

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.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Food Safety and Inspection Service

[Docket No. FSIS–2006–0043]

Notice of Request for a Revision of an Information Collection (Pathogen Reduction/Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point)

AGENCY: Food Safety and Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 and the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) regulations, this notice announces that the Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) intends to request a revision of an approved information collection on Pathogen Reduction and Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) Systems.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received on or before March 26, 2007.

ADDRESSES: FSIS invites interested persons to submit comments on this notice. Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

- *Mail, including floppy disks or CD-ROM's, and hand- or courier-delivered items:* Send to Docket Clerk, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food Safety and Inspection Service, 300 12th Street, SW., Room 102 Cotton Annex, Washington, DC 20250.

- *Electronic mail:* fsis.regulationscomments@fsis.usda.gov.

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* This Web page provides the ability to type short comments directly into the comment field on this Web page or attach a file for lengthier comments. Go to <http://www.regulation.gov> and in the "Search for Open Regulations" box, select "Food Safety and Inspection Service" from the agency drop-down menu, then click on "Submit." In the Docket ID column, select FDMS Docket

Number FSIS–2006–0043 to submit or view public comments and to view supporting and related materials available electronically.

All submissions received by mail or electronic mail must include the Agency name and docket number. All comments submitted in response to this document, as well as research and background information used by FSIS in developing this document, will be available for public inspection in the FSIS Docket Room at the address listed above between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. Comments will also be posted on the Agency's Web page at http://www.fsis.usda.gov/regulations_and_policies/regulations_directives_and_notices/index.asp.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Contact John O'Connell, Paperwork Reduction Act Coordinator, Food Safety and Inspection Service, USDA, 300 12th Street, SW., Room 112, Washington, DC 20250–3700, (202) 720–0345.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Pathogen Reduction/HACCP Systems.

OMB Number: 0583–0103.

Expiration Date: 6/30/2007.

Type of Request: Revision of a currently approved information collection.

Abstract: FSIS has been delegated the authority to exercise the functions of the Secretary as specified in the Federal Meat Inspection Act (FMIA) (21 U.S.C. 601, *et seq.*) and the Poultry Products Inspection Act (PPIA) (21 U.S.C. 451, *et seq.*). These statutes provide that FSIS is to protect the public by verifying that meat and poultry products are safe, wholesome, unadulterated, and properly labeled and packaged.

FSIS is requesting a revision to an approved information collection addressing paperwork and recordkeeping requirements regarding Pathogen Reduction and HACCP systems. The Agency is revising the Pathogen Reduction/HACCP systems information collection based on its most recent plant data, which support a finding of fewer total burden hours than there is in the currently approved information collection.

FSIS has established requirements applicable to meat and poultry establishments designed to reduce the occurrence and numbers of pathogenic microorganisms on meat and poultry

products, reduce the incidence of foodborne illness associated with the consumption of those products, and provide a new framework for modernization of the meat and poultry inspection system. The regulations (1) require that each establishment develop and implement written sanitation standard operating procedures (Sanitation SOPs); (2) require regular microbial testing for generic *E. coli* by slaughter establishments to verify the adequacy of the establishment's process controls for the prevention and removal of fecal contamination and associated bacteria; (3) establish pathogen reduction performance standards for *Salmonella* that slaughter establishments and establishments producing raw ground products must meet; and (4) require that all meat and poultry establishments develop and implement a system of preventive controls designed to improve the safety of their products, known as HACCP.

FSIS has made the following estimates based upon an information collection assessment:

Estimate of Burden: FSIS estimates that it will take respondents an average of .116 hours to comply with the Pathogen Reduction and HACCP systems information collection.

Respondents: Meat and poultry establishments.

Estimated No. of Respondents: 7,721.

Estimated No. of Annual Responses per Respondent: 7,244.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 6,505,024 hours.

Copies of this information collection assessment can be obtained from John O'Connell, Paperwork Reduction Act Coordinator, Food Safety and Inspection Service, USDA, 300 12th Street, SW., Room 112, Washington, DC 20250–3700, (202) 720–5627, (202) 720–0345.

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of FSIS' functions, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of FSIS' estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and, (d) 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 other forms of information technology. Comments may be sent to both John O'Connell, Paperwork Reduction Act Coordinator, at the address provided above, and the Desk Officer for Agriculture, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20253.

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.

Additional Public Notification

Public awareness of all segments of rulemaking and policy development is important. Consequently, in an effort to ensure that the public and in particular minorities, women, and persons with disabilities, are aware of this notice, FSIS will announce it on-line through the FSIS web page located at http://www.fsis.usda.gov/regulations/2007_Notices_Index/index.asp.

