

Proposed Rules

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This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains notices to the public of the proposed issuance of rules and regulations. The purpose of these notices is to give interested persons an opportunity to participate in the rule making prior to the adoption of the final rules.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Food Safety and Inspection Service

9 CFR Parts 308, 310, 318, 320, 325, 326, 327 and 381

[Docket No. 95-013N]

Pathogen Reduction; Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) Systems—Notice of Public Hearing

AGENCY: Food Safety and Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of public hearing.

SUMMARY: The Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) is holding a public hearing to accept oral comments from the public in response to FSIS's February 3, 1995, proposal titled "Pathogen Reduction; Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) System".

DATES: May 30-31, 1995.

ADDRESSES: Georgetown University Conference Center, 3800 Reservoir Road, Washington, DC.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kenneth Elane, Director, Quality Services Staff, or Dan Vitiello, Director, Planning and Coordination Unit, Planning Office, Policy, Evaluation and Planning Staff, Food Safety and Inspection Service, USDA, (202) 501-7136.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On February 3, 1995, FSIS published a proposed rule "Pathogen Reduction; Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) Systems" (60 FR 6774). In that document, the Agency proposed a number of regulatory changes applicable to Federal- and State-inspected meat and poultry establishments. The proposed changes are designed to reduce the occurrence and numbers of pathogenic microorganisms in meat and poultry products, thereby reducing the incidence of foodborne illness associated with the consumption of these products.

On February 27, 1995, FSIS announced a series of outreach activities to assist the public in understanding the proposed rule and in providing comments on the proposed rule. In that notice, FSIS announced its intention to hold a two-day public hearing for those commenters who wish to submit oral comments.

This notice announces the hearing which will be held on May 30-31, 1995, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day. The hearing will be held at the Georgetown University Conference Center, 3800 Reservoir Road, Washington, DC. The hearing will be conducted as follows:

Those persons wishing to present oral comments and/or address the panel should contact the Planning Office at (202) 501-7136 as soon as possible to reserve a time slot. Speaking times will be scheduled on a first-come basis as calls are received by the Planning Office. (Speakers will be scheduled for the morning or afternoon of the first day and the morning and part of the afternoon of the second day.)

A panel consisting of Michael R. Taylor, Administrator, FSIS, Thomas Billy, Associate Administrator, FSIS, Robert Buchanan, Deputy Administrator, Science and Technology, FSIS, and Glenn Morris, Director, Epidemiology and Emergency Response Program, FSIS, will accept oral comments from the public. Presentation of oral comments will begin after brief opening remarks by one or more of the panelists. Oral comments will be limited to 10 minutes per commenter (7 minutes for the comment; 2-3 minutes for questions and followup by the panelists.) The last 2 hours of the second day will be devoted to additional comments from attendees. Interested persons will have 5 minutes to address the panel.

Oral comments may also be provided to FSIS by contacting the persons listed in the proposed rule. Written comments should be directed to the FSIS Docket Clerk at the address given in the proposed rule.

Done at Washington, DC, on: April 27, 1995.

Michael R. Taylor,

Acting Under Secretary for Food Safety.

[FR Doc. 95-11043 Filed 5-4-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-DM-M

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

13 CFR Part 122

Business Loans—Microloans

AGENCY: Small Business Administration (SBA).

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking.

SUMMARY: Section 7(m) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(m)) (Act) authorizes the SBA to operate a microloan demonstration program. Under this program, the SBA lends funds to qualified intermediaries which re-lend amounts of \$25,000 or less to eligible small business concerns. Under this proposed rule, an intermediary would be allowed to operate across State lines with the written approval of the SBA Associate Administrator for Financial Assistance if that person makes a determination that it would be in the best interest of the small business community to allow such intermediary to operate in more than one State.

DATES: Comments may be submitted on or before June 5, 1995.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be mailed to John R. Cox, Associate Administrator for Financial Assistance, Small Business Administration, 409 Third Street SW., Washington, DC 20416.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: John R. Cox, 202/205-6490.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 7(m) of the Act authorizes the SBA to undertake a microloan demonstration program in which the SBA lends funds to authorized intermediaries which re-lend amounts up through \$25,000 to eligible small business concerns.

At the present time, section 122.61-11(a) of SBA's regulations (13 CFR 122.61-11(a)) provides that "* * * no intermediary may undertake Program activities in more than one State." Since section 7(m) of the Act does not prohibit a microloan intermediary from conducting its operations in more than one State, SBA believes that the present regulatory provision is too broad. Circumstances may occur when it would be in the best interest of a small business community to authorize a microloan intermediary to operate across State lines, and this proposed regulation would allow the SBA Associate Administrator for Financial Assistance to make a determination in that regard.

Compliance With Executive Orders 12612, 12778 and 12866, the Regulatory Flexibility Act, 5 U.S.C. 601 et seq., and the Paperwork Reduction Act, 44 U.S.C. Ch. 35

For purposes of the Regulatory Flexibility Act, 5 U.S.C. 601 et seq., SBA certifies that this proposed rule, if promulgated in final form, will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities.

