

Notices

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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

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 Seedbiotics of Caldwell, Idaho, and exclusive license for all uses in the field of plant seed coatings to U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/233,173 filed April 26, 1994, "Non-Separable Starch-Oil Compositions." Notice of Availability was published in the Federal Register on October 24, 1994.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before August 31, 1996.

ADDRESS: Send comments to: USDA, ARS, Office of Technology Transfer, Room 415, Building 005, BARC-West, Baltimore Boulevard, Beltsville, Maryland 20705-2350.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: June Blalock of the Office of Technology Transfer at the Beltsville address given above; telephone: 301-504-5989.

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 Seedbiotics 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 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.

R.M. Parry, Jr.,

Assistant Administrator.

[FR Doc. 96-16774 Filed 7-1-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-03-M

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Freshwater Bayou Wetlands Phase II (ME-4), Vermilion Parish, LA

AGENCY: Natural Resources Conservation Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of Finding of No Significant Impact.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to Section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969; the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations (40 CFR Part 1500); and the Natural Resources Conservation Service Regulations (7 CFR Part 650); the Natural Resources Conservation Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, gives notice that an environmental impact statement is not being prepared for the Freshwater Bayou Wetlands Phase II (ME-4), Vermilion Parish, Louisiana.

For further information contact Donald W. Gohmert, State Conservationist, Natural Resources Conservation Service, 3737 Government Street, Alexandria, Louisiana, 71302, telephone (318) 473-7751.

Supplemental information: The environmental assessment of this federally assisted action indicates that the project will not cause significant local, regional, or national impacts on the environment. As a result of these findings, Donald W. Gohmert, State Conservationist, has determined that the preparation and review of an environmental impact statement are not needed for this project.

The purpose of the project is to reduce ponding and the resultant stress to emergent vegetation in the project area. The planned works of improvement include the installation of eight water control structures to provide for drainage of excess water.

The Notice of a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) has been forwarded to the Environmental Protection Agency and to various federal, state, and local agencies and interested parties. A limited number of

copies of the FONSI are available to fill single copy requests at the above address. Basic data developed during the environmental assessment are on file and may be reviewed by contacting Bennett C. Landreneau, Assistant State Conservationist/Water Resources, Natural Resources Conservation Service, 3737 Government Street, Alexandria, Louisiana, 71302, telephone (318) 473-7756.

No administrative action on implementation of the proposal will be taken until 30 days after the date of this publication in the Federal Register.

(This activity is listed in the catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance under NO.10.904, Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention, and is subject to the provisions of Executive Order 12372, which requires intergovernmental consultation with State and local officials)

Dated: June 17, 1996.

Donald W. Gohmert,
State Conservationist.

[FR Doc. 96-16795 Filed 7-1-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-16-M

Rural Housing Service

Notice of Request for Extension of a Currently Approved Information Collection

AGENCY: The Rural Housing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Proposed collection; comments request.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the Rural Housing Service's (RHS) intention to request an extension for the currently approved information collection in support of the program for Community Facility Loans.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by July 2, 1996, to be assured of consideration.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT: Yoonie MacDonald, Loan Specialist, Community Programs Division, RHS, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Stop 3222, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250. Telephone (202) 720-1490.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Community Facility Loans.
OMB Number: 0575-0015.

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

Abstract: The Community Facilities loan program is authorized by Section 306 of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1926) to make loans to public entities, nonprofit corporations, and Indian tribes for the development of community facilities for public use in rural areas.

Community facilities programs have been in existence for many years. These programs have financed a wide range of projects varying in size and complexity from large general hospitals to small rural water systems. The facilities financed are designed to promote the development of rural communities by providing the infrastructure necessary to attract residents and rural jobs.

Information will be collected by the field offices from applicants, borrowers, and consultants. This information will be used to determine applicant/borrower eligibility, project feasibility, and to ensure borrowers operate on a sound basis and use funds for authorized purposes. Failure to collect proper information could result in improper determination of eligibility, improper use of funds, and/or unsound loans.

Expiration Date of Approval: December 31, 1996.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 2.47 hours per response.

Respondents: Public bodies, not for profits, or Indian Tribes.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 10,520.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 9.06.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 235,854 hours.

Copies of this information collection can be obtained from the Director, Regulations and Paperwork Management Division at (202) 720-9725.

Comments

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the function of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's 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 Barbara Williams, Regulations and Paperwork Management Division, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Stop 0743, 1400 Independence Avenue, Washington, DC 20250. 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.

Dated: June 25, 1996.
Eileen Fitzgerald,
Acting Administrator, Rural Housing Service.
[FR Doc. 96-16854 Filed 7-01-96; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 3410-07-P

Notice of Availability of Funding and Requests for Proposals for the Section 538 Rural Rental Housing Guaranteed Loan Demonstration Program

AGENCY: Rural Housing Service, USDA.
ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Rural Housing Service (RHS) announces the availability of the Section 538 Rural Rental Housing Guaranteed Loan program on a demonstration basis. The intended outcome is to produce new affordable rental housing by inviting qualified lenders and eligible housing providers to propose rental complexes that will serve a wide range of incomes and better serve rural residents. The purpose of the demonstration is to encourage proposals that show the feasibility of the program in varying markets and with innovative financing proposals.

DATES: The deadline for receipt of applications is 4:00 PM, Eastern Daylight Savings Time on August 5, 1996. Applications received after such date and time will be returned. Lenders are encouraged to submit applications prior to the end of the period, as applications will be reviewed as they are received. If there are differences between any additional guidelines and this Notice, the requirements of this notice shall prevail. Notification of selected applications will be made by September 1, 1996. Commitments for guarantees will be issued on or before September 16, 1996. If RHS is unable to obligate section 538 funds for guaranteed loans by September 16, 1996, any remaining section 538 funds will be transferred for use prior to September 30, 1996, under the section 515 program. Qualified lenders may call Patrick Sheridan at 202-720-1600 or

Obediah G. Baker, Jr., at 202-720-1604 for a copy of the application package. This is not a toll-free number. Hearing- or speech-impaired persons may access that number by calling toll-free the Federal Information Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

ADDRESSES: Applications for participation in the demonstration program must be identified as "Section 538 Demonstration Program" on the envelope or wrapper and be submitted as follows: Director, Multi-family Housing Processing Division, Rural Housing Service, US Department of Agriculture, South Agriculture Building, Room 5337 (stop 0781), 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20250. Lenders shall submit an original and two copies (a FAX copy is NOT acceptable) of the application to the above address by the application deadline.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Patrick Sheridan, Chief, Management Branch, Multi-Family Housing Portfolio Management Division, US Department of Agriculture, South Agriculture Building, Room 5321 (stop 0782), 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20250. Telephone: (202) 720-1600. (This number is not toll-free.) Hearing- or speech-impaired persons may access that number by calling toll-free the Federal Information Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On March 28, 1996, President Clinton signed the "Housing Opportunity Program Extension Act of 1996," Public Law 104-120. One of the actions was the authorization of the section 538 Rural Rental Housing Guaranteed Loan Program. The program is intended to reach the needs of rural America by complimenting the section 515 Rural Rental Housing Direct Loan Program. It is anticipated that beneficiaries of the program will be rural residents with low and moderate incomes provided rental housing through the use of loan guarantees. Partnership opportunities exist to utilize the section 538 program with other affordable housing programs.

In Fiscal Year (FY) 1996, approximately \$25 million is available under the section 538 demonstration program that was funded under the "Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1996," Public Law 104-37. If the program is extended, final regulations will be developed based on information gathered during administration of the demonstration program.