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SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Permit for Movement of Restricted Animals.

OMB Number: 0579-0051.

Expiration Date of Approval: January 31, 1997.

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

Abstract: When farm animals (such as cattle, swine, sheep, or horses) become sick or have been exposed to a disease, it is important that they be removed promptly from their farm so as not to infect other animals around them. In such situations, the owner of a sick or exposed animal will have the animal transported from the farm to a slaughtering establishment. If the animal must be transported across State lines for this purpose, a "Permit for Movement of Restricted Animals," also known as VS Form 1-27, must be completed by an APHIS representative, a State veterinarian, or an accredited veterinarian. The information needed to correctly complete this form is obtained from the animal's owner.

It is imperative that these animals not be removed from their vehicle during transport, or be otherwise diverted from their final destination, since such an event could result in the spread of disease among healthy animals. VS Form 1-27, which is completed by specified personnel at the farm of origin and again at the point of destination, is our primary means of ensuring that these animals move directly from their farm to the slaughtering establishment.

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

(1) Evaluate whether the proposed 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 proposed 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: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average .0561 hours per response.

Respondents: Animal owners, APHIS representatives, State veterinarians, and accredited veterinarians.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 10,130.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 4.125.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 2,346 hours.

All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for Office of Management and Budget approval of the information collection.

Done in Washington, DC, this 20th day of August 1996.

A. Strating,

Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[FR Doc. 96-21558 Filed 8-22-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-34-P

[Docket No. 96-064-1]

Procedures for Importing Animals Through the Harry S. Truman Animal Import Center

AGENCY: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: We are giving notice of the date and location of the lottery for authorization of the use of the Harry S Truman Animal Import Center (HSTAIC) in calendar year 1997. We are also giving notice of the period during which applications must reach the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service in order to be included in the lottery.

DATES: To be included in the lottery for authorization to use HSTAIC in calendar year 1997, applications must be received no earlier than October 1, 1996, and no later than October 15, 1996. Deposits must be received by November 26, 1996. The lottery for authorization to use HSTAIC during 1997 will be held on December 3, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Completed applications and deposits must be sent to the Administrator, c/o Import-Export Animal Staff, National Center for

Import-Export, VS, APHIS, USDA, 4700 River Road Unit 39, Riverdale, MD 20737-1231. Application forms may be obtained by writing to the same address, or by calling the telephone number provided under the heading **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT.** The lottery will be held at USDA, APHIS, Conference Room 3B01CN, 4700 River Road, Riverdale, MD.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Joan Montgomery, Staff Specialist, Import-Export Animals Staff, National Center for Import-Export, VS, APHIS, Suite 3B30, 4700 River Road Unit 39, Riverdale, MD 20737-1231, (301) 734-8172.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The regulations in 9 CFR part 92, §§ 92.430, 92.431, 92.522, and 92.523 (referred to below as the regulations), set forth the conditions under which importers may qualify animals to enter the United States through the Harry S Truman Animal Import Center (HSTAIC) in Fleming Key, FL.

Because the demand for quarantine space at HSTAIC has traditionally exceeded the space available, the regulations provide that a lottery will be held each year during the first 7 days of December, to determine the priority of applications for the following calendar year. To be included in the December lottery, applications must reach the Import-Export Animals Staff of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) no earlier than October 1, and no later than October 15 of the year of the lottery. Additionally, applicants must send a deposit in the form of a certified check or money order in the amount of \$32,000, payable to the United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, for each application. APHIS will not consider an application unless we receive this deposit from the applicant on or before November 26, 1996. In the event that the Import-Export Animals Staff receives no more than one application between October 1, 1996, and October 15, 1996, the lottery will not be held, and APHIS will grant exclusive right to use HSTAIC during the calendar year 1997 in the order applications are received.

Applicants should be aware that certain improvements are being made to the HSTAIC facility in order to meet standards set by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection. The availability of HSTAIC for use for 1997 lottery applicants will be dependent upon satisfactory completion of these projects.

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 1622; 19 U.S.C. 1306; 21 U.S.C. 102-105, 111, 114a, 134a, 134b,

134c, 134d, 134f, 135, 136, and 136a; 31 U.S.C. 9701; 7 CFR 2.22, 2.80, and 371.2(d).

Done in Washington, DC, this 20th day of August 1996.

A. Strating,

Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[FR Doc. 96-21559 Filed 8-22-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-34-P

Foreign Agricultural Service

Solicitation of Proposals

AGENCY: Foreign Agricultural Service, Department of Agriculture.

ACTION: Notice of availability of funds for research grants.

