

RHS, RBS, RUS, FSA, USDA**§ 1944.676**

and unless so advised by FmHA or its successor agency under Public Law 103-354.

[58 FR 21894, Apr. 26, 1993, as amended at 62 FR 26211, May 13, 1997]

§ 1944.674 Public participation and intergovernmental review.

(a) In preparing its statement of activities, the applicant is responsible for consulting with leaders from the county, parish and/or township governments of the area where HPG activities will take place for the purpose of assuring that the proposed HPO program is beneficial and does not duplicate current activities. American Indian nonprofit organization applicants should obtain the written concurrence of the tribal governing body in lieu of consulting with the county governments when the program is operated only on tribal land.

(b) The applicant must also make its statement of activities available to the public for comment. The applicant must announce the availability of its statement of activities for review in a newspaper of general circulation in the project area and allow at least 15 days for public comment. The start of this 15-day period must occur no later than 16 days prior to the last day for acceptance of preapplications by FmHA or its successor agency under Public Law 103-354.

(c) The HPG program is subject to the provisions of Executive Order 12372, which requires intergovernmental consultation with State and local officials. Under FmHA Instruction 1940-J (available in any FmHA or its successor agency under Public Law 103-354 office) prospective applicants for HPG grants must submit its statement of activities to the State single point of contact prior to submitting their preapplication to FmHA or its successor agency under Public Law 103-354. Evidence of submittal of the statement of activities to the State single point of contact is to be submitted with a preapplication. Comments and recommendations made through the intergovernmental review process are for the purpose of assuring consideration of State and local government views. The name of the State single point of contact is available from any

FmHA or its successor agency under Public Law 103-354 office. This section does not apply to American Indian tribes, bands, groups, etc., as noted in § 1944.656 of this subpart.

§ 1944.675 Allocation of HPG funds to States and unused HPG funds.

The allocation and distribution of HPG funds is found in § 1940.578 of subpart L of part 1940 of this chapter.

§ 1944.676 Preapplication procedures.

(a) All applicants will file an original and two copies of Standard Form (SF) 424.1, "Application For Federal Assistance (For Nonconstruction)," and supporting information with the appropriate FmHA or its successor agency under Public Law 103-354 office. A preapplication package, including SF-424.1, is available in any FmHA or its successor agency under Public Law 103-354 Office.

(b) All preapplications shall be accompanied by the following information which FmHA or its successor agency under Public Law 103-354 will use to determine the applicant's eligibility to undertake the HPG program and to evaluate the preapplication under the project selection criteria of § 1944.679 of this subpart.

(1) A statement of activities proposed by the applicant for its HPG program as appropriate to the type of assistance the applicant is proposing, including:

(i) A complete discussion of the type of and conditions for financial assistance for housing preservation, including whether the request for assistance is for a homeowner assistance program, a rental property assistance program, or a co-op assistance program;

(ii) The process for selecting recipients for HPG assistance, determining housing preservation needs of the dwelling, performing the necessary work, and monitoring/inspecting work performed;

(iii) A description of the process for identifying potential environmental impacts in accordance with § 1944.672 of this subpart, and the provisions for compliance with Stipulation I, A-G of the PMOA (FmHA Instruction 2000-FF available in any FmHA or its successor agency under Public Law 103-354 office) in accordance with § 1944.673 (b) of this