

**TITLE 7 - AGRICULTURE**  
**CHAPTER 31 - RURAL ELECTRIFICATION AND TELEPHONE SERVICE**  
**SUBCHAPTER I - RURAL ELECTRIFICATION**

**§ 918c. Rural and remote communities electrification grants**

**(a) Definitions**

In this section:

- (1) The term “eligible grantee” means a local government or municipality, peoples’ utility district, irrigation district, and cooperative, nonprofit, or limited-dividend association in a rural area.
- (2) The term “incremental hydropower” means additional generation achieved from increased efficiency after January 1, 2005, at a hydroelectric dam that was placed in service before January 1, 2005.
- (3) The term “renewable energy” means electricity generated from—
  - (A) a renewable energy source; or
  - (B) hydrogen, other than hydrogen produced from a fossil fuel, that is produced from a renewable energy source.
- (4) The term “renewable energy source” means—
  - (A) wind;
  - (B) ocean waves;
  - (C) biomass;
  - (D) solar;
  - (E) landfill gas;
  - (F) incremental hydropower;
  - (G) livestock methane; or
  - (H) geothermal energy.
- (5) The term “rural area” means a city, town, or unincorporated area that has a population of not more than 10,000 inhabitants.

**(b) Grants**

The Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior, may provide grants under this section to eligible grantees for the purpose of—

- (1) increasing energy efficiency, siting or upgrading transmission and distribution lines serving rural areas; or
- (2) providing or modernizing electric generation facilities that serve rural areas.

**(c) Grant administration**

- (1) The Secretary shall make grants under this section based on a determination of cost-effectiveness and the most effective use of the funds to achieve the purposes described in subsection (b) of this section.
- (2) For each fiscal year, the Secretary shall allocate grant funds under this section equally between the purposes described in paragraphs (1) and (2) of subsection (b) of this section.
- (3) In making grants for the purposes described in subsection (b)(2) of this section, the Secretary shall give preference to renewable energy facilities.

**(d) Authorization of appropriations**

There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to carry out this section \$20,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2006 through 2012.

(Pub. L. 95–617, title VI, § 609, as added Pub. L. 109–58, title II, § 209, Aug. 8, 2005, 119 Stat. 657.)

---

*NB: This unofficial compilation of the U.S. Code is current as of Jan. 8, 2008 (see <http://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/uscpri.html>).*

---

### **Codification**

Section was enacted as part of the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978, and not as part of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 which comprises this chapter.

### **Definitions**

Secretary means the Secretary of Energy, see section 2602 (14) of Title 16, Conservation.