

the Small Business Administration's definition of a small business, having less than 500 employees. However, most of these plants are part of larger businesses that operate multiple plants and meet the definition of large entities on that basis.

This rule lessens the regulatory impact of the order on certain milk handlers and tends to ensure that dairy farmers will continue to have their milk priced under the order and thereby receive the benefits that accrue from such pricing.

This order of suspension is issued pursuant to the provisions of the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act, as amended, and of the order regulating the handling of milk in the Eastern Colorado marketing area.

Notice of proposed rulemaking was published in the Federal Register on September 6, 1996 (61 FR 46214), concerning a proposed suspension of certain provisions of the order. Interested persons were afforded opportunity to file written data, views and arguments thereon. Two comments supporting and no comments opposing the suspension were received.

After consideration of all relevant material, including the proposal in the notice, the comments received, and other available information, it is hereby found and determined that the following provisions of the order do not tend to effectuate the declared policy of the Act:

1. For the months of September 1, 1996, through February 28, 1997: In the second sentence of § 1137.7(b), the words "plant which has qualified as a" and "of March through August"; and
2. For the months of September 1, 1996, through August 31, 1997: In the first sentence of § 1137.12(a)(1), the words "from whom at least three deliveries of milk are received during the month at a distributing pool plant"; and in the second sentence, the words "30 percent in the months of March, April, May, June, July, and December and 20 percent in other months of", and the word "distributing".

#### Statement of Consideration

This rule suspends certain portions of the pool plant and producer definitions of the Eastern Colorado order. The suspension will make it easier for handlers to qualify milk for pooling under the order.

The suspension was requested by Mid-America Dairymen, Inc. (Mid-Am), a cooperative association that has pooled milk of dairy farmers on the Eastern Colorado order for several years. Mid-Am requested the suspension to prevent the uneconomic and inefficient

movement of milk for the sole purpose of pooling the milk of producers who have been historically associated with the Eastern Colorado order.

For the months of September 1996 through February 1997, the restriction on the months when automatic pool plant status applies for supply plants will be removed. For the months of September 1996 through August 1997, the touch-base requirement will not apply and the diversion allowance for cooperatives will be raised.

These provisions have been suspended for several years to maintain the pool status of producers who have historically supplied the fluid needs of Eastern Colorado distributing plants. The marketing conditions which justified the prior suspensions continue to exist.

Mid-Am asserts that they have made a commitment to supply the fluid milk requirements of distributing plants if the suspension request is granted. Without the suspension action, to qualify certain of its milk for pooling, it would be necessary for the cooperative to ship milk from distant farms to Denver-area bottling plants. The distant milk would displace milk produced on nearby farms that would then have to be shipped from the Denver area to manufacturing plants located in outlying areas.

There are ample supplies of locally produced milk that can be delivered directly from farms to distributing plants to meet the market's fluid needs without requiring shipments from supply plants.

This suspension is found to be necessary for the purpose of assuring that producers' milk will not have to be moved in an uneconomic and inefficient manner to ensure that producers whose milk has long been associated with the Eastern Colorado marketing area will continue to benefit from pooling and pricing under the order.

It is hereby found and determined that thirty days' notice of the effective date hereof is impractical, unnecessary and contrary to the public interest in that:

(a) The suspension is necessary to reflect current marketing conditions and to assure orderly marketing conditions in the marketing area, in that such rule is necessary to permit the continued pooling of the milk of dairy farmers who have historically supplied the market without the need for making costly and inefficient movements of milk;

(b) This suspension does not require of persons affected substantial or extensive preparation prior to the effective date; and

(c) Notice of proposed rulemaking was given interested parties and they

were afforded opportunity to file written data, views or arguments concerning this suspension. Two comments supporting the suspension were received.

Therefore, good cause exists for making this order effective less than 30 days from the date of publication in the Federal Register.

#### List of Subjects in 7 CFR Part 1137

Milk marketing orders.

For the reasons set forth in the preamble 7 CFR Part 1137, are amended as follows:

#### **PART 1137—MILK IN THE EASTERN COLORADO MARKETING AREA**

1. The authority citation for 7 CFR Part 1137 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 601-674.

#### **§ 1137.7 [Suspended in part]**

2. In § 1137.7, paragraph (b), the second sentence is amended by suspending the words "plant which has qualified as a" and "of March through August" for the months of September 1, 1996, through February 28, 1997.

#### **§ 1137.12 [Suspended in part]**

3. In § 1137.12, paragraph (a)(1), the first sentence the words "from whom at least three deliveries of milk are received during the month at a distributing pool plant" are suspended from September 1, 1996, through August 31, 1997.

4. In § 1137.12, paragraph (a)(1), in the second sentence the words "30 percent in the months of March, April, May, June, July, and December and 20 percent in other months of", and the word "distributing" are suspended from September 1, 1996, through August 31, 1997.

Dated: October 17, 1996.

Terry Medley,

*Acting Assistant Secretary, Marketing and Regulatory Programs.*

[FR Doc. 96-27457 Filed 10-24-96; 8:45 am]

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#### **Food Safety and Inspection Service**

**9 CFR Parts 304, 308, 310, 320, 327, 381, 416, and 417**

**[Docket No. 93-016-9N]**

#### **Demonstration Projects for Small Plants**

**AGENCY:** Food Safety and Inspection Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) is holding a

meeting, "Demonstration Projects for Small Plants." This meeting will focus on the problems and techniques of Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) systems implementation and operation in "small" and "very small" plants.

