

§§ 1951.26–1951.49

7 CFR Ch. XVIII (1–1–12 Edition)

1924 of this chapter will have their interest rate on their loan increased to the current rate for the OL, FO, or SW loan as applicable. The rate may increase in increments of whole numbers to the current regular interest rate for borrowers. In the borrower's case file, the County Supervisor must document the unplanned purchases and the failure to provide information in a timely manner. The County Supervisor must write the borrower a letter which sets out the facts documented in the case file and advises the borrower that the interest rate will be increased unless the unplanned purchases cease or unless the borrower provides information in a timely manner. Whenever it appears that the borrower has a substantial increase in income and repayment ability or ceases farming, either the interest rate may be increased to the current rate for FO, OL or SW loans, as applicable, or the borrower will be graduated from the program as provided in subpart F of this part.

(4) The County Office will be responsible for scheduling and completing the reviews.

(5) Borrowers who have received a deferral under Subpart S of this part will not have the interest rate increased on their limited resource loans during the deferral period.

(c) *Processing.* (1) If, after the review, the interest rate is to remain the same, no further action needs to be taken.

(2) When the interest rate is increased to the current rate, the loan will be recorded as a regular loan and will no longer be considered a limited resource loan. The borrower must be notified in writing at least 30 days prior to the date of the change. Exhibit B of this subpart may be used as a guide. The effective date of the change in interest rate will be the effective date on Exhibit B. The borrower must be informed of the following for each loan:

- (i) The authorization for the change,
- (ii) Reason for change (repayment ability, etc.),
- (iii) The effective date and rate of the increase in interest,
- (iv) Amount of the new installments and dates due,
- (v) Right to appeal.

(3) It is not necessary to obtain a new promissory note for this change in interest rate.

[50 FR 45764, Nov. 1, 1985, as amended at 53 FR 35717, Sept. 14, 1988; 56 FR 3395, Jan. 30, 1991; 58 FR 15074, Mar. 19, 1993]

§§ 1951.26–1951.49 [Reserved]

§ 1951.50 OMB control number.

The collection of information requirements in Subpart A of part 1951 have been approved by the Office of Management and Budget and assigned OMB control number 0575–0075.

[52 FR 26137, July 13, 1987]

**EXHIBIT A TO SUBPART A OF PART 1951—
NOTICE TO FMHA OR ITS SUCCESSOR
AGENCY UNDER PUBLIC LAW 103–354
BORROWERS**

FmHA or its successor agency under Public Law 103–354 borrowers with farmer program and community program loan types made under the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act may request a loan summary statement which shows the calendar year account activity for each loan. Interested borrowers may request these statements through their local FmHA or its successor agency under Public Law 103–354 office.

[54 FR 10270, Mar. 13, 1989]

**EXHIBIT B TO SUBPART A OF PART 1951—
NOTICE OF CHANGE IN INTEREST RATE**

(insert date)

Notice of Change in Interest Rate

(insert borrower's address)

Re:
Fund code

Loan number

Kind code

Dear (insert borrower's name and case number): Your promissory note dated _____, for the original amount of _____ dollars (\$ _____) provides for a change in interest rate for a limited resource loan in accordance with the Farmers Home Administration or its successor agency under Public Law 103–354 regulations.

Effective (insert date) the interest rate on this loan will be _____ percent (%) on the unpaid principal balance. Your installment due January 1, 19 _____, will be _____ dollars (\$ _____). This change in interest rate is for the reason indicated below.

RHS, RBS, RUS, FSA, USDA

§ 1951.102

Increase in repayment ability as per Farm and Home Plan dated _____.

(insert reason if other than above for increase in interest rate).

You may appeal this action by writing to (hearing officer), (address), within 30 calendar days of the date of this letter, giving the reason why you believe this matter should be decided differently. This time may be extended if you cannot notify the hearing officer within 30 days for reasons beyond your control.

[56 FR 3396, Jan. 30, 1991]

Subpart B [Reserved]

Subpart C—Offsets of Federal Payments to USDA Agency Borrowers

§ 1951.101 General.

Federal debt collection statutes provide for the use of administrative, salary, and Internal Revenue Service (IRS) offsets by government agencies, including the Farm Service Agency (FSA), Rural Housing Service (RHS) for its community facility program, and Rural Business-Cooperative Service (RBS), herein referred to collectively as “United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Agency,” to collect delinquent debts. Any money that is or may become payable from the United States to an individual or entity indebted to a USDA Agency may be subject to offset for the collection of a debt owed to a USDA Agency. In addition, money may be collected from the debtor’s retirement payments for delinquent amounts owed to the USDA Agency if the debtor is an employee or retiree of a Federal agency, the U.S. Postal Service, the Postal Rate Commission, or a member of the U.S. Armed Forces or the Reserve. Amounts collected will be processed as regular payments and credited to the borrower’s account. USDA Agencies will process requests by other Federal agencies for offset in accordance with § 1951.102 of this subpart. This subpart does not apply to direct single family housing loans, direct multi-family housing loans, and the Rural Utilities Service. Section 1951.136 of this subpart only applies to RHS for its community facility program and RBS for the offset of Federal payments. Nothing in this

subpart affects the common law right of set off available to USDA Agencies.

[67 FR 69671, Nov. 19, 2002]

§ 1951.102 Administrative offset.

(a) *General*. Collections of delinquent debts through administrative offset will be taken in accordance with 7 CFR part 3, subpart B and § 1951.106.

(b) *Definitions*. In this subpart:

(1) *Agency* means Farm Service Agency, Farm Loan Programs; Rural Housing Service, except direct Single Family Housing loans and direct Multi-Family Housing loans; and Rural Business-Cooperative Service, or any successor agency.

(2) *Contracting officer* is any person who, by appointment in accordance with applicable regulations, has the authority to enter into and administer contracts and make determinations and findings with respect thereto. The term also includes the authorized representative of the contracting officer, acting within the limits of the representative’s authority.

(3) *County Committee* means the local committee elected by farmers in the county, as authorized by the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act and the Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994, to administer FSA programs approved for the county as appropriate.

(4) *Creditor agency* means a Federal agency to whom a debtor owes a monetary debt. It need not be the same agency that effects the offset.

(5) *Debt management officer* means an agency employee responsible for collection by administrative offset of debts owed the United States.

(6) *Delinquent or past-due* means a payment that was not made by the due date.

(7) *Entity* means a corporation, joint stock company, association, general partnership, limited partnership, limited liability company, irrevocable trust, revocable trust, estate, charitable organization, or other similar organization participating in the farming operation.

(8) *FP* means Farm Programs.

(9) *FLP* means Farm Loan Programs.

(10) *FSA* means Farm Service Agency.