SUMMARY: FAS announces the availability of funds in Fiscal Year 1997 to conduct collaborative research of mutual interest to the United States and Egypt. The Research and Scientific Exchanges Division of FAS is administering a Food Crops Collaborative Research Grants Program, which is managed by the Egyptian Agricultural Technology Utilization and Transfer Project. The program is aimed at resolving the major constraints to increasing the productivity of four major food crops: wheat, maize, rice and faba beans. The following are the most important constraints confronting each crop: 1. Wheat—Development of early, high yielding varieties. Problems include yellow stripe rust, heat stress, salinity and drought stress as well as aphids. 2. Maize—Development of earlier, higher yielding hybrids. Problems include stalk borers, late wilt, downy mildew, salinity and drought stress, maize borers and aphids. 3. Rice—Development of early, high yielding varieties. Problems include salinity and drought stress, blast, stem borer, brown spot disease and weeds. 4. Faba beans—Development of early maturing, high yielding varieties. Problems include the parasitic weed *Orbanche*, necrotic virus, chocolate spot, salinity and drought stress.

Note: Proposals related to On-Farm Water Management in areas such as water requirements, water management and irrigation systems for the four crops listed above will also be accepted now.

Collaborative research projects must involve active collaboration between participating Egyptian and American scientists. Proposals are accepted from U.S. university and USDA scientists as well as from non-profit organizations. Trilateral collaboration including the participation of International Agricultural Research Centers (IARCs) is encouraged as well. The budget limit for

each project is \$300,000 regardless of the number of participating institutions, and the research duration cannot exceed four years. USDA expects to fund 15-20 proposals under this project.

DATES: Proposals must be received at the below-noted address no later than November 15, 1996.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

For a complete package of information concerning these research grants, please contact Ms. Nancy J. Croft, Contracting Officer, USDA/FSA/MSD, Stop 0568, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250, (202) 690-1722, FAX: (202) 690-1626.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Food Crops Collaborative Research Grants Program is authorized by Section 1458 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension and Teaching Policy Act of 1977, as amended (7 U.S.C. 3291).

Dated: August 9, 1996.

Timothy J. Galvin,

Acting Administrator, Foreign Agricultural Service.

[FR Doc. 96-21555 Filed 8-22-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-10-M

Rural Utilities Service

Alabama Electric Cooperative; Finding of No Significant Impact

AGENCY: Rural Utilities Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of finding of no significant impact.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the Rural Utilities Service (RUS) has made a finding of no significant impact (FONSI) with respect to its action related to the construction of two, 113 megawatt (MW) combustion turbines and associated facilities by Alabama Electric Cooperative (AEC). The FONSI is the conclusion of an Environmental Assessment prepared by RUS. The Environmental Assessment is based on a environmental analysis submitted to RUS by AEC. RUS conducted an independent evaluation of the environmental analysis and concurs with its scope and content.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Lawrence R. Wolfe, Senior Environmental Protection Specialist, Engineering and Environmental Staff, RUS, South Agriculture Building, Ag Box 1571, Washington, DC 20250, telephone (202) 720-1784.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The proposed new combustion turbines would be installed at AEC's existing McIntosh Power Plant located on the west side of Highway 43 at mile marker 41 in McIntosh, Alabama.

The McIntosh Combustion Turbine Project consists of the installation of two Siemens v84.2 combustion turbine generators to be located adjacent to AEC's existing McIntosh Power Plant Unit 1 (compressed air energy storage generating unit). The new units will be located south of the existing unit 1 in the area formerly reserved for a second compressed air energy storage unit which AEC has determined to not be cost-effective. The proposed two new units will be referred as McIntosh Power Plant Units 2 and 3. Each of the units will have a normal maximum output rating of 109 MWs at 950° Fahrenheit. The units will be capable of burning either natural gas or fuel oil and have a maximum rating of approximately 113 MWs during peak firing mode. As part of the project, a new 1 million gallon fuel oil storage tank and a 1.8 million gallon demineralized water tank will be constructed at the western corners of Unit 1. There will also be modifications to the existing transmission substation on site to link the electric power output of the new units to the existing transmission line. The existing gas transmission system in the area has adequate capacity to serve Units 2 and 3. The existing 115 kilovolt (kV) electric transmission lines have adequate capacity to feed the power output of the new units to AEC's transmission grid. A 1.5-mile natural gas pipeline will be constructed within an existing pipeline to intertie with Bay Gas Storage's 20-inch market line.

Alternatives to be considered by RUS and Alabama Electric Cooperative to Alabama Electric Cooperative constructing the generation facility proposed include: (a) no action, (b) purchase of peaking capacity from independent power producers, co-generators, and other electric utilities, and (c) constructing the proposed generation facilities at alternative site locations.

Copies of the environmental assessment and FONSI are available for review at, or can be obtained from, RUS at the address provided herein or from Mr. Mike Noel, Alabama Electric Cooperative, P.O. Box 550, Andalusia, Alabama, telephone (334) 222-2571. Interested parties wishing to comment on the adequacy of the Environmental Assessment should do so within 30 days of the publication of this notice. RUS will take no action that would approve clearing or construction activities related to these new combustion turbine units prior to the expiration of the 30-day comment period.