(2) Disasters. Units that are vacant due to a federally declared, state-declared, or other declared disaster.

(3) Casualty losses. Damaged units that remain vacant due to delays in settling insurance claims.

(c) A PHA may appeal to HUD to receive operating subsidy for units that are vacant due to changing market conditions (see subpart G of this part—Appeals).

§ 990.150 Limited vacancies.

(a) Operating subsidy for a limited number of vacancies. HUD shall pay operating subsidy for a limited number of vacant units under an ACC if the annualized vacancy rate is less than or equal to:

(1) Three percent of the PHA’s total unit inventory (not to exceed 100 percent of the unit months under an ACC) for the period July 1, 2004, to June 30, 2005, and

(2) Three percent of the total units on a project-by-project basis based on the definition of a project under subpart H of this part, beginning July 1, 2005.

(b) Exception for PHAs with 100 or fewer units. Notwithstanding paragraph (a) of this section, a PHA with 100 or fewer units will be paid operating subsidy for up to five vacant units not to exceed 100 percent of the unit months under an ACC. For example, a PHA with an inventory of 100 units and four vacancies during its fiscal year will be eligible for operating subsidy for all 100 units. A PHA with an inventory of 50 units with seven vacancies during its fiscal year will be eligible for operating subsidy for 48 units.

§ 990.155 Addition and deletion of units.

(a) Changes in public housing unit inventory. To generate a change to its formula amount within each one-year funding period, PHAs shall periodically (e.g., quarterly) report the following information to HUD, during the funding period:

(1) New units that were added to the ACC, and occupied by a public housing-eligible family during the prior reporting period for the one-year funding period, but have not been included in the previous EUMs’ data; and

(2) Projects, or entire buildings in a project, that are eligible to receive an asset repositioning fee in accordance with the provisions in §990.190(h).

(b) Revised EUM calculation. (1) For new units, the revised calculation shall assume that all such units will be fully occupied for the balance of that funding period. The actual occupancy/vacancy status of these units will be included to calculate the PHA’s operating subsidy in the subsequent funding period after these units have one full year of a reporting cycle.

(2) Projects, or entire buildings in a project, that are eligible to receive an asset repositioning fee in accordance with §990.190(h) are not to be included in the calculation of EUMs. Funding for these units is provided under the conditions described in §990.190(h).

Subpart C—Calculating Formula Expenses

§ 990.160 Overview of calculating formula expenses.

(a) General. Formula expenses represent the costs of services and materials needed by a well-run PHA to sustain the project. These costs include items such as administration, maintenance, and utilities. HUD also determines a PHA’s formula expenses at a project level. HUD uses the following three factors to determine the overall formula expense level for each project:

(1) The project expense level (PEL) (calculated in accordance with §990.165);

(2) The utilities expense level (UEL) (calculated in accordance with §§990.170, 990.175, 990.180, and 990.185); and

(3) Other formula expenses (add-ons) (calculated in accordance with §990.190).

(b) PEL, UEL, and Add-ons. Each project of a PHA has a unique PEL and UEL. The PEL for each project is based on ten characteristics and certain adjustments described in §990.165. The PEL represents the normal expenses of operating public housing projects, such as maintenance and administration costs. The UEL for each project represents utility expenses. Utility expense levels are based on an incentive
§ 990.165 Computation of project expense level (PEL).

(a) Computation of PEL. The PEL is calculated in terms of PUM cost and represents the costs associated with the project, except for utility and add-on costs. Costs associated with the PEL are administration, management fees, maintenance, protective services, leasing, occupancy, staffing, and other expenses, such as project insurance. HUD will calculate the PEL using regression analysis and benchmarking for the actual costs of Federal Housing Administration (FHA) projects to estimate costs for public housing projects. HUD will use the ten variables described in paragraph (b) of this section and their associated coefficient (i.e., values that are expressed in percentage terms) to produce a PEL.

(b) Variables. The ten variables are:

(1) Size of project (number of units);
(2) Age of property (Date of Full Availability (DOFA));
(3) Bedroom mix;
(4) Building type;
(5) Occupancy type (family or senior);
(6) Location (an indicator of the type of community in which a property is located; location types include rural, city central metropolitan, and non-city central metropolitan (suburban) areas);
(7) Neighborhood poverty rate;
(8) Percent of households assisted;
(9) Ownership type (profit, non-profit, or limited dividend); and
(10) Geographic.

(c) Cost adjustments. HUD will apply four adjustments to the PEL. The adjustments are:

(1) Application of a $200 PUM floor for any senior property and a $215 PUM floor for any family property;
(2) Application of a $420 PUM ceiling for any property except for New York City Housing Authority projects, which have a $480 PUM ceiling;
(3) Application of a four percent reduction for any PEL calculated over $325 PUM, with the reduction limited so that a PEL will not be reduced to less than $325; and
(4) The reduction of audit costs as reported for FFY 2003 in a PUM amount.

(d) Annual inflation factor. The PEL for each project shall be adjusted annually, beginning in 2005, by the local inflation factor. The local inflation factor shall be the HUD-determined weighted average percentage increase in local government wages and salaries for the area in which the PHA is located, and non-wage expenses.

(e) Calculating a PEL. To calculate a specific PEL for a given property, the sum of the coefficients for nine variables (all variables except ownership type) shall be added to a formula constant. The exponent of that sum shall be multiplied by a percentage to reflect the non-profit ownership type, which will produce an unadjusted PEL. For the calculation of the initial PEL, the cost adjustments described in paragraphs (c)(1), (c)(2), and (c)(3) of this section will be applied. After these initial adjustments are applied, the audit adjustment described in paragraph (c)(4) of this section will be applied to arrive at the PEL in year 2000 dollars. After the PEL in year 2000 dollars is created, the annual inflation factor as described in paragraph (d) of this section will be applied cumulatively to this number through 2004 to yield an initial PEL in terms of current dollars.

(f) Calculation of the PEL for Moving to Work PHAs. PHAs participating in the Moving to Work (MTW) Demonstration authorized under section 204 of the Omnibus Consolidated Rescissions and Appropriations Act of 1996 (Pub. L. 104–134, approved April 26, 1996) shall receive an operating subsidy as provided in Attachment A of their MTW Agreements executed prior to November 18, 2005. PHAs with an MTW Agreement will continue to have the right to request extensions of or modifications to their MTW Agreements.