

assessments impose some additional costs on handlers, the costs are minimal and uniform on all handlers. Some of the additional costs may be passed on to producers. However, these costs will be offset by the benefits derived by the operation of the marketing order. In addition, the Committee's meeting was widely publicized throughout the California olive industry, and all interested persons were invited to attend the meeting and participate in Committee deliberations on all issues. Like all Committee meetings, the December 10, 1998, meeting was a public meeting and all entities, both large and small, were able to express views on this issue.

This final rule imposes no additional reporting or recordkeeping requirements on California olive handlers. As with all Federal marketing order programs, reports and forms are periodically reviewed to reduce information requirements and duplication by industry and public sector agencies.

The Department has not identified any relevant Federal rules that duplicate, overlap, or conflict with this rule.

A proposed rule concerning this action was published in the Federal Register on January 28, 1999 (64 FR 4350). Copies of the proposed rule were also mailed or sent via facsimile to all olive handlers. Finally, the proposal was made available through the Internet by the Office of the Federal Register. A 30-day comment period ending March 1, 1999, was provided for interested persons to respond to the proposal. No comments were received.

After consideration of all relevant material presented, including the information and recommendation submitted by the Committee and other available information, it is hereby found that this rule, as hereinafter set forth, will tend to effectuate the declared policy of the Act.

Pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 553, it also found and determined that good cause exists for not postponing the effective date of this rule until 30 days after publication in the **Federal Register** because: (1) The Committee needs to begin assessing handlers at the \$26.18 per ton rate as soon as possible to generate sufficient funds to pay its expenses; (2) the 1999 fiscal year began on January 1, 1999, and the order requires that the rate of assessment for each fiscal year apply to all assessable olives handled during the current crop year (August 1, 1998–July 31, 1999); and (3) all three handlers are represented on the Committee and participated in deliberations. Also, a 30-day comment period was provided for

in the proposed rule and no comments were received.

#### List of Subjects in 7 CFR Part 932

Marketing agreements, Olives, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

For the reasons set forth in the preamble, 7 CFR part 932 is amended as follows:

#### PART 932—OLIVES GROWN IN CALIFORNIA

1. The authority citation for 7 CFR part 932 continues to read as follows:

**Authority:** 7 U.S.C. 601–674.

2. Section 932.230 is revised to read as follows:

##### § 932.230 Assessment rate.

On and after January 1, 1999, an assessment rate of \$26.18 per ton is established for assessable olives grown in California.

Dated: March 24, 1999.

**Robert C. Keeney,**

*Deputy Administrator, Fruit and Vegetable Programs.*

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#### DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

##### Rural Utilities Service

##### 7 CFR Part 1728

#### Electronic Overhead Distribution Lines; Specifications and Drawings for 24.9/14.4 kV Line Construction

**AGENCY:** Rural Utilities Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Compliance with Bulletin 50–5 or 1728F–803.

**SUMMARY:** In 1998 the Rural Utilities Service (RUS) updated and revised its bulletin of specifications and drawings for 24.9/14.4 kV overhead distribution line construction. The bulletin, formerly named Bulletin 50–5, was renamed “RUS Bulletin 1728F–803; Specifications and Drawings for 24.9/14.4 kV Line Construction.” This bulletin is incorporated by reference in 7 CFR Part 1728. As published in the **Federal Register**, Vol. 63, No. 251, Thursday, December 31, 1998, this bulletin was approved by the Director of the Federal Register effective February 1, 1999.

To allow borrowers to conduct an orderly transition from the old bulletin to the new construction assemblies and assembly numbers, it is acceptable to RUS for borrowers to utilize construction drawings in either Bulletin

50–5 or the new Bulletin 1728F–803 until December 31, 1999. After December 31, 1999, only Bulletin 1728F–803 standard drawings shall be used.

It is anticipated that this action will also allow borrowers sufficient time to make necessary changes in engineering and accounting procedures and associated computer software.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** March 29, 1999.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. James K. Bohlik, Electrical Engineer, Distribution Branch, Electric Staff Division, Rural Utilities Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, STOP 1569, Washington, DC 20250–1569. Telephone: (202) 720–1967. Fax: (202) 720–7491.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Pursuant to the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 as amended (7 U.S.C. 901 *et seq.*), the Rural Utilities Service (RUS) amended 7 CFR Chapter XVII, Part 1728, Electric Standards and Specification for Materials and Construction, by revising RUS Bulletin 50–5 (D–803), Specification and Drawings for 14.4/24.9 kV Line Construction, and renumbered it as RUS Bulletin 1728F–803. RUS maintains a system of bulletins that contains construction standards and specifications for materials and equipment. These standards and specifications apply to system facilities constructed by RUS electric and telecommunications borrowers in accordance with the RUS loan contract, and contains standard construction units, material, and equipment units commonly used in RUS electric and telecommunication borrowers' systems.

RUS Bulletin 1728F–803 provides dimensioned drawings of standard assembly units and specifications for the construction of 24.9/14.4 kV overhead electric distribution lines. RUS changed the bulletin number from RUS Bulletin 50–5 to RUS Bulletin 1728F–803. The change in the bulletin number and reformatting was necessary to conform to RUS' new publications and directives system. This bulletin is incorporated by reference in 7 CFR part 1728.97. It may be purchased from the Superintendent of Documents, P.O. Box 371954, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15250–7954.

Dated: March 23, 1999.

**Wally Beyer,**

*Administrator, Rural Utilities Service.*

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