reconsidered, the National Office will make a preliminary decision concerning the continued funding of the grantee during the appeal period. Written notification of the decision will be given to the State Director and grantee.

(ii) The National Office will then obtain a comprehensive report on the matter from the State Office. This information will be considered together with any additional information that may be provided by the grantee.

(c) Grant suspension. When the grantee has failed to comply with the terms of the agreement, the District Director will promptly report the facts to the State Director. The State Director will consider termination or suspension of the grant usually only after a Grantee has been classified as "high risk" in accordance with §1944.417(b)(2) of this subpart. When the State Director determines that the grantee has a reasonable potential to correct deficiencies the grant may be suspended. The State Director will request written authorization from the National Office to suspend a grantee. The suspension will adhere to 7 CFR parts 3015 and 3016. The grantee will be notified of the grant suspension in writing by the State Director. The State Director will also promptly inform the grantee of its rights to appeal the decision by use of exhibit B-3 of subpart B of part 1900 of this chapter.

(d) Grant termination. The State Director may terminate the grant agreement whenever FmHA or its successor agency under Public Law 103-354 determines that the grantee has failed to comply with terms of the Agreement. The reasons for termination may include, but are not limited to, such problems as listed in paragraph (e)(3)(i)of exhibit A of this subpart. The State Director may also withhold further disbursement of grant funds and prohibit the grantee from incurring additional obligations of grant funds with written approval of the National Office. FmHA or its successor agency under Public Law 103-354 will allow all necessary and proper costs which grantee could not reasonably avoid.

(1) *Termination for cause*. The grant agreement may be terminated in whole, or in part, at any time before

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date of completion, whenever FmHA or its successor agency under Public Law 103-354 determines that the grantee has failed to comply with terms of the Agreement. The State Director will notify the grantee in writing giving the reasons for the action and inform the grantee of its rights of appeal by use of exhibit B-3 of subpart B of part 1900 of this chapter.

(2) Termination for convenience. FmHA or its successor agency under Public Law 103-354 or the grantee may terminate the grant in whole, or in part, when both parties agree that the continuation of the grant would not produce beneficial results. The two parties will agree in writing to the termination conditions including the effective date. No notice of rights of appeal will be issued by FmHA or its successor agency under Public Law 103-354.

[55 FR 41833, Oct. 16, 1990, as amended at 67 FR 78328, Dec. 24, 2002; 68 FR 61331, Oct. 28, 2003]

## §1944.427 Grantee self-evaluation.

Annually or more often, the board of directors will evaluate their own selfhelp program. Exhibit E of this subpart is provided for that purpose. It is also recommended that they review their personnel policy, any audits that may have been conducted and other reports to determine if they need to make adjustments in order to prevent fraud and abuse, and meet the goals in the current grant agreement.

## §§1944.428–1944.449 [Reserved]

## §1944.450 OMB control number.

The reporting and recordkeeping requirements contained in this regulation have ben approved by the Office of Management and Budget and have been assigned OMB control number 0575-0043. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to vary from 10 minutes to 18 hours per response, with an average of 1.17 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of