

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

ACTION: Notice.

**Opportunity for Designation in the Topeka, Kansas; Minot, North Dakota; Cincinnati, Ohio; Pocatello, Idaho; Evansville, Indiana; Salt Lake City, Utah; West Sacramento, California; Richmond, Virginia; and Savage, Minnesota Areas; Request for Comments on the Official Agencies Servicing This Area**

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

**SUMMARY:** The designations of the following official agencies listed below will end on the prescribed dates:

Official agency	Headquarters location and telephone	Designation end
Kansas Grain Inspection Service, Inc .....	Topeka, KS—785-233-7063 .....	6/30/2018
Minot Grain Inspection, Inc .....	Minot, ND—701-838-1734 .....	6/30/2018
Tri-State Grain Inspection Service, Inc .....	Cincinnati, OH—513-251-6571 .....	6/30/2018
Idaho Grain Inspection Service, Inc .....	Pocatello, ID—208-233-8303 .....	9/30/2018
Ohio Valley Grain Inspection, Inc .....	Evansville, IN—812-423-9010 .....	9/30/2018
Utah Department of Agriculture and Food .....	Salt Lake City, UT—801-392-2292 .....	9/30/2018
California Agri Inspection Co., Ltd .....	West Sacramento, CA—916-374-9700 ..	12/31/2018
Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services .....	Richmond, VA—757-494-2455 .....	12/31/2018
State Grain Inspection, Inc .....	Savage, MN—952-808-8566 .....	12/31/2018

We are asking persons or governmental agencies interested in providing official services in the areas presently served by these agencies to submit an application for designation. In addition, we are asking for comments on the quality of services provided by the following designated agencies: Kansas Grain Inspection Service, Inc. (Kansas); Minot Grain Inspection, Inc. (Minot); Tri-State Grain Inspection Service, Inc. (Tri-State); Idaho Grain Inspection Service, Inc. (Idaho); Ohio Valley Grain Inspection, Inc. (Ohio Valley); Utah Department of Agriculture and Food (Utah); California Agri Inspection Co., Ltd. (Cal-Agri); Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (Virginia); and State Grain Inspection, Inc. (State Grain). The realignment of offices within the U.S. Department of Agriculture authorized by the Secretary's Memorandum dated November 14, 2017, eliminates the Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA) as a standalone agency. The grain inspection activities formerly part of GIPSA are now organized under AMS.

**DATES:** Applications and comments must be received by June 25, 2018.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit applications and comments concerning this Notice using any of the following methods:

- *Applying for Designation on the Internet:* Use FGISonline ([https://fgis.gipsa.usda.gov/default\\_home\\_FGIS.aspx](https://fgis.gipsa.usda.gov/default_home_FGIS.aspx)) and then click on the Delegations/Designations and Export Registrations (DDR) link. You will need

to obtain an FGISonline customer number and USDA eAuthentication username and password prior to applying.

- *Submit Comments Using the Internet:* Go to *Regulations.gov* (<http://www.regulations.gov>). Instructions for submitting and reading comments are detailed on the site.

- *Mail, Courier or Hand Delivery:* Jacob Thein, Compliance Officer, USDA, AMS, FGIS, QACD, 10383 North Ambassador Drive, Kansas City, MO 64153.

- *Fax:* Jacob Thein, 816-872-1257
- *Email:* [FGISQACD@ams.usda.gov](mailto:FGISQACD@ams.usda.gov)

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

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Jacob Thein, 816-866-2223, [Jacob.D.Thein@ams.usda.gov](mailto:Jacob.D.Thein@ams.usda.gov) or [FGISQACD@ams.usda.gov](mailto:FGISQACD@ams.usda.gov)

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Section 7(f) of the United States Grain Standards Act (USGSA) authorizes the Secretary 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)). Under section 7(g) of the USGSA, designations of official agencies are effective for no longer than five years, unless terminated by the Secretary, and may be renewed according to the criteria and procedures prescribed in section 7(f) of the USGSA.

**Areas Open for Designation**

Kansas, Minot, and Tri-State: Areas of designation include Colorado, Kansas, and parts of Nebraska, Wyoming, North Dakota, Indiana, Kentucky, and Ohio. Please see **Federal Register** (80 FR 7564-7565) for designations of areas open for designation.

Idaho, Ohio Valley, and Utah: Areas of designation include Utah and parts of Idaho, Indiana, Kentucky, and Tennessee. Please see **Federal Register** (80 FR 37581) for designations of areas open for designation.

Cal-Agri and Virginia: Areas of designation include Virginia and parts of California. Please see **Federal Register** (80 FR 37580) for designations of areas open for designation.

State Grain: Areas of designation include parts of Minnesota. Please see **Federal Register** (82 FR 30818-30819) for designations of areas open for designation.

