

## **The RUS Website**

**Harvey Bowles, Senior Engineer, Electric Staff Division, RUS**

### **Executive Summary**

The World Wide Web is the gateway to the information highway. The use of a personal computer that is connected to the World Wide Web enables one to easily find and retrieve data, rules, regulations, periodicals and other publications. The Rural Utilities Service maintains a website that serves its borrowers and others interested in the rural infrastructure. The website is not static, but rather it is dynamic, changing sometimes almost daily, to provide up-to-date information.

### **RUS Website**

**<http://www.usda.gov/rus>**

During 1999, the RUS website was redesigned under direction of Sam Morgan, the RUS web editor-in-chief. Also, the Electric Staff Division was assigned responsibility for the Electric Program portion of the website. This allows us to better respond to your needs and to post information to the webserver in a more timely fashion. The Electric Program home page is found at:

**<http://www.usda.gov/rus/electric>**

To help you navigate around the Electric Program web pages, the home page provides a description of the various pages.

Visit the **Loans/Rates** page which provides a "thumbnail sketch" of the Electric Program's loan offerings and includes a table showing municipal rates for the current quarter. This page is updated at the beginning of each quarter. Although this information is printed in the Federal Register, it is available first on the RUS website.

The **Service** page provides an overview of the Electric Program, its customer - oriented program delivery, outlines the various divisions and their roles, provides "box scores" of the Electric Program's current Fiscal Year loan program. The box score is updated at the beginning of each month.

Have you wanted to contact RUS, but did not know where to start? The **Contacts** page starts off with the office of the Assistant Administrator. Each division – Northern Regional Division, Southern Regional Division, Power Supply Division, and the Electric Staff Division – has a listing of the staff within that division. You may also select a particular state to see a listing of the staff responsible for that state. These pages have names, titles, phone numbers, fax numbers, and e-mail and snail mail addresses.

The **Regulations** page contains RUS regulations affecting electric borrowers as well as proposed regulations that are open for public comment.

The **Bulletins** page contains RUS Electric Program bulletins in various formats – Word, PDF, text, HTML.

Other RUS regulations, bulletins, and informational publications are available on the main **RUS Regulations, Bulletins, and General Information** page.

Looking for engineering information? Check out the **Engineering** page. It contains various items of interest to the rural electric engineering community, including information on this seminar and the National Electrical Safety Code (NEESC) preprint.

A number of forms are available in Excel format on the **Forms** page thanks to two of the Southern Region General Field Representatives – Cliff Burris and Howard Barnes. Also available are various model documents used in your loan package. There are also links to the Forms 7 and 12 data collection support and **Frequently Asked Questions** pages.

Do you need a copy of the latest List of Materials? Check out the **List of Materials** page. The List is available in Adobe Acrobat PDF format and is updated after every meeting of the Technical Standards Committees. The file includes bookmarks and links to help you find what you are looking for. We hope to convert the List to a database format during the year 2000. This will provide search and query capability and you should be able to link to it from other software.

We have added a link on the Electric Program home page to the **RUS Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grant and Loan Program** page.

Have you ever thought about putting your talents to use for RUS or know someone that would? Consider working for the Rural Utilities Service. Check the **Employment Opportunities** page for Electric Program vacancy announcements.

As you leave the Electric Program web pages, the **Exit/Links** pages provide you with links to a number of RUS electric borrowers (both distribution and G&T), as well as electric industry and government resources, including state commissions, Federal agencies, and other sites of interest.

A number of RUS publications (e.g., bulletins) are now on the main **RUS Regulations, Bulletins, and General Information** page. Although some bulletins are in Word or text formats, most are available in PDF format. We are now able to include some of the older ones such as Bulletin 65-1, the substation bulletin. A word of caution - this particular one is approximately 24 megabytes in size and we broke it into four smaller files. You can expect a very long download time on this and other large publications. We plan to move these files to the Electric Program portion of the RUS website.

Do your kids know about RUS? Invite them to look at the RUS “kids page” - <http://www.usda.gov/rus/educate.htm> and meet Rus the Surfin’ Squirrel. There are safety tips, games, as well as other information about the RUS programs.

Be sure to check out the rest of the RUS website for information about the other RUS programs - Telecommunications Program (including the RUS Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grant and Loan Program) and the Water and Environmental.

The RUS Electric Program website is a work in progress. It is in a state of constant revision. Check it often. If you have trouble finding what you want, send an e-mail to:

**[electric@rus.usda.gov](mailto:electric@rus.usda.gov)**

Please include your name, e-mail address, telephone number, and company affiliation in the body of your message so that we may be able to contact you for additional information, if necessary

People from all over the world have visited the RUS web pages. For example, during Thanksgiving week, we had hits from Canada, Japan, the United Kingdom,

Poland, Australia, Puerto Rico, Guatemala, France, Saudi Arabia, Honduras, Ireland, Germany, Israel, and Mexico.

Most of the hits appear to come from Vienna, Virginia, home of America On Line.

Did you know that websites you visit collect certain information about you and the computer you are using?

