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Strategic Economic and Community Development

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General Comment

1. What is the proposal about?

This proposal mainly describes about whether to interim rule implements Section 6025, Strategic Economic and Community Development or not. This program require the Agency reserve up to 10 percent of the funds appropriated to certain Rural Development (RD) programs each fiscal year to fund projects that support the implementation of strategic economic and community development plans across multi-jurisdictional areas. In order to reserved funds, this projects must be able for funding under the programs from which the funds are reserved. In addition, projects must be carried out solely in rural areas. Any reserved funding that is not obligated by June 30 of the fiscal year in which the funds were reserved will be returned to the programs' regular funding accounts.

2. Desirability of the solution:

a. Do we need this?

Yes. I think we do need this proposal.

b. Why or why not? (Justify your answer with facts)

I agree to take the action regarding this actions provides the Secretary of Agriculture the authority to give priority to projects that support strategic economic development or community development programs. Typically, agriculture plays an important roles in our economic growth. Some 40 to 60 per cent of the national income is produced in agriculture and from 50 to 80 per cent of the labor force is engaged in agricultural production.

c. Will it solve the problem?

Yes, it will solve the problem.

d. Why or why not? (Justify your answer with facts)

The main source livelihood of many people is agriculture. However, most people in developed countries do not engage in agriculture because the profits earn from farming is less than running an industry operation. This program directly help those farmers who have financial problems to continue their operations. And also,

encourage investors focus on agricultural development. This programs will help many farmers due with their financial problems and improve agricultural development.

3. Qualifications of the proposer

a. Can the writer or his/her company/govt. really deliver?

Yes, the proposer can really deliver the proposal.

b. Why or why not? (Justify your answer with facts)

USDA is a Rural Business-Cooperative Service offers programs to support business development and job training opportunities for rural residents. Their propose programs is for help provide the capital, technical support, educational opportunities and entrepreneurial skills that can help rural residents start and grow businesses or access jobs in agricultural markets and in the bio-based economy. Its mission is to increase economic opportunity and improve the quality of life in rural communities. To achieve its mission, RD provides financial support (including direct loans, grants, and loan guarantees) and technical assistance. AD programs not only focus on agriculture community facility projects, it also have Water and Waste Disposal Programs Guaranteed Loans, which will help our California residence save more resources.

4. Return on investment

a. Is the expense, whether time or money necessary?

I think the expenses is very necessary for the agricultural improvement.

b. Why or why not? (Justify your answer with facts)

The primary benefit of this action is to foster an environment of increased collaboration between project applicants and rural communities to support successful community and economic development. The cost to the individual applicant to apply for reserved funding is nominal. RD estimates the cost to complete the specific form to be no more than \$300 assuming on average approximately 9 hours per form. Therefore, this cost budget is acceptable because these loans provide multi-economic benefits.