

packaging data, and product fact sheet link.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 16 minutes per response.

Respondents: Distributors.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 5.

Estimated Number of Responses: 10.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 10. Each respondent completes this submission once for each product they register.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 14 hours.

(10) *Distributors Add a New Product registration submission (Sales Partners Systems Upload).* Distributors use this registration submission to register their branded commercial food products on the USDA Food and Commodity Connection Web site using this method. Distributors may include additional product information including but not limited to: Ingredients, product description, preparation and cooking instructions, nutrients, package and packaging data, and product fact sheet link.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 2 minutes per response.

Respondents: Distributors.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 20.

Estimated Number of Responses: 1.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 1. Each respondent that uses the Sales Partners Systems to register their products completes this submission once.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 1 hour.

(11) *Distributors Add a New Product registration submission (Excel spreadsheet).* Distributors use this registration submission to register their branded commercial food products on the USDA Food and Commodity Connection Web site using this method. Distributors may include additional product information including but not limited to: Ingredients, product description, preparation and cooking instructions, nutrients, package and packaging data, and product fact sheet link.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 10 minutes per response.

Respondents: Distributors.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 25.

Estimated Number of Responses: 1.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 1. Each respondent that uses the Excel spreadsheet to register

their products completes this submission once.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 4 hours.

(12) *Brokers registration submission.* Brokers use this registration submission to register the brokerage and the companies they represent on the USDA Food and Commodity Connection Web site.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 16 minutes per response.

Respondents: Brokers.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 100.

Estimated Number of Responses: 100.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 1. Respondents only complete the registration once.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 27 hours.

(13) *Brokers Add a Branch registration submission.* Brokers use this submission to register any branches for the brokerage on the USDA Food and Commodity Connection Web site.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 9 minutes per response.

Respondents: Brokers.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 20.

Estimated Number of Responses: 20.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 1. Respondents only complete this submission when they have branch offices and then they complete one for each branch office.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 3 hours.

(14) *Association registration submission.* Associations in the food service arena use this registration submission to create their user profile on the USDA Food and Commodity Connection Web site.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 7 minutes per response.

Respondents: Associations.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 50.

Estimated Number of Responses: 50.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 1. Respondents only complete the registration once.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 6 hours.

Comments: 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 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 to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden 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 may be sent to Lynne E. Yedinak, Food Quality Assurance Staff, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Agricultural Marketing Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, STOP 0243, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-0243, telephone: (202) 720-9939 and Fax: (202) 690-0102. All comments received will be available for public inspection during regular business hours at the same address.

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

Dated: January 12, 2007.

Lloyd C. Day,

Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.

[FR Doc. E7-624 Filed 1-17-07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-02-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Marketing Service

[Docket No. LS-07-04]

Beef Promotion and Research; Certification of Nominating Organizations

AGENCY: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) is accepting applications from State cattle producer organizations or associations and general farm organizations, as well as cattle or beef importer organizations, who desire to be certified to nominate producers or importers for appointment to vacant positions on the Cattlemen's Beef Promotion and Research Board (Board). Organizations which have not previously been certified that are interested in submitting nominations must complete and submit an official application form to AMS. Previously certified organizations do not need to reapply.

DATES: Applications for certification must be received by close of business February 20, 2007.

ADDRESSES: Certification form may be requested from Kenneth R. Payne, Chief, Marketing Programs Branch, Livestock and Seed Program, AMS, USDA, Room 2628-S, STOP 0251, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-0251 or e-mail Kenneth.Payne@usda.gov. The form may also be found on the Internet at <http://www.ams.usda.gov/lsg/mpb/beef/l25.pdf>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Kenneth R. Payne, Chief, Marketing Programs Branch, Livestock and Seed Program, AMS, USDA, Room 2628-S, STOP 0251, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-0251 or e-mail Kenneth.Payne@usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Beef Promotion and Research Act of 1985 (Act) (7 U.S.C. 2901 *et seq.*), enacted December 23, 1985, authorizes the implementation of a Beef Promotion and Research Order (Order). The Order, as published in the July 18, 1986, **Federal Register** (51 FR 26132), provides for the establishment of a Board. The current Board consists of 96 cattle producers and 8 importers appointed by the Secretary of Agriculture (Secretary). The duties and responsibilities of the Board are specified in the Order.

