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of COMMERCE
RURAL ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT

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BULLETIN: 24-2

SUBJECT: Environmental Reviews: Final Notice on the Implementation of the Federal Flood Risk Management Standard (FFRMS)

DATE: July 23, 2024

EFFECTIVE DATE: May 23, 2024

ATTENTION: Grantees of CDBG and CDBG-related program funding including CDBG Economic Development (CDBG-ED), Neighborhood Revitalization (CDBG-NR), Coronavirus (CDBG-CV), and Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) program funding.

The purpose of this policy bulletin is to announce the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD's) release of the Federal Flood Risk Management Standard (FFRMS) Final Rule. The FFRMS aims to improve the resilience of communities and infrastructure to flooding by incorporating the latest scientific and engineering standards.

Key Points of the FFRMS Implementation:

1. **Scope and Application:** The FFRMS applies to all federally funded projects, including construction, renovation, and repairs that occur in flood-prone areas.
2. **Elevation and Floodproofing Standards:** Projects must adhere to the elevation and floodproofing requirements as outlined in the FFRMS guidelines. This includes elevating structures to a level above the Base Flood Elevation (BFE) and using flood-resistant materials and construction methods.
3. **Risk-Informed Decision-Making:** Agencies must incorporate climate science and flood risk information into their planning and design processes to ensure long-term resilience.
4. **Public Involvement and Transparency:** Stakeholders, including the public, are encouraged to participate in the decision-making process. Agencies must provide clear and accessible information about the implementation and impacts of the FFRMS.
5. **Compliance and Enforcement:** All federal agencies must comply with the FFRMS in their respective projects. Non-compliance may result in penalties or loss of funding.

Implementation Timeline:

- **Effective Date:** The FFRMS will be effective as of May 23, 2024.
- **Transition Period:** Compliance with this final rule is required no later than June 24, 2024, except: compliance with this final rule's amendments to [24 CFR part 200](#) is required for new construction where building permit applications are submitted on or after January 1, 2025; and compliance with this final rule's amendments to [24 CFR part 55](#) is required no later than January 1, 2025 for the following programs: (1) Programs subject to chapter 9 of the Federal Housing Administration's (FHA) Multifamily Accelerated Processing (MAP) Guide (4430.G): Multifamily FHA, Section 202 and 811 capital advance grants, transfers under Section 8(bb) of the United States Housing Act and Section 209 of HUD's annual appropriations (or subsequent provisions), Section 8 Renewals with Capital Repairs, Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD) conversions to Project-Based Rental Assistance (PBRA), and the Green and Resilient Retrofit Program; and (2) The other mortgage insurance programs subject to part 55: FHA Healthcare and FHA Risk Share.

Additional Resources:

For detailed information on the FFRMS guidelines, please refer to the following resources:

- FFRMS Official Website: FFRMS Website: https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/comm_planning/environment_energy/ffrms
- Implementation Guidance Document: <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2024/04/23/2024-06246/floodplain-management-and-protection-of-wetlands-minimum-property-standards-for-flood-hazard>
- Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ): https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/comm_planning/environment_energy/ffrms/faqs

REDD appreciates your cooperation and commitment to enhancing flood resilience through the implementation of the FFRMS. Should you have any questions concerning this bulletin, please contact your assigned Grant Management Representative or the CDBG Compliance Specialist.

ISSUED BY: Valerie D. Moore Fegans
Valerie D. Moore Fegans, CDBG Director

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