

development of alternatives to the proposed actions. One of the purposes of this notice of intent is to solicit input from the public as part of the overall scoping effort. In addition to this notice, the public has been notified of the environmental impact statement through the Umpqua National Forest's April 2001 Schedule of Proposed Actions (SOPA). Scoping for this project will also include a public field trip in the Fish Creek watershed on June 9, 2001. Based on the preliminary issues, the Responsible Official has determined that it is appropriate to proceed with an environmental impact statement.

Public comments are appreciated throughout the analysis process. The draft EIS is expected to be filed with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and be available for public review by December 2001. The comment period on the draft EIS will be 45 days from the date the EPA publishes the notice of availability in the **Federal Register**. The final EIS is scheduled to be available in March 2002.

The Forest Service believes it is important to give reviewers notice of this early stage of public participation and of several court rulings related to public participation in the environmental review process. First, reviewers of a 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). Also, environmental objections that could have been raised at the draft stage may be waived or dismissed by the court if not raised until after completion of the final EIS. *City of Angoon v. Hodel*, 803 F.2d 1016, 1022 (9th Cir. 1986) and *Wisconsin Heritages, Inc. v. Harris*, 490 F. Supp. 1334, 1338 (E.D. Wis. 1980). Because of these court rulings, it is very important that those interested in this proposed action participate by the close of the 45-day comment period so substantive comments and objections are made available to the Forest Service at a time when it can meaningfully consider and respond to them in the final EIS.

To assist the Forest Service in identifying and considering issues and concerns on the proposed actions, comments on the draft EIS should be as specific as possible. It is also helpful if comments refer to specific pages or chapters of the draft statement. Comments may also address the adequacy of the draft EIS or the merits of the alternatives formulated and discussed in the statement. (Reviewers may wish to refer to the Council on

Environmental Quality Regulations for implementing the procedural provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act of 40 CFR 1503.3 in addressing these points.)

In the final EIS, the Forest Service is required to respond to substantive comments and responses received during the comment period that pertain to the environmental consequences discussed in the draft EIS and applicable laws, regulations, and policies considered in making a decision regarding the proposal. The Responsible Official is Don Ostby, Forest Supervisor for the Umpqua National Forest. The Responsible Official will document the decision and rationale for the decision in a Record of Decision. The decision will be subject to appeal regulations (36 CFR part 215).

Dated: May 22, 2001.

**Don Ostby,**

*Forest Supervisor, Umpqua National Forest.*  
[FR Doc. 01-13732 Filed 5-31-01; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3410-11-M**

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration

[01-01-C]

#### Opportunity To Comment on the Applicants for the Fostoria (OH) Area

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

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** GIPSA requests comments on the applicants for designation to provide official services in the geographic area currently assigned to Fostoria Grain Inspection, Inc. (Fostoria).

**DATES:** Comments must be postmarked, or sent by telecopier (FAX) by June 30, 2001.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments must be submitted in writing to USDA, GIPSA, Janet M. Hart, Chief, Review Branch, Compliance Division, STOP 3604, Room 1647-S, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-3604. Telecopier (FAX) users may send comments to the automatic telecopier machine at 202-690-2755, attention: Janet M. Hart. All comments received will be made available for public inspection at the above address at 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., during regular business hours.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Janet M. Hart at 202-720-8525, e-mail [janhart@gipsadc.usda.gov](mailto:janhart@gipsadc.usda.gov).

**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 March 8, 2001, **Federal Register** (66 FR 13874), GIPSA asked persons interested in providing official services in the Fostoria area to submit an application for designation. There were three applicants for the Fostoria area: Fostoria, Columbus Grain Inspection, Inc. (Columbus), and Michigan Grain Inspection Services, Inc. (Michigan). Fostoria applied for designation to provide official services in the entire area currently assigned to them. Columbus and Michigan, both designated official grain inspection agencies operating in Ohio and Michigan, applied for designation to provide official services in all or part of the Fostoria geographical area.

GIPSA is publishing this notice to provide interested persons the opportunity to present comments concerning the applicants. Commenters are encouraged to submit reasons and pertinent data for support or objection to the designation of the applicants. All comments must be submitted to the Compliance Division at the above address. Comments and other available information will be considered in making a final decision. GIPSA will publish notice of the final decision in the **Federal Register**, and GIPSA will send the applicants written notification of the decision.

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

Dated: May 4, 2001.

