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(3) Assured compliance with the requirements of § 35.3135(f);

(4) Made binding commitments to provide assistance equal to 120 percent of the amount of each grant payment within one year after receiving the grant payment pursuant to § 35.3135(c);

(5) Expended all funds in an expeditious and timely manner pursuant to § 35.3135(d); and

(6) First used all funds as a result of capitalization grants to assure maintenance of progress toward compliance with the enforceable requirements of the Act pursuant to § 35.3135(e).

(c) *Annual review*—(1) *Purpose*. The purpose of the annual review is to assess the success of the State's performance of activities identified in the IUP and Annual Report, and to determine compliance with the terms of the capitalization grant agreement. The RA will complete the annual review according to the schedule established in the grant agreement.

(2) *Records access*. After reasonable notice by the RA, the State or assistance recipient must make available to the EPA such records as the RA reasonably requires to review and determine State compliance with the requirements of title VI. The RA may conduct onsite visits as needed to provide adequate programmatic review.

(d) *Annual audit*. (1) At least once a year the RA (through the Office of the Inspector General) will conduct, or require the State to have independently conducted, a financial and compliance audit of the SRF and the operations of the SRF. If the State is required to have an independently conducted audit performed, the State may designate an independent auditor of the State to carry out the audit or may contractually procure the service.

(2) The auditor can be a certified public accountant, a public accountant licensed on or before December 31, 1970, or a governmental auditor who meets the qualification standards (Government Auditing Standards). In addition, the auditor must meet the independence standard as enumerated by the General Accounting Office and American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. The Office of the Inspector General may arrange for an EPA audit if the State fails to conduct the audit

or if the State's review is otherwise unsatisfactory.

(3) The audit report required under section 606(b) must contain an opinion on the financial statements of the SRF and its internal controls, and a report on compliance with title VI.

(4) The audit report must be completed within one year of the end of the appropriate accounting period and submitted to the Office of the Inspector General within 30 days of completion. In cases of State conducted audits, the State will be notified within 90 days as to the acceptability of the audit report and its findings. Audits may be done in conjunction with the Single Audit Act.

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 2040-0118)

§ 35.3170 Corrective action.

(a) *Causes*. If the RA determines that the State has not complied with requirements under title VI, the RA will notify the State of such noncompliance and prescribe the necessary corrective action. Failure to satisfy the terms of the capitalization grant agreement, including unmet conditions or assurances or invalid certifications, is grounds for a finding of noncompliance. In addition, if the State does not manage the SRF in a financially sound manner (e.g. allows consistent and substantial failures of loan repayments), the RA may take corrective action as provided under this section.

(b) *RA's course of action*. In making a determination of noncompliance with the capitalization grant agreement and devising the corrective action, the RA will identify the nature and cause of the problems. The State's corrective action must remedy the specific instance of noncompliance and adjust program management to avoid noncompliance in the future.

(c) *Consequences for failure to take corrective action*. If within 60 days of receipt of the noncompliance notice, a State fails to take the necessary actions to obtain the results required by the RA, or to provide an acceptable plan to achieve the results required, the RA shall withhold payments to the SRF until the State has taken acceptable actions. If the State fails to take the necessary corrective action deemed adequate by the RA within twelve

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months of receipt of the original notice, any withheld payments shall be deobligated and reallocated to other States.

(d) *Releasing payments.* Once the State has taken the corrective action deemed necessary and adequate by the RA, the withheld payments will be released and scheduled payments will recommence.

APPENDIX A TO SUBPART K—CRITERIA FOR EVALUATING A STATE'S PROPOSED NEPA-LIKE PROCESS

The following criteria will be used by the RA to evaluate a proposed SERP.

(A) *Legal foundation.* Adequate documentation of the legal authority, including legislation, regulations or executive orders and/or Attorney General certification that authority exists.

(B) *Interdisciplinary approach.* The availability of expertise either in-house or otherwise accessible to the State Agency.

(C) *Decision documentation.* A description of a documentation process adequate to explain the basis for decisions to the public.

(D) *Public notice and participation.* A description of the process, including routes of publication (e.g., local newspapers and project mailing list), and use of established State legal notification systems for notices of intent, and criteria for determining whether a public hearing is required. The adequacy of a rationale where the comment period differs from that under NEPA and is inconsistent with other State review periods.

(E) *Consider alternatives.* The extent to which the SERP will adequately consider:

- (1) Designation of a study area comparable to the final system;
- (2) A range of feasible alternatives, including the no action alternative;
- (3) Direct and indirect impacts;
- (4) Present and future conditions;
- (5) Land use and other social parameters including recreation and open-space considerations;
- (6) Consistency with population projections used to develop State implementation plans under the Clean Air Act;
- (7) Cumulative impacts including anticipated community growth (residential, commercial, institutional and industrial) within the project study area; and
- (8) Other anticipated public works projects including coordination with such projects.

Subpart L [Reserved]

Subpart M—Grants for Technical Assistance

AUTHORITY: 42 U.S.C. 9617(e); sec. 9(g), E.O. 12580, 52 FR 2923, 3 CFR, 1987 Comp. P. 193.

SOURCE: 57 FR 45316, Oct. 1, 1992, unless otherwise noted.

§ 35.4000 Authority.

This subpart is issued under section 117(e) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA), as amended, 42 U.S.C. 9617(e).

§ 35.4005 Purpose and availability of referenced material.

(a) This subpart codifies policies and procedures for Technical Assistance Grants (TAGs) awarded by EPA to groups of individuals. This subpart establishes the procedures for accepting and evaluating applications, and for awarding and managing TAGs. These provisions supplement the EPA general assistance regulations 40 CFR part 30 and 40 CFR part 33 and are applicable to all applicants/recipients of TAGs.

(b) Any reference to documents made in this subpart necessary to apply for a TAG (i.e., OMB Circulars and EPA forms SF-424, 269, 270) are available through EPA Headquarters and Regional Offices listed in 40 CFR 1.7.

§ 35.4010 Definitions.

As used in this subpart, the following words and terms shall have the meaning set forth below:

Affected means subject to an actual or potential health, economic or environmental threat arising from a release or a threatened release at a facility listed on the National Priorities List (NPL) or proposed for listing under the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP) where a response action under CERCLA has begun. Examples of affected parties include individuals who live in areas adjacent to NPL facilities whose health is or may be endangered by releases of hazardous substances at the facility, or whose economic interests are directly threatened or harmed.