**Public Information Meeting.** All applicants must hold at least one public information meeting. The public meeting must be held after the preapplication is filed and not later than loan/grant approval. The meeting must give the citizenry an opportunity to become acquainted with the proposed project and to comment on such items as economic and environmental impacts, service area, alternatives to the project or any other issue identified by Rural Development. The applicant will be required at least 10 days prior to the meeting, to publish a notice of the meeting in a newspaper of general circulation in the service area, to post a public notice at the applicant’s principal office, and to notify Rural Development. The applicant will provide Rural Development a copy of the published notice and minutes of the public meeting. If a municipal applicant is bonding for a portion of the project, the public meeting associated with obtaining bond approval will meet this requirement.