

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

Forest Service

Lake Tahoe Basin Federal Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Lake Tahoe Basin Federal Advisory Committee will hold a meeting on March 24, 2008 at the Sierra Nevada College, 999 Tahoe Boulevard, Incline Village, NV, 89451. This Committee, established by the Secretary of Agriculture on December 15, 1998 (64 FR 2876), is chartered to provide advice to the Secretary on implementing the terms of the Federal Interagency Partnership on the Lake Tahoe Region and other matters raised by the Secretary.

DATES: The meeting will be held March 24, 2008, beginning at 10 a.m. and ending at 12 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at Sierra Nevada College, 999 Tahoe Boulevard, Incline Village, NV, 89451.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Arla Hains, Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit, Forest Service, 35 College Drive, South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150, (530) 543-2773.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Items to be covered on the agenda include: (1) Tahoe Science Consortium Round 8 science update; (2) hazardous fuels status; and, (3) Public Comment. All Lake Tahoe Basin Federal Advisory Committee meetings are open to the public. Interested citizens are encouraged to attend at the above address. Issues may be brought to the attention of the Committee during the open public comment period at the meeting or by filing written statements with the secretary for the Committee before or after the meeting. Please refer any written comments to the Lake

Tahoe Basin Management Unit at the contact address stated above.

Dated: February 29, 2008.

David Marlow,

Acting Forest Supervisor.

[FR Doc. E8-4321 Filed 3-5-08; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Business-Cooperative Service

Inviting Applications for Renewable Energy Systems and Energy Efficiency Improvements Grants and Guaranteed Loans

AGENCY: Rural Business-Cooperative Service (RBS), USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Rural Business-Cooperative Service (RBS), an Agency within the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development, announces it is accepting applications for fiscal year (FY) 2008 to purchase renewable energy systems and make energy efficiency improvements for agriculture producers and rural small businesses in eligible rural areas. Funding will be available in the form of grants and loan guarantees. In addition to stand-alone grants and loan guarantees, applicants may apply for combination loan guarantee and grant funding (combination package).

For renewable energy systems, the minimum grant is \$2,500 and the maximum is \$500,000. For energy efficiency improvements, the minimum grant is \$1,500 and the maximum is \$250,000. Funding for grant and loan combination packages will be funded from the same allocation as loan guarantees. Fifty percent of the appropriated grant funding will be reserved for the first grant-only competition. Any unused grant only funds from the first competition will be made available for the second grant-only competition.

The maximum amount of a guarantee to be provided to a borrower will be \$10 million. For FY 2008, the guarantee fee amount is 1 percent of the guaranteed portion of the loan and the annual renewal fee is 0.250 percent (one-quarter of one percent) of the guaranteed portion of the loan.

For FY 2008, the following are the funds provided by Congress for the

Section 9006 program: For grants, \$15,888,000, and for loans, \$204,953,560.

DATES: The USDA will issue one grant solicitation for two separate competitions in FY 2008. Competitive deadlines will occur in accordance with deadlines as follows:

Grants

For the first competitive window, complete (see 7 CFR 4280.111) grant-only applications, must be submitted to the appropriate USDA Rural Development State Office no later than April 15, 2008. For the second competitive window, complete (see 7 CFR 4280.111) grant-only applications must be submitted to the appropriate USDA Rural Development State Office no earlier than April 16, 2008, and no later than June 16, 2008. Applications submitted under the first competition that are not selected will automatically be considered under the second competition, using the materials and score from the first competition (i.e., no changes to scored applications will be accepted). It is anticipated that two grant award announcements will be made. The first announcement is anticipated prior to June 16, 2008, and the second, prior to September 16, 2008.

Guaranteed Loans

Complete guaranteed loan applications will be accepted and processed, until June 16, 2008, in a rolling application manner. Applications for loan guarantees must be completed and submitted to the appropriate USDA Rural Development State Office no later than June 16, 2008. No application received in the State Office after June 16, 2008, will be considered.

Combination Packages

Complete combination packages will be accepted and processed, until June 16, 2008. Once funds become available, combination packages will be evaluated on a bi-weekly basis. Combination applications must be completed and submitted to the appropriate USDA Rural Development State Office no later than June 16, 2008. No application received after June 16, 2008, will be considered.

Any unused funding as of August 15, 2008, may be pooled and revert to grant money. All submissions must be