When you surf the RUS web pages, you need to be aware of the following.

***We automatically collect and store only the following information about your visit:***

- The Internet domain (for example, "xcompany.com" if you use a private Internet access account, or "yourschool.edu" if you connect from a university's domain) and IP address (an IP address is a number that is automatically assigned to your computer whenever you are surfing the Web) from which you access our website;
- The type of browser and operating system used to access our site;
- The date and time you access our site;
- The pages you visit; and
- If you linked to the U.S. Department of Agriculture website from another website, the address of that website.

We use this information to help us make our site more useful to visitors - to learn about the number of visitors to our site and the types of technology our visitors are using. We do not track or record information about individuals and their visits.

The RUS website is your website and we want to provide the information you need. Please provide us with your suggestions.

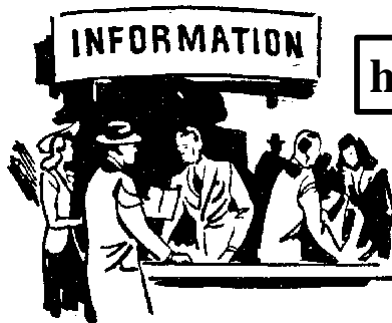
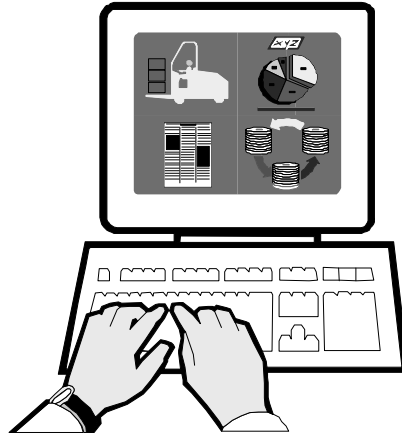
**BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH**

**HARVEY L. BOWLES**

*Mr. Bowles received his BS in Electrical Engineering from Virginia Tech in 1973. He joined the Rural Electrification Administration in 1976 as an engineer in the Distribution Branch of what is now the Electric Staff Division. From November 1991 to May 1997, he served as Chairman of Technical Standards Committee "A" (Electric). In November 1995, he returned to the Distribution Branch as the Branch Chief. He was reassigned to the position of Senior Electrical Engineer in September 1999 and his duties include those of Chairman of Technical Standards Committee "A" (Electric) and Electric Program webmaster.*

*Mr. Bowles has served on a number of industry committees, including the IEEE Switchgear Committee, the IEEE Insulated Conductors Committee, and the Rural Electric Power Committee. In addition he has served as the RUS liaison to various subcommittees of the NRECA T&D Engineering Committee. He is also a registered professional engineer in the Commonwealth of Virginia.*

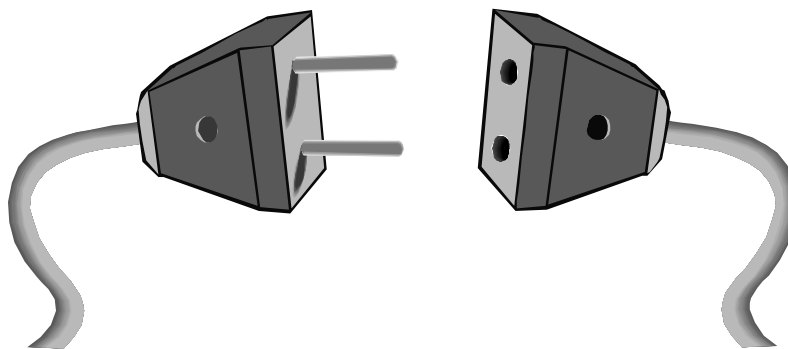
# RUS ON-LINE



<http://www.usda.gov/rus>

**Your Source  
for  
Information**





## The RUS Connection



**Welcome to  
Rural Development**

### Rural Utilities Service

**Discover RUS**

**Electric Programs**

**Telecommunications  
Programs**

**Water Programs**



*RUS Y2K*

**Distance Learning  
and Telemedicine**

**Kids Website**

**Regulations**

**Press Releases  
and Statements**

## **Electric Program Web Pages**

- Loans/Rates Page
- Service Page (including "box scores")
- Contacts
- Regulations
- Bulletins
- Engineering
- Forms



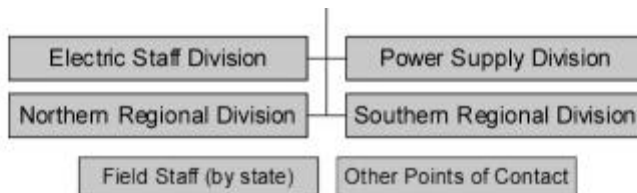
## **Electric Program Web Pages**

- List of Materials
- Exit/Links
- Distance Learning: Information on the RUS Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grant and Loan Program.
- Employment Opportunities



# Contacts Pages

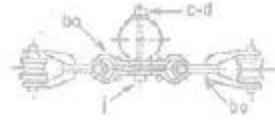
- Office of the Assistant Administrator
- Electric Staff Division
- Northern Regional Division
- Southern Regional Division
- Power Supply Division
- Personnel by state served



