



Rural Development

Rural Utilities Service

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SUBJECT: Elimination of Annual Publishing of Statement of
Nondiscrimination in Local Newspapers

TO: All Electric and Telephone Borrowers

FROM: Christopher A. McLean
Acting Administrator
Rural Utilities Service

The Rural Utilities Service (RUS) is eliminating and discontinuing its requirement that RUS Electric and Telephone Borrowers publish the USDA Approved Statement of Nondiscrimination in local newspapers annually. RUS believes that this requirement is outdated and its elimination would provide both a cost and time savings to all of RUS' Electric and Telephone Borrowers.

Please note that all RUS Borrowers are still required to adhere to the requirements of the USDA Departmental Regulation: DR-4300-003 - Equal Opportunity Public Notification Policy a copy of which can be obtained from your RUS General Field Representative and also can be found via the following link:

<https://www.ocio.usda.gov/sites/default/files/docs/2012/DR-4300-003%20Equal%20Opportunity%20Publication%20Notification.pdf>

In addition, RUS recommends that all RUS Borrowers post a copy of the USDA Approved Statement of Nondiscrimination on the public side of their website.

CHRISTOPHER A. McLEAN
Acting Administrator
Rural Utilities Service

Date: 3/19/18

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USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at program.intake@usda.gov.