

were added based upon differences between production data and Federal-State Inspection Service inspection data. Insofar as related uses are concerned, an added allowance is made for the normal crushing residual that cannot effectively be used for food use and that amount has traditionally been expected to be about 12 percent, on a farmer stock basis, of the total of MY domestic production. An allowance for shrinkage and other losses is made to account for reduced kernel and other kernel losses during storage, using the customary factor of 4 percent of domestic food use. In addition, disaster transfers of poor quality peanuts are included as part of other losses. Finally the unused quota allowance goes to those instances where the farmer cannot fulfill a quota either because of under-planting or because the farmer is unable to produce enough Segregation 1 peanuts to fulfill the full quota. Because of the program changes in the 1996 Act, which have been outlined in previous notices, there is now a greater incentive than in the past to fully market the quota and it is expected that, after discounting for quality problems, somewhere between 94.4 percent and 98.4 percent of the quota will be marketed.

In MY 1996 about 97.3 percent was marketed, in MY 1997 about 99.7 percent of quota was marketed and for MY 1998 between 94 and 98 percent of the quota is anticipated to be marketed. Also, it is anticipated that between 94.4 and 98.4 percent of the MY 1999 quota will be marketed.

The proposed 1999 quota range, as set forth above, reflects expected growth in domestic consumption of peanut products through government purchases, new uses and a small increase in demand resulting from lower peanut support prices in recent years. Overall demand, including imports, is projected to increase about 2 percent. However, government support purchases in MY 1997 have increased about 15 percent from 28,516 st in MY 1996 to 32,799 st in MY 1997.

List of Subjects in 7 CFR Part 729

Peanuts, Penalties, Poundage quotas, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

Accordingly, it is proposed that 7 CFR parts 729 be amended as follows:

PART 729—PEANUTS

1. The authority citation for 7 CFR part 729 shall continue to read as follows:

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 1301, 1357 et seq., 1372, 1373, 1375, and 7271.

2. Section 729.216 paragraph (c) is revised to read as follows:

§ 729.216 National poundage quota.

* * * * *

(c) Quota determination for individual marketing years:

(1) The national poundage quota (excluding seed) for quota peanuts for marketing year 1996 is 1,100,000 short tons.

(2) The national poundage quota (excluding seed) for quota peanuts for marketing year 1997 is 1,133,000 short tons.

(3) The national poundage quota (excluding seed) for quota peanuts for marketing year 1998 is 1,167,000 short tons.

(4) The national poundage quota (excluding seed) for quota peanuts for marketing year 1999 will be set between 1,175,000 and 1,225,000 short tons.

Signed at Washington, DC, on November 20, 1998.

Parks Shackelford,

Acting Administrator, Farm Service Agency.

[FR Doc. 98-31563 Filed 11-20-98; 4:37 pm]

BILLING CODE 3410-05-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration

7 CFR Part 868

RIN 0580-AA67

Fees for Rice Inspection

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

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: The Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA) is proposing an increase in certain fees for Federal Rice Inspection Services performed under the Agricultural Marketing Act (AMA) of 1946. This fee increase is intended to cover, as nearly as practicable, the projected approximate 3.6 percent increase to Federal salaries for Federal Rice Inspection Services. The proposed increase is designated to generate additional revenue required to recover operational costs created by cost-of-living increases to Federal salaries January 1, 1999.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before January 25, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Written comments must be submitted to Sharon Vassiliades, USDA, GIPSA, ART, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Stop 3649, Washington, DC 20250-3649, or faxed to (202) 720-4628. Comments may also be sent by

electronic mail or Internet to: svassili@fgisdc.usda.gov. All comments received will be made available for public inspection during regular business hours in Room 0623, South Building, USDA, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-3649 (7 CFR 1.27(b)).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Sharon Vassiliades at 202 720-1738.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Executive Order 12866

This rule has been determined to be nonsignificant for the purpose of Executive Order 12866 and, therefore, has not been reviewed by the Office of Management and Budget.

Executive Order 12988

This proposed rule has been reviewed under Executive Order 12988, Civil Justice Reform. This action is not intended to have a retroactive effect. This action will not preempt any State or local laws, regulations, or policies unless they present irreconcilable conflict with this rule. There are no administrative procedures which must be exhausted prior to any judicial challenge to provisions of this rule.

Regulatory Flexibility Act and Effects on Small Entities

James R. Baker, Administrator, GIPSA, has determined that this proposed rule will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities as defined under the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601 *et seq.*).

The proposed cost of living increase in the rice service fee is primarily applicable to GIPSA customers that produce, process, and market rice for the domestic and international markets. There are approximately 550 such customers located primarily in the Arkansas, Louisiana and Texas geographic areas. Many of these customers meet the criteria for small business. GIPSA has determined that this proposed rule will have a limited economic impact on small entities as defined in the Regulatory Flexibility Act.

