

Safety." The 1995 and 1996 conferences brought together representatives from the principal Federal and State food safety organizations who discussed their views on the best ways to apply limited resources to improve farm-to-table food safety.

This year's conference will explore ways in which Federal and State partnerships can be organized to maximize valuable resources and facilitate the management of food safety concerns at the State and local levels. California, which has developed successful partnerships with Federal agencies, will highlight some of its experiences. Other States also are encouraged to discuss their recent initiatives in farm-to-table food safety.

Representatives from USDA, FDA, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and State food safety agencies have been invited to participate and discuss other topics of mutual interest.

Done at Washington, DC on October 24, 1997.

Thomas J. Billy,
Administrator.

[FR Doc. 97-29036 Filed 10-31-97; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 3410-DM-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration

Designations for the Idaho (ID), Lewiston (ID), and the State of Utah Areas

AGENCY: Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: GIPSA announces the designation of Idaho Grain Inspection Service, Inc. (Pocatello), Lewiston Grain Inspection Service, Inc. (Lewiston), and the Utah Department of Agriculture (Utah) to provide official services under the United States Grain Standards Act, as amended (Act).

EFFECTIVE DATE: December 1, 1997.

ADDRESSES: USDA, GIPSA, Janet M. Hart, Chief, Review Branch, Compliance Division, STOP 3604, Room 1647-S, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, DC 20250-3604.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Janet M. Hart, telephone 202-720-8525.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This action has been reviewed and determined not to be a rule or regulation as defined in Executive Order 12866 and Departmental Regulation 1512-1; therefore, the Executive Order and

Departmental Regulation do not apply to this action.

In the June 2, 1997, **Federal Register** (62 FR 29707), GIPSA asked persons interested in providing official services in the geographic areas assigned to Pocatello, Lewiston, and Utah to submit an application for designation. Applications were due by July 1, 1997. Pocatello, Lewiston, and Utah, the only applicants, each applied for designation to provide official services in the entire area currently assigned to them.

Since Pocatello, Lewiston, and Utah were the only applicants for the respective areas, GIPSA did not ask for comments on the applicants.

GIPSA evaluated all available information regarding the designation criteria in Section 7(f)(1)(A) of the Act and, according to Section 7(f)(1)(B), determined that Pocatello, Lewiston, and Utah are able to provide official services in the geographic areas for which they applied. Effective December 1, 1997, and ending November 30, 2000, Pocatello, Lewiston, and Utah are designated to provide official services in the geographic areas specified in the June 2, 1997, **Federal Register**.

Interested persons may obtain official services by contacting Pocatello at 208-233-8303, Lewiston at 208-746-0451, and Utah at 801-392-2292.

Authority: Pub. L. 94-582, 90 Stat. 2867, as amended (7 U.S.C. 71 et seq.).

Dated: October 24, 1997.

Neil E. Porter,

Director, Compliance Division.

[FR Doc. 97-28852 Filed 10-31-97; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 3410-EN-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration

Opportunity to Comment on the Applicant for the Northeast Indiana (IN) Region.

AGENCY: Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: GIPSA requests comments on the applicant for designation to provide official services in part of the geographic area currently assigned to East Indiana Grain Inspection, Inc. (East Indiana).

DATES: Comments must be postmarked, or sent by telecopier (FAX) by December 2, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Comments must be submitted in writing to USDA, GIPSA, Janet M. Hart, Chief, Review Branch, Compliance Division, STOP 3604, Room 1647-S, 1400 Independence Avenue,

S.W., Washington, DC 20250-3604. Telecopier (FAX) users may send comments to the automatic telecopier machine at 202-690-2755, attention: Janet M. Hart. All comments received will be made available for public inspection at the above address located at 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., during regular business hours.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Janet M. Hart, telephone 202-720-8525.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This action has been reviewed and determined not to be a rule or regulation as defined in Executive Order 12866 and Departmental Regulation 1512-1; therefore, the Executive Order and Departmental Regulation do not apply to this action.

In the August 21, 1997, **Federal Register** (62 FR 44439), GIPSA asked persons interested in providing official services in the Northeast Indiana area, currently assigned to East Indiana, to submit an application for designation. There was one applicant: Northeast Indiana Grain Inspection, Inc., a proposed organization to be established by Steve Walker to be located at Hoagland, Indiana, applied for designation to provide official services in the Northeast Indiana region. The Northeast Indiana region consists of the following geographic area, in the State of Indiana:

Bounded on the North by the northern Lagrange and Steuben County lines;

Bounded on the East by the eastern Steuben, De Kalb, Allen, and Adams, County lines;

Bounded on the South by the southern Adams and Wells County lines; and

Bounded on the West by the western Wells County line; the southern Huntington and Wabash County lines; the western Wabash County line north to State Route 114; State Route 114 northwest to State Route 19; State Route 19 north to Kosciusko County; the western and northern Kosciusko County lines; the western Noble and Lagrange County lines.

The following grain elevator, located outside of the above contiguous geographic area, is part of this geographic area assignment: E. M. P. Grain, Payne, Paulding County, Ohio (located inside Lima Grain Inspection Service, Inc.'s, area).

GIPSA is publishing this notice to provide interested persons the opportunity to present comments concerning the applicant. Commenters are encouraged to submit reasons and pertinent data for support or objection to the designation of this applicant. All comments must be submitted to the

Compliance Division at the above address. Comments and other available information will be considered in making a final decision. GIPSA will publish notice of the final decision in the **Federal Register**, and GIPSA will send the applicants written notification of the decision.

