

sample basis as they enter the U.S., after they have already been inspected and passed by the foreign country's equivalent inspection system.

About 75 FSIS inspectors carry out reinspection at approximately 150 official import establishments located at land and water ports on the perimeter of the country. All shipments of products are checked for proper certification and general condition, and some shipments are randomly selected for additional reinspection assignments as directed by the Automated Import Information System (AIIS). The AIIS, which was implemented in 1978, is a computer system that links all ports of entry, makes inspection assignments, and collects compliance histories for countries and plants. FSIS uses AIIS information in verifying and evaluating the performance of the foreign country's inspection system. FSIS import inspectors enter data about shipments, and the AIIS identifies shipments for sampling and determines the appropriate inspection assignment. Assignments can include product examination; determination of condition of container; and microbiological, residue, and food chemistry laboratory analysis.

The principle underlying FSIS import inspection activities is the systems approach, which focuses on a foreign country's overall inspection system rather than on individual establishments. The intent of the current revision of the port-of-entry reinspection program is to extend the systems approach to all port-of-entry activities.

For all countries except Canada, the monitoring assignments directed by the AIIS are based on the compliance history of the foreign plant for the specific product being imported. Since 1989, FSIS has used a random sampling approach for shipments from Canada. For Canada, the AIIS randomly selects shipments from the country, as a whole, for monitoring sampling by FSIS. Once selected, a shipment is subject to the full range of reinspection assignments applicable to the specific product. By contrast, the shipments selected for reinspection from all other countries are subject to one or more reinspection assignments based on the compliance history of the plant.

FSIS plans to revise the port of entry reinspection program for imported meat and poultry products by extending to all countries the systems approach used to monitor Canada for more than 10 years. FSIS plans to revise the reinspection system to: (1) Focus the sampling of products at port of entry on monitoring a country's inspection system rather

than individual plants within the system; (2) reprogram the AIIS to accommodate the new system and to provide better information for making equivalency decisions; and (3) modify procedural and facility requirements for import establishments to increase the responsibility of the industry for control of imported meat and poultry. Some elements could require rulemaking, and FSIS will use the public meeting to explain current thinking on the subject.

Re-programming the AIIS is long overdue and will provide an automated system better able to respond to inspection changes and to provide timely reports on a country's performance to program managers. FSIS estimates that the new system will be fully operational by the end of 2001. Adoption of the systems approach for port-of-entry reinspection of meat and poultry from all countries will facilitate the collection of more statistically reliable data on a country's performance. FSIS currently uses more than 300 product codes to designate product categories for import reinspection. Changing the entry of shipment data in the AIIS to processing categories already established by FSIS in the HACCP regulations (9 CFR 417.2(b)(i)-(ix)), e.g. raw product ground; raw product not ground; thermally processed-commercially sterile; product not heat treated-shelf stable; and fully cooked-not shelf stable, will streamline the system and make it more compatible with HACCP rules. Using the domestic program's processing category system will simplify entry, ensure consistency between domestic and imported requirements, and provide a seamless system that can be more easily used by all FSIS inspectors.

FSIS will not change the standards used to judge the acceptability of meat and poultry products re-inspected at the port of entry. When the shipment fails a reinspection, the exporting establishment will continue to be subject to follow-up sampling, which is in addition to the targeted monitoring levels for the exporting country.

FSIS believes that the modernization of the way it performs reinspection of imported meat and poultry products is necessary to fully utilize the systems approach and to strengthen the basis for judging the continued equivalence of inspection systems maintained by foreign countries exporting meat and poultry products to the U.S.

The Agency invites all interested parties to participate in the June 8, 2001, public meeting to gain a better understanding of the changes FSIS

plans to make and to have the opportunity to request clarification.

#### 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: May 23, 2001.

**Thomas J. Billy,**

*Administrator.*

[FR Doc. 01-13387 Filed 5-25-01; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Food Safety and Inspection Service

[Docket No. 01-014N]

#### National Advisory Committee on Meat and Poultry Inspection

**AGENCY:** Food Safety and Inspection Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of public meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The National Advisory Committee on Meat and Poultry Inspection (NACMPI) will hold a public meeting on June 5-6, 2001, to review and discuss three issues: (1) Emerging egg and egg products strategy, (2) Industry's petition of proposed changes to the HACCP final rule—Agency current thinking, and (3) Federal, State, and Local government working relationships on food safety issues—new directions. The three

subcommittees of the full Committee will also meet on June 5, 2001, to work on issues discussed during the full Committee session. All interested parties are welcome to attend the meeting and to submit written comments and suggestions concerning issues the Committee will review and discuss.

