

non-profit organizations for the provision of technical assistance and training to rural communities for the purpose of improving passenger transportation services or facilities. Public bodies are not eligible for passenger transportation RBEG grants.

Refer to section 310B(c)(2) (7 U.S.C. 1932) of the CONACT and 7 CFR part 1942, subpart G for the information collection requirements of the RBEG program.

Fiscal Year 2001 Preapplications Submission

Each preapplication received in a Rural Development State Office will be reviewed to determine if this preapplication is consistent with the eligible purposes contained in 7 U.S.C. 310B(c)(2) of the CONACT. Each selection priority criterion outlined in 7 CFR part 1942, subpart G, section 1942.305(b)(3), must be addressed in the preapplication. Failure to address any of the criteria will result in a zero-point score for that criterion and will impact the overall evaluation of the preapplication. Copies of 7 CFR part 1942, subpart G, will be provided to any interested applicant making a request to a Rural Development State Office listed in this notice. All projects to receive technical assistance through these passenger transportation grant funds are to be identified when the preapplications are submitted to the Rural Development State Office. Multiple project preapplications must identify each individual project, indicate the amount of funding requested for each individual project, and address the criteria as stated above for each individual project. For multiple-project preapplications, the average of the individual project scores will be the score for that preapplication.

All eligible preapplications, along with tentative scoring sheets and the Rural Development State Director's recommendation, will be referred to the National Office no later than April 13, 2001, for final scoring and selection for award.

The National Office will score preapplications based on the grant selection criteria and weights contained in 7 CFR part 1942, subpart G, and Administrator's points, and will select a grantee subject to the grantee's satisfactory submission of a formal application and related materials in the manner and time frame established by RBS in accordance with 7 CFR part 1942, subpart G. It is anticipated that the grantees will be selected by June 1, 2001. All applicants will be notified by RBS of the Agency decision on the award.

The information collection requirements within this Notice are covered under OMB No. 0570-0022 and 7 CFR part 1942, subpart G.

Dated: December 22, 2000.

Judith A. Canales,

Acting Administrator, Rural Business-Cooperative Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Utilities Service

Arkansas Electric Cooperative Corporation; Notice of Finding of No Significant Impact

AGENCY: Rural Utilities Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of finding of no significant impact.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the Rural Utilities Service (RUS) has made a finding of no significant impact (FONSI) with respect to a request from Arkansas Electric Cooperative Corporation for financing assistance from the RUS to finance the construction of a 153 megawatt (MW) combustion turbine electric generating plant in southwest Arkansas.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Bob Quigel, Environmental Protection Specialist, Engineering and Environmental Staff, RUS, Stop 1571, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-1571, telephone (202) 720-0468, e-mail at bquigel@rus.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The project will consist of a single 153 MW gas-fired, simple-cycle combustion turbine generating unit. Other on-site facilities include a 90-foot exhaust stack, step-up and auxiliary transformers, motor control centers, bus ductwork, an electric substation, and control, maintenance, and operations buildings. The project also includes 4 miles of 115 kV transmission line that will tie the station to the existing transmission grid. The transmission line will be built to 161 kV specifications in anticipation that additional transmission line capacity may be needed in the future.

The facility is designed to accommodate conversion of the unit to combined cycle operation, but will be initially operated as a simple cycle unit. The site has been sized to accommodate additional simple or combined cycle units that may be added in the future.

Copies of the FONSI are available from RUS at the address provided herein or from Curtis Warner, Arkansas

Electric Cooperative Corporation, P.O. Box 194208, Little Rock, Arkansas 72219-4208. Telephone (501) 570-2462.

Dated: January 3, 2001.

Blaine D. Stockton,

Assistant Administrator, Electric Program, Rural Utilities Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[A-570-827]

Certain Cased Pencils From the People's Republic of China; Preliminary Results and Rescission in Part of Antidumping Duty Administrative Review

AGENCY: Import Administration, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of preliminary results and rescission in part of antidumping duty administrative review of certain cased pencils from the People's Republic of China.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce ("the Department") has preliminarily determined that sales by the respondent in this review covering the period December 1, 1998 through November 30, 1999, have been made below normal value ("NV"). In addition, we are preliminarily rescinding this review with respect to Three Star Stationery Industry Co., Ltd. If these preliminary results are adopted in our final results of review, we will instruct the U.S. Customs Service ("Customs") to assess antidumping duties on all appropriate entries. Furthermore, we have reached a final determination to rescind the review with respect to Laizhou City Guangming Pencil-Making Lead Co., Ltd.

The Department invites interested parties to comment on these preliminary results.

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 9, 2001.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Paul Stolz or Howard Smith, AD/CVD Enforcement, Office 4, Group II, Import Administration, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20230; telephone (202) 482-4474, and 482-5193, respectively.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

The Applicable Statute and Regulations

Unless otherwise indicated, all citations to the Tariff Act of 1930, as