

ANCSA Regulations Published

Assistant Secretary of the Interior Guy Martin announced recently he has approved regulations spelling out guidelines for exempting federal installation lands from Native conveyance, as intended under Sec. 3(e)(1) of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act.

In explaining the regulations Martin said "the settlement act intended that unused federal lands could make a real contribution to the lands conveyed to Native corporations. These regulations satisfy a long overdue federal obligation to lay out procedures so that accelerated

movement of properly selected federal lands into Native ownership may continue."

The regulations, which appear in the October 22 Federal Register, will be used by the Bureau of Land Management to determine the smallest practicable tract actually used in connection with the administration of any federal installation. Such determination is necessary because federal lands which were not used would be subject to conveyance to Native corporations.

To be subject to the provisions, the federal installations must be located on lands withdrawn under specified sections of the act. In addition, if the installations are for national defense purposes or are on National Park Service lands they are not subject to these regulations. Terms of these regulations also allow some installations customarily protected as rights-of-way or easements to be protected under certain circumstances as easements.

Broadly told, unused portions of installations would be available for Native conveyance only if they were unused during the corporation's selection period. Installations whose use ended after these dates would not be conveyed to the selecting corporations.

Copies of the regulations are available from BLM offices in Anchorage.