

Notices

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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

Farm Service Agency

Information Collection; Certified State Mediation Program

AGENCY: Farm Service Agency, USDA.

ACTION: Notice; request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Farm Service Agency (FSA) is seeking comments from all interested individuals and organizations on an extension and revision of a currently approved information collection that supports the Certified State Mediation Program. The information collection is necessary to ensure the grant program is being administered properly. The collection of information by mail, phone, fax, in person, and by the Internet is utilized by FSA to initially determine whether the State meets the eligibility criteria to be a recipient of grant funds. Lack of adequate information to make these determinations could result in the improper administration and appropriation of Federal grant funds.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received on or before October 26, 2009.

ADDRESSES: We invite you to submit comments on this notice. In your comments, include date, volume, and page number of this issue of the **Federal Register**. You may submit comments by any of the following methods:

- *Mail:* Ternechue Butler, Mediation Coordinator, USDA, FSA, Outreach Staff, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Ag Stop 0511, Washington, DC 20250-0511

- *E-mail:* Ternechue.Butler@wdc.usda.gov.

- *Fax:* (202) 690-4727.

You may also send comments to the Desk Officer for Agriculture, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20503. Copies of the

information collection may be requested by contacting Ternechue Butler at the above addresses.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ternechue Butler, FSA, Outreach Staff, telephone (202) 690-1098.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Certified State Mediation Program.

OMB Control Number: 0560-0165.

Expiration Date of Approval: March 31, 2010.

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

Abstract: This information is needed for FSA to effectively administer the Certified State Mediation Program in accordance with Subtitles A and B of Title V of the Agricultural Credit Act of 1987 (Pub. L. 100-233). FSA requires some of the collected information to be reported in a standard manner. Although other institutions, public and private, generally require and collect information similar to that requested by FSA, there is a wide diversity in reporting practices.

The information to be collected includes an application for certification, re-verification for subsequent annual approval, SF-424, SF-424A, and SF-424B Application for Federal Assistance, financial management systems and reporting requirements, and audit reports. No additional information is being requested; however, the estimated number of respondents has increased from 32 to 34.

The information requested is reported annually and is necessary for the FSA to determine eligibility and administer the mediation grant program in an equitable and cost-effective manner.

Estimate of Burden: The public reporting burden for this information collection is estimated to average 34 hours per respondent.

Respondents: State Agencies.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 34.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 5.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 1088 hours.

We are requesting comments on all aspects of this information collection, including the following to help us to:

(1) Evaluate whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the

agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;

(2) Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of burden including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

(3) Enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected;

(4) Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

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

Signed in Washington, DC, on August 21, 2009.

Jonathan W. Coppess,

Administrator, Farm Service Agency.

[FR Doc. E9-20638 Filed 8-26-09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-05-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Grain Inspection, Packers, and Stockyards Administration

Designation for the Pocatello, ID; Lewiston, ID; Evansville, IN; and Utah Areas

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

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: GIPSA is announcing the designation of the following organizations to provide official services under the United States Grain Standards Act, as amended (USGSA): Idaho Grain Inspection Service, Inc. (Idaho); Lewiston Grain Inspection Service, Inc. (Lewiston); Ohio Valley Grain Inspection, Inc. (Ohio Valley); and Utah Department of Agriculture and Food (Utah).

DATES: *Effective Date:* October 1, 2009.

ADDRESSES: USDA, GIPSA, Karen Guagliardo, Chief, Review Branch, Compliance Division, STOP 3604, Room 1647-S, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-3604.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Karen Guagliardo at 202-720-7312, e-mail Karen.W.Guagliardo@usda.gov.

Read Applications: All applications and comments will be available for

public inspection at the office above during regular business hours (7 CFR 1.27(b)).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In the March 19, 2009, **Federal Register** (74 FR 11711), GIPSA requested applications for designation to provide official services in the geographic area named above. Applications were due by April 1, 2009.

Idaho, Lewiston, Ohio Valley, and Utah were the sole applicants for designation to provide official services in the areas currently assigned to them, so GIPSA did not ask for additional comments on them.

GIPSA evaluated all available information regarding the designation criteria in section 7(f)(1) of the USGSA (7 U.S.C. 79(f)) and determined Idaho, Lewiston, Ohio Valley, and Utah are

able to provide official services in the geographic areas specified in the March 19, 2009, **Federal Register**, for which they applied. This designation action to provide official services in the specified area is effective October 1, 2009 and terminates on September 30, 2012.

