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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Utilities Service

7 CFR Part 1703

Distance Learning and Telemedicine Loan and Grant Program; Correction

AGENCY: Rural Utilities Service, USDA.

ACTION: Correcting amendments.

SUMMARY: This document contains corrections to the final regulations which were published Friday, June 13, 1997 (62 FR 32434). The regulations related to RUS' policy and requirements for submitting an application for financial assistance, and the method of selecting projects to receive loans and grants and allocating the available funds for the Distance Learning and Telemedicine Loan and Grant Program.

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 26, 1998.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ken B. Chandler, Acting Assistant Administrator-Telecommunications Program, Rural Utilities Service, STOP 1590, Room 4056, South Building, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-1590. Telephone (202) 720-9554, Facsimile (202) 720-0810.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The final regulations that are the subject of these corrections affect persons applying for loans or grants under 7 CFR Part 1703, Subpart D.

Need for correction

As published, the final regulations contain errors which may prove to be misleading and are in need of clarification.

List of Subjects in 7 CFR Part 1703

Community development, Grant programs—education, Grant programs—health care, Grant programs—housing

and community development, Loan programs—education, Loan programs—health care, Loan programs—housing and community development, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Rural areas.

Accordingly, 7 CFR part 1703, subpart D, is corrected by making the following correcting amendments:

PART 1703—RURAL DEVELOPMENT

1. The authority citation for Part 1703 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 901 *et seq.* and 950aaa *et seq.*; Pub. L. 103-354, 108 Stat. 3178 (7 U.S.C. 6941 *et seq.*).

2. In § 1703.102, the definition of *Comprehensive rural telecommunications plan* is removed and the definition for *Telecommunications Systems Plan* is added in alphabetical order to read as follows:

§ 1703.102 Definitions.

* * * * *

Telecommunications Systems Plan means the plan submitted by an applicant in accordance with § 1703.109(f).

* * * * *

§ 1703.103 [Amended]

3. In § 1703.103, paragraph (a)(3) is amended by adding the words "or loan" after the word "grant".

4. In § 1703.107, paragraph (a)(5) is revised to read as follows:

§ 1703.107 Ineligible loan and grant purposes.

* * * * *

(5) To purchase equipment that will be owned by the local exchange carrier or another telecommunications service provider, unless such carrier or provider is the recipient of the financial assistance being provided under this subpart;

* * * * *

§ 1703.109 [Amended]

5. In § 1703.109, paragraph (h) introductory text is amended by removing the word "statues" in the first sentence and adding in its place the word "statutes".

6. In § 1703.113, the third sentence in paragraph (b), and the entire paragraph (c) are revised to read as follows:

§ 1703.113 Application filing dates, location, processing, and public notification.

* * * * *

(b) * * * To be considered for loan funds during the fiscal year (FY) that the application is submitted, any information needed to complete the application must be postmarked no later than August 14. * * *

(c) Applications requesting grant funds must be submitted to RUS and postmarked not later than June 1 if the applications are to be considered during the fiscal year the application is submitted. It is suggested that applications be submitted prior to the above deadline to ensure they can be reviewed and considered complete by the deadline. RUS will review each application for completeness in accordance with § 1703.109, and notify the applicant, within 15 working days of the results of this review, citing any information which is incomplete. To be considered for grant funds, the applicant must submit the information to complete the application by June 1. If the applicant fails to submit such information by the appropriate deadline, the application will be considered during the next fiscal year.

* * * * *

§ 1703.122 [Amended]

7. In § 1703.122, in paragraph (e) introductory text the word "that" is added after the phrase "if any,".

Dated: January 16, 1998.

Wally Beyer,

Administrator, Rural Utilities Service.

[FR Doc. 98-1737 Filed 1-23-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

9 CFR Part 78

[Docket No. 97-082-2]

Brucellosis in Cattle; State and Area Classifications; California

AGENCY: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Affirmation of interim rule as final rule.

SUMMARY: We are adopting as a final rule, without change, an interim rule