## Office of the Assistant Administrator

Name	Title	Telephone	E-mail
Blaine D. Stockton, Jr.	Assistant Administrator	202-720-9545	<a href="mailto:bstockto@rus.usda.gov">bstockto@rus.usda.gov</a>
Laura Hensley	Secretary	202-720-9545	<a href="mailto:lhensley@rus.usda.gov">lhensley@rus.usda.gov</a>
Alex M. Cockey, Jr.	Deputy Assistant Administrator	202-720-9547	<a href="mailto:acockey@rus.usda.gov">acockey@rus.usda.gov</a>
Charlotte A. Curtis	Secretary	202-720-9547	<a href="mailto:cacurtis@rus.usda.gov">cacurtis@rus.usda.gov</a>
Robert O. Elinger	Management Analyst	202-720-0424	<a href="mailto:relinger@rus.usda.gov">relinger@rus.usda.gov</a>
Karen L. Larsen	Management Analyst	202-720-8787	<a href="mailto:klarsen@rus.usda.gov">klarsen@rus.usda.gov</a>
Gail P. Salgado	Management Analyst	202-205-3660	<a href="mailto:gsalgado@rus.usda.gov">gsalgado@rus.usda.gov</a>
Carolyn W. Dotson	Loan Funds Control Assistant	202-720-1928	<a href="mailto:cwdotson@rus.usda.gov">cwdotson@rus.usda.gov</a>
Barry J. Justice	Legal Instruments Examiner	202-690-4490	<a href="mailto:bjustice@rus.usda.gov">bjustice@rus.usda.gov</a>
Lynne A. McCormick	Legal Instruments Examiner	202-690-4480	<a href="mailto:lmccormi@rus.usda.gov">lmccormi@rus.usda.gov</a>

**USDA**  
*Rural Utilities Service*  
*Electric Program*  
*Staff by state*



[ [Main Menu](#) ] [ [Loans/Rates](#) ] [ [Service](#) ] [ [Contacts](#) ] [ [Regulations](#) ] [ [Bulletins](#) ]  
[ [Engineering](#) ] [ [Forms](#) ] [ [List of Materials](#) ] [ [Exit/Links](#) ]

***Electric Program Staff by State***

Select a state for detailed information



## Regulations Page

- Regulations in HTML and PDF formats
- Proposed regulations



## Bulletins Page

- Bulletins and Informational Publications in various formats



## Document Formats



- Adobe Acrobat PDF
- Text
- Word
- Excel
- HTML

## Engineering Page

- Contains various items of interest to the rural electric engineering community
  - Items of Engineering Interest
  - Seminar information
  - NESC revision



## Forms Page

- Standard forms in Excel format
- Model documents



## List of Materials Page

- Download the current List of Materials in PDF format
- Order form for List of Materials
- Information on the acceptance process

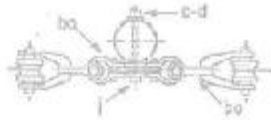


## Employment Opportunities Page

- Lists currently open vacancy announcements for the Electric Program



**USDA**  
*Rural Utilities Service*  
*Electric Program*  
**Employment Opportunities**



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 [ [Engineering](#) ] [ [Forms](#) ] [ [List of Materials](#) ] [ [Exit/Links](#) ]

The following vacancy announcements are currently open within the RUS Electric Program. For information on a particular position, please follow the link to a copy of the vacancy announcement on the Office of Personal Management website.

Position, Grade, Location	Period open	Vacancy Announcement
Program Manager (Director - Power Supply Division) GS-340-15 Washington DC	01/19/2000 - 02/16/2000	<a href="#">RUS 00-03CD</a>
Program Manager (Regional Director) GS-340-15 Washington DC	01/19/2000 - 02/16/2000	<a href="#">RUS 00-04CE</a>
Program Manager (Deputy Assistant Administrator) GS-340-15 Washington DC	01/19/2000 - 02/16/2000	<a href="#">RUS 00-05CE</a>

## Exit/Links Page

- Distribution Borrowers
- Generation & Transmission Borrowers
- State Utility Commissions
- Links by State
- Electric Industry and Government pages of interest



**USDA'S RURAL UTILITIES SERVICE PRESENTS...**

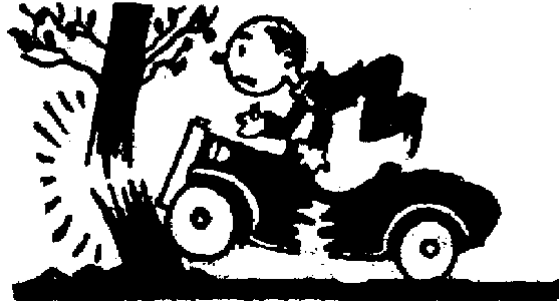
- Facts about RUS
- Fun games
- Safety tips

**RUS - THE SURFIN' SQUIRREL**



<http://www.usda.gov/rus/educate.htm>

# Accidents WILL HAPPEN



Please report broken links!