

Abstract: Under the Plant Protection Act (7 U.S.C. 7701 *et seq.*), the Secretary of Agriculture is authorized, either independently or in cooperation with the States, to carry out operations or measures to detect, eradicate, suppress, control, prevent, or retard the spread of plant pests and noxious weeds that are new to or not widely distributed within the United States. This authority has been delegated to the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS).

To carry out this mission, APHIS' Plant Protection and Quarantine (PPQ) program has joined forces with the States and other agencies to create a program called the Cooperative Agricultural Pest Survey (CAPS). The CAPS program coordinates efforts through cooperative agreements with the States and other agencies to collect and manage data on plant pests, noxious weeds, and biological control agents, which may be used to control plant pests or noxious weeds.

This program allows the States and PPQ to conduct surveillance activities to detect and measure the presence of exotic plant pests and weeds and to input surveillance data into a uniform national system. Among other things, this allows APHIS to obtain a more comprehensive picture of plant pest conditions in the United States.

The CAPS program involves certain information collection activities, such as cooperative agreements with workplans and various financial and disclosure forms associated with developing the agreement, pest detection surveys with data entry, and a form for determination of specimens.

We are asking the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to approve our use of these information collection activities, as described, for an additional 3 years.

The purpose of this notice is to solicit comments from the public (as well as affected agencies) concerning our information collection. These comments will help us:

(1) Evaluate 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;

(2) Evaluate the accuracy of our estimate of the burden of the collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

(3) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(4) Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, through use, as appropriate, of automated, electronic, mechanical, and other collection

technologies; *e.g.*, permitting electronic submission of responses.

Estimate of burden: The public burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 0.259 hours per response.

Respondents: State, university, and Tribal cooperators participating in CAPS.

Estimated annual number of respondents: 55.

Estimated annual number of responses per respondent: 258.

Estimated annual number of responses: 14,176.

Estimated total annual burden on respondents: 3,669 hours. (Due to averaging, the total annual burden hours may not equal the product of the annual number of responses multiplied by the reporting burden per response.)

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.

Done in Washington, DC, this 27th day of February 2023.

Michael Watson,

Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[FR Doc. 2023-04337 Filed 3-1-23; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-34-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

U.S. Codex Office

Codex Alimentarius Commission: Meeting of the Codex Committee on Contaminants in Food

AGENCY: U.S. Codex Office, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Codex Office is sponsoring a public meeting on March 27, 2023, from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. EDT. The objective of the public meeting is to provide information and receive public comments on agenda items and draft U.S. positions to be discussed at the 16th Session of the Codex Committee on Contaminants in Foods (CCCF) of the Codex Alimentarius Commission, in Utrecht, Netherlands on April 18–21 (in person) and April 26, 2023 (virtual report adoption). The U.S. Manager for Codex Alimentarius and the Under Secretary for Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs recognize the importance of providing interested parties the opportunity to obtain background information on the 16th Session of the CCCF and to address items on the agenda.

DATES: The public meeting is scheduled for March 27, 2023, from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. EDT via Video Teleconference only.

ADDRESSES: Documents related to the 16th Session of the CCCF will be accessible via the internet at the following address: <https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCCF&session=16>.

Dr. Lauren Posnick Robin, U.S. Delegate to the 16th Session of the CCCF, invites interested U.S. parties to submit their comments electronically to the following email address: Quynh-Anh Nguyen, quynh-anh.nguyen@fda.hhs.gov. Emailed comments should state in the title that they relate to activities of the 16th Session of the CCCF.

Registration: Attendees may register to attend the public meeting here: <https://fda.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJItf-qrrTotHHFHSSnbirJ1PZMFJrvaoUI>.

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

For further information about the 16th session of CCCF, contact U.S. Delegate, Dr. Lauren Posnick Robin, lauren.robin@fda.hhs.gov.

For further information about the public meeting, contact: U.S. Codex Office, uscodex@usda.gov, or Quynh-Anh Nguyen, quynh-anh.nguyen@fda.hhs.gov, Phone (240) 402-2028.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Codex was established in 1963 by two United Nations organizations, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the World Health Organization (WHO). Through adoption of food standards, codes of practice, and other guidelines developed by its committees, and by promoting their adoption and implementation by governments, Codex seeks to protect the health of consumers and ensure fair practices in the food trade.

The Codex Committee on Contaminants in Foods (CCCF) is responsible for:

(a) Establishing or endorsing permitted maximum levels and where necessary, revising existing guideline levels, for contaminants and naturally occurring toxicants in food and feed;

(b) Preparing priority lists of contaminants and naturally occurring toxicants for risk assessment by the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (JEFCA).

(c) Considering and elaborating methods of analysis and sampling for the determination of contaminants and

naturally occurring toxicants in food and feed;

(d) Considering and elaborating standards or codes of practice for related subjects; and

(e) Considering other matters assigned to it by the Commission in relation to contaminants and naturally occurring toxicants in food and feed.

