Need and Use of the Information: Various forms are used to collect information. Such information includes: the name and location of the person or company requesting the inspection, the type and location of the product to be inspected, the type of inspection being requested and any information that will identify the product. The information collected is needed to carry out the inspection and grading services.

Description of Respondents: Business or other for profit.

Number of Respondents: 51,800.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: On occasion.

Total Burden Hours: 6,416.

Farm Service Agency

Title: Report of Acreage.

OMB Control Number: 0560–0004.

Summary of Collection: Land and crop information is the basic foundation upon which many of Farm Service Agency (FSA) programs operate. The report of acreage is conducted on an annual basis and is used by FSA's county offices to determine eligibility for benefits that are available to producers on the farm. The actual number of producers who must supply information varies depending on (1) the type of farming operation, and (2) the mix of crops planted (which has a direct relationship to the type of program the producer is eligible to participate in). In order to establish eligibility annually for these programs, a minimal amount of land and crop data about a producer's farming operation is required. The information is subsequently used to ensure compliance with program provisions, to determine actual production histories, and when disaster occurs, to verify crop loss. Producers must provide the information each year because variables such as previous year experience, weather projections, market demand, new farming techniques and personal preferences affect the amount of land being farmed, the mix of crops planted, and the projected harvest. FSA will collect information verbally from the producers during visits to the county offices.

Need and Use of the Information: FSA will collect one or more of the following data elements, as required: crop planted, planting date, crop's intended use (*e.g.,* fresh or processing), type or variety (*e.g.,* sweet cherries or tart cherries), practice (irrigated or non-irrigated), acres, location of the crop (tract and field), and the producer's percent share in the crop along with the names of other producers having an interest in the crop.

Once the information is collected and eligibility established, the information is used throughout the crop year to ensure the producer remains compliant with program provisions. Without a certain level of information provided each crop year by the producer, a significant misuse of public funds could occur.

Description of Respondents: Farms.

Number of Respondents: 650,175.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: Annually.

Total Burden Hours: 1,462,894.

Food and Nutrition Service

Title: Disaster Food Stamp Program.

OMB Control Number: 0584–0336.

Summary of Collection: Section 5(h) of the Food Stamp Act along with other related legislative authorities provide for the Secretary of Agriculture to establish temporary emergency standards of eligibility for victims of a disaster so that food assistance can be obtained. This assistance becomes effective in areas designated as a ''major'' disaster in order to address temporary food needs of families affected. The Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) is delegated the responsibility to administer the program and State agencies handle enrollment and general operation. In order to determine whether an individual is eligible for emergency food stamp assistance an application form must be completed. The State agencies must comply with certain reporting requirements to reconcile the distribution of food stamps and account for discrepancies.

Need and Use of the Information: FNS, through the State agencies, will collect information from the public to ensure that individuals who apply for emergency food stamps are eligible. Without information from these individuals, there would be no means for establishing whether assistance is warranted. State reporting requirements are necessary in order to ensure that States are accountable for the food stamp coupons it maintains and to avoid fraud, waste, and abuse in the Food Stamp Program.

Description of Respondents: State, Local, or Tribal Government; Individuals or households.

Number of Respondents: 195,163.

Frequency of Responses: Recordkeeping; Reporting: On occasion; Annually.

Total Burden Hours: 33,335.

Nancy B. Sternberg,

Departmental Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 00–30074 Filed 11–24–00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–01–M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Natural Resource Conservation Service

Holbrook Lake Ditch Watershed, Otero County, CO

AGENCY: Natural Resource Conservation Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of a finding of no significant impact.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to Section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969; the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations (40 CFR Part 1500); and the Natural Resource Conservation Service Regulations (7 CFR Part 650); the Natural Resource Conservation Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, gives notice that an environmental impact statement is not being prepared for the Holbrook Lake Ditch Watershed Project, Otero County, Colorado.

For further information contact Stephen F. Black, State Conservationist, Natural Resource Conservation Service, 655 Parfet St., Lakewood, Colorado, 80215–5517, telephone (303) 236–2886, ext. 202.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The environmental assessment of this federally assisted action indicates that the project will not cause significant local, regional, or national impacts on the environment. As a result of these findings, Stephen F. Black, State Conservationist, has determined that the preparation and review of an environmental impact statement are not needed for this project.

The project purpose is to reduce selenium, sediment and other pollutant loading to the Arkansas River due to ineffective irrigation water utilization. The planned works of improvement include on-farm underground irrigation pipelines, on-farm concrete irrigation ditches, land leveling, and underground drains. These enduring practices are accompanied by facilitating management practices such as Residue Management (seasonal).

The Notice of a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) has been forwarded to the Environmental Protection Agency and to various Federal, State and Local agencies and interested parties. A limited number of copies of the FONSI are available to fill single copy requests at the above address. Basic data developed during the environmental assessment are on file and may be reviewed by contacting Stephen F. Black.

No administrative action on implementation of the proposal will be

taken until 30 days after the date of this publication in the **Federal Register**.

