

strategic LOI advice, and applicants are fully responsible for their submissions. Assistance may also be requested to Agency staff in the form of requests to speak at meetings, events, and conferences to explain program provisions and answer questions about this funding announcement. Such requests and responses will be posted to the PACE FAQ page. Information on contacting an RUS GFR can be found here: <https://www.rd.usda.gov/contact-us/electric-gfr>. For requests regarding speaking engagements, please email: SM.RD.RUS.IRA.Questions@usda.gov.

Andrew Berke,

Administrator, Rural Utilities Service, USDA Rural Development.

[FR Doc. 2023–12848 Filed 6–15–23; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Utilities Service

[Docket No. RUS–23–ELECTRIC–0005]

Amended Notice of Funding Opportunity for the Empowering Rural America (New ERA) Program

AGENCY: Rural Utilities Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice; amendment.

SUMMARY: The Rural Utilities Service (RUS or the Agency), a Rural Development (RD) agency of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), announced its intent to solicit Letters of Interest (LOI) for applications under the Empowering Rural America (New ERA) Program in a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) on May 16, 2023, in the **Federal Register**. In addition, the NOFO announced the eligibility requirements, application process and deadlines, and the criteria that RUS will use to assess New ERA Applications. This notice is making corrections and amendments to clarify timelines for application submission, ensure applicants know they are required to establish a Verified eAuthentication ID, inform applicants that they are eligible for the New ERA Program even if they are subject to a “cooling off period” under the Rural Electrification Act, and to notify applicants that the Agency will provide general assistance to applicants through the RUS’ General Field Representatives (GFRs) prior to LOI submissions.

DATES: Letters of Interest can be submitted beginning at 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time (ET) on July 31, 2023, and until 11:59 p.m. ET on August 31, 2023. Letters of Interest will not be accepted after 11:59 p.m. ET on August 31, 2023.

Application Process: Applicants must submit an LOI in order to be considered for an Invitation to Proceed. An Eligible Entity that is invited by RUS to proceed will receive an Invitation to Proceed and will have sixty (60) days to complete and submit a New ERA Application beginning from the date the Invitation to Proceed is emailed to the Applicant. If the sixty (60)-day deadline to submit the completed application falls on Saturday, Sunday, or a Federal holiday, the application is due the next business day. RUS reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to extend the sixty (60)-day deadline upon the written request of the Applicant if the Applicant demonstrates to the satisfaction of the Administrator that exceptional circumstances exist to warrant the extension. New ERA Awards will be made as soon as possible following the submission of a New ERA Application, and all New ERA funds must be fully disbursed on or before September 30, 2031.

ADDRESSES:

Letters of Interest (LOI) Submissions. All LOIs must be submitted to RUS electronically through an RUS on-line application portal. The Agency will finalize the specific requirements of submitting the LOI through the on-line application portal by separate notice in the **Federal Register**, the RUS website at <https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/electric-programs/empowering-rural-america-new-era-program>, and [Grants.gov](https://www.usda.gov/grants) on or before July 31, 2023.

Application Submissions. Eligible Entities selected to proceed with the New ERA Application must submit a completed New ERA Application package in accordance with the instructions that will be provided in the RUS Invitation to Proceed.

Other Information: Additional information, resources, and sample LOI are available at <https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/electric-programs/empowering-rural-america-new-era-program>. The IRA Funding for Rural Development website is located at www.rd.usda.gov/inflation-reduction-act.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Christopher McLean, Assistant Administrator, Electric Program, Rural Utilities Service, Rural Development, United States Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, STOP 1568, Washington, DC 20250–1560; Telephone: 202–690–4492. Email to: SM.RD.RUS.IRA.Questions@usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Corrections and Amendments

This program was initially announced in the **Federal Register** on May 16, 2023, in FR Doc 2023–10393. As of this publication, the following changes are being implemented.

1. On page 31225, in the first column, section D.2. in paragraph ii, the number of days to submit an application package after receipt of an Invitation to Proceed is amended from 90 day to 60 days. This section is amended and restated to read as follows:

ii. *Phase 2—Application Submission.* Upon receiving an Invitation to Proceed, the Applicant must submit its application package within sixty (60) days of receipt of such invitation. The Applicant’s application package must contain the applicable information and documents required in 7 CFR part 1710, subpart D as well as the following information and documentation:

2. On page 31227, in the third column, section D.7, paragraph ii is being corrected from ninety (90) days to sixty (60) days. This section is amended and restated to read as follows:

ii. By submitting the LOI, the Eligible Entity certifies to RUS that it has the intent and ability to submit a complete New ERA Application within sixty (60) days of RUS emailing an Invitation to Proceed should RUS provide such Invitation to Proceed.

3. On page 31228, in the second column, section D.7 is being amended to add two new paragraphs, ix and x to read as follows:

ix. Prior to accessing the online application window to submit an LOI or an Application, an Applicant must obtain a Verified USDA eAuthentication (eAuth) account for each member of their staff requiring access to the online application window. If an Applicant or staff member does not have a Verified eAuth account, they will need to create an account or upgrade an existing account. To do so, a person will need to follow the instructions on the USDA eAuth website to create a Verified eAuth account or upgrade an existing account from “unverified” to “verified.” The USDA eAuth website can be found at: <https://www.eauth.usda.gov/eauth/b/usda/home>.

x. The 120-month or 180-month exclusions referenced in sec. 306B of the RE Act and related regulations do not apply to financing under this program.

