

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration****Opportunity for Designation in Decatur, IN; Request for Comments on the Official Agency Servicing These Areas.**

AGENCY: Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA), USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The designation of the official agency listed below will end on December 31, 2016. We are asking persons or governmental agencies interested in providing official services in the areas presently served by this agency to submit an application for designation. In addition, we are asking for comments on the quality of services provided by the following designated agency: Northeast Indiana Grain Inspection, Inc. (Northeast Indiana).

DATES: Applications and comments must be received by January 11, 2017.

ADDRESSES: Submit applications and comments concerning this Notice using any of the following methods:

- *Applying for Designation on the Internet:* Use FGISonline (https://fgis.gipsa.usda.gov/default_home_FGIS.aspx) and then click on the Delegations/Designations and Export Registrations (DDR) link. You will need to obtain an FGISonline customer number and USDA eAuthentication username and password prior to applying.

- *Submit Comments Using the Internet:* Go to [Regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) (<http://www.regulations.gov>). Instructions for submitting and reading comments are detailed on the site.

- *Mail, Courier or Hand Delivery:* Sharon Lathrop, Compliance Officer, USDA, GIPSA, FGIS, QACD, 10383 North Ambassador Drive, Kansas City, MO 64153.

- *Fax:* Sharon Lathrop, 816-872-1258.

- *Email:* FGIS.QACD@usda.gov.

Read Applications and Comments: All applications and comments will be available for public inspection at the office above during regular business hours (7 CFR 1.27(c)).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Sharon Lathrop, 816-891-0415 or FGIS.QACD@usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 79(f) of the United States Grain Standards Act (USGSA) authorizes the Secretary 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)). Under section 79(g) of the USGSA, designations of official agencies are effective for no longer than five years, unless terminated by the Secretary, and may be renewed according to the criteria and procedures prescribed in section 79(f) of the USGSA.

Areas Open for Designation*Northeast Indiana*

Pursuant to Section 79(f)(2) of the United States Grain Standards Act, the following geographic area, in the State of Indiana, is assigned to this official agency.

In Indiana

Bounded on the North by the northern Lagrange and Steuben County lines; Bounded on the East by the eastern Steuben, De Kalb, Allen, and Adams County lines; Bounded on the South by the southern Adams and Wells County lines; and Bounded on the West by the western Wells County line; the southern Huntington and Wabash County lines; the western Wabash County line north to State Route 114; State Route 114 northwest to State Route 19; State Route 19 north to Kosciusko County; the western and northern Kosciusko County lines; the western Noble and Lagrange County lines.

The following grain elevator is part of this geographic area's assignment. In Michigan Grain Inspection Services, Inc.'s area: Trupointe Elevator, Payne, Paulding County, Ohio.

Opportunity for Designation

Interested persons or governmental agencies may apply for designation to provide official services in the geographic areas specified above under the provisions of section 79(f) of the USGSA and 7 CFR 800.196. Designation in the specified geographic area in the State of Indiana is for the period beginning January 1, 2017, to December 31, 2021. To apply for designation or to request more information, contact Sharon Lathrop at the address listed above.

Request for Comments

We are publishing this Notice to provide interested persons the opportunity to comment on the quality of services provided by the Northeast Indiana official agency. In the designation process, we are particularly interested in receiving comments citing reasons and pertinent data supporting or objecting to the designation of the applicant. Submit all comments to

Sharon Lathrop at the above address or at <http://www.regulations.gov>.

We consider applications, comments, and other available information when determining which applicants will be designated.

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

Larry Mitchell,

Administrator, Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration.

[FR Doc. 2016-29706 Filed 12-9-16; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration****Designation for the Amarillo, TX; Cairo, IL; State of Louisiana; State of North Carolina and Belmond, IA; Minnesota; New Jersey and New York Areas**

AGENCY: Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA), USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: GIPSA is announcing the designations of Amarillo Grain Exchange, Inc. (Amarillo); Cairo Grain Inspection Agency, Inc. (Cairo); Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry (Louisiana); North Carolina Department of Agriculture (North Carolina) and D.R. Schaal Agency, Inc. (Schaal) to provide official services under the United States Grain Standards Act (USGSA), as amended.

DATES: *Effective Date:* October 1, 2016.

ADDRESSES: Sharon Lathrop, Compliance Officer, USDA, GIPSA, FGIS, QACD, 10383 North Ambassador Drive, Kansas City, MO 64153.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Sharon Lathrop, 816-891-0415, Sharon.L.Lathrop@usda.gov or FGIS.QACD@usda.gov.

Read Applications: All applications and comments are available for public inspection at the office above during regular business hours (7 CFR 1.27(c)).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In the August 24, 2016, and August 30, 2016, **Federal Register** (81 FR 57882 through 57885 and 59598), GIPSA requested applications for designation to provide official services in the geographic areas presently serviced by Amarillo, Cairo, Louisiana, North Carolina, and Schaal. Applications were due by September 23, 2016, for the areas presently serviced by Amarillo, Cairo, Louisiana, and North Carolina, and September 29, 2016, for the area presently serviced by Schaal.

