



**United States Department of Agriculture
Rural Development**

January 4, 2011

George A. Zagorski, PE
Vice President and Technical Director
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Dear Mr. Zagorski:

Technical Standards Committee "A"-Telecommunications has renewed the domestic listing of Blue Diamond Industries' HDPE conduits, as shown in the enclosure.

All product acceptances rely on the manufacturer's representation as an expert of their product's field performance and the manufacturing process and source of components and/or materials as applicable to the RUS Bulletin 344-3, "Buy American Requirement". These products will be included in our next update of the List of Acceptable Materials.

Inclusion in the RUS List of Materials is certified by the manufacturer that data submitted represents conclusive proof of the product's performance and advertised capabilities as well as compliance with applicable RUS or industry specifications, as the case may be. As part of our commitment to list acceptable products, RUS will investigate any report on nonperformance of RUS listed or accepted products. To maintain the product's listing RUS expects the manufacturer to respond expeditiously to address and correct any performance issues of its listed-products.

Agency-listed manufacturers are responsible for an annual compliance with the Agency Buy American requirement. Listed manufacturers must notify the Agency by the end of January each year certifying compliance with the Agency Buy American requirement to maintain product listings.

Please note that manufacturers certifying domestic origin for a product, as sold to Rural Development Telecommunications Program borrowers, comply with the Agency "Buy American" requirement as a domestic product. However, there may be particular cases where a product configuration (or for miscellaneous adjunct materials) that may cause the product to become non-domestic. When this is the case, the manufacturer shall inform the borrower that for this particular sale the product is itemized to identify all non-domestic materials.

Manufacturers are responsible to inform product distributors or re-sellers of the particular circumstances that would make their product non-domestic or to have an internal procedure in place as to ensure that the borrower is informed when the product has become non-domestic.

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Web: <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov>

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Also, in other cases for a system that the manufacturer has certified as meeting the RD "Buy American" requirement as a domestic product, a system component (hereafter in the paragraph called the "product") may stand alone as a "product" that when sold by itself it may be a non-domestic "product." When this is the case, the manufacturer must also inform the borrower that the "product" is non-domestic. The "product" may be financed by RD Telecommunications Program upon the "product" meeting the REA Bulletin 344-3 (Telephone), paragraph IV.C, Price Differential.

Product acceptances do not relieve you, the manufacturer of the product accepted by us, of the responsibilities as set forth in the original acceptance for the product. Such product acceptances are further granted with the understanding that no changes in design or workmanship, affecting the quality, strength, or characteristics of respective Agency accepted products, will be made without requesting, in writing, and receiving Technical Standards Committee "A" – (Telecommunications) acceptance of the changes.

Per RUS Bulletin 345-3 (http://www.usda.gov/rus/telecom/publications/pdf_files/10-12-04/345-3.pdf), a product accepted by RUS may be removed from the List of Acceptable Materials if RUS determines that the product is unsatisfactory or has been misrepresented to a borrower or RUS.

Please note this Committee action does not constitute an Agency "approval" of your product. The Committee determined that your product is "acceptable" for use on telecommunications systems of Rural Utilities Service (RUS) borrowers and for inclusion (listing) of your product in the List of Acceptable Materials with similarly acceptable products of other manufacturers.

We, therefore, ask that if you refer to this Agency (Rural Utilities Service) in catalogs, informational fliers, news reports, or paid advertisements, please refer to "RUS acceptance, RUS accepted, RUS listed, or RUS listing," and not refer to "RUS approval or RUS approved."

Sincerely,



NORBERTO ESTEVES
Chairman, Technical Standards
Committee "A" (Telecommunications)
Advanced Services Division
Telecommunications Program
Rural Utilities Service

Enclosure

ENCLOSURE

<u>Underground Conduit</u>		
<p>Note: For fiber and plastic conduit, Type I, Type B, or Type EB is for concrete encasement and Type II, Type C or Type DB may be directly buried. Schedule 40 is a high strength conduit that may be used for concrete encasement or direct burial. Type D is for exposed installation, as on bridges. Schedule 40 & Schedule 80 conduit may also be used for above ground, below ground, concrete encased and direct burial applications. Schedule 80 may also be used in applications where the conduit is subject to physical damage.</p>		
<u>Manufacturer</u>	<u>Type Conduit</u>	<u>Catalog Number</u>
Blue Diamond Industries, LLC (BA expires: Jan-2012.)	Flexible plastic	HDPE Duct
See page 2.2.2 for notes.		