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paid by Applicant or its non-Federal infrastructure partner before that direct loan can be disbursed or loan guarantee can be issued.

- (f) Direct loan means a disbursement of funds by the Government to a nonfederal borrower under a contract that requires the repayment of such funds.
- (g) FRA means the Federal Railroad Administration.
- (h) Financial assistance means a direct loan, or a guarantee of a new loan issued under this part.
- (i) *Holder* means the current owner of an obligation or the entity retained by the owner to service and collect an obligation which is guaranteed under the provisions of this part.
- (j) Including means including but not limited to.
- (k) Infrastructure partner means any non-Federal source of the Credit Risk Premium which must be paid to the Administrator in lieu of, or in combination with, an appropriation in connection with financial assistance provided under this part.
- (1) *Intermodal* means of or relating to the connection between rail service and other modes of transportation, including all parts of facilities at which such connection is made.
- (m) Lender means the non-Federal entity making a loan to an Applicant for which a loan guarantee under this part is sought.
- (n) Loan guarantee means any guarantee, insurance, or other pledge with respect to the payment of all or a part of the principal or interest on any debt obligation of a non-Federal borrower to a non-Federal Lender, but does not include the insurance of deposits, shares, or other withdrawable accounts in financial institutions.
- (o) Obligation means a bond, note, conditional sale agreement, equipment trust certificate, security agreement, or other obligation.
- (p) *Obligor* means the debtor under an obligation, including the original obligor and any successor or assignee of such obligor.
- (q) *Project* means the purpose for which financial assistance is requested.
- (r) Railroad means a rail carrier subject to part A of subtitle IV of title 49, United States Code.

- (s) Subsidy cost of a direct loan means the net present value, at the time when the direct loan is disbursed, of the following estimated cash flows:
 - (1) Loan disbursements;
 - (2) Repayments of principal; and
- (3) Payments of interest and other payments by or to the Government over the life of the loan after adjusting for estimated defaults, prepayments, fees, penalties, and other recoveries; including the effects of changes in loan terms resulting from the exercise by the borrower of an option included in the loan contract.
- (t) Subsidy cost of a loan guarantee means the net present value, at the time when the guaranteed loan is disbursed, of the following estimated cash flows:
- (1) Payments by the Government to cover defaults, delinquencies, interest subsidies, or other payments; and
- (2) The payments to the Government including origination and other fees, penalties and recoveries.

§ 260.5 Eligible purposes.

- (a) Financial assistance under this part is available solely to:
- (1) Acquire, improve, or rehabilitate intermodal or rail freight or passenger equipment or facilities, including track, components of track, bridges, yards, buildings, and shops;
- (2) Refinance outstanding debt incurred for purposes described in paragraph (a)(1) of this section; or
- (3) Develop or establish new intermodal or railroad facilities.
- (b) Financial assistance under this part cannot be used for railroad operating expenses.

§ 260.7 Priority consideration.

When evaluating applications, the Administrator will give priority consideration (but not necessarily in the following order) to projects that:

- (a) Enhance public safety;
- (b) Enhance the environment;
- (c) Promote economic development;
- (d) Enable United States companies to be more competitive in international markets;
- (e) Are endorsed by the plans prepared under section 135 of title 23, United States Code, by the State or States in which they are located; or