

Notices

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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. 97-073N]

Nominations for Membership on the National Advisory Committee on Microbiological Criteria for Foods

AGENCY: Food Safety and Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Agriculture (USDA) is soliciting nominations for membership on the National Advisory Committee on Microbiological Criteria for Foods (NACMCF). Nominees are sought who have scientific expertise in the fields of Microbiology, Epidemiology, Food Technology, Food Production, Risk Assessment, and Animal and Public Health. Persons from the government, industry, academia, and consumer advocacy groups are invited to submit nominations.

DATES: The nominee's typed resume or curriculum vitae should be sent to the Office of the Administrator, Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS), 6913 Franklin Court, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-3700, no later than 30 days from the date of publication of this notice.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Richard Ellis at the above address or by telephone at (202) 501-7625.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

NACMCF was established in April 1988 as a result of a recommendation by the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) Committee on Food Protection, Subcommittee on Microbiological Criteria, in a 1985 report entitled "An Evaluation of the Role of Microbiological Criteria for Foods." NACMCF provides advice and recommendations to the Secretaries of Agriculture and Health and Human

Services concerning microbiological and epidemiological aspects of food safety and foodborne diseases and provides specific information to the Departments of Defense and Commerce.

Appointment(s) to the Committee will be made by the Secretary of Agriculture after consultation with the Secretary of Health and Human Services. Advice on membership appointments will be requested from the Department of Commerce's National Marine Fisheries Service and the Department of Defense's U.S. Army, Veterinary Services Activity, because of their interest in microbial criteria for foods. Appointments to NACMCF are based primarily on expertise in food science, microbiology, and other relevant disciplines. To ensure that recommendations of the Committee take into account the needs of the diverse groups served by the Department, membership shall include, to the extent practicable, individuals with demonstrated ability to represent minorities, women, and persons with disabilities. Because of the complexity of the issues to be addressed, it is anticipated that the full Committee will meet three times annually, and the subcommittees will meet as often as necessary.

There are three vacancies on the advisory Committee. There is a minimum 2-year commitment, and appointments are limited to a maximum of 6 years. Participation may require 2 work outside of scheduled Committee and subcommittee meetings and include the preparation of written documents.

Done at Washington, DC, on December 29, 1997.

Thomas J. Billy,
Administrator.

[FR Doc. 98-571 Filed 1-8-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-DM-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Food Safety and Inspection Service

[Docket 97-071N]

National Advisory Committee on Meat and Poultry Inspection

AGENCY: Food Safety and Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice

SUMMARY: The Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) published a

document in the **Federal Register** of December 12, 1997, concerning a public meeting by the National Advisory Committee on Meat and Poultry Inspection on January 13 and 14, 1998, to continue discussion of key policy issues. The document did not include the Schedule of Events.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Michael Micchelli at (202) 720-6269 or FAX to (202) 690-1030.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

In the December 12, 1997, **Federal Register** (62 FR 65409), FSIS announced that the National Advisory Committee on Meat and Poultry Inspection will meet on January 13 and 14, 1998, to continue consideration of three policy issues: (1) Interstate shipment of state inspected product; (2) HACCP Inspection Models; and (3) inspection resource management in a HACCP environment. The Schedule of Events is an outline of the times for discussion of particular topics. The Schedule of Events for the meeting is available on the FSIS Homepage at <http://www.usda.gov/agency/fsis/homepage.htm>. The Schedule of Events also is available by FAST FAX, FSIS' automated retrieval system, at (800) 238-8281 or (202) 690-3754 or by contacting the individual named above. The reference number for the FAST FAX system is 4012.

Done at Washington, DC on: December 30, 1997.

Thomas J. Billy,
Administrator.

[FR Doc. 98-572 Filed 1-8-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-DM-P

COMMITTEE FOR PURCHASE FROM PEOPLE WHO ARE BLIND OR SEVERELY DISABLED

Procurement List; Additions

AGENCY: Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled.

ACTION: Additions to the Procurement List.

SUMMARY: This action adds to the Procurement List commodities and services to be furnished by nonprofit agencies employing persons who are blind or have other severe disabilities.

EFFECTIVE DATE: February 9, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled, Crystal Gateway 3, Suite 310, 1215 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, Virginia 22202-4302.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Beverly Milkman (703) 603-7740.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

On June 6, 13, November 14 and 21, 1997, the Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled published notices (62 F.R. 31065, 32288, 61081 and 62284) of proposed additions to the Procurement List.

The Following Comments Pertain to Cap, Cold Weather

Comments were received from the current contractor as a result of a Committee request for sales data and through a Member of Congress. The contractor claimed that addition of the cap to the Procurement List would have a severe adverse impact on the company. One reason for this severe impact is the cumulative impact of earlier additions to the Procurement List of headwear items made by the contractor.

