

## IMPLICATIONS CHECKLIST

Use this checklist to help determine if your policy will have any particular implications for the rural community.

### »» CONNECTION INFRASTRUCTURE



**MANY RURAL PEOPLE DO NOT HAVE CELL PHONE COVERAGE, A RELIABLE INTERNET CONNECTION OR ACCESS TO PUBLIC TRANSPORT**

- › Will your policy affect the availability, quality or cost of accessing infrastructure in rural areas?
- › Will the infrastructure be more difficult or expensive to provide in rural areas?
- › Is your engagement with rural stakeholders affected by their ability to receive information, participate in consultation and provide feedback?
- › Does your communication plan ensure you are reaching your target audience?

### »» ACCESS TO SERVICES



**SOME RURAL PEOPLE LIVE OVER AN HOUR BY ROAD FROM THE NEAREST POLICE STATION, FIRE SERVICE, MEDICAL CENTRE, SECONDARY SCHOOL, HOSPITAL AND/OR SERVICE TOWN**

- › Will your policy affect the availability, quality or cost of accessing services in rural areas?
- › Are there significant travel distances or times involved in providing or accessing the service in rural areas?
- › Will the delivery of services be more expensive or more difficult to achieve in rural areas?
- › Are there any particular implications for the safety and security of rural people or businesses given their isolation from emergency services?

### »» EASE AND COST OF COMPLIANCE



**A LACK OF COMPETITIVE OPTIONS IN RURAL AREAS AND ISOLATION FROM SERVICES CAN INCREASE THE COST OF COMPLYING WITH REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS**

- › Are there significant differences between the costs and benefits of compliance in rural areas compared to urban areas?
- › Will rural people or businesses find it more difficult or expensive to comply?
- › Are the same compliance standards appropriate for both rural and urban areas?

