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(b) Notification that the applicant can request a review of the decision;

(c) Notification that any request for review must be made in writing within 30 days after the applicant's receipt of the qualified lender's notice; and

(d) A brief explanation of the process for seeking review of the decision, including the appraisal process, whom to contact at the lender for access to the relevant information, and the right to appear before the credit review committee.

§ 614.4442 Credit Review Committee.

The board of directors of each qualified lender shall establish one or more credit review committees to review adverse credit decisions made by the lender with ultimate decision-making authority on the loan. The membership of each committee shall include at least one member from the lender's board. In no case shall a loan officer involved in the adverse credit decision on the loan being reviewed serve on the credit review committee when the committee reviews such loan. The duties of the members of the credit review committee may not be delegated to any other person, except that the credit review committee duties of the board member may be performed from time to time by an alternate designated by the board who shall also be a board member.

§ 614.4443 Review process.

(a) *Personal appearance.* Each applicant or borrower who is entitled to and has requested a review may appear in person before the credit review committee. The applicant or borrower may be accompanied by counsel or by any other representative of such person's choice, to seek a reversal of the decision on the application under review.

(b) *Documentation.* An applicant may submit any documents or other evidence to support the information contained in the unsuccessful loan or restructuring application which the applicant believes will demonstrate that the loan or restructuring applied for is an eligible loan or eligible restructuring plan that satisfies the credit standards of the lender.

(c) *Independent collateral evaluations.*

(1) An applicant for a loan that has

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been denied may, as part of the request for a review, request an independent collateral evaluation by an independent evaluator, as defined in § 614.4440 of this subpart, of any interests in property securing the loan (other than the stock or participation certificates of the lender held by the borrower).

(2) Within 30 days after a request for a collateral evaluation, the credit review committee shall present the applicant or borrower with a list of three independent evaluators approved by the qualified lender. The borrower shall select and engage the services of an evaluator from the list to perform the collateral evaluation. The collateral evaluation must be completed within a reasonable period of time. The cost of the evaluation shall be borne by the applicant or borrower.

(3) The credit review committee shall consider the results of any such collateral evaluation in any final determination with respect to the loan or restructuring, provided the applicant's or borrower's evaluator has provided a copy of the evaluation report to the lender not less than 15 business days prior to any scheduled meeting of the credit review committee.

(4) Any such collateral evaluations that are not completed in conformance with the collateral evaluation requirements described in subpart F of this part, relative to collateral evaluation standards, independence requirements, and qualification requirements, need not be considered by the credit review committee. To facilitate the proper completion of such collateral evaluations, a copy of part 614, subpart F, shall be provided to the borrower for presentation to the borrower's evaluator, and a copy signed by the borrower's evaluator shall be a required exhibit in the subsequent evaluation report.

(d) *Decision.* The credit review committee shall reach a decision on the application in its sole discretion, and such decision shall be the final decision of the lender. The credit review committee shall make every reasonable effort to conduct reviews and render decisions in as expeditious a manner as possible. Promptly after a review by

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the credit review committee, the committee shall notify the applicant or borrower in writing of the decision of the committee and the reasons for the decision.

[53 FR 35452, Sept. 14, 1988, as amended at 59 FR 46734, Sept. 12, 1994]

§ 614.4444 Records.

A qualified lender shall maintain a complete file of all requests for reviews by the credit review committee, including participation in State mediation programs, and the disposition of each review by the committee. The file shall include minutes of each credit review committee meeting, and sufficient documentation of the basis for each determination not to restructure a loan to permit the institution or the FCA to review each determination.

[53 FR 35452, Sept. 14, 1988, as amended at 61 FR 67187, Dec. 20, 1996]

Subpart M—Loan Approval Requirements

§ 614.4450 General requirements.

Authority for loan approval is vested in the Farm Credit banks and associations.

[51 FR 41947, Nov. 20, 1986]

§ 614.4460 Loan approval responsibility.

Approval of the following loans is the responsibility of each district board of directors. The responsibility may be discharged by prior approval of such loans by the appropriate bank board, or establishment of a policy under which the authority to approve such loans is delegated to bank management (except paragraphs (d) and (e) of this section which cannot be delegated to management). If the approval of such loans is to be delegated to bank management, the loans are to be submitted promptly for post review by the bank board and a report disclosing all material facts relating to the credit relationship involved shall be submitted annually by bank management to the district board.

(a) Loans to a member of the Farm Credit Administration Board.

(b) Loans to a member of the district board.

(c) Loans to a cooperative of which a member of a bank board of directors is a member of the board of directors, an officer, or employee.

(d) Loans to the president of a Farm Credit bank.

(e) Loans to employees of the Farm Credit Administration.

(f) Loans where directors, officers or employees designated above:

(1) Are to receive proceeds of the loan in excess of an amount prescribed by an appropriate bank board, or

(2) Are stockholders or owners of equity in a legal entity to which the loan is to be made wherein they have a significant personal or beneficial interest in the loan proceeds thereof or the security, or

(3) Are endorsers, guarantors or co-makers in excess of an amount prescribed by an appropriate bank board.

[38 FR 27837, Oct. 9, 1973, as amended at 39 FR 29585, Aug. 16, 1974. Redesignated at 46 FR 51878, Oct. 22, 1981, and amended at 51 FR 41947, Nov. 20, 1986; 54 FR 1151, Jan. 12, 1989; 54 FR 50736, Dec. 11, 1989; 56 FR 2674, Jan. 24, 1991]

§ 614.4470 Loans subject to bank approval.

(a) The following loans (unless such loans are of a type prohibited under part 612) shall be subject to prior approval of the bank supervising the association in which the loan application originates:

(1) Loans to a director of the association.

(2) Loans to a director of an association which is under joint management when the application originates in one of the associations.

(3) Loans to an employee of the association.

(4) Loans to an employee of an association which is under joint management when the application originates in one of the associations.

(5) Loans to bank employees when the application originates in one of the associations supervised by the employing bank.

(b) Loans to any borrower shall be subject to the prior approval of the bank supervising the association in which the loan application originates whenever a director or an employee of