

# Notices

Federal Register

Vol. 62, No. 83

Wednesday, April 30, 1997

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

### Agricultural Marketing Service

[Docket No. FV-97-928-1NC]

#### Papayas Grown in Hawaii; Notice of Request for Extension of a Currently Approved Information Collection

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

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35), this notice announces the Agricultural Marketing Service's (AMS) intention to request an extension for a currently-approved information collection for Papayas Grown in Hawaii, Marketing Order No. 928.

**DATES:** Comments on this notice must be received by June 30, 1997 to be assured of consideration.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR COMMENTS:** Contact Terry Vawter, California Marketing Field Office, F & V Division, AMS, USDA, 2202 Monterey Street, Suite 102B, Fresno, CA, 93721, telephone (209) 487-5901 or facsimile (209) 487-5906 or Charles L. Rush, Marketing Order Administration Branch, F & V, AMS, USDA, P.O. Box 96456, room 2525-S, Washington, DC (202) 720-5053 or Fax # (202) 720-5698.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

*Title:* Papaya Grown in Hawaii, Marketing Order No. 928.

*OMB Number:* 0581-0102.

*Expiration Date of Approval:* September 30, 1997.

*Type of Request:* Extension and revision of a currently approved information collection.

*Abstract:* Marketing order programs provide an opportunity for producers of fresh fruits, vegetables, and specialty crops, in a specified production area, to

work together to solve marketing problems that cannot be solved individually. Order regulations help ensure adequate supplies of high quality product and adequate returns to producers. Under the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act of 1937 (Act), as amended (7 USC 601-674), industries enter into marketing order programs. The Secretary of Agriculture is authorized to oversee the order's operations and issue regulations recommended by a committee of representatives from each commodity industry.

The information collection requirements in this request are essential to carry out the intent of the Act, to provide the respondents the type of service they request, and to administer the papaya marketing order program, which has been in operation since 1971.

The order authorizes production and marketing research and development projects, including paid advertising. The research and promotion activities are paid for by assessments on handlers of papaya.

The order, and rules and regulations issued thereunder, authorize the Papaya Administrative Committee (committee), the agency responsible for local administration of the order, to require handlers and growers to submit certain information. Much of this information is compiled in aggregate and provided to the industry to assist in marketing decisions.

The committee has developed forms as a means for persons to file required information with the committee relating to papaya supplies, shipments, dispositions, and other information needed to effectively carry out the purpose of the Act and order. Papayas may be shipped year-round and these forms are utilized accordingly. A USDA form is used to allow growers to vote on amendments to or continuance of the marketing order. In addition, papaya growers and grower/handlers who are nominated by their peers to serve as representatives on the committee must file nomination forms with the Secretary.

The forms covered under this information collection require the minimum information necessary to effectively carry out the requirements of the order, and their use is necessary to

fulfill the intent of the Act as expressed in the order.

Shipments of Hawaiian papayas have decreased in recent years due to an infestation of Papaya Ringspot Virus. However, there has been little change in the number of growers and handlers. The committee estimates that there are approximately 400 producers and 60 handlers of papaya currently operating in the production area.

The committee added three new forms to its information collection. The committee added the Handler Information/Update Form which asks handlers to provide information such as their current address. A Transgenic Seed Distribution Registration Form is used to determine how many handlers will need to plant transgenic seeds which are resistant to papaya ringspot virus. The committee also approved the use of a Crop Report which will ask handlers how many acres are planted and harvested. Use of these forms is authorized under § 928.60 of the order. The addition of these forms to the current information request will increase the burden.

The information collected is used only by authorized representatives of the USDA, including AMS, Fruit and Vegetable Division regional and headquarter's staff, and authorized employees of the committee. Authorized committee employees and the industry are the primary users of the information and AMS is the secondary user.

*Estimate of Burden:* Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average .319 per response.

*Respondents:* Hawaiian papaya growers and handlers and two public members in the production area of Hawaii.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 75.

*Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent:* 51.6.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents:* 1153.

Comments are invited on: (1) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have a practical utility; (2) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (3)

ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden, including use of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Comments should reference OMB No. 0581-0102 and Hawaiian Papaya Marketing Order No. 928, and be mailed to the Docket Clerk, Fruit and Vegetable Division, AMS, USDA, PO Box 96456, room 2523-S, Washington, DC, 20090-6456.

Comments should reference the docket number and the date and page 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. SW, Washington, DC, Room 22523 South Building.

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

Dated: April 24, 1997.

**Sharon Bomer Lauritsen,**

*Deputy Director, Fruit and Vegetable Division.*  
[FR Doc. 97-11108 Filed 4-29-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-02-P

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Rural Utilities Service

#### Palmetto Electric Cooperative; Finding of No Significant Impact

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

**ACTION:** Notice of finding of no significant impact.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that the Rural Utilities Service (RUS) has made a finding of no significant impact (FONSI) with respect to a request to an anticipated request by Palmetto Electric Cooperative for financing assistance to construct a district office facility in Jasper County, South Carolina. The FONSI is based on a borrower's environmental report (BER) submitted to RUS by Palmetto Electric Cooperative. RUS conducted an independent evaluation of the report and concurs with its scope and content. In accordance with RUS Environmental Policies and Procedures, 7 CFR 1794.61, RUS has adopted the BER as its environmental assessment for the project.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Bob Quigel, Environmental Protection

Specialist, Engineering and Environmental Staff, RUS, Stop 1571, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-1571, telephone (202) 720-0468, E-mail at bquigel@rus.usda.gov.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The district office facility is proposed to be located on the northern side of U.S. Highway 278 on the western side of a railroad right-of-way south of State Route 141. The size of the proposed site for the district office facility is approximately 40 acres of which approximately 20 acres would be developed.

The district office facility would consist of a 20,000 square foot administration building, a 10,000 square foot warehouse and operations building, a 3,200 square foot fleet maintenance building with covered car and truck wash and diesel and gasoline refueling station with two 2,500 gallon underground storage tanks, a 2,400 square foot transformer and metering equipment repair and maintenance building, an asphalt covered pole storage yard, a concrete covered transformer storage area with oil spill containment, two 3,200 square foot wire and vehicle equipment storage sheds, paved parking to accommodate 50 employee, 75 visitor, and 25 company vehicles, a 100-foot high, self-supporting lattice type radio and microwave communications tower, and a 200 kilowatt emergency diesel power electric generator to supply backup power to the facility in the event of a power outage.

RUS considered the alternatives of no action, expanding Palmetto Electric Cooperative's existing district office, and three alternative site locations. Under the no action alternative, RUS would not approve financing assistance for construction of the district office facility. Since RUS believes that Palmetto Electric Cooperative has a need to expand its district facility to adequately serve its rapidly growing consumer base, it has determined that the no action alternative is not acceptable. The expansion of the existing district office is not practicable as there is not enough space available there for the proposed new facilities. Of the four sites considered for locating the proposed district, the preferred site was selected based on flexibility of site layout and reasonable cost.

Copies of the BER and FONSI are available for review at, or can be obtained from, RUS at the address provided herein or from Mr. Berl Davis, Jr., Palmetto Electric Cooperative, P.O. Box 21239, 111 Mathews Drive, Hilton

Head, South Carolina, telephone (803) 681-5551.

Dated: April 24, 1997.

**Adam M. Golodner,**

*Deputy Administrator, Program Operations.*  
[FR Doc. 97-11185 Filed 4-29-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-15-P

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

### Procurement List Addition

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

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

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

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** May 30, 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, 1997, the Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled published notice (62 F.R. 10519) of proposed addition to the Procurement List. Comments were received from two Government agencies, three minority business associations, one small business owner, a labor union, two political organizations, 133 employees of the Government facility where the service will be performed, two contractors at that facility, an employee of the current janitorial contractor, and one other individual. All commenters opposed the addition of this service to the Procurement List.

This service is currently being performed by a small disadvantaged business which is graduating from the Small Business Administration's 8(a) Program. The two commenting Government agencies claimed that removal of the service from the 8(a) Program would cause severe adverse impact on the Program's ability to provide business development opportunities for small disadvantaged businesses, both nationally and at the Government agency where the service is being performed. Another commenter claimed that the 8(a) Program cannot