Interested persons may obtain official services by calling the telephone numbers listed below.

Official agency	Headquarters location and telephone	Designation start	Designation end
Idaho	Pocatello, ID (208-233-8303) Additional Location: Blackfoot, ID.	10/1/2009	9/30/2012
Lewiston	Lewiston, ID (208-746-0451)	10/1/2009	9/30/2012
Ohio Valley	Evansville, IN (812-423-9010) Additional Location: Hopkinsville, KY.	10/1/2009	9/30/2012
Utah	Salt Lake City, UT (801-392-2292)	10/1/2009	9/30/2012

Section 7(f)(1) of the USGSA authorizes GIPSA's Administrator to designate a qualified applicant to provide official services in a specified area after determining that the applicant is better able than any other applicant to provide such official services (7 U.S.C. 79 (f)(1)).

Under section 7(g)(1) of the USGSA, designations of official agencies are effective for 3 years unless terminated by the Secretary but may be renewed according to the criteria and procedures prescribed in section 7(f) of the Act.

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 71-87k.

J. Dudley Butler,

Administrator, Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administrator.

[FR Doc. E9-20711 Filed 8-26-09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-KD-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Farm Service Agency

Notice of Funds Availability (NOFA) To Invite Applications for the American Indian Credit Outreach Initiative

AGENCY: Farm Service Agency, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Farm Service Agency (FSA) is requesting applications for competitive cooperative agreement funds for Fiscal Year (FY) 2010 for the credit outreach initiative targeted to American Indian farmers, ranchers, and youth residing primarily on Indian reservations within the contiguous United States. Subject to the availability of appropriations, FSA anticipates the availability of up to \$1,135,000 in funding and the award to one successful applicant through a Cooperative Agreement. This request for

applications is being made prior to passage of an FY 2010 appropriations bill to allow applicants sufficient time to submit proposals, give the Agency maximum time to process applications, and permit continuity of this program. There is no certainty that there will be appropriated funds to fund these applications, so applicants submitting applications prior to the availability of appropriated funds do so at the risk that there may be no funding. FSA requests proposals from eligible nonprofit organizations, land-grant institutions, and federally-recognized Indian tribal governments interested in a competitively-awarded cooperative agreement to create and implement a mechanism that will provide credit outreach and promotion, pre-loan education, and one-on-one loan application preparation assistance to American Indian farmers, ranchers, and youth. Successful proposals may include other innovative services intended to enhance participation by American Indians in specific FSA Agricultural Credit Programs.

DATES: Applications must be completed and submitted to the Agency no later than 5 p.m. eastern time September 28, 2009. Late applications will not be accepted and will be returned to the applicant. Applicants must ensure that the service used to deliver the application can do so by the deadline. Due to security concerns, packages sent to the Agency by mail have been delayed several days or even weeks.

ADDRESSES: Submit applications and other required materials by mail to: Mike Hill, Director, Outreach Staff, Farm Service Agency, USDA, STOP 0511, Suite 508 Portals Building, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-0511.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Mike Hill, (202) 690-1098; e-mail: mike.hill@wdc.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Purpose of Solicitation

This solicitation is issued under 7 U.S.C. 2204b (b)(4), which authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to enter into cooperative agreements to improve the coordination and effectiveness of Federal programs affecting rural areas. The principal objective of this cooperative agreement is to continue a national outreach program that enables American Indian farmers, ranchers, and youth primarily located on Indian reservations in the contiguous United States to understand and have access to the various FSA Agriculture Credit Programs.

Proposal Requirements

All proposed approaches must include a plan for how the project will have the following capabilities in place within three months after acceptance of award:

(1) A data tracking system that records and tracks all project credit outreach activities and has the ability to provide detailed statistical information on an ad hoc basis, that must also be functional on a real-time basis as well as being available online through the Internet, and

(2) The demonstrated ability to deliver these credit outreach services utilizing the FSA online Farm Business Plan software program.

Proposals must demonstrate innovative and unique ways of ensuring that American Indians have improved access to FSA Agricultural Credit Programs through targeted outreach activities including targeted promotional campaigns, educational