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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Marketing Service

7 CFR Part 956

[Docket No. FV95-956-1FIR]

Sweet Onions Grown in the Walla Walla Valley of Southeast Washington and Northeast Oregon; Expenses and Assessment Rate

AGENCY: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: The Department of Agriculture (Department) is adopting as a final rule, without change, the provisions of an interim final rule that authorized expenses and established an assessment rate that generated funds to pay those expenses under Marketing Order No. 956 for the 1995-96 fiscal period. Authorization of this budget enables the Walla Walla Sweet Onion Committee (Committee) to incur expenses that are reasonable and necessary to administer the program. Funds to administer this program are derived from assessments on handlers. **EFFECTIVE DATE:** June 1, 1995, through May 31, 1996.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Martha Sue Clark, Marketing Order Administration Branch, Fruit and Vegetable Division, AMS, USDA, PO Box 96456, room 2523-S, Washington, DC 20090-6456, telephone 202-720-9918, or Robert J. Curry, Northwest Marketing Field Office, Fruit and Vegetable Division, AMS, USDA, Green-Wyatt Federal Building, room 369, 1220 Southwest Third Avenue, Portland, OR 97204, telephone 503-326-2724.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This rule is issued under Marketing Agreement and Order No. 956 (7 CFR part 956) regulating the handling of Sweet Onions grown in the Walla Walla Valley of Southeast Washington and Northeast

Oregon. The marketing agreement and order are effective under the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act of 1937, as amended (7 U.S.C. 601-674), hereinafter referred to as the Act.

The Department is issuing this rule in conformance with Executive Order 12866.

This rule has been reviewed under Executive Order 12778, Civil Justice Reform. Under the marketing order now in effect Walla Walla Sweet Onion handlers are subject to assessments. Funds to administer the Walla Walla Sweet Onion order are derived from such assessments. It is intended that the assessment rate as issued herein will be applicable to all assessable onions during the 1995-96 fiscal period, which began June 1, 1995, and ends May 31, 1996. This final rule will not preempt any State or local laws, regulations, or policies, unless they present an irreconcilable conflict with this rule.

The Act provides that administrative proceedings must be exhausted before parties may file suit in court. Under section 608c(15)(A) of the Act, any handler subject to an order may file with the Secretary a petition stating that the order, any provision of the order, or any obligation imposed in connection with the order is not in accordance with law and request a modification of the order or to be exempted therefrom. Such handler is afforded the opportunity for a hearing on the petition. After the hearing the Secretary would rule on the petition. The Act provides that the district court of the United States in any district in which the handler is an inhabitant, or has his or her principal place of business, has jurisdiction in equity to review the Secretary's ruling on the petition, provided a bill in equity is filed not later than 20 days after the date of the entry of the ruling.

Pursuant to the requirements set forth in the Regulatory Flexibility Act (RFA), the Administrator of the Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) has considered the economic impact of this rule on small entities.

The purpose of the RFA is to fit regulatory actions to the scale of business subject to such actions in order that small businesses will not be unduly or disproportionately burdened. Marketing orders issued pursuant to the Act, and the rules issued thereunder, are unique in that they are brought about through group action of essentially

small entities acting on their own behalf. Thus, both statutes have small entity orientation and compatibility.

There are approximately 50 producers of Walla Walla Sweet Onions under this marketing order, and approximately 9 handlers. Small agricultural producers have been defined by the Small Business Administration (13 CFR 121.601) as those having annual receipts of less than \$500,000, and small agricultural service firms are defined as those whose annual receipts are less than \$5,000,000. The majority of Walla Walla Sweet Onion producers and handlers may be classified as small entities.

The budget of expenses for the 1995-96 fiscal period was prepared by the Walla Walla Sweet Onion Committee, the agency responsible for local administration of the marketing order, and submitted to the Department for approval. The members of the Committee are producers and handlers of Walla Walla Sweet Onions. They are familiar with the Committee's needs and with the costs of goods and services in their local area and are thus in a position to formulate an appropriate budget. The budget was formulated and discussed in a public meeting. Thus, all directly affected persons have had an opportunity to participate and provide input.

The assessment rate recommended by the Committee was derived by dividing anticipated expenses by expected shipments of Walla Walla Sweet Onions. Because that rate will be applied to actual shipments, it must be established at a rate that will provide sufficient income to pay the Committee's expenses.

The order became effective May 19, 1995, and the Committee met on June 7, 1995, and unanimously recommended an initial budget of \$72,000. Expense items include \$12,000 for a manager or management services, \$15,000 for management support services, \$1,000 for a financial audit, \$1,000 for staff travel, \$2,500 for Committee travel, \$10,000 for research projects, \$12,000 for promotion projects, \$3,000 for compliance, \$6,000 for Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act expenses, and \$9,500 for a miscellaneous fund for contingency and reserve.

The Committee also unanimously recommended an assessment rate of \$0.12 per 50-pound bag or equivalent.

This rate when applied to anticipated onion shipments of 600,000 bags will yield \$72,000 in assessment income, which will be adequate to cover budgeted expenses.

An interim final rule was published in the **Federal Register** on July 5, 1995 (60 FR 34843). That interim final rule added § 956.201 to authorize expenses and establish an assessment rate for the Committee. That rule provided that interested persons could file comments through August 4, 1995. No comments were received.

While this action will impose some additional costs on handlers, the costs are in the form of uniform assessments on all handlers. Some of the additional costs may be passed on to producers. However, these costs will be offset by the benefits derived by the operation of the marketing order. Therefore, the Administrator of the AMS has determined that this action will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities.

After consideration of all relevant material presented, including the information and recommendations submitted by the Committee and other available information, it is hereby found that this rule, as hereinafter set forth, will tend to effectuate the declared policy of the Act.

It is further found that good cause exists for not postponing the effective date of this rule until 30 days after publication in the **Federal Register** (5 U.S.C. 553) because the Committee needs to have sufficient funds to pay its expenses which are incurred on a continuous basis. The 1995-96 fiscal period began on June 1, 1995. The marketing order requires that the rate of assessment for the fiscal period apply to all assessable onions handled during the fiscal period. In addition, handlers are aware of this rule which was recommended by the Committee at a public meeting and published in the **Federal Register** as an interim final rule.

List of Subjects in 7 CFR Part 956

Marketing agreements, Onions, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

For the reasons set forth in the preamble, 7 CFR part 956 is amended as follows:

PART 956—SWEET ONIONS GROWN IN THE WALLA WALLA VALLEY OF SOUTHEAST WASHINGTON AND NORTHEAST OREGON

Accordingly, the interim final rule adding § 956.201 which was published at 60 FR 34843 on July 5, 1995, is adopted as a final rule without change.

Dated: August 25, 1995.

Sharon Bomer Lauritsen,
Deputy Director, Fruit and Vegetable Division.
[FR Doc. 95-21652 Filed 8-30-95; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 3410-02-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 71

[Airspace Docket No. 95-ACE-1]

Establishment of Class E Airspace; Nebraska City, NE

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) DOT.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: This action establishes Class E airspace at Nebraska City Municipal Airport, Nebraska City, NE. The development of two new standard instrument approach procedures (SIAPs) at Nebraska City Municipal Airport, Nebraska City, NE, utilizing the Nebraska City NDB has made the proposal necessary. The intended effect of this action is to provide controlled airspace for aircraft executing these SIAPs at Nebraska City, NE. A minor correction is being made in the geographic coordinates of the Nebraska City Municipal Airport.

EFFECTIVE DATE: 0901 UTC, November 9, 1995.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kathy Randolph, Air Traffic Division, Air Traffic Operations Branch, ACE-530, Federal Aviation Administration, 601 East 12th Street, Kansas City, Missouri 64106; telephone: (816) 426-3408.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

History

On April 21, 1995, the FAA proposed to amend part 71 of the Federal Aviation Regulations (14 CFR part 71) by establishing Class E airspace at Nebraska City, NE (60 FR 25871). The proposed action would provide controlled airspace to accommodate NDB SIAPs to Runways 15 & 33 at the Nebraska City Municipal Airport. A minor correction is being made in the geographic coordinates of the airport.

Interested parties were invited to participate in this rulemaking proceeding by submitting written comments on the proposal to the FAA. No comments were received. Class E airspace areas extending from 700 feet or more above the surface of the earth are published in paragraphs 6005 of FAA Order 7400.9B dated July 18, 1994,

and effective September 16, 1994, which is incorporated by reference in 14 CFR 71.1. The Class E airspace designation listed in this document will be published subsequently in the Order.

The Rule

This amendment to part 71 of the Federal Aviation Regulations (14 CFR part 71) establishes Class E airspace at Nebraska City, NE, providing controlled airspace for aircraft executing NDB Runway 15/33 SIAPs to the Nebraska City Municipal Airport. This action also corrects the geographic position coordinates of the airport.

The FAA has determined that this regulation only involves an established body of technical regulations for which frequent and routine amendments are necessary to keep them operationally current. Therefore, this regulation—(1) is not a “significant regulatory action” under Executive Order 12866; (2) is not a “significant rule” under DOT Regulatory Policies and Procedures (44 FR 11034; February 26, 1979); and (3) does not warrant preparation of a Regulatory Evaluation as the anticipated impact is so minimal. Since this is a routine matter that will only affect air traffic procedures and air navigation, it is certified that this rule will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities under the criteria of the Regulatory Flexibility Act.

List of Subjects in 14 CFR Part 71

Airspace, Incorporation by reference, Navigation (air).

Adoption of the Amendment

In consideration of the foregoing, the Federal Aviation Administration amends 14 CFR part 71 as follows:

PART 71—[AMENDED]

1. The authority citation for part 71 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 49 U.S.C. 106(g) 40103, 40113, 40120; E.O. 10854; 24 FR 9565, 3 CFR, 1959-1963 Comp., p. 389; 14 CFR 11.69.

§ 71.1 [Amended]

2. The incorporation by reference in 14 CFR 71.1 of Federal Aviation Administration Order 7400.9B, Airspace Designations and Reporting Points, dated July 18, 1994, and effective September 16, 1994, is amended as follows:

Paragraph 6005 Class E airspace areas extending from 700 feet or more above the surface of the earth.

* * * * *

ACE NE E5 Nebraska City, NE [New]
Nebraska City Municipal Airport, NE.