

obtain PEBES requests. The respondents are a sample of PEBES requestors whose identity and address could not be verified through other means.

*Number of Respondents:* 300.

*Frequency of Response:* 1.

*Average Burden Per Response:* 5 minutes.

*Estimated Annual Burden:* 25 hours.

To receive a copy of the form or clearance packages, call the SSA Reports Clearance Officer on (410) 965-4123 or write to her at the address listed below. Written comments and recommendations regarding the information collection(s) should be directed within 30 days to the OMB Desk Officer and SSA Reports Clearance Officer at the following addresses:

(OMB)—Office of Management and Budget, OIRA, Attn: Laura Oliven, New Executive Office Building, Room 10230, 725 17th St., NW., Washington, D.C. 20503  
(SSA)—Social Security Administration, DCFAM, Attn: Judith T. Hasche, 1-A-21 Operations Bldg., 6401 Security Blvd., Baltimore, MD 21235.

Dated: March 6, 1997.

Judith T. Hasche,  
*Reports Clearance Officer, Social Security Administration.*

[FR Doc. 97-6240 Filed 3-13-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4190-29-P

### Testing Modifications to the Disability Determination Procedures; Single Decisionmaker Model Test Site Continuation

**AGENCY:** Social Security Administration.

**ACTION:** Notice of the continuation of a test site and the duration of the test involving a single decisionmaker.

**SUMMARY:** The Social Security Administration is announcing the continuation of a test that it has been conducting under the final rules published in the Federal Register on April 24, 1995 (60 FR 20023), as well as the location and duration of that test. Those final rules authorize the testing of several modifications to the disability determination procedures that we normally follow in adjudicating claims for disability insurance benefits under title II of the Social Security Act (the Act) and claims for supplemental security income (SSI) payments based on disability under title XVI of the Act. This notice announces the continuation of the test involving the use of a single decisionmaker who may make the disability determination without requiring the signature of a medical consultant. This notice also announces

the designated test site and the duration of the test.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Harry Pippin, Models Team Leader, Office of Disability, Disability Process Redesign Staff, Social Security Administration, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, Maryland 21235, 410-965-9203.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On April 24, 1995, we published final rules in the Federal Register authorizing us to test different modifications to the disability determination procedures. The tests are designed to provide us with information so that we can determine the effectiveness of the concepts in the models in improving the disability process.

Under this test, a single decisionmaker may make disability determinations without generally requiring a medical consultant to sign the disability determination forms that we use to certify the determination. On May 3, 1996, we announced in the Federal Register our intent to begin tests, on or about May 1, 1996, of the procedures to be conducted by a single decisionmaker (61 FR 19969). We also explained that we would select cases for the evaluation for approximately six months and might continue to process cases for another six months. In that announcement, we identified nine test sites in seven states. We are now planning additional testing of the single decisionmaker model; and at this time, we are announcing a continuation of testing at one site. We plan to continue testing the single decisionmaker model on or about February 24, 1997. We will continue the test for approximately fourteen months. We will publish another notice in the Federal Register if we extend the duration of the test. Continued testing of the single decisionmaker model will be conducted at the following location:

- North Carolina Division of Social Services, Disability Determination Services, 321 Chapanoke Road, Raleigh, NC 27603.

Not all cases received in the test site listed above will be handled under the test procedures. However, if a claim is selected to be handled by a single decisionmaker as part of the test, the claim will be processed under the procedures established under the final rules cited above.

Carolyn W. Colvin,  
*Deputy Commissioner for Programs and Policy.*

[FR Doc. 97-6408 Filed 3-13-97; 8:45 am]

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### OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

[Docket No. 301-111]

#### Initiation of Section 302 Investigation and Request for Public Comment: Certain Subsidies Affecting Access to the European Communities' Market for Modified Starch

**AGENCY:** Office of the United Trade Representative.

**ACTION:** Notice of initiation of investigation; request for written comment.

**SUMMARY:** The Acting United States Trade Representative (Acting USTR) has initiated an investigation under section 302(a) of the Trade Act of 1974 (the Trade Act) with respect to certain acts, policies and practices of the European Communities (EC), more specifically, the provision of subsidies that affect access to the EC modified starch market. The Acting USTR invites written comments from the public on the matters being investigated and the determinations to be made under section 304 of the Trade Act.

**DATES:** This investigation was initiated on March 8, 1997. Written comments from the public are due on or before noon on Monday, April 14, 1997.

**ADDRESSES:** Office of the United States Trade Representative, 600 17th Street, NW., Washington, D.C. 20508.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ronald K. Lorentzen, Office of WTO and Multilateral Affairs, (202) 395-3063; Audrey Winter, Office of the General Counsel, (202) 395-7305; or Marilyn Moore, Office of Agricultural Affairs, (202) 395-6127.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On January 22, 1997, the U.S. Wheat Gluten Industry Council filed a petition pursuant to section 302(a) of the Trade Act (19 U.S.C. 2412(a)) alleging that certain subsidy schemes of the EC constitute acts, policies and practices that violate, or are inconsistent with and otherwise deny benefits to the United States under, the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade 1994 (GATT) and the Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures (SCM Agreement). In particular, the petition alleges that four EC subsidy programs ((1) the wheat export tax; (2) the starch production refund program; (3) the starch export restitution program; and (4) various quotas and other production limits on other starches) violate EC obligations, cause serious prejudice to U.S. interests and nullify or impair U.S. benefits under the World Trade Organization (WTO) agreements insofar