The Committee is hosted by the Netherlands. The United States attends the CCCF as a member country of Codex.

Issues To Be Discussed at the Public Meeting

The following items on the Agenda for the 16th Session of the CCCF will be discussed during the public meeting:

- Matters referred to CCCF by the Codex Alimentarius Commission and/or its subsidiary bodies.

- Matters of interest arising from FAO and WHO (including JECFA).

- Matters of interest arising from other international organizations.

- Maximum levels for lead in certain food categories.

- Code of practice for prevention and reduction of mycotoxin contamination in cassava and cassava-based products.

- Sampling plans for total aflatoxins in certain cereals and cereal-based products including foods for infants and young children.

- Maximum level for total aflatoxins in ready-to-eat peanuts and associated sampling plan.

- Maximum levels for total aflatoxins and ochratoxin A in nutmeg, dried chili and paprika, ginger, pepper and turmeric and associated sampling plans.

- Discussion Paper on Ciguatoxins.

- Discussion Paper on Pyrrolizidine alkaloids.

- Guidance on data analysis for development of maximum levels and for improved data collection.

- Forward work-plan for CCCF.

- Review of staple food-contaminant combinations for future work of CCCF.

- Review of Codex standards for contaminants.

- Follow-up Work to the Outcomes of JECFA Evaluations and FAO/WHO Expert Consultations.

- Priority list of contaminants and naturally occurring toxicants proposed for evaluation by JECFA.

- Other business and future work.

Public Meeting

At the March 27, 2023 public meeting, draft U.S. positions on the agenda items will be described and discussed, and attendees will have the opportunity to pose questions and offer comments. Written comments may be offered at the meeting or sent to [\[fda.hhs.gov\]\(mailto:fda.hhs.gov\). Emailed comments should state in the title that they relate to activities of the 16th Session of the CCCF.](mailto:quynh-anh.nguyen@</p>
</div>
<div data-bbox=)

Additional Public Notification

Public awareness of all segments of rulemaking and policy development is important. Consequently, the U.S. Codex Office will announce this **Federal Register** publication on-line through the USDA Codex web page located at: <http://www.usda.gov/codex>, a link that also offers an email subscription service providing access to information related to Codex. Customers can add or delete their subscriptions themselves and have the option to password protect their accounts.

USDA Non-Discrimination Statement

No agency, officer, or employee of the USDA shall, on the grounds of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, or political beliefs, exclude from participation in, deny the benefits of, or subject to discrimination any person in the United States under any program or activity conducted by the USDA.

How To File a Complaint of Discrimination

To file a complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, which may be accessed online at <https://www.usda.gov/oascr/filing-program-discrimination-complaint-usda-customer>, or write a letter signed by you or your authorized representative. Send your completed complaint form or letter to USDA by mail, fax, or email. Mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410; Fax: (202) 690-7442; Email: program.intake@usda.gov. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).

Done at Washington, DC, on February 24, 2023.

Mary Frances Lowe,

U.S. Manager for Codex Alimentarius.

[FR Doc. 2023-04236 Filed 3-1-23; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Utilities Service

[Docket #: RUS-22-ELECTRIC-0059]

Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for Section 313A Guarantees for Bonds and Notes Issued for Utility Infrastructure Purposes for Fiscal Year (FY) 2023

AGENCY: Rural Utilities Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO).

SUMMARY: The Rural Utilities Service (RUS or the Agency), a Rural Development agency of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), announces the acceptance of applications under the Guarantees for Bonds and Notes Issued for Utility Infrastructure Purposes Program (the 313A Program) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2023. This notice is being issued in order to allow applicants sufficient time to prepare and submit their applications and give the Agency time to process applications within FY 2023. Based on FY 2023 appropriated funding, the Agency announces that \$900 million will be available for FY 2023. The purpose of the 313A Program is to guarantee loans to selected applicants as a Guaranteed Lender. Successful applications will be selected by the Agency for funding and subsequently awarded to the extent that funding may ultimately be made available through apportionment. All applicants are responsible for any expenses incurred in developing their applications.

DATES: Completed applications must be electronically received by RUS no later than 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time (ET) May 1, 2023. Applicants intending to submit applications must have their applications received by the closing deadline.

ADDRESSES: Completed applications must be submitted electronically to Amy McWilliams, Program Advisor, Electric Program, RUS at amy.mcwilliams@usda.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Amy McWilliams, Program Advisor, Rural Utilities Service, USDA, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Mail Stop 1560, Room 4121-South, Washington, DC 20250-1560, by email at amy.mcwilliams@usda.gov, or call (202) 205-8663. Persons with disabilities that require alternative means for communication should contact the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Target Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: