on September 21, 1998. The draft strategy is also available on the World Wide Web at http://www.nrcs.usda.gov or http://www.epa.gov/owm/afostrat.htm.

USDA and EPA welcome your comments on the draft Unified National Strategy for AFOs. Comments are due by January 19, 1999.

Dated: November 9, 1998.

Glenda Humiston,

Deputy Under Secretary, Natural Resources and the Environment, Department of Agriculture, Washington, DC.

J. Charles Fox,

Assistant Administrator for Water, Environmental Protection Agency, Washington, DC.

[FR Doc. 98–30666 Filed 11–16–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–16–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Research Service

Notice of Intent to Grant Exclusive License

AGENCY: Agricultural Research Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Research Service, intends to grant to Agdia Incorporated of Elkhart, Indiana, an exclusive license to S.N. 08/499,803, ''A Monoclonal Antibody to Vitellin of the Corn Earworm, *Helicoverpa zea*,'' filed July 7, 1995, U.S. Patent No. 5,656,437, issued August 12, 1997. Notice of Availability was published in the **Federal Register** on December 14, 1995.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before January 19, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Send comments to: USDA, ARS, Office of Technology Transfer, Room 401, Building 005, BARC–W, 10300 Baltimore Avenue, Beltsville MD 20705–2350.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: W.J. Phelps of the Office of Technology Transfer at the Beltsville address given above; telephone 301–504–6532.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Federal Government's patent rights to this invention are assigned to the United States of America, as represented by the Secretary of Agriculture. It is in the public interest to so license this invention as Agdia Incorporated has submitted a complete and sufficient application for a license. The prospective exclusive license will be royalty-bearing and will comply with the terms and conditions of 35 U.S.C. 209 and 37 CFR 404.7. The prospective exclusive license may be granted unless, within sixty (60) calendar days from the date of this published Notice, the Agricultural Research Service receives written evidence and argument which establishes that the grant of the license would not be consistent with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 209 and 37 CFR 404.7.

Richard M. Parry, Jr.,

Assistant Administrator.

[FR Doc. 98–30670 Filed 11–16–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–03–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

[Docket No. 98–111–1]

Availability of an Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact for Field Testing Pseudorabies Vaccine, Modified Live Virus

AGENCY: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: We are advising the public that the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service has prepared an environmental assessment and finding of no significant impact concerning authorization to ship for the purpose of field testing, and then to field test, an unlicensed live viral pseudorabies vaccine for use in swine. A risk analysis, which forms the basis for the environmental assessment, has led us to conclude that field testing this veterinary vaccine will not have a significant impact on the quality of the human environment. Based on our finding of no significant impact, we have determined that an environmental impact statement need not be prepared. We intend to authorize shipment of this vaccine for field testing 14 days after the date of this notice, unless new, substantial issues bearing on the effects of this action are brought to our attention. We also intend to issue a veterinary biological product license for this vaccine, provided the field test data support the conclusions of the environmental assessment and finding of no significant impact and the product meets all other requirements for licensure.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the environmental assessment and finding of no significant impact may be obtained by contacting the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**. Please refer to the docket number, date, and complete title of this notice when requesting copies. Copies of the environmental assessment and finding of no significant impact (as well as the risk analysis with confidential business information removed) are available for public inspection at USDA, room 1141, South Building, 14th Street and Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC, between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. Persons wishing to inspect those documents are requested to call ahead on (202) 690–2817 to facilitate entry into the reading room.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Jeanette Greenberg, Technical Writer-Editor, Center for Veterinary Biologics, Licensing and Policy Development, VS, APHIS, USDA, 4700 River Road Unit 148, Riverdale, MD 20737–1231; telephone (301) 734–5338; fax (301) 734–4314; or e-mail: Jeanette.B.Greenberg@usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the Virus-Serum-Toxin Act (21 U.S.C. 151 *et seq.*), a veterinary biological product must be shown to be pure, safe, potent, and efficacious before a veterinary biological product license may be issued. A field test is generally necessary to satisfy prelicensing requirements for veterinary biological products. Prior to conducting a field test on an unlicensed product, an applicant must obtain approval from the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), as well as obtain APHIS' authorization to ship the product for field testing.

In determining whether to authorize shipment and grant approval for the field testing of the unlicensed product referenced in this notice, APHIS conducted a risk analysis to assess the potential effects of this product on the safety of animals, public health, and the environment. Based on the risk analysis, APHIS has prepared an environmental assessment (EA). APHIS has concluded that field testing the unlicensed veterinary biological product will not significantly affect the quality of the human environment. Based on this finding of no significant impact (FONSI), we have determined that there is no need to prepare an environmental impact statement.

The EA and FONSI have been prepared by APHIS concerning the field testing of the following unlicensed veterinary biological product:

Requester: Ambico, Inc.

Product: Pseudorabies Vaccine, Modified Live Virus

Field test locations: Iowa, Indiana, and Minnesota.

The above-mentioned vaccine is for use as an aid in the program to eradicate

pseudorabies in the U.S. swine population. The vaccine contains live pseudorabies virus with gI and tk gene deletions, which significantly reduce the pathogenicity of the vaccine virus compared with the wild type virus.

