

system. Manufacturers wishing to sell their products to RUS electric borrowers request RUS consideration for acceptance of their products and submit letters of request with certifications as to the origin of manufacture of the products and include certified data demonstrating their products' compliance with RUS specifications.

Need and Use of the Information: RUS will collect information to evaluate the data to determine that the quality of the products is acceptable and that their use will not jeopardize loan security. The information is closely reviewed to be certain that test data; product dimensions and product material compositions fully comply with RUS technical standards and specifications that have been established for the particular product. Without this information, RUS has no means of determining the acceptability of products for use in the rural environment.

Description of Respondents: Business or other for-profit.

Number of Respondents: 38.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: on occasion.

Total Burden Hours: 1,760.

Rural Housing Service

Title: 7 CFR 1944-B, Housing Applications Packaging Grants.

OMB Control Number: 0575-0157.

Summary of Collection: Section 509 of the Housing Act of 1949, as amended, authorizes the Rural Housing Service (RHS) to make grants to private and public nonprofit organizations and State and local governments to package housing applications for Section 502, 504, 514/515 and 533 to colonies and designated counties. Eligible organizations aid very low and low-income individuals and families in obtaining benefits from RHS housing programs. Various forms are used to confirm income verification for loan applicants, as a checklist to obtain a loan, and to check credit information about the applicants.

Need and Use of the Information: RHS field personnel will use this information to verify program eligibility requirements, to secure grant assistance, and for approval of housing application-packaging grants. The information will ensure that the program is administered in a manner consistent with legislative and administrative requirements. Without this information, RHS would be unable to determine if a grantee qualifies for grant assistance.

Description of Respondents: Not-for-profit institutions.

Number of respondents: 300.

Frequency of responses: Recordkeeping; reporting: on occasion.

Total Burden Hours: 1,350.

Animal Plant and Health Inspection Service

Title: Recognizing the Animal Disease Status of Regions in the European Union.

OMB Control Number: 0579-New.

Summary of Collection: title 21, U.S.C. authorizes sections 111, 114, 114a, 114-1, 115, 120, 121, 125, 126, 134a, 134c, 134f, and 134g. These authorities permit the Secretary to prevent, control and eliminate domestic diseases such as brucellosis, as well as to take actions to prevent and to manage exotic diseases such as hog cholera and other foreign diseases. Disease prevention is the most effective method for maintaining a healthy animal population and enhancing the Animal Plant and Health Inspection service (APHIS) ability to compete in exporting animal and animal products. APHIS published a rule that would recognize Greece as a region free of foot-and-mouth disease; recognize Greece and nine regions in northern Italy as free of swine vesicular disease; and recognize Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Portugal, and Spain as a region free of hog cholera. Recognizing the new animal health status of these regions will allow them to import swine, pork and pork products, and swine semen into the United States under less stringent conditions, and will be regarded by the international community as a lowering of trade barriers. APHIS will collect information using certificates.

Need and use of the Information: APHIS will collect information concerning the origin and history of the items destined for importation into the United States. APHIS will also collect information to ensure that swine, pork and pork products, and swine semen pose a negligible risk of introducing exotic swine diseases into the United States. if the information is not collected it would cripple APHIS' ability to ensure that swine, pork and pork products, and swine semen pose a minimal risk of introducing hog cholera and other exotic animal disease into the United States.

Description of Respondents: Business or other for profit; State, local and tribal government.

Number of Respondents: 30.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: on occasion.

Total Burden Hours: 300.

Agricultural Marketing Service

Title: Specified Commodities Imported into the United States Exempt from Import Requirements, 7 CFR Part 944, 980, and 999.

OMB Control Number: 0581-0167.

Summary of Collection: Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act of 1937 (AMAA), as amended (7 U.S.C. 601-674) provides that when certain domestically produced commodities are regulated under a Federal marketing order; imports of the commodity must meet the same or comparable requirements. Import regulations apply only during those periods when domestic marketing order regulations are in effect. No person may import products for processing or other exempt purposes unless an executed Importers Exempt Commodity Form (FV-6) accompanies the shipment. The Civil Penalty Stipulation Agreement (FV-7) is a "volunteer" form that provides the Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) with an additional tool to obtain resolution of certain cases without the cost of going to a hearing.

Need and Use of the Information: AMS utilizes the information to ensure that imported goods destined for exempt outlets are given no less favorable treatment than that afforded to domestic goods destined for such exempt outlets. The importers wishing to import commodities will use form FV-6, "Importer's Exempt Commodity", which requires a minimum amount of information.

Description of Respondents: Business or other for-profit; not-for-profit institutions.

Number of Respondents: 324.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: on occasion.

Total Burden Hours: 2550.

Sondra A. Blakey,

Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration

[02-b-s]

Designation for the Oregon Area

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

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA) announces the designation of Lewiston