

In Iowa

Bounded on the North by the northern Winneshiek and Allamakee County lines;

Bounded on the East by the eastern Allamakee County line; the eastern and southern Clayton County lines; the eastern Buchanan County line; the northern and eastern Jones County lines; the eastern Cedar County line south to State Route 130;

Bounded on the South by State Route 130 west to State Route 38; State Route 38 south to Interstate 80; Interstate 80 west to U.S. Route 63; and

Bounded on the West by U.S. Route 63 north to State Route 8; State Route 8 east to State Route 21; State Route 21 north to D38; D38 east to State Route 297; State Route 297 north to V49; V49 north to Bremer County; the southern Bremer County line; the western Fayette and Winneshiek County lines.

In Texas

Bounded on the north by the northern Young, Jack, Montague, Cooke, Grayson, Fannin, Lamar, Red River, Morris, and Marion County line east to the Texas State line;

Bounded on the east by the eastern Texas State line south to the southern Texas State line;

Bounded on the south by the southern Texas State line west to the western Val Verde County line;

Bounded on the west by the western Val Verde, Edwards, Kimble, Mason, San Saba, Mills, Comanche, Eastland, Stephens, and Young County lines north to the northern Young County line.

Mid-Iowa's assigned geographic area does not include the export port locations inside Mid-Iowa's area which are serviced by GIPSA.

Montana

Pursuant to Section 7(f)(2) of the Act, the following geographic area, the entire State of Montana, is assigned to Montana.

Opportunity for Designation

Interested persons, including Georgia, Mid-Iowa, and Montana, may apply for designation to provide official services in the geographic areas specified above under the provisions of Section 7(f) of USGSA (7 U.S.C. 79(f)(2)), and 9 CFR 800.196(d) regulations. Designation in the specified geographic areas is for the period beginning July 1, 2008, and ending June 30, 2011. To apply for designation, contact the Compliance Division at the address listed above for forms and information, or obtain applications at the GIPSA Web site, <http://www.gipsa.usda.gov>.

Request for Comments

We are also publishing this notice to provide interested persons the opportunity to present comments on the quality of services provided by the Georgia, Mid-Iowa, and Montana official agencies. In the designation process, we are particularly interested in receiving comments citing reasons and pertinent data for support or objection to the designation of the applicants. Submit all comments to the Compliance Division at the above address or at <http://www.regulations.gov>.

In determining which applicant will be designated, we will consider applications, comments, and other available information.

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 71–87k.

James E. Link,  
Administrator, Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration.  
[FR Doc. E7–23239 Filed 11–30–07; 8:45 am]  
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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration

Designation for the Columbus (OH), Farwell (TX), and Decatur (IN) Areas

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

ACTION: Notice.

**SUMMARY:** We are announcing designation of the following organizations to provide official services under the United States Grain Standards Act, as amended (USGSA): Columbus Grain Inspection, Inc. (Columbus); Farwell Grain Inspection, Inc. (Farwell); and Northeast Indiana Grain Inspection, Inc. (Northeast Indiana).

**DATES:** Effective January 1, 2008.

**ADDRESSES:** USDA, GIPSA, Karen Guagliardo, Chief, Review Branch, Compliance Division, STOP 3604, Room 1647–S, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250–3604.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Karen Guagliardo at 202–720–7312, e-mail [Karen.W.Guagliardo@usda.gov](mailto:Karen.W.Guagliardo@usda.gov).

**Read Applications:** All applications will be available for public inspection at the office above during regular business hours (7 CFR 1.27(b)).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** In the May 31, 2007, **Federal Register** (72 FR 30335), we requested applications for designation to provide official services in the geographic areas assigned to the official agencies named above. Applications were due by July 2, 2007.

Columbus, Farwell, and Northeast Indiana were the sole applicants for designation to provide official services in the entire area currently assigned to them, so GIPSA did not ask for additional comments on them.

We evaluated all available information regarding the designation criteria in Section 7(f)(1) of USGSA (7 U.S.C. 79(f)) and determined that Columbus, Farwell, and Northeast Indiana are able to provide official services in the geographic areas specified in May 31, 2007, **Federal Register**, for which they applied. These designation actions to provide official services are effective January 1, 2008, and terminate December 31, 2010, for Columbus, Farwell, and Northeast Indiana. Interested persons may obtain official services by calling the telephone numbers listed below.

Official Agency	Headquarters location and telephone	Designation start-end
Columbus .....	Circleville, OH—740–474–3519 .....	1/01/2008–12/31/2010
	Additional Location: Bucyrus, OH .....	
Farwell .....	Farwell, TX—806–481–9052 .....	1/01/2008–12/31/2010
Northeast Indiana .....	Decatur, IN—337–948–0230 .....	1/01/2008–12/31/2010

Section 7(f)(1) of the USGSA, authorizes GIPSA's Administrator to designate a qualified applicant to provide official services in a specified area after determining that the applicant is better able than any other applicant

to provide such official services (7 U.S.C. 79(f)(1)).  
Section 7(g)(1) of USGSA provides that designations of official agencies will terminate not later than three years and may be renewed according to the

criteria and procedures prescribed in Section 7(f) of USGSA.

