

or data collection instruments. Their completion by potential recipients is a normal part of the application to Federal agencies which support basic and applied scientific research.

The following information has been collected and will continue to be collected:

**CSREES-1232—Proposal**

**Identification:** Lists the Principal Investigator(s) and their institution(s), the proposal type (distinguishes among funding mechanisms), project title, and key words, along with a project summary which allows for quick screening and assignment of proposals to peer reviewers.

**CSREES-1233—Identification of Conflicts of Interest:** Lists the person(s) who are in conflict of interest with the applicant(s). This has been used when selecting peer review panels to assure objective reviews, and has been revised to specifically cite potential conflicts of interest by category to better meet the requirements set out in 7 CFR 3411.12.

**CSREES-1234—Collection of Environmental Impact Information:** Allows identification of whether or not the proposal fits one of the exclusions listed for compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (7 CFR part 3407). This information has been and will continue to be used in determinations as to whether or not further action is needed to meet the requirements of this Act.

**Estimate of Burden:** Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average one and one-quarter hour per response.

**Respondents:** Non-profit institutions, individuals, businesses, Federal Government, and State, Local, or Tribal Governments.

**Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent:** 3,200 for the CSREES-1232 and CSREES-1233; 4,800 for the CSREES-1234.

**Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents:** 4,400 hours, broken down by: 1,600 hours for the CSREES-1232 (one-half hour per 3,200 respondents); 1,600 hours for the CSREES-1233 (one-half hour per 3,200 respondents); and 1,200 hours for the CSREES-1234 (one-quarter hour per 4,800 respondents).

Copies of this information collection can be obtained from Suzanne Plimpton, Policy and Program Liaison Staff, CSREES, (202) 401-1302. E-mail: OEP@reeusda.gov.

**Comments:** Comments are invited on: (a) 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; (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: Sally J. Rockey, Deputy Administrator, Competitive Research Grants and Awards Management, CSREES, USDA, STOP 2240, Washington, DC. 20250-2240, (202) 401-1766. E-mail: OEP@reeusda.gov.

All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All comments also will become a matter of public record.

Done at Washington, DC, on this 7th day of February, 1997.

B.H. Robinson,

Administrator, Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service.

[FR Doc. 97-3993 Filed 2-18-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-22-M

## Foreign Agricultural Service

### Notice of Request for Extension and Revision of a Currently Approved Information Collection

**AGENCY:** Foreign Agricultural Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the Foreign Agricultural Service's intention to request an extension for, and a revision to, a currently approved information collection in support of the regulations governing low-tier duty entry of raw-cane sugar into the U.S. domestic market.

**DATES:** Comments on this notice must be received by April 21, 1997 to be assured of consideration.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR COMMENTS:** Mail or deliver comments to Stephen C. Hammond, Team Leader, Import Policies and Programs Division, Foreign Agricultural Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Stop 1021, Washington, DC 20250-1021. For further information, contact Mr. Hammond at telephone number (202) 720-1061.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

**Title:** Certificate of Quota Eligibility  
OMB NUMBER: 0551-0014.

**Expiration date of approval:** April 30, 1997.

**Type of request:** Extension and revision of a currently approved information collection.

**Abstract:** The Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTS) authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to establish the quantity of raw cane sugar which may be entered at the low-tier rates of the tariff-rate quota (TRQ). The terms under which Certificates of Quota Eligibility will be issued to foreign countries that have been allocated a share of the TRQ are set forth in 15 C.F.R. Part 2011, Subpart A, allocation of Tariff-rate quota on Imported Sugars, Syrups, and Molasses. The authority for Certificates of Quota Eligibility is additional U.S. note 5(b)(iv) to chapter 17 of the HTS.

The regulations, promulgated by the U.S. Trade Representative, provides for the issuance of Certificates of Quota Eligibility by the Secretary of Agriculture, and in general prohibits sugar subject to the TRQ from being imported into the United States or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption at the low-tier duty rates unless such sugar is accompanied by a Certificate of Quota Eligibility. Certificates of Quota Eligibility are issued to foreign countries by the "Licensing Authority" who is the Team Leader, Import Quota Programs, Import Policies and Programs Division, Foreign Agricultural Service, United States Department of Agriculture, or his or her designee. The issuance of Certificates of Quota Eligibility is in such amounts and at such times as the Secretary determines are appropriate to enable the foreign country to fill its quota allocation for such quota period in a reasonable manner, taking into account traditional shipping patterns, harvesting period, U.S. import requirements, and other relevant factors.

The information required to be collected on the Certificate of Quota Eligibility is used to monitor and control the imports of sugar. Proper completion of the certificate of quota eligibility is mandatory for those foreign governments that are eligible and elect to export raw sugar to the United States under the provisions of the tariff-rate quota.

**Estimate of burden:** The public reporting burden for these collections vary in direct relation to the number of Certificates of Quota Eligibility issued.

