

to represent the interests listed above to serve on the Recreation RAC. To be considered for membership, nominees must:

- Identify what interest group they would represent and how they are qualified to represent that group;
- State why they want to serve on the committee and what they can contribute;
- Show their past experience in working successfully as part of a collaborative group; and complete Form AD-755, Advisory Committee or Research and Promotion Background Information.

Letters of recommendation are welcome, but not required. Individuals may also nominate themselves. Nominees do not need to live in a state within a particular Recreation RAC's area of jurisdiction nor live in a state in which Forest Service managed lands are located.

Application packets, including evaluation criteria and the AD-755 form, are available at <http://www.fs.fed.us/passespermits/racapplication.shtml> or by contacting the Rocky Mountain Region as identified in this notice. Nominees must submit all documents to the appropriate regional contact. Additional information about recreation fees and REA is available at <http://www.fs.fed.us/passespermits/about-rec-fees.shtml>.

The Forest Service will also work with Governors and county officials to identify potential nominees. The Forest Service and BLM will review the applications and prepare a list of qualified applicants from which the Secretary shall appoint both members and alternates. An alternate will become a participating member of the Recreation RACs only if the member for whom the alternate is appointed to replace leaves the committee permanently.

Recreation RAC members serve without pay but are reimbursed for travel and per diem expenses for regularly scheduled committee meetings.

All Recreation RAC meetings are open to the public and an open public forum is part of each meeting. Meeting dates and times will be determined by agency officials in consultation with the Recreation RAC members.

Dated: March 12, 2009.

Maribeth Gustafson,

Deputy Regional Forester, Operations.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Utilities Service

**Information Collection Activity;
Comment Request**

AGENCY: Rural Utilities Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35, as amended), the Rural Utilities Service (RUS) invites comments on this information collection for which it intends to request approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB).

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by June 1, 2009.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Michele Brooks, Director, Program Development and Regulatory Analysis, Rural Utilities Service, 1400 Independence Ave., SW., STOP 1522, Room 5162, South Building, Washington, DC 20250-1522. Telephone: (202) 690-1078. Fax: (202) 720-8435.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Office of Management and Budget's (OMB) regulation (5 CFR part 1320) implementing provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13) requires that interested members of the public and affected agencies have an opportunity to comment on information collection and recordkeeping activities (see 5 CFR 1320.8(d)). This notice identifies an information collection that RUS is submitting to OMB for extension.

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the Agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) 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 may be sent to: Richard C. Annan, Director, Program Development and Regulatory Analysis, Rural Utilities Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, STOP 1522, 1400 Independence Ave., SW., Washington, DC 20250-1522. FAX: (202) 720-0784.

Title: Distance Learning and Telemedicine Loan and Grant Program.

OMB Control Number: 0572-0096.

Type of Request: Revision of a currently approved information collection package.

Abstract: The Rural Utilities Service's (RUS) Distance Learning and Telemedicine (DLT) Loan and Grant program provides loans and grants for advanced telecommunications services to improve rural areas' access to educational and medical services. The various forms and narrative statements required are collected from the applicants (rural community facilities, such as schools, libraries, hospitals, and medical facilities, for example). The purpose of collecting the information is to determine such factors as eligibility of the applicant; the specific nature of the proposed project; the purposes for which loan and grant funds will be used; project financial and technical feasibility; and, compliance with applicable laws and regulations. In addition, for grants funded pursuant to the competitive evaluation process, information collected facilitates RUS' selection of those applications most consistent with DLT goals and objectives in accordance with the authorizing legislation and implementing regulation.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 2.47 hours per response.

Respondents: Business or other for-profit; Not-for-profit institutions; and State, Local or Tribal Government.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 300.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 22.00.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 16,316 hours.

Copies of this information collection can be obtained from MaryPat Daskal, Program Development and Regulatory Analysis, at (202) 690-1078. FAX: (202) 720-7853.

All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will also become a matter of public record.

Dated: March 27, 2009.

James R. Newby,

Acting Administrator, Rural Utilities Service.

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