**David R. Shipman,**

*Acting Administrator, Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration.*

[FR Doc. 01-13583 Filed 5-31-01; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3410-EN-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration

[01-02-A]

#### Opportunity for Designation in the Columbus (OH), Farwell (NM), and Northeast Indiana (IN) Areas, and Request for Comments on the Official Agencies Serving These Areas

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

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The designations of the official agencies listed below will end in

January 2002. 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:

- Columbus Grain Inspection, Inc. (Columbus);
- Farwell Grain Inspection, Inc. (Farwell); and
- Northeast Indiana Grain Inspection, Inc. (Northeast Indiana).

**DATES:** Applications and comments must be postmarked or sent by telecopier (FAX) on or before June 30, 2001.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit applications and comments to USDA, GIPSA, Janet M. Hart, Chief, Review Branch, Compliance

Division, STOP 3604, Room 1647-S, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-3604; FAX 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 Room 1647-S, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., during regular business hours.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Janet M. Hart at 202-720-8525, e-mail janhart@gipsadc.usda.gov.

**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.

**1. Current Designations Being Announced for Renewal**

Official agency	Main office	Designation start	Designation end
Columbus .....	Circleville, OH .....	02/01/1999	01/31/2002
Farwell .....	Farwell, TX .....	02/01/1999	01/31/2002
Northeast Indiana .....	Hoagland, IN .....	02/01/1999	01/31/2002

a. Pursuant to Section 7(f)(2) of the Act, the following geographic area, in the States of Michigan and Ohio, is assigned to Columbus.

In Ohio:

Bounded on the North by the northern Lucas County line east to Lake Erie; the Lake Erie shoreline east to the Ohio-Pennsylvania State line;

Bounded on the East by the Ohio-Pennsylvania State line south to the Ohio River;

Bounded on the South by the Ohio River south-southwest to the western Scioto County line; and

Bounded on the West by the western Scioto County line north to State Route 73; State Route 73 northwest to U.S. Route 22; U.S. Route 22 west to U.S. Route 68; U.S. Route 68 north to Clark County; the northern Clark County line west to State Route 560; State Route 560 north to State Route 296; State Route 296 west to Interstate 75; Interstate 75 north to State Route 47; State Route 47 northeast to U.S. Route 68 (including all of Sidney, Ohio); U.S. Route 68 north to U.S. Route 30; U.S. Route 30 east to State Route 19; State Route 19 north to Seneca County; the southern Seneca County line west to State Route 53; State Route 53 north to Sandusky County; the southern Sandusky County line west to State Route 590; State Route 590 north to Ottawa County; the southern and western Ottawa and Lucas County lines.

In Michigan: Those sections of Jackson, Lenawee, and Monroe Counties which are east of State Route 127 and south of State Route 50.

Columbus' assigned geographic area does not include the export port locations inside Columbus' area which are serviced by GIPSA.

b. Pursuant to Section 7(f)(2) of the Act, the following geographic area, in the States of Arizona, New Mexico and Texas, is assigned to Farwell.

Maricopa, Pinal, and Yuma Counties, Arizona.

Bernalillo, Chaves, Curry, DeBaca, Eddy, Guadalupe, Lea, Quay, Roosevelt, San Miguel, Santa Fe, Torrance, and Union Counties, New Mexico.

Bailey, Cochran, Deaf Smith (west of State Route 214), Hockley, Lamb (south of a line bounded by U.S. Route 70, FM 303, U.S. Route 84, and FM 37), and Parmer Counties, Texas.

c. Pursuant to section 7(f)(2) of the Act, the following geographic area, in the State of Indiana, is assigned to Northeast Indiana.

Bounded on the North by the northern Lagrange and Steuben County lines;

Bounded on the East by the eastern Steuben, De Kalb, Allen, and Adams County lines;

Bounded on the South by the southern Adams and Wells County lines; and

Bounded on the West by the western Wells County line; the southern Huntington and Wabash County lines; the western Wabash County line north to State Route 114; State Route 114 northwest to State Route 19; State Route 19 north to Kosciusko County; the western and northern Kosciusko County

lines; the western Noble and Lagrange County lines.

The following grain elevator, located outside of the above contiguous geographic area, is part of this geographic area assignment: E.M.P. Coop, Payne, Paulding County, Ohio (located inside Michigan Grain Inspection Services, Inc.'s, area).

**2. Opportunity for Designation**

Interested persons, including Columbus, Farwell, and Northeast Indiana, are hereby given the opportunity to apply for designation to provide official services in the geographic areas specified above under the provisions of section 7(f) of the Act and section 800.196(d) of the regulations issued thereunder. Designation in the specified geographic areas is for the period beginning February 1, 2002, and ending December 31, 2004. Persons wishing to apply for designation should contact the Compliance Division at the address listed above for forms and information.

