maturation after slaughter. It additionally requires ante- and post-mortem inspections of animals from which fresh beef intended for importation into the United States comes, requires that APHIS representatives be allowed access to slaughtering establishments for periodic inspections, and clarifies certain provisions of the regulations.

Bovine Parts

There are many byproducts of beef production, including hide, hooves, tallow, blood meal, bone meal, head meat, tongue, lungs, tripe, and other organs. Parts used as food can be collectively termed edible offal. Exports of edible offal from the United States are over 10 times greater than U.S. imports of these products. This position as a strong net exporter reflects a domestic market in which prices are affected minimally, if at all, by the limited U.S. demand for imports. Canada, Australia, and New Zealand are the major foreign sources of edible offal for the United States, supplying more than 95 percent of the products imported.

Edible offal imports from Argentina in 1998 and 1999, the only years for which such imports are recorded, are relatively small. They totaled 13.8 metric tons and 460.2 metric tons, respectively, and had values of $41,000 and $1,052,000. Although the amount and value of the importations for 1999 show significant increases over 1998, they represent only 1.3 percent of U.S. edible offal imports.

Entities Affected

The entities in the United States most likely to be directly affected by this rule are meatpacking plants that import edible offal from Argentina. While there may be small entities affected by this rule, their number is not known. However, because edible offal imports from Argentina constitute a very small fraction of edible offal imports overall, and because U.S. imports of these products represent less than 10 percent of U.S. exports of such products, the effects of this rule on all entities, large or small, is expected to be insignificant.

Under these circumstances, the Administrator of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service has determined that this action will not have a significant impact on a substantial number of small entities.

Executive Order 12988

This rule has been reviewed under Executive Order 12988, Civil Justice Reform. This rule: (1) Preempts all State and local laws and regulations that are inconsistent with this rule; (2) has no retroactive effect; and (3) does not require administrative proceedings before parties may file suit in court challenging this rule.

Paperwork Reduction Act

This interim rule contains no information collection or recordkeeping requirements under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*).

List of Subjects in 9 CFR Part 94

Animal diseases, Imports, Livestock, Meat and meat products, Milk, Poultry and poultry products, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

Accordingly, we are amending 9 CFR part 94 as follows:

PART 94—RINDERPEST, FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE, FOWL PEST (FOWL PLAGUE), EXOTIC NEWCASTLE DISEASE, AFRICAN SWINE FEVER, HOG CHOLERA, AND BOVINE SPONGIFORM ENCEPHALOPATHY: PROHIBITED AND RESTRICTED IMPORTATIONS

1. The authority citation for part 94 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 147a, 150ee, 161, 162, and 450; 19 U.S.C. 1306; 21 U.S.C. 111, 114a, 134a, 134b, 134c, 134f, 136, and 136a; 31 U.S.C. 9701; 42 U.S.C. 4331 and 4332; 7 CFR 2.22, 2.80, and 371.2(d).

2. Section 94.21 is revised to read as follows:

§ 94.21 Restrictions on importation of beef from Argentina.

Notwithstanding any other provisions of this part, fresh (chilled or frozen) beef from Argentina may be exported to the United States under the following conditions:

(a) The meat is beef from bovines that have been born, raised, and slaughtered in Argentina.

(b) Foot-and-mouth disease has not been diagnosed in Argentina within the previous 12 months.

(c) The meat came from bovines that originated from premises where foot-and-mouth disease and rinderpest have not been present during the lifetime of any bovines slaughtered for the export of meat to the United States.

(d) The meat came from bovines that originated from premises on which ruminants and swine had not been vaccinated with modified or attenuated live viruses for foot-and-mouth disease at any time during the lifetime of the bovines slaughtered for export of meat to the United States.

(e) The meat came from bovines that have never been vaccinated for rinderpest.

(f) The meat came from bovines that were moved directly from the premises of origin to the slaughtering establishment without any contact with other animals.

(g) The meat came from bovines that received ante-mortem and post-mortem veterinary inspections at the slaughtering establishment, with no evidence found of foot-and-mouth disease.

