§ 3430.705 Funding restrictions.

(a) Facility costs. Funds made available under this subpart shall not be used for the construction of a new building or facility or the acquisition, expansion, remodeling, or alteration of an existing building or facility (including site grading and improvement, and architect fees).

(b) Indirect costs. Subject to §3430.54, indirect costs are allowable for Federal assistance awards made by NIFA.

(c) Minimum allocations. After consultation with the Board, NIFA in cooperation with DOE, shall require that each of the three technical topic areas described in §3430.704(a) receives not less than 15 percent of funds made available to carry out BRDI.

§ 3430.706 Matching requirements.

(a) Requirement for Research and/or Development Projects. The non-Federal share of the cost of a research or development project under BRDI shall be not less than 20 percent. NIFA may reduce the non-Federal share of a research or development project if the reduction is determined to be necessary and appropriate.

(b) Requirement for Demonstration and Commercial Projects. The non-Federal share of the cost of a demonstration or commercial project under BRDI shall be not less than 50 percent.

(c) Indirect costs. Use of indirect costs as in-kind matching contributions is subject to §3430.52 of this part.

§ 3430.707 Administrative duties.

(a) After consultation with the Board, NIFA, in cooperation with DOE, shall:

(1) Publish annually one or more joint requests for proposals for Federal assistance under BRDI; and

(2) Require that Federal assistance under BRDI be awarded based on a scientific peer review by an independent panel of scientific and technical peers.

(b) NIFA, in cooperation with DOE, shall ensure that applicable research results and technologies from the BRDI are:

(1) Adapted, made available, and disseminated, as appropriate; and

(2) Included in the best practices database established under section 1672C(e) of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 5925e(e)).

§ 3430.708 Review criteria.

(a) General. BRDI peer reviews of applications are conducted in accordance with requirements found in section 9008 of FSRIA (7 U.S.C. 8108); section 103 of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 (7 U.S.C. 7613); and regulations found in title 7 of the Code of Federal Regulations, sections 3430.31 through 3430.37.

(b) Additional Considerations. Special consideration will be given to applications that—

(1) Involve a consortium of experts from multiple institutions;

(2) Encourage the integration of disciplines and application of the best technical resources; and

(3) Increase the geographic diversity of demonstration projects.

§ 3430.709 Duration of awards.

The term of a Federal assistance award made for a BRDI project shall not exceed 5 years. No-cost extensions of time beyond the maximum award terms will not be considered or granted.

Subpart L [Reserved]

Subpart M—New Era Rural Technology Competitive Grants Program

SOURCE: 74 FR 45973, Sept. 4, 2009, unless otherwise noted.