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will be assigned by the responsible District Engineer by letter addressed to the HEW office from which the request for assignment was received, citing the Act and GSA regulations as authority therefor. A copy of such letter of assignment will be furnished to the Regional Office of GSA.

(7) When notification of the proposed disposal is received from HEW, subsequent to assignment, if their is no reason for disapproval of the proposed disposition, notice from the responsible District Engineer to HEW of approval thereof is not necessary. Under section 203(k)(1), approval is automatically given in the absence of notice of disapproval within 30 days from the date of notification of the proposed disposal. If in the request for assignment HEW furnishes the name of the proposed transferee and states that an application from the transferee is on file and that the proposed use by the transferee is one authorized under section 203(k)(1), the District Engineer, in making the assignment to HEW, may state that no objection is interposed to the proposed transfer of the property.

(8) GSA has advised that it is not anticipated that the Corps of Engineers, in acting as the disposal agency, would investigate each request to it by the Department of HEW, because to make such investigations in each case would clearly duplicate the function assigned to the Department of HEW. Doubtful cases would only arise in connection with property for which the highest and best use is industrial or commercial, or where further study may be required by the Federal Government concerning future requirements for the property. In accordance with a further suggestion by GSA, where there is a reasonable doubt as to the propriety of an assignment to HEW or a proposed disposal by it, the request will be referred to GSA for final decision. Such referrals will be made through DAEN-REM.

(9) The District Engineer making the assignment of the property will request HEW to furnish two copies of the sales contract. Upon receipt of these copies, together with a request from HEW that the property be transferred, custody will be given to the grantee or transferee named in the sales contract.

§ 644.433 Surplus disposal to private parties.

General. Sections 644.435(b) through 644.440 cover general procedures for the sale of surplus fee-owned land and easement interests and includes actions to be taken preliminary to proceeding with the appropriate sale procedures set forth in §§ 644.540 through 644.557.

§ 644.434 Cottage site disposal.

Disposal of lots for cottage site development and use is authorized by Pub. L. 84–999 (16 U.S.C. 460e). No new allocations of land for private cottage use will be made. The policy concerning phasing out of existing cottage site areas is set out in ER 1130–2–400. The DE has delegated authority to sell or lease cottage sites. Contract of Sale, ENG Form 3297–R, will be used.

§ 644.435 Procedure.

(a) *Fee-owned land.* When fee-owned land for which the department is acting as disposal agency has been found to be surplus to requirements of the Federal Government, has been classified under § 644.426 and disposal is not made to a state, political subdivision, etc., the property will be offered for sale to the highest responsible bidder, except under special circumstances provided in §§ 644.540 through 644.557.

(b) *Easements.* Easements that are readily assignable will be disposed of in the same manner as fee-owned land. Easements will usually be disposed of with land to which they are appurtenant. Easements may be disposed of to the owner of land which is subject to the easement (the servient estate). A determination should be made as to whether the disposal should be with or without reimbursement to the Government on the basis of all the circumstances and factors involved and with due regard to the acquisition cost to the Government. The amount of such reimbursement should be the appraised fair market value of the easement. In the case of disposal of an easement acquired for the deposit of spoil material a minimum charge of $225.00 will be imposed where relinquishment is being accomplished for the benefit of the owner of the servient estate and where no direct benefit will inure to the Government. A statement as to the

commercial value will be made when recommending an easement for disposal. The circumstances and factors leading to these determinations shall be documented and retained in the files (FPMR 101–47.313–1).

§ 644.436 Appraisal.

Under the usual circumstances prompt action will be taken to appraise surplus property concurrently with its classification. Appraisals will not be undertaken for property which has been or is likely to be classified for disposal for any of the following purposes: airport; wildlife conservation; public highways, streets and alleys; disposal to the District of Columbia; and property assigned to HEW for disposal. Property that is to be disposed of for other than the above listed purposes will be appraised.

§ 644.437 Disposal plan for fee-owned land.

A disposal plan will be made for each surplus property. It will include the District Engineer's recommendation of the method or methods of disposal and the reasons therefor; for example, whether improvements or minerals and lands should be sold separately; improvements cannibalized; whether the property should be subdivided; the media for advertising; and other pertinent factors. In addition, the following will be included as part of the disposal plan:

(a) Description and map of the lands.

(b) Description of buildings and other improvements.

(c) Appraisal made in accordance with §§ 644.41 through 644.49, unless exempted by § 644.436.

(d) Information as to when, from whom, and how the property was acquired.

(e) Information as to the estate which the Government has in the land, and reservations and exceptions in and to the Government's title. Outstanding interests granted by the Government or reserved or excepted in the acquisition of the lands will be stated with particularity. The map or plat will delineate any grant, exception, or reservation, such as telephone and telegraph, electric transmission, oil, gas and water lines.

(f) Purchase price of land, buildings and improvements acquired with the lands, and the cost of buildings and improvements, if any, constructed by the United States.

(g) If there is an indication of valuable minerals, such statement will be made with full explanatory data.

(h) Where the estimated value of the land together with improvements and related personal property is in excess of $1,000, the disposal plan will be submitted to DAEN-REM for approval.

§ 644.438 Disposal plan for easements.

When recommending disposal of a surplus easement the District Engineer will submit the following:

(a) Information as to when and from whom the easement was acquired.

(b) The consideration paid therefor.

(c) Identification of the installation to which it is appurtenant.

(d) If the easement has no commercial value, the amount that should be paid by the owner of the servient estate, representing a rebate on the purchase price, or the amount paid for severance damages will be specified. (For example, if the easement was acquired for a 15-year period and the price paid therefor was substantial and one year after acquisition it is returned to the owner of the servient estate, an effort should be made to obtain a rebate on the purchase price although the easement has no commercial value. The same would be applicable to the payment for severance damages).

(e) If the owner of the servient estate, or other prospective grantee, is not willing to pay the appraised value in consideration of the release of an easement acquired for a substantial consideration, all action to release the easement will be held in abeyance until such time as an adequate consideration can be obtained for the release. Note the minimum payment for release of spoil easments discussed in paragraph (b) of § 644.435.

§ 644.439 Sale and conveyance.

Sales procedure, including advertising, will be in accordance with §§ 644.540 through 644.557. Normally, conveyance will be by deed, prepared and executed as provided in § 644.441.