

applicants and grantees who may be one of the following: persons, States, political subdivisions of States and other entities organized under the laws of States, including for-profit and non-profit corporations, associations, partnerships, limited liability partnerships (LLPs) cooperatives, trusts, sole proprietorships, State and local governments (including independent state agencies or units of State or local governments), Indian tribes, other Tribal entities and Alaska Native Corporations.

*Description of Respondents:* Not-for-profit institutions; Businesses or other for-profits.

*Number of Respondents:* 40.

*Frequency of Responses:*

Recordkeeping: Reporting: On occasion.

*Total Burden Hours:* 826.

#### Rural Utilities Service

*Title:* 7 CFR part 1738 Rural Broadband Loans, Loan/Grant Combinations, and Loan Guarantees.

*OMB Control Number:* 0572-0154.

*Summary of Collection:* The Rural Utilities Service (RUS) is authorized by Title VI, Rural Broadband Access, of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936, as amended (RE Act), to provide loans, loan/grant combinations, and loan guarantees to fund the cost of construction, improvement, or acquisition of facilities and equipment for the provision of broadband service in eligible rural areas in the States and Territories of the United States. The regulation for this program, 7 CFR part 1738, prescribes the types of loans available, facilities financed, and eligible applicants, as well as minimum equity requirements to be considered for a loan. In addition, 7 CFR part 1738 outlines the process through which RUS will consider applicants under the priority consideration required in Title VI.

The term of the loan or loan/grant combination is based on the expected composite economic life based on the depreciation rates of the facilities financed. The term of the loan or loan/grant combination can be as high as 35 years. These loans are secured by a first lien on the borrower's broadband system. In the interest of protecting loan security and accomplishing the statutory objective of a sound program of rural broadband service access, Title VI of the RE Act further requires that RUS make or guarantee a loan only if there is reasonable assurance that the loan, together with all outstanding loans and obligations of the borrower, will be repaid in full within the time agreed; the information gathered in this collection will help RUS determine that reasonable assurance.

*Need and Use of the Information:* Lending entities who wish to participate in this program must submit an application and/or certain information to Rural Development (RD). This information will be used to determine an applicant's eligibility to borrow under the terms of the RE Act and that the applicant complies with statutory, regulatory, and administrative eligibility requirements for loan assistance. This information is also used by RUS to determine that the Government's security for loans is reasonably adequate and that the loans will be repaid within the time agreed.

*Description of Respondents:*

Individuals or Households.

*Number of Respondents:* 90.

*Frequency of Responses:* Reporting: On occasion.

*Total Burden Hours:* 829.

#### Rural Utilities Service

*Title:* Technical Assistance and Training and Training for Innovative Regional Wastewater Treatment Solutions (TAT/RWTS) Pilot Grant Program.

*OMB Control Number:* 0572-0157.

*Summary of Collection:* Technical Assistance and Construction for Innovative Regional Wastewater Treatment Solutions (TAC-RWTS) grant program is a competitive grant program which the Rural Utilities Service (RUS) administers. The program is authorized pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 301; 7 U.S.C. 1989; 16 U.S.C. 1005; Division B, Title VII General Provisions, Section 783 of the Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020 (Pub. L. 116-94); and Division BA, Title VII General Provisions, Section 771 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (Pub. L. 116-260). The program is implemented through 7 CFR part 1775, Technical Assistance Grants, and the provisions of this NOFO. Other Federal statutes and regulations are listed at 7 CFR 1775.8, Other Federal statutes.

*Need and Use of the Information:* The RUS National Office staff will use the information collected to determine applicant eligibility, project feasibility, and the applicant's ability to meet the grant and regulatory requirements. Based on funding availability for each Fiscal Year and the dollar amount requested by applicants, it may not be possible to fund all applications for the amount requested. If a particular application/project cannot be funded for the full amount, the applicant will be requested to submit revised documents to reflect the revision in the scope of the project based on the amount that can be awarded. Failure to collect proper information could result in improper

determinations of eligibility, improper use of funds, or hindrances in making grants authorized by the TAC-RWTS program.

*Description of Respondents:* Not-for-profit institutions.

*Number of Respondents:* 9.

*Frequency of Responses:* Reporting: On occasion.

*Total Burden Hours:* 423.