The Committee originally proposed the addition of the entire Government requirement for the cap to the Procurement List, for production by two nonprofit agencies employing people with severe disabilities. Because of the concerns expressed by the contractor, the Committee decided to reduce the addition proposal to 50 percent of the Government requirement, to be produced by only one nonprofit agency. This change will reduce the impact on the contractor below the level which the Committee normally considers severe adverse impact. In addition, the contractor will be allowed to finish its current contract, as the Committee's mandate applies only to contracts formed after the effective date of a Procurement List addition.

As for the cumulative impact issues the contractor raised, the contractor's use of its 1991 sales year as the high point from which a subsequent sales decline is measured is misleading, as 1991 was a good year for all military cap manufacturers because of the high number of orders then to support Operation Desert Shield/Storm. The contractor's sales in 1989 and 1993 are more reflective of a typical sales year, and those are not substantially different from the contractor's current annual sales. Moreover, while the contractor may not have completely recovered from the impacts of the Committee's previous actions, the primary reason its

sales have not increased is military downsizing in recent years. Troop reductions, and not the effects of the Committee's program, have reduced the sales of most military cap manufacturers, including those involved in the Committee's program and the current contractor.

Of the three caps the contractor identified as previous impacts, one was added to the Procurement List in 1989 and the other in 1993. The contractor was not the current contractor for the third cap (Cap, Combat Camouflage) when it was added to the Procurement List. Only 50 percent of the Government requirement for the 1989 addition, a Marine Corps utility cap, was taken out of competitive procurement, so the contractor continued to be eligible to compete for Government contracts for the other half of the Government requirement for this cap.

The Following Comments Pertain to Tray, MM, Fiberboard

The Committee initially proposed to add the total Government requirement for fiberboard MM trays and sleeves to the Procurement List. Comments were received from two companies which were current contractors for these items at the time the Committee wrote to them to request sales data. One company indicated that the items made up a substantial portion of its sales, and losing them would also cause layoffs of some workers. The other company described the production process and questioned whether the designated nonprofit agency would be capable of acquiring the machinery needed to perform it to Government specifications.

Before the Committee took any action, a new contract was awarded for the sleeves, and neither company received the award. Consequently, when the Committee added the sleeves to the Procurement List, both companies had already lost the business and only lost the opportunity to compete for subsequent procurements of these items. The Committee does not consider this type of loss to be a severe impact on the companies, because all they are losing is the possibility of a contract, not actual work on which they have come to rely.

This addition involves only the fiberboard MM trays. The quantity of the Government's tray requirement which the Committee is adding to the Procurement List is 45 percent of the total Government requirement (not to exceed 20 million trays annually), leaving more than half the requirement available for production by either of the two contractors or others under the competitive bidding system. The portion of the requirement being added

to the Procurement List represents a percentage of the contractors' sales which is below the level the Committee considers to be severe adverse impact.

The designated nonprofit agency has experience in producing corrugated items for the Government and other customers. The Committee's industrial engineer has reviewed the capability assessments which have been done by the contracting activity and the central nonprofit agency, and has concluded that the nonprofit agency will be capable of producing the trays to Government specifications at the time of contract performance.

After consideration of the material presented to it concerning capability of qualified nonprofit agencies to provide the commodities and services and impact of the additions on the current or most recent contractors, the Committee has determined that the commodities and services listed below are suitable for procurement by the Federal Government under 41 U.S.C. 46-48c and 41 CFR 51-2.4.

I certify that the following action will not have a significant impact on a substantial number of small entities. The major factors considered for this certification were:

1. The action will not result in any additional reporting, recordkeeping or other compliance requirements for small entities other than the small organizations that will furnish the commodities and services to the Government.
2. The action will not have a severe economic impact on current contractors for the commodities and services.
3. The action will result in authorizing small entities to furnish the commodities and services to the Government.
4. There are no known regulatory alternatives which would accomplish the objectives of the Javits-Wagner-O'Day Act (41 U.S.C. 46-48c) in connection with the commodities and services proposed for addition to the Procurement List.

Accordingly, the following commodities and services are hereby added to the Procurement List:

Commodities

Office and Miscellaneous Supplies
(Requirements for the Naval Station, Ingleside, Texas)

Sponge, Cellulose
7920-01-444-3650

Cap, Cold Weather
8415-01-099-7843 thru -7848

(50% of the Government's requirement)
Tray, MM, Fiberboard

P.S. 3916
(45% of annual requirements up to 20 million)

Extra Life & Shipper
M.R. 858
M.R. 859

Services

Janitorial/Custodial
Naval Air Reserve
Moffett Field, California
Janitorial/Custodial
Robert N.C. Nix, Sr. Federal Center
9th & Market Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Switchboard Operation
Veterans Affairs Medical Center
2250 Leestown Road
Lexington, Kentucky

This action does not affect current contracts awarded prior to the effective date of this addition or options that may be exercised under those contracts.

Beverly L. Milkman,

Executive Director.

[FR Doc. 98-577 Filed 1-8-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6353-01-P

COMMITTEE FOR PURCHASE FROM PEOPLE WHO ARE BLIND OR SEVERELY DISABLED

Procurement List; Proposed Addition and Deletions

AGENCY: Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled.

ACTION: Proposed Addition to and Deletions from Procurement List.

SUMMARY: The Committee has received proposals to add to the Procurement List a service to be furnished by nonprofit agencies employing persons who are blind or have other severe disabilities, and to delete services previously furnished by such agencies.

COMMENTS MUST BE RECEIVED ON OR BEFORE: February 9, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled, Crystal Gateway 3, Suite 310, 1215 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, Virginia 22202-4302.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Beverly Milkman (703) 603-7740.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This notice is published pursuant to 41 U.S.C. 47(a) (2) and 41 CFR 51-2.3. Its purpose is to provide interested persons an opportunity to submit comments on the possible impact of the proposed actions.

Addition

If the Committee approves the proposed addition, all entities of the

Federal Government (except as otherwise indicated) will be required to procure the service listed below from nonprofit agencies employing persons who are blind or have other severe disabilities.

I certify that the following action will not have a significant impact on a substantial number of small entities. The major factors considered for this certification were:

1. The action will not result in any additional reporting, recordkeeping or other compliance requirements for small entities other than the small organizations that will furnish the service to the Government.

2. The action does not appear to have a severe economic impact on current contractors for the service.

3. The action will result in authorizing small entities to furnish the service to the Government.

4. There are no known regulatory alternatives which would accomplish the objectives of the Javits-Wagner-O'Day Act (41 U.S.C. 46-48c) in connection with the service proposed for addition to the Procurement List. Comments on this certification are invited. Commenters should identify the statement(s) underlying the certification on which they are providing additional information.

The following service has been proposed for addition to Procurement List for production by the nonprofit agency listed:

Janitorial/Custodial
Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS)
Rome, New York
NPA: The Arc, Onieda-Lewis Chapter, NYSARC, Utica, New York

Deletions

I certify that the following action will not have a significant impact on a substantial number of small entities. The major factors considered for this certification were:

1. The action will not result in any additional reporting, recordkeeping or other compliance requirements for small entities.

2. The action does not appear to have a severe economic impact on future contractors for the services.

3. The action will result in authorizing small entities to furnish the services to the Government.

4. There are no known regulatory alternatives which would accomplish the objectives of the Javits-Wagner-O'Day Act (41 U.S.C. 46-48c) in connection with the services proposed for deletion from the Procurement List.

The following services have been proposed for deletion from the Procurement List:

Disposal Support Services
Defense Reutilization and Marketing Office (DRMO)
Alameda, California
Janitorial/Custodial
Building 243 "A-G" Bay
McClellan AFB, California
Janitorial/Custodial
Border Station
Chateaugay, New York
Microfilming of EEG Records
Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center
Buffalo, New York

Beverly L. Milkman,

Executive Director.

[FR Doc. 98-578 Filed 1-8-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6353-01-P

COMMITTEE FOR PURCHASE FROM PEOPLE WHO ARE BLIND OR SEVERELY DISABLED

Proposed Additions to the Procurement List; Correction

In the document appearing on page 63314, FR Doc. 97-31380, in the issue of November 28, 1997, in the first column, the service listed as Janitorial/Grounds Maintenance, West Los Angeles Federal Building and U.S. Post Office, 11000 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles, California should read: Janitorial/Grounds Maintenance for the following locations in Los Angeles, California: West Los Angeles Federal Building & U.S. Post Office, 11000 Wilshire Boulevard and the FBI Garage, 1260 Sepulveda Boulevard.

Beverly L. Milkman,

Executive Director.

[FR Doc. 98-579 Filed 1-8-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6353-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Bureau of the Census

[Docket No. 970408082-7273-02]

Block Group Program for Census 2000—Final Criteria

AGENCY: Bureau of the Census, Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of final program.

SUMMARY: Block groups are geographic statistical divisions of census tracts, each of which consists of from one to nine block groups. A block group comprises a reasonably compact and contiguous cluster of census blocks. The