

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

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

[Docket No. 98-008-2]

Public Meeting; Animal Care

AGENCY: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: This is the second notice to animal researchers, exhibitors, dealers, transporters, animal protection groups, and other interested persons that we are holding a public meeting to discuss current Animal Welfare Act issues and initiatives. This notice also announces the agenda for the public meeting.

PLACE, DATES, AND TIMES OF MEETING: The public meeting will be held at the USDA Conference Center, 4700 River Road, Riverdale, MD 20737, on Tuesday, May 12, 1998. Registration will take place from 7 a.m. to 9 a.m. The meeting will begin at 9 a.m. and end at 5 p.m.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For further information on the meeting agenda, contact Dr. Dick Watkins, Initiatives Coordinator, Animal Care, APHIS, 4700 River Road Unit 84, Riverdale, MD 20737, (301) 734-7687.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) previously announced that it was scheduling a public meeting to discuss the animal welfare program and initiatives in Riverdale, MD, on Tuesday, May 12, 1998 (See 63 FR 6704, February 10, 1998, Docket No. 98-008-1). In its advance notice for the meeting, APHIS requested that interested persons submit topics to be included in the meeting's agenda. Based on the submissions received and other considerations, the agenda for the public meeting includes, but is not limited to, the following:

9 a.m.--12:00 p.m.—General Session.

1:30 p.m.—4:30 p.m.—Break-out sessions.

The General Session will include updates by Animal Care officials on current Animal Welfare Act issues and program initiatives, as well as presentations by industry and animal interest organizations. We are currently scheduling the following break-out sessions, which will run concurrently:

Dealers/Auctions
Exhibitors
Institutional Animal Care and Use
Committee (IACUC) Issues
Research
Transportation

Please note that this meeting is being held to exchange information between Animal Care, the public, and stakeholders. It is not an opportunity to submit formal comments on proposed rules or other regulatory initiatives.

Advance Registration

Advance registration is requested by May 6, 1998. Attendance may be limited based on public response. If interested, FAX your registration request to (301) 734-4328 or (301) 734-4978, or send e-mail to Animal Care at ace@aphis.usda.gov. Include your name, complete mailing address, and telephone and fax numbers. Please indicate your first and second preference for break-out sessions. For additional registration information, contact Sue Gallagher, Program Specialist, Animal Care, on (301) 734-8877.

Travel Information

If traveling to the metro area by air, Baltimore-Washington International (BWI) and Ronald Reagan National Airports are each located within 1 hour's drive from the USDA Center. Airport shuttle services are available via independent contracted service fleets. Check with your hotel desk for additional shuttle or taxi information, or phone Super Shuttle (BWI and National Airports) on (800) 258-3826 or (410) 859-0803, or Airport Connection (BWI Airport) on (800) 284-6066 or (301) 352-2400.

The USDA center is located less than 1 mile from the College Park metro rail station (Green Line—Greenbelt/Fort Totten). Bus service is provided between the College Park station and the USDA Center by both Metrobus (F6 and R12 bus lines) and select University of

Maryland Shuttle buses. The University of Maryland Shuttle offers complimentary transportation.

If traveling by car, please note that a fee of \$2.00 is required to enter the parking lot at the USDA center.

Security Procedures

Upon entering the building, visitors should inform security personnel that they are attending the Animal Care public meeting. Identification is required. Security personnel will direct visitors to the registration tables located outside the conference center on the first floor. Registration is necessary for all participants, even if advance registration was completed. Badges must be worn throughout the day.

Lodging Information

We encourage out-of-town participants to make reservations as soon as possible due to potential peak volumes at local hotels at the time of the meeting. Rooms at all hotels are on a space available basis. The following hotels are located in the Riverdale area:

Greenbelt Holiday Inn, 7200 Hanover Drive, Greenbelt, MD 20770, (800) 280-4188, (301) 982-7000

A limited number of rooms have been reserved at a rate of \$75.00 plus tax at the Greenbelt Holiday Inn. Callers must identify themselves as "Animal Care Public Meeting" attendees when making reservations. Hotel shuttle service is available to and from the USDA Center. Make arrangements with Holiday Inn front desk.

College Park Holiday Inn, 10000 Baltimore Blvd, College Park, MD 20740, (800) 465-4329, (301) 345-6700

Hotel shuttle service is available to and from the USDA Center. Callers must identify themselves as "USDA Public Meeting" attendees when making reservations. Make arrangements with the Holiday Inn front desk.

Greenbelt Courtyard-Marriott, 6301 Golden Triangle Drive, Greenbelt, MD 20770, (800) 321-2211, (301) 441-3311

No shuttle service is available to the USDA Center. Check with the Courtyard front desk for local travel arrangements.

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 2131-2159; 7 CFR 2.22, 2.80, 371.2(d), and 371.2(g).

Done in Washington, DC, this 7th day of April, 1998.

Charles P. Schwalbe,

Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[FR Doc. 98-9744 Filed 4-13-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-34-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

[Docket No. 98-026-1]

Public Meeting; Veterinary Biologics

AGENCY: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Advance notice of public meeting and request for agenda topics.

SUMMARY: This is to notify producers and users of veterinary biological products, as well as other interested persons, that we will be holding our eighth public meeting to discuss regulatory and policy issues related to the manufacture, distribution, and use of veterinary biological products. We are in the process of planning the meeting agenda, and are requesting suggestions for topics of general interest to producers and other interested persons.

PLACE, DATE, AND TIME OF MEETING: The meeting will be held in the Scheman Building at the Iowa State Center, Ames, IA, on Wednesday and Thursday, September 23 and 24, 1998, from 8 a.m. to approximately 5 p.m. each day.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For further information on agenda topics, contact Dr. Donald C. Randall, Center for Veterinary Biologics, Inspection and Compliance, Veterinary Services, APHIS, 510 South 17th Street, Suite 104, Ames, IA 50010; phone (515) 232-5785, fax (515) 232-7120, or e-mail Donald.C.Randall@usda.gov. For registration information, contact Ms. Kay Wessman at the same address and fax number; phone (515) 323-5785 extension 127; or e-mail Mary.K.Wessman@usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Since 1989, the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) has held seven public meetings on veterinary biologics in Ames, IA. The meetings provide an opportunity for the exchange of information between APHIS representatives, producers and users of veterinary biological products, and other interested persons on issues of common concern. APHIS is in the process of planning the agenda for the eighth such meeting, which will be held September 23 and 24, 1998.

As yet, the agenda for the meeting is not complete. Topics that have thus far been suggested include: (1) Electronic submission of Outlines of Production, forms, and data; (2) international harmonization of regulations; (3) naked DNA vaccines; (4) update on in vitro testing; and (5) quality assurance. Before finalizing the agenda, APHIS is seeking suggestions for additional meeting topics from the interested public.

We would also like to invite interested persons to use this meeting to present their ideas and suggestions concerning the licensing, manufacturing, testing, and distribution of veterinary biologics.

On or before May 15, 1998, please submit suggested meeting topics (for both breakout and general sessions), as well as proposed presentation titles, the name(s) of the presenter(s), and the approximate amount of time that will be needed for the presentation(s), to the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

After the agenda is finalized, APHIS will announce the schedule in the **Federal Register**.

Done in Washington, DC, this 7th day of April 1998.

Charles P. Schwalbe,

Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[FR Doc. 98-9745 Filed 4-13-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service

Notice of Intent To Establish an Information Collection

AGENCY: Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13) and Office of Management and Budget (OMB) regulations at 5 CFR Part 1320 (60 FR 44977, August 29, 1995), this notice announces the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service's (CSREES) intention to request approval to establish an information collection from applicants for Federal financial assistance.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by June 18, 1998 to be assured of consideration.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR COMMENTS: Contact Sally J. Rockey, Deputy

Administrator, Competitive Research Grants and Awards Management, CSREES, USDA, STOP 2240, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-2240, (202) 401-1761. E-mail: OEP@reeusda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Application Kit for Research and Extension Projects.

OMB Number: 0524-NEW.

Expiration Date of Current Approval: Not applicable.

Type of Request: Intent to seek approval to establish an information collection for three years.

Abstract: USDA/CSREES sponsors ongoing agricultural research, extension, and education programs under which competitive, special, and other awards of a high-priority nature are made.

Before awards can be made, certain information is required from applicants as part of an overall proposal package. In addition to project summaries, descriptions of the research, extension, or education efforts, literature reviews, curricula vitae of principal investigators/project directors, and other, relevant technical aspects of the proposed project, supporting documentation of an administrative and budgetary nature also must be provided. Because of the nature of the competitive, peer-reviewed process, it is important that information from applicants be available in a standardized format to ensure equitable treatment.

Each year, solicitations are issued requesting proposals for various research, education, and extension areas targeted for support. Applicants submit proposals for these targeted areas following formats outlined in the proposal application guidelines accompanying each program's solicitation. These proposals are evaluated by peer review panels and awarded on a competitive basis.

Forms CSREES-2002, "Proposal Cover Page;" CSREES-2003, "Project Summary;" CSREES-2004, "Proposal Budget;" CSREES-2005, "Current and Pending Support;" CSREES-2006 "National Environmental Policy Act Exclusions;" CSREES-2007, "Identification of Conflicts of Interest;" and CSREES-2008, "Assurance Statement(s);" are mainly used for proposal evaluation and administration purposes. While some of the information will be used to respond to inquiries from Congress and other government agencies, the forms are not designed to be statistical surveys or data collection instruments. Their completion by potential recipients is a normal part of the application to Federal