



## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

ASA HUTCHINSON | Governor    MICHAEL PRESTON | Secretary

DATE:        JUNE 3, 2020  
TO:            ALL INTERESTED PARTIES  
FROM:        ARKANSAS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION  
SUBJECT:     ARKANSAS RURAL CONNECT CORONAVIRUS RULE

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Please find attached or available by electronic publication by the Arkansas Economic Development Commission (“AEDC”) Proposed Rule, “ARKANSAS RURAL CONNECT CORONAVIRUS RULE.” The Director of AEDC (“Director”) is filing for public comment and public hearing a proposed regulation addressing participation in the Arkansas Rural Connect Broadband Grant Program (hereafter, the “ARC Program”) for communities impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Pursuant to Arkansas Administrative Procedures Act, and other applicable laws or rules, NOTICE is hereby given that a PUBLIC HEARING will be held on July 6, 2020, at 8:30 A.M. The purpose of the Public Hearing will be to determine whether the Director should adopt the proposed Rule, “ARKANSAS RURAL CONNECT CORONAVIRUS RULE.” This will be an electronically conducted public hearing using “Zoom.” Please join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android at:

<https://arkansas.zoom.us/j/93181371102?pwd=S2IvU2Y0L3V2SGh1TjFUbTdzbnQ09>  
Password: 401860

Or Telephone:  
Dial:  
USA 636 651 3141  
USA 8774029753 (US Toll Free)  
Conference code: 5740401

This hearing will begin on Monday, July 6th, from 8:30 A.M. until 11 A.M. Interested persons may type in their questions in the “chat” function and a Department representative will answer them. Alternatively, any interested person may make written or electronic comments, statements or opinions to the address below before the administrative record is closed on July 6, 2020, at 11:30 A.M., unless the comment period is extended by the Director.

Persons wishing to testify or make comments are requested to submit intended statements in writing in advance. Direct your inquiries to: Dr. Nathan Smith, Broadband Manager, 501-682-5464, email: [Nathan.smith@arkansas.gov](mailto:Nathan.smith@arkansas.gov) or [broadband@arkansas.gov](mailto:broadband@arkansas.gov), or to Mr. Clint Moore, 501-682-5917.

A copy of the proposed Rule may be obtained or viewed on the AEDC Web Site at [arkansasedc.com.data-reports/rules](http://arkansasedc.com.data-reports/rules).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Steven Porch'.

Steven Porch  
Chief Legal Officer  
Arkansas Department of Commerce

501-682-1121

SPorch@ArkansasEDC.com