

**ADDRESSES:** USDA, GIPSA, Janet M. Hart, Chief, Review Branch, Compliance Division, STOP 3604, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, DC 20250-3604.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Janet M. Hart, telephone 202-720-8525.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

This action has been reviewed and determined not to be a rule or regulation as defined in Executive Order 12866 and Departmental Regulation 1512-1; therefore, the Executive Order and Departmental Regulation do not apply to this action.

In the March 3, 1997, **Federal Register** (62 FR 9412), GIPSA asked persons interested in providing official services in the geographic areas assigned to Denver and East Indiana to submit an application for designation. Applications were due by April 1, 1997. Denver and East Indiana, the only applicants, each applied for designation to provide official services in the entire area currently assigned to them.

Since Denver and East Indiana were the only applicants for the respective areas, GIPSA did not ask for comments on the applicants.

GIPSA evaluated all available information regarding the designation criteria in Section 7(f)(1)(A) of the Act; and according to Section 7(f)(1)(B), determined that Denver and East Indiana are able to provide official services in the geographic areas for which they applied. Effective September 1, 1997, and ending August 31, 2000, Denver and East Indiana are designated to provide official services in the geographic areas specified in the March 3, 1997, **Federal Register**.

Interested persons may obtain official services by contacting Denver at 303-292-5361 and East Indiana at 765-289-1206.

**Authority:** Pub. L. 94-582, 90 Stat. 2867, as amended (7 U.S.C. 71 *et seq.*)

Dated: July 24, 1997.

**Neil E. Porter,**

*Director, Compliance Division.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration

#### Opportunity for Designation in the Lima (OH) and Virginia Areas

**AGENCY:** Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA).

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The United States Grain Standards Act, as amended (Act), provides that official agency designations will end not later than triennially and may be renewed. The designations of Lima Grain Inspection Service, Inc. (Lima), and the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (Virginia), will end January 31, 1998, according to the Act. GIPSA is asking persons interested in providing official services in the Lima and Virginia areas to submit an application for designation.

**DATES:** Applications must be postmarked or sent by telecopier (FAX) on or before September 2, 1997.

**ADDRESSES:** Applications must be submitted to USDA, GIPSA, Janet M. Hart, Chief, Review Branch, Compliance Division, STOP 3604, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, DC 20250-3604. Applications may be submitted by FAX on 202-690-2755. If an application is submitted by FAX, GIPSA reserves the right to request an original application. All applications will be made available for public inspection at this address located at 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., during regular business hours.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Janet M. Hart, telephone 202-720-8525.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

This Action has been reviewed and determined not to be a rule or regulation as defined in Executive Order 12866 and Departmental Regulation 1512-1; therefore, the Executive Order and Departmental Regulation do not apply to this action.

Section 7(f)(1) of the Act authorizes GIPSA's Administrator to designate a qualified applicant to provide official services in a specified area after determining that the applicant is better able than any other applicant to provide such official services. GIPSA designated Lima, main office located in Lima, Ohio, and Virginia, main office located in Richmond, Virginia, to provide official services under the Act on February 1, 1995.

Section 7(g)(1) of the Act provides that designations of official agencies shall end not later than triennially and may be renewed according to the criteria and procedures prescribed in Section 7(f) of the Act. The designations of Lima and Virginia end on January 31, 1998, according to the Act.

Pursuant to Section 7(f)(2) of the Act, the following geographic area, in the State of Ohio, is assigned to Lima.

Bounded on the North by the northern and eastern Williams County lines; the northern and eastern Defiance County

lines south to U.S. Route 24; U.S. Route 24 northeast to State Route 108;

Bounded on the East by State Route 108 south to Putnam County; the northern and eastern Putnam County lines; the eastern Allen County line; the northern Hardin County line east to U.S. Route 68 (excluding all of Sidney, Ohio); U.S. Route 68 south to U.S. Route 47;

Bounded on the South by U.S. Route 47 west-southwest to Interstate 75; Interstate 75 south to the Shelby County line; the southern and western Shelby County lines; the southern Mercer County line; and

Bounded on the West by the Ohio-Indiana State line from the southern Mercer County line to the northern Williams County line.

Lima's assigned geographic area does not include the following grain elevator inside Lima's area which has been and will continue to be serviced by the following official agency: East Indiana Grain Inspection, Inc.: Payne Cooperative Association, Payne, Paulding County.

Pursuant to Section 7(f)(2) of the Act, the following geographic area, the entire State of Virginia, except those export port locations within the State, is assigned to Virginia.

Interested persons, including Lima and Virginia, are hereby given the opportunity to apply for designation to provide official services in the geographic areas specified above under the provisions of Section 7(f) of the Act and section 800.196(d) of the regulations issued thereunder.

Designation in the Lima and Virginia areas is for the period beginning February 1, 1998, and ending January 31, 2001. Persons wishing to apply for designation should contact the Compliance Division at the address listed above for forms and information.

Applications and other available information will be considered in determining which applicant will be designated.

**Authority:** Pub. L. 94-582, 90 Stat. 2867, as amended (7 U.S.C. 71 *et seq.*)

Dated: July 24, 1997.

**Neil E. Porter,**

*Director, Compliance Division.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration; United States Standards for Beans

**AGENCY:** Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration, USDA.