

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.

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION AGENCY

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

AGENCY: Overseas Private Investment Corporation, IDCA.

ACTION: Request for comments

SUMMARY: At OPIC's request, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) is reviewing this information collection for emergency processing for 90 days. Under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35), agencies are required to publish a Notice in the **Federal Register** notifying the public that the Agency is preparing an information collection request for OMB review and approval and to request public review and comment on the submission. Comments are being solicited on the need for the information, its practical utility, the accuracy of the Agency's burden estimate, and on ways to minimize the reporting burden, including automated collection techniques and uses of other forms of technology. The proposed form under review is summarized below.

DATES: Comments must be received within 60 calendar days of this Notice.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the subject form and the request for review prepared for submission to OMB may be obtained from the Agency Submitting Officer. Comments on the form should be submitted to the Agency Submitting Officer.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: *OPIC Agency Submitting Officer:* Lena Paulsen, Manager, Information Center, Overseas Private Investment Corporation, 1100 New York Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20527; 202/336-8565.

SUMMARY OF FORM UNDER REVIEW:

Type of Request: New form.

Title: Small Business Application for Financing.

Form Number: OPIC 220.

Frequency of Use: Once per investor per project.

Type of Respondents: Business or other institutions (except farms); individuals.

Standard Industrial Classification Codes: All.

Description of Affected Public: U.S. companies or citizens investing overseas.

Reporting Hours: 3 hours per project.

Number of Responses: 100 per year.

Federal Cost: \$3,000.00 per year.

Authority for Information Collection: Sections 231 and 234 (b) and (c) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended.

Abstract (Needs and Uses): The application is sent to U.S. companies requesting information concerning OPIC's finance program. The information provided by these companies is reviewed by OPIC finance officers to determine the soundness of the proposed project and the applicants qualification for receiving OPIC financial assistance.

March 17, 1997.

James R Offutt,

Assistant General Counsel, Department of Legal Affairs.

[FR Doc. 97-7144 Filed 3-20-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3210-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Commodity Credit Corporation

Farm Service Agency

Availability of Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) Regarding Spartina Control Cost-Share Program for Willapa Bay Estuary

AGENCY: Farm Service Agency and Commodity Credit Corporation, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: On March 21, 1997, the Farm Service Agency (FSA) and the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) will make available for public comment its Draft EA regarding its proposed Spartina Control Cost-Share Program. FSA and CCC have an interest in controlling Smooth Cordgrass (*Spartina alterniflora*) in the Willapa Bay Estuary of Washington State. The proposed Spartina control action focuses on the coordinated use of mechanical/physical and chemical treatment methods, also known as Integrated Pest Management

(IPM), in an environmentally and economically sound manner. FSA and CCC welcome public comment from interested parties and will assess and consider all comments received.

DATE: Comments must be received on or before April 21, 1997 to be assured consideration.

ADDRESS: To receive a copy of FSA and CCC's Spartina Control Cost-Share Program Environmental Assessment, or to send comments, mail requests or comments to U.S. Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Environmental Protection Division, ATTN.: Mike Linsenbigler, STOP 0513, P.O. Box 2415, Washington, DC 20250-2415. Copies may also be obtained in person at 1400 Independence Ave., SW., Room 4721, Washington, DC 20250-0513, between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Mike Linsenbigler, 202-720-6303.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: No administrative action will be taken on the Spartina control cost-share program until 30 days after the date of this publication in the **Federal Register**.

Authority: P.L. 104-127, Sec 334.

Signed at Washington, DC, on March 14, 1997.

Grant Buntrock,

Administrator, Farm Service Agency.

[FR Doc. 97-7141 Filed 3-20-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-05-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Food Safety and Inspection Service

[Docket No. 97-024N]

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Food and Drug Administration

[Docket No. 97N-0074]

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

President's National Food Safety Initiative

AGENCY: Food Safety and Inspection Service, USDA; Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, HHS; Food and

Drug Administration, HHS;
Environmental Protection Agency.

ACTION: Notice: Public meeting;
establishment of public dockets.

SUMMARY: The United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) and Research, Education, and Economics; The Department of Health and Human Services' Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC); and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will convene a meeting on March 31 to April 2, 1997, to discuss and develop for the President a comprehensive plan to reduce the annual incidence of foodborne illness by enhancing the safety of the nation's food supply. USDA and FDA are also establishing public dockets to receive comments about the President's Food Safety Initiative and the discussion draft and current thinking document made available on February 21, 1997.

