

Done in Washington, DC, this 24th day of February 2000.

Bobby R. Acord,

Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[FR Doc. 00-5053 Filed 3-1-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-34-U

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Food Safety and Inspection Service

[Docket No. 00-006N]

Exemption for Retail Stores; Adjustment for Dollar Limitations

AGENCY: Food Safety and Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) has increased the limitation on annual sales of meat and meat food products by retail stores whose operations are exempt from Federal inspection. The dollar limitation for poultry products has been kept unchanged at \$39,000 for calendar year 2000. The dollar limitation for meat and meat food products has been increased from \$41,000 to \$42,500 for calendar year 2000. This increase conforms to the price change for meat and meat food products indicated by the Consumer Price Index.

EFFECTIVE DATE: March 2, 2000.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Daniel L. Engeljohn, Ph.D., Director, Regulations Development and Analysis Division, Office of Policy, Program Development, and Evaluation, FSIS, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Room 112, Cotton Annex, 300 12th Street, SW., Washington, DC 20250, (202) 720-5627, fax number (202) 690-0486.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

Background

Under the regulations in 9 CFR 303.1(d) and 381.10(d), FSIS exempts certain operations of types traditionally and usually conducted at retail stores from routine Federal inspection of meat and poultry products. Whether a retail store operation qualifies for an exemption depends, in part, on the percentage and volume of trade in meat and poultry products that a retail store conducts with non-household consumers (hotels, restaurants, or similar institutions). The regulations state in dollars the annual maximum amount of meat and poultry products that a retail store may sell to non-household consumers if that store's operations are to remain exempt from inspection.

FSIS adjusts the dollar limitation during the first quarter of each calendar year if the Consumer Price Index, published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, indicates at least a \$500 increase or decrease in the price of the same volume of product during the previous year. FSIS publishes a notice of the adjusted dollar limitation in the *Federal Register*.

The Consumer Price Index for 1999 indicates an average annual price increase in meat and meat food products of 3.6 percent and an average annual price decrease in poultry products of 2.8 percent. When rounded off to the nearest \$100, the price increase for meat and meat food products amounts to \$1,500 and the price decrease for poultry products amounts to \$200. Prices of meat and meat food products, therefore, have changed in excess of \$500, and those of poultry have decreased by less than \$500. In accordance with §§ 303.1(d)(2)(iii)(b) and 381.10(d)(2)(iii)(b) of the regulations, FSIS has increased the dollar limitation of permitted sales of meat and meat food products from \$41,000 to \$42,500 and has kept the dollar limitation of permitted sales for poultry products at \$39,000.

Additional Public Notification

Public awareness of all segments of rulemaking and policy development is important. Consequently, in an effort to better ensure that minorities, women, and persons with disabilities are aware of this notice, FSIS will announce it and provide copies of this *Federal Register* publication in the FSIS Constituent Update. FSIS provides a weekly FSIS Constituent Update, which is communicated via fax to over 300 organizations and individuals. In addition, the update is available on line through the FSIS web page located at <http://www.fsis.usda.gov>. The update is used to provide information regarding FSIS policies, procedures, regulations, *Federal Register* notices, FSIS public meetings, recalls, and any other types of information that could affect or would be of interest to our constituents/stakeholders. The constituent fax list consists of industry, trade, and farm groups, consumer interest groups, allied health professionals, scientific professionals, and other individuals that have requested to be included. Through these various channels, FSIS is able to provide information to a much broader, more diverse audience. For more information and to be added to the constituent fax list, fax your request to the Congressional and Public Affairs Office, at (202) 720-5704.

Done at Washington, DC, on: February 24, 2000.

Thomas J. Billy,
Administrator.

[FR Doc. 00-5055 Filed 3-1-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-DM-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Revision to Solitude Mountain Resort Master Development Plan Update, Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Salt Lake Ranger District, Salt Lake County, UT

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

SUMMARY: The Salt Lake Ranger District, of the Wasatch-Cache National Forest, will conduct a new public scoping process and prepare an EIS on Solitude Ski Resort's (Solitude) revised proposal to update their Master Development Plan.

DATES: Comments concerning the scope of the analysis should be received in writing by April 4, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Send written comments to Daniel J. Jiron, District Ranger, 6944 South 3000 East, Salt Lake City, Utah 84121.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Steve Scheid, Project Manager, (801) 733-2689.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Solitude is proposing to revise its Master Development Plan Update. During the spring and summer of 1995, Solitude Ski Resort submitted to the Forest Service an updated Master Development Plan (MDP) detailing proposed ski area and facility modifications. Public comment was initially solicited on August 4, 1995 through the issuance of a scoping document, followed by a public meeting on August 25, 1995. A second public scoping notice was issued for Solitude in July 1996, after the Forest Service determined that an EIS needed to be prepared. A public field review was also held in September 1997 to view and discuss proposed projects and potential alternatives for Solitude's MDP update.

The planning horizon for Solitude's original MDP update was approximately five years. Due to the substantial elapse of time (four years), there is now a need to extend the planning horizon of Solitude's MDP update. In addition, Solitude's desire to address public and Agency issues pertaining to their proposed facilities has resulted in a

number of additions and modifications to the MDP update. The vast majority of projects originally proposed for Solitude's MDP update remain unchanged. Solitude's proposal, if approved, would require Forest Plan amendments to incorporate projects located outside its special use permit boundary; install the proposed Sol-Bright lift; meet the proposed expansion of Solitude's skiers at one time (SAOT) capacity; meet visual quality objectives (VQO's) for existing and proposed parking areas and the proposed Highway accelerations and deceleration lane improvements.

Solitude proposes to improve their base facilities by replacing their outdated Main and Eagle Express lodges with two new buildings, which will house ski operations, skier services (restrooms, food service, day care, ski school and ski patrol) and a connected Salt Lake County Fire Station. They also propose to construct additions to the existing Moonbeam Center and Last Chance Mining Camp day lodges to help alleviate overcrowded conditions.

Solitude's proposed base area projects include the following: a landing pad for rescue helicopters, recreational vehicle hookups, expanding Moonbeam parking lot, upgrading base transportation and visitor circulation systems, a satellite and communications base station, and upgrading the snowmaking system (stream diversion points, a pump house and dredging Lake Solitude) to provide snowmaking capacity for 250 acres.

Solitude is also proposing to upgrade its lift system by constructing three new double chairlifts, a pulse gondola for internal resort (base area) transportation and upgrading three existing lifts to high-speed detachable quads. They are also proposing numerous improvements to their trail system and a new trail near the Sunrise lift. Solitude is also proposing to provide lighted nighttime activities including sliding, snowboarding, skiing, and ice skating adjacent to the Village base area. Solitude is also proposing summertime recreation use improvements by upgrading its mountain bike trail system and constructing an alpine slide.

Additional information on the proposed actions is available through the Salt Lake Ranger District office. Before any decision is made on this proposal, Solitude must obtain the following: a water change application from the Utah Department of Natural Resources, Division of Water Rights,

State Engineer; all applicable building permits from Salt Lake County; a 404 permit from the Army Corps of Engineers; and consultation with the Environmental Protection Agency.

A scoping document, dated August 4, 1995, was sent to more than 540 individuals, organizations, and local and state government agencies. A second scoping notice, dated July 16, 1996 was sent to more than 250 individuals, organizations, and local and state government agencies. Preliminary issues identified by a Forest Service interdisciplinary team include effects on riparian and wetland areas, visual quality, transportation, parking, wildlife and vegetation, soil erosion, and water quality and quantity in a culinary watershed. Two preliminary alternatives have been identified. The proposed action alternative would permit Solitude to implement all of its proposed upgrades and may require Solitude to convert to a new Ski Area Term Special Use Permit. The no action alternative would permit use as it presently exists with no new improvements.

The public is invited to submit comments or suggestions to the address above. The responsible official is Bernie Weingardt, Forest Supervisor. A Draft EIS is expected to be filed in December of 2000 and the final EIS filed in November of 2001.

The comment period on the draft EIS will be 45 days from the date the Environmental Protection Agency's notice of availability appears in the Federal Register. It is very important that those interested in this proposed action participate during that time. To be most helpful, comments on the draft EIS should be as specific as possible and may address the adequacy of the statement or the merits of the alternatives discussed (see The Council on Environmental Quality Regulations for implementing the procedural provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act at 40 CFR 1503.3).

In addition, Federal court decisions have established that the reviewers of the draft EIS must structure their participation in the environmental review of the proposal so that it is meaningful and alerts an agency to the reviewer's position and contentions. *Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corp. v. NRDC*, 435 U.S. 519, 553 (1978). Environmental objections that could have been raised at the draft stage may

be waived if not raised until after completion of the final EIS. *City of Angoon v. Hodel*, (9th Circuit, 1986), and *Wisconsin Heritages, Inc. v. Harris*, 490 F. Supp. 1334, 1338 (E.D. Wis. 1980). The reason for this is to ensure that substantive comments and objectives are made available to the Forest Service at a time when it can meaningfully consider them and respond to them in the final EIS.

Dated: February 25, 2000.

Daniel J. Jiron,
District Ranger.

[FR Doc. 00-5005 Filed 3-1-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

Agenda and Notice of Public Meeting of the Michigan Advisory Committee

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the provisions of the rules and regulations of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, that a meeting of the Michigan Advisory Committee to the Commission will convene at 9 a.m. and adjourn at 1 p.m. on Tuesday, March 14, 2000, at the Holiday Inn-South/Convention Center, 6820 South Cedar Street, Lansing, Michigan 48911. The purpose of the meeting is to hold a press conference to release the Committee's report, Employment Rehabilitation Services in Michigan. The Committee will also review and act on its report, "Civil Rights Issues Facing Arab Americans," and plan future activities.

Persons desiring additional information, or planning a presentation to the Committee, should contact Committee Chairperson Roland Hwang, 517-373-1480, or Constance M. Davis, Director of the Midwestern Regional Office, 312-353-8311 (TDD 312-353-8362). Hearing-impaired persons who will attend the meeting and require the services of a sign language interpreter should contact the Regional Office at least ten (10) working days before the scheduled date of the meeting.

The meeting will be conducted pursuant to the provisions of the rules and regulations of the Commission.

Dated at Washington, DC, February 25, 2000.

Carol-Lee Hurley,

Chief, Regional Programs Coordination Unit.
[FR Doc. 00-4982 Filed 3-1-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6335-01-P