

(d) Each applicant that submits an application for an RUS electric program loan or grant on or after July 12, 2005 shall include with its application package a letter certification that such applicant has performed an initial VRA of its electric system. Additional or periodic VRA's may be necessary if significant changes occur in the borrower's system, and records of such additional assessments shall be maintained by the borrower.

(e) The VRA shall include identifying:

(1) Critical assets or facilities considered necessary for the reliability and security of the electric power grid as described in §1730.21(c);

(2) Facilities that if damaged or destroyed would cause significant risk to the safety and health of the public;

(3) Critical assets or infrastructure owned or served by the borrower's electric system that are determined, identified and communicated as elements of national security by the consumer, State or Federal government;

(4) External system impacts (interdependency) with loss of identified system components;

(5) Threats to facilities and assets identified in paragraphs (e)(1), (e)(2), (e)(3), and (e)(4) of this section;

(6) Criticality and risk level of the borrower's system;

(7) Critical asset components and elements unique to the RUS borrower's system; and

(8) Other threats, if any, identified by an individual borrower.

[69 FR 60541, Oct. 12, 2004]

§ 1730.28 Emergency Restoration Plan (ERP).

(a) Each borrower with an approved RUS electric program loan as of October 12, 2004 shall have a written ERP no later than January 12, 2006. The ERP should be developed by the borrower individually or in conjunction with other electric utilities (not all having to be RUS borrowers) through the borrower's unique knowledge of its system, prudent utility practices (which includes development of an ERP) and the borrower's completed VRA. If a joint electric utility ERP is developed, each RUS borrower shall prepare an addendum to meet the requirements of para-

graphs (e), (f), and (g) of this section as it relates to its system.

(b) Each applicant that has submitted an application for an RUS electric program loan or grant prior to October 12, 2004, but whose application has not been approved by RUS by such date, shall have a written ERP in accordance with §1730.28(a).

(c) Each applicant that submits an application for an RUS electric program loan or grant between October 12, 2004 and January 12, 2006, shall have a written ERP in accordance with §1730.28(a).

(d) Each applicant that submits an application for an RUS electric program loan or grant on or after January 12, 2006 shall include with its application package a letter certification that such applicant has a written ERP.

(e) The ERP shall include:

(1) A list of key contact emergency telephone numbers (emergency agencies, borrower management and other key personnel, contractors and equipment suppliers, other utilities, and others that might need to be reached in an emergency);

(2) A list of key utility management and other personnel and identification of a chain of command and delegation of authority and responsibility during an emergency;

(3) Procedures for recovery from loss of power to the headquarters, key offices, and/or operation center facilities;

(4) A Business Continuity Section describing a plan to maintain or re-establish business operations following an event which disrupts business systems (computer, financial, and other business systems); and

(5) Other items, if any, identified by the borrower as essential for inclusion in the ERP.

(f) The ERP must be approved and signed by the borrower's Manager or Chief Executive Officer, and approved by the borrower's Board of Directors.

(g) Copies of the most recent approved ERP must be made readily available to key personnel at all times.

(h) The ERP shall be Exercised at least annually to ensure operability and employee familiarity. Completion of the first exercise of the ERP must occur on or before January 12, 2007.

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(i) If modifications are made to an existing ERP:

(1) The modified ERP must be prepared in compliance with the provisions of paragraphs (e), (f), and (g) of this section; and

(2) Additional Exercises may be necessary to maintain employee operability and familiarity.

(j) Each borrower shall maintain records of such Exercises.

[69 FR 60541, Oct. 12, 2004]

§ 1730.29 Grants and Grantees.

For the purposes of this part, the terms “borrower” shall include recipients of RUS electric program grants, and “applicant” shall include applicants for such grants. References to “security documents” shall, with respect to recipients of RUS electric program grants, include grant agreements and other grant-related documents.

[69 FR 60541, Oct. 12, 2004]

§§ 1730.30–1730.59 [Reserved]

Subpart C—Interconnection of Distributed Resources

SOURCE: 74 FR 32409, July 8, 2009, unless otherwise noted.

§ 1730.60 General.

Each electric program distribution borrower (as defined in §1710.2) is responsible for establishing and maintaining a written standard policy relating to the Interconnection of Distributed Resources (IDR) having an installed capacity of not more than 10 megavolt amperes (MVA) at the point of common coupling.

§ 1730.61 RUS policy.

The Distributed Resource facility must not cause significant degradation of the safety, power quality, or reliability on the borrower’s electric power system or other electric power systems interconnected to the borrower’s electric power system. The Agency encourages borrowers to consider model policy templates developed by knowledgeable and expert institutions, such as, but not limited to the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, the Federal Energy Regulatory

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Commission and the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association. The Agency encourages all related electric borrowers to cooperate in the development of a common Distributed Resource policy.

§ 1730.62 Definitions.

“Distributed resources” as used in this subpart means sources of electric power that are not directly connected to a bulk power transmission system, having an installed capacity of not more than 10 MVA, connected to the borrower’s electric power system through a point of common coupling. Distributed resources include both generators and energy storage technologies.

“Responsible party” as used in this subpart means the owner, operator or any other person or entity that is accountable to the borrower under the borrower’s interconnection policy for Distributed Resources.

§ 1730.63 IDR policy criteria.

(a) *General.* (1) The borrower’s IDR policy and procedures shall be readily available to the public and include, but not limited to, a standard application, application process, application fees, and agreement.

(2) All costs to be recovered from the applicant regarding the application process or the actual interconnection and the process to determine the costs are to be clearly explained to the applicant and authorized by the applicant prior to the borrower incurring these costs. The borrower may require separate non-refundable deposits sufficient to insure serious intent by the applicant prior to proceeding either with the application or actual interconnection process.

(3) IDR policies must be approved by the borrower’s Board of Directors.

(4) The borrower may establish a new rate classification for customers with Distributed Resources.

(5) IDR policies must provide for reconsideration and updates every five years or more frequently as circumstances warrant.

(b) *Technical requirements.* (1) IDR policies must be consistent with prudent electric utility practice.