(h) The beef consists only of bovine parts that are, by standard practice, part of the animal's carcass that is placed in a chiller for maturation after slaughter. Bovine parts that may not be imported include all parts of bovine heads, feet, hooves, and internal organs.

(i) All bone and visually identifiable blood clots and lymphoid tissue have been removed from the meat.

(j) The meat has not been in contact with meat from regions other than those listed in § 94.1(a)(2).

(k) The meat came from bovine carcasses that were allowed to maturate at 40 to 50 § F (4 to 10 § C) for a minimum of 36 hours after slaughter and that reached a pH of 5.8 or less in the loin muscle at the end of the maturation period. Any carcass in which the pH does not reach 5.8 or less may be allowed to maturate an additional 24 hours and be retested, and, if the carcass still does not reach a pH of 5.8 or less after 60 hours, the meat from the carcass may not be exported to the United States.

(l) An authorized official of Argentina certifies on the foreign meat inspection certificate that the above conditions have been met.

(m) The establishment in which the bovines are slaughtered allows periodic APHIS inspection of its facilities, records, and operations.

Done in Washington, DC, this 22nd day of June 2000.

Bobby R. Acord,

Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[FR Doc. 00–16314 Filed 6–27–00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–34–P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy

10 CFR Part 436

RIN 1904–AB07

Energy Savings Performance Contracting; Technical Amendments

AGENCY: Department of Energy.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: The Department of Energy (DOE) is amending the sunset provision

in its regulations on energy savings performance contracting to incorporate the new sunset date established by the Energy Conservation Reauthorization Act of 1998. In addition, DOE is updating references to certain Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) provisions in a section of these regulations that deals with unsolicited energy savings performance contract proposals.

EFFECTIVE DATE: The final rule is effective on June 28, 2000.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Tatiana Strajnic Muessel, Office of Federal Energy Management Programs, EE–90, 1000 Independence Ave., S.W., Washington, DC 20585; telephone: 202–586–9230.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Explanation of Technical Amendments

When first enacted, section 801(c) of the National Energy Conservation Policy Act provided that the authority to enter into new energy savings performance contracts under that Act ''shall cease to be effective five years after the date procedures and methods are established under subsection (b)'' (42 U.S.C. 8287(c)). DOE incorporated this sunset provision in regulations it promulgated on April 10, 1995 (60 FR 18334), and codified in Subpart B of 10 CFR Part 436. Thus, under the original provision, the authority of Federal agencies to award energy savings performance contracts expired on April 10, 2000.

In the Energy Conservation Reauthorization Act of 1998, Public Law 105–388, Congress amended the sunset provision relating to energy savings performance contracts (42 U.S.C. 8287(c)) to provide that the authority to enter into new energy savings performance contracts ceases to be effective on October 1, 2003. DOE is promulgating a technical amendment to 10 CFR 436.30(a) to incorporate the new statutory sunset date in its regulations.

Today's rule also revises 10 CFR 436.33(b)(1) to update the references to the FAR in that paragraph, which relates to DOE's consideration of unsolicited proposals for energy savings performance contracts.

II. Regulatory and Procedural Requirements

A. Review Under Executive Order 12866

DOE determined that today's regulatory action is not ''a significant regulatory action'' under Executive Order 12866, ''Regulatory Planning and Review'' (58 FR 51735, October 4, 1993). Accordingly, this action was not subject to review under that Executive Order by the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB).

