

Compliance Division at the above address. Comments and other available information will be considered in making a final decision. GIPSA will publish notice of the final decision in the **Federal Register**, and GIPSA will send the applicants written notification of the decision.

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

Dated: October 24, 1997.

**Neil E. Porter,**

*Director, Compliance Division.*

[FR Doc. 97-28850 Filed 10-31-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-EN-P

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration

#### Opportunity for Designation in the Detroit (MI), Keokuk (IA), and Michigan (MI) 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 Detroit Grain Inspection Service, Inc. (Detroit), Keokuk Grain Inspection Service (Keokuk), and Michigan Grain Inspection Services, Inc. (Michigan), will end April 30, 1998, according to the Act. GIPSA is asking persons interested in providing official services in the Detroit, Keokuk, and Michigan areas to submit an application for designation.

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

**ADDRESSES:** Applications must be submitted to USDA, GIPSA, Janet M. Hart, Chief, Review Branch, Compliance Division, STOP 3604, Room 1647-S, 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 Detroit, main office located in Emmett, Michigan, Keokuk, main office located in Keokuk, Iowa, and Michigan, main office located in Marshall, Michigan, to provide official inspection services under the Act on May 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 Detroit, Keokuk, and Michigan end on April 30, 1998, according to the Act.

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

Bounded on the North by the northern Clinton County line; the eastern Clinton County line south to State Route 21; State Route 21 east to State Route 52; State Route 52 north to the Shiawassee County line; the northern Shiawassee County line east to the Genesee County line; the western Genesee County line; the northern Genesee County line east to State Route 15; State Route 15 north to Barnes Road; Barnes Road east to Sheridan Road; Sheridan Road north to State Route 46; State Route 46 east to State Route 53; State Route 53 north to the Michigan State line;

Bounded on the East by the Michigan State line south to State Route 50;

Bounded on the South by State Route 50 west to U.S. Route 127; and

Bounded on the West by U.S. Route 127 north to U.S. Route 27; U.S. Route 27 north to the northern Clinton County line.

The following grain elevator, located outside of the above contiguous geographic area, is part of this geographic area assignment: Countrymark, Inc., St. Johns, Clinton County (located inside Michigan Grain Inspection Services, Inc.'s area).

Pursuant to Section 7(f)(2) of the Act, the following geographic area, in the States of Illinois and Iowa, is assigned to Keokuk.

Adams, Brown, Fulton, Hancock, Mason, McDonough, and Pike (northwest of a line bounded by U.S. Route 54 northeast to State Route 107; State Route 107 northeast to State Route 104; State Route 104 east to the eastern Pike County line) Counties, Illinois.

Davis, Lee, and Van Buren Counties, Iowa.

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

Bounded on the North by the northern Michigan State line;

Bounded on the East by the eastern Michigan State line south and east to State Route 53; State Route 53 south to State Route 46;

Bounded on the South by State Route 46 west to Sheridan Road; Sheridan Road south to Barnes Road; Barnes Road west to State Route 15; State Route 15 south to the Genesee County line; the northern Genesee County line west to the Shiawassee County line; the northern Shiawassee County line west to State Route 52; State Route 52 south to State Route 21; State Route 21 west to Clinton County; the eastern and northern Clinton County lines west to U.S. Route 27; U.S. Route 27 south to U.S. Route 127; U.S. Route 127 south to the southern Hillsdale County line; the southern Hillsdale and Branch County lines; the western Branch County line north to the Kalamazoo County line; the southern Kalamazoo and Van Buren County lines; and

Bounded on the West by the western Michigan State line north to the northern Michigan State line.

Michigan's assigned geographic area does not include the following grain elevator inside Michigan's area which has been and will continue to be serviced by the following official agency: Detroit Grain Inspection Service, Inc.: St. Johns Coop., St. Johns, Clinton County.

Interested persons, including Detroit, Keokuk, and Michigan, 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 Detroit, Keokuk, and Michigan areas is for the period beginning May 1, 1998, and ending April 30, 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: October 24, 1997.

**Neil E. Porter,**

*Director, Compliance Division.*

[FR Doc. 97-28853 Filed 10-31-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-EN-P

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration

#### Designation for the Fostoria (OH) Area

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

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** GIPSA announces the designation of Fostoria Grain Inspection, Inc. (Fostoria), to provide official services under the United States Grain Standards Act, as amended (Act).

