

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 202.

Randall D. Jones,

Acting Administrator, Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration

Designation for the Montana Area

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

ACTION: Notice of designation.

SUMMARY: GIPSA is announcing the designation of the Montana Department

of Agriculture (Montana) to provide official services under the United States Grain Standards Act (USGSA), as amended.

DATES: July 1, 2017.

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

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Jacob Thein, 816-866-2223, *Jacob.D.Thein@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 April 17, 2017, **Federal Register** (82 FR 18100), GIPSA requested applications for designation to provide official

services in the geographic areas presently serviced by Montana. Applications were due by May 17, 2017.

The current official agency, Montana, was the only applicant 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 7(f) of the USGSA (7 U.S.C. 79(f)) and determined that Montana is qualified to provide official services in the geographic area specified in the **Federal Register** on April 17, 2017. This designation to provide official services in the specified area of Montana is effective July 1, 2017, to June 30, 2022.

Interested persons may obtain official services by contacting this agency at the following telephone number:

Official agency	Headquarters location and telephone	Designation start	Designation end
Montana	Great Falls, MT, 406-444-3144	7/1/2017	6/30/2022

Section 7(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)).

Randall D. Jones,

Acting Administrator, Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration

Opportunity for Designation in the Memphis, Tennessee, Area; Request for Comments on the Official Agency Servicing This Area

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

ACTION: Notice of opportunity for designation.

SUMMARY: The designation of the official agency listed below will end on March 31, 2018. 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:

Midsouth Grain Inspection Service (Midsouth).

DATES: Applications and comments must be received by October 5, 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:* Mark Wooden, Compliance Officer, USDA, GIPSA, FGIS, QACD, 10383 North Ambassador Drive, Kansas City, MO 64153.

• *Fax:* Mark Wooden, 816-872-1257.

• *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:

Mark Wooden, 816-659-8413 or *FGIS.QACD@usda.gov*.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 7(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 7(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 7(f) of the USGSA.

Areas Open for Designation

Midsouth

Pursuant to Section 7(f)(2) of the United States Grain Standards Act, the following geographic area in the States of Arkansas, Mississippi, Tennessee, and Texas is assigned to this official agency.

In Arkansas

The entire State of Arkansas.

In Mississippi

The entire State of Mississippi, except export port locations within the State, which are serviced by GIPSA.

In Tennessee

Carroll, Chester, Crockett, Dyer, Fayette, Gibson, Hardeman, Haywood, Henderson, Lauderdale, Madison, McNairy, Shelby, and Tipton Counties.

In Texas

Bowie and Cass Counties.