

become a bank holding company by acquiring Continental Pacific Bank, Vacaville, California. Comments on this application must be received by January 22, 1996.

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, January 2, 1996.

Jennifer J. Johnson,

Deputy Secretary of the Board.

[FR Doc. 96-185 Filed 1-5-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6210-01-F

First Union Corporation, et al.; Acquisitions of Companies Engaged in Permissible Nonbanking Activities

The organizations listed in this notice have applied under § 225.23(a)(2) or (f) of the Board's Regulation Y (12 CFR 225.23(a)(2) or (f)) for the Board's approval under section 4(c)(8) of the Bank Holding Company Act (12 U.S.C. 1843(c)(8)) and § 225.21(a) of Regulation Y (12 CFR 225.21(a)) to acquire or control voting securities or assets of a company engaged in a nonbanking activity that is listed in § 225.25 of Regulation Y as closely related to banking and permissible for bank holding companies. Unless otherwise noted, such activities will be conducted throughout the United States.

Each application is available for immediate inspection at the Federal Reserve Bank indicated. Once the application has been accepted for processing, it will also be available for inspection at the offices of the Board of Governors. Interested persons may express their views in writing on the question whether consummation of the proposal can "reasonably be expected to produce benefits to the public, such as greater convenience, increased competition, or gains in efficiency, that outweigh possible adverse effects, such as undue concentration of resources, decreased or unfair competition, conflicts of interests, or unsound banking practices." Any request for a hearing on this question must be accompanied by a statement of the reasons a written presentation would not suffice in lieu of a hearing, identifying specifically any questions of fact that are in dispute, summarizing the evidence that would be presented at a hearing, and indicating how the party commenting would be aggrieved by approval of the proposal.

Unless otherwise noted, comments regarding each of these applications must be received at the Reserve Bank indicated for the application or the offices of the Board of Governors not later than January 22, 1996.

A. Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond (Lloyd W. Bostian, Jr., Senior

Vice President) 701 East Byrd Street, Richmond, Virginia 23261:

1. *First Union Corporation*, Charlotte, North Carolina; to acquire Society First Federal Savings Bank, Fort Myers, Florida, and thereby engage in operating a savings association, pursuant to § 225.25(b)(9) of the Board's Regulation Y.

B. Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta (Zane R. Kelley, Vice President) 104 Marietta Street, N.W., Atlanta, Georgia 30303:

1. *Pinellas Bancshares Corporation*, St. Petersburg, Florida; to acquire Eickhoff, Pieper & Willoughby, Inc., Tampa, Florida, and thereby engage in providing investment or financial advice, pursuant to § 225.25(b)(4)(iii) of the Board's Regulation Y.

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, January 2, 1996.

Jennifer J. Johnson,

Deputy Secretary of the Board.

[FR Doc. 96-186 Filed 1-5-96; 8:45 am]

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GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

Public Buildings Service

Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for a Proposed U.S. Courthouse and Federal Building in Las Vegas, NV

Pursuant to the Council of Environmental Quality Regulations (40 Code of Federal Regulations 1500-1508) implementing procedural provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the General Services Administration (GSA) hereby gives notice that an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) shall be prepared for the construction of a new 415,000-gross-square foot Federal Building-U.S. Courthouse (FB-CT) to be located within the Central Business Area (CBA) of the city of Las Vegas, Nevada. The proposed site encompasses about 6 acres and is owned by the city of Las Vegas. The proposed site is bounded by Bridger Avenue on the north, Clark Avenue on the south, Las Vegas Boulevard on the west, and 6th Street on the east. The EIS shall examine three project alternatives. Specific alternatives to be evaluated shall include: (1) construction of the FB-CT on the 3.5-acre Fifth Street School site, a property listed on the National Register of Historic Places located at 400 Las Vegas Boulevard; (2) construction of the FB-CT on an 8.3-acre portion of the county-owned railroad yard at the end of Bonneville Street between Main Street, Interstate 15, U.S. Highway 95 and

Charleston Boulevard; and (3) no action or continued use of the existing Federal buildings and U.S. Courthouse.