**3. Request for Comments**

GIPSA also is publishing this notice to provide interested persons the opportunity to present comments on the Columbus, Farwell, and Northeast Indiana official agencies. Commenters are encouraged to submit pertinent data concerning these official agencies including information on the timeliness, cost, quality, and scope of services provided. All comments must be

submitted to the Compliance Division at the above address.

Applications, comments, and other available information will be considered in determining which applicant will be designated.

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

Dated: May 4, 2001.

**David R. Shipman,**

*Acting Administrator, Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration.*

[FR Doc. 01-13584 Filed 5-31-01; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3410-EN-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

**Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration**

[00-04-S]

**Designation for the East Indiana (IN), Fremont (NE), and Titus (IN) 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):

East Indiana Grain Inspection, Inc. (East Indiana); Fremont Grain Inspection Department, Inc. (Fremont); and Titus Grain Inspection, Inc. (Titus).

**EFFECTIVE DATES:** September 1, 2001.

**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, e-mail [janhart@gipsadc.usda.gov](mailto:janhart@gipsadc.usda.gov).

**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 December 1, 2000, **Federal Register** (65 FR 75237), GIPSA asked persons interested in providing official services in the geographic areas assigned to the official agencies named above to submit an application for designation. Applications were due by December 31, 2000.

East Indiana and Titus were the sole applicants for designation to provide official services in the entire area

currently assigned to them, so GIPSA did not ask for comments on them. There were two applicants for the Fremont area: Fremont and Sioux City Inspection and Weighing Service Company (Sioux City). Fremont applied for designation to provide official services in the entire area currently assigned to them. Sioux City, a designated official grain inspection agency operating in Iowa, Nebraska, and South Dakota, applied for designation to provide official services in all or part of the Fremont geographical area. GIPSA asked for comments on the applicants for providing service in the Fremont area in the March 8, 2001, **Federal Register** (66 FR 13873). Comments were due by March 31, 2001. GIPSA received no comments by the deadline.

GIPSA evaluated all available information regarding the designation criteria in Section 7(f)(1)(A) of the Act and, according to Section 7(f)(1)(B), determined that East Indiana and Titus are able, and Fremont is better able, to provide official services in the geographic areas specified in the September 1, 2000, **Federal Register**, for which they applied.

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

Official agency	Headquarters location and telephone	Designation start-end
East Indiana .....	Muncie, IN: 765-289-1206 .....	09/01/2001-06/30/2004
Fremont .....	Fremont, NE: 402-721-1270 .....	09/01/2001-06/30/2004
	Additional Service Location: Denison, IA .....	
Titus .....	West Lafayette, IN: 765-497-2202 .....	09/01/2001-06/30/2004

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

Dated: May 4, 2001.

**David R. Shipman,**

*Acting Administrator, Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration.*

[FR Doc. 01-13585 Filed 5-31-01; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3410-EN-U**

**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

**Rural Utilities Service**

**Georgia Transmission Corporation; Notice of Finding of No Significant Impact**

**AGENCY:** Rural Utilities Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of finding of no significant impact.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that the Rural Utilities Service (RUS) has made a finding of no significant impact (FONSI) with respect to possible

financing assistance to Georgia Transmission Corporation for the construction of 5 diesel electric generators at the existing Egypt Substation located just north of Egypt-Ardmore Road and approximately 600 feet west of Georgia Highway 21 in Effingham County, Georgia.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Bob Quigel, Environmental Protection Specialist, Engineering and Environmental Staff, RUS, Stop 1571, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-1571, telephone (202) 720-0468, e-mail at [bquigel@rus.usda.gov](mailto:bquigel@rus.usda.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The initial construction will involve the placement of 4, 1825 kilowatt diesels, an 8000 gallon fuel tank, 4, 2.5 million volt-amp transformers, and a 12 kilovolt circuit breaker with protective relaying. The Egypt Substation will be graded and expanded in such a manner as to allow for the addition of one more 1825

kilowatt diesel generator should the load on the substation increase beyond 7.3 megawatts (4 x 1825 = 7300 kilowatts or 7.3 megawatts). The diesel generators will be constructed within sound attenuated enclosures with mufflers to reduce operating noise. In addition, a buffer of vegetation will be installed between the station and nearest residential properties to provide further attenuation of noise levels. The diesels will be unmanned as they can be operated from a remote location.

Copies of the FONSI are available for review at, or can be obtained from, RUS at the address provided herein or from Mr. R. Vince Howard, Georgia Transmission Corporation, 2100 East Exchange Place, Tucker, Georgia 30085-2088, telephone (770) 270-7635. Mr. Howard's e-mail address is [vincent.howard@gatrans.com](mailto:vincent.howard@gatrans.com).