

plant pests and other articles to prevent the introduction of plant pests into the United States. Implementing the laws is necessary to prevent injurious plant and insect pest from entering the United States, a situation that could produce serious consequences for U.S. agriculture. The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is required to collect information from a variety of individuals, both within and outside the United States, who are involved in growing, packing, handling, transporting, and importing foreign plants, roots, bulbs, seeds, importing foreign logs, lumber, other unmanufactured wood articles, and other plant products. APHIS will collect this information using a number of forms.

Need and Use of the Information: APHIS will collect information to ensure that plants, fruits, vegetables, roots, bulbs, seeds, foreign logs, lumber, other unmanufactured wood articles, and other plant products imported into the United States do not harbor plant diseases or insect pests that could cause serious harm to U.S. agriculture.

Description of Respondents: Business or other for-profit; Individuals or households; Not-for-profit institutions; Farms; State, Local or Tribal Government.

Number of Respondents: 92,457.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: On occasion.

Total Burden Hours: 91,138.

Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service

Title: TB Payments to El Paso Texas.

OMB Control Number: 0579-0193.

Summary of Collection: Title 21 U.S.C. authorizes sections 111, 114, 114a, 115, 120, 121, 125, 126, 134a, 134c, 134f, and 134g. These authorities permit the Secretary to prevent, control and eliminate domestic diseases such as tuberculosis, as well as to take actions to prevent and to manage exotic diseases such as foot-and-mouth disease, rinderpest, and other foreign animal diseases. More specifically, 21 U.S.C. 111, 115, and 118 authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to take such measures as she may deem proper to prevent the introduction or dissemination of any contagious or communicable disease of animals or live poultry from a foreign country into the United States or from one State to another. Disease prevention is the most effective method for maintaining a healthy animal population and enhancing the Animal and Plant Health Inspection (APHIS) ability to compete in exporting animals and animal products. Since 1985, State Animal Health

Officials in Texas, along with APHIS, have been taking measure to eliminate tuberculosis in dairy herds in the El Paso, Texas area. As a result of these eradication efforts, dairy herds in the El Paso area have become free of tuberculosis, only to become reinfected again. Because of this situation, APHIS determined that in order to further the eradication of tuberculosis in the United States, it is necessary to remove all bovine dairy herds from El Paso area. APHIS published an interim rule that would allow them to make payments to El Paso dairy herd owners if these owners agree to dispose of their dairy herds, closing their existing dairy operations, and refrain from establishing new cattle breeding operations in the area. A number of information collection activities will be used to collect information for dairy owners.

Need and Use of the Information: APHIS will collect information to provide payment to owners of dairy cattle and other property used in connection with dairy operations in the area of El Paso, Texas. To be eligible for payment under this program, all owners of dairy operations in the area of El Paso, Texas must sign and adhere to an agreement with APHIS.

Description of Respondents: Business or other for-profit; State, Local or Tribal Government; Farms.

Number of Respondents: 95.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: On occasion.

Total Burden Hours: 875.

Sondra A. Blakey,

Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Marketing Service

[TM-02'06]

Notice of Meeting of the National Organic Standards Board

AGENCY: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended, the Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) is announcing a forthcoming meeting of the National Organic Standards Board (NOSB).

DATES: The meeting dates are: October 19, 2002, 8 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.; and October 20, 2002, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Requests from individuals and

organizations wishing to make an oral presentation at the meeting are due by the close of business on October 9, 2002.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will take place at the Radisson Barceló Hotel, Board Room, 2121 P Street, NW., Washington, DC. Requests to make an oral presentation at the meeting may be sent to Ms. Katherine Benham at USDA-AMS-TMD-NOP, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Room 4008-So., Ag Stop 0268, Washington, DC 20250-0200. Requests to make an oral presentation at the meeting may also be sent electronically to Ms. Katherine Benham at katherine.benham@usda.gov, via telephone at (202) 205-7806, or via facsimile at (202) 205-7808.

The October NOSB meeting agenda is available at <http://www.ams.usda.gov/nop> or from Ms. Katherine Benham at (202) 205-7806, preceding addresses or via telephone (202) 205-7806.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Richard Mathews, Program Manager, National Organic Program, (202) 720-3252.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 2119 (7 U.S.C. 6518) of the Organic Foods Production Act of 1990 (OFPA), as amended (7 U.S.C. Section 6501 *et seq.*) requires the establishment of the NOSB. The purpose of the NOSB is to make recommendations about whether a substance should be allowed or prohibited in organic production or handling, to assist in the development of standards for substances to be used in organic production and to advise the Secretary on other aspects of the implementation of the OFPA. The NOSB met for the first time in Washington, DC, in March 1992, and currently has six committees working on various aspects of the organic program. The committees are: Accreditation, Crops, Livestock, Materials, International, and Processing.

In August of 1994, the NOSB provided its initial recommendations for the National Organic Program (NOP) to the Secretary of Agriculture. Since that time, the NOSB has submitted 42 addenda to its recommendations and reviewed more than 241 substances for inclusion on the National List of Allowed and Prohibited Substances. The last meeting of the NOSB was held on September 17-19, 2002, in Washington, DC.

The Department of Agriculture (USDA) published its final National Organic Program regulation in the **Federal Register** on December 21, 2000 (65 FR 80548). The rule became effective April 21, 2001.