4. On page 31232, in the second column, section I is being amended to add a new paragraph 9 to read as follows:

9. *Application of General Assistance.* Prior to official submission of an LOI,

Applicants may request general assistance from the Agency if such requests are made prior to August 17, 2023. The Agency may provide general assistance as it is able, and Applicants may request assistance in the form of general assistance and consultation with an RUS GFR. Please note that RUS GFR shall not provide strategic submission or strategic LOI advice, and applicants are fully responsible for their submissions. Assistance may also be requested to Agency staff in the form of requests to speak at meetings, events, and conferences to explain program provisions and answer questions about this funding announcement. Such requests and responses will be posted to the New ERA FAQ page. Information on contacting an RUS GFR can be found at <https://www.rd.usda.gov/contact-us/electric-gfr>. For requests regarding speaking engagements, please email: SM.RD.RUS.IRA.Questions@usda.gov.

Andrew Berke,

Administrator, Rural Utilities Service, USDA Rural Development.

[FR Doc. 2023-12849 Filed 6-15-23; 8:45 am]

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COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

Notice of Public Meeting of the Utah Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights

AGENCY: Commission on Civil Rights.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the provisions of the rules and regulations of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights (Commission) and the Federal Advisory Committee Act, that the Utah Advisory Committee (Committee) to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights will hold a public meeting via Zoom at 2 p.m. MT on Friday, June 23, 2023. The purpose of the meeting is to continue discussing potential projects of study.

DATES: Friday, June 23, 2023, from 2 p.m.–3 p.m. Mountain Time.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held via Zoom.

Registration Link (Audio/Visual):
<https://www.zoomgov.com/j/1612552440>.

Join by Phone (Audio Only): (833) 435-1820 USA Toll-Free; Meeting ID: 161 255 2440.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: David Barreras, Designated Federal Officer, at dbarreras@usccr.gov or (202) 656-8937.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This committee meeting is available to the

public through the registration link above. Any interested member of the public may listen to the meeting. An open comment period will be provided to allow members of the public to make a statement as time allows. Per the Federal Advisory Committee Act, public minutes of the meeting will include a list of persons who are present at the meeting. If joining via phone, callers can expect to incur regular charges for calls they initiate over wireless lines, according to their wireless plan. The Commission will not refund any incurred charges. Callers will incur no charge for calls they initiate over land-line connections to the toll-free telephone number. Closed captioning will be available for individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing, or who have certain cognitive or learning impairments. To request additional accommodations, please email Liliana Schiller, Support Services Specialist, at lschiller@usccr.gov at least 10 business days prior to the meeting.

Members of the public are entitled to submit written comments; the comments must be received in the regional office within 30 days following the meeting. Written comments may be emailed to David Barreras at dbarreras@usccr.gov. Persons who desire additional information may contact the Regional Programs Coordination Unit at (312) 353-8311.

Records generated from this meeting may be inspected and reproduced at the Regional Programs Coordination Unit Office, as they become available, both before and after the meeting. Records of the meetings will be available via www.facadatabase.gov under the Commission on Civil Rights, Utah Advisory Committee link. Persons interested in the work of this Committee are directed to the Commission's website, <http://www.usccr.gov>, or may contact the Regional Programs Coordination Unit at lschiller@usccr.gov.

Agenda

- I. Welcome & Roll Call
- II. Discussion: Potential Project of Study
- III. Public Comment
- IV. Next Steps
- V. Adjournment

Dated: June 12, 2023,

David Mussatt,

Supervisory Chief, Regional Programs Unit.

[FR Doc. 2023-12880 Filed 6-15-23; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE P

COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

Notice of Public Meeting of the Nebraska Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights

AGENCY: Commission on Civil Rights.

ACTION: Announcement of meeting.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the provisions of the rules and regulations of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights (Commission) and the Federal Advisory Committee Act that the Nebraska Advisory Committee (Committee) to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights will hold a business meeting via web conference. The purpose of the meetings will be to discuss panel planning as part of their project on the Effects of the Covid-19 Pandemic on K-12 Education in the state.

DATES: Wednesday, August 9, 2023 at 12:00 p.m. Central Time.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held via Zoom.

August 9th Business Meeting

Registration Link (Audio/Visual):
<https://www.zoomgov.com/j/1605535001?pwd=bDhZUUhRT3VqOWw0aVdQbU1NMjBMZz09>.

Join by Phone (Audio Only): 1-833-435-1820 USA Toll Free; Meeting ID: 160 553 5001.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Victoria Moreno, DFO, at vmoreno@usccr.gov or by phone at 434-515-0204.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Members of the public may listen to the discussions through the above call-in numbers (audio only) or online registration links (audio/visual). An open comment period at each meeting will be provided to allow members of the public to make a statement as time allows. Callers can expect to incur regular charges for calls they initiate over wireless lines, according to their wireless plan. The Commission will not refund any incurred charges. Callers will incur no charge for calls they initiate over land-line connections to the toll-free telephone number. Individuals who are deaf, deafblind, and/or hard of hearing may also follow the proceedings by first calling the Federal Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339 and providing the Service with the conference call number and meeting ID number.

Members of the public are entitled to submit written comments; the comments must be received in the regional office within 30 days following the meetings. Written comments may be emailed to Victoria at vmoreno@usccr.gov.