The current official agencies: Amarillo, Cairo, Louisiana, North

Carolina, and Schaal were the only applicants for designation to provide official services in these areas. As a result, GIPSA did not ask for additional comments.

GIPSA evaluated the designation criteria in section 79(f) of the USGSA (7

U.S.C. 79(f)) and determined that Amarillo, Cairo, Louisiana, North Carolina, and Schaal are qualified to provide official services in the geographic areas specified in the **Federal Register** on August 24 and 30, 2016. This designation to provide

official services in the specified areas of Amarillo, Cairo, Louisiana, North Carolina, and Schaal is effective October 1, 2016, to September 30, 2021.

Interested persons may obtain official services by contacting these agencies at the following telephone numbers:

Official agency	Headquarters location and telephone	Designation start	Designation end
Amarillo	Amarillo, TX; 806-372-8511	10/1/2016	9/30/2021
Cairo	Cairo, IL; 618-734-0689	10/1/2016	9/30/2021
Louisiana	Baton Rouge, LA; 225-922-1341	10/1/2016	9/30/2021
North Carolina	Raleigh, NC; 919-202-5774	10/1/2016	9/30/2021
Schaal	Belmond, IA; 641-444-3122	10/1/2016	9/30/2021

Section 79(f) of the USGSA authorizes the Secretary 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)).

Larry Mitchell,

Administrator, Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

National Agricultural Statistics Service

Confidentiality Pledge Revision Notice

AGENCY: National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of Revision of Confidentiality Pledge under the Title V of the E-Government Act, Confidential Information Protection and Statistical Efficiency Act of 2002 (CIPSEA) and Title 7, Chapter 55, Section 2276 (Confidentiality of Information).

SUMMARY: Under 44 U.S.C. 3506(e), and 44 U.S.C. 3501, the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) is announcing a revision to the confidentiality pledge it provides to its respondents under CIPSEA and Title 7, Chapter 55, Section 2276. The revision is required by the passage and implementation of provisions of the Federal Cybersecurity Enhancement Act of 2015 (H.R. 2029, Division N, Title II, Subtitle B, Sec. 223), which permit and require the Secretary of Homeland Security to provide Federal civilian agencies' information technology systems with cybersecurity protection for their Internet traffic. More details on this announcement are presented in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section below.

DATES: This revision becomes effective upon publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**. In a parallel **Federal Register** notice, NASS is seeking public comment on this confidentiality pledge revision.

ADDRESSES: Questions about this notice may be submitted by any of the following methods:

- *Email:* ombofficer@nass.usda.gov.
- *Include the title "Confidentiality Pledge Revision Notice" in the subject line of the message.*
- *Efax:* (855) 838-6382.
- *Mail or Hand Delivery/Courier:*

David Hancock, NASS Clearance Officer, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Room 5336 South Building, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20250-2024.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: R. Renee Picanso, Associate Administrator, National Agricultural Statistics Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, (202) 720-4333, or email HQOA@nass.usda.gov. Because of delays in the receipt of regular mail related to security screening, respondents are encouraged to use phone or electronic communications.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under CIPSEA; Title 7, Chapter 55, Section 2276; and similar statistical confidentiality protection statutes, many federal statistical agencies, including NASS, make statutory pledges that the information respondents provide will be seen only by statistical agency personnel or their sworn agents, and will be used only for statistical purposes. CIPSEA and Title 7, Chapter 55, Section 2276 protect such statistical information from administrative, law enforcement, taxation, regulatory, or any other non-statistical use and immunize the information submitted to statistical agencies from legal process. Moreover, many of these statutes carry criminal penalties of a Class E felony (fines up to \$250,000, or up to five years in prison, or both) for conviction of a knowing and

willful unauthorized disclosure of covered information.

As part of the Consolidated Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2016 signed on December 17, 2015, the Congress included the Federal Cybersecurity Enhancement Act of 2015 (H.R. 2029, Division N, Title II, Subtitle B, Sec. 223). This Act, among other provisions, permits and requires the Secretary of Homeland Security to provide federal civilian agencies' information technology systems with cybersecurity protection for their Internet traffic. The technology currently used to provide this protection against cyber malware is known as "Einstein 3A". It electronically searches Internet traffic in and out of federal civilian agencies in real time for malware signatures.

When such a signature is found, the Internet packets that contain the malware signature are shunted aside for further inspection by Department of Homeland Security (DHS) personnel. Because it is possible that such packets entering or leaving a statistical agency's information technology system may contain confidential statistical data, statistical agencies can no longer promise their respondents that their responses will be seen only by statistical agency personnel or their sworn agents. However, they can promise, in accordance with provisions of the Federal Cybersecurity Enhancement Act of 2015, that such monitoring can be used only to protect information and information systems from cybersecurity risks, thereby, in effect, providing stronger protection to the integrity of the respondents' submissions.

Consequently, with the passage of the Federal Cybersecurity Enhancement Act of 2015, the federal statistical community has an opportunity to welcome the further protection of its confidential data offered by DHS' Einstein 3A cybersecurity protection program. The DHS cybersecurity