B. Review Under Executive Order 12988

With respect to the review of existing regulations and the promulgation of new regulations, section 3(a) of Executive Order 12988, ''Civil Justice Reform'' (61 FR 4729, February 7, 1996) imposes on Executive agencies the general duty to adhere to the following requirements: (1) Eliminate drafting errors and ambiguity; (2) write regulations to minimize litigation; and (3) provide a clear legal standard for affected conduct rather than a general standard and promote simplification and burden reduction. With regard to the review required by section 3(a), section 3(b) of Executive Order 12988 specifically requires that Executive agencies make every reasonable effort to ensure that the regulation: (1) Clearly specifies the preemptive effect, if any; (2) clearly specifies any effect on existing federal law or regulation; (3) provides a clear legal standard for affected conduct while promoting simplification and burden reduction; (4) specifies the retroactive effect, if any; (5) adequately defines key terms; and (6) addresses other important issues affecting clarity and general draftsmanship under any guidelines issued by the Attorney General. Section 3(c) of Executive Order 12988 requires Executive agencies to review regulations in light of applicable standards in section 3(a) and section 3(b) to determine whether they are met or it is unreasonable to meet one or more of them. DOE has completed the required review and determined that, to the extent permitted by law, this final rule meets the relevant standards of Executive Order 12988.

C. Review Under the Regulatory Flexibility Act

The Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601 *et seq.*) requires preparation of an initial regulatory flexibility analysis for any rule that by law must be proposed for public comment, unless the agency certifies that the rule, if promulgated, will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities. Because DOE is not required by the Administrative Procedure Act (5 U.S.C. 553) or any other law to propose this technical amendment for public comment, DOE did not prepare a regulatory flexibility analysis for this rule.

D. Review Under the Paperwork Reduction Act

No new collection of information is imposed by this interim final rule. Accordingly, no clearance by the Office of Management and Budget is required under the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*).

E. Review Under the National Environmental Policy Act

DOE has concluded that promulgation of this rule falls into a class of actions that would not individually or cumulatively have a significant impact on the human environment, as determined by DOE's regulations implementing the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*). Specifically, this rule is covered under the Categorical Exclusion in paragraph A5 to subpart D, 10 CFR part 1021, which covers rulemakings that interpret or amend an existing regulation without changing the environmental effect of the regulation. Accordingly, neither an environmental assessment nor an environmental impact statement is required.

F. Review under Executive Order 13132

Executive Order 13132 (64 FR 43255, August 10, 1999) requires agencies to develop an accountable process to ensure meaningful and timely input by State and local officials in the development of regulatory policies that have federalism implications. ''Policies that have federalism implications'' is defined in the Executive Order to include regulations that have ''substantial direct effects on the States, on the relationship between the national government and the States, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities among the various levels of government.'' DOE has examined today's rule and has determined that it does not have a substantial direct effect on the States, on the relationship between the national government and the States, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities among the various levels of government. No further action is required by Executive Order 13132.

G. Review Under the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995

Title II of the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104–4) requires each federal agency to prepare a written assessment of the effects of any federal mandate in a proposed or final rule that may result in the expenditure by state, local, and tribal governments, in the aggregate, or by the private sector, of $100 million in any one year. The Act also requires a federal

agency to develop an effective process to permit timely input by elected officers of state, local, and tribal governments on a proposed ''significant intergovernmental mandate,'' and it requires an agency to develop a plan for giving notice and opportunity for timely input to potentially affected small governments before establishing any requirement that might significantly or uniquely affect them. This final rule does not contain any federal mandate, so these requirements do not apply.

H. Congressional Notification

As required by 5 U.S.C. 801, DOE will submit to Congress a report regarding the issuance of today's final rule prior to the effective date set forth at the outset of this notice. The report will state that it has been determined that the rule is not a ''major rule'' as defined by 5 U.S.C. 801(2).

List of Subjects in 10 CFR Part 436

Energy, Government contracts.

Issued in Washington, DC, on June 21, 2000.

Dan W. Reicher

Assistant Secretary, Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy.

For the reasons set out in the preamble, DOE amends part 436 of Chapter II, Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations, as follows:

PART 436—FEDERAL ENERGY MANAGEMENT AND PLANNING PROGRAMS [AMENDED]

1. The authority citation for Part 436 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 42 U.S.C. 6361; 42 U.S.C. 8251–8263; 42 U.S.C. 8287–8287(c).

2. Section 436.30 in Subpart B, is amended in paragraph (a) by revising the first sentence to read as follows:

§ 436.30 Purpose and scope.