Levi S. Harrell,

Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 2024-18007 Filed 8-12-24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-15-P

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Rural Utilities Service

[Docket No.: RUS-24-TELECOM-0025]

#### Notice of a Revision to a Currently Approved Information Collection

**AGENCY:** Rural Utilities Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the Rural Utilities Service's (RUS or the Agency), an agency with the United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, intention to request a revision to a currently approved information collection package for the Telecommunications System Construction Policies and Procedures. The Agency invites comments on this information collection for which the Agency intends to request approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB).

**DATES:** Comments on this notice must be received by October 15, 2024 to be assured of consideration.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Pamela Bennett, Rural Development Innovation Center—Regulations Management Division, USDA, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, STOP 1522, South Building, Washington, DC 20250-1522. Telephone: (202) 720-9639. Email [pamela.bennett@usda.gov](mailto:pamela.bennett@usda.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The 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 the Agency is submitting to OMB for revision.

*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 by the Federal eRulemaking Portal: Go to <https://www.regulations.gov> and, in the "Search" box, type in the Docket No. located at the beginning of this notice. A link to the Notice will appear. You may submit a comment here by selecting the "Comment" button or you can access the "Docket" tab, select the "Notice," and go to the "Browse & Comment on Documents" Tab. Here you may view comments that have been submitted as well as submit a comment. To submit a comment, select the "Comment" button, complete the required information, and select the "Submit Comment" button at the bottom. Information on using [Regulations.gov](https://www.regulations.gov), including instructions for accessing documents, submitting comments, and viewing the docket after the close of the comment period, is available through the site's "FAQ" link at the bottom.

A federal agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, nor shall a person be subject to a penalty for failure to comply with a collection of information subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act unless that collection of information displays a currently valid OMB Control Number. Data furnished by the applicants will be used to determine eligibility for program benefits. Furnishing the data is voluntary; however, failure to provide data could result in program benefits being withheld or denied.

*Title:* Telecommunications System Construction Policies and Procedures.

*OMB Control Number:* 0572-0059.

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

*Abstract:* In order to facilitate the programmatic interest of the RE Act, and, in order to assure that loans made or guaranteed by the Agency are

adequately secured, the Agency, as a secured lender, has established certain forms for materials, equipment and construction of electric and telecommunications systems. The use of standard forms, construction contracts, and procurement procedures helps assure the Agency that appropriate standards and specifications are maintained, the Agency's loan security is not adversely affected; and the loan response. In an effort to improve customer service provided to RUS rural borrowers, the Agency continues to revise, consolidate, and/or streamline its current contracts and contracting procedures.

*Estimate of Burden:* Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 2.32 hours per response.

*Respondents:* Public bodies, not for profits or Indian Tribes.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 1,435.

*Estimated Total Annual Responses:* 3,337.

*Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent:* 2.33.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents:* 7,705 Hours.

Copies of this information collection can be obtained from Pamela Bennett, Rural Development Innovation Center—Regulations Management Division, USDA, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, South Building, Washington, DC 20250-1522. Email: [pamela.bennett@usda.gov](mailto:pamela.bennett@usda.gov).

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.

**Andrew Berke,**

*Administrator, Rural Utilities Service.*

[FR Doc. 2024-18012 Filed 8-12-24; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3410-15-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Rural Utilities Service

[Docket No. RUS-24-WATER-0018]

#### Notice of Revision of a Currently Approved Information Collection

**AGENCY:** Rural Utilities Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice; request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 the Rural Utilities Service (RUS or Agency), an agency within the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Rural Development (RD), announces its intention to request a revision to a currently approved information collection package for Water and Waste

Disposal Loans and Grants (WWLG), Water and Waste Facility Loans and Grants to Alleviate Health Risks for Colonias, Water and Waste Facility Loans and Grants to Alleviate Health Risks on Tribal Lands, Emergency Community Water Assistance Grants (ECWAG), and Grants for Rural Alaskan Village (RAVG) programs. The Agency 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 October 15, 2024 to be assured of consideration.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Katherine Anne Mathis, RD Innovation Center—Regulations Management Division, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250, Telephone: 202-713-7565, email: [Katherine.mathis@usda.gov](mailto:Katherine.mathis@usda.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The 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 the Agency 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 submitted electronically through the Federal eRulemaking Portal, [regulations.gov](https://www.regulations.gov). In the "Search for dockets and documents on agency actions" box enter the Docket No. RUS-24-WATER-0018 and click the "Search" button. From the search results, click on or locate the document title: "Notice of Revision of a Currently Approved Information Collection" and select the "Comment" button. Before inputting comments, commenters may