The EA and FONSI have been prepared in accordance with: (1) The National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (NEPA) (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*); (2) regulations of the Council on Environmental Quality for implementing the procedural provisions of NEPA (40 CFR parts 1500–1508); (3) USDA regulations implementing NEPA (7 CFR part 1b); and (4) APHIS' NEPA Implementing Procedures (7 CFR part 372).

Unless substantial environmental issues are raised in response to this notice, APHIS intends to authorize shipment of the above product for the initiation of field tests 14 days from the date of this notice.

Because the issues raised by field testing and by issuance of a license are identical, APHIS has concluded that the EA and FONSI that were generated for field testing would also be applicable to the proposed licensing action. Provided that the field test data support the conclusions of the original EA and FONSI, APHIS does not intend to issue a separate EA to support the issuance of the product license, and would determine that an environmental impact statement need not be prepared. APHIS intends to issue a veterinary biological product license for this vaccine following completion of the field test provided no adverse impacts on the human environment are identified and provided the product meets all other requirements for licensure.

Authority: 21 U.S.C. 151–159.

Done in Washington, DC, this 10th day of November 1998.

Joan M. Arnoldi,

Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[FR Doc. 98–30674 Filed 11–16–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–34–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Food Safety and Inspection Service

[Docket No. 98–059N]

Meeting on HACCP-based Inspection Models Project for Slaughter Plants; Models Phase

AGENCY: Food Safety and Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Agency is holding a public meeting to discuss its HACCP-based Inspection Models Project for slaughter plants. The morning session will provide general information on the Inspection Models Project and a briefing on the project's Baseline phase, which documents plant performance under current inspection procedures. By the time of the meeting, the Baseline phase will be completed for the first group of plants to participate in the project. The afternoon session will focus in some detail on the upcoming Inspection Models phase in this group of plants and will conclude with an open discussion.

DATES: The meeting will be held on December 2, 1998, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Washington Plaza Hotel in Washington, DC, 10 Thomas Circle NW (at Massachusetts Avenue and 14th Street), Washington DC 20009, (202) 842–1300. Transcripts of the meeting will be available in the FSIS Docket Room, Room 102, 300 12th Street SW, Washington, DC 20250–3700.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: To register for the meeting, contact Ms. Jennifer Callahan of the FSIS Planning Staff at (202) 501–7138 or FAX (202) 501–7642. Attendees who require a sign language interpreter or other special accommodation should contact Ms. Callahan at the above numbers by November 25, 1998.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Inspection Models Project is an outgrowth of the Agency's Pathogen Reduction/Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (PR/HACCP) Systems Final Rule, published on July 25, 1996. The PR/HACCP rule calls for the establishment of a HACCP-based food safety system to reduce the risk of foodborne illness from meat and poultry products.

In a **Federal Register** Notice of June 10, 1997, FSIS requested public comments on the design and development of new inspection models for slaughter and processing in a HACCP environment (62 FR 31553). This notice summarized recommendations by the National Academy of Sciences and the General Accounting Office that FSIS reduce its reliance on organoleptic (sensory) inspection and redeploy its resources by using inspection methods that are based on the risks inherent in meat and poultry slaughter operations. To accomplish these objectives, new inspection methods must be developed and tested that are consistent with the meat and poultry inspection laws and the systems now required by the PR/HACCP rule. The inspection models project is helping to define the respective responsibilities of FSIS and the regulated industry in slaughter establishments operating under HACCP systems.

A draft project protocol of July 7, 1998 identifies two objectives: (1) Determine the effectiveness of the present inspection system in slaughter establishments by collecting and analyzing organoleptic and microbial data on carcasses produced under the current system—the Baseline phase; and (2) test new inspection models at establishments where plant personnel perform slaughter process control and FSIS inspectors perform oversight and verification inspection activities and collect and analyze data to determine the effectiveness of the models and ensure the safety and wholesomeness of the products—the Inspection Models phase.

A public meeting was held in Washington DC on July 27, 1998 (63 FR 39068, July 21, 1998) to discuss the project. Baseline data were collected in three poultry plants and two hog plants from August through November. This public meeting will discuss results from the Baseline phase in these initial five plants and projected activities in the plants during the upcoming Inspection Models phase.

The meeting is open to the public on a space-available basis.

Done in Washington, DC, on November 9, 1998.

Thomas J. Billy,

Administrator.

[FR Doc. 98–30646 Filed 11–16–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410 DM–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Newspapers Used for Publication of Legal Notice of Appealable Decisions for the Northern Region; Idaho, Montana, North Dakota, and Portions of South Dakota and Eastern Washington

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice lists the newspapers that will be used by all Ranger Districts, Forests, and the Regional Office of the Northern Region to publish legal notice of all decisions subject to appeal under 36 CFR parts 215 and 217 and to publish notices for public comment and notice of decision subject to the provisions of 36 CFR part 215. The intended effect of this action is to inform interested members of the public which newspapers will be used