

This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains documents other than rules or proposed rules that are applicable to the public. Notices of hearings and investigations, committee meetings, agency decisions and rulings, delegations of authority, filing of petitions and applications and agency statements of organization and functions are examples of documents appearing in this section.

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## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Agricultural Marketing Service

[Doc. No. AMS-CN-22-0084]

#### Advisory Committee on Universal Cotton Standards

**AGENCY:** Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice; intent to reestablish committee and request for nominations.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) intends to reestablish the Advisory Committee on Universal Cotton Standards (Committee). The Committee is necessary and in the public interest. The Committee reviews official Universal Standards for American Upland cotton prepared by USDA and would make recommendations to the Secretary of Agriculture regarding the establishment or revision of standards. USDA also seeks nominations of individuals to be considered for appointment by the Secretary as Committee members.

**DATES:** Written nominations must be received on or before May 1, 2023.

**ADDRESSES:** Nominations and applications materials should be sent to Gretchen Deatherage, Designated Federal Official, Cotton & Tobacco Program, AMS, USDA, 3275 Appling Road, Room 5, Memphis, TN 38133 or by email to [Gretchen.Deatherage@usda.gov](mailto:Gretchen.Deatherage@usda.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Gretchen Deatherage, Designated Federal Official; Phone: (901) 384-3030; Email: [Gretchen.Deatherage@usda.gov](mailto:Gretchen.Deatherage@usda.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. 10), notice is hereby given that the Secretary of Agriculture intends to reestablish the Committee for two years and the Committee would be composed of foreign and domestic representatives of the cotton industry. The purpose of the Committee would be to review

official Universal Standards for U.S. Upland cotton prepared by USDA and make recommendations to the Secretary of Agriculture regarding establishment or revision of the standards established under the United States Cotton Standards Act (7 U.S.C. 51 *et seq.*). The Deputy Administrator of the Agricultural Marketing Service's Cotton and Tobacco Program will serve as the Committee's Executive Secretary.

Industry members will be appointed by the Secretary of Agriculture and serve two (2) year terms. Membership will consist of representatives from the cotton industry. The U.S. cotton industry's membership would comprise twelve (12) producers and ginners, six (6) representatives of merchandising firms, and six (6) representatives of textile manufacturers. These representatives would be appointed by the Secretary of Agriculture. Each member would have one vote. Accordingly, voting privileges will be divided as follows: U.S. cotton producers and ginners—twelve (12) votes; U.S. merchandising firms—six (6) votes; U.S. textile manufacturers—six (6) votes. There would be two committee members designated from each of the foreign signatory associations. These committee members would be designated by the respective associations. Voting privileges would be divided as follows: foreign signatory merchant associations—six (6) votes; foreign signatory spinner associations—six (6) votes. The members of the re-established Committee will elect a Chairperson of the Committee.

The Secretary of Agriculture invites those individuals, organizations, and groups affiliated with the categories listed above to nominate individuals for membership on the re-established Committee. Nominations should describe and document the proposed member's qualifications for membership to the Committee and list their name, title, address, telephone, and fax number. The Secretary of Agriculture seeks a diverse group of members that represent a broad spectrum of persons interested in providing suggestions and ideas on how USDA can tailor its programs to meet the needs of the cotton industry.

All individuals must submit the following to nominate yourself or someone else to the Advisory Committee on Universal Cotton

Standards: a resume or curriculum vitae (required), a USDA Advisory Committee Membership Background Information Form AD-755—available online at <https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/ad-755.pdf> (required), a cover letter (required), and a list of endorsements or letters of recommendation (optional). The resume or curriculum vitae must be limited to five one-sided pages and should include a summary of the following information: Current and past organization affiliations; areas of expertise; education; career positions held; and any other notable positions held.

More information on USDA Advisory Committees may be found at <https://www.usda.gov/whlo/apply>.

Equal opportunity practices in accordance with USDA policies will be followed in all appointments to the Committee. To ensure that the recommendations of the Committee have taken into account the needs of the diverse groups served by USDA, membership will include, to the extent possible, individuals with demonstrated ability to represent minorities, women, and persons with disabilities.

Dated: March 24, 2023.

**Cikena Reid,**

*USDA Committee Management Officer.*

[FR Doc. 2023-06684 Filed 3-30-23; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

[Docket No. APHIS-2023-0025]

#### Notice of Request for Extension of Approval of an Information Collection; Brucellosis and Bovine Tuberculosis: Importation of Cattle and Bison

**AGENCY:** Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Extension of approval of an information collection; comment request.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service's intention to request an extension of approval of an information collection associated with the regulations governing importation of cattle and bison, specifically with regard

to classification of regions at designated status levels for bovine tuberculosis and brucellosis, and establishing conditions for the importation of cattle and bison from regions with the various classifications.

**DATES:** We will consider all comments that we receive on or before May 30, 2023.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments by either of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* Go to [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov). Enter APHIS–2023–0025 in the Search field. Select the Documents tab, then select the Comment button in the list of documents.

- *Postal Mail/Commercial Delivery:* Send your comment to Docket No. APHIS–2023–0025, Regulatory Analysis and Development, PPD, APHIS, Station 3A–03.8, 4700 River Road, Unit 118, Riverdale, MD 20737–1238.

Supporting documents and any comments we receive on this docket may be viewed at [regulations.gov](http://regulations.gov) or in our reading room, which is located in room 1620 of the USDA South Building, 14th Street and Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC. Normal reading room hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. To be sure someone is there to help you, please call (202) 799–7039 before coming.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For information on the regulations for bovine tuberculosis and brucellosis regionalization and associated importation of cattle and bison, contact Dr. Kari Coulson, Import Risk Analyst, Regionalization Evaluation Services, VS, APHIS, 920 Main Campus Drive, Raleigh, NC 27606; (919) 480–9876; email: [AskRegionalization@usda.gov](mailto:AskRegionalization@usda.gov). For more information on the information collection reporting process, contact Mr. Joseph Moxey, APHIS' Paperwork Reduction Act Coordinator, at (301) 851–2483; [joseph.moxey@usda.gov](mailto:joseph.moxey@usda.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Title:* Brucellosis and Bovine Tuberculosis: Importation of Cattle and Bison.

*OMB Control Number:* 0579–0442.

*Type of Request:* Extension of approval of an information collection.

*Abstract:* Under the Animal Health Protection Act (7 U.S.C. 8301 *et seq.*), the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) of the U.S. Department of Agriculture is authorized, among other things, to prohibit or restrict the importation and interstate movement of animals and animal products to prevent the introduction into and dissemination

within the United States of livestock diseases and pests. To carry out this mission, APHIS regulates the importation of animals and animal products into the United States. APHIS' Veterinary Services is the program responsible for regulating these importations.

The regulations in 9 CFR part 93 contain, among other things, provisions that address the risk that imported bovines (cattle or bison) may introduce or disseminate brucellosis or bovine tuberculosis (TB) within the United States. On September 17, 2020, APHIS published in the **Federal Register** (85 FR 57944–57956) a final rule<sup>1</sup> that amended these regulations to establish a system to classify foreign regions at designated status levels for bovine TB and brucellosis; to establish provisions for modifying the TB or brucellosis classification of a foreign region; and to establish conditions for the importation of cattle and bison from regions with the various classifications.

TB is a contagious disease of both animals and humans. Bovine TB, caused by *Mycobacterium bovis* (*M. bovis*), can be transmitted from livestock to humans and other animals. Brucellosis is an infectious disease of animals and humans caused by the bacteria of the genus *Brucella*. The disease is characterized by abortions and impaired fertility in its principal animal hosts. Brucellosis is mainly a disease of cattle, bison, and swine; *Brucella abortus* is associated with the disease in cattle and bison. There is no economically feasible treatment for brucellosis in livestock.

The activities associated with the regulations include the request for regional classification and additional information about a region, an application for recognition of regional classification (TB and brucellosis), maintaining classification and reclassification, and the official identification and certification.

We are asking the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to approve our use of these information collection activities 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 14.6 hours per response.

*Respondents:* Foreign animal health officials, importers, and exporters.

*Estimated annual number of respondents:* 21.

*Estimated annual number of responses per respondent:* 3.

*Estimated annual number of responses:* 62.

*Estimated total annual burden on respondents:* 907 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 March 2023.

**Michael Watson,**

*Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.*

[FR Doc. 2023–06720 Filed 3–30–23; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3410–34–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Rural Business-Cooperative Service

[Docket No. RBS–22–Business–0029]

#### Notice of Solicitation of Applications for the Rural Energy for America Program for Fiscal Years 2023 and 2024

**AGENCY:** Rural Business-Cooperative Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Rural Business-Cooperative Service (the Agency) is issuing a second Notice of Solicitation of Applications (Notice) under the Rural Energy for America Program (REAP) as referenced in the notice that was published in the **Federal Register** on December 16, 2022. This second notice announces the availability of \$1.055 billion in Inflation Reduction Act funds

<sup>1</sup> To see the final rule, go to [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov). Enter APHIS–2011–0044 in the Search field.