Under the provisions of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1621 *et seq.*), rice inspection services are provided upon customer request and GIPSA must recover from the customer the cost of providing such services. GIPSA is proposing to recover a projected January 1, 1999, 3.6 percent increase in federal salary costs by raising its rice service fee. The proposed increase will affect only that portion of the fees associated with the hourly salaries paid to Federal employees and

administrative personnel; overhead recovery is not being proposed in this docket.

GIPSA cannot absorb the approximate 3.6 percent increase in salary costs with the existing deficit in retained earnings. In fiscal year 1998, GIPSA's obligations were \$3,820,820 with revenue of \$4,011,446, resulting in a positive margin of \$190,626 and retained earnings of negative \$895,584.

The proposed increase in fees would not have a significant impact on either small or large entities. GIPSA estimates that the increased fee charged to its 550 customers will provide an annual increase of \$155,356 in revenue (assuming fiscal year 1998 volume equivalents).

Information Collection and Record Keeping Requirements

In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35), the information collection and record keeping requirements concerning applications for official inspection services including rice inspections have been previously approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 0580-0013.

Background

The rice inspection fees were last amended on July 3, 1996 (61 FR 34714), with a tri-level fee increase with effective dates of August 2, 1996, January 1, 1997, and January 1, 1998. These fees were to cover, as nearly as practicable, the projected operating costs, including related supervisory and administrative costs and to maintain an operating reserve for Federal Rice Inspection Services. They presently appear at 7 CFR 868.91 in Tables 1 and 2. Currently, the regular workday contract and noncontract fees are \$40.20 and \$48.90, respectively, while the nonregular workday contract and noncontract fees are \$56.00 and \$67.90, respectively. The unit rate per hundredweight for export port services is currently \$.048/cwt. and the unit rate

for total oil and free fatty acid tests is currently \$39.80. These unit rates also are proposed to be changed.

The proposed increase will affect only that portion of the fees associated with hourly salaries paid to Federal employees and administrative personnel; overhead recovery is not being proposed in this docket. The proposed fee increase generates additional revenue required to recover operational costs created by a projected January 1999 cost-of-living increase to Federal salaries. The average salary increase for GIPSA employees in calendar year 1999 is projected at approximately 3.6 percent. This proposed action is being taken to ensure that the service fees charged by GIPSA generate adequate revenue to cover the additional cost created by the January 1999 Federal salary increase.

The hourly fees covered by this proposal generate revenue to cover the basic salary, benefits, and leave for those employees providing direct service delivery and administrative salaries and benefits, as well as contributing to overall overhead cost recovery. GIPSA has also identified that part of the hourly rate that is directly attributable to salaries and benefits and certain unit fees for services not performed at an applicant's facility that contain labor costs. This proposal increases those hourly rates and unit fees based on an approximate 3.6 percent increase to the labor cost of each hourly rate and unit.

The amount of revenue collected under this proposal will be a direct result of the work volume. GIPSA estimates an annual increase of \$155,356 in revenue (assuming fiscal year 1998 volume equivalents). If GIPSA foregoes this adjustment, GIPSA will incur a net loss equivalent to the approximate 3.6 percent Federal salary increase for every hour worked by an employee providing direct service delivery and administrative personnel.

In fiscal year 1998, GIPSA's obligations were \$3,820,820 with

revenue of \$4,011,446, resulting in a positive margin of \$190,626 and retained earnings of negative \$895,589. GIPSA cannot afford to absorb a \$155,356 loss due to the approximate 3.6 percent increase in salary costs with the existing deficit in retained earnings. Additionally, GIPSA will continue to monitor its costs to improve operating efficiencies and adopt cost saving measures, where possible and practicable.

Proposed Action

Section 203 of the AMA (7 U.S.C. 1622) provides for the establishment and collection of fees that are reasonable and, as nearly as practicable, cover the costs of the services rendered. These fees cover the GIPSA administrative and supervisory costs for the performance of official services, including personnel compensation, personnel benefits, travel, rent, communications, utilities, contractual services, supplies, and equipment.

Section 868.91, Tables 1 and 2 are proposed to be revised to provide for the increase in rice inspection fees.

List of Subjects in 7 CFR Part 868

Administrative practice and procedure, Agricultural commodities.

For reasons set out in the preamble, 7 CFR Part 868 is proposed to be amended as follows:

PART 868—GENERAL REGULATIONS AND STANDARDS FOR CERTAIN AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES

1. The authority citation for part 868 continues to read as follows:

Authority: Secs. 202–208, 60 Stat. 1087, as amended (7 U.S.C. 1621 et seq.).

2. Section 868.91 is revised to read as follows:

§ 868.91 Fees for certain Federal rice inspection services.

The fees shown in Tables 1 and 2 apply to Federal Rice Inspection Services.

TABLE 1—HOURLY RATES/UNIT RATE PER CWT

[Fees for Federal Rice Inspection Services]

Service ¹	Regular workday (Monday–Saturday)	Nonregular workday (Sunday–holiday)
Contract (per hour per Service representative)	\$40.80	\$56.80
Noncontract (per hour per Service representative) ²	50.00	69.00
Export Port Services ²	0.05	0.05

¹ Original and appeal inspection services include: Sampling, grading, weighing, and other services requested by the applicant when performed at the applicant's facility.

