

BLM proposes new regulations for ANCSA implementation

The Bureau of Land Management is proposing a series of amendments to its regulations aimed at speeding implementation of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act.

The regulations, published in

the May 8 Federal Register, would modify requirements for compactness and contiguity of village selections, procedures for village surveys and qualifications for eligibility. Also covered are changes in selection require-

ments for cemetery sites and historical places and the treatment of oil and gas lease offers when they conflict with valid Native selections. Comments on the proposed rules are due in Washington by July 7.

The amendments are the result of an intensive review by the Department of the Interior into policy issues surrounding implementation of the 1971 Act. Copies of the proposed rules are available from: Bob Arnold, Assistant to the State Director for ANCSA, Bureau of Land Management, 701 C Street, Box 13, Anchorage, AK 99513. Comments should be sent to: Director (650), Bureau of Land Management, 1800 C Street, N.W., Washington D.C. 20240.