

other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments should reference OMB No. 0581-0167 and be mailed to Docket Clerk, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, AMS, USDA, P.O. Box 96456, Room 2525-S, Washington, D.C. 20090-6456; Fax (202) 720-5698; or E-mail: moabdocket—clerk@usda.gov. Comments should reference the docket number and the date and page number of this issue of the **Federal Register**. All comments received will be available for public inspection in the Office of the Docket Clerk during regular USDA business hours at 14th and Independence Ave., S.W., Washington, D.C., room 2525-S.

All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will also become a matter of public record.

Signed: September 7, 1999

Robert C. Keeney

Deputy Administrator, Fruit and Vegetable Programs

[FR Doc. 99-23790 Filed 9-10-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-02-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Federal Crop Insurance Corporation

Notice and Request for Public Comment on the Watermelon Pilot Crop Insurance Program

AGENCY: Federal Crop Insurance Corporation, USDA.

ACTION: Notice with request for comments.

SUMMARY: This notice announces that the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation (FCIC) is hereby suspending the current watermelon pilot crop insurance program for the 2000 crop year. FCIC will continue to work with producers, industry representatives, and others to develop a revised watermelon insurance program that may better meet the needs of producers. The intended effect of this action is to advise all interested parties of FCIC's suspension of the current watermelon program for the 2000 crop year and to solicit comments regarding a revised watermelon pilot crop insurance program.

DATES: Written comments and opinions on suggested improvements for the insurance of watermelons will be accepted until close of business November 12, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons are invited to submit written comments to the Director, Research and Evaluation Division, Federal Crop Insurance

Corporation, United States Department of Agriculture, 9435 Holmes Road, Kansas City, MO 64131. Comments may also be sent via the Internet to DIRECTORPDD@RM.FCIC.USDA.GOV. A copy of each response will be available for public inspection and copying from 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., CDT, Monday through Friday except holidays, at the above address.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kathy Tiefel, Insurance Management Specialist, Research and Development Division, Federal Crop Insurance Corporation, at the Kansas City, MO, address listed above, telephone (816) 926-6343.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The current watermelon pilot crop insurance program was implemented for the 1999 crop year in the following fifteen counties in eight States: Geneva County in Alabama; Sussex County in Delaware; Alachua, Jackson, and Manatee Counties in Florida; Crisp, Tift, Turner, and Worth Counties in Georgia; Wicomico County in Maryland; Chowan and Sampson Counties in North Carolina; and Duval, Frio, and Hidalgo Counties in Texas. The selected pilot program counties accounted for approximately 19 percent of the national watermelon planted acreage. The pilot program utilized an actual production history (APH) plan of insurance. As a result of complaints received regarding the watermelon pilot crop insurance program concerning excess watermelon production and determination of market prices, FCIC is suspending the current program for the 2000 crop year. FCIC will continue to work with producers, industry representatives, and others to develop a watermelon insurance program that may better meet the needs of producers.

Notice

FCIC is hereby suspending the current watermelon pilot crop insurance program for the 2000 crop year. Producers with existing watermelon policies will have those policies canceled by the cancellation date in accordance with the terms of the policy. FCIC will continue to work with producers, industry representatives, and others to develop a watermelon insurance program that may better meet the needs of producers. Plans of insurance other than the APH plan will be considered. FCIC is soliciting comments regarding a revised watermelon pilot crop insurance program.

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 1506(l), 1506(p).

Signed in Washington, DC, on September 7, 1999.

Kenneth D. Ackerman,

Manager, Federal Crop Insurance Corporation.

[FR Doc. 99-23795 Filed 9-10-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-08-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Notice of Proposed Changes in NCRS National Handbook of Conservation Practices for Review and Comment

AGENCY: Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), DOA.

ACTION: Notice of proposed changes in the NRCS National Handbook of Conservation Practices for review and comment.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given of the intention of NRCS to issue a series of new or revised conservation practice standards in its National Handbook of Conservation Practices. These standards include Closure of Waste Impoundments, Conservation Cover, Contour Farming, Cover Crop, Contour Stripcropping, Grassed Waterway, and Irrigation System—Microirrigation. NRCS State Conservationists who choose to adopt these practices for use within their States will incorporate them into Section IV of their Field Office Technical Guide. These practices may be used in conservation systems that treat highly erodible land or on land determined to be wetland.

EFFECTIVE DATES: Comments will be received on or before November 12, 1999. This series of new or revised conservation practice standards will be adopted after the close of the 60-day period.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Single copies of these standards are available from NRCS-CED in Washington, DC. Submit individual inquiries and return any comments in writing to William Hughey, National Agricultural Engineer, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Post Office Box 2890, Room 6139-S, Washington, DC 20013-2890. Telephone Number 202-720-5023. The standards are also available and can be downloaded from the Internet at: http://www.ftw.nrcs.usda.gov/practice_stdts.html.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 343 of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 requires NRCS to make available for public review and comment proposed

revisions to conservation practice standards used to carry out the highly erodible land and wetland provisions of the law. For the next 60 days, NRCS will receive comments relative to the proposed changes. Following that period, a determination will be made by NRCS regarding disposition of those comments, and a final determination of change will be made.

Pearlie S. Reed,

Chief, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Washington, D.C.