Authority: Pub. L. 94-582, 90 Stat. 2867, as amended (7 U.S.C. 71 et seq.).

Dated: October 24, 1997.

Neil E. Porter,

Director, Compliance Division.

[FR Doc. 97-28850 Filed 10-31-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-EN-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration

Opportunity for Designation in the Detroit (MI), Keokuk (IA), and Michigan (MI) Areas

AGENCY: Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The United States Grain Standards Act, as amended (Act), provides that official agency designations will end not later than triennially and may be renewed. The designations of Detroit Grain Inspection Service, Inc. (Detroit), Keokuk Grain Inspection Service (Keokuk), and Michigan Grain Inspection Services, Inc. (Michigan), will end April 30, 1998, according to the Act. GIPSA is asking persons interested in providing official services in the Detroit, Keokuk, and Michigan areas to submit an application for designation.

DATES: Applications must be postmarked or sent by telecopier (FAX) on or before December 2, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Applications must be submitted to USDA, GIPSA, Janet M. Hart, Chief, Review Branch, Compliance Division, STOP 3604, Room 1647-S, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, DC 20250-3604.

Applications may be submitted by FAX on 202-690-2755. If an application is submitted by FAX, GIPSA reserves the right to request an original application. All applications will be made available for public inspection at this address located at 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., during regular business hours.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Janet M. Hart, telephone 202-720-8525.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This Action has been reviewed and determined not to be a rule or regulation as defined in Executive Order 12866

and Departmental Regulation 1512-1; therefore, the Executive Order and Departmental Regulation do not apply to this Action.

Section 7(f)(1) of the Act 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. GIPSA designated Detroit, main office located in Emmett, Michigan, Keokuk, main office located in Keokuk, Iowa, and Michigan, main office located in Marshall, Michigan, to provide official inspection services under the Act on May 1, 1995.

Section 7(g)(1) of the Act provides that designations of official agencies shall end not later than triennially and may be renewed according to the criteria and procedures prescribed in Section 7(f) of the Act. The designations of Detroit, Keokuk, and Michigan end on April 30, 1998, according to the Act.

Pursuant to Section 7(f)(2) of the Act, the following geographic area, in the State of Michigan, is assigned to Detroit.

Bounded on the North by the northern Clinton County line; the eastern Clinton County line south to State Route 21; State Route 21 east to State Route 52; State Route 52 north to the Shiawassee County line; the northern Shiawassee County line east to the Genesee County line; the western Genesee County line; the northern Genesee County line east to State Route 15; State Route 15 north to Barnes Road; Barnes Road east to Sheridan Road; Sheridan Road north to State Route 46; State Route 46 east to State Route 53; State Route 53 north to the Michigan State line;

Bounded on the East by the Michigan State line south to State Route 50;

Bounded on the South by State Route 50 west to U.S. Route 127; and

Bounded on the West by U.S. Route 127 north to U.S. Route 27; U.S. Route 27 north to the northern Clinton County line.

The following grain elevator, located outside of the above contiguous geographic area, is part of this geographic area assignment: Countrymark, Inc., St. Johns, Clinton County (located inside Michigan Grain Inspection Services, Inc.'s area).

Pursuant to Section 7(f)(2) of the Act, the following geographic area, in the States of Illinois and Iowa, is assigned to Keokuk.

Adams, Brown, Fulton, Hancock, Mason, McDonough, and Pike (northwest of a line bounded by U.S. Route 54 northeast to State Route 107; State Route 107 northeast to State Route 104; State Route 104 east to the eastern Pike County line) Counties, Illinois.

Davis, Lee, and Van Buren Counties, Iowa.

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

Bounded on the North by the northern Michigan State line;

Bounded on the East by the eastern Michigan State line south and east to State Route 53; State Route 53 south to State Route 46;

Bounded on the South by State Route 46 west to Sheridan Road; Sheridan Road south to Barnes Road; Barnes Road west to State Route 15; State Route 15 south to the Genesee County line; the northern Genesee County line west to the Shiawassee County line; the northern Shiawassee County line west to State Route 52; State Route 52 south to State Route 21; State Route 21 west to Clinton County; the eastern and northern Clinton County lines west to U.S. Route 27; U.S. Route 27 south to U.S. Route 127; U.S. Route 127 south to the southern Hillsdale County line; the southern Hillsdale and Branch County lines; the western Branch County line north to the Kalamazoo County line; the southern Kalamazoo and Van Buren County lines; and

Bounded on the West by the western Michigan State line north to the northern Michigan State line.

Michigan's assigned geographic area does not include the following grain elevator inside Michigan's area which has been and will continue to be serviced by the following official agency: Detroit Grain Inspection Service, Inc.: St. Johns Coop., St. Johns, Clinton County.

Interested persons, including Detroit, Keokuk, and Michigan, are hereby given the opportunity to apply for designation to provide official services in the geographic areas specified above under the provisions of Section 7(f) of the Act and section 800.196(d) of the regulations issued thereunder. Designation in the Detroit, Keokuk, and Michigan areas is for the period beginning May 1, 1998, and ending April 30, 2001. Persons wishing to apply for designation should contact the Compliance Division at the address listed above for forms and information.

Applications and other available information will be considered in determining which applicant will be designated.

Authority: Pub. L. 94-582, 90 Stat. 2867, as amended (7 U.S.C. 71 et seq.).