association.

§ 1806.22 Areas of responsibility.

(a) *Federal Insurance Administration (FIA).* (1) Identify and publish information with respect to all areas in the country which are subject to floods and mudslides and designate those areas on Flood Hazard Boundary maps.

(2) Notify affected communities of their designations and encourage them to adopt and enforce land use and other control measures and to adopt ordinances or laws which will regulate and control construction in areas designated as having special flood or mudslide hazards.

(3) Make flood insurance available at reasonable rates in sufficient amounts, within the statutory limits, to adequately protect owners against loss to their buildings and contents when those buildings are located in or will be located in designated special flood and mudslide prone areas in communities participating in the National Flood Insurance Program.

(b) *Farmers Home Administration or its successor agency under Public Law 103-354.* The State Director, after being notified by the FmHA or its successor agency under Public Law 103-354 National Office or FIA of designated flood or mudslide hazard areas and receiving flood hazard boundary maps identifying the hazard areas, FIA insurance rate charts, or other information concerning the program, will inform the appropriate County Supervisors and provide them the maps, rate charts, and other relevant information concerning the program in areas they serve. Permanent records indicating the date a community was notified as containing identified flood hazard areas, communities participating in the program, and communities eligible

to participate but not participating in the program will be maintained in the State Office. County Supervisors will notify, in writing, those borrowers whose insurable buildings are located in designated flood or mudslide hazard areas of the availability of national flood insurance and encourage them to obtain flood insurance to protect their and the Government's financial interest.

(c) *Community.* Communities are required to participate in the National Flood Insurance Program within 1 year after notification of its formal identification as a community containing one or more special flood and mudslide prone areas, or by July 1, 1975, whichever is later, or be denied Federal financial assistance or Federally-related financial assistance for acquisition or construction purposes in such areas. Communities wishing to qualify for the program may submit a completed application to: Administrator, Federal Insurance Administration, Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20410.

(d) *Lender.* The lender must determine whether real property is located in an area identified as having special flood or mudslide hazards and cannot discharge the responsibility merely by obtaining a self-certification from the applicant that the property is not located in an area having special flood hazards.

§ 1806.23 Definitions.

For the purpose of this subpart, the following definitions apply:

(a) *Financial assistance* means any form of direct, insured or guaranteed loan, including reamortization and assumption on new terms of any loan, any form of grant, or other form of direct or indirect assistance extended by the FmHA or its successor agency under Public Law 103-354.

(b) *Financial assistance for acquisition or construction purposes* means any form of Federal financial assistance which is intended in whole or in part for the acquisition, construction, reconstruction, or substantial improvement of any

building and for any machinery, equipment, fixtures and furnishings contained or to be contained in such buildings.

(c) *Community means* any state or political subdivision thereof, such as county, parish, township, city or other local government which has zoning and building code jurisdiction over a particular area having special flood hazards.

(d) *Eligible community means* a community in which the Administrator of FIA has authorized the sale of flood insurance under the program.

(e) *Designated special flood or mudslide prone area means* those areas in a community subject to flood or mudslide which have been identified by flood hazard boundary maps or those areas not identified by maps but where, due to emergency, the FIA Administrator has authorized the sale of flood insurance.

(f) *Flood means* a general and temporary condition of partial or complete inundation of normally dry land areas from the overflow of streams, rivers, or other inland water, the collapse or subsidence of land along the shore of a lake or other body of water as a result of erosion or undermining caused by waves or currents of water exceeding anticipated cyclical levels, or abnormally high tidal water or rising coastal waters resulting from severe storms, hurricanes, or tidal waves resulting from volcano eruptions or earthquakes.

(g) *Mudslide or mudflow means* a major occurrence involving the appearance of a large river or flow of "liquid mud" down a hillside, usually as a result of earlier brushfires followed by heavy rains over a widespread area.

(h) *Flood insurance means* insurance coverage for floods and/or mudslides under the program or otherwise acceptable to FIA.

(i) *Building means* any walled and roofed structure, other than a gas or liquid tank, that is principally above ground and affixed to a permanent site. Residential and most types of industrial, commercial, and agricultural buildings, such as lumber sheds, machinery storage sheds, grain storage bins, and silos, are included in this definition.

(j) *Substantial improvement means* any repair, reconstruction or improvement of a structure, the cost of which equals or exceeds 50 percent of the actual cash value of the structure either before the improvement is started or, if the structure has been damaged and is being restored, before the damage occurred.

§ 1806.24 Eligibility.

In addition to an applicant meeting the requirements for the type of financial assistance requested, the following requirements for eligibility of applicants for financial assistance for acquisition and construction purposes in designated special flood and mudslide prone areas must be met:

(a) If flood insurance is available, to be eligible after March 1, 1974, the applicant must have purchased a flood insurance policy at the time the loan or grant is closed.

(b) Applicants will not receive financial assistance in those communities that have been notified as having special flood and mudslide prone areas and where flood insurance is not available within 1 year after such notification or by July 1, 1975, whichever is later.

§ 1806.25 Conditions.

FmHA or its successor agency under Public Law 103-354 financial assistance may be extended to eligible applicants meeting the eligibility requirements of § 1806.24 of this subpart, provided the following conditions are also met:

(a) *Dwelling and multi-unit housing facilities.* (1) If the financial assistance is to buy a dwelling or multi-unit housing facility:

(i) The first floor elevation of the habitable space of the dwelling or housing unit must be above the 100-year flood level.

(ii) The housing must be served by public utilities and facilities, such as sewer, gas, electrical and water systems that are located and constructed to minimize or eliminate flood damage, or have an onsite water supply system and waste disposal system located so as to avoid impairment of such systems and contamination from the waste disposal system to the water supply system from flooding.