² Services performed at export port locations on lots at rest.

TABLE 2.—UNIT RATES

Service ^{1 3}	Rough rice	Brown rice for processing	Milled rice
Inspection for quality (per lot, subplot, or sample inspection)	\$32.90	28.40	20.20
Factor analysis for any single factor (per factor):			
(a) Milling yield (per sample)	25.50	25.50
(b) All other factors (per factor)	12.10	12.10	12.10
Total oil and free fatty acid interpretative line samples: ²		40.00	40.00
(a) Milling degree (per set)			85.10
(b) Parboiled light (per sample)			21.30
Extra copies of certificates (per copy)	3.00	3.00	3.00

¹ Fees apply to determinations (original or appeals) for kind, class, grade, factor analysis, equal to type, milling yield, or any other quality designation as defined in the U.S. Standards for Rice or applicable instructions, whether performed singly or combined at other than at the applicant's facility.

² Interpretive lines samples may be purchased from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, GIPSA, FGIS, Technical Services Division, 10383 North Executive Hills Boulevard, Kansas City, Missouri 68030. Interpretive line samples also are available for examination at selected FGIS field offices. A list of field offices may be obtained from the Director, Field Management Division, USDA, GIPSA, FGIS, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, STOP 3630, Washington, DC 20250-3630. The interpretive line samples illustrate the lower limit for milling degrees only and the color limit for the factor "Parboiled Light" rice.

³ Fees for other services not referenced in Table 2 will be based on the noncontract hourly rate listed in Section 868.90, Table 1.

Dated: November 20, 1998.

James R. Baker,
Administrator.

[FR Doc. 98-31514 Filed 11-24-98; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 3410-EN-M

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. 95-ANE-39]

RIN 2120-AA64

Airworthiness Directives; General Electric Company CF6 Series Turbofan Engines

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration, DOT.

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM).

SUMMARY: This document proposes the superseding of an existing airworthiness directive (AD), applicable to General Electric Company (GE) CF6 series turbofan engines, that currently requires initial and repetitive ultrasonic and eddy current inspections of high pressure compressor rotor (HPCR) stage 3-9 spools for cracks. This action would define more aggressive inspection intervals for certain HPCR stage 3-9 spools, add CF6-80E1 engines to the inspection program, add inspection requirements for spools manufactured from 8 inch diameter billet, add a one-time inspection of the stage 3-5 blade slot bottoms, and add a one-time inspection of the web and hub-to-web transition areas. This proposal is prompted by analysis of recent HPCR stage 3-9 spool inspection results and separations, and assessment of the adequacy of the existing program to

prevent HPCR stage 3-9 spool cracking and separation. As a result of that assessment, the FAA has determined there is a need to make changes to the existing AD. The actions specified by the proposed AD are intended to prevent HPCR stage 3-9 spool cracking and separation, which can result in an uncontained engine failure and aircraft damage.

DATES: Comments must be received by January 25, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Submit comments in triplicate to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), New England Region, Office of the Regional Counsel, Attention: Rules Docket No. 95-ANE-39, 12 New England Executive Park, Burlington, MA 01803-5299. Comments may also be sent via the Internet using the following address: "9-ad-engineprop@faa.dot.gov". Comments sent via the Internet must contain the docket number in the subject line. Comments may be inspected at this location between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

The service information referenced in the proposed rule may be obtained from General Electric Company via Lockheed Martin Technology Services, 10525 Chester Road, Suite C, Cincinnati, Ohio 45215, telephone (513) 672-8400, fax (513) 672-8422. This information may be examined at the FAA, New England Region, Office of the Regional Counsel, 12 New England Executive Park, Burlington, MA.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

William S. Ricci, Aerospace Engineer, Engine Certification Office, FAA, Engine and Propeller Directorate, 12 New England Executive Park, Burlington, MA 01803-5299; telephone (781) 238-7742, fax (781) 238-7199.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Comments Invited

Interested persons are invited to participate in the making of the proposed rule by submitting such written data, views, or arguments as they may desire. Communications should identify the Rules Docket number and be submitted in triplicate to the address specified above. All communications received on or before the closing date for comments, specified above, will be considered before taking action on the proposed rule. The proposals contained in this notice may be changed in light of the comments received.

Comments are specifically invited on the overall regulatory, economic, environmental, and energy aspects of the proposed rule. All comments submitted will be available, both before and after the closing date for comments, in the Rules Docket for examination by interested persons. A report summarizing each FAA-public contact concerned with the substance of this proposal will be filed in the Rules Docket.

Commenters wishing the FAA to acknowledge receipt of their comments submitted in response to this notice must submit a self-addressed, stamped postcard on which the following statement is made: "Comments to Docket Number 95-ANE-39." The postcard will be date-stamped and returned to the commenter.

Availability of NPRMs

Any person may obtain a copy of this NPRM by submitting a request to the FAA, New England Region, Office of the Regional Counsel, Attention: Rules Docket No. 95-ANE-39, 12 New