

Notices

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This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains documents other than rules or proposed rules that are applicable to the public. Notices of hearings and investigations, committee meetings, agency decisions and rulings, delegations of authority, filing of petitions and applications and agency statements of organization and functions are examples of documents appearing in this section.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Foreign Agricultural Service

Advisory Committee on Emerging Markets: Nominations

AGENCY: Foreign Agricultural Service, USDA.

ACTION: Advisory Committee on Emerging Markets: Nominations.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that nominations are being sought for five (5) qualified persons to serve on the Advisory Committee on Emerging Markets (the Committee). The role of the Committee is to provide information and advice, based upon knowledge and expertise of the members, useful to the Department of Agriculture (USDA) in implementing the Emerging Markets Program. The Committee also advises USDA on ways to increase the involvement of the U.S. private sector in cooperative work with emerging markets in food and rural business systems and reviews proposals submitted to the Program for funding technical assistance activities.

DATES: Written nominations must be received by the Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) by 5 p.m. on February 28, 2003.

ADDRESSES: All nominating materials should be sent to Mr. Douglas Freeman, Foreign Agricultural Service, Room 4932—Stop 1042, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250—1042. Forms may also be submitted by fax to (202) 720-9361.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Persons interested in serving on the Advisory Committee, or in nominating individuals to serve, should contact Mr. Douglas Freeman, Foreign Agricultural Service, by telephone (202) 720-4327, by fax (202) 720-9361, or by electronic mail to emo@fas.usda.gov and request Form AD-755 and Form SF-181. Form AD-755 is required and is available at

the FAS home page: <http://www.fas.usda.gov/admin/ad755.pdf>. Form SF-181 is requested, but optional, and is available at <http://www.fas.usda/admin/sf181.pdf>. Persons with disabilities who require an alternative means for communication of information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's Target Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Committee is authorized by section 1542 of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation and Trade Act of 1990, as amended. The overall purpose of the Committee is to provide USDA with information that may be useful in carrying out the provisions of the Emerging Markets Program. The Committee is composed of representatives of the various sectors of the food and rural business systems of the United States. More information about the purpose and function of the Committee and about the Emerging Markets Program may be found at the FAS/Emerging Markets Program Web site: <http://www.fas.usda.gov/mos/em-markets/acem.html>. The members of the Committee are appointed by the Secretary of Agriculture and serve at the discretion of the Secretary. Committee members serve without compensation, but can receive reimbursement for travel expenses to attend committee meetings, if requested, in accordance with USDA Travel regulations.

The Committee has a balanced membership of up to 20 members, representing a broad cross-section of the U.S. agricultural and agribusiness industry. All appointments will expire two years from the date of appointment. The Secretary may renew an appointment for one or more additional terms.

Most meetings will be held in Washington, DC, though other locations may be selected on an occasional basis. Committee meetings will be open to the public, unless the Secretary of Agriculture determines that the Committee will be discussing issues, the disclosure of which justify closing all or a portion of a meeting, in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 552b(c).

Nominations are open to all individuals without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, physical handicap, marital status, or sexual orientation. To ensure that the

work of the Committee takes into account the needs of the diverse groups served by USDA, membership shall include, to the extent practicable, individuals with demonstrated ability to represent the interest of minorities, women and persons with disabilities.

Members are selected primarily for their experience, expertise and knowledge of international agriculture and of trade and development issues as they affect emerging markets. No person, company, producer, farm organization, trade association or other entity has a right to representation on the Committee. In making selections, every effort will be made to maintain balanced representation of the various broad industries within the United States as well as geographic diversity.

Signed at Washington, DC, on January 23, 2003.

A. Ellen Terpstra,

Administrator, Foreign Agricultural Service.

[FR Doc. 03-2013 Filed 1-28-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-10-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Wrangell-Petersburg Resource Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Wrangell-Petersburg Resource Advisory Committee (RAC) will meet from 12:30 p.m. until 5 p.m. on Friday, February 21, and from 8 a.m. until 2 p.m., Saturday, February 22, 2003, in Petersburg, Alaska. The purpose of this meeting is to review, discuss and potentially recommend for funding proposals received pursuant to Title II, Public Law 106-393, H.R. 2389, the Secure Rural schools and community Self-Determination Act of 2000, also called the "Payments to States" Act. Public testimony regarding the proposals will also be taken.

