

accessibility for persons with disabilities, road maintenance, clean water for drinking, etc.

*Need and Use of the Information:* The data collected is evaluated to ensure that government-wide public goals and management objectives are met.

*Description of Respondents:*

Individuals or households.

*Number of Respondents:* 10,000.

*Frequency of Responses:* Reporting: On occasion.

*Total Burden Hours:* 2,500.

\* Commodity Credit Corporation

*Title:* CCC Conservation Contract.

*Summary:* Information collected allows a respondent to apply for conservation benefits, submit performance data for payment, and record conservation decisions.

*Need and Use of the Information:* The information is used to carry out the conservation program including designation of priority areas for funding.

*Description of Respondents:* Farms; Individuals; States, Local or Tribal Government.

*Number of Respondents:* 31,000.

*Frequency of Responses:* Reporting: Once.

*Total Burden Hours:* 683,450.

Donald E. Hulcher,

*Deputy Departmental Clearance Officer.*

[FR Doc. 96-26736 Filed 10-17-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-01-M

## Agricultural Research Service

### Notice of Intent To Grant Exclusive License

**AGENCY:** Agricultural Research Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of intent.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, intends to grant to Sonic Industries, Inc. of Hatboro, Pennsylvania, an exclusive license to U.S. Patent 5,307,679 issued May 3, 1994, "Method and Apparatus for Evaluating the Drying Properties of Undried Wood". Notice of Availability was published in the Federal Register on September 16, 1992.

**DATES:** Comments must be received by no later than December 17, 1996.

**ADDRESSES:** Send comments to: Janet I. Stockhausen, USDA Forest Service, Forest Products Laboratory, One Gifford Pinchot Drive, Madison, Wisconsin, 53705-2398.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Janet I. Stockhausen of the USDA Forest Service at the Madison address given above; telephone: 608-231-9502.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Federal Government's patent rights to this invention are assigned to the United States of America, as represented by the Secretary of Agriculture. It is in the public interest to so license this invention as Sonic Industries, Inc. has submitted a complete and sufficient application for a license. The prospective license will be royalty-bearing and will comply with the terms and conditions of 35 U.S.C. 209 and 37 CFR 404.7. The prospective license may be granted unless, within sixty days from the date of this published Notice, the Forest Service receives written evidence and argument which establishes that the grant of the license would not be consistent with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 209 and 37 CFR 404.7.

Richard M. Parry, Jr.,  
*Assistant Administrator.*

[FR Doc. 96-26805 Filed 10-17-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-03-M

### Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

[Docket No. 96-081-1]

#### Availability of Environmental Assessments and Findings of No Significant Impact

**AGENCY:** Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** We are advising the public that three environmental assessments and findings of no significant impact have been prepared by the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service relative to the issuance of permits to allow the field testing of genetically engineered organisms. The environmental assessments provide a basis for our conclusion that the field testing of the genetically engineered organisms will not present a risk of introducing or disseminating a plant pest and will not have a significant impact on the quality of the human environment. Based on its findings of no significant impact, the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service has determined that environmental impact statements need not be prepared.

**ADDRESSES:** Copies of the environmental assessments and findings of no significant impact are available for public inspection at USDA, room 1141, South Building, 14th Street and

Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC, between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. Persons wishing to inspect those documents are requested to call ahead on (202) 690-2817 to facilitate entry into the reading room.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Dr. Arnold Foudin, Deputy Director, Biotechnology Permits, BBEP, APHIS, Suite 5B05, 4700 River Road Unit 147, Riverdale, MD 20737-1237; (301) 734-7612. For copies of the environmental assessments and findings of no significant impact, contact Mr. Clayton Givens at (301) 734-7612; e-mail: cgivens@aphis.usda.gov. Please refer to the permit numbers listed below when ordering documents.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The regulations in 7 CFR part 340 (referred to below as the regulations) regulate the introduction (importation, interstate movement, and release into the environment) of genetically engineered organisms and products that are plant pests or that there is reason to believe are plant pests (regulated articles). A permit must be obtained or a notification acknowledged before a regulated article may be introduced into the United States. The regulations set forth the permit application requirements and the notification procedures for the importation, interstate movement, and release into the environment of a regulated article.

In the course of reviewing each permit application, APHIS assessed the impact on the environment that releasing the organisms under the conditions described in the permit application would have. APHIS has issued permits for the field testing of the organisms listed below after concluding that the organisms will not present a risk of plant pest introduction or dissemination and will not have a significant impact on the quality of the human environment. The environmental assessments and findings of no significant impact, which are based on data submitted by the applicants and on a review of other relevant literature, provide the public with documentation of APHIS' review and analysis of the environmental impacts associated with conducting the field tests.

