



**United States Department of Agriculture
Rural Development**

OPEN LETTER FROM THE ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR

April 4, 2014

To all Telecommunications Borrowers and Potential Loan Applicants:

RUS is pleased to announce the publication of a Telecommunications “Infrastructure Loan Application Guide” to be used to help applicants and borrowers in the development of loan applications. In this guide you will find information on eligibility requirements, funding purposes, types of financial assistance, engineering and financial requirements, and information on the loan application submission, review, and approval process.

This is the first guide that RUS has published for use by our traditional telecommunications borrowers since the Telephone Program was established over 60 years ago. Until this time, applicants, consultants, and other interested parties have relied primarily on published regulations, RUS bulletins, and the help of RUS Field Staff in assembling applications for funding consideration. This guide will facilitate the submission of consistent and pertinent information to RUS, with the overall goal of streamlining the application review and loan decision making process. The RUS General Field Representatives (GFRs) will continue to provide integral assistance to borrowers and consultants in the development of loan applications – and all applications will continue to be submitted through the GFR before final transmittal to Washington, DC.

The “Infrastructure Loan Application Guide” and supporting schedules are available to you online at:

http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/utp_infrastructure.html

We look forward to working with existing borrowers and loan applicants in providing new and improved telecommunications services in rural areas.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "K.B. Adams".

KEITH B. ADAMS
Assistant Administrator
Telecommunications Program
Rural Utilities Service

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Committed to the future of rural communities.

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1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (Voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD).