

RUS Borrower can charge a maximum interest rate of 8 percent.

■ 6. Amend § 1721.104 by:

- A. Revising paragraph (c)(1)(ii);
- B. Redesignating paragraph (d) as (e); and

■ C. Adding a new paragraph (d).

This revision and addition are to read as follows:

**§ 1721.104 Eligible purposes.**

\* \* \* \* \*

(c) \* \* \*

(1) \* \* \*

(ii) Electric power system interfaces;

\* \* \* \* \*

(d) *Deferments for distributed generation projects.*

(1) A Borrower may request that RUS defer principal payments to enable the Borrower to finance distributed generation projects. Amounts deferred under this program can be used to cover costs to install all or part of a distributed generation system that:

(i) The Borrower will own and operate, or

(ii) The consumer owns, provided the system owned by the consumer does not exceed 5KW.

(2) A distributed generation project may include one or more individual systems.

\* \* \* \* \*

■ 7. Amend § 1721.105 by redesignating paragraph (d) as (e) and by adding a new paragraph (d) to read as follows:

**§ 1721.105 Application documents.**

\* \* \* \* \*

(d) *Deferments for distributed generation projects.* A Borrower requesting principal deferments for distributed generation projects must submit the following information and approval is also subject to any applicable terms and conditions of the Borrower's loan contract, mortgage, or indenture:

(1) A letter from the Borrower's General Manager requesting an extension of principal payments for the purpose of financing distributed generation projects and describing the details of the project, and

(2) A copy of the board resolution establishing the distributed generation projects program.

\* \* \* \* \*

■ 8. Amend § 1721.106 by revising paragraph (a) and the heading of paragraph (b) to read as follows:

**§ 1721.106 Repayment of deferred payments.**

(a) *Deferments relating to financial hardship.* The total amount of interest that has been deferred, including

interest on deferred principal, will be added to the principal balance, and the total amount of principal and interest that has been deferred will be reamortized over the remaining life of the applicable note beginning in the first year the deferral period ends. For example: the amount of interest deferred in years 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, and 2007, will be added to the principal balance and reamortized over the life of the applicable note for repayment starting in year 2008.

(b) *Deferments relating to the ERC loan program, renewable energy project(s), distributed generation project(s), and the contribution(s)-in-aid of construction.* \* \* \*

\* \* \* \* \*

Dated: May 30, 2003.

**Hilda Gay Legg,**

*Administrator, Rural Utilities Service.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Food Safety and Inspection Service

#### 9 CFR Parts 391, 590, and 592

[Docket No. 02-034F]

RIN 0583-AC94

#### Changes in Fees for Meat, Poultry, and Egg Products Inspection Services—Calendar Year (CY) 2003

**AGENCY:** Food Safety and Inspection Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Final rule.

**SUMMARY:** The Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) is amending its regulations to change the fees that it charges meat and poultry establishments, egg products plants, importers, and exporters for providing voluntary inspection services, overtime and holiday inspection services, identification services, certification services, and laboratory services. The Agency is raising the fees for voluntary base time and holiday and overtime inspection services. These increases in fees reflect, among other factors, the national and locality pay raise for Federal employees (4.1 percent increase effective January 2003) and inflation. FSIS is also decreasing the fee for laboratory services because of greater efficiencies realized. The Agency is not changing the annual fee it charges for the Accredited Laboratory Program.

**DATES:** This final rule is effective on June 29, 2003.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For further information concerning policy

issues contact Lynn Dickey, Ph.D., Director, Regulations and Directives Development Staff, Office of Policy and Program Development, FSIS, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Room 112, Cotton Annex Building, 300 12th Street, SW., Washington, DC 20250-3700; telephone (202) 720-5627, fax (202) 690-0486.

For information concerning fees, contact Raymond M. Saunders, Director, Budget Division, Office of Management, FSIS, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 2158 South Building, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-3700, (202) 720-3367, fax (202) 690-4155.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Background

The Federal Meat Inspection Act (FMIA) (21 U.S.C. 601 *et seq.*), the Poultry Products Inspection Act (PPIA) (21 U.S.C. 451 *et seq.*), and the Egg Products Inspection Act (EPIA) (21 U.S.C. 1031 *et seq.*) provide for mandatory Federal inspection of livestock and poultry slaughter at official establishments, and meat and poultry processing at official establishments and egg products processing at official plants. FSIS bears the cost of mandatory inspection that occurs during an establishment or plant's regular hours of operation. Establishments and plants pay for inspection services performed on holidays or on an overtime basis.

In addition, under the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946, as amended (7 U.S.C. 1621 *et seq.*) (AMA), FSIS provides a range of voluntary inspection, certification, and identification services to assist in the orderly marketing of various animal products and byproducts. These services include the certification of technical animal fats and the inspection of exotic animal products, such as antelope and elk. FSIS is required to recover the costs of voluntary inspection, certification, and identification services.

Under the AMA, FSIS also provides certain voluntary laboratory services that establishments and others may request the Agency to perform. Laboratory services are provided for four types of analytic testing: microbiological testing, residue chemistry tests, food composition tests, and pathology testing. FSIS must recover these costs.

Additionally, FSIS conducts an accreditation program for non-Federal analytical laboratories who are qualified under the Accredited Laboratory Program to conduct analyses of official meat and poultry samples. The Food,