

United Nations organizations, the Food and Agriculture Organization and the World Health Organization. Codex is the principal international organization for encouraging fair international trade in food and protecting the health and economic interests of consumers. Through adoption of food standards, codes of practice and other guidelines developed by its committees, and by promoting their adoption and implementation by governments, Codex seeks to ensure that the world's food supply is sound, wholesome, free from adulteration and correctly labeled.

CCFICS was established to develop principles and guidelines for food import and export inspection and certification systems; the application of measures by competent authorities of importing and exporting countries to provide assurance that foods comply with essential requirements; the utilization of quality assurance systems; and the format and content of official certificates.

#### Issues to be Discussed at the Public Meetings

The following issues will be discussed during the public meetings:

- Draft Guidelines for the Development of Equivalence Agreements Regarding Food Import and Export Inspection and Certification Systems at Step 7
- Proposed Draft Guidelines/Recommendations for Food Import Control Systems (*New Work*)
- Proposed Draft Guidelines and Criteria for Official Certificate Formats and Rules Relating to the Production and Issuance of Certificates (*New Work*)
- Discussion Paper on Issues Relating to the Judgement of Equivalence
- Discussion Paper on the Utilization and Promotion of Quality Assurance Systems
- Discussion Paper on Guidelines for the Establishment of a Database on Importing Country Legislation

In advance of these meetings, the U.S. Delegate to CCFICS will have assigned the responsibility for development of U.S. positions on these issues to various members of the federal government. The individuals assigned will be named at the January 13 public meeting.

Additionally, at the January 13 public meeting, the issues will be described and discussed, and attendees will have the opportunity to ask questions and offer comments. At the February 3 public meeting, draft U.S. positions on the issues will be described and discussed, and attendees will have the opportunity to ask questions and offer comments. During the public meetings, all interested parties are invited to

provide information and comments on the above issues or any other issues that may be brought before CCFICS. Comments may also be sent to the FSIS Docket Clerk (see ADDRESSES). Please state that your comments relate to CCFICS activities and specify which issues your comments address.

**F. Edward Scarbrough,**

*U.S. Manager for Codex.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Rural Business-Cooperative Service

#### Inviting Preapplications for Technical Assistance for Rural Transportation Systems

**AGENCY:** Rural Business-Cooperative Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Rural Business-Cooperative Service (RBS), an Agency within the Rural Development mission area, announces the availability of one single \$500,000 grant from the passenger transportation portion of the Rural Business Enterprise Grant (RBEG) Program for Fiscal Year (FY) 1999 to be competitively awarded to a qualified national organization.

**DATES:** The deadline for receipt of a preapplication in the Rural Development State Office is March 1, 1999. Preapplications received at a Rural Development State Office after that date will not be considered for FY 1999 funding.

**ADDRESSES:** For further information, entities wishing to apply for assistance should contact a Rural Development State Office to receive further information and copies of the preapplication package. A list of Rural Development State Offices follows:

#### Alabama

USDA Rural Development State Office, Sterling Center, Suite 601, 4121 Carmichael Road, Montgomery, AL 36106-3683, (334) 279-3400

#### Alaska

USDA Rural Development State Office, 800 West Evergreen, Suite 201, Palmer, AK 99645-6539, (907) 745-2176

#### Arizona

USDA Rural Development State Office, 3003 North Central Avenue, Suite 900, Phoenix, AZ 85012-2906, (602) 280-8700

#### Arkansas

USDA Rural Development State Office, 700 West Capitol Avenue—Room 3416, Little Rock, AR 72201-3225, (501) 301-3200

#### California

USDA Rural Development State Office, 430 G Street, Agcy. 4169, Davis, CA 95616-4169, (530) 792-5800

#### Colorado

USDA Rural Development State Office, 655 Parfet Street, Room E-100, Lakewood, CO 80215, (303) 236-2801

#### Delaware/Maryland

USDA Rural Development State Office, 5201 South Dupont Highway, Camden, DE 19934-9998, (302) 697-4300

#### Florida/Virgin Islands

USDA Rural Development State Office, 4440 NW 25th Place, Gainesville, FL 32614-7010, (352) 338-3400

#### Georgia

USDA Rural Development State Office, Stephens Federal Building, 355 E Hancock Avenue, Athens, GA 30601-2768, (706) 546-2162

#### Hawaii

USDA Rural Development State Office, Federal Building, Room 311, 154 Waiuanue Avenue, Hilo, HI 96720, (808) 933-3000