**DATES:** The meeting will be held on October 31, 1996, from 8:30 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. Registration will begin at 8:00 a.m.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at the U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Back of the South Building Cafeteria (between the 2nd and 3rd Wings).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** To register for the meeting, call (800) 485-4429, FAX (202) 501-7642, or E-mail [usdafs/s=confer@mhs.attmail.com](mailto:usdafs/s=confer@mhs.attmail.com). If you require a sign language interpreter or other special accommodations, contact Ms. Shelia Johnson at (202) 501-7138 by October 25, 1996.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On July 25, 1996, FSIS published a final rule, "Pathogen Reduction; Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) Systems" (61 FR 38805). This rule introduced sweeping changes to the meat and poultry inspection system. In the preamble of the rule, FSIS stated that the Agency plans to conduct HACCP demonstration projects for "small" and "very small" establishments, as defined in the final rule.

To discuss the demonstration projects, FSIS will hold the meeting, "Demonstration Projects for Small Plants." The purpose of the meeting is to identify effective teaching and technical assistance approaches for HACCP training, discuss examples of successful "small" and "very small" plant hazard analyses and HACCP plan development, and identify materials, technical assistance, and organizations that can assist small plants. Representatives from the Federal Government, State governments, academia, trade associations, and "small" and "very small" plant owners/operators have been invited to participate. FSIS encourages "small" and "very small" plant owners/operators to attend and present their views.

Done at Washington, DC, on October 18, 1996.  
Michael R. Taylor,  
*Acting Under Secretary for Food Safety.*  
[FR Doc. 96-27459 Filed 10-22-96; 2:37 pm]  
BILLING CODE 3410-DM-P

## 9 CFR Parts 304, 308, 310, 320, 327, 381, 416, and 417

[Docket No. 93-016-8N]

### Federal/State Conference on Food Safety

**AGENCY:** Food Safety and Inspection Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS), in cooperation with the Food and Drug Administration, will hold a conference, "Federal/State Conference on Food Safety." This conference will focus on how FSIS and State agencies can effectively allocate resources at the Federal, State, and local levels of governments to improve food safety.

**DATES:** The conference will be held on October 30, 1996, from 8:30 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. Registration will begin at 8:00 a.m.

**ADDRESSES:** The conference will be held at the Doubletree Park Terrace Hotel, 1515 Rhode Island Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20250, (202) 232-7000.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** To register for the conference, call (800) 485-4429, FAX (202) 501-7642, or E-mail [usdafs/s=confer@mhs.attmail.com](mailto:usdafs/s=confer@mhs.attmail.com). If you require a sign language interpreter or other special accommodations, contact Ms. Shelia Johnson at (202) 501-7138 by October 25, 1996.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On July 25, 1996, FSIS published a final rule, "Pathogen Reduction; Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) Systems" (61 FR 38805). This rule introduced sweeping changes to the meat and poultry inspection system. In the preamble of the rule, FSIS addressed "Farm-to-Table" strategies which include preventive approaches to hazards that occur during, transportation, distribution, and retail sale of meat and poultry products. To effect these strategies, close coordination between Federal and State governments is necessary.

FSIS is holding the "Federal/State Conference on Food Safety" to discuss "Farm-to-Table" strategies. The conference will focus on issues related to respective roles and responsibilities and coordination between the states and the Federal Government. Representatives from USDA, the Food and Drug Administration, the Center for Disease Control, and State food safety agencies have been invited to participate.

Done at Washington, DC, on: October 21, 1996.

Michael R. Taylor,

*Acting Under Secretary for Food Safety.*

[FR Doc. 96-27460 Filed 10-22-96; 2:37 pm]

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### NATIONAL CREDIT UNION ADMINISTRATION

#### 12 CFR Part 791

#### Rules of NCUA Board Procedure; Promulgation of NCUA Rules and Regulations; Public Observation of NCUA Board Meetings

**AGENCY:** National Credit Union Administration (NCUA).

**ACTION:** Final rule.

**SUMMARY:** This rule amends NCUA's current regulations on NCUA Board procedure by providing that items will be placed on the Board agenda by determination of the Chairman or at the request of any two Board members. This amendment more clearly defines the authority of the Board members in setting the agenda.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** This amendment is effective October 25, 1996.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Robert M. Fenner, General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel, at the above address or telephone (703) 518-6540. E-mail questions may be sent to [ogcmail@ncua.gov](mailto:ogcmail@ncua.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** NCUA's Rules of Board Procedure, 12 CFR part 791, govern the manner in which the Board acts on behalf of NCUA; the conduct, scheduling and subject matter of Board meetings, the use of notation votes, and the recording of Board actions. Prior to this amendment, Section 791.6(a) vested final authority to determine the agenda for a particular Board meeting with the Chairman.

The NCUA Board has determined that any two Board members shall have the ability to have an item considered by the Board within 60 days of a written request that includes an NCUA "B-1 Form" and a Board Action Memorandum. Accordingly, section 791.6(a) is amended to provide that the Chairman determines the *order* of the meeting agenda, and that items shall be placed on the agenda either by determination of the Chairman, or within 60 days of the submission of such a request by any two Board members. At the same time, section 791.6(b) is amended to clarify that *recommended* agenda items may be submitted by Board members and Office