

cost not covered by Federal appropriations. Where there is no Federal appropriation, the Credit Risk Premium must cover the entire subsidy cost.

(b) The amount of the Credit Risk Premium required for each direct loan or loan guarantee, if any, shall be established by the Administrator. The Credit Risk Premium shall be determined based on the credit risk and anticipated recovery in the event of default, including the recovery of collateral.

(c) The Credit Risk Premium must be paid before the disbursement of a direct or guaranteed loan. Where the borrower draws down the direct or guaranteed loan in several increments, the borrower may pay a portion of the total Credit Risk Premium for each increment equal to the proportion of that increment to the total amount of the direct or guaranteed loan.

(d) Each direct loan and loan guarantee made by the Administrator will be included in one cohort of direct loans or one cohort of loan guarantees, respectively, made during that same fiscal year, or longer period, as may be determined by the Administrator. When all obligations in a cohort have been satisfied or liquidated, the amount of Credit Risk Premiums, paid by applicants or infrastructure partners, remaining in the cohort, after deductions made to mitigate losses from any loan or loan guarantee in the cohort, together with interest accrued thereon, will be repaid on a pro rata basis to each original payor of a Credit Risk Premium for any obligation which was fully satisfied. If the Administrator's estimate of the default risk cost of each loan is accurate, the aggregate of Credit Risk Premiums associated with each cohort of loans will fully offset all losses in the cohort and none will remain to be returned to the payees.

### Subpart B—FRA Policies and Procedures for Evaluating Applications for Financial Assistance

#### § 260.17 Credit risk premium analysis.

(a) When Federal appropriations are not available to cover the total subsidy cost, the Administrator will determine

the Credit Risk Premium necessary for each direct loan or loan guarantee by estimating the credit risk and the potential recovery in the event of a default of each project evaluating the factors described in paragraphs (b) and (c) of this section.

(b) Establishing the credit risk.

(1) Where an Applicant has received a recent credit rating from one or more nationally recognized rating agencies, that rating will be used to estimate the credit risk.

(2) Where an Applicant has not received a credit rating from a credit rating agency, the Administrator will determine the credit risk based on an evaluation of the following factors:

(i) Business risk, based on Applicant's:

(A) Industry outlook;

(B) Market position;

(C) Management and financial policies;

(D) Capital expenditures; and

(E) Operating efficiency.

(ii) Financial risk, based on Applicant's past and projected:

(A) Profitability;

(B) Liquidity;

(C) Financial strength;

(D) Size; and

(E) Level of capital expenditures; and

(iii) Project risk, based on the proposed project's:

(A) Potential for improving revenues, profitability and cash flow from operations; and

(B) Reliance on third parties for success.

(c) The potential recovery in the event of a default will be based on:

(1) The nature of the Applicant's assets; and

(2) Liquidation value of the collateral offered, including the terms and conditions of the lien securing the collateral.

#### § 260.19 Preapplication meeting.

Potential Applicants may request a meeting with the FRA Associate Administrator for Railroad Development to discuss the nature of the project being considered. Applicants must be prepared to provide at least the following information:

(a) Applicant's name, address, and contact person;