

## Rural Area Flexibility Analysis

1. Types and estimated numbers of rural areas: The rule applies uniformly throughout the state, including all rural areas. Executive Law, Article 19-F Rural Affairs Act, Section 481(7) defines a rural area as a county with a population of less than 200,000. New York currently has 44 counties that would constitute rural areas. The rule applies to businesses in rural areas that may become involved in an action under the Act, either as a qui tam plaintiff, counsel to a qui tam plaintiff, or defendant.

2. Compliance requirements: This rule imposes no compliance requirements on rural areas and requires no additional professional services from any entity.

3. Compliance costs: The rule imposes no compliance costs.

4. Minimizing adverse impact: By virtue of its subject matter, the rule will not have an adverse impact on rural areas.

5. Rural area participation: In order to ensure that public and private interests in rural areas have an opportunity to participate in the rule making process, a copy of the proposed rules will be sent to the Executive Director of the New York Association of Counties. A copy of the proposed rules will also be posted on the web site of the Attorney General of the State of New York.