**Opportunity for Designation**

Interested persons or governmental agencies may apply for designation to provide official services in the geographic areas of the official agencies specified above under the provisions of section 7(f) of the USGSA and 7 CFR 800.196. Designation in the specified geographic areas for Kansas, Minot, and Tri-State is for the period beginning July 1, 2018, to June 30, 2023. Designation in the specified geographic areas for Idaho, Ohio Valley, and Utah is for the period beginning October 1, 2018, to September 30, 2023. Designation in the specified geographic areas for Cal-Agri, Virginia,

and State Grain is for the period beginning January 1, 2019, to December 31, 2023. To apply for designation or to request more information on the geographic areas serviced by these official agencies, contact Jacob Thein at the address listed above.

#### Request for Comments

We are publishing this Notice to provide interested persons the opportunity to comment on the quality of services provided by the Kansas, Minot, Tri-State, Idaho, Ohio Valley, Utah, Cal-Agri, Virginia, and State Grain official agencies. In the designation process, we are particularly interested in receiving comments citing reasons and pertinent data supporting or objecting to the designation of the applicant(s). Submit all comments to Jacob Thein at the above address or at <http://www.regulations.gov>.

We consider applications, comments, and other available information when determining which applicants will be designated.

**Authority:** 7 U.S.C. 71–87k.

Dated: May 22, 2018.

**Greg Ibach,**

*Under Secretary, Marketing and Regulatory Programs.*

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**BILLING CODE 3410–02–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

May 21, 2018.

The Department of Agriculture will submit the following information collection requirement(s) to OMB for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104–13 on or after the date of publication of this notice. Comments are requested regarding: (1) 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; (2) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of burden including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) 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), New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC; New Executive Office Building, 725—17th Street NW, Washington, DC, 20503. Commenters are encouraged to submit their comments to OMB via email to: [OIRA\\_Submission@omb.eop.gov](mailto: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 by June 25, 2018. 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.

### National Agricultural Statistics Service

**Title:** Agricultural Resource Management, Chemical Use, and Post-Harvest Chemical Use Surveys.

**OMB Control Number:** 0535–0218.

**Summary of Collection:** The primary functions of the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) are to prepare and issue State and national estimates of crop and livestock production, disposition, and prices and to collect information on related environmental and economic factors. Detailed economic and environmental data for various crops and livestock help to maintain a stable economic atmosphere and reduce the risk for production, marketing, and distribution operations. The Agricultural Resource Management Surveys (ARMS), are the primary source of information for the U.S. Department of Agriculture on a broad range of issues related to agricultural resource use, cost of production, and farm sector financial conditions. NASS uses a variety of survey instruments to collect the information in conjunction with these studies. General authority for these data collection activities is granted under U.S. Code Title 7, Section 2204.

**Need and Use of the Information:** ARMS is the only annual source of whole farm information available for objective evaluation of many critical issues related to agriculture and the rural economy, such as: Whole farm finance data, marketing information, input usage, production practices, and

crop substitution possibilities. Without these data, decision makers cannot analyze and report on critical issues that affect farms and farm households when pesticide regulatory actions are being considered.

**Description of Respondents:** Farms; Business or other for-profit.

**Number of Respondents:** 131,619.

**Frequency of Responses:** Reporting: Annually.

**Total Burden Hours:** 105,615.

### National Agricultural Statistics Service

**Title:** Irrigation and Water Management Survey (IWMS).

**OMB Control Number:** 0535–0234.

**Summary of Collection:** The Irrigation and Water Management Survey (IWMS) is a reinstatement of a previously conducted survey (2013 Farm and Ranch Irrigation Survey). The IWMS is a follow-on survey and in integral part of the 2017 Census of Agriculture which is conducted every five years under the authority of the Census of Agriculture Act of 1997 (Pub. L. 105–113). This law requires the Secretary of Agriculture to conduct a census of agriculture beginning in 2002 and every fifth year thereafter (prior to 1997 the census was conducted by the Department of Commerce). The 2018 IWMS will be obtaining data describing the irrigation activities of U.S. farm operations. Some of these activities are of National concern, such as the use of chemigation, fertigation and water-conserving practices of irrigators. The 2018 IWMS will play an important part in providing critically needed data to address these types of issues.

**Need and Use of the Information:** NASS will collect information from the IWMS on acres irrigated by land use category, acres and yields of irrigated and non-irrigated crops, quantity of water applied, method of application to selected crops, acres irrigated, quantity of water used by source, acres irrigated by type of water distribution systems, and number of irrigation wells and pumps. The primary purpose of IWMS is to provide detailed data relating to on-farm irrigation activities for use in preparing a wide variety of water-related local programs, economic models, legislative initiatives, market analyses, and feasibility studies. The absence of the study data would certainly affect irrigation policy decisions, federal programs, legislation, and impact studies would instead be subject to greater uncertainty and error.

**Description of Respondents:** Farms; Business or other for-profit.

**Number of Respondents:** 35,100.

**Frequency of Responses:** Reporting: Other (one-time).