**DATES:** The full Committee will hold a public meeting on Tuesday, June 5, and Wednesday, June 6, 2001 from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Subcommittees will hold open meetings on Tuesday, June 5, 2001, from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

**Note:** FSIS was not able to publish notification of this public meeting in the **Federal Register** at least 15 days prior to the meeting, as required by Departmental Regulation 1041-001, due to late changes to the agenda.

**ADDRESSES:** All Committee meetings will take place at the Holiday Inn Capitol at the Smithsonian Hotel, 550 C Street, SW., Washington, DC 20024; telephone (202) 554-2780. The full committee will meet in main ballroom Columbia I & II on June 5-6, 2001. The subcommittees will meet in the Saturn, Venus and Jupiter Rooms. A meeting agenda is available on the FSIS Web Site at <http://www.fsis.usda.gov/OPPDE/nacmpi> which is a sub-web page of the FSIS Homepage at <http://www.fsis.usda.gov>. Submit one original and two copies of written comments to FSIS Docket Room, Docket #01-014N, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Room 102 Cotton Annex, 300 12th Street SW., Washington, DC 20250-3700. Comments may also be sent by facsimile (202) 205-0381. The comments and the official transcript of the meeting, when they become available, will be kept in the FSIS Docket Room at the address provided above. All comments received in response to this notice will be considered part of the public record and will be available for reviewing in the FSIS Docket Room between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Charles L. Gioglio for technical information at (202) 205-0256 and for meeting information contact Sonya L. West at (202) 720-2561, FAX (202) 205-0157, or E-mail [sonya.west@usda.gov](mailto:sonya.west@usda.gov). Persons requiring a sign language interpreter or other special accommodations should notify Ms. West by May 29, 2001, at the above numbers or by e-mail. Information is also available on FSIS Web Site at <http://www.fsis.usda.gov/OPPDE/nacmpi>.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

## Background

On January 19, 2001, the Secretary of Agriculture renewed the charter for the NACMPI. The Committee provides advice and recommendations to the Secretary of Agriculture pertaining to the Federal and State meat and poultry inspection programs pursuant to sections 7(c), 24, 205, 301(a)(3), and 301(c) of the Federal Meat Inspection Act and sections 5(a)(3), 5(c), 8(b), and 11(e) of the Poultry Products Inspection Act. The Administrator of FSIS is the chairperson of the Committee. Membership of the Committee is drawn from representatives of consumer groups; producers, processors, and marketers from the meat and poultry industry; State government officials; and academia. The current members of the NACMPI are: Dr. Gladys Bayse, Spelman College; Nancy Donley, Safe Tables Our Priority; Sandra Eskin, American Association of Retired Persons; Carol Tucker Foreman, Food Policy Institute, Consumer Federation of America; Michael Govro, Oregon Department of Agriculture; Martin Holmes, North American Meat Processors; Dr. Lee C. Jan, Texas Department of Health; Alice Johnson, National Turkey Federation; Collette Schultz Kaster, Premium Standard Farms; Dr. Daniel E. LaFontaine, South Carolina Meat Poultry Inspection Department; Dr. Irene Leech, Virginia Tech; Charles Link, Rocco Inc.; Dr. Catherine Logue, North Dakota State University; Michael Mammaing, Iowa Department of Agriculture; Dr. Dale Morse, New York Office of Public Health; Dr. Elsa Murano, Texas A&M University; and John Neal, Courseys Smoked Meats.

The Committee has three standing subcommittees to deliberate on specific issues and make recommendations to the whole Committee. The Committee makes recommendations to the Secretary of Agriculture.

Members of the public will be required to register before entering the meeting.

## Additional Public Notification

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Done at Washington, DC on: May 23, 2001.

**Thomas J. Billy,**  
*Administrator.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Forest Service

**Environmental Assessment for an Amendment to the Mark Twain National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan: Barry, Bollinger, Boone, Butler, Callaway, Carter, Christian, Crawford, Dent, Douglas, Howell, Iron, Laclede, Madison, Oregon, Ozark, Phelps, Pulaski, Reynolds, Ripley, Ste. Genevieve, St. Francis, Shannon, Stone, Taney, Texas, Washington, Wayne and Wright Counties, MO**

**AGENCY:** Forest Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability.

**SUMMARY:** On May 28, 1999, Mark Twain National Forest supervisor, Randy Moore, (Responsible Official) initiated a proposal to amend the 1986 Mark Twain National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (Forest Plan). On April 26, 2001, the resultant Environmental Assessment available for a 30 day public comment period. Copies of the Environmental Assessment are available upon request. The current preferred alternative (Alternative 3), adds standards and guidelines for Fish/Aquatic Ecosystems, Recreation Management, Heritage Resources management and adds Management Prescription 7.1. This notice is provided pursuant to National Forest System Land and Resource Management Planning regulations (36 CFR part 217, 65 FR 67579, November 9, 2000)