[FR Doc. 99-23673 Filed 9-10-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-16-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Utilities Service

Brazos Electric Power Cooperative, Inc.; Notice of Availability of an Environmental Assessment

AGENCY: Rural Utilities Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of availability of an environmental assessment.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the Rural Utilities Service (RUS) is issuing an Environmental Assessment with respect to the potential environmental impacts related to the construction and operation of the Lewisville 345/138 kV Switching Station in the City of Lewisville, Texas. The project is proposed by Brazos Electric Power Cooperative, Inc. (Brazos), of Waco, Texas. RUS may provide financing assistance for the project.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dennis E. Rankin, Environmental Protection Specialist, RUS, Engineering and Environmental Staff, Stop 1571, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-1571, telephone: (202) 720-1953 or e-mail: drankin@rus.usda.gov; or David McDaniel, Brazos, PO Box 2585, Waco, Texas 76702-2585, telephone: (254) 750-6324 or e-mail: dmcDaniel@brazoselectric.com.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Brazos is planning to construct an 8-10 acre 345/138 kV switching station in Denton County, Texas. The proposed site is located in the vicinity of the northwest corner of North Mill Street and Jones Street in the City of Lewisville. Existing transmission facilities are located in the immediate area.

An environmental report (ER) which describes the project further and discusses the environmental impacts of the proposed project was prepared by Brazos. RUS has conducted an independent evaluation of the ER and

believes that it accurately assesses the impacts of the proposed project. No adverse impacts are expected with the construction of the project. RUS has reviewed and accepted the document as its Environmental Assessment and is making it available for public review.

The EA can be reviewed at the address provided above or at the following locations:

Brazos Electric Power Cooperative, Inc.,
2404 LaSalle Avenue, Waco, Texas
76702-2585, Telephone: (254) 750-6324

CoServ, 3501 FM 2181, Corinth, Texas
76205-3741, Telephone: (940) 321-4640

Lewisville Public Library, 1197 West
Main Street, Lewisville, Texas 75067-3425, Telephone: (972) 219-3570

Questions and comments should be sent to RUS at the address provided. RUS should receive comments on the Environmental Assessment in writing by October 15, 1999, to ensure that the comments are taken into consideration prior to RUS making its environmental determination.

Dated: September 2, 1999.

Glendon D. Deal,

Acting Director, Engineering and Environmental Staff.

[FR Doc. 99-23793 Filed 9-10-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-15-P

APPLACHIAN STATES LOW-LEVEL RADIOACTIVE WASTE COMMISSION

Annual Meeting

Time and Date: 9:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.
October 20, 1999

Place: Harrisburg Hilton and Towers, One North Second Street, Harrisburg, PA 17101.

Status: Most of the meeting will be open to the public. An executive session closed to the public will be held about 9:15 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

Matters to be Considered:

Portions Open to the Public: The primary purpose of this meeting is to (1) Review the independent auditors' report of the Commissions' financial statement for fiscal year 1998-1999; (2) Review the Commission's annual reports for fiscal years 1997-1998 and 1998-1999; (3) Consider a proposed budget for fiscal year 2000-2001; (4) Review the project reports for the low-level radioactive waste (LLRW) disposal facility siting process in Pennsylvania; (5) Review the status of siting efforts in other states and compacts; (6) Review and discuss the General Accounting Office's (GAO) report on management and disposal of LLRW; and (7) Discuss renewal of Commission's investment agreement with the Pennsylvania Office of the Treasurer.

Portions Closed to the Public: Executive Session from about 9:15 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. to discuss personal matter

Contact person for more information:
Richard R. Janati, Chairman Seif's Staff
Member on the Commission, at 717-787-2163.

Richard R. Janati,

Chairman's Staff Member on the Commission.

[FR Doc. 99-23681 Filed 9-10-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 0000-00-M

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Foreign-Trade Zones Board

[Docket 45-99]

Foreign-Trade Zone 27—Boston, MA; Application for Subzone, J. Baker, Inc. (Distribution of Apparel, Footwear and Accessories), Canton, MA

An application has been submitted to the Foreign-Trade Zones Board (the Board) by the Massachusetts Port Authority (Boston, MA), grantee of FTZ 27, requesting special-purpose subzone status for the apparel, footwear and accessories warehousing/distribution facilities of J. Baker, Inc., located in Canton, MA, some 22 miles south of Boston. The application was submitted pursuant to the provisions of the Foreign-Trade Zones Act, as amended (19 U.S.C. 81a-81u), and the regulations of the Board (15 CFR part 400). It was formally filed on September 7, 1999.

The Baker facilities are located at 330 Turnpike Street (750,000 sq. ft. on 30.7 acres) and 555 Turnpike Street (45,850 sq. ft. on 4.16 acres). There are 800 employees at the two facilities. The facilities are used for storage, inspection, finishing, packaging and distribution of a wide variety of apparel, footwear and accessories such as neckties, belts, hosiery, gloves and novelty items. About 65 percent of the products are sourced from abroad and over 5 percent are exported. No authority is being sought for activity conducted under FTZ procedures that would result in a change in tariff classification.

Zone procedures would exempt Baker from Customs duty payments on foreign products that are reexported. On its domestic sales, the company would be able to defer duty payments until merchandise is shipped from the plant. The application indicates that the savings from zone procedures would help improve the plant's international competitiveness.

In accordance with the Board's regulations, a member of the FTZ staff has been appointed examiner to investigate the application and report to the Board.

Public comment is invited from interested parties. Submissions (original