

**Rural Electrification Act of 1936**

**With Amendments as Approved through December 31, 2000**

**[U.S. Code, Title 7, Chap. 31]**

**AN ACT**

To provide for rural electrification, and for other purposes.

**TITLE I-Rural Electrification**

**SEC. 1. SHORT TITLE.**-- This chapter may be cited as the "Rural Electrification Act of 1936".

[May 20, 1936, ch. 432, Title I, §1, 49 Stat. 1363; 1939 Reorg. Plan No. II, §5, eff. July 1, 1939, 4 F.R. 2732, 53 Stat. 1434; Oct. 28, 1949, ch. 776, §2, 63 Stat. 948; October 13, 1994, Public Law 103-354, Title II, Subtitle C, §235(a)(1), 108 Stat. 3220; 7 U.S.C. 901.] (NOTE: Provisions of this section that prescribed the basic annual compensation of the Administrator were omitted to conform to the provisions of the Federal Executive Salary Schedule. See section 2210 et. seq. of Title 5, Executive Departments and Government Officers and Employees.)

**SEC. 2. GENERAL AUTHORITY OF THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE--(a) LOANS.**-- The Secretary of Agriculture (referred to in this chapter as the "Secretary") is authorized and empowered to make loans in the several States and Territories of the United States for rural electrification and for the purpose of furnishing and improving electric and telephone service in rural areas, as provided in this chapter, and for the purpose of assisting electric borrowers to implement demand side management, energy conservation programs, and on-grid and off-grid renewable energy systems.

(b) **INVESTIGATIONS AND REPORTS.**-- The Secretary may make, or cause to be made, studies, investigations, and reports regarding matters, including financial, technological, and regulatory matters, affecting the condition and progress of electric, telecommunications, and economic development in rural areas, and publish and disseminate information with respect to the matters.

[May 20, 1936, ch. 432, Title I, §2, 49 Stat. 1363; Oct. 28, 1949, ch. 776, §2, 3, 63 Stat. 948; Nov. 1, 1993, Public Law 103-129, §2(c)(1), 107 Stat. 1363; October 13, 1994, Public Law 103-354, Title II, Subtitle C, §235(a)(2), (13), 108 Stat. 3220, 3221; Apr. 4, 1996, Public Law 104-127, Title VII, Subtitle C, §771, 110 Stat. 1149; 7 U.S.C. 902.]