

aside are provided in the notice published on February 6, 2004 (69 FR 5821).

2. *Underserved counties and colonias set-aside.* An amount of \$5,792,868 has been set aside for loan requests to develop units in the 100 most needy underserved counties or colonias as defined in section 509(f) of the Housing Act of 1949.

3. *EZ, EC, and REAP set-aside.* An amount of \$5,000,000 has been set aside to develop units in EZ, EC, or REAP communities. If requests for this set-aside exceed available funds, selection will be made by point score.

4. *State RA Reserve.* \$1,000,000 is available nationwide in a reserve for States with viable State Rental Assistance (RA) programs. In order to participate, States are to submit specific written information about the State RA program, *i.e.*, a memorandum of understanding, documentation from the provider, etc., to the National Office.

Dated: March 9, 2004.

Arthur A. Garcia,

Administrator, Rural Housing Service.

[FR Doc. 04-5962 Filed 3-16-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-XV-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Housing Service

Notice of Funds Availability (NOFA) for Section 533 Housing Preservation Grants for Fiscal Year 2004

AGENCY: Rural Housing Service (RHS), USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This NOFA announces the availability of funds for section 533 Housing Preservation Grant (HPG) Program. A "Notice of Timeframe for Section 533 Housing Preservation Grants for Fiscal Year 2004" was published in the **Federal Register** on February 6, 2004 (69 FR 5824). This was done shortly after passage of a final appropriations act to allow sufficient time for applicants to complete an application and for the Agency to select and process selected applications within the current fiscal year. Detailed information regarding the application and selection process, as well as a listing of the Rural Development State Offices, can be found in the February 6, 2004, Notice. Also, in the Notice dated February 6, 2004, the Agency announced a deadline of May 6, 2004, 5 p.m., local time for each Rural Development State Office, for submitting applications for the Section

533 Housing Preservation Grant Program.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For general information, applicants may contact Tammy Daniels, Loan Specialist, Multi-Family Housing Processing Division, Rural Housing Service, United States Department of Agriculture, Stop 0781, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC, 20250, telephone (202) 720-0021 (voice) (This is not a toll free number.) or (800) 877-8339 (TDD-Federal Information Relay Service).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Programs Affected

This program is listed in the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance under Number 10.433, Rural Housing Preservation Grants. This program is subject to the provisions of Executive Order 12372 which requires intergovernmental consultation with State and local officials (7 CFR part 3015, subpart V). Applicants are referred to 7 CFR 1944.674 and 1944.676(f), (g), and (h) for specific guidance on these requirements relative to the HPG program.

Discussion of Notice

Authority and Distribution Methodology

A. Authority

The HPG program is a grant program which provides qualified public agencies, private nonprofit organizations, and other eligible entities grant funds to assist very low- and low-income homeowners to repair and rehabilitate their homes in rural areas, and to assist rental property owners and cooperative housing complexes to repair and rehabilitate their units if they agree to make such units available to low- and very low-income persons.

B. Distribution Methodology

The funding instrument for the HPG program will be a grant agreement. The term of the grant can vary from 1 to 2 years, depending on available funds and demand. No maximum or minimum grant levels have been established at the National level. You should contact the State office to determine the allocation and the State maximum grant level, if any. For FY 2004, \$8,882,000 is available for the Housing Preservation Grant Program. A set aside of \$894,690 has been established for grants located in Empowerment Zones, Enterprise Communities, and REAP Zones, \$882,200 has been set aside for the Administrator's reserve and \$7,099,110 has been distributed under a formula allocation to States pursuant to 7 CFR

part 1940, subpart L, "Methodology and Formulas for Allocation of Loan and Grant Program Funds." Decisions on funding will be based on preapplications.

Dated: March 9, 2004.

Arthur A. Garcia,

Administrator, Rural Housing Service.

[FR Doc. 04-5961 Filed 3-16-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-XV-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Housing Service

Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for the Section 538 Guaranteed Rural Rental Housing Program (GRRHP) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2004

AGENCY: Rural Housing Service (RHS), USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This NOFA announces the availability of funds for the section 538 Guaranteed Rural Rental Housing Program for FY 2004. Congress appropriated \$99.410 million to the section 538 GRRHP for FY 2004. All applicants that submitted responses to the section 538 GRRHP notice published in the **Federal Register** on February 6, 2004 (69 FR 5826) will be considered for FY 2004 funding. The commitment of program dollars will be made to applicants of selected responses that have fulfilled the necessary requirements for obligation as described in the February 6, 2004, **Federal Register** Notice. The Agency will continue to review applications submitted hereafter from eligible applicants until all funds are expended.

The Agency will issue a notice to inform the public when funds have been exhausted for FY 2004.

Dated: March 9, 2004.