GSA invites interested individuals, organizations, and Federal, State and local agencies to participate in defining the reasonable alternatives to be evaluated in the EIS and in identifying any significant social, economic, or environmental issues related to the alternatives. Scoping will be accomplished by correspondence and through a public meeting. The meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 11, 1996, from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m., at the Clark County Regional Center, 505 South Grand Central Parkway, Pueblo Room (1st Floor), Las Vegas, Nevada. Comments received during the meeting will be made a part of the administrative record for the EIS and will be evaluated as part of the scoping process.

Written comments on the scope of alternatives and potential impacts may be addressed to Mr. John Garvey, GSA Portfolio Management (9PT), Public Buildings Service, 525 Market Street, San Francisco, California 94105. Comments should be sent to GSA by January 22, 1996.

A Draft EIS will be prepared based upon the scoping efforts. After its publication, the Draft EIS will be available for public and agency review and comment. A final EIS will be prepared that addresses the comments on the Draft EIS.

If a sign language interpreter, assistive listening device, or aids for a visual impairment are required please telephone Mr. John Garvey at (415) 744-8113 within five days of the meeting.

Dated: December 27, 1995.

Aki K. Nakao,

Deputy Regional Administrator (9A).

[FR Doc. 96-183 Filed 1-5-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6820-23-M

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Food and Drug Administration

Program Announcement Number FDA-CFSAN-96.1 Cooperative Agreement for Shellfish and Seafood Safety Assistance Project; Availability of Funds for Fiscal Year 1996

AGENCY: Food and Drug Administration, HHS.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Food and Drug Administration (FDA), Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition (CFSAN), Office of Seafood (OS), is announcing its intention to award, noncompetitively, a

cooperative agreement to the Interstate Shellfish Sanitation Conference (ISSC) in the amount of \$150,000 for the first year. An additional 4 years of support are available, depending upon the availability of Federal funds and successful performance. This effort, authorized by the Public Health Service Act, will enhance FDA's molluscan shellfish sanitation program and provide the public greater assurance of the quality and safety of these products.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Robert L. Robins, Office of Facilities, Acquisitions, and Central Services (HFA-522), Food and Drug Administration, Park Bldg., rm. 340, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857, 301-443-6170.

Regarding the programmatic aspects of this program contact: Paul W. DiStefano, Office of Seafood, Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition (HFS-417), 200 C St. SW., Washington, DC 20204, 202-418-3177.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This project is authorized under section 301 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 241). This activity is generally described in the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance at 93.103. This application is not subject to review as governed by Executive Order 12372, Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs (45 CFR part 100). This project will enhance both the effectiveness and uniformity of the molluscan shellfish program by: (1) Improving the flow of information between Federal and State regulatory agencies, industry, and the consumer; and (2) strengthening State activities by providing assistance in such areas as procedural and policy guidance, technical training, research, consumer education, and the assurance of conformity to the National Shellfish Sanitation Program (NSSP).

I. Restricted Eligibility

The Commissioner of the Food and Drug Administration, as authorized by the Public Health Service Grants Administration Manual, Part 144.3, has determined that this program should be awarded as a cooperative agreement without competition to the ISSC. Only the ISSC has the established relationships with the necessary State and local governments, the shellfish industry, other Federal agencies, and FDA to achieve the objective of this project. Therefore, no other applications are solicited or will be accepted.

II. Availability of Funds

FDA will fund this cooperative agreement at a level of approximately \$150,000 for the first year. An

additional 4 years of support will be available, depending upon fiscal year appropriations, continued support from other government agencies, and successful performance. It is anticipated that this cooperative agreement will commence on or before March 1, 1996.

III. Background

Molluscan shellfish have been identified as the source of a majority of seafood-borne illnesses and have become a subject of congressional, industry, and public concern. FDA has therefore given high priority to efforts to enhance the agency program and to provide the public greater assurance of the quality and safety of these products. Unique problems associated with the consumption of raw molluscan shellfish, e.g., oysters, clams, mussels, and scallops, led to establishment of the NSSP in 1925. FDA administers the NSSP and the Manuals of Operation, parts I and II, which serve as guidance for State shellfish sanitation programs and State regulations.

In 1983, the ISSC was formed to provide a formal structure wherein State regulatory authorities can establish updated guidelines and procedures for the uniform application of that guidance for the sanitary control of the shellfish industry. The ISSC is a voluntary organization and is open to all persons interested in fostering controls that will ensure sources of safe and sanitary shellfish. In 1984, FDA recognized the ISSC through a memorandum of understanding and continues to recognize it as the primary voluntary national organization of State shellfish regulatory officials that will provide guidance and counsel to the States on matters of sanitary control of shellfish.

In 1993, FDA awarded a noncompetitive cooperative agreement to ISSC for 1 year and provided support for an additional 2 years because of satisfactory performance. The cooperative agreement expires on February 28, 1996. FDA received \$75,000 a year from the Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Marine Fisheries Services (NMFS) in support of the cooperative agreement. Combined with the NMFS funds, the ISSC cooperative agreement was funded for \$165,000 the first year and \$150,000 each for the second and third years, for a total of \$465,000. Substantive accomplishments over the first 3 years of the cooperative agreement include:

1. Mediation of differences between FDA and States regarding compliance with the NSSP Manuals of Operation;

2. Coordination of FDA/State/NMFS efforts to develop a marine biotoxin dockside testing program;

3. Co-sponsoring of the 1994 *Vibrio vulnificus* workshop;

4. Compilation of a comprehensive collection of *V. vulnificus* reference materials for use by the ISSC;

5. Negotiation and adoption of a *V. vulnificus* water temperature/time to temperature control matrix for reducing the risk of *V. vulnificus* illness;

6. Dissemination of FDA warnings/information to States/industry;

7. Administration of the National Indicator Study;

8. Development of a model shellfish code;

9. Development of a formal process for establishing binding interpretations of the NSSP Manual of Operations;

10. Coordination of the development of a Shellfish Information Management System (SIMS); and

11. Participation in regional shellfish meetings to coordinate national efforts in shellfish sanitation.

IV. Purpose

The ISSC was formed as a partnership of State shellfish control officials representing both environmental and public health agencies; Federal agencies including FDA, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the Department of Commerce, National Marine Fisheries Service; and representatives from industry, academia, and foreign governments and industry. More than 25 States are members of the ISSC, including all 23 coastal shellfish-producing States.

The proposed cooperative agreement with ISSC will continue to: (1) Address the need to improve information exchange and transfer among States, Federal agencies, industry, and consumers; and (2) strengthen State activities by providing them with procedural and policy guidance, technical training, research, and consumer education.

V. Substantive Involvement by the FDA

To achieve the purpose of this project, ISSC shall be responsible for conducting the following activities:

1. Interact with States in resolving problems between States or between FDA and a State regarding conformity to the NSSP;

2. Communicate procedures and policy statements to guide States in executing the NSSP;

3. Interact with States in developing uniform and effective evaluation criteria;

4. Provide program auxiliary support in facilitating State involvement in

technical training, research, consumer education, coordinating the collection of data and maintaining the National Shellfish Register of Classified Estuarine Waters, and coordinating the development of a digitized mapping network (SIMS);

5. Interact with States to implement *V. vulnificus* consumer educational programs, develop risk reduction controls for *V. vulnificus*, and develop criteria for assessing *V. vulnificus* risk reduction controls; and

6. Obtain information from States and industry to provide consistent and coordinated input to FDA and implement a Model Shellfish Code.

FDA will monitor and evaluate the ISSC's conduct under this cooperative agreement. FDA will take any actions that may be necessary to ensure compliance with this cooperative agreement. Future support under this agreement will be contingent upon satisfactory performance of this project and the availability of Federal fiscal year appropriations.

VI. Review Procedure and Evaluation Criteria

A. Review Procedure

The application submitted by the ISSC will undergo dual peer review. The application will be reviewed for scientific and technical merit by a panel of experts based upon the applicable evaluation criteria. If the application is recommended for approval, it will then be presented to the National Advisory Council for their concurrence.

B. Evaluation Criteria

The application will be reviewed and evaluated according to the following criteria:

1. The application clearly states an understanding of the purpose and objectives of the cooperative agreement in the overall seafood safety program; the key role and responsibility of the ISSC; and the steps, with a proposed schedule, for planning, implementing, and accomplishing the activities to be carried out under this project.

2. The application describes the applicant's ability to perform the responsibilities under this project by providing qualified staff. The application also demonstrates that the ISSC has the financial and other resources required for this project.

3. The application specifies the intended approach that ISSC will use to maintain and to continue working with both the States and industry to ensure the exchange of information among the States, industry, and consumers on seafood safety.

4. The application adequately describes how ISSC will maintain and coordinate the collection of data to keep the National Shellfish Register for Classified Estuarine Waters up-to-date. The application also describes how ISSC will coordinate the development of a digitized mapping network.

In addition, the agency will determine whether the estimated cost of the project is reasonable. The application shall include a detailed budget that shows: (1) Anticipated costs for personnel, travel, communications and postage, equipment, and supplies; and (2) the sources of funds to meet those needs.

VII. Reporting Requirements

FDA requires an annual Financial Status Report (FSR) (SF-269). Under FDA procedures, the original and two copies of this report must be submitted to FDA's Grants Management Office within 90 days of the budget period expiration date. An annual project progress report is also required. The contents of this report shall be suggested by the project officer at a later date.

A final project progress report, FSR, and Invention Statement must be submitted within 90 days from the expiration date of the project period as noted on the Notice of Grant Award.

Program monitoring will be conducted on an ongoing basis, and written reports may be done by the project officer. Monitoring may be in the form of telephone conversations between the project officer/grants management specialist and the principal investigator, and site visits may be made by either program or grants management staff. The results of the visits will be recorded in the official grant file and may be available to the grantee upon request.

VIII. Mechanism of Support

Support for this project will be in the form of a cooperative agreement. This agreement will be subject to all policies and requirements that govern the research grant programs of the Public Health Service, including provisions of 42 CFR part 52 and 45 CFR part 74.

Dated: December 28, 1995.

William B. Schultz,

Deputy Commissioner for Policy.

[FR Doc. 96-229 Filed 1-5-96; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

Office of the Assistant Secretary for Policy Development and Research

[Docket No. FR-3960-N-02]

Notice of Cancellation of Bidders Conference on Cooperative Agreement Applications for the Community Renaissance Fellows Program

AGENCY: Office of the Assistant Secretary for Policy Development and Research, HUD.

ACTION: Notice of Cancellation of Bidders Conference on Cooperative Agreement Applications for the Community Renaissance Fellows Program.

SUMMARY: On November 30, 1995, HUD published a notice in the Federal Register seeking applications from public and private universities in order to provide funding to develop and implement the educational component of HUD's new Community Renaissance Fellows Program. The notice also announced that HUD would hold a "bidders" conference in Washington D.C. on January 11, 1996.

The purpose of this notice is to announce the cancellation of the January 11, 1996 conference due to the partial shutdown of the Federal government. The conference may be rescheduled. No other changes are made to the November 30, 1995 notice by this notice.

DATES: The application deadline of February 15, 1996, as set forth in the November 30, 1995 Federal Register notice (60 FR 61634) remains unchanged at this time.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Marcia Feld, Office of University Partnerships in the Office of Policy Development and Research, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 7th Street, S.W., Room 8110, Washington, DC 20410. Telephone number (202) 708-3061, ext. 262, voice (this is not a toll free number); 1-800-877-TDDY (TDD). Ms. Feld can also be contacted via the Internet at Marcia_M_Feld@hud.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On November 30, 1995 (60 FR 61634), HUD published a notice in the Federal Register seeking applications from public and private universities in order to provide funding to develop and implement the educational component of HUD's new Community Renaissance Fellows Program. The program will