

Agreement
Between the
USDA, Rural Development
And the
Intergovernmental Review Office, State of Maine,

Exemption of Certain Programs and Projects from Intergovernmental Review
Under Federal Executive Order 12373

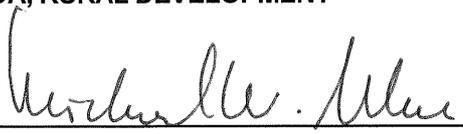
The Maine State Planning Office, Intergovernmental Review office has posted notice of its proposal to exempt applications for the following list of typical projects funded by USDA, Rural Development. During this period no relevant comments were received. Therefore this exemption is now in effect.

1. **Technical assistance grants** – Rural Development has a variety of grant programs that provide funding for technical assistance. The grants are typically used for feasibility studies, engineering studies, environmental reviews, and other service types of assistance. These programs involve no construction or real property acquisition and should present no consistency issues.
2. **Intermediary relending programs or revolving funds made to third parties (ultimate recipients) by intermediary lenders** – Rural Development has a variety of programs where loans or grants are made to an intermediary and the intermediary loans or grants the money to a third party. Only the third party loans and grants will be exempted. Rural Development will still be expected to submit the initial loan or grant to the intermediary for Intergovernmental Review.
3. **Loans or grants for projects not involving construction** – These types of projects would include loans and grants for equipment, working capital, debt restructure, emergency vehicles, real property acquisition, and other types of projects not involving construction.
4. **Loans or grants for renovations** - These types of projects would involve interior or exterior renovations that do not increase the footprint of the existing structures. Projects involving new construction will still be submitted for Intergovernmental Review.
5. **Minor additions to projects that have already undergone Intergovernmental Review** – Occasionally Rural Development projects have remaining money after the initial part of the

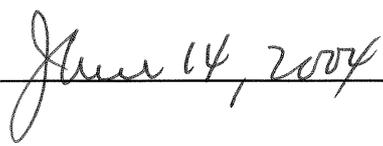
project is completed. These instances often involve main replacement, additional water or sewer treatment plant work, etc. and are a minor addition to the project. Major changes in scope will still require a resubmission for Intergovernmental Review.

This list of exemptions will supercede any other exemptions previously issued. All other exemption letters will be rescinded as of this date.

USDA, RURAL DEVELOPMENT

By: 

Michael W. Aube, State Director

Date: 

STATE PLANNING OFFICE

By: 

Joyce Benson, Intergovernmental Review Coordinator

Date: 