§ 404.55 Who is responsible for the operation, maintenance, and replacement costs?

You will be responsible for 100 percent of the operation, maintenance, and replacement costs for any rural water facility that is planned, designed, and recommended for construction under this program.

§ 404.56 If a financial assistance agreement is entered into for a rural water supply project that benefits more than one Indian tribe, is the approval of each Indian tribe required?

Yes. When a financial assistance agreement is entered into with an organization to perform services benefiting more than one Indian tribe, the approval of each such Indian tribe is a prerequisite to entering into the financial assistance agreement.

§ 404.57 Does this rule have any affect on state water law?

No. Neither the Act nor this rule preempts or affects state water law or any interstate compact governing water. Reclamation will comply with state water laws in carrying out this rule.

§ 404.58 Do rural water projects authorized before the enactment of the Rural Water Supply Act of 2006 have to comply with the requirements in this rule?

No. Neither the Act nor this rule imposes any additional requirements on rural water supply projects that were authorized for construction before the date of enactment of the Act.

§ 404.59 If the Secretary recommends a project for construction, is that a promise of Federal funding?

No. Congress must first authorize the project for construction and Federal funding is subject to the availability of appropriations.

§ 404.60 Does this rule contain an information collection that requires approval by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB)?

Yes. This rule does contain an information collection that is approved by OMB, under Control Number 1006–0029. The Paperwork Reduction Act provides that an agency may not conduct or

sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

PART 413—ASSESSMENT BY IRRI-GATION DISTRICTS OF LANDS OWNED BY THE UNITED STATES, COLUMBIA BASIN PROJECT, WASHINGTON

Sec.

413.1 Purpose.

413.2 Definitions.

413.3 Assessment of settlement lands.

413.4 Assessment of other project act lands and rights of way.

413.5 Reports on status of settlement lands.

AUTHORITY: Sec. 8, 57 Stat. 20; 16 U.S.C. 835c-4.

SOURCE: 23 FR 10360, Dec. 25, 1958, unless otherwise noted.

§413.1 Purpose.

The provisions of this part shall govern the levy and enforcement of assessments by or on behalf of irrigation districts against lands owned by the United States within the Columbia Basin Project, pursuant to the provisions of subsection 5 (b) and section 8 of the Columbia Basin Project Act (57 Stat. 14; 16 U. S. C. 835c-1 and 835c-4) and in keeping with the provisions of section 14, Chapter 275, Laws of Washington, 1943. (Section 89.12.120, Revised Code of Washington).

§413.2 Definitions.

As used in this part:

(a) Project Manager means the Project Manager of the Columbia Basin Project, a Federal reclamation project.

(b) District means any one of the irrigation districts organized under the laws of Washington which has contracted with the United States under the Columbia Basin Project Act to repay a portion of the construction cost of the project.

(c) Settlement lands means those public lands of the United States within the project or those lands acquired by the United States under the authority of the Columbia Basin Project Act, title to which is vested in the United States and which are being held pending their conveyance in accordance

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with the project settlement and development program.

(d) Other project act lands means those public lands within the project and those lands or interests acquired and being held by the United States under the Columbia Basin Project Act, which are being held other than for conveyance in accordance with the project settlement and development program.

(e) Rights of way means lands or interests in lands acquired by the United States under the Federal Reclamation Laws (Act of June 17, 1902, 32 Stat. 388, 43 U. S. C. 391, and acts amendatory thereof or supplementary thereto) for the construction and operation of project works, rights of way, including improvements thereon, reserved to the United States, under the Act of August 30, 1890 (26 Stat. 391; 43 U. S. C. 945) or section 90.40.050 of the Revised Code of Washington and being asserted for project purposes.

§ 413.3 Assessment of settlement lands.

(a) Settlement lands, which the United States is not under contract to sell or exchange at the time a district makes its annual levy of assessments shall not be assessed, except as provided in paragraph (c) of this section. If the United States thereafter contracts to sell or exchange such lands before the end of the irrigation season following the date of the annual levy, the purchaser will be required to make appropriate payment to the district for the water service which will be available to the purchaser during that irrigation season or the remaining portion thereof.

(b) From the date the United States contracts to sell or exchange settlement lands until title thereto passes to the purchaser under such contract, or until the rights of the purchaser are terminated or reacquired by the United States settlement lands shall be subject to assessment by a district on the same basis as other lands of like character within the operation of the district.

(c) Settlement lands, which the United States is not under contract to sell or exchange at the time a district makes its levy may be assessed by a district to the extent of the construction charge obligation installment re-

quired to be levied for the following year on such lands on account of the district's construction cost obligation to the United States. No other levies shall be made by a district against settlement lands in this status.

(d) While settlement lands which the United States has leased for use as irrigated lands and which the United States has not contracted to sell or exchange may not be assessed by a district except as provided in paragraph (c) of this section, lessees shall pay the district the same amounts annually that would be required to be paid for water service if the lands were subject to assessment therefor, in addition to any assessment levied under paragraph (c) of this section.

(e) Assessments made by a district against settlement lands while the United States is under contract to sell or exchange such lands shall be subject to all interest and penalties for delinquency as provided by the laws of Washington, but interest and penalties shall cease to accumulate on the date such contract is terminated or the purchaser's interest therein reacquired by the United States.

(f) No action shall be taken by or for a district to enforce any lien created as permitted under the regulations in this part by assessment foreclosure or other means that would purport to transfer any right in or title to any land or interests therein while title thereto is vested in the United States. Although the United States does not assume any obligation for the payment of such liens, it will in any conveyance of settlement lands covered thereby convey subject to those liens.

§413.4 Assessment of other project act lands and rights of way.

(a) A district shall, as to other project act lands and rights of way the title to which passes to the United States on or after January 1 of any year and before the district has levied its assessments for that year, immediately remove the lands from its assessment rolls and shall not thereafter take any proceedings to complete or enforce the assessments. Any such removal from the rolls shall be effective as of January 1 of the year in which