The principal purposes of the meeting are to provide an opportunity for the

NOSB to: Receive an update from the USDA/NOP, receive various committee reports, receive reports from the Materials Task Force and Composting Task Force, and review materials to determine if they should be included on the National List of Allowed and Prohibited Substances.

The Materials Committee will report on current petitions' statuses, and report on EPA List 3 and 4 Inerts. The Materials Committee will also present for NOSB consideration 10 materials for possible inclusion on the National List of Allowed and Prohibited Substances. The Livestock Committee will present for NOSB consideration its recommendations on "dairy herd replacements", and the scope of review for excipients and other materials. The Processing Committee will discuss the ion exchange production process, present a recommendation for the scope of materials review, and present a recommendation for when handling becomes processing for producers and retailers. The Crops Committee will present its recommendations for hydroponic production, planting stock, and application of the 20% sodium nitrate annotation. The Accreditation Committee will report on the review of NOP accreditation procedures and present its recommendation for grower group certification criteria. Finally, the International Committee will discuss and present its recommendation on US/EU equivalency.

Materials to be reviewed at the meeting by the NOSB are as follows:

Crop Production: Potassium Silicate, Potassium Sulfate, 1,4 Dimethylnaphthalene, and Butylated Hydroxytoluene (BHT); and for *Livestock Production:* Mineral Oil, Calcium Propionate, Furosemide, Atropine, Flunixin, and Proteinated Chelates.

For further information, see <http://www.ams.usda.gov/nop>. Copies of the NOSB meeting agenda can be requested from Ms. Katherine Benham by telephone at (202) 205-7806; or obtained by accessing the NOP Web site at <http://www.ams.usda.gov/nop>.

The meeting is open to the public. The NOSB has scheduled time for public input on Saturday, October 19, 2002, from 8:15 a.m. until 10:15 a.m., and Sunday, October 20, 2002, from 8 a.m. until 9 a.m., at the Radisson Barceló Hotel, 2121 P Street, NW., Washington, DC. Individuals and organizations wishing to make an oral presentation at the meeting may make their requests via letter, telephone, e-mail or facsimile as set forth in the addresses section of this notice. While persons wishing to make a presentation,

may also sign up at the door, advance registration will ensure that a person has the opportunity to speak during the allotted time period and will help the NOSB to better manage the meeting and to accomplish its agenda. Individuals or organizations will be given approximately 5 minutes to present their views. All persons making an oral presentation are requested to provide their comments in writing. Written submissions may contain information other than that presented at the oral presentation.

Written comments must be submitted to Ms. Benham, prior to or after the meeting, at USDA-AMS-TMD-NOP, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Room 4008-So., Ag Stop 0268, Washington, DC 20250-0200. Persons submitting written comments at the meeting are asked to provide 30 copies.

Interested persons may visit the NOSB portion of the NOP Web site <http://www.ams.usda.gov/nop> to view available documents prior to the meeting. Approximately 6 weeks following the meeting interested persons will be able to visit the NOSB portion of the NOP Web site to view documents from this meeting.

Dated: October 3, 2002.

A.J. Yates,

Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Comet Administrative Study Environmental Impact Statement—Klamath National Forest

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Cancellation of notice of intent to prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS).

SUMMARY: The Forest Service is canceling the Notice of Intent for the Comet Administrative Study EIS—Klamath National Forest that was published in **Federal Register**, Vol. 65, No. 230 on pages 71087 through 71088 on Wednesday, November 29, 2000. The usefulness of the study has diminished due to changing circumstances, so it will no longer be pursued.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Margaret J. Boland, Forest Supervisor, Klamath National Forest, USDA Forest Service, 1312 Fairlane Road, Yreka, California 96097.

Dated: September 27, 2002.

Margaret J. Boland,

Forest Supervisor.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Utilities Service

Southern Intertie Project; Notice of Availability of a Record of Decision

AGENCY: Rural Utilities Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of availability of a record of decision.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the Rural Utilities Service (RUS), has issued a Record of Decision (ROD) for the Southern Intertie Project. The decision of RUS is that the National Environmental Policy Act process is satisfied with respect to a request for financing assistance from Golden Valley Electric Association (GVEA) for its share of the cost of constructing the Southern Intertie Project. The project being proposed by the Intertie Participants Group (IPG), of which GVEA is a member, is the construction of a 138 kilovolt (kV) transmission line between the Kenai Peninsula and Anchorage, Alaska. The construction of the project will be undertaken in accordance with the FEIS.

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT: Lawrence R. Wolfe, Senior Environmental Protection Specialist, Engineering and Environmental Staff, USDA Rural Utilities Service, Stop 1571, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-1571, telephone (202) 720-1784, fax (202) 720-0820. The e-mail address is: lwolfe@rus.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The RUS preferred alternative, the Tesoro Route, would connect the Bernice Lake Substation on the Kenai Peninsula with the Pt. Woronzof Substation in Anchorage. This alternative would parallel the Tesoro Pipeline from the Captain Cook State Recreational Area to Pt. Possession (Route A). At Pt. Possession three options are available to cross the Turnagain Arm and terminate at the Pt. Woronzof Substation. Route Option B crosses the Turnagain Arm via Fire Island to the Pt. Woronzof Substation. Route Option C crosses the Turnagain Arm directly from Pt. Possession to a landing at the Pt. Woronzof Substation. Route Option D would cross the Turnagain Arm from Pt. Possession to Pt. Campbell. From the Pt. Campbell landing, this alternative would continue to parallel the Tesoro pipeline through Kincaid Park and