

CFR Part 30) issued under the Tobacco Statistics Act specifically address the reporting requirements. Tobacco in leaf form or stems is reported by types of tobacco and whether stemmed or unstemmed. Tobacco in sheet form shall be segregated as to whether for cigar wrapper, cigar binder, for cigarettes, or for other products.

Tobacco stocks reporting is mandatory. The basic purpose of the information collection is to ascertain the total supply of unmanufactured tobacco available to domestic manufacturers and to calculate the amount consumed in manufactured tobacco products. This data is also used for the calculation of production quotas for individual types of tobacco and for price support calculations.

The Quarterly Report of Manufacture and Sales of Snuff, Smoking, and Chewing Tobacco is voluntary. Prior to 1965, information on the manufacture and sale of snuff, smoking, and chewing tobacco products was available from Treasury Department publications on the collection of taxes. With repeal of the Federal tax in 1965, the industry requested that the collection of basic data be continued to maintain the statistical series and all the major manufacturers agreed to furnish information. Federal taxes were reimposed in 1985 for snuff and chewing tobacco and the Treasury Department began reporting data on these products, but not in the detail desired by the industry. Data from this report is also used in the calculations to determine the production quotas of types of tobacco used in these products.

The Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1621-1627) directs and authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to collect, tabulate, and disseminate statistics on marketing agricultural products including market supplies, storage stocks, quantity, quality and condition of such products in various positions in the marketing channel, utilization of sub-products, shipments, and unloads.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 0.92 hours per response.

Respondents: Primarily tobacco dealers, manufacturers, and growers—cooperative associations including small businesses or organizations.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 101.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 4.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 372 hours.

Copies of this information collection can be obtained from Henry R. Martin,

Chief, Market Information and Program Analysis Branch, at (202) 205-0489.

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the Agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriated automated, electronic, mechanical, or other forms of information technology. Comments may be sent to Henry R. Martin, Chief, Market Information and Program Analysis Branch, Tobacco Division, Agricultural Marketing Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Room 505 Annex Building, P.O. Box 96456, Washington, D.C. 20090-6456 and will be available for public inspection in Room 505 Annex Building, USDA, AMS, Tobacco Division, Market Information and Program Analysis Branch, 300 12th Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250. Comments should reference the docket number and the date and page number of this issue of the Federal Register.

All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will also become a matter of public record.

Dated: February 22, 1996.

Lon Hatamiya,

Administrator.

[FR Doc. 96-4505 Filed 2-27-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-02-P

[CN-95-004]

Recommendations of Advisory Committee on Universal Cotton Standards

AGENCY: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) held a meeting of the Universal Cotton Standards Advisory Committee in Memphis, Tennessee on June 15 and 16, 1995. This notice announces that the Advisory Committee recommended that the Universal Cotton Standards be expanded to include the current USDA High Volume Instrument (HVI) Calibration Cottons, laboratory atmospheric conditions and sample conditioning practices and procedures.

DATES: Comments must be received by March 29, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Comments and inquiries should be addressed to Ross Griffith, Cotton Division, AMS, USDA, Room 2641-S., P.O. Box 96456, Washington, D.C. 20090-6456. Comments will be available for public inspection during regular business hours at the above office in Rm. 2641-S., 14th & Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ross Griffith, (202) 720-3193.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Universal Cotton Standards Advisory Committee meets triennially to consider any necessary changes to the Universal Cotton Standards and to review freshly prepared sets of Universal Cotton Standards for conformity with the existing standards.

At this meeting, the committee recommended expanding the Universal Cotton Standards to include the current USDA High Volume Instrument (HVI) Calibration Cottons (Long-Strong and Short-Weak); laboratory atmospheric conditions of 70 degrees Fahrenheit, plus or minus one degree, and 65 percent Relative Humidity, plus or minus two percent; and sample conditioning practices and procedures as follows: "Samples of cotton must be directly exposed to approved laboratory atmospheric conditions until their moisture content reaches equilibrium with that of the atmosphere. This equilibrium moisture content usually ranges from 6.75 percent to 8.25 percent. Conditioning of samples in sacks, wrappers, or other coverings is not permissible".

High Volume Instrument (HVI) Classing of cotton has been available on an optional basis since 1980. Since 1991, HVI classification has been provided on all cotton classed by USDA along with the classer color grade and leaf grade which conform to the Universal Grade Standards. HVI systems provide the most scientific and reliable sources of cotton quality information available. The advisory committee includes representatives of all segments of the U.S. cotton industry and the 21 overseas cotton associations that are signatories to the Universal Cotton Standards Agreement. Adoption of this recommendation should result in the establishment of a universal language for the marketing of U.S. cotton under the HVI Classification System.

Authority: United States Cotton Standards Act (7 U.S.C. 51 *et seq.*)

Dated: February 22, 1996.

Lon Hatamiya,

Administrator.

[FR Doc. 96-4506 Filed 2-27-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-02-P

Forest Service

Olympic Cross Cascade Pipeline Project, Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Snohomish, King, Kittitas, Grant, Adams, and Franklin Counties, Washington

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare an environmental impact statement.

SUMMARY: The Forest Service, USDA, as lead federal agency will prepare an environmental impact statement on a proposal by Olympic Pipe Line Company (OPL) to construct a new 230-mile underground/aboveground pipeline to deliver motor gasoline, diesel fuel, and aviation jet fuel from north of OPL's Woodinville Station, Washington to a new distribution facility near the City of Kittitas, Washington and an existing facility in Pasco, Washington. This environmental impact statement will be a combined NEPA/SEPA document. The lead state agency will be the Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council. If approved, construction would commence in 1997 and be completed in about one year.

DATES: Comments concerning the scope of the analysis should be received in writing by April 8, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Submit written comments and suggestions concerning the scope of the analysis to: Dennis E. Bschor, Forest Supervisor, Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, 21905-64th Avenue West, Mountlake Terrace, WA 98043-2278.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Steve Johnson, Project Manager, North Bend Ranger District, 42404 SE North Bend Way, North Bend, WA 98045; phone (206) 888-1421.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Olympic Pipe Line Company (OPL), located in Renton, Washington, proposes to construct a new 230-mile-long, 14-inch-diameter pipeline from north of OPL's Woodinville Station near the King/Snohomish County line, in western Washington, to a new distribution facility near the City of Kittitas and to the existing terminal facility in Pasco, in southeastern Washington. It would start as a 14-inch pipeline in Snohomish County north of the King/Snohomish County line, travel eastward and then southeast to North

Bend, run east along/near the Interstate 90 highway corridor, and cross over Snoqualmie Pass. The pipeline would then continue eastward along/near I-90 to the City of Kittitas where it will change to a 12-inch pipeline, continue past Ellensburg and the Yakima Training Center, cross under the Columbia River downstream of Wanapum Dam, run toward the Columbia National Wildlife Refuge, and then travel south to Pasco where it would connect with existing facilities. The pipeline would be placed underground and above-ground, depending upon design requirements, and six pump stations would be placed along the pipeline route. The pipeline would transport motor gasoline, diesel fuel, and aviation jet fuel.

If approved, construction would commence in 1997 and be completed in about one year. Construction of the pipeline would require a 2- to 3-foot-wide and 36- to 60-inch-deep (or deeper) trench. Construction typically occurs in about a 60-foot-wide area and the permanent right-of-way would typically be about 30 feet wide. The pipeline, which would be transported in 40- to 80-foot lengths, would be made of high-grade steel coated with a polyolefin-type material to prevent corrosion. The welds of the pipeline would be X-ray tested, and the entire line would be hydrostatically tested to 125% of the maximum pressure allowed during operation of the pipeline.

Scoping meetings to receive public comments on the project, and the associated open houses and land use hearings, will occur as follows: March 12, 1996 (Ellensburg High School, Ellensburg, WA); March 13, 1996 (Jackson High School, Mill Creek, WA); March 14, 1996 (Snoqualmie Middle School, Snoqualmie, WA); March 26, 1996 (Royal High School, Royal City, WA); March 27, 1996 (Columbia Basin Community College, Pasco, WA); and March 28, 1996 (Othello High School, Othello, WA). Each meeting date will begin with an open house at 5 p.m., followed by a land use hearing and a scoping meeting. Potential issues of concern for the environmental impact statement include the risk of a spill; impacts to health and safety, soil erosion, stream and river crossings, water quality, fish and wildlife, wetlands, agriculture, forest land, and transportation and utilities; and compatibility with existing land uses.

Three alternatives are considered for this project, including: constructing an east-west pipeline route as proposed above; building a new north-south pipeline from Renton, WA, to Portland, OR, and continuing barging on the

Columbia River to Pasco; or continuing with the current no action alternative. Optional subcomponents to the proposed action include: (1) Shortening the pipeline so that it terminates in Moses Lake and rebuilding the Moses Lake-to-Spokane pipeline; (2) using the same initial route but turning south near Ellensburg and going through the Yakima Valley to Pasco; (3) routing a 300-mile pipeline through one of two alternative routes across Stevens Pass and terminating it in Pasco; (4) routing the pipeline through one of two other routes through Snoqualmie Pass and terminating in Pasco; and (5) routing the pipeline through Stampede Pass and terminating in Pasco. The no action alternative (existing practices) includes the following subcomponents: (1) Piping to Portland and then barging from there to Pasco on the Columbia River; (2) shipping by barge or tanker from Puget Sound, south along the Washington coast to Portland, and then transferring to river barges for shipment to Pasco on the Columbia River; and (3) transporting by tanker truck across the Cascade Mountains to Pasco. The only permit required for the project is an Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council Site Certification.

The Forest Service will be the lead federal agency. Cooperating agencies include the Bureau of Land Management (Joseph Buesing, Spokane District Manager), Bureau of Reclamation (John W. Keys, III, Regional Director), and Department of the Army (Lieut. General C.G. Marsh, Installation Commander, Headquarters, I CORPS and Fort Lewis). This environmental impact statement will be a combined NEPA/SEPA document. The lead state agency under the Washington State Environmental Policy Act will be the Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council (Allen J. Fiksdal, EFSEC Project Manager).

Interested parties are invited to provide suggestions and comments about the proposed project in writing to the address provided above, or at the public hearings that will be held throughout the state. At this time, it is estimated the draft environmental impact statement will be issued during the summer of 1996. The final environmental impact statement will be issued early in 1997.

The comment period on the draft environmental impact statement will be 45 days from the date the Environmental Protection Agency publishes the notice of availability in the Federal Register.

The Forest Service believes it is important to give reviewers notice at this early stage of the project of several