

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.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Business-Cooperative Service

Inviting Preapplications for Technical Assistance for Rural Transportation Systems

AGENCY: Rural Business-Cooperative Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Rural Business-Cooperative Service (RBS), an Agency within the Rural Development mission area, announces the availability of two individual grants. One single \$500,000 grant from the passenger transportation set aside of the funds appropriated for RBS programs and another single \$250,000 grant from the Federally Recognized Native American Tribes set aside of the funds appropriated for RBS under the Rural Business Enterprise Grant (RBEG) Program for Fiscal Year (FY) 2001. Each grant is to be competitively awarded to a qualified national organization. These grants are to provide technical assistance for rural transportation.

DATES: The deadline for receipt of preapplications in the Rural Development State Office is March 2, 2001. Preapplications received at a Rural Development State Office after that date will not be considered for FY 2001 funding.

ADDRESSES: For further information, entities wishing to apply for assistance should contact a Rural Development State Office to receive further information and copies of the preapplication package. A list of Rural Development State Offices follows:

Alabama

USDA Rural Development State Office, Sterling Center, Suite 601, 4121 Carmichael Road, Montgomery, AL 36106-3683, (334) 279-3400

Alaska

USDA Rural Development State Office, 800 West Evergreen, Suite 201, Palmer, AK 99645-6539, (907) 761-7705

Arizona

USDA Rural Development State Office, 3003 North Central Avenue, Suite 900, Phoenix, AZ 85012-2906, (602) 280-8700

Arkansas

USDA Rural Development State Office, 700 West Capitol Avenue, Room 3416, Little Rock, AR 72201-3225, (501) 301-3200

California

USDA Rural Development State Office, 430 G Street, Agency 4169, Davis, CA 95616-4169, (530) 792-5800

Colorado

USDA Rural Development State Office, 655 Parfet Street, Room E-100, Lakewood, CO 80215, (303) 236-2801

Delaware-Maryland

USDA Rural Development State Office, P.O. Box 400, 4607 South DuPont Highway, Camden, DE 19934-9998, (302) 697-4300

Florida/Virgin Islands

USDA Rural Development State Office, P.O. Box 147010, 4440 NW, 25th Place, Gainesville, FL 32614-7010, (352) 338-3400

Georgia

USDA Rural Development State Office, Stephens Federal Building 355 E. Hancock Avenue, Athens, GA 30601-2768, (706) 546-2162

Hawaii

USDA Rural Development State Office, Federal Building, Room 311, 154 Waiianuenue Avenue, Hilo, HI 96720, (808) 933-8380

Idaho

USDA Rural Development State Office, 9173 West Barnes Drive, Suite A1, Boise, ID 83709, (208) 378-5600

Illinois

USDA Rural Development State Office, Illini Plaza, Suite 103, 1817 South Neil Street, Champaign, IL 61820, (217) 398-5235

Indiana

USDA Rural Development State Office, 5975 Lakeside Boulevard, Indianapolis, IN 46278, (317) 290-3100

Iowa

USDA Rural Development State Office, Federal Building, Room 873, 210 Walnut Street, Des Moines, IA 50309, (515) 284-4663

Kansas

USDA Rural Development State Office, P.O. Box 4653, 1200 SW., Executive Drive, Topeka, KS 66604, (785) 271-2700

Kentucky

USDA Rural Development State Office, 771 Corporate Drive, Suite 200, Lexington, KY 40503, (859) 224-7300

Louisiana

USDA Rural Development State Office, 3727 Government Street, Alexandria, LA 71302, (318) 473-7920

Maine

USDA Rural Development State Office, P.O. Box 405, 967 Illinois Avenue, Suite 4, Bangor, ME 04402-0405, (207) 990-9106

Massachusetts/Rhode Island/Connecticut

USDA Rural Development State Office, 451 West Street, Amherst, MA 01002, (413) 253-4300

Michigan

USDA Rural Development State Office, 3001 Coolidge Road, Suite 200, East Lansing, MI 48823, (517) 324-5100

Minnesota

USDA Rural Development State Office, 410 AgriBank Building, 375 Jackson Street, St. Paul, MN 55101-1853, (651) 602-7800

Mississippi

USDA Rural Development State Office, Federal Building, Suite 831, 100 West Capitol Street, Jackson, MS 39269, (601) 965-4316

Missouri

USDA Rural Development State Office, 601 Business Loop 70 West, Parkade Center, Suite 235, Columbia, MO 65203, (573) 876-0976

- Montana
USDA Rural Development State Office,
P.O. Box 850, 900 Technology Blvd.,
Unit 1, Suite B, Bozeman, MT 59717,
(406) 585-2580
- Nebraska
USDA Rural Development State Office,
Federal Building, Room 152, 100
Centennial Mall North, Lincoln, NE
68508, (402) 437-5551
- Nevada
USDA Rural Development State Office,
1390 South Curry Street, Carson City,
NV 89703-9910, (775) 887-1222
- New Jersey
USDA Rural Development State Office,
Tarnsfield Plaza, Suite 22, 790
Woodlane Road, Mt. Holly, NJ 08060,
(609) 265-3600
- New Mexico
USDA Rural Development State Office,
6200 Jefferson Street, NE., Room 255,
Albuquerque, NM 87109, (505) 761-
4950
- New York
USDA Rural Development State Office,
The Galleries of Syracuse, 441 South
Salina Street, Suite 357, Syracuse, NY
13202-2541, (315) 477-6400
- North Carolina
USDA Rural Development State Office,
4405 Bland Road, Suite 260, Raleigh,
NC 27609, (919) 873-2000
- North Dakota
USDA Rural Development State Office,
P.O. Box 1737, Federal Building,
Room 208, 220 East Rosser Avenue,
Bismarck, ND 58502-1737, (701) 530-
2043
- Ohio
USDA Rural Development State Office,
Federal Building, Room 507, 200
North High Street, Columbus, OH
43215-2418, (614) 255-2500
- Oklahoma
USDA Rural Development State Office,
100 USDA, Suite 108, Stillwater, OK
74074-2654, (405) 742-1000
- Oregon
USDA Rural Development State Office
101 SW Main Street, Suite 1410,
Portland, OR 97204-3222, (503) 414-
3300
- Pennsylvania
USDA Rural Development State Office,
One Credit Union Place, Suite 330,
Harrisburg, PA 17110-2996, (717)
237-2299
- Puerto Rico
USDA Rural Development State Office,
Munoz Rivera, Number 654, IBM
Plaza, Suite 601, San Juan, Puerto
Rico 00918, (787) 766-5095
- South Carolina
USDA Rural Development State Office,
Strom Thurmond Federal Building,
1835 Assembly Street, Room 1007,
Columbia, SC 29201, (803) 765-5163
- South Dakota
USDA Rural Development State Office,
Federal Building, Room 210, 200 4th
Street, SW., Huron, SD 57350, (605)
352-1100
- Tennessee
USDA Rural Development State Office,
3322 West End Avenue, Suite 300,
Nashville, TN 37203-1084, (615) 783-
1300
- Texas
USDA Rural Development State Office,
Federal Building, Suite 102, 101
South Main, Temple, TX 76501, (254)
742-9700
- Utah
USDA Rural Development State Office,
Wallace F. Bennett Federal Building,
125 South State Street, Room 4311,
Salt Lake City, UT 84147-0350, (801)
524-4320
- Vermont/New Hampshire
USDA Rural Development State Office,
City Center, 3rd Floor, 89 Main Street,
Montpelier, VT 05602, (802) 828-
6000
- Virginia
USDA Rural Development State Office,
Culpeper Building, Suite 238, 1606
Santa Rosa Road, Richmond, VA
23229-5014, (804) 287-1550
- Washington
USDA Rural Development State Office,
1835 Black Lake Boulevard, SW.,
Suite B, Olympia, WA 98512-5715,
(360) 704-7740
- West Virginia
USDA Rural Development State Office,
Federal Building, 75 High Street,
Room 320, Morgantown, WV 26505-
7500, (304) 284-4860
- Wisconsin
USDA Rural Development State Office,
4949 Kirschling Court, Stevens Point,
WI 54481, (715) 345-7600
- Wyoming
USDA Rural Development State Office,
100 East B, Federal Building, Room
1005, Casper, WY 82601, (307) 261-
6300,

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The passenger transportation portion of the RBEG program is authorized by section 310B(c)(2) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (CONACT) (7 U.S.C. 1932(c)(2)). The RBEG program is administered on behalf of RBS at the state level by the Rural Development State Offices. The primary objective of the program is to improve the economic conditions of rural areas. Assistance provided to rural areas under this program may include on-site technical assistance to local and regional governments, public transit agencies, and related nonprofit and for-profit organizations in rural areas; the development of training materials; and the provision of necessary training assistance to local officials and agencies in rural areas.

Awards under the RBEG passenger transportation program are made on a competitive basis using specific selection criteria contained in 7 CFR part 1942, subpart G, and in accordance with section 310B(c)(2) of the CONACT. That subpart also contains the information required to be in the preapplication package. For the \$500,000 grant, up to 25 Administrator's points may be added to an application's priority score based on the extent to which the application targets assistance to Empowerment Zones/Enterprise Communities, Champion Communities, or other rural communities that have experienced persistent poverty, out-migration of population, or sudden severe structural changes in the local economy. For the \$250,000 grant, at least 75 percent of the benefits of the project must be received by members of Federally Recognized Tribes. Up to 25 Administrative points may be added to an applicant's priority score based on the extent of the service areas to be served, the number of Federally Recognized Native American Tribes and tribal members that are being served, and the documented need for the project. The project that scores the greatest number of points based on the selection criteria and Administrator's points will be selected for each grant. Preapplications will be tentatively scored by the State Offices and submitted to the National Office for review, final scoring, and selection.

