

Dated: October 24, 1997.

Neil E. Porter,

Director, Compliance Division.

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

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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.*).

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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

received in interstate and foreign commerce. Also, that USDA may enter contracts or agreements with delegated or designated agencies to provide official inspection personnel to perform the services.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting and record keeping burden for this collection of information is estimated to average .16 hours per response.

Respondents: Grain producers, buyers, and sellers, elevator operators, grain merchandisers and official grain inspection agencies.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 3200.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 899.3.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 468,109.55 hours.

Copies of this information collection can be obtained from Cathy McDuffie, the Agency Support Services Specialist, at (301) 734-5190.

Comments: Comments are invited on:

- Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;
- 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;
- ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
- ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or forms of information technology. Comments may be sent to: 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. All comments will be available for public inspection during regular business hours at the same address.

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: October 28, 1997.

James R. Baker,
Administrator.

[FR Doc. 97-29020 Filed 10-31-97; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Bureau of the Census

Construction Project Reporting Surveys (CPRS)

ACTION: Proposed Collection; Comment Request.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Pub. L. 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)).

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before January 2, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Linda Engelmeier, Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 5327, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument(s) and instructions should be directed to George A. Roff, Jr., Bureau of the Census, Room 2225, Building 4, Washington, DC 20233 on (301) 457-1605.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

The Census Bureau is the preeminent collector and provider of timely, relevant and quality data about the people and economy of the United States. Economic data are the Census Bureau's primary program commitment during nondecennial census years. The Census Bureau, under the authority of Title 13, United States Code, Section 182, conducts the following three Construction Project Reporting Surveys (CPRS): Private Construction Projects, State and Local Governments and Multifamily Residential. These surveys provide the dollar value of construction put in place by private companies, individuals, private multifamily residential buildings, and state and local government sectors. The C-700 form (Private Construction Projects) collects construction put in place data for nonresidential projects owned by private companies or individuals. The C-700(R) (Multifamily Residential Projects) form collects construction put in place data for private multifamily residential buildings. Form C-700(SL) (State and Local Government Projects) collects construction put in place data for state and local government projects.

The Census Bureau uses the information from the CPRS to publish the value of construction put in place series. Published estimates are used by a variety of private business and trade associations to estimate the demand for building materials and to schedule production, distribution, and sales efforts. They also provide various governmental agencies with a tool to evaluate economic policy and to measure progress towards established goals. For example, Bureau of Economic Analysis staff use data to develop the construction components of gross private domestic investment in the gross domestic product. The Federal Reserve Board and the Department of Treasury use the value in place data to predict the gross domestic product, which is presented to the Board of Governors and has an impact on monetary policy.

II. Method of Collection

The universes for these surveys are as follows:

(1) Private nonresidential and state and local projects are obtained from F.W. Dodge, a division of the McGraw-Hill Information Systems Company, for projects valued at \$50,000 or more in the United States, except Hawaii. Building permit notifications are used for sampling in permit-issuing places of Hawaii and for projects in areas not covered by Dodge.

(2) Multifamily projects are sampled from the Census Bureau's Housing Starts Survey.

An independent systematic sample of projects is selected each month according to predetermined sampling rates. Once a project is selected it remains in the sample until completion of the project. Preprinted forms are mailed monthly to respondents to fill in current month data and any revisions to previous months. To manage CPRS data, a database was created. A portion of this database is used for computer assisted telephone interviewing. Respondents are contacted on the day and time specified by them, thereby reducing their burden.

III. Data

OMB Numbers: 0607-0153 C-700 (Private Construction Projects), 0607-0163 C-700(R) (Multifamily Residential Projects), 0607-0171 C-700(SL) (State and Local Government Projects).

Form Numbers: C-700, C-700(R), C-700(SL).

Type of Review: Regular Review.

Affected Public: Individuals, Businesses or Other for Profit, Non Profit Institutions, Small Businesses or Organizations, and State or Local Governments.