(This activity is listed in the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance under No. 10904, Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention, and is subject to the provisions of Executive Order 12372, which requires intergovernmental consultation with State and local officials.)

Michael A. Gillespie,

Snow Survey Supervisor, Acting State Conservationist.

[FR Doc. 00–30061 Filed 11–24–00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–16–M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Housing Service

Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for Section 515 Rural Rental Housing Funds and Section 521 Rental Assistance for Needs Resulting From Hurricanes Dennis, Floyd, and Irene; Extension of Application Deadline

AGENCY: Rural Housing Service (RHS), USDA.

ACTION: Notice of extension of application deadline.

SUMMARY: The Rural Housing Service (RHS) extends the deadline for submitting applications for section 515 funds and section 521 rental assistance for needs resulting from hurricanes Dennis, Floyd, and Irene announced in a notice of funding availability (NOFA) published August 18, 2000 (65 FR 50497). This action is taken to provide additional information on the source and type of funds that RHS considers leveraged assistance and to give applicants the opportunity to adjust their applications based on this information. Finally, this extension will allow eligible entities additional time to submit applications.

DATES: Accordingly, the deadline for submitting applications under the notice published August 18, 2000 (65 FR 50497), is extended to 5:00 p.m. local time for each Rural Development State office on December 11, 2000. The application deadline is firm as to date and hour. Applicants intending to mail applications must provide sufficient time to permit delivery on or before the closing deadline date and time. Acceptance by a post office or private mailer does not constitute delivery. Facsimile (FAX) and postage due applications will not be accepted.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For general information, applicants may contact Linda Armour, Senior Loan Officer, Multi-Family Housing Processing Division, Rural Housing Service, United States Department of Agriculture, Stop 0781, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC, 20250, telephone (202) 720–1753 (voice) (this is not a toll free number) or (800) 877–8339 (TDD-Federal Information Relay Service).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background and Discussion of Extension of Application Deadline

RHS published a Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) on August 18, 2000 (65 FR 50497), with an application deadline of October 17, 2000. Upon reviewing applications received, RHS determined that the NOFA was ambiguous regarding the source and type of funds that RHS considers leveraged assistance. From the applications received, RHS determined that applicants interpreted this ambiguity in different ways.

Therefore, to clarify this issue, applicants are hereby advised that leveraged assistance includes loans and grants from other sources, contributions from the applicant above the required contribution indicated by the Sources and Uses Comprehensive Evaluation (available from the Rural Development State Office) and tax abatements or other savings in operating costs provided that, at the end of the abatement period when the benefit is no longer available, the basic rents are comparable to or lower than the basic rents if RHS provided full financing. The required applicant contribution is not considered leveraged assistance.

RHS has also determined that some, but not all, applicants received a copy of the worksheet used by RHS to calculate the point score for leveraged assistance. To ensure that all applicants are treated fairly, applicants who submitted an application under the notice published August 18, 2000 will be provided with a copy of this Notice and the worksheet used by RHS to calculate leveraged assistance. Applicants who wish to adjust their application based on this additional information must re-submit their application by the extension deadline published in this Notice. Finally, this extension will allow eligible entities additional time to submit applications. Such entities may contact the Rural Development State office to obtain a copy of the worksheet used by RHS to calculate leveraged assistance.

Dated: November 17, 2000.

James C. Kearney,

Administrator, Rural Housing Service.

[FR Doc. 00–30233 Filed 11–24–00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–XV–U

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Utilities Service

Arkansas Electric Cooperative Corporation; 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), has accepted the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) prepared for the Arkansas Public Service Commission (APSC) as its Environmental Assessment. RUS may provide financial assistance to Arkansas Electric Cooperative Corporation (AECC) for the construction of a 153-megawatt (MW) combustion turbine electric generating station in southwest Arkansas.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Bob Quigel, Engineering and Environmental Staff, Rural Utilities Service, Stop 1571, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250–1571, telephone (202) 720–0468. The E-mail address is *bquigel@rus.usda.gov*.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: AECC subsequent to receipt of a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity (CCN) from the APSC initiated construction of the project at a 159 acre site east of Fulton, Arkansas. Fulton is located in Hempstead County. The CCN (Order No. 7) for the generating station was issued on November 18, 1999. The CCN (Order No. 3) for the transmission line was issued on May 9, 2000.

The project, when completed, will initially consist of a single 153 MW gas-fired, simple-cycle combustion turbine generating unit. Other on-site facilities include a 90-foot exhaust stack, step-up and auxiliary transformers, motor control centers, bus ductwork, an electric substation, and control, maintenance, and operations buildings. The project also includes 4 miles of 115 kV transmission line that will tie the station to the existing transmission grid. The transmission line will be built to 161 kV specifications in anticipation that additional transmission line capacity may be needed in the future.

The facility is designed to accommodate conversion of the unit to combined cycle operation, but will be initially operated as a simple cycle unit. The site has been sized to accommodate additional simple or combined cycle units. However, the environmental assessment announced herein will cover only the initial 153 MW simple cycle unit and related electric transmission