

(F) Section 310A (7 U.S.C. 1931), relating to watershed and resource conservation and development;

(G) Section 310B(b) (7 U.S.C. 1932(b));

(H) Section 310B(i) (7 U.S.C. 1932(i)), relating to loans for business telecommunications partnerships; and

(I) Administrative Provisions of subtitle D of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act relating to rural utility activities.

(v) Administer section 8, and those functions with respect to repayment of obligations under section 4 of the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act (16 U.S.C. 1006a, 1004) and administer the Resource Conservation and Development Program to assist in carrying out resource conservation and development projects in rural areas under section 32(e) of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act (7 U.S.C. 1011(e)).

(vi) Administer the Water and Waste Loan Program (7 U.S.C. 1926-1).

(vii) Administer the Rural Wastewater Treatment Circuit Rider Program (7 U.S.C. 1926 note).

(viii) Administer the Distance Learning and Medical Link Programs (7 U.S.C. 950aaa *et seq.*).

(ix) Administer Water and Waste Facility Programs and activities (7 U.S.C. 1926-1).

(21) *Related to rural business and cooperative development.* (i) Administer the Rural Economic Development Loan and Grant Programs under the Rural Electrification Act (7 U.S.C. 940c and 950aa *et seq.*).

(ii) Administer the following sections of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1921 *et seq.*):

(A) Section 306(a)(11)(A) (7 U.S.C. 1926 (a)(11)(A)), relating to grants for business technical assistance and planning;

(B) Section 304(b) (7 U.S.C. 1924(b)), relating to small business enterprises;

(C) Sections 309 (7 U.S.C. 1929) and 309A (7 U.S.C. 1929a), relating to assets and programs related to rural development;

(D) Section 310B (7 U.S.C. 1932), relating to rural industrialization assistance, rural business enterprise grants and rural technology and cooperative development grants;

(E) Section 312(b) (7 U.S.C. 1942(b)), relating to small business enterprises; and

(F) Administrative Provisions of subtitle D of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act relating to rural business and cooperative development activities.

(iii) Administer Alcohol Fuels Credit Guarantee Program Account (Pub. L. 102-341, 106 Stat. 895).

(iv) Administer section 1323 of the Food Security Act of 1985 (7 U.S.C. 1932 note).

(v) Administer loan programs in the Appalachian region under sections 203 and 204 of the Appalachian Regional Development Act of 1965 (40 U.S.C. App. 204).

(vi) Administer section 601 of the Powerplant and Industrial Fuel Use Act of 1978 (Pub. L. 95-620).

(vii) Administer the Drought and Disaster Guaranteed Loan Program under section 331 of the Disaster Assistance Act of 1988 (7 U.S.C. 1929a note).

(viii) Administer the Disaster Assistance for Rural Business Enterprises Guaranteed Loan Program under section 401 of the Disaster Assistance Act of 1989 (7 U.S.C. 1929a note).

(ix) Administer the Rural Economic Development Demonstration Grant Program (7 U.S.C. 2662a).

(x) Administer the Economically Disadvantaged Rural Community Loan Program (7 U.S.C. 6616).

(xi) Exercise administrative oversight over the Alternative Agricultural Research and Commercialization Center established pursuant to the Alternative Agricultural Research and Commercialization Act of 1990, (7 U.S.C. 5901 *et seq.*).

(xii) Administer programs authorized by the Cooperative Marketing Act of 1926 (7 U.S.C. 451-457).

(xiii) Carry out the responsibilities of the Secretary of Agriculture relating to the marketing aspects of cooperatives, including economic research and analysis, the application of economic research findings, technical assistance to existing and developing cooperatives, education on cooperatives, and statistical information pertaining to cooperatives as authorized by the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1621-1627).

(xiv) Work with institutions and international organizations throughout the world on subjects related to the development and operation of agricultural cooperatives. Such work may be carried out by:

(A) Exchanging materials and results with such institutions or organizations;

(B) Engaging in joint or coordinated activities; or

(C) Stationing representatives at such institutions or organizations in foreign countries (7 U.S.C. 3291).

(xv) Administer in rural areas the process of designation, provision of monitoring and oversight, and provision of technical assistance for Empowerment Zones and Enterprise Communities pursuant to section 13301

of Public Law 103-66, Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993 (26 U.S.C. 1391 *et seq.*)

(xvi) Work with Federal agencies in encouraging the creation of local rural community development organizations. Within a State, assist other Federal agencies in developing means for extending their services effectively to rural areas and in designating pilot projects in rural areas (7 U.S.C. 2204).

(xvii) Conduct assessments to determine how programs of the Department can be brought to bear on the economic development problems of a State or local area and assure that local groups are receiving adequate and effective technical assistance from Federal agencies or from local and State governments in formulating development programs and in carrying out planned development activities (7 U.S.C. 2204b).

(xviii) Develop a process through which State, sub-state and local rural development needs, goals, objectives, plans, and recommendations can be received and assessed on a continuing basis (7 U.S.C. 2204b).

(xix) Prepare local or area-wide rural development strategies based on the needs, goals, objectives, plans and recommendations of local communities, sub-state areas and States (7 U.S.C. 2204b).

(xx) Develop a system of outreach in the State or local area to promote rural development and provide for the publication and dissemination of information, through multi-media methods, relating to rural development. Advise local rural development organizations of availability of Federal programs and the type of assistance available, and assist in making contact with Federal program (7 U.S.C. 2204; 7 U.S.C. 2204b).

(22) *Related to rural housing and community development.* (i) Administer the following under the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1921 *et seq.*):

(A) Section 306 (7 U.S.C. 1926), except with respect to financing for water and waste disposal facilities; or loans for rural electrification or telephone systems or facilities other than hydroelectric generating and related distribution systems and supplemental and supporting structures if they are eligible for Rural Utilities Service financing; and financing for grazing facilities and irrigation and drainage facilities; and subsection 306(a)(11);

(B) Section 309A (7 U.S.C. 1929a), regarding assets and programs relating to community facilities; and