

## STAKEHOLDER ANNOUNCEMENT

### **USDA to Host Listening Sessions with State Historic Preservation Offices on How to Improve Rural Development's Environmental Review Process**

**WASHINGTON, July 16, 2021** – The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) today announced it is hosting listening sessions on July 22 and Aug. 3, 2021, to solicit feedback from State Historic Preservation Offices on ways to improve USDA Rural Development's environmental review process.

USDA Rural Development is encouraging integral feedback from individuals who may participate in consultation for projects funded or authorized by the agency's Rural Utilities Service, Rural Business-Cooperative Service and the Rural Housing Service.

The Department is inviting feedback on environmental review policies and procedures in [7 CFR Part 1970](#), including compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

These listening sessions are part of a series designed to gather input from a broad range of Rural Development customers and perspectives.

This first session will be held virtually on Thursday, July 22, 2021, at 2:30 p.m. Eastern Time. To register, visit: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4760374491670620430>.

The second session will be held virtually on Tuesday, Aug. 3, 2021 at 2:30 p.m. Eastern Time. To register, visit: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3575776057068623885>.

Registrants will receive an email with instructions to join online or by phone. For questions about the listening session, please email [RD.Innovation@usda.gov](mailto:RD.Innovation@usda.gov).

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