

accessibility for persons with disabilities, road maintenance, clean water for drinking, etc.

**Need and Use of the Information:** The data collected is evaluated to ensure that government-wide public goals and management objectives are met.

**Description of Respondents:** Individuals or households.

**Number of Respondents:** 10,000.

**Frequency of Responses:** Reporting On occasion.

**Total Burden Hours:** 2,500.

\* Commodity Credit Corporation

**Title:** CCC Conservation Contract.

**Summary:** Information collected allows a respondent to apply for conservation benefits, submit performance data for payment, and record conservation decisions.

**Need and Use of the Information:** The information is used to carry out the conservation program including designation of priority areas for funding.

**Description of Respondents:** Farms; Individuals; States, Local or Tribal Government.

**Number of Respondents:** 31,000.

**Frequency of Responses:** Reporting Once.

**Total Burden Hours:** 683,450.

Donald E. Hulcher,

*Deputy Departmental Clearance Officer.*

[FR Doc. 96-26736 Filed 10-17-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-01-M

## Agricultural Research Service

### Notice of Intent To Grant Exclusive License

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

**ACTION:** Notice of intent.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, intends to grant to Sonic Industries, Inc. of Hatboro, Pennsylvania, an exclusive license to U.S. Patent 5,307,679 issued May 3, 1994, "Method and Apparatus for Evaluating the Drying Properties of Undried Wood". Notice of Availability was published in the Federal Register on September 16, 1992.

**DATES:** Comments must be received by no later than December 17, 1996.

**ADDRESSES:** Send comments to: Janet I. Stockhausen, USDA Forest Service, Forest Products Laboratory, One Gifford Pinchot Drive, Madison, Wisconsin, 53705-2398.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Janet I. Stockhausen of the USDA Forest Service at the Madison address given above; telephone: 608-231-9502.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Federal Government's patent rights to this invention are assigned to the United States of America, as represented by the Secretary of Agriculture. It is in the public interest to so license this invention as Sonic Industries, Inc. has submitted a complete and sufficient application for a license. The prospective license will be royalty-bearing and will comply with the terms and conditions of 35 U.S.C. 209 and 37 CFR 404.7. The prospective license may be granted unless, within sixty days from the date of this published Notice, the Forest Service receives written evidence and argument which establishes that the grant of the license would not be consistent with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 209 and 37 CFR 404.7.

Richard M. Parry, Jr.,

*Assistant Administrator.*

[FR Doc. 96-26805 Filed 10-17-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-03-M

## Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

[Docket No. 96-081-1]

### Availability of Environmental Assessments and Findings of No Significant Impact

**AGENCY:** Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** We are advising the public that three environmental assessments and findings of no significant impact have been prepared by the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service relative to the issuance of permits to allow the field testing of genetically engineered organisms. The environmental assessments provide a basis for our conclusion that the field testing of the genetically engineered organisms will not present a risk of introducing or disseminating a plant pest and will not have a significant impact on the quality of the human environment. Based on its findings of no significant impact, the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service has determined that environmental impact statements need not be prepared.

**ADDRESSES:** Copies of the environmental assessments and findings of no significant impact are available for public inspection at USDA, room 1141, South Building, 14th Street and

Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC, between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. Persons wishing to inspect those documents are requested to call ahead on (202) 690-2817 to facilitate entry into the reading room.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Dr. Arnold Foudin, Deputy Director, Biotechnology Permits, BBEP, APHIS, Suite 5B05, 4700 River Road Unit 147, Riverdale, MD 20737-1237; (301) 734-7612. For copies of the environmental assessments and findings of no significant impact, contact Mr. Clayton Givens at (301) 734-7612; e-mail: cgivens@aphis.usda.gov. Please refer to the permit numbers listed below when ordering documents.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The regulations in 7 CFR part 340 (referred to below as the regulations) regulate the introduction (importation, interstate movement, and release into the environment) of genetically engineered organisms and products that are plant pests or that there is reason to believe are plant pests (regulated articles). A permit must be obtained or a notification acknowledged before a regulated article may be introduced into the United States. The regulations set forth the permit application requirements and the notification procedures for the importation, interstate movement, and release into the environment of a regulated article.

In the course of reviewing each permit application, APHIS assessed the impact on the environment that releasing the organisms under the conditions described in the permit application would have. APHIS has issued permits for the field testing of the organisms listed below after concluding that the organisms will not present a risk of plant pest introduction or dissemination and will not have a significant impact on the quality of the human environment. The environmental assessments and findings of no significant impact, which are based on data submitted by the applicants and on a review of other relevant literature, provide the public with documentation of APHIS' review and analysis of the environmental impacts associated with conducting the field tests.

Environmental assessments and findings of no significant impact have been prepared by APHIS relative to the issuance of permits to allow the field testing of the following genetically engineered organisms: