

STAKEHOLDER ANNOUNCEMENT

USDA Invites Applications for Loans Under the Rural Energy Savings Program

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15, 2020 – United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Deputy Under Secretary for Rural Development Bette Brand today invited applications from utilities to help rural families and small businesses make cost-saving energy efficiency improvements.

USDA is making funding available under the [Rural Energy Savings Program](#) (RESP). Through this program, qualified utilities and similar intermediaries can provide loans to rural families and small businesses to help them reduce energy costs and make energy efficiency improvements. Additionally, the funds may be used to replace manufactured housing units with more energy-efficient ones.

To apply, applicants must submit a letter of intent to RESP@usda.gov. Paper submissions will not be accepted. USDA will notify selected applicants in writing to submit a loan application. For application deadlines and other details, see page 81178 of the Dec. 15 [Federal Register](#).

USDA encourages applications that will support recommendations made in the [Report to the President of the United States from the Task Force on Agriculture and Rural Prosperity](#) (PDF, 5.4 MB) to help improve life in rural America.

Applicants are encouraged to consider projects that provide measurable results in helping rural communities build robust and sustainable economies through strategic investments. Key strategies include:

- Achieving e-Connectivity for Rural America
- Developing the Rural Economy
- Harnessing Technological Innovation
- Supporting a Rural Workforce
- Improving Quality of Life

If you'd like to subscribe to USDA Rural Development updates, visit our [GovDelivery subscriber page](#).

###