The SBA certifies that this proposed rule, if promulgated in final form, will not constitute a significant regulatory action for the purposes of Executive Order 12866, since the proposed change is not likely to result in an annual effect on the economy of \$100 million or more.

The SBA certifies that the proposed rule, if promulgated in final form, would not impose additional reporting or recordkeeping requirements which would be subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act, 44 U.S.C. Chapter 35.

The SBA certifies that this proposed rule would not have federalism implications warranting the preparation of a Federalism Assessment in accordance with Executive Order 12612.

Further, for purposes of Executive Order 12778, SBA certifies that this proposed rule, if promulgated in final form, is drafted, to the extent practicable, in accordance with the standards set forth in section 2 of that Order.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program No. 59.012)

List of Subjects in 13 CFR Part 122

Loan programs—business, Small businesses.

Accordingly, pursuant to the authority contained in section 5(b)(6) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 634(b)(6)), SBA proposes to amend part 122, chapter I, title 13, Code of Federal Regulations, as follows:

PART 122—BUSINESS LOANS

1. The authority citation for part 122 would continue to read as follows:

Authority: 15 U.S.C. 634(b)(6), 636(a), 636(m).

2. Section 122.61–11(a) would be amended by revising the last sentence to read as follows:

§ 122.61–11 Program procedure.

(a) *Participation of intermediary by State.* * * * Further, no intermediary may undertake Program activities in more than one State unless the SBA Associate Administrator for Financial Assistance determines in writing that it would be in the best interest of the

small business community to operate across State lines.

* * * * *

Dated: March 31, 1995.

Philip Lader,

Administrator.

[FR Doc. 95–11156 Filed 5–4–95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8025–01–M

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Customs Service

19 CFR Parts 10, 12, 102, 134 and 177

[RIN 1515–AB19; RIN 1515–AB34]

Rules for Determining the Country of Origin of a Good for Purposes of Annex 311 of the North American Free Trade Agreement; Rules of Origin Applicable to Imported Merchandise

AGENCY: U.S. Customs Service, Department of the Treasury.

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking.

SUMMARY: This document proposes to amend the interim Customs Regulations, published in the **Federal Register** on January 3, 1994, as T.D. 94–4, which established the rules for determining when the country of origin of a good is one of the parties to the North American Free Trade Agreement for purposes of Annex 311 of that Agreement. This document also republishes, with some modifications, proposed amendments to the Customs Regulations to set forth uniform rules governing the determination of the country of origin of imported merchandise, which were also published in the **Federal Register** on January 3, 1994. The purpose of the proposals set forth in this document is to clarify the intent, or otherwise facilitate understanding of, the previously-published interim and proposed regulatory amendments. In addition, this document solicits public comments on the appropriate effective date for a final rule action regarding the interim and proposed regulatory amendments.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before June 19, 1995.

ADDRESSES: Written comments (preferably in triplicate) may be addressed to the Regulations Branch, U.S. Customs Service, Franklin Court, 1301 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20229. Comments submitted may be inspected at the Regulations Branch, Office of Regulations and Rulings, Franklin Court, 1099 14th Street, N.W., Suite 4000, Washington, D.C.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Sandra Gethers, Office of Regulations and Rulings (202–482–6980).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On January 3, 1994, Customs published T.D. 94–4 in the **Federal Register** (59 FR 110) setting forth interim regulations to establish rules for determining the country of origin of a good for purposes of Annex 311 of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). The United States, Canada and Mexico entered into the NAFTA on December 17, 1992, and the provisions of the NAFTA were adopted by the United States with the enactment of the North American Free Trade Agreement Implementation Act, Public Law 103–182, 107 Stat. 2057. T.D. 94–4 stated that the interim regulations were effective on January 1, 1994, and also provided for a 90-day public comment period which was subsequently extended to July 5, 1994, by a notice published in the **Federal Register** on March 11, 1994 (59 FR 11547). On February 3, 1994, a notice was published in the **Federal Register** (59 FR 5082) setting forth corrections to the interim regulations contained in T.D. 94–4.

On January 3, 1994, Customs also published a document in the **Federal Register** (59 FR 141) which proposed to amend the Customs Regulations to set forth uniform rules governing the determination of the country of origin of imported merchandise; this notice of proposed rulemaking represented a refinement and replacement of an earlier proposal published in the **Federal Register** on September 25, 1991 (56 FR 48448). This January 3, 1994, document proposed: (1) To amend § 102.0 of the interim regulations published as T.D. 94–4 so that those interim regulations would apply not only for the purposes stated in Annex 311 of the NAFTA but would also apply in the broader context of country of origin determinations “for purposes of the Customs and related laws and the navigation laws of the United States”; and (2) to amend various provisions within Parts 4, 10, 12, 134 and 177 of the Customs Regulations (19 CFR Parts 4, 10, 12, 134 and 177) to ensure that the rules contained in interim Part 102 would control wherever language requiring a country of origin determination appears in those other regulatory provisions. Thus, under this notice of proposed rulemaking the interim rules set forth in T.D. 94–4 would apply wherever a provision of the Customs and related laws or the