(a) General. This subpart provides procedures and methods which apply to Federal agencies with regard to the award and administration of energy savings performance contracts awarded on or before September 30, 2003. * * *

* * * * *

3. Section 436.33 in Subpart B is amended by revising paragraph (b)(1) to read as follows:

§ 436.33 Procedures and methods for contractor selection.

* * * * *

(b) * * *

(1) Consider unsolicited energy savings performance contract proposals from firms on a qualified contractor list under this subpart which include technical and price proposals and the text of any financing agreement (including a lease-acquisition) without regard to the requirements of 48 CFR 15.602 and 15.602–2(a)(1); 48 CFR 15.603; and 48 CFR 15.607(a), (a)(2), (a)(3), (a)(4) and (a)(5).

* * * * *

[FR Doc. 00–16298 Filed 6–27–00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

Office of Federal Housing Enterprise Oversight

12 CFR Part 1700

RIN 2550–AA10

Organization and Functions

AGENCY: Office of Federal Housing Enterprise Oversight, HUD.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: The Office of Federal Housing Enterprise Oversight (OFHEO) is revising its regulations that describe the Agency's organization and functions. The revisions reflect changes in the organizational structure of the Agency and the functional responsibilities of its offices. The revisions include a summary of two new offices and a reference to the location of OFHEO's website.

In promulgating this rule, OFHEO finds that notice and public comment are not necessary. Section 553(b)(3)(A) of Title 5, United States Code, provides that when regulations involve matters of agency organization, procedure or practice, the Agency may publish regulations in final form. In addition, OFHEO finds, in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 553(d), that a delayed effective date is unnecessary. Accordingly, these regulations are effective upon publication.

EFFECTIVE DATE: The final rule is effective June 28, 2000.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Christine C. Dion, Associate General Counsel, telephone (202) 414–3838 (not a toll-free number), Office of Federal Housing Enterprise Oversight, Fourth Floor, 1700 G Street, NW., Washington, DC 20552. The telephone number for the Telecommunications Device for the Deaf is (800) 877–8339.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Discussion of the Final Regulation

This final rule informs the public about structural and functional changes within OFHEO that were recently implemented by the Director. Changes in the Agency's structure consist of the establishment of the ''Office of Information Technology'' and the ''Office of Strategic Planning and Management''.

The function of the ''Office of Information Technology'' is to plan, develop, secure, maintain, and assure the quality of OFHEO information systems and records management functions. The functions of the ''Office of Strategic Planning and Management''are to assist the Director in developing and maintaining a long-term strategic plan that is consistent with the mission of OFHEO, and to facilitate efforts to ensure that agency activities and operations are consistent with its strategic plan. This office also is responsible for leading the development of OFHEO's Annual Performance Plans and Annual Performance Reports.

Functional changes made by the Director to existing OFHEO offices are reflected in the offices' new titles. The ''Office of Research, Analysis and Capital Standards'' has been renamed the ''Office of Risk Analysis and Model Development''. This new title indicates that this office's principal functions are to develop and apply econometric, financial, and accounting models to evaluate the credit and interest rate risks of Freddie Mac and Fannie Mae (collectively, the ''Enterprises''), and to undertake related research and analyses. Notably, this office has developed and continues to maintain and enhance the set of models used for stress tests of the Enterprises, including the stress test to determine risk-based capital requirements, as required by OFHEO's enabling statute.[1] In addition to risk analysis and model development, this office has ongoing responsibility for determining the capital classifications of the Enterprises in order to ensure their capital adequacy.

Moreover, the ''Office of the Chief Economist'' has been renamed the ''Office of Policy Analysis and Research''. The name change reflects that the office's primary function is conducting research and policy analysis to assess and project the short- and long-term impact of issues and trends in housing finance. In addition to performing research and analyses, this office is responsible for developing policy options and making recommendations on a broad range of

[1] Federal Housing Enterprises Financial Safety and Soundness Act of 1992, Title XIII, Pub. L. 102–550, 106 Stat. 3941 *et seq.* (Oct. 29, 1992), section 1361.