

(3) No restriction has been placed on the borrower's right to assign the contract to RUS or its successors.

**§ 1726.36 Documents subject to RUS approval.**

Unless otherwise indicated, the borrower shall make all contracts and amendments that are subject to RUS approval effective only upon RUS approval.

**§ 1726.37 OMB control number.**

The collection of information requirements in this part have been approved by the Office of Management and Budget and assigned OMB control number 0572-0107.

**§§ 1726.38-1726.49 [Reserved]**

**Subpart B—Distribution Facilities**

**§ 1726.50 Distribution line materials and equipment.**

(a) *Contract forms.* (1) The borrower shall use RUS Form 198, Equipment Contract, for purchases of equipment where the total cost of the contract is \$500,000 or more.

(2) The borrower may, in its discretion, use RUS Form 173, Materials Contract, RUS Form 198, Equipment Contract, or a written purchase order for purchases of equipment of less than \$500,000 and for all materials.

(b) *Standards and specifications.* Distribution line materials and equipment must meet the minimum requirements of RUS standards as determined in accordance with the provisions of part 1728 of this chapter, Electric Standards and Specifications for Materials and Construction. The borrower must obtain RUS approval prior to purchasing any unlisted distribution line material or equipment of the types listed in accordance with the provisions of part 1728 of this chapter.

(c) *Procurement procedures.* It is the responsibility of each borrower to determine the procurement method that best meets its needs for the purchase of material and equipment to be used in distribution line construction.

(d) *Contract approval.* Contracts for purchases of distribution line materials and equipment are not subject to RUS approval and need not be submitted to

RUS unless specifically requested by RUS on a case by case basis.

**§ 1726.51 Distribution line construction.**

(a) *Contract forms.* The borrower must use RUS Form 201, 790, 792, or 830, as outlined in this paragraph (a), for distribution line construction, except for minor modifications or improvements.

(1) The borrower may use RUS Form 790, Distribution Line Extension Construction Contract (Labor and Materials), or RUS Form 792, Distribution Line Extension Construction Contract (Labor only) under the following circumstances:

(i) For contracts for which the borrower supplies all materials and equipment; or

(ii) For non-site specific construction contracts accounted for under the work order procedure; or

(iii) If neither paragraph (a)(1)(i) or (a)(1)(ii) of this section are applicable, the borrower may use RUS Form 790 or 792 for contracts, up to a cumulative total of \$250,000 or one percent of NUP, whichever is greater, per calendar year of distribution line construction, exclusive of the cost of owner furnished materials and equipment

(2) The borrower must use RUS Form 830, Electric System Construction Contract (Labor and Materials), for all other distribution line construction. Where distribution lines are being constructed incidental to transmission line construction, the borrower must use RUS Form 831, Electric Transmission Construction Contract.

(3) The borrower must use RUS Form 201, Right-of-Way Clearing Contract, for new distribution line construction right-of-way clearing when done separately from work performed under RUS Form 830.

(b) *Procurement procedures.* (1) It is the responsibility of each borrower to determine the procurement method that best meets its needs to award contracts in amounts of up to a cumulative total of \$250,000 or one percent of NUP, whichever is greater, per calendar year of distribution line construction (including minor modifications or improvements), exclusive of the cost of owner furnished materials and equipment.

(2) In addition to the cumulative total stipulated in paragraph (b)(1) of this section, a borrower may use Multiparty Unit Price Quotations to award contracts in amounts of up to a cumulative total of \$350,000 or 1.5 percent of NUP, whichever is greater, per calendar year of distribution line construction (including minor modifications or improvements), exclusive of the cost of owner furnished materials and equipment.

(3) The borrower shall use formal competitive bidding for all other distribution line contract construction. The amount of contracts bid using the formal competitive bidding procedure do not apply to the cumulative total stipulated in paragraph (b)(1) of this section.

(4) An amendment which increases the scope of the contract by adding a project is not considered competitively bid, therefore, the amount of that amendment does apply to the cumulative total stipulated in paragraph (b)(1) of this section.

(c) *Contract approval.* Contracts for distribution line construction are not subject to RUS approval and need not be submitted to RUS unless specifically requested by RUS on a case by case basis.

§§ 1726.52–1726.74 [Reserved]

**Subpart C—Substation and Transmission Facilities**

**§ 1726.75 General.**

As used in this part, “substations” includes substations, switching stations, metering points, and similar facilities.

**§ 1726.76 Substation and transmission line materials and equipment.**

(a) *Contract forms.* (1) The borrower must use RUS Form 198, Equipment Contract, for purchases of equipment where the total cost of the contract is \$500,000 or more.

(2) The borrower may, in its discretion, use RUS Form 173, Materials Contract, RUS Form 198, Equipment Contract, or a written purchase order for purchases of equipment of less than \$500,000 and for all materials.

(b) *Standards and specifications.* Substation and transmission line materials and equipment must meet the minimum requirements of RUS standards as determined in accordance with the provisions of part 1728 of this chapter, Electric Standards and Specifications for Materials and Construction. The borrower must obtain RUS approval prior to purchasing of any unlisted substation or transmission line material or equipment of the types listed in accordance with the provisions of part 1728 of this chapter.

(c) *Procurement procedures.* It is the responsibility of each borrower to determine the procurement method that best meets its needs for purchase of material and equipment to be used in substation and transmission line construction.

(d) *Contract approval.* Contracts for purchases of substation and transmission line materials and equipment are not subject to RUS approval and need not be submitted to RUS unless specifically requested by RUS on a case by case basis.

**§ 1726.77 Substation and transmission line construction.**

(a) *Contract forms.* (1) The borrower must use RUS Form 764, Substation Erection Contract, for construction of substations, except for minor modifications or improvements. The borrower must use RUS Form 831, Electric Transmission Construction Contract for projects where substations are incidental to transmission line construction and are to be constructed under the same contract.

(2) The borrower must use RUS Form 831, Electric Transmission Construction Contract, for construction of transmission lines (except for minor modifications or improvements).

(3) The borrower must use RUS Form 203, Transmission System Right-of-Way Clearing Contract, for new transmission line construction right-of-way clearing when right-of-way clearing is performed separately from work performed under RUS Form 831.

(b) *Procurement procedures.* (1) It is the responsibility of each borrower to determine the procurement method that best meets its needs to award contracts not requiring RUS approval in