**Respondents:** Foreign governments.

**Estimated number of respondents:** 40 per annum.

**Estimated number of responses per respondent:** 15 per annum.

*Estimated total annual burden of respondents: 100 hours.*

Copies of this information collection can be obtained from Valerie Countiss, the agency Information Collection Coordinator, at (202) 720-6713.

**Request for comments:** Send comments regarding (a) 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; (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 automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments may be sent to Stephen C. Hammond, Team Leader, Import Policies and Programs Division, Foreign Agricultural Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Stop 1021, Washington, DC 20250-1021. 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.

Signed at Washington, DC, February 12, 1997.

August Schumacher, Jr.,

*Administrator, Foreign Agricultural Service.*  
[FR Doc. 97-3994 Filed 2-18-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-10-M

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Institute of Standards and Technology

[Docket No. 961121324-7019-03]

RIN 0693-ZA14

### Announcement of Availability of Funding for Focused Program Competitions—Advanced Technology Program (ATP)

**AGENCY:** National Institute of Standards and Technology, Technology Administration, Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Technology Administration's National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) announces the availability of funding for four Focused Program competitions under the Advanced Technology Program (ATP) for fiscal year 1997,

targeted on specific technology areas. The four Focused Program competitions being held are: (1) 97-04, Digital Data Storage; (2) 97-05, Technologies for the Integration of Manufacturing Applications (TIMA); (3) 97-06, Component-Based Software (CBS); and (4) 97-07, Tissue Engineering. This notice provides general information for these Focused Program competitions.

**DATES:** Proposal due dates and other specific instructions will be published in the Commerce Business Daily (CBD) at the time the competitions are announced. Dates, times, and locations of Proposers' Conferences held for interested parties considering applying for funding will also be announced in the CBD.

**ADDRESSES:** Information on the ATP may be obtained from the following address: National Institute of Standards and Technology, Advanced Technology Program, Administration Building (Bldg. 101), Room A407, Quince Orchard & Clopper Roads, Gaithersburg, MD 20899-0001.

Additionally, information on the ATP is available on the Internet through the World Wide Web (WWW) at <http://www.atp.nist.gov>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Requests for ATP information, application materials, and/or to have your name added to the ATP mailing list for future mailings may also be made by:

(a) Calling the ATP toll-free "hotline" number at 1-800-ATP-FUND or 1-800-287-3863. You will have the option of hearing recorded messages regarding the status of the ATP or speaking to one of our customer representatives who will take your name and address. If our representatives are all busy when you call, leave a message after the tone. To ensure that the information is entered correctly, please speak distinctly and slowly and spell the words that might cause confusion. Leave your phone number as well as your name and address:

(b) Sending a facsimile (fax) to 301-926-9524 or 301-590-3053; or  
(c) Sending electronic mail to [atp@nist.gov](mailto:atp@nist.gov). Include your name, full mailing address, and phone number.

### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

#### Background

The statutory authority for the ATP is Section 5131 of the Omnibus Trade and Competitiveness Act of 1988 (Pub. L. 100-418, 15 U.S.C. 278n), as modified by Pub. L. 102-245. The ATP implementing regulations are published at 15 CFR part 295. The Catalog of

Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) number and program title for the ATP are 11.612, Advanced Technology Program (ATP).

The ATP is a rigorously competitive cost-sharing program designed to assist United States industry/businesses pursue high-risk, enabling technologies with significant commercial/economic potential. The ATP provides multi-year funding to single companies and to industry-led joint ventures to pursue research and development (R&D) projects with high-payoff potential for the nation. The ATP accelerates enabling technologies that, because they are risky, are unlikely to be developed in time to compete in rapidly changing world markets without such a partnership between industry and the Federal government. The ATP challenges industry to take on projects characterized by high technical risk but commensurately high potential payoff to the nation. Proposers must provide credible arguments as to the project feasibility.

The funding instrument used in ATP awards is a "cooperative agreement." Through the cooperative agreement, the ATP fosters a government-industry partnership to accomplish a public purpose of support or stimulation. NIST plans a substantial role in these awards by providing technical assistance and monitoring the technical work and business progress.

#### Funding Availability

An estimated \$15 million in first year funding is available for each of the Focused Program Competitions 97-04, 97-05, and 97-06. An estimated \$12 million in first year funding is available for Focused Program Competition 97-07. The ATP reserves the right to utilize for any competition more or less funding than the amounts stated above. The actual number of proposals funded will depend on the quality of the proposals received and the amount of funding requested in the highest ranked proposals. Outyear funding beyond the first year is contingent on the approval of future Congressional appropriations and satisfactory project performance.

#### Eligibility Requirements, Selection Criteria, and Proposal Review Process

The eligibility requirements, selection criteria, and the proposal review process are discussed in detail in the ATP implementing regulations published at 15 CFR Part 295.

#### Funding Amounts, Award Period and Cost Sharing (Matching) Requirements

(a) Single companies can receive up to \$2 million of ATP funds for up to 3