

nutrients. FSIS asks for comment on this tentative conclusion.

Processing Aid

The AMI petition raised the issue of considering low dose, low penetration e-beam irradiation of the surface of beef carcasses to be a "processing aid" whose use would not need to be disclosed in the labeling of products derived from the carcasses that were irradiated. FSIS has consulted with FDA about this issue, and FDA has advised FSIS that, tentatively, it would not object to treating low dose, low penetration e-beam irradiation on the surface of chilled beef carcasses as a processing aid. FDA is still considering this issue and will likely consult further with FSIS.

Issues To Be Discussed at the Public Meeting

After considering the AMI petition, FSIS has tentatively concluded that there is merit to consider low dose (≤ 1.0 kGy) and low penetration (20mm) e-beam irradiation on the surface of chilled beef carcasses as a processing aid.

Data submitted showed that low dose, low penetration surface e-beam irradiation will produce a significant surface reduction of *E. coli* 0157:H7 on chilled beef carcasses. The e-beam treatment does not appear to have a lasting antimicrobial effect that would extend the shelf-life of the products, and it appears that there is no significant difference in color, odor, or taste between treated and untreated products. Relevant studies appear to support the assertion that the low dose, low penetration e-beam irradiation treatment would not produce any significant changes in the macro and micro nutrient content of the treated products. Further, the entire beef carcass is not irradiated, only the surface of the carcass.

Public Meeting and Comments

FSIS is seeking comment both at the public meeting and during the comment period on the following questions and those raised throughout this document:

- Is there any additional evidence to support or contradict the evidence presented in the AMI petition on the specific application of a low penetration of 20mm and low surface dosage of ≤ 1.0 kGy electron beam irradiation on the surfaces of chilled beef carcasses as a processing aid?
- Is there any evidence indicating that FSIS should consider the cumulative effects of the absorbed dose delivered in accordance with the AMI petition and any subsequent absorbed

dose, such as a result of further irradiation of ground beef?

- Should FSIS consider requiring irradiation process controls if irradiation is considered a processing aid? If so, what would they be and what impact would they have on the low dose irradiation of chilled carcasses?

- Are there factors that FSIS has not considered? If so, what are they and what impact would they have?

Additional Public Notification

Public awareness of all segments of rulemaking and policy development is important. Consequently, in an effort to ensure that minorities, women, and persons with disabilities are aware of this notice, FSIS will announce it on-line through the FSIS Web page located at http://www.fsis.usda.gov/regulations/2008_Notices_Index/.

FSIS also will make copies of this **Federal Register** publication available through the FSIS Constituent Update, which is used to provide information regarding FSIS policies, procedures, regulations, **Federal Register** notices, FSIS public meetings, and other types of information that could affect or would be of interest to constituents and stakeholders. The Update is communicated via Listserv, a free electronic mail subscription service for industry, trade and farm groups, consumer interest groups, allied health professionals and other individuals who have asked to be included. The Update is available on the FSIS Web page. Through the Listserv and the Web page, FSIS is able to provide information to a much broader and more diverse audience.

In addition, FSIS offers an e-mail subscription service which provides automatic and customized access to selected food safety news and information. This service is available at http://www.fsis.usda.gov/news_and_events/email_subscription/.

Options range from recalls to export information to regulations, directives and notices. Customers can add or delete subscriptions themselves and have the option to password protect their account.

Done at Washington, DC on: September 2, 2008.

Alfred V. Almanza,
Administrator.

[FR Doc. E8-20653 Filed 9-5-08; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Recreation Resource Advisory Committees

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of intent to renew the Recreation Resource Advisory Committees.

SUMMARY: The Secretary of Agriculture intends to renew five Forest Service Recreation Resource Advisory Committees (Recreation RACs) pursuant to Section 4 of the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act passed into law as part of the 2005 Consolidated Appropriations Act (Pub. L. 108-447) on December 8, 2004. The Recreation RACs operate in the Pacific Northwest, Pacific Southwest, Eastern, and Southern Regions of the Forest Service and the State of Colorado, and provide recreation fee recommendations to both the Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) as appropriate. As required by the Federal Advisory Committee Act, charters for Federal advisory committees must be renewed every two years.

DATES: The current charter for the Recreation RACs expires September 28, 2008.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Julie Cox, National Recreation RAC Coordinator, USDA Forest Service, Pacific Northwest Region, 333 SW. 1st Avenue, Portland, OR 97208, (503) 808-2984.

Individuals who use telecommunication devices for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m., Eastern Standard Time, Monday through Friday.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (REA), signed in December 2004, directs the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of the Interior, or both to establish Recreation RACs, or use existing advisory committees to perform the duties of Recreation RACs, in each State or region for Federal recreation lands and waters managed by the Forest Service or the BLM. These committees make recreation fee program recommendations on implementing or eliminating standard amenity fees; expanded amenity fees; and noncommercial, individual special recreation permit fees; expanding or limiting the recreation fee program; and fee-level changes.

The REA grants flexibility to Recreation RACs by stating that the Secretaries:

- May have as many additional Recreation RACs in a State or region as the Secretaries consider necessary;
- Shall not establish a Recreation RAC in a State if the Secretaries determine, in consultation with the Governor of the State, that sufficient interest does not exist to ensure that participation on the committee is balanced in terms of the points of view represented and the functions to be performed; or
- May use a resource advisory committee established pursuant to another provision of law and in accordance with that law.