The Act and the Order provide that USDA shall either certify or otherwise determine the eligibility of State cattle producer organizations or associations and general farm organizations, as well as any importer organizations or associations to nominate members to the Board to ensure that nominees represent the interests of cattle producers and importers. Nominations for importer representatives may also be made by individuals who import cattle, beef, or beef products. Persons who are individual importers do not need to be certified as eligible to submit nominations. When individual importers submit nominations, they must establish to the satisfaction of USDA that they are in fact importers of cattle, beef, or beef products, pursuant to § 1260.143(b)(2) of the Order [7 CFR 1260.143(b)(2)]. Individual importers are encouraged to contact AMS at the above address to obtain further information concerning the nomination process, including the beginning and ending dates of the established nomination period and required nomination forms and background information sheets. Certification and nomination procedures were promulgated in the final rule, published

in the April 4, 1986, **Federal Register** (51 FR 11557) and currently appear at 7 CFR 1260.500 through 1260.640.

Organizations which have previously been certified to nominate members to the Board do not need to reapply for certification to nominate producers and importers for the upcoming vacancies.

Uncertified eligible producer organization and general farm organizations in all States that are interested in being certified as eligible to nominate cattle producers for appointment to the listed producer positions, must complete and submit an official "Application of Certification of Organization or Association," which must be received by close of business (20-days after publication in the **Federal Register**). Uncertified eligible importer organizations that are interested in being certified as eligible to nominate importers for appointment to the listed importer positions must apply by the same date. Importers should not use the application form by should provide the requested information by letter as provided for in CFR § 1260.540(b).

Only those organizations or associations which meet the criteria for certification of eligibility promulgated at 7 CFR 1260.530 are eligible for certification.

For State organizations or associations those criteria are:

- (1) Total paid membership must be comprised of at least a majority of cattle producers or represent at least a majority of cattle producers in a State or unit,
- (2) Membership must represent a substantial number of producers who produce a substantial number of cattle in such State or unit,
- (3) There must be a history of stability and permanency, and
- (4) There must be a primary or overriding purpose of promoting the economic welfare of cattle producers.

For organizations or associations representing importers, the determination by USDA as to the eligibility of importer organizations or associations to nominate members to the Board shall be based on applications containing the following information:

- (1) The number and type of members represented (*i.e.*, beef or cattle importers, etc.),
- (2) Annual import volume in pounds of beef and beef products and/or the number of head of cattle,
- (3) The stability and permanency of the importer organization or association,
- (4) The number of years in existence, and
- (5) The names of the countries of origin for cattle, beef, or beef products imported.

All certified organizations and associations, including those that were previously certified in the States or units having vacant positions on the Board, will be notified simultaneously in writing of the beginning and ending dates of the established nomination period and will be provided with required nomination forms and background information sheets.

The names of qualified nominees received by the established due date will be submitted to USDA for consideration as appointees to the Board.

The information collection requirements referenced in this notice have been previously approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) under the provisions of 44 U.S.C., Chapter 35 and have been assigned OMB No. 0581-0093, except Board member nominee information sheets are assigned OMB No. 0505-0001.

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 2901 *et seq.*

Dated: January 12, 2007.

Lloyd C. Day,

Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.

[FR Doc. E7-648 Filed 1-17-07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-02-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Farm Service Agency

Request for Extension of a Currently Approved Information Collection; Operating Loans; Policies, Procedures, Authorizations and Closings

AGENCY: Farm Service Agency, USDA.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the intent of the Farm Service Agency (FSA) to request renewal of the information collection currently approved and used in support of the FSA Farm Loan Programs (FLP). The collection of information from FLP applicants and commercial lenders is used to determine eligibility; financial feasibility and security positions when the applicant applies for direct loan assistance.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received on or before March 19, 2007 to be assured consideration.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Cathy Quayle, Senior Loan Officer, USDA, Farm Service Agency, Loan Making Division, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Stop 0522, Washington,