

seed potato producers from all the counties in Area No. 2. This rule would not change the number of handler representatives on the Committee, which would remain at five. Each position would continue to have an alternate with the same qualifications as the member.

Potato production in Saguache County has increased significantly in recent years. Increased potato acreage has been the primary reason for the production increase. Colorado's Saguache County and Chaffee County comprise a nominating district within Area No. 2 and currently have one member and alternate member serving on the Committee. The Committee believes that an additional member from this area would benefit both the Committee and the industry. With certified potato seed production representing a significantly important segment of the Area No. 2 potato crop, the Committee also believes that the addition of a certified seed producer position would add a fresh perspective to its membership and would provide better representation for the San Luis Valley potato industry. Authority for this action is provided in § 948.53 of the order.

Once implemented, this rule would cause a small increase in the Committee's cost of administering the order. For example, overall costs associated with Committee members' travel to attend meetings would increase due to the additional members requiring compensation. The increased cost, however, should be offset by the non-economic benefits derived by providing a greater number of producers the chance to participate as members of the Committee, as well as the service the increased Committee expertise and diversity would provide to the San Luis Valley potato industry. Regardless, the costs associated with this rule are not expected to be disproportionately greater or less for small producers and handlers than for larger entities.

The Committee discussed alternatives to this change. In considering its goals of providing additional representation in response to the greater production in Saguache County and the significant certified seed potato production throughout the San Luis Valley, the Committee looked at various alternatives to the current method of representation. For example, the Committee considered combining the counties in Area No. 2 into fewer subdivisions, or districts, in order to keep the Committee the same size while providing for greater representation to certain districts. After considerable discussion, however, the Committee

determined that the only equitable method of handling the representation problem was to add additional members and leave the current subdivisions unchanged.

This proposed rule would increase the number of member and alternate member positions on the Committee. Since the two-year Committee terms are arranged so that approximately one-half terminate each year, this action would increase by four the number of background statements requiring completion in a two-year period. It is estimated that the time needed to complete the forms by producers who are nominated to serve in the two additional member and two additional alternate member positions would be less than two minutes per response, or a total of 8 minutes, which would not substantially impact the total burden hours. In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. chapter 35), these additional information collection requirements have been previously approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) under OMB Control No. 0581-0178.

As with all Federal marketing order programs, reports and forms are periodically reviewed to reduce information requirements and duplication by industry and public sector agencies. USDA has not identified any relevant Federal rules that duplicate, overlap or conflict with this proposed rule.

The Committee's meeting was widely publicized throughout the San Luis Valley and all interested persons were invited to attend the meeting and participate in Committee deliberations on all issues. Like all Committee meetings, the March 20, 2003, meeting was a public meeting and all entities, both large and small, were able to express views on this issue. In addition, interested persons are invited to submit information on the regulatory and informational impacts of this action on small businesses.

A small business guide on complying with fruit, vegetable, and specialty crop marketing agreements and orders may be viewed at: <http://www.ams.usda.gov/fv/moab.html>. Any questions about the compliance guide should be sent to Jay Guerber at the previously mentioned address in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section.

A 15-day comment period is provided to allow interested persons the chance to respond to this proposal. Fifteen days is deemed appropriate because this rule would need to be in place as soon as possible so that the Committee can nominate members and alternate

members for the two new producer positions as soon as possible. All written comments timely received will be considered before a final determination is made on this matter.

List of Subjects in 7 CFR Part 948

Marketing agreements, Potatoes, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

For the reasons set forth in the preamble, 7 CFR Part 948 is proposed to be amended as follows:

PART 948—IRISH POTATOES GROWN IN COLORADO

1. The authority citation for 7 CFR part 948 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 601–674.

2. In § 948.150, paragraph (a) is revised to read as follows:

§ 948.150 Reestablishment of committee membership.

* * * * *

(a) Area No. 2 (San Luis Valley): Nine producers and five handlers selected as follows:

Two (2) producers from Rio Grande County;

Two (2) producers from either Saguache County or Chaffee County;

One (1) producer from Conejos County;

Two (2) producers from Alamosa County;

One (1) producer from all other counties in Area No. 2;

One (1) producer representing certified seed producers in Area No. 2;

Two (2) handlers representing bulk handlers in Area No. 2;

Three (3) handlers representing handlers in Area No. 2 other than bulk handlers.

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Dated: May 23, 2003.

A. J. Yates,

Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.

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FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

12 CFR Part 211

Regulation K; Docket No. R– 1147

International Banking Operations

AGENCY: Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking.

SUMMARY: The Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System (Board) is