

July 10, 2009
Information note for BIP and BTOP applicants

Waiver of Buy American Requirement in Broadband Infrastructure Applications

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) includes a Buy American Requirement (section 1605). Please be aware that the Department of Agriculture RUS and the Department of Commerce NTIA organizations have waived the Buy American requirements of the ARRA act with respect to certain broadband equipment that will be used in projects under their BIP and BTOP programs respectively. The Occam BLC 6000 broadband network equipment falls within the defined categories for the waivers. Consequently, in completing Broadband Infrastructure Application item #32, applicants do not need to seek a waiver for Occam equipment.

Please note that this comment only applies to the Occam BLC 6000 and ONTs, and other types of materials used in the projects may have to comply with the requirement or a waiver must be sought. Please refer to the RUS and NTIA waiver notice documents for complete details.

