

Public Health Service, HHS

§ 137.362

ROLES OF SELF-GOVERNANCE TRIBE IN ESTABLISHING AND IMPLEMENTING CONSTRUCTION PROJECT AGREEMENTS

§ 137.350 Is a Self-Governance Tribe responsible for completing a construction project in accordance with the negotiated construction project agreement?

Yes, a Self-Governance Tribe assumes responsibility for completing a construction project, including day-to-day on-site management and administration of the project, in accordance with the negotiated construction project agreement. However, Self-Governance Tribes are not required to perform beyond the amount of funds provided. For example, a Self-Governance Tribe may encounter unforeseen circumstances during the term of a construction project agreement. If this occurs, options available to the Self-Governance Tribe include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Reallocating existing funding;
- (b) Reducing/revising the scope of work that does not require an amendment because it does not result in a significant change;
- (c) Utilizing savings from other projects;
- (d) Requesting additional funds or appropriations;
- (e) Utilizing interest earnings;
- (f) Seeking funds from other sources; and/or
- (g) Redesigning or re-scoping that does result in a significant change by amendment as provided in §§ 137.363 and 137.364.

§ 137.351 Is a Self-Governance Tribe required to submit construction project progress and financial reports for construction project agreements?

Yes, a Self-Governance Tribe must provide the Secretary with construction project progress and financial reports semiannually or, at the option of the Self-Governance Tribe, on a more frequent basis. Self-Governance Tribes are only required to submit the reports, as negotiated in the Construction Project Agreement, after funds have been transferred to the Self-Governance Tribe for a construction project. Construction project progress reports and financial reports are only

required for active construction projects.

§ 137.352 What is contained in a construction project progress report?

Construction project progress reports contain information about accomplishments during the reporting period and issues and concerns of the Self-Governance Tribe, if any.

§ 137.353 What is contained in a construction project financial report?

Construction project financial reports contain information regarding the amount of funds expended during the reporting period, and financial concerns of the Self-Governance Tribe, if any.

ROLES OF THE SECRETARY IN ESTABLISHING AND IMPLEMENTING CONSTRUCTION PROJECT AGREEMENTS

§ 137.360 Does the Secretary approve project planning and design documents prepared by the Self-Governance Tribe?

The Secretary shall have at least one opportunity to approve project planning and design documents prepared by the Self-Governance Tribe in advance of construction if the Self-Governance Tribe is required to submit planning or design documents as a part of the scope of work under a construction project agreement.

§ 137.361 Does the Secretary have any other opportunities to approve planning or design documents prepared by the Self-Governance Tribe?

Yes, but only if there is an amendment to the construction project agreement that results in a significant change in the original scope of work.

§ 137.362 May construction project agreements be amended?

Yes, the Self-Governance Tribe, at its discretion, may request the Secretary to amend a construction project agreement to include additional projects. In addition, amendments are required if there is a significant change from the original scope of work or if funds are added by the Secretary. The Self-Governance Tribe may make immaterial changes to the performance period and

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make budget adjustments within available funding without an amendment to the construction project agreement.

§ 137.363 What is the procedure for the Secretary's review and approval of amendments?

(a) The Secretary shall promptly notify the Self-Governance Tribe in writing of any concerns or issues that may lead to disapproval. The Secretary shall share relevant information and documents, and make a good faith effort to resolve all issues and concerns of the Self-Governance Tribe. If, after consultation with the Self-Governance Tribe, the Secretary intends to disapprove the proposed amendment, then the Secretary shall follow the procedures set forth in §137.330 through 137.334.

(b) The time allowed for Secretarial review, comment, and approval of amendments is 30 days, or within a longer time if agreed to by the Self-Governance Tribe in writing. Absence of a written response by the Secretary within 30 days shall be deemed approved.

(c) The timeframe set forth in paragraph (b) of this section is intended to be the maximum time and may be reduced based on urgency and need, by agreement of the parties. If the Self-Governance Tribe requests reduced timeframes for action due to unusual or special conditions (such as limited construction periods), the Secretary shall make a good faith effort to accommodate the requested timeframes.

§ 137.364 What constitutes a significant change in the original scope of work?

A significant change in the original scope of work is:

(a) A change that would result in a cost that exceeds the total of the project funds available and the Self-Governance Tribe's contingency funds; or

(b) A material departure from the original scope of work, including substantial departure from timelines negotiated in the construction project agreement.

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§ 137.365 What is the procedure for the Secretary's review and approval of project planning and design documents submitted by the Self-Governance Tribe?

(a) The Secretary shall review and approve planning documents to ensure compliance with planning standards identified in the construction project agreement. The Secretary shall review and approve design documents for general compliance with requirements of the construction project agreement.

(b) The Secretary shall promptly notify the Self-Governance Tribe in writing of any concerns or issues that may lead to disapproval. The Secretary shall share relevant information and documents, and make a good faith effort to resolve all issues and concerns of the Self-Governance Tribe. If, after consultation with the Self-Governance Tribe, the Secretary intends to disapprove the documents, then the Secretary shall follow the procedures set forth in §137.333.

(c) The time allowed for Secretarial review, comment, and approval of planning and design documents is 21 days, unless otherwise agreed to by the Self-Governance Tribe in writing. Absence of a written response by the Secretary within 21 days shall be deemed approved.

§ 137.366 May the Secretary conduct onsite project oversight visits?

Yes, the Secretary may conduct onsite project oversight visits semiannually or on an alternate schedule negotiated in the construction project agreement. The Secretary must provide the Self-Governance Tribe with reasonable advance written notice to assist the Self-Governance Tribe in coordinating the visit. The purpose of the visit is review the progress under the construction project agreement. At the request of the Self-Governance Tribe, the Secretary must provide the Self-Governance Tribe a written site visit report.

§ 137.367 May the Secretary issue a stop work order under a construction project agreement?

No, the Secretary has no role in the day-to-day management of a construction project.