The Forest Service and BLM elected to jointly use existing BLM RACs in the States of Arizona, Idaho, the Dakotas, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, and Utah. The Forest Service also chartered new Recreation RACs for the Forest Service Pacific Northwest, Pacific Southwest, Eastern, and Southern Regions, and for the State of Colorado. The Forest Service is using an existing advisory board for the Black Hills National Forest in South Dakota. In addition, the Governors of three States—Alaska, Nebraska, and Wyoming—requested that their states be exempt from the Recreation RAC requirement, and the Secretary concurred with the exemptions.

Members were appointed to the Forest Service established Recreation RACs in February 2007 for three regions (Pacific Northwest, Eastern, and Southern), and July 2007 for one region (Pacific Southwest) and one State (State of Colorado).

The Secretaries have signed an Interagency Agreement that authorizes the Forest Service to use existing BLM RACs and the BLM to use Forest Service established Recreation RACs for the purposes stated in the REA.

Dated: September 2, 2008.

Boyd K. Rutherford,

Assistant Secretary for Administration.

[FR Doc. E8-20762 Filed 9-5-08; 8:45 am]

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BROADCASTING BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Sunshine Act Meeting

DATE AND TIME: Thursday, September 11, 2008, 2 p.m.–3 p.m.

PLACE: Cohen Building, Room 3321, 330 Independence Ave., SW., Washington, DC 20237.

CLOSED MEETING: The members of the Broadcasting Board of Governors (BBG) will meet in closed session to review and discuss a number of issues relating to U.S. Government-funded non-military international broadcasting. They will address internal procedural, budgetary, and personnel issues, as well as sensitive foreign policy issues relating to potential options in the U.S. international broadcasting field. This meeting is closed because if open it likely would either disclose matters that would be properly classified to be kept secret in the interest of foreign policy under the appropriate executive order (5 U.S.C. 552b.(c)(1)) or would disclose information the premature disclosure of which would be likely to significantly frustrate implementation of a proposed agency action. (5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(9)(B)). In addition, part of the discussion will relate solely to the internal personnel and organizational issues of the BBG or the International Broadcasting Bureau. (5 U.S.C. 552b.(c)(2) and (6))

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Persons interested in obtaining more information should contact Timi Nickerson Kenealy at (202) 203-4545.

Dated: September 4, 2008.

Timi Nickerson Kenealy,

Acting Legal Counsel.

[FR Doc. E8-20840 Filed 9-4-08; 11:15 am]

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COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

Agenda and Notice of Public Meetings of the Connecticut Advisory Committee

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the provisions of the rules and regulations of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights (Commission), and the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), that a briefing meeting and a planning meeting of the Connecticut Advisory Committee to the Commission will convene at 11 a.m. on Monday, September 22, 2008, in Room 1 C located in the Legislative Building, 210 Capitol Ave., in Hartford, Connecticut. The purpose of the briefing is to hear from local advocates on topical civil rights issues. After the briefing the Committee will plan future activities.

Members of the public are entitled to submit written comments; the comments must be received in the regional office by October 22, 2008. The address is Eastern Regional Office, 624 9th St., NW., Washington, DC 20425. Persons wishing to e-mail their comments, or who desire additional information should contact Alfreda

Greene, Secretary, at 202-376-7533 or by e-mail to: agreene@usccr.gov.

Hearing-impaired persons who will attend the meetings and require the services of a sign language interpreter should contact the Regional Office at least ten (10) working days before the scheduled date of the meetings.

Records generated from these meetings may be inspected and reproduced at the Eastern Regional Office, as they become available, both before and after the meetings. Persons interested in the work of this advisory committee are advised to go to the Commission's Web site, <http://www.usccr.gov>, or to contact the Eastern Regional Office at the above e-mail or street address.

The meetings will be conducted pursuant to the provisions of the rules and regulations of the Commission and FACA.

Dated in Washington, DC, September 3, 2008.

Christopher Byrnes,

Chief, Regional Programs Coordination Unit.

[FR Doc. E8-20744 Filed 9-5-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6335-01-P

COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

Agenda and Notice of Public Meetings of the District of Columbia Advisory Committee

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the provisions of the rules and regulations of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights (Commission), and the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) that planning meetings of Subcommittees of the District of Columbia Advisory Committee to the Commission will convene at 12 p.m. on Tuesday, September 30, 2008, at the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, 624 Ninth Street, NW., Conference Room 540, Washington, DC 20425. The Subcommittee on Immigration will convene at 12 p.m. and the Subcommittee on Voting Rights will convene at 1:30 p.m. The purpose of each meeting is to discuss possible topics to recommend to the District of Columbia SAC as a civil rights project.

Members of the public are entitled to submit written comments; the comments must be received in the regional office by Monday, October 20, 2008. The address is Eastern Regional Office, 624 Ninth Street, NW., Suite 740, Washington, DC 20425. Persons who desire additional information should contact Alfreda Greene, Secretary, at 202-376-7533, or by e-mail: agreene@usccr.gov.