Arthur A. Garcia,

Administrator, Rural Housing Service.

[FR Doc. 04-5960 Filed 3-16-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-XV-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Utilities Service

Information Collection Activity; Comment Request

AGENCY: Rural Utilities Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35, as amended), the

Rural Utilities Service (RUS) invites comments on this information collection for which RUS intends to request approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB).

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by May 17, 2004.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Richard Annan, Acting Director, Program Development & Regulatory Analysis, Rural Utilities Service, USDA, 1400 Independence Ave., SW., STOP 1522, Room 5168 South Building, Washington, DC 20250-1522. Telephone: (202) 720-0784. FAX: (202) 720-4120.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Office of Management and Budget's (OMB) regulation (5 CFR 1320) implanting provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13) requires that interested members of the public and affected agencies have an opportunity to comment on information collection and recordkeeping activities (see 5 CFR 1320.8(d)). This notice identifies an information collection that RUS is submitting to OMB for extension.

Comments are invited on (a) whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of burden including the validity of the methodology and assumption used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques on other forms of information technology. Comments may be sent to: Dawn Wolfgang, Program Development and Regulatory Analysis, Rural Utilities Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Room 5166-South, STOP 1522, Washington, DC 20250-1522. FAX: (202) 720-4120. E-mail: dawn.wolfgang@usda.gov.

Title: 7 CFR 1777, Section 306C Water and Waste Disposal (WWD) Loans and Grants.

OMB Control Number: 0572-0109.

Type of Request: Extension of a currently approved information collection.

Abstract: Section 306C of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1926c) authorizes the Rural Utilities Service to make loans and grants to low-income rural communities whose residents face

significant health risks. These communities do not have access to, or are not served by, adequate affordable water supply systems or waste disposal facilities. The loans and grants will be available to provide water and waste disposal facilities and services to these communities, as determined by the Secretary. The Section 306C WWD Loans and Grants program is administered through 7 CFR part 1777.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 9 hours per response.

Respondents: Not for profits; State, Local or Tribal Government.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 1.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 1.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 9 hours.

Copies of this information collection can be obtained from Dawn Wolfgang, Program Development and Regulatory Analysis, Rural Utilities Service at (202) 720-0812. FAX: (202) 720-4120. E-mail: dawn.wolfgang@usda.gov.

All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will also become a matter of public record.

Dated: March 11, 2004.

Hilda Gay Legg,

Administrator, Rural Utilities Service.

[FR Doc. 04-5992 Filed 3-16-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-15-P

BARRY GOLDWATER SCHOLARSHIP AND EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION FOUNDATION

Sunshine Act Meeting

TIME AND DATE: 1 p.m., Thursday, March 18, 2004.

PLACE: The Cosmos Club, 2121 Massachusetts Avenue, Washington, DC 20008.

STATUS: The meeting will be open to the public.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:

1. Review and approval of the minutes of the March 13th, 2003 Board of Trustees meeting which was accomplished by correspondence.

2. Report on financial status of the Foundation fund.

A. Review of investment policy and current portfolio.

3. Report on results of Scholarship Review Panel.

A. Discussion and consideration of scholarship candidates.

B. Selection of Goldwater Scholars.

4. Other Business brought before the Board of Trustees.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Gerald J. Smith, President, Telephone: (703) 756-6012.

Gerald J. Smith,
President.

[FR Doc. 04-6077 Filed 3-15-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4738-91-M

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Economics and Statistics Administration

Decennial Census Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Economics and Statistics Administration, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act, title 5, United States Code, Appendix 2, section 10(a)(b), the Bureau of the Census (Census Bureau) is giving notice of a meeting of the Decennial Census Advisory Committee. The Committee will address issues related to the reengineered 2010 decennial census of population and housing, including the American Community Survey, the short-form-only 2010 census, and other related decennial programs. Last minute changes to the schedule are possible, which could prevent advance notification.

DATES: April 29-30, 2004. On April 29, the meeting will begin at approximately 8:30 a.m. and end at approximately 5:15 p.m. On April 30, the meeting will begin at approximately 8:30 a.m. and end at approximately 12:00 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Sheraton Crystal City Hotel, 1800 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, Virginia 22202.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jeri Green, Committee Liaison Officer, Department of Commerce, U.S. Census Bureau, Room 3627, Federal Office Building 3, Washington, DC 20233, telephone (301) 763-2070, TTY (301) 457-2540.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Decennial Census Advisory Committee is composed of a Chair, Vice-Chair, and up to 40 member organizations, all appointed by the Secretary of Commerce. The Committee considers the goals of the decennial census and data users' needs during its deliberations. The Committee provides an outside-user perspective about how research-and-design plans for the 2010 reengineered decennial census, the American Community Survey, and related decennial programs will realize