project only. The required determination that rebuilding the project would be less expensive than substantial rehabilitation means that the costs to HUD for rebuilding are such that the monthly debt service needed to amortize the cost of relocating tenants, demolition, site preparation, rebuilding, operating expenses, and a reasonable return to the purchaser cannot be provided with rents that are within 120 percent of the most recently published Section 8 Fair Market Rents for Existing Housing (24 CFR part 888, subpart A), and would be less expensive than rehabilitation.

§ 290.25 Determination not to preserve a project or a part of a project.

HUD may determine to demolish, or otherwise dispose of, a HUD-owned multifamily housing project, or any portion of such a project, or to foreclose a HUD-held mortgage on a multifamily housing project, without ensuring its continued availability as affordable rental or cooperative housing for low- and very low-income families under appropriate circumstances which may include one or more those listed in paragraphs (a) through (g) of this section. If HUD decides not to preserve an occupied multifamily housing project at a foreclosure sale or sale of a HUD-owned project, tenants must be provided relocation assistance as described in § 290.17.

(a) The costs to HUD of rehabilitation are such that the monthly debt service needed to amortize the cost of rehabilitation, operating expenses, and a reasonable return to the purchaser cannot be provided with rents that are, for subsidized and formerly subsidized projects, within 120 percent of the most recently published Section 8 Fair Market Rents for Existing Housing (24 CFR part 888, subpart A) or, for unsubsidized and formerly unsubsidized projects, within rents obtainable in the market.

(b) Construction is substantially incomplete.

(c) Preservation is not feasible because of environmental factors that cannot be mitigated by HUD or the purchaser. For example, when the project is located on a site that cannot be made to comply with the Section 8 Site and Neighborhood standards in 24 CFR 886.307(k) because of factors that adversely affect the health, safety and general welfare of residents such as air pollution; smoke; mud slides; fire or explosion hazards. Preservation may also be infeasible because of significantly deteriorated surrounding neighborhood conditions with inadequate police or fire protection; high crime rates; drug infestation; or lack of public community services needed to support a safe and healthy living environment for residents.

(d) HUD determines the project is unfit for rehabilitation.

(e) Rehabilitation would cost more than constructing comparable new housing.

(f) A reduction in the number of units in the project will enhance long-term project viability, for example, demolition of a building to provide space for a playground, open space, or combining one-bedroom units to create larger units for families.

(g) Continued preservation of the project as rental or cooperative housing is not compatible with State or local land use plans for the area in which the project is located.

Subpart B—Sale of HUD-Held Multifamily Mortgages

§ 290.30 General.

(a) Except as otherwise provided in § 290.31(a)(2), HUD will sell HUD-held multifamily mortgages on a competitive basis. HUD retains full discretion to offer any qualifying mortgage for sale and to withhold or withdraw any offered mortgage from sale. However, when a qualifying mortgage is offered for sale, the procedures set out in this subpart will govern the sale.

(b) References in subpart B of this part to mortgages securing subsidized projects include HUD-held purchase money mortgages on subsidized projects.

[61 FR 11685, Mar. 21, 1996, as amended at 61 FR 32265, June 21, 1996]

§ 290.31 Sale of current mortgages securing subsidized projects.

HUD will sell current mortgages securing subsidized projects, as follows:

(a) *Current mortgages with FHA mortgage insurance* will be sold either:

(1) On a competitive basis to FHA-approved mortgagees; or

(2) On a negotiated basis, to State or local governments, or to a group of investors that includes an agency of a State or local government if, in addition to meeting the requirements of the Statute, the sales price is the best price that HUD can obtain from an agency of a State or local government while maintaining occupancy for the tenant group originally intended to be served by the subsidized housing program.

(b) *Current mortgages without FHA mortgage insurance* will be sold if HUD can offer protections equivalent to those listed for an insured sale in paragraph (a) of this section.

§ 290.33 Sale of delinquent mortgages securing subsidized projects.

Delinquent mortgages securing subsidized projects will be sold only if, as part of the sales transaction:

(a) The mortgages are restructured; and

(b) Either FHA mortgage insurance or equivalent protections are provided.

§ 290.35 Sale of HUD-held mortgages securing unsubsidized projects.

HUD's policy for selling HUD-held mortgages securing unsubsidized projects is as follows:

(a) *Current mortgages* may be sold with or without FHA mortgage insurance.

(b) *Delinquent mortgages* may be sold without FHA mortgage insurance. However, delinquent mortgages will not be sold if:

(1) HUD believes that foreclosure is unavoidable; and

(2) The project securing the mortgage is occupied by very low-income tenants who are not receiving housing assistance and would be likely to pay rent in excess of 30 percent of their adjusted monthly income if HUD sold the mortgage.

§ 290.37 Requirements for continuing Federal rental subsidy contracts.

For any mortgage that, at the time HUD offers the mortgage for sale without FHA mortgage insurance, is delinquent and secures a subsidized project or unsubsidized project that receives any of the forms of assistance enumerated in paragraphs (4)(i) to (4)(iv) of the ''subsidized project'' definition in § 290.3:

(a) The mortgage purchaser and its successors and assigns shall require the mortgagor to record a covenant running with the land as part of any loan restructuring or of a final compromise of the mortgage debt and shall include a covenant in any foreclosure deed executed in connection with the mortgage. The covenant shall continue in effect until the last federal project-based rental assistance contract expires by its own terms. The covenant shall provide that, except where otherwise approved by HUD, a project purchaser shall agree to assume the obligations of any outstanding:

(1) Project-based federal rental subsidy contract; and

(2) Tenant-based Section 8 housing assistance payments contract with a public housing agency and the related lease.

(b) In the event of foreclosure of the mortgage sold by HUD, the mortgage purchaser and its successors and assigns:

(1) Shall foreclose in a manner that does not interfere with any lease related to federal project-based assistance or any lease related to tenant-based, Section 8 housing assistance payments; and

(2) Shall foreclose in manner that ensures that the right of possession of the purchaser at a foreclosure sale shall be subject to the terms of any residential lease not subject to paragraph (b)(1) of this section for the remaining term of the lease or for one year, whichever period is shorter.

[61 FR 11685, Mar. 21, 1996, as amended at 61 FR 32265, June 21, 1996]

§ 290.39 Nondiscrimination in admitting certificate and voucher holders.

(a) *Nondiscrimination requirement.* For any mortgage described in paragraphs (c) or (d) of this section that HUD sells without FHA mortgage insurance, the project owner shall not unreasonably refuse to lease a dwelling unit offered for rent, offer to sell cooperative stock,