DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Utilities Service

Brazos Electric Power Cooperative, Inc.; Notice of Availability of an Environmental Assessment

AGENCY: Rural Utilities Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of availability of an environmental assessment.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the Rural Utilities Service (RUS) is issuing an Environmental Assessment with respect to the potential environmental impacts related to the construction and operation of the Lewisville 345/138 kV Switching Station in the City of Lewisville, Texas. The project is proposed by Brazos Electric Power Cooperative, Inc. (Brazos), of Waco, Texas. RUS may provide financing assistance for the project.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dennis E. Rankin, Environmental Protection Specialist, RUS, Engineering and Environmental Staff, Stop 1571, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250±1571, telephone: (202) 720±1953 or e-mail: dr rankin@rus.usda.gov.; or David McDaniels, Brazos, PO Box 2585, Waco, Texas 76702±2585, telephone: (254) 750±6324 or e-mail: dmcdaniels@brazoselectric.com.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION: Brazos is planning to construct an 8–10 acre 345/138 kV switching station in Denton County, Texas. The proposed site is located in the vicinity of the northwest corner of North Mill Street and Jones Street in the City of Lewisville. Existing transmission facilities are located in the immediate area.

An environmental report (ER) which discusses the environmental impacts of the proposed project was prepared by Brazos. RUS has conducted an independent evaluation of the ER and believes that it accurately assesses the impacts of the proposed project. No adverse impacts are expected with the construction of the project. RUS has reviewed and accepted the document as its Environmental Assessment and is making it available for public review. The EA can be reviewed at the address provided above or at the following locations:

- Brazos Electric Power Cooperative, Inc., 2404 LaSalle Avenue, Waco, Texas 76702±2585, Telephone: (254) 750±6324
- CoServ, 3501 FM 2181, Corinith, Texas 76205±3741, Telephone: (940) 321±4640
- Lewisville Public Library, 1197 West Main Street, Lewisville, Texas 75067±3425, Telephone: (972) 219±3570

Questions and comments should be sent to RUS at the address provided. RUS should receive comments on the Environmental Assessment in writing sent to RUS at the address provided.

Dated: September 2, 1999.

Glendon D. Deal,
Acting Director, Engineering and Environmental Staff.

[FR Doc. 99–23793 Filed 9–10–99; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 3410–15–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Foreign-Trade Zones Board

Foreign-Trade Zone 27—Boston, MA; Application for Subzone, J. Baker, Inc. (Distribution of Apparel, Footwear and Accessories), Canton, MA

An application has been submitted to the Foreign-Trade Zones Board (the Board) by the Massachusetts Port Authority (Boston, MA), grantee of FTZ 27, requesting special-purpose subzone status for the apparel, footwear and accessories warehousing/distribution facilities of J. Baker, Inc., located in Canton, MA, some 22 miles south of Boston. The application was submitted pursuant to the provisions of the Foreign-Trade Zones Act, as amended (19 U.S.C. 81a±81u), and the regulations of the Board (15 CFR part 400). It was formally filed on September 7, 1999.

The Baker facilities are located at 330 Turnpike Street (750,000 sq. ft. on 30.7 acres) and 555 Turnpike Street (45,850 sq. ft. on 4.16 acres). There are 800 employees at the two facilities. The facilities are used for inspection, finishing, packaging and distribution of a wide variety of apparel, footwear and accessories such as neckties, belts, hosiery, gloves and novelty items. About 65 percent of the products are sourced from abroad and over 5 percent are exported. No authority is being sought for activity conducted under FTZ procedures that would result in a change in tariff classification.

Zone procedures would exempt Baker from Customs duty payments on foreign products that are reexported. On its domestic sales, the company would be able to defer duty payments until merchandise is shipped from the plant. The application indicates that the savings from zone procedures would help improve the plant’s international competitiveness.

In accordance with the Board’s regulations, a member of the FTZ staff has been appointed examiner to investigate the application and report to the Board.

Public comment is invited from interested parties. Submissions (original