U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE RURAL DEVELOPMENT Washington, D.C 20250

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## PROCEDURE NOTICE

RD MANUAL CHANGES

INSERT RD INS 4280-E (WSAL)

RURAL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT GRANTS.

This Instruction is completely revised as follows:

Added language to the Small and Emerging Business definition. This language is added to clarify the relationship of Tribal Governments and Tribal owned entities. Specifically, the management and Board of Directors of the Tribal government owned entity or business do not have to be independent of the Tribal Council. Language has also been added to clarify that the asset and employee size limitations to qualify as a small and emerging business are limited to the Tribal entity that is applying for assistance and is not intended to be inclusive of all Tribal assets or all Tribal employees. Consequently, it is anticipated that financial documentation required for Program participation will be limited to the immediate Tribal entity that is applying for the assistance and not required for the Tribe or its other Tribal entities, unless the Tribe itself is the applicant. The additional language will revert to rule language once the RBDG Regulation: Tribes and Tribal Business References to Provide Equitable Access publishes in the Federal Register.

Additional language was added to § 4280.408(c) to clarify that the Agency will adhere to 7 CFR 1901, subpart E requirements regarding grantee's compliance reviews and frequency of reporting. Also, additional language was added to § 4280.408(c)(1) to clarify that the initial compliance review will be conducted at the time of the assurance agreement is signed and/or prior to grant approval.

Language was removed from the second sentence of \$4280.410(n)(5), per our Office of Tribal Relations.

Language was added to § 4280.449(a)(6) regarding performance reports: when they must be reviewed by, record retention requirement, and how the reports should be used.

A new section was added as \$4280.456 Deobligation, which provides guidance regarding the deobligation document Form RD 1940-10, the recipients appeal rights, and the timeframe for deobligation of funds.

Additional language was added to § 4280.500 OMB control number to clarify that OMB control numbers 0570-022 and 0570-0024 have been discontinued as of 2016, and a new collection package in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 was issued in 2016 and the new OMB control number is 0570-0070.

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