

STAKEHOLDER ANNOUNCEMENT

CORRECTION:

USDA inadvertently used the incorrect reference number for the RESP Notice of Comments that was published in the May 24 Federal Register. The correct number is: 7 CRF 1710.101. USDA regrets the error and has submitted a notice of correction to the Federal Register.

USDA Seeks Comments on Ways to Measure and Verify Energy Savings Under New Rural Energy Savings Program

(May 24, 2016) – Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack today announced that USDA is seeking comments on how the Rural Utilities Service should develop the Rural Energy Savings Program (RESP). This is a new program recently authorized by Congress.

The purpose of RESP is to help rural families and small businesses reduce energy use. USDA will provide loans to RUS borrowers that will re-lend money to qualified consumers to implement cost-effective energy efficiency measures.

USDA seeks input on how to provide technical assistance and training to the employees of eligible entities, and ways to measure and verify provisions of RESP.

Written comments are due June 23, 2016. For more information, please see page 32719 of the May 24 <u>Federal Register</u>.

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