§ 1717.604 Long-range engineering plans and construction work plans.

(a) All borrowers are required to maintain up-to-date long-range engineering plans and construction work plans (CWPs) in form and substance as set forth in 7 CFR part 1710, subpart F.

(b) Applications for financing from RUS must be supported by a long-range engineering plan and CWP approved by RUS.

(c) RUS approval is not required for long-range engineering plans and CWPs if the borrower does not intend to seek RUS financing for any of the facilities, equipment or other purposes included in those plans. However, if requested by RUS, a borrower must provide an informational copy of such plans to RUS.

§ 1717.605 Design standards, plans and specifications, construction standards, and RUS accepted materials.

All borrowers, regardless of the source of funding, are required to comply with applicable RUS requirements with respect to system design, construction standards, and the use of RUS accepted materials. Borrowers must comply with applicable RUS requirements with respect to plans and specifications only if the construction or procurement will be financed by RUS. These requirements are set forth in other RUS regulations, especially in 7 CFR parts 1724 and 1728.

§ 1717.606 Standard forms of construction contracts, and engineering and architectural services contracts.

All borrowers are encouraged to use the standard forms of contracts promulgated by RUS for construction, materials, equipment, engineering services, and architectural services, regardless of the source of funding for such construction and services. Borrowers are required to use these standard forms of contracts only if the construction, procurement or services are financed by RUS, and only to the extent required by RUS regulations. RUS requirements with respect to such standard forms of contract are set forth in 7 CFR part 1724 for architectural and engineering services, and in 7 CFR part 1726 for construction, materials, and equipment.

§ 1717.607 Contract bidding requirements.

Borrowers must follow RUS requirements regarding bidding for contracts for construction, materials, and equipment only if financing of the construction or procurement will be provided by RUS. These requirements are set forth in 7 CFR part 1726.

§ 1717.608 RUS approval of contracts.

(a) Construction contracts and architectural and engineering contracts. RUS approval of contracts for construction and procurement and for architectural and engineering services is required only when such construction, procurement or services are financed by RUS. Detailed requirements regarding RUS approval of such contracts are set forth in 7 CFR part 1724 for architectural and engineering services, and in 7 CFR part 1726 for construction and procurement.

(b) Large retail power contracts. RUS approval of contracts to sell electric power to retail customers is required only if the contract is for longer than 2 years and the kWh sales or kW demand for any year covered by the contract exceeds 25 percent of the borrower's total kWh sales or maximum