FSIS also will make copies of this **Federal Register** publication available through the FSIS Constituent Update, which is used to provide information regarding FSIS policies, procedures, regulations, **Federal Register** notices, FSIS public meetings, recalls, and other types of information that could affect or would be of interest to our constituents and stakeholders. The update is communicated via Listserv, a free e-mail subscription service consisting of industry, trade, and farm groups, consumer interest groups, allied health professionals, scientific professionals, and other individuals who have requested to be included. The update also is available on the FSIS Web page. Through Listserv and the Web page, FSIS is able to provide information to a much broader, more diverse audience.

In addition, FSIS offers an email subscription service which provides automatic and customized access to selected food safety news and information. This service is available at http://www.fsis.usda.gov/news_and_events/email_subscription/. Options range from recalls to export information to regulations, directives and notices. Customers can add or delete subscriptions themselves and have the option to password protect their account.

Done at Washington, DC, on January 17, 2007.

Barbara J. Masters,
Administrator.

[FR Doc. E7-949 Filed 1-22-07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-DM-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration

Proposed Posting, Posting, and Deposting of Stockyards

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

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: This notice announces several actions related to posting of stockyards; when required we physically post a sign providing public notice that the stockyard is subject to provisions of the Packers and Stockyards Act. We propose to post 10 stockyards. We have received information that these stockyards meet the definition of a stockyard under the Packers and Stockyards Act and, therefore, need to be posted. Posted stockyards are subject to the provisions of the Packers and Stockyards Act. In addition, we have posted 12 stockyards that were previously announced as proposed postings. We determined that the stockyards meet the definition of a stockyard under the Packers and Stockyards Act and, therefore, have been posted. Three other facilities, for which notices of proposed posting were announced, were not posted because they no longer meet the definition of a stockyard. These facilities were either abandoned or underwent a change so they no longer function as a stockyard. We are also deposing two stockyards. These facilities can no longer be used as stockyards and, therefore, are no longer required to be posted.

DATES: For the proposed posting of stockyards, we will consider comments that we receive by February 7, 2007.

For the deposed stockyards, the deposing is effective on January 23, 2007.

ADDRESSES: We invite you to submit comments on this notice. You may submit comments by any of the following methods:

- *E-Mail:* Send comments via electronic mail to comments.gipsa@usda.gov.
- *Mail:* Send hardcopy written comments to H. Tess Butler, GIPSA, USDA, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Room 1647-S, Washington, DC 20250-3604.
- *Fax:* Send comments by facsimile transmission to: (202) 690-2755.
- *Hand Delivery or Courier:* Deliver comments to: H. Tess Butler, GIPSA, USDA, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Room 1647-S, Washington, DC 20250-3604.

• *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* Go to <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the on-line instructions for submitting comments.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA) administers and enforces the Packers and Stockyards Act of 1921, (7 U.S.C. 181-229) (P&S Act). The P&S Act prohibits unfair, deceptive, and fraudulent practices by livestock market agencies, dealers, stockyard owners, meat packers, swine contractors, and live poultry dealers in the livestock, poultry, and meatpacking industries.

Section 302 of the P&S Act (7 U.S.C. 202) defines the term "stockyard" as follows:

* * * any place, establishment, or facility commonly known as stockyards, conducted, operated, or managed for profit or nonprofit as a public market for livestock producers, feeders, market agencies, and buyers, consisting of pens, or other inclosures, and their appurtenances, in which live cattle, sheep, swine, horses, mules, or goats are received, held, or kept for sale or shipment in commerce.

Section 302 (b) of the P&S Act requires the Secretary to determine which stockyards meet this definition, and to notify the owner of the stockyard and the public of that determination by posting a notice in each designated stockyard. After giving notice to the stockyard owner and to the public, the stockyard will be subject to the provisions of Title III of the P&S Act (7 U.S.C. 201-203 and 205-217a) until the Secretary deposes the stockyard by public notice.

This document notifies the stockyard owners and the public that the following 10 stockyards meet the definition of a stockyard and that we propose to designate these stockyards as posted stockyards.

| Facility number | Stockyard name and location |
|-----------------|--|
| AL-193 | Tim White d.b.a. 4/W Horse Sales, Huntsville, Alabama. |
| AL-194 | Coffee County Stockyard, LLC, New Brockton, Alabama. |
| AR-178 | B-B Livestock Auction & Sales, Inc., Beebe, Arkansas. |
| AR-179 | Buddy Guyot d.b.a. Beebe Livestock Auction, Beebe, Arkansas. |
| GA-230 | Frank Ray Harris d.b.a. Harris Goat 'N Sheep Auction, Taylorsville, Georgia. |
| KY-180 | Southern Kentucky Livestock Market, Inc., Rockfield, Kentucky. |