To be considered "national," a qualified organization is required to provide evidence that it operates in multi-state areas. There is not a requirement to use the grant funds in a multi-state area. Under this notice, grants will be made to qualified private

non-profit organizations for the provision of technical assistance and training to rural communities for the purpose of improving passenger transportation services or facilities. Public bodies are not eligible for passenger transportation RBEG grants. Refer to section 310B(c)(2) (7 U.S.C. 1932) of the CONACT and 7 CFR part 1942, subpart G for the information collection requirements of the RBEG program.

Fiscal Year 2001 Preapplications Submission

Each preapplication received in a Rural Development State Office will be reviewed to determine if this preapplication is consistent with the eligible purposes contained in 7 U.S.C. 310B(c)(2) of the CONACT. Each selection priority criterion outlined in 7 CFR part 1942, subpart G, section 1942.305(b)(3), must be addressed in the preapplication. Failure to address any of the criteria will result in a zero-point score for that criterion and will impact the overall evaluation of the preapplication. Copies of 7 CFR part 1942, subpart G, will be provided to any interested applicant making a request to a Rural Development State Office listed in this notice. All projects to receive technical assistance through these passenger transportation grant funds are to be identified when the preapplications are submitted to the Rural Development State Office. Multiple project preapplications must identify each individual project, indicate the amount of funding requested for each individual project, and address the criteria as stated above for each individual project. For multiple-project preapplications, the average of the individual project scores will be the score for that preapplication.

All eligible preapplications, along with tentative scoring sheets and the Rural Development State Director's recommendation, will be referred to the National Office no later than April 13, 2001, for final scoring and selection for award.

The National Office will score preapplications based on the grant selection criteria and weights contained in 7 CFR part 1942, subpart G, and Administrator's points, and will select a grantee subject to the grantee's satisfactory submission of a formal application and related materials in the manner and time frame established by RBS in accordance with 7 CFR part 1942, subpart G. It is anticipated that the grantees will be selected by June 1, 2001. All applicants will be notified by RBS of the Agency decision on the award.

The information collection requirements within this Notice are covered under OMB No. 0570-0022 and 7 CFR part 1942, subpart G.

Dated: December 22, 2000.

Judith A. Canales,

Acting Administrator, Rural Business-Cooperative Service.

[FR Doc. 01-605 Filed 1-8-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-XY-U

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Utilities Service

Arkansas Electric Cooperative Corporation; Notice of Finding of No Significant Impact

AGENCY: Rural Utilities Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of finding of no significant impact.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the Rural Utilities Service (RUS) has made a finding of no significant impact (FONSI) with respect to a request from Arkansas Electric Cooperative Corporation for financing assistance from the RUS to finance the construction of a 153 megawatt (MW) combustion turbine electric generating plant in southwest Arkansas.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Bob Quigel, Environmental Protection Specialist, Engineering and Environmental Staff, RUS, Stop 1571, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-1571, telephone (202) 720-0468, e-mail at bquigel@rus.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The project will consist of a single 153 MW gas-fired, simple-cycle combustion turbine generating unit. Other on-site facilities include a 90-foot exhaust stack, step-up and auxiliary transformers, motor control centers, bus ductwork, an electric substation, and control, maintenance, and operations buildings. The project also includes 4 miles of 115 kV transmission line that will tie the station to the existing transmission grid. The transmission line will be built to 161 kV specifications in anticipation that additional transmission line capacity may be needed in the future.

The facility is designed to accommodate conversion of the unit to combined cycle operation, but will be initially operated as a simple cycle unit. The site has been sized to accommodate additional simple or combined cycle units that may be added in the future.

Copies of the FONSI are available from RUS at the address provided herein or from Curtis Warner, Arkansas

Electric Cooperative Corporation, P.O. Box 194208, Little Rock, Arkansas 72219-4208. Telephone (501) 570-2462.

Dated: January 3, 2001.

Blaine D. Stockton,

Assistant Administrator, Electric Program, Rural Utilities Service.

[FR Doc. 01-556 Filed 1-8-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-15-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[A-570-827]

Certain Cased Pencils From the People's Republic of China; Preliminary Results and Rescission in Part of Antidumping Duty Administrative Review

AGENCY: Import Administration, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of preliminary results and rescission in part of antidumping duty administrative review of certain cased pencils from the People's Republic of China.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce ("the Department") has preliminarily determined that sales by the respondent in this review covering the period December 1, 1998 through November 30, 1999, have been made below normal value ("NV"). In addition, we are preliminarily rescinding this review with respect to Three Star Stationery Industry Co., Ltd. If these preliminary results are adopted in our final results of review, we will instruct the U.S. Customs Service ("Customs") to assess antidumping duties on all appropriate entries. Furthermore, we have reached a final determination to rescind the review with respect to Laizhou City Guangming Pencil-Making Lead Co., Ltd.

The Department invites interested parties to comment on these preliminary results.

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 9, 2001.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Paul Stolz or Howard Smith, AD/CVD Enforcement, Office 4, Group II, Import Administration, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20230; telephone (202) 482-4474, and 482-5193, respectively.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

The Applicable Statute and Regulations

Unless otherwise indicated, all citations to the Tariff Act of 1930, as