#### Idaho

USDA Rural Development State Office, 9173 West Barnes Drive, Suite A1, Boise, ID 83709, (208) 378-5600

#### Illinois

USDA Rural Development State Office, Illini Plaza, Suite 103, 1817 South Neil Street, Champaign, IL 61820, (217) 398-5235

#### Indiana

USDA Rural Development State Office, 5975 Lakeside Boulevard, Indianapolis, IN 46278, (317) 290-3100

#### Iowa

USDA Rural Development State Office, Federal Building, Room 873, 210 Walnut Street, Des Moines, IA 50309, (515) 284-4663

#### Kansas

USDA Rural Development State Office, 1200 SW Executive Drive, Topeka, KS 66604, (785) 271-2700

#### Kentucky

USDA Rural Development State Office, 771 Corporate Drive, Suite 200, Lexington, KY 40503, (606) 224-7300

#### Louisiana

USDA Rural Development State Office, 3727 Government Street, Alexandria, LA 71302, (318) 473-7920

#### Maine

USDA Rural Development State Office, 444 Stillwater Avenue, Suite 2, Bangor, ME 04402-0405, (207) 990-9106

#### Massachusetts/Rhode Island/Connecticut

USDA Rural Development State Office, 451 West Street, Amherst, MA 01002, (413) 253-4300

**Michigan**

USDA Rural Development State Office, 3001 Coolidge Road, Suite 200, East Lansing, MI 48823, (517) 337-6635

**Minnesota**

USDA Rural Development State Office, 410 Agri Bank Building, 375 Jackson Street, St Paul, MN 55101-1853, (651) 602-7800

**Mississippi**

USDA Rural Development State Office, Federal Building, Suite 831, 100 West Capitol Street, Jackson, MS 39269, (601) 965-4316

**Missouri**

USDA Rural Development State Office, 601 Business Loop 70 West, Parkade Center, Suite 235, Columbia, MO 65203, (573) 876-0976

**Montana**

USDA Rural Development State Office, 900 Technology Blvd., Unit 1, Suite B, Bozeman, MT 59715, (406) 585-2580

**Nebraska**

USDA Rural Development State Office, Federal Building, Room 152, 100 Centennial Mall N, Lincoln, NE 68508, (402) 437-5551

**Nevada**

USDA Rural Development State Office, 1390 South Curry Street, Carson City, NV 89703-9910, (702) 887-1222

**New Jersey**

USDA Rural Development State Office, Tarnsfield Plaza, Suite 22, 790 Woodlane Road, Mt Holly, NJ 08060, (609) 265-3600

**New Mexico**

USDA Rural Development State Office, 6200 Jefferson Street, NE, Room 255, Albuquerque, NM 87109, (505) 761-4950

**New York**

USDA Rural Development State Office, The Galleries of Syracuse, 441 South Salina Street, Suite 357, Syracuse, NY 13202-2541, (315) 477-6400

**North Carolina**

USDA Rural Development State Office, 4405 Bland Road, Suite 260, Raleigh, NC 27609, (919) 873-2000

**North Dakota**

USDA Rural Development State Office, Federal Building, Room 208, 220 East Rosser, Bismarck, ND 58502-1737, (701) 250-4781

**Ohio**

USDA Rural Development State Office, Federal Building, Room 507, 200 North High Street, Columbus, OH 43215-2477, (614) 469-5606

**Oklahoma**

USDA Rural Development State Office, 100 USDA, Suite 108, Stillwater, OK 74074-2654, (405) 742-1000

**Oregon**

USDA Rural Development State Office, 101 SW Main Street, Suite 1410, Portland, OR 97204-3222, (503) 414-3300

**Pennsylvania**

USDA Rural Development State Office, One Credit Union Place, Suite 330, Harrisburg, PA 17110-2996, (717) 237-2299

**Puerto Rico**

USDA Rural Development State Office, New San Juan Office Building, Room 501, 159 Carlos E Chardon Street, Hato Rey, PR 00918-5481, (787) 766-5095

**South Carolina**

USDA Rural Development State Office, Strom Thurmond Federal Building, 1835 Assembly Street, Room 1007, Columbia, SC 29201, (803) 765-5163

**South Dakota**

USDA Rural Development State Office, Federal Building, Room 210, 200 4th Street, SW, Huron, SD 57350, (605) 352-1100

**Tennessee**

USDA Rural Development State Office, 3322 West End Avenue, Suite 300, Nashville, TN 37203-1084, (615) 783-1300

**Texas**

USDA Rural Development State Office, Federal Building, Suite 102, 101 South Main, Temple, TX 76501, (254) 742-9700

**Utah**

USDA Rural Development State Office, Wallace F. Bennett Federal Building, 125 South State Street, Room 4311, Salt Lake City, UT 84147-0350, (801) 524-4320

**Vermont/New Hampshire**

USDA Rural Development State Office, City Center, 3rd Floor, 89 Main Street, Montpelier, VT 05602, (802) 828-6000

**Virginia**

USDA Rural Development State Office, Culpeper Building, Suite 238, 1606 Santa Rosa Road, Richmond, VA 23229, (804) 287-1550

**Washington**

USDA Rural Development State Office, 1835 Blacklake Boulevard, SW., Suite B, Olympia, WA 98512-5715, (360) 704-7740

**West Virginia**

USDA Rural Development State Office, 75 High Street, Room 320, Morgantown, WV 26505-7500, (304) 291-4791

**Wisconsin**

USDA Rural Development State Office, 4949 Kirschling Court, Stevens Point, WI 54481, (715) 345-7600

**Wyoming**

USDA Rural Development State Office, 100 East B, Federal Building, Rm 1005, Casper, WY 82602, (307) 261-6300

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The passenger transportation portion of the RBEG program is authorized by section

310B(c)(2) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (CONACT) (7 U.S.C. 1932). The RBEG program is administered on behalf of RBS at the State level by the Rural Development State Offices. The primary objective of the program is to improve the economic conditions of rural areas. Assistance provided to rural areas under this program may include on-site technical assistance to local and regional governments, public transit agencies, and related nonprofit and for-profit organizations in rural areas; the development of training materials; and the provision of necessary training assistance to local officials and agencies in rural areas.

Awards under the RBEG passenger transportation program are made on a competitive basis using specific selection criteria contained in 7 CFR part 1942, subpart G, and in accordance with section 310B(c)(2) of the CONACT. That subpart also contains the information required to be in the preapplication package. Up to 25 Administrator's points may be added to an application's priority score based on the extent to which the application targets assistance to Empowerment Zones/Enterprise Communities, Champion Communities, or other rural communities that have experienced persistent poverty, out-migration of population, or sudden severe structural changes in the local economy. A project that scores the greatest number of points based on the selection criteria and Administrator's points will be selected. Preapplications will be tentatively scored by the State Offices and submitted to the National Office for review, final scoring, and selection.

To be considered "national", a qualified organization is required to provide evidence that it operates in multi-state areas. There is not a requirement to use the grant funds in a multi-state area. Under this program, grants are made to a qualified private non-profit organization for the provision of technical assistance and training to rural communities for the purpose of improving passenger transportation services or facilities. Public bodies are not eligible for passenger transportation RBEG grants.

Refer to section 310B(c)(2) (7 U.S.C. 1932) of the CONACT and 7 CFR Part 1942, subpart G for the information collection requirements of the RBEG program.

**Fiscal Year 1999 Preapplications Submission**

Each preapplication received in a Rural Development State Office will be reviewed to determine if this

preapplication is consistent with the eligible purposes outlined in 7 CFR part 1942, subpart G, and section 310B(c)(2) of the CONACT. Each selection priority criterion outlined in 7 CFR part 1942, subpart G, section 1942.305(b)(3), must be addressed in the preapplication. Failure to address any of the criteria will result in a zero-point score for that criterion and will impact the overall evaluation of the preapplication. Copies of 7 CFR Part 1942, subpart G, will be provided to any interested applicant making a request to a Rural Development State Office listed in this notice. All projects to receive technical assistance through these passenger transportation grant funds are to be identified when the preapplication is submitted to the Rural Development State Office. Multiple project preapplications must identify each individual project, indicate the amount of funding requested for each individual project, and address the criteria as stated above for each individual project. For multiple-project preapplication, the average of the individual project scores will be the score for that preapplication.

All eligible preapplications, along with tentative scoring sheets and the Rural Development State Director's recommendation, will be referred to the National Office no later than April 15, 1999, for final scoring and selection for award.

The National Office will score preapplications based on the grant selection criteria and weights contained in 7 CFR part 1942, subpart G, and Administrator's points, and will select an awardee subject to the awardee's satisfactory submission of a formal application and related materials in the manner and time frame established by RBS in accordance with 7 CFR part 1942, subpart G. It is anticipated that the grant awardee will be selected by June 1, 1999. All applicants will be notified by RBS of the Agency decision on the award.

The information collection requirements within this Notice are covered under OMB No. 0570-0022 and 7 CFR part 1942, subpart G.

Dated: December 23, 1998.

**Wilbur T. Peer,**

*Acting Administrator, Rural Business-Cooperative Service.*

[FR Doc. 99-217 Filed 1-5-99; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### International Trade Administration

[A-122-823]

#### **Certain Cut-to-Length Carbon Steel Plate From Canada: Initiation and Preliminary Results of Changed Circumstances Antidumping Duty Administrative Review, and Intent To Revoke Order in Part**

**AGENCY:** Import Administration, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice of initiation and preliminary results of changed circumstances antidumping duty administrative review, and intent to revoke order in part.

**SUMMARY:** In response to a request from Canberra Industries, Inc., (Canberra), the Department of Commerce (the Department) is initiating a changed circumstances antidumping duty administrative review and is issuing this notice of our intent to preliminarily revoke in part the antidumping duty order on certain cut-to-length carbon steel plate from Canada. Although the scope of that order excludes certain types and sizes of cobalt-60-free cut-to-length plate, the scope currently *includes* the types and sizes of cobalt-60-free plate covered by Canberra's request. *See Antidumping Duty Orders: Certain Corrosion-Resistant Carbon Steel Flat Products and Certain Cut-to-Length Carbon Steel Plate from Canada*, 58 FR 44162 (August 19, 1993); *see also, Certain Corrosion-Resistant Carbon Steel Flat Products and Certain Cut-to-Length Carbon Steel Plate from Canada: Preliminary Results of Antidumping Duty Administrative Reviews and Intent to Revoke in Part*, 63 FR 37320 (July 10, 1998).

Pursuant to a prior request by Canberra, *Certain Cut-to-Length Carbon Steel Plate from Canada: Final Results of Changed Circumstances Antidumping Duty Administrative Review, and Revocation in Part of Antidumping Duty Order*, 61 FR 7471 (February 28, 1996), the Department excluded certain types and sizes of cobalt-60-free cut-to-length carbon steel plate. Canberra has now requested that the Department revoke the order in part with respect to imports of other types and sizes of certain cut-to-length carbon steel plate that is free of cobalt-60 and other radioactive nuclides (cobalt-60-free carbon steel plate), from Canada. In their letter to the Department of December 4, 1998, petitioners in the underlying proceeding, Bethlehem Steel Corp., U.S. Steel Group (a unit of USX

Corp.), Inland Steel Industries Inc., AK Steel Corp., LTV Steel Co., Inc., and National Steel Corp., expressed no interest in the importation or sale of certain cobalt-60-free cut-to-length carbon steel plate produced in Canada, as further described in the "Scope of Review" section below. Therefore, we preliminarily intend to revoke the order with respect to this merchandise.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** January 6, 1999.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mark Hoadley (202-482-4106) or Rebecca Trainor (202-482-0666), Import Administration, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230.

#### **THE APPLICABLE STATUTE AND REGULATIONS:**

Unless otherwise indicated, all citations to the statute are references to the provisions effective January 1, 1995, the effective date of the amendments to the Tariff Act of 1930 (the Act) by the Uruguay Rounds Agreements Act. In addition, unless otherwise indicated, all citations to the Department's regulations are to the regulations as codified at 19 CFR part 351, 62 FR 27295 (May 19, 1997).

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

##### **Background**

On September 3, 1998, Canberra requested that the Department conduct a changed circumstances administrative review to determine whether to revoke in part the antidumping duty order with regard to certain cobalt-60-free cut-to-length carbon steel plate. The order with regard to imports of other cut-to-length carbon steel plate is not affected by this request. In addition, on December 4, 1998, petitioners informed the Department in writing that they do not object to the changed circumstances review, and have no interest in the importation or sale of cobalt-60-free cut-to-length carbon steel plate produced in Canada as described in the "Scope of Review" below.

##### **Scope of Review**

The antidumping duty order on certain cut-to-length carbon steel plate from Canada covers hot-rolled carbon steel universal mill plates (i.e., flat-rolled products rolled on four faces or in a closed box pass, of a width exceeding 150 millimeters, but not exceeding 1,250 millimeters, and of a thickness of not less than 4 millimeters, not in coils and without patterns in relief) of rectangular shape, neither clad, plated nor coated with metal, whether or not painted, varnished, or coated with plastics or other nonmetallic