

Lentils. The class Lentils is defined as "All lentils of the Chilean type, with not more than 2.0 percent of Persian lentils." Persian lentils are defined as "All lentils of the Persian type, with not more than 2.0 percent of Chilean lentils." Mixed lentils are "Any mixture of lentils consisting predominately of Chilean lentils or of Persian lentils, which contains more than 2.0 percent of lentils other than those of the predominating class."

All lentils grown and marketed in the United States, regardless of their size, shape, or color, are considered to be of the Chilean type and classed as "Lentils." Furthermore, the class names "Persian lentils" and "Mixed lentils" are neither domestically nor internationally recognized terms. With the recent introduction of small-seeded Chilean types, there is an increased risk that such lentils may be misclassified as Persian lentils. This could confuse lentil importers and needlessly disrupt the market. To provide greater uniformity within the U.S. lentil standards, GIPSA is proposing to eliminate the classes Persian and Mixed lentils.

#### Inconspicuous Admixture

Lentils—like most other crops—are susceptible to field contamination by volunteer crops and weeds. Most such weeds can be controlled with herbicide solutions. However, even if reasonable measures are taken, some weed seeds, volunteer grain, and other undesirable plant material are usually harvested with the lentils. Small and large seeded weeds/grain can be easily removed from the thresher-run lentils (i.e., dockage) and seeds that are the same size as lentils can also be removed with relative ease (i.e., foreign material). But, seeds that are the same size, shape, and color as lentils are very difficult to virtually impossible to remove. Fortunately, packers, exporters, and end-users do not view seeds that closely mimic the appearance of lentils, such as *Vicia sativa* (commonly known as vetch, mimics, or rogue lentils), as being as detrimental to quality as dockage or foreign material. Hence, the U.S. lentil industry feels that such seeds should not be considered as foreign material, but as a separate factor.

The U.S. lentil industry is committed to quality and has encouraged producers to take all appropriate action to control the spread of lentil-mimics. To facilitate this process and to ensure that lentil quality is determined accurately, GIPSA is proposing to establish a new factor, Inconspicuous Admixture. This factor will be defined as "Any seed which is difficult to distinguish from a lentil,

including, but not limited to *Vicia sativa*."

#### U.S. Standards for Whole Dry Peas

The present U.S. Standards for Peas provide for five classes of peas: Smooth Green Dry peas, Smooth Yellow Dry peas, Wrinkled Dry peas, Winter Dry peas, and Mixed Dry peas. In recent years, several new types of peas have been developed or introduced that do not readily fit within any of the current classes. To better facilitate the marketing of these peas, GIPSA is proposing to revise the U.S. Standards for Whole Dry Peas to establish a new class, Miscellaneous peas. Accordingly, peas that are not otherwise classified in the standards would be classified and designated according to the commonly accepted commercial name for the pea, e.g., Marrowfat peas. These proposed standard changes were recommended to us and reviewed by the affected trade. Therefore, GIPSA is publishing these proposed standard changes with a 30-day comment period which will provide a sufficient amount of time for interested persons to comment on changes to the standards.

**Authority:** 7 U.S.C. 1621 et seq.

Dated: August 8, 1997.

**James R. Baker,**

*Administrator.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Rural Utilities Service

#### Plains Electric Generation and Transmission Cooperative, Inc.; Intent To Hold Public Workshops and Prepare an Environmental Assessment

**AGENCY:** Rural Utilities Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of intent to conduct public scoping workshops and prepare an Environmental Assessment.

**SUMMARY:** The Rural Utilities Service (RUS) intends to hold public scoping workshops and prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) in connection with possible RUS financing assistance relating to a project proposed by Plains Electric Generation and Transmission Cooperative, Inc. (Plains), of Albuquerque, New Mexico. The project consists of the construction, operation and maintenance of a 230 kV transmission line from a proposed substation near Gladstone in Colfax County, New Mexico, to the Walsenburg Substation in Huerfano County, Colorado.

**DATES:** RUS will conduct five public scoping workshops as follows:

*September 17, 1997*

4:00-8:00 p.m.—Walsenburg City Hall, 525 S. Albert Street, Walsenburg, Colorado 81089.

*September 18, 1997*

4:00-8:00 p.m.—Trinidad Community Center, 1309 Beashoar Drive, Trinidad, Colorado 81082.

*September 22, 1997*

4:00-8:00 p.m.—Holiday Inn, 473 Clayton Road, Raton, New Mexico 87740.

*September 23, 1997*

4:00-8:00 p.m.—Springer Electric Cooperative, 420 Maxwell Avenue, Springer, New Mexico 87747.

*September 24, 1997*

4:00-8:00 p.m.—Clayton Air Park Convention Center, Cedar Road, Clayton, New Mexico 88415.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Dennis E. Rankin, Engineering and Environmental Staff, Rural Utilities Service, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Stop 1571, Washington, DC 20250, telephone (202) 720-1784, or Rick Precek, Plains Electric Generation and Transmission Cooperative, Inc., P.O. Box 6551, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87197, telephone (505) 889-7207.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Plains is proposing to construct approximately 115 miles of 230 kV transmission line from a new substation near Gladstone in Colfax County, New Mexico, to the Walsenburg Substation in Huerfano County, Colorado.

Alternatives to be considered by RUS include no action, local generation, system alternatives, transmission alternatives and alternative routes.

Comments regarding the proposed project may be submitted orally or in writing at the public scoping workshops or in writing no later than October 24, 1997, to RUS or Plains at the addresses provided in this notice.

