

work plan must also be able to demonstrate that both it and its RUS borrower members are in compliance with its approved load forecast work plan for the next load forecast or update of a load forecast.

§ 1710.207 RUS criteria for approval of load forecasts by distribution borrowers not required to maintain an approved load forecast on an ongoing basis.

Load forecasts submitted by distribution borrowers that are unaffiliated with a power supply borrower, or by distribution borrowers that are members of a power supply borrower that has a total utility plant less than \$500 million and that is not itself a member of another power supply borrower with a total utility plant of \$500 million or more must satisfy the following minimum criteria:

(a) The borrower considered all known relevant factors that influence the consumption of electricity and the known number of consumers served at the time the study was developed;

(b) The borrower considered and identified all loads on its system of RE Act beneficiaries and non-RE Act beneficiaries;

(c) The borrower developed an adequate supporting data base and considered a range of relevant assumptions; and

(d) The borrower provided RUS with adequate documentation and assistance to allow for a thorough and independent review.

§ 1710.208 RUS criteria for approval of all load forecasts by power supply borrowers and by distribution borrowers required to maintain an approved load forecast on an ongoing basis.

All load forecasts submitted by power supply borrowers and by distribution borrowers required to maintain an approved load forecast must satisfy the following criteria:

(a) The borrower objectively analyzed all known relevant factors that influence the consumption of electricity and the known number of customers served at the time the study was developed;

(b) The borrower considered and identified all loads on its system of RE Act

beneficiaries and non-RE Act beneficiaries;

(c) The borrower developed an adequate supporting database and analyzed a reasonable range of relevant assumptions and alternative futures;

(d) The borrower adopted methods and procedures in general use by the electric utility industry to develop its load forecast;

(e) The borrower used valid and verifiable analytical techniques and models;

(f) The borrower provided RUS with adequate documentation and assistance to allow for a thorough and independent review; and

(g) In the case of a power supply borrower required to maintain an approved load forecast on an ongoing basis, the borrower adequately coordinated the preparation of the load forecast work plan and load forecast with its member systems.

§ 1710.209 Approval requirements for load forecast work plans.

(a) In addition to the approved load forecast required under §§ 1710.202 and 1710.203, any power supply borrower with a total utility plant of \$500 million or more and any distribution borrower with a total utility plant of \$500 million or more must maintain an approved load forecast work plan. RUS borrowers that are members of a power supply borrower with a total utility plant of \$500 million or more must cooperate in the preparation of and submittal of the load forecast work plan of their power supply borrower.

(b) An approved load forecast work plan establishes the process for the preparation and maintenance of a comprehensive database for the development of the borrower's load forecast, and load forecast updates. The approved load forecast work plan is intended to develop and maintain a process that will result in load forecasts that will meet the borrowers' own needs and the requirements of this subpart. An approved work plan represents a commitment by a power supply borrower and its members, or by a large unaffiliated distribution borrower, that all parties concerned will prepare their load forecasts in a timely manner pursuant to the approved load forecast