DATES: The meeting will be held commencing at 1 p.m., Friday, February 21 through 2 p.m., Saturday, February 22, 2003.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Holy Cross House, Petersburg Lutheran Church, 401 Fram Street, Petersburg, Alaska.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Chip Weber, Wrangell District Ranger, PO Box 51, Wrangell, AK 99929, phone (907) 874-2323, e-mail cweber@fs.fed.us, or Patty Grantham, Petersburg, District Ranger, PO Box 1328, Petersburg, AK 99833, phone (907) 772-3871, e-mail pagrantham@fs.fed.us. For further information on RAC history, operations, and the application process, a website is available at <http://www.fs.fed.us/r10/payments>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This will be the third meeting of the committee, and will focus on the review and discussion of proposals received by the RAC for funding under Title II of the Payments to States legislation (Pub. L. 106-393). Deadline for proposals during this round of funding consideration is February 10, 2003. No proposals will be recommended for funding at their initial reading, however, proposals that were submitted and reviewed at the January meeting may be recommended for funding at this meeting. The meeting is open to the public. Public input opportunity will be provided and individuals will have the opportunity to address the committee at that time.

Dated: January 22, 2003.

Thomas Puchlerz,

Forest Supervisor.

[FR Doc. 03-2002 Filed 1-28-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration

[03-a-a]

Cancellation of Mississippi's Designation, and the Opportunity for Designation in the Mississippi Area

AGENCY: Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The United States Grain Standards Act, as amended (Act), provides that official agency designations will end not later than triennially and may be renewed. The Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce (Mississippi) is designated to provide official inspection services until September 30, 2003, according to the Act. Mississippi advised Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA) that they will cease providing official inspection effective June 30, 2003. Accordingly, GIPSA is announcing that Mississippi's designation will be

canceled effective June 30, 2003. GIPSA is asking for applicants for service in the Mississippi area.

DATES: Applications and comments must be postmarked or electronically dated on or before February 28, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Submit applications to USDA, GIPSA, Janet M. Hart, Chief, Review Branch, Compliance Division, STOP 3604, room 1647-S, 1400 Independence Ave. SW., Washington, DC 20250-3604; Fax (202) 690-2755; e-mail Janet.M.Hart@usda.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Janet M. Hart at (202) 720-8525, e-mail Janet.M.Hart@usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This action has been reviewed and determined not to be a rule or regulation as defined in Executive Order 12866 and Departmental Regulation 1512-1; therefore, the Executive Order and Departmental Regulation do not apply to this action.

Section 7(f)(1) of the Act authorizes GIPSA's Administrator to designate a qualified applicant to provide official services in a specified area after determining that the applicant is better able than any other applicant to provide such official services. GIPSA designated Mississippi, main office in Jackson, Mississippi, to provide official inspection services under the Act on October 1, 2000.

Section 7(g)(1) of the Act provides that designations of official agencies will end not later than triennially and may be renewed according to the criteria and procedures prescribed in section 7(f) of the Act. The designation of Mississippi ends on September 30, 2003, according to the Act. However, Mississippi asked GIPSA for a voluntary cancellation of their designation coinciding with end of their fiscal year, June 30, 2003. Accordingly, Mississippi's designation will cease effective June 30, 2003, and GIPSA is asking for applicants to provide official service.

Pursuant to section 7(f)(2) of the Act, the following geographic area, the entire State of Mississippi, except those export port locations within the State, is assigned to this official agency. Interested persons are hereby given the opportunity to apply for designation to provide official services in the geographic areas specified above under provisions of section 7(f) of the Act and section 800.196(d) of the regulations issued thereunder. Persons wishing to apply for designation should contact the Compliance Division at the address listed above for forms and information, or obtain applications at the GIPSA Web

site, <http://www.usda.gov/gipsa/oversight/parovreg.htm>.

Authority: Pub. L. 94-582, 90 Stat. 2867, as amended (7 U.S.C. 71 *et seq.*).

Dated: January 22, 2003.

Donna Reifschneider,

Administrator, Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration.

[FR Doc. 03-1862 Filed 1-28-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-EN-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration

[02-b-c]

Opportunity To Comment on the Applicant for the Oregon Area

AGENCY: Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: GIPSA requests comments on the applicant for designation to provide official services in the Oregon geographic area.

DATES: Comments must be postmarked or electronically dated on or before February 28, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Comments must be submitted in writing to USDA, GIPSA, Janet M. Hart, Chief, Review Branch, Compliance Division, STOP 3604, room 1647-S, 1400 Independence Ave. SW., Washington, DC 20250-3604; FAX 202-690-2755; e-mail Janet.M.Hart@usda.gov. All comments received will be made available for public inspection at the above address located at 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., during regular business hours.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Janet M. Hart at (202) 720-8525, e-mail Janet.M.Hart@usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This action has been reviewed and determined not to be a rule or regulation as defined in Executive Order 12866 and Departmental Regulation 1512-1; therefore, the Executive Order and Departmental Regulation do not apply to this action.

In the November 22, 2002, **Federal Register**, (67 FR 70397), GIPSA announced that Oregon was ceasing their official inspection operations effective November 27, 2002, and asked persons interested in providing official services in the Oregon area to submit an application for designation by December 23, 2002. There was one applicant. Lewiston Grain Inspection Service, Inc. (Lewiston), main office located in Lewiston, Idaho, applied for the entire