

## § 137.326

(b) Upon receiving a Self-Governance Tribe's request to enter into a pre-negotiation phase the Secretary shall take the steps outlined in section 105(m)(3) of the Act [25 U.S.C. 450j(m)(3)].

### **§ 137.326 What must a Tribal proposal for a construction project agreement contain?**

A construction project proposal must contain all of the required elements of a construction project agreement as defined in § 137.280. In addition to these minimum requirements, Self-Governance Tribes may propose additional items.

### **§ 137.327 May multiple projects be included in a single construction project agreement?**

Yes, a Self-Governance Tribe may include multiple projects in a single construction project agreement proposal or may add additional approved projects by amendment(s) to an existing construction project agreement.

### **§ 137.328 Must a construction project proposal incorporate provisions of Federal construction guidelines and manuals?**

(a) No, the Self-Governance Tribe and the Secretary must agree upon and specify appropriate building codes and architectural and engineering standards (including health and safety) which must be in conformity with nationally recognized standards for comparable projects.

(b) The Secretary may provide, or the Self-Governance Tribe may request, Federal construction guidelines and manuals for consideration by the Self-Governance Tribe in the preparation of its construction project proposal. If Tribal construction codes and standards (including national, regional, State, or Tribal building codes or construction industry standards) are consistent with or exceed otherwise applicable nationally recognized standards, the Secretary must accept the Tribally proposed standards.

### **§ 137.329 What environmental considerations must be included in the construction project agreement?**

The construction project agreement must include:

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(a) Identification of the Tribal certifying officer for environmental review purposes,

(b) Reference to the Tribal resolution or equivalent Tribal action appointing the Tribal certifying officer and accepting the jurisdiction of the Federal court for enforcement purposes as provided in §§ 137.310 and 137.311.

(c) Identification of the environmental review procedures adopted by the Self-Governance Tribe, and

(d) An assurance that no action will be taken on the construction phase of the project that would have an adverse environmental impact or limit the choice of reasonable alternatives prior to making an environmental determination in accordance with the Self-Governance Tribe's adopted procedures.

### **§ 137.330 What happens if the Self-Governance Tribe and the Secretary cannot develop a mutually agreeable construction project agreement?**

The Self-Governance Tribe may submit a final construction project proposal to the Secretary. No later than 30 days after the Secretary receives the final construction project proposal, or within a longer time agreed to by the Self-Governance Tribe in writing, the Secretary shall review and make a determination to approve or reject the construction project proposal in whole or in part.

### **§ 137.331 May the Secretary reject a final construction project proposal based on a determination of Tribal capacity or capability?**

No, the Secretary may not reject a final construction project proposal based on a determination of Tribal capacity or capability.

### **§ 137.332 On what basis may the Secretary reject a final construction project proposal?**

(a) The only basis for rejection of project activities in a final construction project proposal are:

(1) The amount of funds proposed in the final construction project proposal exceeds the applicable funding level for the construction project as determined under sections 508(c) [25 U.S.C. 458aaa–