

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

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

April 15, 2009.

The Department of Agriculture has submitted the following information collection requirement(s) to OMB for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13. Comments regarding (a) Whether the 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 burden including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology should be addressed to: Desk Officer for Agriculture, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), OIRA_Submission@OMB.EOP.GOV or fax (202) 395-5806 and to Departmental Clearance Office, USDA, OCIO, Mail Stop 7602, Washington, DC 20250-7602. Comments regarding these information collections are best assured of having their full effect if received within 30 days of this notification. Copies of the submission(s) may be obtained by calling (202) 720-8681.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a currently valid OMB control number and the agency informs potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information that such persons are not required to respond to

the collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Rural Business-Cooperative Service

Title: Agriculture Innovation Centers.

OMB Control Number: 0570-0045.

Summary of Collection: The Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (Pub. L. 107-171, signed May 13, 2002) authorized the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to award grant funds for agriculture innovation centers, a demonstration program under which agricultural producers are to be provided with technical and business development assistance enabling them to establish businesses producing and marketing value-added products. This program is administered by Cooperative Programs within USDA's Rural Development. Grants were awarded, on a competitive basis, only in fiscal year 2003. The authorization for this program expired on September 30, 2004; however, centers are required to provide progress reports for the duration of the grant agreement to monitor compliance and measure the success of the program. The 2008 Farm Bill has reauthorized the program through 2012.

Need and Use of the Information: Performance report information is collected semi-annually from the ten agriculture innovation centers funded during the 2003 grant cycle. USDA uses performance reports to confirm that progress is being made toward achieving the stated goals of the project. A final report is submitted at the completion of the grant agreement. Centers may be non-profit corporations, for-profit corporations, institutions of higher learning, and consortia of the aforementioned entities.

Description of Respondents: Not-for-profit Institutions; Business or other for-profit.

Number of Respondents: 10.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: Semi-annually.

Total Burden Hours: 110.

Charlene Parker,

Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.

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Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

Title: Requirements of Recognizing the Animal Health Status of Foreign Regions.

OMB Control Number: 0579-0219.

Summary of Collection: The Animal Health Protection Act (AHPA) of 2002 is the primary Federal law governing the protection of animal health. The AHPA is contained in Title X, subtitle E, sections 10401–18, of Public Law 107–171, May 13, 2002, the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002. The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is responsible for, among other things, protecting the health of our Nation's livestock and poultry populations by preventing the introduction and spread of serious diseases and pests of livestock and poultry and for eradicating such diseases and pests from the United States when feasible. The regulations in 9 CFR part 92, Importation of Animals and Animal Products: Procedures for Requesting Recognition of Regions, set out the process by which a foreign government may request recognition of the animal health status of a region or approval to export animals or animal products to the United States based on the risk associated with animals or animal products from that region. Each request must include information about the region.

Need and Use of the Information: APHIS will collection information that might include: (1) The authority, organization, and infrastructure of the Veterinary Service Organization in the region; (2) disease status; (3) the status of adjacent regions with respect to the agent; (4) the extent of an active disease control program, if any, if the agent is known to exist in the region; (5) the vaccination status of the region, when the last vaccination, what is the extent of vaccination if it is currently used, and what vaccine is being used; (6) the degree to which the region is separated from adjacent regions of higher risk through physical or other barriers; (7) the extent to which movement of animal and animal products is controlled from regions of higher risk, and the level of biosecurity regarding such movements; (8) livestock demographics and marketing practices in the region; (9) the type and extent of surveillance in the

region, e.g., is it passive and/or active, what is the quantity and quality of sampling and testing; (10) diagnostic laboratory capabilities, and (11) policies and infrastructure for animal disease control in the region, i.e., emergency response capacity. Without the information the U.S. livestock and poultry industries could suffer serious economic losses as the result of such an incursion, since the value of their products would be diminished both domestically and internationally.

Description of Respondents: Federal Government.

Number of Respondents: 3.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: On occasion.

Total Burden Hours: 120.

Ruth Brown,

Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. E9–9010 Filed 4–17–09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–34–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration

Designation for the Unassigned Areas of East Texas

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

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: GIPSA is announcing the designation of the following organization to provide official services under the United States Grain Standards Act, as amended (USGSA): Central Illinois Grain Inspection (Central Illinois) d/b/a Lone Star Grain Inspection in Texas.

DATES: *Effective Date:* April 20, 2009.

ADDRESSES: USDA, GIPSA, Karen Guagliardo, Chief, Review Branch, Compliance Division, STOP 3604, Room 1647–S, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250–3604.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Karen Guagliardo at 202–720–7312, e-mail Karen.W.Guagliardo@usda.gov.

Read Applications: All applications and comments will be available for public inspection at the office above during regular business hours (7 CFR 1.27(b)).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In the September 29, 2008, **Federal Register** (73 FR 56546), GIPSA requested applications for designation to provide official services in the geographic area named above. Applications were due by October 29, 2008.

There were two applicants for the east Texas area: Central Illinois and Gulf Country Inspection Service, Inc. (Gulf Country); both applied for the entire area open for designation. Central Illinois is currently designated as an official service provider and has been providing services in the designation area on an interim basis since July 1, 2008. Gulf Country is a proposed official service provider owned by Tyrone Robichaux, Richard Maynard, Pat LaCour, and Dan Williams. GIPSA asked for comments on Central Illinois and Gulf Country in the December 1, 2008, **Federal Register** (73 FR 72762). Comments were due by December 31, 2008. GIPSA received a total of 3 comments by the closing date all in support of Central Illinois. The comments received were from grain companies located in the area of designation.

GIPSA evaluated all available information regarding the designation criteria in section 7(f)(1) of the USGSA (7 U.S.C. 79(f)) and determined that Central Illinois is better able to provide official services in the geographic areas specified in the September 2, 2008, **Federal Register**, for which they applied. This designation action to provide official services in the specified area is effective March 12, 2009. Central Illinois' current designation, which terminates on March 31, 2011, will be amended to include the east Texas area.

Interested persons may obtain official services by calling the telephone numbers listed below.

Official agency	Headquarters location and telephone	Designation start	Designation end
Central Illinois	Bloomington, IL, 309–827–7121. Additional Locations: Pekin, IL, Saginaw, TX, 817–306–8124.	4/1/2008	3/31/2011

Section 7(f)(1) of the USGSA 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 (7 U.S.C. 79 (f)(1)).

Under section 7(g)(1) of the USGSA, designations of official agencies are effective for 3 years unless terminated by the Secretary but may be renewed

according to the criteria and procedures prescribed in section 7(f) of the Act.