

§ 169.2

25 CFR Ch. I (4–1–07 Edition)

trust by the United States for the benefit of individual Indians and land or any interest therein held by individual Indians subject to Federal restrictions against alienation or encumbrance.

(c) *Tribe* means a tribe, band, nation, community, group or pueblo of Indians.

(d) *Tribal land* means land or any interest therein, title to which is held by the United States in trust for a tribe, or title to which is held by any tribe subject to Federal restrictions against alienation or encumbrance, and includes such land reserved for Indian Bureau administrative purposes. The term also includes lands held by the United States in trust for an Indian corporation chartered under section 17 of the Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 988; 25 U.S.C. 477).

(e) *Government owned land* means land owned by the United States and under the jurisdiction of the Secretary which was acquired or set aside for the use and benefit of Indians and not included in the definitions set out in paragraphs (b) and (d) of this section.

§ 169.2 Purpose and scope of regulations.

(a) Except as otherwise provided in § 1.2 of this chapter, the regulations in this part 169 prescribe the procedures, terms and conditions under which rights-of-way over and across tribal land, individually owned land and Government owned land may be granted.

(b) Appeals from administrative action taken under the regulations in this part 169 shall be made in accordance with part 2 of this chapter.

(c) The regulations contained in this part 169 do not cover the granting of rights-of-way upon tribal lands within a reservation for the purpose of constructing, operating, or maintaining dams, water conduits, reservoirs, powerhouses, transmission lines or other works which shall constitute a part of any project for which a license is required by the Federal Power Act. The Federal Power Act provides that any license which shall be issued to use tribal lands within a reservation shall be subject to and contain such conditions as the Secretary of the Interior shall deem necessary for the adequate protection and utilization of such lands. (16 U.S.C. 797(e)). In the case of

tribal lands belonging to a tribe organized under the Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984), the Federal Power Act requires that annual charges for the use of such tribal lands under any license issued by the Federal Power Commission shall be subject to the approval of the tribe (16 U.S.C. 803(e)).

§ 169.3 Consent of landowners to grants of right-of-way.

(a) No right-of-way shall be granted over and across any tribal land, nor shall any permission to survey be issued with respect to any such lands, without the prior written consent of the tribe.

(b) Except as provided in paragraph (c) of this section, no right-of-way shall be granted over and across any individually owned lands, nor shall any permission to survey be issued with respect to any such lands, without the prior written consent of the owner or owners of such lands and the approval of the Secretary.

(c) The Secretary may issue permission to survey with respect to, and he may grant rights-of-way over and across individually owned lands without the consent of the individual Indian owners when

(1) The individual owner of the land or of an interest therein is a minor or a person non compos mentis, and the Secretary finds that such grant will cause no substantial injury to the land or the owner, which cannot be adequately compensated for by monetary damages;

(2) The land is owned by more than one person, and the owners or owner of a majority of the interests therein consent to the grant;

(3) The whereabouts of the owner of the land or an interest therein are unknown, and the owners or owner of any interests therein whose whereabouts are known, or a majority thereof, consent to the grant;

(4) The heirs or devisees of a deceased owner of the land or an interest therein have not been determined, and the Secretary finds that the grant will cause no substantial injury to the land or any owner thereof;

(5) The owners of interests in the land are so numerous that the Secretary finds it would be impracticable