Plains and its consultant have prepared an Alternative Evaluation and Macro-Corridor Study for the project. The Alternative Evaluation and Macro-Corridor Study is available for public review at RUS or Plains at the addresses provided in this notice. The documents can also be reviewed at Springer Electric Cooperative, Inc., Springer, New Mexico 87747; Southwestern Electric Cooperative, Inc., Clayton, New Mexico 88415; and in the libraries in the towns of Walsenburg and Trinidad, Colorado, and Raton, Clayton and Springer, New Mexico.

An Environmental Assessment will be prepared for the proposed project. Based on a review of the Environmental Assessment and other relevant information, RUS will determine if the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is warranted. Should RUS determine that the preparation of an EIS is not warranted, it will prepare a Finding of No Significant Impact.

Any final action by RUS related to the proposed project will be subject to, and contingent upon, compliance with all relevant Federal environmental laws and regulations and completion of environmental review procedures as prescribed by the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations and RUS Environmental Policies and Procedures.

Dated: August 12, 1997.

**Wally Beyer,**

*Administrator.*

[FR Doc. 97-21655 Filed 8-14-97; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Rural Utilities Service

#### Distance Learning and Telemedicine Loan and Grant Program

**AGENCY:** Rural Utilities Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice; deadline for submission of grant and loan applications for FY 1997 funding.

**SUMMARY:** The Rural Utilities Service (RUS) is announcing that, in light of the current situation regarding the overburdened national delivery system, RUS will accept Distance Learning and Telemedicine loan and grant applications received after the August 12, 1997, deadline if the application is postmarked (or bears the equivalent) on or before August 11, 1997.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** This notice is effective August 15, 1997.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On June 13, 1997, RUS amended 7 CFR Part 1703 by publishing revised subpart D, Distance Learning and Telemedicine Loan and Grant Program, in the **Federal Register**. In accordance with § 1703.113, applications requesting grant funding must be submitted to RUS to arrive no later than August 12, 1997, to be considered for fiscal year 1997 grant funding. Because of delays experienced in shipping parcels, RUS is concerned with the ability of applicants to secure the resources necessary to ensure that applications are received by RUS by the close of business, August 12, 1997. Therefore, RUS will accept Distance

Learning and Telemedicine loan and grant applications received after the August 12, 1997, deadline if the application is postmarked (or bears the equivalent) on or before August 11, 1997.

**Authority:** 7 U.S.C. 901 *et seq.* and 950aaa *et seq.*, Pub. L. 103-354, 108 Stat 3178 (7 U.S.C. 6941 *et seq.*).

Dated: August 8, 1997.

**Wally Beyer,**

*Administrator, Rural Utilities Service.*

[FR Doc. 97-21668 Filed 8-14-97; 8:45 am]

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### COMMITTEE FOR PURCHASE FROM PEOPLE WHO ARE BLIND OR SEVERELY DISABLED

#### Procurement List; Additions

**AGENCY:** Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled.

**ACTION:** Additions to the Procurement List.

**SUMMARY:** This action adds to the Procurement List commodities and services to be furnished by nonprofit agencies employing persons who are blind or have other severe disabilities.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** September 15, 1997.

**ADDRESSES:** Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled, Crystal Square 3, Suite 403, 1735 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, Virginia 22202-3461.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Beverly Milkman (703) 603-7740.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On March 7 and June 27, 1997, the Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled published notices (62 F.R. 10519 and 34686) of proposed additions to the Procurement List.

After consideration of the material presented to it concerning capability of qualified nonprofit agencies to provide the commodities and services and impact of the additions on the current or most recent contractors, the Committee has determined that the commodities and services listed below are suitable for procurement by the Federal Government under 41 U.S.C. 46-48c and 41 CFR 51-2.4.

I certify that the following action will not have a significant impact on a substantial number of small entities. The major factors considered for this certification were:

1. The action will not result in any additional reporting, recordkeeping or other compliance requirements for small

entities other than the small organizations that will furnish the commodities and services to the Government.

2. The action will not have a severe economic impact on current contractors for the commodities and services.

3. The action will result in authorizing small entities to furnish the commodities and services to the Government.

4. There are no known regulatory alternatives which would accomplish the objectives of the Javits-Wagner-O'Day Act (41 U.S.C. 46-48c) in connection with the commodities and services proposed for addition to the Procurement List.

Accordingly, the following commodities and services are hereby added to the Procurement List:

#### Commodities

Office and Miscellaneous Supplies

(Requirements for the Naval Training Center, Great Lakes, Illinois)

#### Services

Administrative Services

General Services Administration (FSS), 300 Ala Moana, Honolulu, Hawaii

Janitorial/Custodial

Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Arizona

Janitorial/Custodial

Lake Mead National Recreation Area, Boulder City, Nevada

Laundry Service

Department of the Navy, Amphibious Group Three, San Diego, California

Mail and Messenger Service

U.S. Army Garrison-Fitzsimons, Aurora, Colorado

Operation of GSA Access Store

Philip Burton Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse, 450 Golden Gate Avenue, San Francisco, California

Operation of Postal Service Center

Seymour-Johnson Air Force Base, North Carolina

Switchboard Operation

Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center, 400 Veterans Boulevard, Biloxi, Mississippi

This action does not affect current contracts awarded prior to the effective date of this addition or options that may be exercised under those contracts.

**G. John Heyer,**

*General Counsel.*

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