

the associated labeling costs would be low. Manufacturers would be able to defer the development of new labels for sausage products in natural and regenerated collagen casings until their existing stocks of labels are exhausted. Moreover, the new labels could be generically approved; manufacturers would not have to prepare and submit FSIS Form 7234-1, "Application for Labels, Marking, or Device," or the new label. Identification of the source of natural sausage casings or regenerated collagen casings could also be a selling point for some manufacturers.

This regulation would be beneficial to consumers because it would reduce confusion about the source of the casings surrounding those sausages and give them additional information with which to make informed choices about the sausages they purchase. Natural casings constitute between 15 and 20 percent of the sausage casing market; regenerated collagen casings constitute approximately 40 percent of that same market.

Paperwork Requirements

Abstract: Under this proposed rule, sausage manufacturers would need to label the source of natural sausage casings or regenerated collagen casings if they are derived from a different type of livestock or poultry than the meat(s) in the enclosed sausage. These establishments would have to develop product labels in accordance with the proposed rule. FSIS would consider these labels to be generically approved in accordance with 9 CFR 317.5 and 381.133. Any burden associated with labeling changes would be approved under OMB number 0583-0092.

Establishments that produce, manufacture or use natural or regenerated sausage casings, or sausages encased in either of those types of casings would also be required to maintain records identifying the source of the casings. FSIS believes, however, that all of these establishments keep records of this nature as a matter of course.

Estimate of Burden: Establishments producing, manufacturing or using natural or regenerated collagen casings, and establishments producing sausages encased in natural or regenerated sausage casings. FSIS estimates that the time associated with collecting the required information would be 15 minutes. FSIS estimates that this recordkeeping would occur once a day.

Respondents: Meat and poultry establishments manufacturing natural or regenerated collagen sausage casings, and meat and poultry establishments

manufacturing sausages encased in these types of casings.

Estimated number of Respondents: 40 meat and poultry establishments.

Estimated number of Responses per Respondent: 10,000.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 2,500 hours.

Comments are invited on: (a) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the Agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of collection of information on those who are to respond, including through use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Comments may be sent to Lee Puricelli, Paperwork Specialist, see address above, and Desk Officer for Agriculture, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20253.

List of Subjects

9 CFR Part 317

Food labeling, Food packaging, Meat inspection.

9 CFR Part 381

Food labeling, Poultry and poultry products.

For the reasons discussed in the preamble, FSIS is proposing to amend 9 CFR parts 317 and 381 of the Federal meat and poultry products inspection regulations as follows:

PART 317—LABELING, MARKING DEVICES, AND CONTAINERS

1. The authority citation for part 317 would continue to read as follows:

Authority: 21 U.S.C. 601-695; 7 CFR 2.18, 2.53.

2. Section 317.8 would be amended by adding a new paragraph (b)(37) to read as follows:

§ 317.8 False or misleading labeling or practices generally; specific prohibitions and requirements for labels and containers.

* * * * *

(b) * * *

(37) The labels of sausages encased in natural casings made from livestock or poultry viscera or regenerated collagen casings shall identify the type of livestock or poultry from which the

casings were derived, if the casings are from a different type of livestock or poultry than the encased meat(s). The identity of the casing, if required, may be placed on the principal display panel or in the ingredient statement. Establishments producing, manufacturing or using natural or regenerated collagen sausage casings shall maintain records documenting the livestock or poultry source in accordance with § 320.3.

PART 381—POULTRY PRODUCTS INSPECTION REGULATIONS

3. The authority citation for part 381 would continue to read as follows:

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 138f, 450; 21 U.S.C. 451-470; 7 CFR 2.18, 2.53.

4. Section 381.117 would be amended by adding paragraph (f) to read as follows:

§ 381.117 Name of product and other labeling.

* * * * *

(f) The labels of sausages encased in natural casings made from livestock or poultry viscera or regenerated collagen casings shall identify the type of livestock or poultry from which the casings were derived, if the casings are from a different type of livestock or poultry than the encased meat(s). The identity of the casing, if required, may be placed on the principal display panel or in the ingredient statement. Establishments producing, manufacturing or using natural or regenerated collagen sausage casings shall maintain records documenting the livestock or poultry source in accordance with § 381.177.

Done at Washington, DC, on July 9, 1997.

Thomas J. Billy,
Administrator.

[FR Doc. 97-18841 Filed 7-16-97; 8:45 am]
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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy

10 CFR Part 430

[Docket No. EE-RM-97-500]

RIN 1904-AA75

Energy Conservation Program for Consumer Products: Energy Conservation Standards for Fluorescent Lamp Ballasts

AGENCY: Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy (DOE).

ACTION: Notice of Availability.

SUMMARY: The Department of Energy (the Department or DOE) today gives notice that copies of the "Draft Report on Potential Impact of Possible Energy Efficiency Levels for Fluorescent Lamp Ballasts" are available for review and comment.