DATES: The meeting will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. on March 31; 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on April 1; and from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on April 2, 1997. Comments by April 4, 1997.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Hyatt Regency Washington on Capitol Hill, 400 New Jersey Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20001.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: To register for the meeting, contact Ms. Traci Phebus at (202) 501-7138, FAX (202) 501-7642, E-mail HACCP.Confer@USDA.GOV.

Participants may reserve a 5-minute public comment period when they register. Space will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. Participants should also select the breakout sessions they plan to attend when they register. For questions about the meeting or to obtain copies of the draft report, "Food Safety From Farm to Table: A New Strategy for the 21st Century, Discussion Draft and Current Thinking, A National Food Safety Initiative," contact Mr. Charles Danner, FSIS, at (202) 501-7136 or Ms. Karen Carson, FDA, at (202) 205-5140. Copies of the draft report also are available from the following: FSIS at <http://www.usda.gov/fsis> or FDA at <http://vm.cfsan.fda.gov/list.html> or CDC at <http://cdc.gov/ncidod/food.htm>. Participants who require a sign language interpreter or other special accommodations should contact Ms. Jennifer Callahan at (202) 501-7138 by March 24.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On January 25, 1997, the President directed

the Secretaries of USDA and HHS and the Administrator of EPA to work with consumers, producers, industry, States, Tribes, universities, and the public to identify ways to further improve the safety of our food supply. The President requested that the plan focus on "* * * further improvement of surveillance, inspection, research, risk assessment, education, and coordination among local, State, and Federal health authorities."

On March 5, 1997, the first public meeting was held to discuss the initiative and the issues identified by food safety experts in the draft report. All attendees received a copy of the draft report and were encouraged to review the document and develop recommendations related to the seven topic areas: surveillance, risk assessment, research, inspection, education, and coordination, and strategic planning to be presented at the March 31 meeting.

The March 31 session will feature a general session with time allotted for public comment followed by concurrent breakout sessions: Bioscience Research and Coordination; and an evening session on Strategic Planning. On April 1, concurrent breakout sessions will be held in the morning on Improving Risk Assessment Tools and Improving Food Safety Education and in the afternoon on New Early Warning System for Foodborne Illness and Maximizing Inspection to Support HACCP. The April 2 session will include reports from each of the seven breakout sessions and public comment.

The agencies are also announcing the establishment of public dockets about the President's Food Safety Initiative and the discussion draft and current thinking docket made available on February 21, 1997 and are encouraging individuals to comment on the topics discussed at the March 5, 1997, meeting as well as those listed in this notice under Supplementary Information. The agencies are also urging individuals with comments on the seven topic areas of the draft report to submit these comments by March 28 to facilitate discussion in the breakout sessions. Submit written comments as follows: USDA/FSIS Hearing Clerk, Room 3806 South Building, Washington, DC 20250-3700 or Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305), Food and Drug Administration, 12420 Parklawn Drive, Room 1-23, Rockville, MD 20857. Comments are to be identified with the docket number. For those comments directed to USDA use Docket No. 97-024N; for comments directed to FDA, use Docket No. 97N-0074.

Transcripts of the public meeting may be requested in writing from the Freedom of Information Office (HFI-35), Food and Drug Administration, 5600 Fishers Lane, Room 12A-16, Rockville, MD 20857, approximately 15 working days after the meeting at a cost of 10 cents per page. The transcript of the public meeting and all submitted comments will be available for public examination at the Dockets Management Branch (address above) between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Done at Washington, DC, on March 17, 1997.

Thomas J. Billy,

Administrator, Food Safety and Inspection Service.

Fred R. Shank,

Director, Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition, Food and Drug Administration.

Donald E. Shriber,

Associate Director/Washington, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Dana Minerva,

Deputy Assistant Administrator for Water, Environmental Protection Agency.

[FR Doc. 97-7155 Filed 3-18-97; 9:53 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-DM-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Brown Lake Hydrologic Restoration (CS-09); Calcasieu and Cameron Parishes, LA

AGENCY: Natural Resources Conservation Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of finding of no significant impact.

Description of Action

The United States Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service, proposes to implement a hydrologic restoration plan on the Brown Lake wetlands in Cameron Parish, Louisiana. The project involves the installation of five corrugated aluminum culverts, each with a ten foot wide variable crest weir inlet section with a six inch wide vertical slot and a flap gate; a seven foot wide variable crest structure with flap gate; and two corrugated aluminum pipes with flap and screw gates; excavate and place approximately 93,000 cubic yards of earth fill to repair and maintain about 32,000 linear feet of boundary levee and plug abandoned oil field canals; and excavate and place approximately 18,300 cubic yards of earth fill to construct 25,000 linear feet of terraces.