

(a) *Qualified appraiser.* The Lender will use an appraiser that is properly licensed or certified, as appropriate, to make residential real estate appraisals in accordance with the criteria set forth by the Appraiser Qualification Board (AQB) of the Appraisal Foundation regardless of the amount of the loan. Appraisers may not discriminate against any person in making or performing appraisal services because of race, color, familial status, religion, sex, age, disability, or national origin.

(b) *Appraisal report.* Residential appraisals will be completed using the sales comparison (market) and cost approach to market value.

(1) *URAR.* The appraiser will use the most recent revision of the URAR.

(i) The “Estimated Reproduction Cost-New of Improvements” section of the form must be completed when the dwelling is less than 1 year old.

(ii) Not less than three comparable sales, which are not more than 12 months old, will be used unless the appraiser provides documentation that such comparables are not available in the area. Comparable sales should be located as close as possible to the subject dwelling. When the need arises to use a comparable sale that is a considerable distance from the subject, the appraiser must use his or her knowledge of the area and apply good judgment in selecting comparable sales that are the best indicators of value for the subject property.

(2) *Supporting documentation.* A narrative explanation supporting unusual adjustments must be attached to the appraisal.

(3) *Photographs.* The appraisal report must include photographs which clearly provide front, rear, and street scene views of the subject property, and a front view for each comparable sale used in the completion of the appraisal.

(c) *RHS acceptance.* The Lender will be required to correct or complete any appraisal returned by RHS for corrective action.

§§ 1980.335–1980.339 [Reserved]

§ 1980.340 Acquisition, construction, and development.

(a) *Acquisition of property.* The Lender is responsible for seeing that the prop-

erty to be acquired with loan funds is acquired as planned and that the required security interest is obtained.

(b) *New construction.* A new dwelling financed with a guaranteed loan must:

(1) Have been built in accordance with building plans and specifications that contain approved building code certifications (eligible certifiers are listed in §1924.5(f)(1)(iii)).

(2) Conform to RHS thermal standards (exhibit D of subpart A of part 1924).

(i) The builder may certify conformance with RHS thermal standards contained in paragraph IV A of exhibit D of subpart A of part 1924.

(ii) A qualified, registered architect or a qualified, registered engineer must certify conformance with RHS thermal standards contained in paragraph IV C of exhibit D of subpart A of part 1924.

(c) *Development.* The Lender and borrower are responsible for seeing that the loan purposes are accomplished and loan funds are properly utilized. This includes, but is not limited to, seeing that:

(1) The applicable development standards are adhered to;

(2) Drawings and specifications are certified and complied with;

(3) Adequate water, electric, heating, waste disposal, and other necessary utilities and facilities are obtained;

(4) Equal opportunity and non-discrimination requirements are met, (see §1980.317); and

(5) A builder’s warranty is issued when new construction, repair, or rehabilitation is involved, which provides for at least 1 year’s warranty from the date of completion or acceptance of the work.

§ 1980.341 Inspections of construction and compliance reviews.

(a) *Qualified inspectors.* Inspections will be made during construction by a construction inspector deemed qualified and approved by the Lender. A qualified inspector is one that a reasonable person would hire to perform an inspection of his/her own dwelling.

(b) *Inspections.* Inspections shall be done by a party the Lender determines to be qualified, such as a HUD approved fee inspector. The sale agreement shall identify which party (i.e., purchaser or