

prospective exclusive license may be granted unless, within thirty (30) days from the date of this published Notice, the Agricultural Research Service receives written evidence and argument which establishes that the grant of the license would not be consistent with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 209 and 37 CFR 404.7.

**Richard J. Brenner,**  
Assistant Administrator.

[FR Doc. E9-9721 Filed 4-28-09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-03-P

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Foreign Agricultural Service

#### Consultative Group To Eliminate the Use of Child Labor and Forced Labor in Imported Agricultural Products

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

**ACTION:** Notice; extension for receiving nominations.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is extending the period for receiving applications from individuals to serve as a non-government member of the Consultative Group to Eliminate the Use of Child Labor and Forced Labor in Imported Agricultural Products (Consultative Group). On June 18, 2008, the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (The Act), also known as the 2008 Farm Bill, was enacted. The Act provides for the creation of the Consultative Group.

**DATES:** Applications must be received prior to 5 p.m. on May 13, 2009.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit applications by any of the following methods:

—*USDA:* Applications should be sent by mail to the Office of Negotiations and Agreements, Foreign Agricultural Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Stop 1040, 1400 Independence Ave., SW., Washington, DC 20250; by hand (including DHL, FedEx, UPS, etc.) to the Office of Negotiations and Agreements, Foreign Agricultural Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Room 4133-S, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20250; by e-mail to: [kathryn.ting@fas.usda.gov](mailto:kathryn.ting@fas.usda.gov); or by fax to (202) 720-0340.

—*U.S. Department of Labor (DOL):* Applications should be sent by mail or by hand (including DHL, FedEx, UPS, etc.) to the Bureau of International Labor Affairs, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution

Ave., NW., Room S-5317, Washington, DC 20210; by e-mail to: [castro.charita@dol.gov](mailto:castro.charita@dol.gov); or by fax to (202) 693-4830.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** The Office of Negotiations and Agreements by fax to (202) 720-0340; by e-mail addressed to [kathryn.ting@fas.usda.gov](mailto:kathryn.ting@fas.usda.gov); or by mail addressed to the Office of Negotiations and Agreements, Foreign Agricultural Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Stop 1040, 1400 Independence Ave., SW., Washington, DC 20250.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Consultative Group to Eliminate the Use of Child Labor and Forced Labor in Imported Agricultural Products was established by section 3205 of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (Pub. L. 110-246). Interested parties are invited to submit applications for membership in the Consultative Group to USDA or DOL as specified in the Submission of Applications paragraph below.

#### Duties

The Consultative Group will develop recommendations relating to a standard set of practices for independent, third-party monitoring and verification for the production, processing, and distribution of agricultural products or commodities to reduce the likelihood that agricultural products or commodities imported into the United States are produced with the use of forced labor or child labor. Recommendations developed by the Consultative Group will be submitted to the Secretary of Agriculture by June 18, 2010. Thereafter, the Consultative Group will continue to advise the Secretary as necessary.

#### Membership

As required under section 3205(d) of the Act, the Consultative Group will be composed of not more than 13 members, including two officials from USDA, one of whom will serve as the chairperson; the Deputy Under Secretary for International Affairs, DOL; and one representative from the Department of State. The Consultative Group will also include:

- Three members to represent private agriculture-related enterprises, which may include retailers, food processors, importers, and producers, of whom at least one member shall be an importer, food processor, or retailer who utilizes independent, third-party supply chain monitoring for forced labor or child labor;
- Two members to represent institutions of higher education and research institutions, as determined

appropriate by the Bureau of International Labor Affairs, DOL;

- One member to represent an organization that provides independent, third-party certification services for labor standards for producers or importers of agricultural commodities or products; and

- Three members to represent organizations described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 that have expertise on the issues of international child labor and do not possess a conflict of interest associated with establishment of the guidelines issued under section 3205(c)(2) of the Act, as determined by the Bureau of International Labor Affairs, DOL, including representatives from consumer organizations and trade unions, if appropriate.