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** December 1, 1997.

**ADDRESSES:** USDA, GIPSA, Janet M. Hart, Chief, Review Branch, Compliance Division, STOP 3604, Room 1647-S, 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 June 2, 1997, **Federal Register** (62 FR 29707), GIPSA asked persons interested in providing official services in the geographic area assigned to Fostoria to submit an application for designation. Applications were due by July 1, 1997. Fostoria, the only applicant, applied for designation to provide official services in the entire area currently assigned to them.

Since Fostoria was the only applicant for the area, GIPSA did not ask for comments on the applicant.

GIPSA evaluated all available information regarding the designation criteria in Section 7(f)(l)(A) of the Act and, according to Section 7(f)(l)(B), determined that Fostoria is able to provide official services in the geographic area for which they applied. Effective December 1, 1997, and ending November 30, 1998, Fostoria is designated to provide official services in the geographic area specified in the June 2, 1997, **Federal Register**.

Interested persons may obtain official services by contacting Fostoria at 419-435-3804.

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

Dated: October 24, 1997.

**Neil E. Porter,**

*Director, Compliance Division.*

[FR Doc. 97-28854 Filed 10-31-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-EN-P

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration

#### Notice of Request for Extension and Revision of a Currently Approved Information Collection

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

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35), this notice announces the Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration's (GIPSA) intention to request an extension for and revision to the currently approved information collection for "Regulations Governing the National Inspection and Weighing System Under the United States Grain Standards Act and the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946."

**DATES:** Comments on this notice must be received by January 2, 1998.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR COMMENTS:** Contact Sharon Vassiliades, ARTS, GIPSA, USDA, STOP 3649, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-3649, or FAX 202 720-4628, telephone: 202 720-1738, e-mail: svassili@fgisd.usda.gov.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The United States Grain Standards Acts (USGSA) and the Agricultural Marketing Act (AMA) were enacted to facilitate the marketing of grain, oilseeds, pulses, rice, and related commodities. These statutes establish standards and terms which accurately and consistently measure the quality of grain and related products, provide for uniform official inspection and weighing, provide regulatory and service responsibilities, and furnish the framework for commodity quality improvement incentives to both domestic and foreign buyers. The Federal Grain Inspection Service of USDA's Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration establishes policies, guidelines, and regulations to carry out the objectives of the USGSA and the AMA.

The USGSA, with few exceptions, requires official certification of export grain sold by grade. Official services are provided, upon request, for grain in

domestic commerce. The AMA authorizes similar inspection and weighing services, upon request, for rice, pulses, flour, corn meal, and certain other agricultural products. Conversely, the regulations promulgating the USGSA and AMA require specific information collection and recordkeeping necessary to carry out requests for official services. Applicants for service must specify the kind and level of service desired, the identification of the product, the location, the amount, and other pertinent information in order that official personnel can efficiently respond to their needs.

Official services under the USGSA are provided through FGIS field offices and delegated and/or designated State and private agencies. Delegated agencies are State agencies delegated authority under the Act to provide official inspection service, Class X or Class Y weighing services, or both, at one or more export port locations in the State. Designated agencies are State or local governmental agencies or persons designated under the Act to provide either official inspection services, Class X or Class Y weighing services, or both, at locations other than export port locations. State and private agencies, as a requirement for delegation and/or designation, must comply with all regulations, procedures, and instructions in accordance with provisions established under the USGSA. FGIS field offices oversee the performance of these agencies and provide technical guidance as needed.

Official services under the AMA are performed, upon request, on a fee basis for domestic and export shipments either by FGIS employees, individual contractors, or cooperators. Contractors are persons who enter into a contract with FGIS to perform specified inspection services. Cooperators are agencies or departments of the Federal Government which have an interagency agreement or State agencies which have a reimbursable agreement with FGIS.

**Title:** Regulations Governing the National Inspection and Weighing System Under the USGSA and AMA of 1946.

**OMB Number:** 0580-0013.

**Expiration Date of Approval:** February 28, 1998.

**Type of Request:** Extension and revision of a currently approved information collection.

**Abstract:** The United States Grain Standards Act (7 U.S.C. 71 *et seq.*) and the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1621 *et seq.*) provide that USDA inspect, certify and identify the class, quality, quantity and condition of agricultural products shipped or