Environmental assessments and findings of no significant impact have been prepared by APHIS relative to the issuance of permits to allow the field testing of the following genetically engineered organisms:

Permit No.	Permittee	Date issued	Organisms	Field test location
96-129-02	Texas Tech University .....	8-23-96	Onion plants genetically engineered to express two types of chitinase genes that may confer resistance to two fungal pathogens.	Texas.
96-071-06	University of Florida .....	8-26-96	Mutants of a bacterium, <i>Xanthomonas campestris</i> pv. <i>vesicatoria</i> , genetically engineered to be non-pathogenic.	Florida.
96-215-01	Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc .....	9-17-96	Canola plants genetically engineered to express proteins of pharmaceutical or industrial interest..	California

The environmental assessments and findings of no significant impact have been prepared in accordance with: (1) The National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (NEPA)(42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), (2) Regulations of the Council on Environmental Quality for implementing the procedural provisions of NEPA (40 CFR parts 1500-1508), (3) USDA regulations implementing NEPA (7 CFR part 1b), and (4) APHIS' NEPA Implementing Procedures (7 CFR part 372).

Done in Washington, DC, this 11th day of October 1996.

A. Strating,

*Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.*

[FR Doc. 96-26804 Filed 10-17-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-34-P

#### [Docket No. 96-085-1]

#### Public Meeting; Veterinary Biologics

**AGENCY:** Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of public meeting.

**SUMMARY:** This is to notify producers of veterinary biological products and other interested persons that we are holding a public meeting to discuss post-marketing surveillance related to the distribution and use of veterinary biological products.

**PLACE, DATE, AND TIME OF MEETING:** The public meeting will be held in room 1226, College of Veterinary Medicine, Iowa State University, Ames, IA, on Thursday, November 7, 1996, beginning at 1:30 p.m. The meeting is scheduled to end at 5:00 p.m., but may end sooner.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ms. Kay Wessman, Center for Veterinary Biologics, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, 223 South Walnut Avenue, Ames, IA 50010; (515) 232-5785; fax (515) 232-7120; or e-mail: vbfo@aphis.usda.gov.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is sponsoring a meeting, in partnership with the Institute for International Cooperation

in Animal Biologics (IICAB), to informally discuss a draft proposal for postmarketing surveillance of veterinary biologics. The draft proposal to be discussed contains provisions for the reporting of all consumer contacts to APHIS by manufacturers. The meeting provides an opportunity for the exchange of information between APHIS representatives, producers of veterinary biological products, and other interested persons.

The IICAB is a partnership organization sponsored by APHIS, the Agricultural Research Service, and Iowa State University to foster cooperation among biologics groups in government and industry, particularly in the area of international harmonization.

Persons interested in the public meeting are requested to contact the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

Done in Washington, DC, this 11th day of October 1996.

A. Strating,

*Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.*

[FR Doc. 96-26802 Filed 10-17-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-34-P

#### Forest Service

#### Prince John Project, Boise National Forest, Idaho

**AGENCY:** Forest Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Availability of a Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Agriculture, Forest Service announces the availability of a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Prince John Project, Boise National Forest, Cascade Ranger District. The responsible official for the DEIS is Forest Supervisor David D. Rittenhouse. The DEIS describes and displays an analysis of four alternatives to manage National Forest System land within the 12,858-acre project area.

**COMMENTS:** Reviewers of the DEIS should provide their comments during the review period which will last for 45 days after this notice of availability.

Written comments should be addressed to Steve Patterson, Cascade Ranger District, P.O. Box 696, Cascade, ID 83611; or telephone 208-382-7430.

Responding within this timeframe will enable forest personnel to analyze and respond to your comments in the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) and avoid undue delay in the decisionmaking process. Reviewers have an obligation to structure their participation in the review of the proposal so that it is meaningful and alerts the agency to the reviewer's position and contentions. *Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corp. v. NRDC*, 435 U.S. 519, 553 (1978). Also, environmental objections that could have been raised at the draft stage may be waived if not raised until after completion of the FEIS. *City of Angoon v. Hodel*, 803 F.2d 1016, 1002 (9th Cir., 1986) and *Wisconsin Heritages, Inc. v. Harris*, 490 F. Supp. 1334, 1338 (E.D. Wis. 1980). Comments on the DEIS should be as specific as possible. It is also helpful if reviewers refer their comments to specific pages and/or chapters in the DEIS.

**AVAILABILITY:** Copies of the DEIS or copies of a summary are available upon request from the Cascade Ranger District Office, P.O. Box 696, Cascade, Idaho, 83611; or by calling 208-382-7430.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** An environmental assessment (EA) for this project was released for a 30-day public review and comment period in April 1996 under the auspices of Public Law 104-19. Since that time, and prior to the release of the Decision Notice, clarification on implementation of Public Law 104-19 has made it necessary to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the project (Secretary of Agriculture Glickman, July 2, 1996).

Five primary objectives have been identified for the project: (1) Salvage the dead and imminently dead trees from the area; (2) achieve the desired future condition of a healthy diverse forest in which important resource values, including healthy timber stands, are sustained; (3) improve big-game forage habitat, thin overcrowded stands of