#### Terms of Service

- Members shall serve through December 31, 2012;

- The Consultative Group shall meet no fewer than four times per year in person in Washington, DC or through alternative media;

- The Consultative Group shall make its recommendations to the Secretary of Agriculture no later than June 18, 2010. Thereafter, the Consultative Group submit annual reports to the Secretary through December 31, 2012;

- Members of the Consultative Group shall serve without compensation;

- Travel and lodging expenses will be borne by each member; and

- Meetings of the Consultative Group will be closed to the public.

#### Submission of Applications

- Membership in the Consultative Group is open to all individuals without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, mental or physical handicap, marital status, or sexual orientation.

- All applications must include the following information:

- (1) Brief summary explaining the candidate's qualifications to serve as a member of the Consultative Group;

- (2) Statement specifying the non-government membership category for which the candidate is best qualified (private agriculture-related enterprises, higher education and research institutions, etc.);

- (3) Resume;

- (4) Contact information of candidate; and

- (5) Completed copy of form AD-755, "Advisory Committee Membership Background Information."

Applications from candidates of private agriculture-related enterprises and independent, third-party

certification services must be sent to the USDA contact listed above.

Applications from candidates of higher education, research institutions, and 501(c)(3) organizations must be sent to the DOL contact listed above.

#### Member Selection

The requested applications will assist U.S. Government agencies in making appointments to the Consultative Group. Other qualified individuals may be considered in addition to those who submit applications in response to this notice.

Signed at Washington, DC, on April 17, 2009.

**Patricia R Sheikh,**

*Acting Administrator, Foreign Agricultural Service.*

[FR Doc. E9-9727 Filed 4-28-09; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3410-10-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Rural Housing Service

#### Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for the Section 515 Rural Rental Housing Program for New Construction in Fiscal Year 2009

**AGENCY:** Rural Housing Service (RHS), USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This NOFA announces the timeframe to submit initial applications for Section 515 Rural Rental Housing (RRH) loan funds, including applications for the nonprofit set-aside for eligible nonprofit entities, the set-aside for the most Underserved Counties and Colonias (Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act), and the set-aside for Empowerment Zones and Enterprise Communities (EZ/ECs) and Rural Economic Area Partnership (REAP) zones, and a designated reserve for States with rental assistance programs. This document describes the methodology that will be used to distribute funds, the application process, submission requirements, and areas of special emphasis or consideration.

**DATES:** The deadline for receipt of all applications in response to this NOFA is 5 p.m., local time for each United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development State Office on June 29, 2009. The initial application closing deadline is firm as to date and hour. USDA Rural Development will not consider any initial application that is received after the closing deadline. Applicants intending to mail initial applications must provide sufficient

time to permit delivery on or before the closing deadline date and time.

Acceptance by the United States Postal Service or private mailer does not constitute delivery. Facsimile (FAX) and postage due applications will not be accepted.

**ADDRESSES:** Applicants wishing to apply for assistance must contact the USDA Rural Development State Office serving the place in which they desire to submit an application for rural rental housing to receive further information and copies of the initial application package. USDA Rural Development will date and time stamp incoming applications to evidence timely receipt, and, upon request, will provide the applicant with a written acknowledgment of receipt. A listing of USDA Rural Development State Offices, their addresses, telephone numbers, and person to contact follows:

**Note:** Telephone numbers listed are not toll-free.

Alabama State Office, Suite 601, Sterling Centre, 4121 Carmichael Road, Montgomery, AL 36106-3683, (334) 279-3618, TDD (334) 279-3495, Van McCloud.

Alaska State Office, 800 West Evergreen, Suite 201, Palmer, AK 99645, (907) 761-7740, TDD (907) 761-8905, Deborah Davis.

Arizona State Office, Phoenix Courthouse and Federal Building, 230 North First Ave., Suite 206, Phoenix, AZ 85003-1706, (602) 280-8768, TDD (602) 280-8706, Carol Torres.

Arkansas State Office, 700 W. Capitol Ave., Room 3416, Little Rock, AR 72201-3225, (501) 301-3250, TDD (501) 301-3063, Greg Kemper.