DATES: Written comments in response to this notice must be received by September 2, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the report entitled "Draft Report on Potential Impact of Possible Energy Efficiency Levels for Fluorescent Lamp Ballasts" may be obtained from Sandy Beall at: U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, EE-43, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20585-0121, (202) 586-7574. This document may be read at the DOE Freedom of Information Reading Room, U.S. Department of Energy, Room 1E-190, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20585, (202) 586-3142, between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

Written comments are welcomed. Please submit 10 copies to: U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, "Ballast Docket No. EE-RM-97-500," EE-43, Room 1J-018, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20585-0121.

Pursuant to the provisions of Title 10 CFR 1004.11, any person submitting information which he or she believes to be confidential and exempt by law from public disclosure should submit one complete copy of the document and ten (10) copies, if possible, from which the information believed to be confidential has been deleted. The Department of Energy will make its own determination with regard to the confidential status of the information and treat it according to its determination.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Mr. Anthony T. Balducci, U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Mail Station EE-43, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20585-0121, Phone: (202) 586-8459, Fax: (202) 586-4617, E-mail: anthony.balducci@hq.doe.gov
Ms. Sandy Beall, U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Mail Station EE-43, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20585-0121, Phone: (202) 586-7574, Fax: (202) 586-4617.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Department of Energy is implementing

enhanced procedures for the development and revision of appliance efficiency standards, including the fluorescent lamp ballast standards. See 61 FR 36973 (July 15, 1996). One of the themes of these process improvements is the Department's commitment to share analyses with the public and provide meaningful opportunity for public comment.

As part of our effort to review fluorescent lamp ballast standards, the Department is making the following document available: "Draft Report on Potential Impact of Possible Energy Efficiency Levels for Fluorescent Lamp Ballasts." The report identifies product categories and includes life-cycle cost analyses, engineering analyses, and national benefits of the options being considered as potential standard levels for ballasts. The report is a revision of the February 1996 report. Revisions were based on comments received during the June 1996 workshop and the March 1997 workshop, stakeholder interviews, and a 1996 ballast price survey.

The report provides energy saving impacts for the various efficiency levels analyzed. The energy savings calculated for the period 2000-2030 range from 1.5 quadrillion Btus (Quads) to 5.3 Quads depending on the efficiency level and the base case assumptions. The Department invites the submission of written comments on the report.

Through its interactions with interested parties, the Department has gathered information on the entire ballast market. After examining this information, the Department believes that it is important to distinguish between the characteristics of the T8 and T12 ballast markets. Specifically, the Department requests comments on the following questions relating to the future market of fluorescent lamp ballasts:

1. For the T8 and T12 ballast markets, what percent of each of these markets will be electronic and magnetic in 10 years? In 15 years?

2. How is the magnetic T12 ballast market changing? Is it growing, shrinking, or remaining stable? How large (percent of total) will this market be in 10 years? In 15 years?

3. Is the T12 market changing from T12 magnetic ballasts to T12 electronic ballasts? If it is, at what rate? What will the rate be in 10 years? In 15 years?

4. Is the T12 market changing from T12 magnetic ballasts to T8 electronic ballasts? If it is, at what rate? What will the rate be in 10 years? In 15 years?

Please substantiate your answers with data when available.

Issued in Washington, DC, on July 1, 1997.

Joseph J. Romm,

Acting Assistant Secretary, Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy.

[FR Doc. 97-18838 Filed 7-16-97; 8:45 am]

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FARM CREDIT ADMINISTRATION**12 CFR Parts 611, 614, 620, and 630**

RIN 3052-AB67

Organization; Loan Policies and Operations; Disclosure to Shareholders; Disclosure to Investors in Systemwide and Consolidated Bank Debt Obligations of the Farm Credit System; Other Financing Institutions

AGENCY: Farm Credit Administration.

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: The Farm Credit Administration (FCA or Agency), through the FCA Board (Board), issues a proposed rule to amend its regulations in subpart P of part 614 that govern the funding and discount relationship between Farm Credit System (Farm Credit, FCS, or System) banks that operate under title I of the Farm Credit Act of 1971, as amended (Act), and non-System other financing institutions (OFIs). The proposed regulation would substantially expand the opportunities for OFIs, such as commercial banks, trust companies, agricultural credit corporations, incorporated livestock loan companies, savings associations, credit unions, or other financial institutions identified in section 1.7(b)(1)(B) of the Act, to fund or discount loans and leases through a Farm Credit Bank (FCB) or an agricultural credit bank (ACB). FCBs and ACBs can offer financing to OFIs for the purpose of funding short- and intermediate-term loans and leases to parties who are eligible to borrow from FCS associations under section 2.4(a) of the Act. The FCA's proposal would eliminate several non-statutory limits on OFI eligibility. It would also require an FCB or ACB to provide funding and discount services to any creditworthy OFI that is significantly involved in agricultural lending and demonstrates a continuing need for supplementary sources of funds to meet the credit needs of agricultural borrowers. The proposed rule would expand the opportunity for an OFI to seek funding, discount and other similar financial assistance from an FCB or ACB other than the System bank that is chartered to serve its territory under certain circumstances. The proposed rule also implements statutory provisions that