5. Field Office completes Joint Reviews, environmental reviews and FHEO review.

6. Field Office makes funding decisions and forwards Congressional notifications to Headquarters.

7. Congressional notification is completed and Field Office notifies HA of funding decisions.

8. HA submits additional documents as required in section IV(f).

9. Field Office completes fund reservations and forwards ACC amendment to HA for signature and return.

10. Field Office executes ACC amendment and HA begins implementation.

VII. Other Matters

(a) Environmental Impact. A Finding of No Significant Impact with respect to the environment will be made in accordance with HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 50 implementing section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4332) in connection with issuance of the FY 1995 NOFA for this program. The Finding of No Significant Impact will be available for public inspection and copying between 7:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. weekdays at the Office of the Rules Docket Clerk, 451 Seventh Street, SW., room 10276, Washington, DC 20410.

(b) *Federalism Impact.* The General Counsel, as the Designated Official under section 6(a) of Executive Order 12612, *Federalism*, has determined that the policies and procedures contained in this Notice will not have substantial direct effects on States or their political subdivisions, or the relationship between the federal government and the States, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities among the various levels of government. As a result, the Notice is not subject to review under the Order.

(c) *Impact on the Family.* The General Counsel, as the Designated Official for Executive Order 12606, *The Family*, has determined that this Notice will likely have a beneficial impact on family formation, maintenance and general well-being. Accordingly, since the impact on the family is beneficial, no further review is considered necessary.

(d) Accountability in the Provision of HUD Assistance. The Department has promulgated a final rule to implement section 102 of the Department of Housing and Urban Development Reform Act of 1989 (HUD Reform Act). The final rule is codified at 24 CFR Part 12. Section 102 contains a number of provisions that are designed to ensure greater accountability and integrity in the provision of certain types of assistance administered by the Department. On January 16, 1992, the Department published at 57 FR 1942, additional information that gave the public (including applicants for, and recipients of, HUD assistance) further information on the implementation, public access, and disclosure requirements of section 102. The documentation, public access, and disclosure requirements of section 102 are applicable to assistance awarded under the NOFA to be published as follows:

(1) Documentation and Public Access. The Department will ensure that documentation and other information regarding each application submitted pursuant to the NOFA to be published are sufficient to indicate the basis upon which assistance was provided or denied. This material, including any letters of support, will be made available for public inspection for a fiveyear period beginning not less than 30 days after the award of the assistance. Material will be made available in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) and HUD's implementing regulations at 24 CFR Part 15. In addition, HUD will include the recipients of assistance pursuant to the NOFA in its quarterly Federal Register notice of all recipients of HUD assistance awarded on a competitive basis. (See 24 CFR 12.14(a) and 12.16(b), and the notice published in the Federal Register on January 16, 1992 (57 FR 1942), for further information on these requirements.)

(2) HUD Responsibilities-Disclosures. The Department will make available to the public for five years all applicant disclosure reports (Form HUD-2880) submitted in connection with the NOFA to be published. Update reports (also Form HUD-2880) will be made available along with the applicant disclosure reports, but in no case for a period less than three years. All reports, both applicant disclosures and updates, will be made available in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) and HUD's implementing regulations at 24 CFR Part 15. (See 24 CFR Part 12, Subpart C, and the notice published in the Federal Register on January 16, 1992 (57 FR 1942), for further information on these disclosure requirements.)

(e) Prohibition Against Advance Information on Funding Decisions.

HUD's regulation implementing section 103 of the HUD Reform Act, codified as 24 CFR Part 4, will apply to the funding competition to be announced under the separately published NOFA. The requirements of the rule continue to apply until the announcement of the selection of successful applicants. Also refer to a final rule amending Part 4 published in the **Federal Register** on November 19, 1993 (58 FR 61016), regarding the regulation of certain conduct by HUD employees and by applicants for HUD assistance during the selection process for the award of financial assistance by HUD.

HUD employees involved in the review of applications and in the making of funding decisions are limited by Part 4 from providing advance information to any person (other than an authorized employee of HUD) concerning funding decisions, or from otherwise giving any applicant an unfair competitive advantage. Persons who apply for assistance in this competition should confine their inquiries to the subject areas permitted under 24 CFR Part 4.

Applicants who have questions should contact the HUD Office of Ethics at (202) 708–3815 (voice), (202) 708– 1112 (TDD). These are not toll-free numbers. The Office of Ethics can provide information of a general nature to HUD employees, as well. However, a HUD employee who has specific program questions, such as whether particular subject matter can be discussed with persons outside the Department, should contact his or her Field Office Counsel or Headquarters Counsel for the program to which the question pertains.

(f) Prohibition Against Lobbying of HUD Personnel.

Section 112 of the HUD Reform Act added a new section 13 of the Department of Housing and Urban Development Act (42 U.S.C. 3531 et seq.). Section 13 contains two provisions dealing with efforts to influence HUD's decisions with respect to financial assistance. The first imposes disclosure requirements on those who are typically involved in these effortsthose who pay others to influence the award of assistance or the taking of a management action by the Department and those who are paid to provide the influence. The second restricts the payment of fees to those who are paid to influence the award of HUD assistance, if the fees are tied to the number of housing units received or are based on the amount of assistance received, or if they are contingent upon the receipt of assistance.

HUD regulations implementing section 13 are at 24 CFR Part 86. If readers are involved in any efforts to influence the Department in these ways, they are urged to read the regulation, particularly the examples contained in Appendix A of the rule.