

# Notices

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This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains documents other than rules or proposed rules that are applicable to the public. Notices of hearings and investigations, committee meetings, agency decisions and rulings, delegations of authority, filing of petitions and applications and agency statements of organization and functions are examples of documents appearing in this section.

## ADMINISTRATIVE CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED STATES

### Draft Model Adjudication Rules; Comment Request

**AGENCY:** Administrative Conference of the United States.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Office of the Chairman of the Administrative Conference of the United States is revising its 1993 Model Adjudication Rules and is inviting public comment on the draft revised Rules. The current draft of the revised Rules is available at <https://www.acus.gov/model-rules/model-adjudication-rules>.

**DATES:** Comments must be received no later than 10:00 a.m. (EDT), Friday, February 23, 2018.

**ADDRESSES:** Persons who wish to comment on the current draft of the revised Model Adjudication Rules may do so by submitting a written statement either online by clicking "Submit a comment" near the bottom of the project web page found at <https://www.acus.gov/research-projects/office-chairman-model-adjudication-rules-working-group> or by U.S. Mail addressed to Revised Model Adjudication Rules Comments, Administrative Conference of the United States, Suite 706 South, 1120 20th Street NW, Washington, DC 20036.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Daniel Sheffner, Attorney Advisor, Administrative Conference of the United States, 1120 20th Street NW, Suite 706 South, Washington, DC 20036; Telephone (202) 480-2080.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Administrative Conference Act, 5 U.S.C. 591-596, established the Administrative Conference of the United States. The Conference studies the efficiency, adequacy, and fairness of the administrative procedures used by Federal agencies and makes

recommendations for improvements to agencies, the President, Congress, and the Judicial Conference of the United States.

The Office of the Chairman of the Administrative Conference of the United States has established a working group—the Model Adjudication Rules Working Group—to review and revise the Conference's Model Adjudication Rules. Released in 1993 by a similar working group of the Conference, the Model Adjudication Rules were designed for use by federal agencies to amend or develop their procedural rules for hearings conducted under the Administrative Procedure Act.

Numerous agencies have relied on the Conference's 1993 Model Rules to improve existing adjudicative schemes; and newer agencies, like the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, have relied on them to design new procedures. Significant changes in adjudicative practices and procedures since 1993—including use of electronic case management and video hearings—necessitate a careful review and revision of the Model Adjudication Rules. In reviewing and revising the Model Rules, the Working Group has relied on the Conference's extensive empirical research of adjudicative practices reflected in the Federal Administrative Adjudication Database, available at <https://acus.law.stanford.edu/>; amendments to the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure since 1993; and input from agency officials, academics, practitioners, and other stakeholders.

Additional information about the Administrative Conference's Model Adjudication Rules, including the draft Rules, meeting agendas, a listing of the working group members tasked with revising the Rules, and other related information, can be found on the Conference's website at <https://www.acus.gov/research-projects/office-chairman-model-adjudication-rules-working-group>.

Dated: January 17, 2018.

**Shawne McGibbon,**

General Counsel.

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**BILLING CODE 6110-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

January 17, 2018.

The Department of Agriculture has submitted the following information collection requirement(s) to Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13. Comments are requested regarding (1) whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of burden including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments regarding this information collection received by February 21, 2018 will be considered. Written comments should be addressed to: Desk Officer for Agriculture, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), New Executive Office Building, 725 17th Street NW, Washington, DC 20502. Commenters are encouraged to submit their comments to OMB via email to: [OIRA\\_Submission@OMB.EOP.GOV](mailto:OIRA_Submission@OMB.EOP.GOV) or fax (202) 395-5806 and to Departmental Clearance Office, USDA, OCIO, Mail Stop 7602, Washington, DC 20250-7602. Copies of the submission(s) may be obtained by calling (202) 720-8958.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a currently valid OMB control number and the agency informs potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information that such persons are not required to respond to the collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

### Rural Utilities Service

*Title:* RUS Electric Loan Application and Related Reporting Burdens.