



OPEN LETTER FROM THE ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR

Rural Development

RUS Telecommunications
Program

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To all Infrastructure and Broadband Loan Applicants and Borrowers:
Notification to submit infrastructure and broadband loan application online.

In October of 2015, the Rural Utilities Service (RUS) announced the completion of RD Apply, an online application system that allows traditional infrastructure and broadband loan applicants to submit applications electronically.

RUS is currently constructing a second online system that will be used for processing applications submitted through RD Apply. Once this system goes live, it will greatly reduce our processing time for making a lending decision. In preparation for bringing the second system online, RUS will need to receive all infrastructure and broadband loan applications through RD Apply.

RUS understands that many companies are currently preparing applications with the intent to submit the completed application in paper format. With the understanding that the existing application process is costly and time consuming, RUS does not want to cause any undue burden by requiring all applications to be submitted electronically. Therefore, RUS will continue to accept paper applications until the end of this calendar year. However, starting in January of 2017, RUS will only accept applications for the Infrastructure and Broadband Loan Programs through RD Apply.

If you are contemplating a new application, it is recommended that you start the application process in RD Apply. If you have already started the paper application process, then it is up to you to decide whether to finish the hardcopy process or complete this process in RD Apply. Please note that it is already a requirement to submit all Farm Bill Broadband loans in RD Apply.

You can contact the Loan Originations and Approval Division at (202) 720-0800 or your General Field Representative for assistance with completing an application in RD Apply.

Sincerely,

KEITH B. ADAMS
Assistant Administrator
Telecommunications Program
Rural Utilities Service