

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

Commodity Credit Corporation

Farm Service Agency

Information Collection; Application for Payment of Amounts Due Persons Who Have Died, Disappeared, or Have Been Declared Incompetent

AGENCY: Commodity Credit Corporation and Farm Service Agency, USDA.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) and the Farm Service Agency (FSA) are requesting comments from all interested individuals and organizations on an extension of a currently approved information collection. The CCC and FSA are using the collected information to determine whether representatives or survivors of a producer are entitled to receive payments earned by a producer who dies, disappears, or is declared incompetent before receiving payments or other disbursements.

DATES: We will consider comments that we receive by August 26, 2013.

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:

- **Federal eRulemaking Portal:** Go to <http://regulations.gov>. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.
- **Mail:** Rick Blackwood, Agricultural Program Specialist, USDA, FSA STOP 0572, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20250-0572.

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 Rick Blackwood at the above addresses.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Rick Blackwood, Agricultural Program Specialist, (202) 720-5422, or by email: rick.blackwood@wdc.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Application for Payment of Amounts Due Persons Who Have Died, Disappeared, or Have Been Declared Incompetent.

OMB Control Number: 0560-0026.

Expiration Date: December 31, 2013.

Type of Request: Extension.

Abstract: Persons desiring to claim payments earned, but not yet paid to a person who has died, disappeared, or has been declared incompetent must complete a form FSA-325, Application for Payment of Amounts Due Persons Who Have Died, Disappeared, or Have Been Declared Incompetent. This information is used by FSA county office employees to document the relationship of heirs, beneficiaries or others who claim payment that was earned, but not yet paid to the person who died, disappeared, or who has been declared incompetent, and to determine the order of precedence for disbursing payments to such persons.

Information is obtained only when a person claims that they are due a payment that was earned, but not paid to a producer that has died, disappeared, or has been declared incompetent, and documentation is needed to determine if any individuals are entitled to receive such payments or disbursements.

Estimated Average Time to Respond: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 1.5 hours (30 minutes) per response. The average travel time, which is included in the total annual burden, is estimated to be 1 hour per respondent.

Type of Respondents: Producers.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 2,000.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 1.

Estimated Annual Number of Responses: 2,000.

Estimated Total Annual Burden: 3,000.

We are requesting comments on all aspects of this information collection to help us to:

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

performance of the functions of FSA, including whether the information will have practical utility;

(2) Evaluate the accuracy of FSA'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 responses to this notice, including name and addresses when provided, will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will also become a matter of public record.

Signed on June 18, 2013.

Juan M. Garcia,

Executive Vice President, Commodity Credit Corporation, and Administrator, Farm Service Agency.

[FR Doc. 2013-15334 Filed 6-26-13; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-05-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Farm Service Agency

Information Collection: Power of Attorney

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 the extension with a revision of a currently approved information collection associated with the Power of Attorney. This information collection is used to support the FSA, Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC), Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Federal Crop Insurance Corporation (FCIC) and Risk Management Agency (RMA) in conducting business and accepting signatures on documents from individuals acting on behalf of other individuals or entities.

DATES: We will consider comments that we receive by August 26, 2013.

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:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* Go to <http://regulations.gov>. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.

- *Mail:* Rick Blackwood, Agricultural Program Specialist, USDA, FSA, Stop 0572, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20250-0572.

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 Rick Blackwood at the above addresses.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Rick Blackwood, Agricultural Program Specialist, (202) 720-5422, or by email: rick.blackwood@wdc.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Power of Attorney.

OMB Control Number: 0560-0190.

Expiration Date of Approval:

December 31, 2013.

Type of Request: Extension with a revision.

Abstract: Individuals or entities that want to appoint another to act as an attorney-in-fact in connection with certain FSA, CCC, NRCS, FCIC, and RMA programs and related actions must complete a FSA-211, Power of Attorney form. The FSA-211 is the form that is used by a grantor to appoint another to act on the individual's or entity's behalf for certain FSA, CCC, NRCS, FCIC, and RMA programs and related actions, giving the appointee legal authority to enter into certain binding agreements on the grantor's behalf. The FSA-211 also provides FSA, CCC, NRCS, FCIC, and RMA a source to verify an individual's authority to sign and act for another in the event of errors or fraud.

The information collected on the FSA-211 is limited to grantor's name, signature and identification number, the grantee's address, and the applicable FSA, CCC, NRCS, FCIC, and RMA programs. The burden has increased by 58,681 hours due to the 1-hour travel times per respondent included and the actual numbers of respondents in this request.

Estimate of Average Time to respond: 1.25 hours (75 minutes) per response.

The average travel time, which is included in the total annual burden, is estimated to be 1 hour per respondent.

Type of Respondents: Individuals or authorized representatives of entities, such as corporations, that want to

appoint an attorney-in-fact to act on their behalf.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 51,585.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 1.

Estimated Number of Responses: 51,585.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 64,256 hours.

We are requesting comments on all aspects of this information collection to help us to:

- (1) Evaluate whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of FSA, including whether the information will have practical utility;

- (2) Evaluate the accuracy of FSA'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 responses to this notice, including name and addresses when provided, will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will also become a matter of public record.

Signed on June 18, 2013.

Juan M. Garcia,

Administrator, Farm Service Agency.

[FR Doc. 2013-15336 Filed 6-26-13; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-05-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Food Safety and Inspection Service

[Docket No. FSIS-2011-0033]

Availability of Guidance: Establishments Guidance for the Selection of a Commercial or Private Microbiological Testing Laboratory

AGENCY: Food Safety and Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: The Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) is announcing the availability of final guidance for federally inspected establishments in the selection of commercial and private microbiological testing laboratories. FSIS has posted this policy guidance on its Web page <http://www.fsis.usda.gov/wps/portal/fsis/topics/regulatory->

compliance/compliance-guides-index.

FSIS encourages establishments that prepare meat, poultry, or processed egg products to consider the criteria in the guidance in selecting commercial or private microbiological testing laboratories and in determining the laboratories' capability to produce accurate and reliable results. Regulated establishments are required to introduce into commerce only meat, poultry, or processed egg products that are safe and not adulterated or misbranded. Establishments that select laboratories that do not apply appropriate testing methods or maintain effective Quality Control or Quality Assurance (QC/QA) practices may not receive reliable or useful test results and thus run the risk of not being aware that the food that they have produced is unsafe.

DATES: The guidance is effective August 26, 2013.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Evelyne Mbandi, Deputy Director, Risk, Innovations, and Management Staff, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food Safety and Inspection Service, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Patriots Plaza 3, Mailstop 3782, Room 163-B, Washington, DC 20250; Phone: (301) 504-0897; Email: evelyne.mbandi@fsis.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

In a **Federal Register** notice published March 8, 2012 (77 FR 13999), FSIS made available its "Establishment Guidance for the Selection of a Commercial or Private Microbiological Testing Laboratory" and requested comment on it. As FSIS explained in the 2012 **Federal Register** notice, this guidance document provides establishments that prepare meat, poultry, and processed egg products with criteria for selecting a commercial or private laboratory to analyze their samples. Regulated establishments are ultimately responsible for the testing methods and practices that the laboratory employs on the establishments' behalf.

An FSIS-regulated establishment may perform microbiological testing for various reasons, including, but not limited to: Fulfilling regulatory requirements; performing on-going verification of the establishment's Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) plan; supporting decisions made in the establishment's hazard analysis; evaluating the effectiveness of the establishment's sanitation program; and complying with purchase specifications or requirements.