**Authority:** 7 U.S.C. 71–87k.

**James E. Link,**

*Administrator, Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration.*

[FR Doc. E7–23243 Filed 11–30–07; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3410–KD–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### Census Bureau

#### **Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; Shipper's Export Declaration (SED)/Automated Export System (AES) Program**

**AGENCY:** U.S. Census Bureau,  
Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**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, Public Law 104–13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)).

**DATES:** To ensure consideration, written comments must be submitted on or before February 1, 2008.

**ADDRESSES:** Direct all written comments to Diana Hynek, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 6625, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet at [dHynek@doc.gov](mailto:dHynek@doc.gov)).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument(s) and instructions should be directed to Dale C. Kelly, Chief, Regulations, Outreach and Education Branch, U.S. Census Bureau, 4600 Silver Hill Road, Room 6K125, Washington, DC 20233–6700, (301) 763–6937, by fax (301) 763–6638 (or via the Internet at [dale.c.kelly@census.gov](mailto:dale.c.kelly@census.gov)).

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

##### **I. Abstract**

The Shipper's Export Declaration (SED), Commerce Form 7525–V, and the electronic equivalent, the Automated Export System (AES), are instruments used for collecting export trade information. The data collected from these sources are compiled by the U.S. Census Bureau and functions as the basis for the official U.S. export trade statistics. These statistics are used to determine the balance of international trade, and are also designated for use as

a principal economic indicator. Title 13, United States Code (U.S.C.), Chapter 9, Section 301 authorizes the Census Bureau to collect, compile and publish export trade data. Title 15, Code of Federal Regulations, part 30, contains the regulatory provisions for preparing and filing the SED or the AES record. These data are used in the development of U.S. Government policies that affect the economy. These data also enable U.S. businesses to develop practical export marketing strategies as well as provide a means for the assessment of the impact of exports on the domestic economy. The data collected from the SED and the AES record are also used for export control purposes under Title 50, U.S.C., Export Administration Act, to detect and prevent the export of certain items by unauthorized parties or to unauthorized destinations or end users.

On November 29, 1999, the President signed into law the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 1999, which authorized the Secretary of Commerce to require mandatory electronic filing of items on the Commerce Control List (CCL) and the U.S. Munitions List (USML). The requirement to implement this process went into effect October 18, 2003. On July 29, 2003, the President signed Executive Order 13312, which executed prohibitions to Public Law 108–19, the Clean Diamond Trade Act thereby authorizing the mandatory electronic filing of rough diamonds. Implementation for this process went into effect October 20, 2003. On September 30, 2002, the President signed into law the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Public Law 107–228. This law authorizes the Secretary of Commerce, with the concurrence of the Secretary of State and the Secretary of Homeland Security, to publish regulations in the **Federal Register** detailing that upon the effective date of these regulations, all persons who are required to file export information under Title 13, U.S.C., Chapter 9, file such information through the AES and there will no longer be provisions made for manual filing thereafter. On October 22, 2003, the Census Bureau published a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in the **Federal Register** (68 FR 60301) announcing the Census Bureau's intent to propose the rule mandating electronic filing through the AES of all information on export shipments that require the filing of a SED and allowed the public to comment on this subject. Once concurrence is received from all parties involved, the Census Bureau intends to publish a Final Rulemaking, which will implement the provisions of Public Law

107–228 requiring the mandatory electronic filing of export information via the AES.

##### **II. Method of Collection**

A paper SED or electronic AES record is required, with certain exceptions, for all export shipments valued more than \$2,500 from the United States, including Foreign Trade Zones located therein, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands to foreign countries; for exports between the United States and Puerto Rico; and for exports to the U.S. Virgin Islands from the United States or Puerto Rico. The AES record information is also required for the export of rough diamonds and all exports requiring a license from the Bureau of Industry and Security, a license or license exception from the Department of State, or other government agency, regardless of value, unless exempted from the requirement for filing AES information by the licensing government agency. The SED/AES program is unique among Census Bureau statistical collections since it is not sent to respondents to solicit responses, as is the case with surveys. Filing export information via the SED or AES is a mandatory process under Title 13, Chapter 9, U.S.C. The Census Bureau has seen a progressive growth in the number of electronic filers, with a comparable decrease in the number of the paper SED filers. For example, the requirements to file export information through the AES for all USML and CCL shipments has resulted in the elimination of more than 536,000 paper SEDs annually. Exporters can access the AES via the Census Bureau's free Internet-based system, *AESDirect*, or they can integrate the AES into their company's computer network and file directly with the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP). Exporters may also download the SED, Commerce Form 7525–V, from the Internet and print it on the required "buff" colored paper.

For exports to Canada, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed by the CBP, Canada Border Services Agency, and statistical agencies in the United States and Canada enables the United States to substitute Canadian import statistics for U.S. export statistics. Similarly, in accordance with the MOU, Canada substitutes U.S. import statistics for Canadian exports to the United States. This exchange of data eliminates the requirement for U.S. exporters to file any information with the U.S. Government for exports of nonlicensed shipments to Canada, thus resulting in the elimination of over ten million paper SEDs annually. Export shipments to Canada that require a