DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration

[99–04–s]

Designation for the Lincoln (NE), Memphis (TN), Omaha (NE), Jamestown (ND), Sioux City (IA), and Fort Dodge (IA) Areas

AGENCY: Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: GIPSA announces designation of the following organizations to provide official services under the United States Grain Standards Act, as amended (Act):

Lincoln Inspection Service, Inc. (Lincoln);
Memphis Grain Inspection Service (Memphis);
Omaha Grain Inspection Service, Inc. (Omaha);
Grain Inspection, Inc. (Jamestown);
Sioux City Inspection and Weighing Service Company (Sioux City); and
A. V. Tischer and Son, Inc. (Tischer).

EFFECTIVE DATES: May 1, 2000, for Lincoln, Memphis, and Omaha; July 1, 2000, for Jamestown, Sioux City, and Tischer.

ADDRESSES: USDA, GIPSA, Janet M. Hart, Chief, Review Branch, Compliance Division, STOP 3604, Room 1647–S, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250–3604.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Janet M. Hart at 202–720–8525.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This action has been reviewed and determined not to be a rule or regulation as defined in Executive Order 12866 and Departmental Regulation 1512–1; therefore, the Executive Order and Departmental Regulation do not apply to this action.

In the October 1, 1999, **Federal Register** (64 FR 53312), GIPSA asked persons interested in providing official services in the geographic areas assigned to Lincoln, Memphis, Omaha, Jamestown, Sioux City, and Tischer to submit an application for designation. Applications were due by October 30, 1999. Lincoln, Memphis, Omaha, Jamestown, Sioux City, and Tischer, the only applicants, each applied for designation to provide official services in the entire area currently assigned to them. Since these official agencies were the sole applicants, GIPSA did not ask for comments on the applicants.

GIPSA evaluated all available information regarding the designation criteria in Section 7(f)(l)(A) of the Act and, according to Section 7(f)(l)(B), determined that Lincoln, Memphis, Omaha, Jamestown, Sioux City, and Tischer are able to provide official services in the geographic areas for which they applied.

The following organizations are designated to provide official services in the geographic areas specified in the October 1, 1999, **Federal Register**.

Official agency	Designation start	Designation end	Telephone
Lincoln	05/01/2000	03/31/2003	402–435–4386
Memphis	05/01/2000	03/31/2003	901–942–3216
Omaha	05/01/2000	03/31/2003	402–341–6739
Jamestown	07/01/2000	03/31/2003	701–252–1290
Sioux City	07/01/2000	03/31/2003	712–255–8073
Tischer	07/01/2000	03/31/2003	515–955–7012

Interested persons may obtain official services by calling the telephone numbers listed above.

Authority: Pub. L. 94–582, 90 Stat. 2867, as amended (7 U.S.C. 71 *et seq.*).

Dated: February 4, 2000.

Neil E. Porter,

Director, Compliance Division.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration

[00–01–a]

Opportunity for Designation in the Ohio Valley (IN), Idaho (ID), Lewiston (ID), Utah, Minnesota, and Mississippi Areas, and Request for Comments on the Official Agencies Serving These Areas

AGENCY: Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The designations of the official agencies listed below will end in October, November, and December 2000. GIPSA is asking persons interested in providing official services in the areas served by these agencies to submit an application for designation. GIPSA is also asking for comments on the services provided by these currently designated agencies:

Ohio Valley Grain Inspection, Inc. (Ohio Valley);
Idaho Grain Inspection Service, Inc. (Idaho);
Lewiston Grain Inspection Service, Inc. (Lewiston);
Utah Department of Agriculture (Utah);
Minnesota Department of Agriculture (Minnesota); and
Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce (Mississippi).

DATES: Applications and comments must be postmarked or sent by telecopier (FAX) on or before March 30, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Applications and comments must be submitted to USDA, GIPSA, Janet M. Hart, Chief, Review Branch, Compliance Division, STOP 3604, Room 1647–S, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250–3604. Applications and comments may be submitted by FAX on 202–690–2755. If an application is submitted by FAX, GIPSA reserves the right to request an original application. All applications and comments will be made available for public inspection at this address located at 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, during regular business hours.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Janet M. Hart, at 202–720–8525.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This Action has been reviewed and determined not to be a rule or regulation as defined in Executive Order 12866 and Departmental Regulation 1512–1; therefore, the Executive Order and Departmental Regulation do not apply to this Action.

Section 7(f)(1) of the United States Grain Standards Act, as amended (Act), authorizes GIPSA's Administrator to designate a qualified applicant to provide official services in a specified area after determining that the applicant is better able than any other applicant to provide such official services.

Section 7(g)(1) of the Act provides that designations of official agencies shall end not later than triennially and may be renewed according to the criteria and procedures prescribed in Section 7(f) of the Act.