

## **THE RUS POLE & CROSSARM WARRANTY**

Cooperative borrowers that use RUS specifications need to be aware that they contain a product warranty for both poles and crossarms. The warranty language, which can be found in both REA Bulletin 1728F-700 and REA Bulletin 1728H-701, reads as follows:

### **For poles.....**

“Poles shall be warranted to conform to this specification. Any pole found not in conformance with this specification within one year from date of shipment to the purchaser shall be replaced as promptly as possible by the producer.”

### **For crossarms.....**

“Crossarms shall be warranted to conform to this specification. If any crossarm shall be found defective or nonconforming under this specification within one year after shipment to the borrower, it shall be replaced as promptly as possible by the producer. In the event of failure to do so, the purchaser may make such replacement and the cost of the crossarm, at destination, recoverable from the producer.”

Note that the warranty period is NOT dependent on the date in the brand on the pole or crossarm, it begins when the pole or crossarm is delivered to the utility yard or job site. As a natural material, wood is subject to change over time. Such allowable defects as splits, shakes and shelling may be well within specification upon delivery to a utility, yet worsen over time in storage to the point where they exceed specification allowances. To take full advantage of this one-year RUS warranty, it is important that borrowers make every attempt to keep track of the date when they receive such materials and that they also rotate their pole and crossarm inventories as much as possible to avoid problems that may occur in older material that falls outside the warranty period.