California State Office, 430 G Street, #4169, Davis, CA 95616-4169, (530) 792-5821, TDD (530) 792-5848, Debra Moreton.

Colorado State Office, 655 Parfet Street, Room E100, Lakewood, CO 80215, (720) 544-2923, TDD (800) 659-2656, Mary Summerfield.

Connecticut, Served by Massachusetts State Office.

Delaware and Maryland State Office, 1221 College Park Drive, Suite 200, Dover, DE 19904, (302) 857-3615, TDD (302) 857-3585, Pat Baker.

Florida & Virgin Islands State Office, 4440 N.W. 25th Place, Gainesville, FL 32606-6563, (352) 338-3465, TDD (352) 338-3499, Elizabeth M. Whitaker.

Georgia State Office, Stephens Federal Building, 355 E. Hancock Avenue, Athens, GA 30601-2768, (706) 546-2164, TDD (706) 546-2034, Wayne Rogers.

Hawaii State Office, (Services all Hawaii, American Samoa, Guam, and

Western Pacific), Room 311, Federal Building, 154 Waiianuenue Avenue, Hilo, HI 96720, (808) 933-8305, TDD (808) 933-8321, Donald Estes.

Idaho State Office, Suite A1, 9173 West Barnes Dr., Boise, ID 83709, (208) 378-5630, TDD (208) 378-5644, Miriam Haylett.

Illinois State Office, 2118 West Park Court, Suite A, Champaign, IL 61821-2986, (217) 403-6222, TDD (217) 403-6240, Barry L. Ramsey.

Indiana State Office, 5975 Lakeside Boulevard, Indianapolis, IN 46278, (317) 290-3100 (ext. 423), TDD (317) 290-3343, Stephen Dye.

Iowa State Office, 210 Walnut Street Room 873, Des Moines, IA 50309, (515) 284-4493, TDD (515) 284-4858, Heather Honkomp.

Kansas State Office, 1303 SW First American Place, Suite 100, Topeka, KS 66604-4040, (785) 271-2721, TDD (785) 271-2767, Virginia M. Hammersmith.

Kentucky State Office, 771 Corporate Drive, Suite 200, Lexington, KY 40503, (859) 224-7325, TDD (859) 224-7422, Paul Higgins.

Louisiana State Office, 3727 Government Street, Alexandria, LA 71302, (318) 473-7962, TDD (318) 473-7655, Yvonne R. Emerson.

Maine State Office, 967 Illinois Ave., Suite 4, PO Box 405, Bangor, ME 04402-0405, (207) 990-9110, TDD (207) 942-7331, Bob Nadeau.

Maryland, Served by Delaware State Office.

Massachusetts, Connecticut, & Rhode Island State Office, 451 West Street, Amherst, MA 01002, (413) 253-4333, TDD (413) 253-4590, Arlene Nunes.

Michigan State Office, 3001 Coolidge Road, Suite 200, East Lansing, MI 48823, (517) 324-5192, TDD (517) 337-6795, Julie Putnam.

Minnesota State Office, 375 Jackson Street Building, Suite 410, St. Paul, MN 55101-1853, (651) 602-7812, TDD (651) 602-7830, Nancy Schmidt.

Mississippi State Office, Federal Building, Suite 831, 100 W. Capitol Street, Jackson, MS 39269, (601) 965-4325, TDD (601) 965-5850, Darnella Smith-Murray.

Missouri State Office, 601 Business Loop 70 West, Parkade Center, Suite 235, Columbia, MO 65203, (573) 876-0990, TDD (573) 876-9480, Colleen James.

Montana State Office, 900 Technology Blvd. Suite B, Bozeman, MT 59718, (406) 585-2515, TDD (406) 585-2562, Deborah Chorlton.

Nebraska State Office, Federal Building, Room 152, 100 Centennial Mall N, Lincoln, NE 68508, (402) 437-5734, TDD (402) 437-5093, Linda Anders.