

Notices

This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains documents other than rules or proposed rules that are applicable to the public. Notices of hearings and investigations, committee meetings, agency decisions and rulings, delegations of authority, filing of petitions and applications and agency statements of organization and functions are examples of documents appearing in this section.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Food Safety and Inspection Service

[Docket No. 97-044N]

National Advisory Committee on Meat and Poultry Inspection; Public Meeting

AGENCY: Food Safety and Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The National Advisory Committee on Meat and Poultry Inspection will meet to plan Committee activities for FY 1998 and consider three policy issues: (1) interstate shipment of State-inspected product; (2) hazard analysis and critical control points (HACCP) inspection models; and (3) inspection resource management in a HACCP environment. The third topic includes the issues of inspection coverage at establishments with HACCP systems and overtime, second-shift, and holiday inspection service at such establishments. The Committee also will consider issues to be addressed at future meetings.

All interested parties are welcome to attend the meeting and to submit written comments and suggestions concerning issues the Committee might consider.

DATES: The meeting will be held on September 9 and 10, 1997, from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m., and on September 11, 1997, from 9 a.m. till 12 noon.

COMMENTS: Please send written comments on topics the Committee might consider during FY 1998 to the Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) Docket Clerk: DOCKET 97-044N, Room 102 Cotton Annex Building, 300 12th Street, SW., Washington, DC 20250. Comments may also be sent by facsimile (202-205-0381). The comments and the official transcript of the meeting, when it becomes available, will be kept in the Docket Clerk's office.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will take place at the Washington Plaza Hotel, 10

Thomas Circle, NW, Washington, DC 20005 (202) 842-1300.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: To register for the meeting, contact Michael N. Micchelli at (202) 720-6269, FAX (202) 690-1030, or E-mail Michael.Micchelli@usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On February 12, 1997, the Secretary of Agriculture renewed the charter for the Advisory Committee on Meat and Poultry Inspection. The Committee provides advice and recommendations to the Secretary of Agriculture pertaining to Federal and State meat and poultry inspection programs pursuant to sections 7(c), 24, 205, 301 (a)(3), and 301(c) of the Federal Meat Inspection Act (FMIA) and sections 5(a)(3), 5(c), 8(b), and 11(e) of the Poultry Products Inspection Act (PPIA).

The Administrator of FSIS is the chairperson of the Committee. Membership of the Committee is drawn from representatives of consumer groups, producers, processors, and marketers from the meat and poultry industry, and State government officials. The current members of the National Advisory Committee on Meat and Poultry Inspection are:

Dr. Deloran M. Allen, Excel Corporation
Dr. William L. Brown, ABC Research

Corporation

Terry Burkhardt, Wisconsin Bureau of Meat Safety and Inspection

Caroline Smith-DeWaal, Center for Science in the Public Interest

Nancy Donley, Safe Tables Our Priority
Carol Tucker Foreman, Safe Food Coalition

Michael J. Gregory, Hudson Foods Inc.

Dr. Cheryl Hall, Foster Farms, Inc.

Dr. Margaret Hardin, National Pork Producers

Alan Janzen, Circle Five Feedyards, Inc.

Dr. Daniel E. LaFontaine, South Carolina Meat-Poultry Inspection Department

Dr. Dale Morse, New York Office of Public Health; Rosemary Mucklow, National Meat Association

William Rosser, Texas Department of Public Health

J. Myron Stoltzfus, Stoltzfus Meats

Dr. David M. Theno, Jr., Foodmaker Inc.

At the public meeting, the Committee will organize itself to study the issues before it. The Committee may decide to form subcommittees to deliberate on specific issues and make recommendations to the whole

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Committee and the Secretary of Agriculture.

The three principal topics that the Committee will consider at the meeting are: (1) Interstate shipment of State-inspected product; (2) the development of HACCP-based inspection models; and (3) inspection resource management in a HACCP environment. The third topic concerns, among other matters, establishment reimbursement of FSIS for overtime, second-shift, and holiday inspection service.

For some time after January 26, 1998, when HACCP-based inspection is implemented in large establishments, FSIS will continue assigning as many inspectors per establishment as it does currently. FSIS also will continue charging establishments for second-shift and overtime inspection service on the same basis as at present. However, FSIS realizes that new patterns of inspection coverage will be necessary as inspection task priorities change in establishments operating HACCP systems. From the experience gained in administering HACCP-based inspection, and through public discussions, the Agency expects to develop a policy on inspection coverage of establishments. The Agency expects the Committee's recommendations to weigh heavily in any final decisions on this matter.

In addition to discussion of the major topics identified for this meeting, the Committee will consider issues to be discussed in future meetings.

The meeting is open to the public on a space-available basis. Interested persons will have an opportunity to discuss issues relating to the activities of the committee and may file comments with the Committee in the manner described above in **COMMENTS**.

Done in Washington, DC: August 26, 1997.

Thomas J. Billy,

Administrator, Food Safety Inspection Service.

[FR Doc. 97-23250 Filed 8-27-97; 3:24 pm]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration

Opportunity for Designation in the Frankfort (IN) and Indianapolis (IN) Areas

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