

safety of animals, public health, and the environment.

Based on the risk analysis, APHIS has prepared an environmental assessment (EA) concerning the field testing of the veterinary biological product:

Requester: Biomune Company.

Product: Avian Encephalomyelitis-Fowl Pox-Mycoplasma Gallisepticum Vaccine, Live Virus, Fowl Pox Vector.

Field test locations: Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Texas, and Virginia.

The above-mentioned product is a modified live avian encephalomyelitis vaccine in combination with a live, attenuated fowl pox virus that has been genetically modified to express *Mycoplasma gallisepticum* antigens. The vaccine is for use in chickens as an aid in the prevention of avian encephalomyelitis, fowl pox, and *Mycoplasma gallisepticum*.

The EA has been prepared in accordance with: (1) The National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), as amended (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), (2) regulations of the Council on Environmental Quality for implementing the procedural provision of NEPA (40 CFR parts 1500-1508), (3) USDA regulations implementing NEPA (7 CFR part 1b), and (4) APHIS' NEPA Implementing Procedures (7 CFR part 372).

Unless substantial environmental issues are raised in response to this notice, APHIS intends to issue a finding of no significant impact (FONSI) based on the EA and authorize shipment of the above product for the initiation of field tests following the close of the comment period for this notice.

Because the issues raised by field testing and by issuance of a license are identical, APHIS has concluded that the EA that is generated for field testing would also be applicable to the proposed licensing action. Provided that the field test data support the conclusions of the EA and the issuance of a FONSI, APHIS does not intend to issue a separate EA and FONSI to support the issuance of the product license and would determine that an environmental impact statement need not be prepared. APHIS intends to issue a veterinary biological product license for this vaccine following completion of the field test, provided no adverse impacts on the human environment are identified and the product meets all other requirements for licensure.

Authority: 21 U.S.C. 151-159.

Done in Washington, DC, this 20th day of December 2001.

W. Ron Dehaven,

Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[FR Doc. 01-31946 Filed 12-27-01; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Food Safety and Inspection Service

[Docket No. 01-042N]

Codex Alimentarius: 10th Session of the Codex Committee on Food Import and Export Inspection and Certification Systems

AGENCY: Office of the Under Secretary for Food Safety, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of public meetings, request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Office of the Under Secretary for Food Safety, U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), are sponsoring two public meetings, on January 8 and February 7, 2002, to provide information and receive public comments on agenda items that will be discussed at the Tenth Session of the Codex Committee on Food Import and Export Inspection and Certification Systems (CCFICS), which will be held in Brisbane, Australia, February 25 to March 1, 2002. The Under Secretary and FDA recognize the importance of CCFICS, and the need to provide interested parties the opportunity to obtain background information and comment on the Tenth Session.

DATES: The public meetings are scheduled for Tuesday, January 8, 2002 from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., and Thursday, February 7, 2002 from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The public meetings will be held in Conference Room 1409, Federal Office Building 8, Food and Drug Administration, 200 C Street, SW., Washington, DC. Submit one original and two copies of written comments to the FSIS Docket Room, Docket #01-042N, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Room 102, Cotton Annex, 300 12th Street, SW., Washington, DC 20250-3700. To receive copies of the documents referenced in this notice, contact the FSIS Docket Room at the above address. The documents will also be accessible via the World Wide Web at the following address: http://www.codexalimentarius.net/ccfics10/fc02_01e.htm

All comments received in response to this notice will be considered part of the public record to this notice will be considered part of the public record and will be available for viewing in the Docket Room between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Patrick J. Clerkin, Associate U.S. Manager for Codex, U.S. Codex Office, FSIS, Room 4861, South Building, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20250-3700, telephone (202) 205-7760; Fax: (202) 720-3157. Persons requiring a sign language interpreter or other special accommodations should notify Mr. Patrick J. Clerkin at the above phone number.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The Codex Alimentarius Commission (Codex) was established in 1962 by two United Nations organizations, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the World Health Organization (WHO). Codex is the major international organization for encouraging fair international trade in Food and protecting the health and economic interests of consumers. Through adoption of food standards, codes of practice, and other guidelines developed by its committees, and by promoting their adoption and implementation by governments, Codex seeks to ensure that the world's food supply is sound, wholesome, free from adulteration, and correctly labeled.

CCFICS was established to develop principles and guidelines for: food import and export inspection and certification systems; the application of measures by competent authorities of importing and exporting countries to provide assurance that foods comply with essential requirements; the utilization of quality assurance systems; and the format and content of official certificates.

Issues To Be Discussed at the Public Meeting

The following issues and referenced documents will be discussed during the public meetings:

1. Adoption of the Agenda, DOCUMENT CX/FICS 02/1
2. Matters Referred from the Codex Alimentarius Commission and Other Codex Committees, DOCUMENT CX/FICS 02/2
3. Draft Guidelines for Food Import Control Systems—Comments at Step 6, DOCUMENT CL 2001/25-FICS; DOCUMENT ALINORM 01/30A, Appendix IV; DOCUMENT CX/FICS 02/3

4. Draft Guidelines on the Judgement of Equivalence of Sanitary Measures Associated with Food Inspection and Certification Systems—Comments at Step 6, DOCUMENT CL 2001/25–FICS; DOCUMENT ALINORM 01/30A, Appendix III; DOCUMENT CX/FICS 02/4

5. Proposed Draft Guidelines on the Judgement of Equivalence of Technical Regulations Associated with Food Inspection and Certification Systems—Comments at Step 3, DOCUMENT CX/FICS 02/5; DOCUMENT CX/FICS 02/5–Add.1

6. Proposed Draft Guidelines for the Utilization and Promotion of Quality Assurance Systems to Meet Requirements in Relation to Food—Comments at Step 3, DOCUMENT CX/FICS 02/6; DOCUMENT CX/FICS 02/6–Add.1

7. Proposed Draft Revision to the Codex Guidelines for the Exchange of Information in Food Control Emergency Situations—Comments at Step 3, DOCUMENT CX/FICS 02/7; DOCUMENT CX/FICS 02/7–Add.1

8. Other Business and Future Work. In advance of the meetings, the U.S. Delegate to CCFICS will have assigned responsibility for development of U.S. positions on these issues to members of the U.S. government. The individuals assigned responsibility will be named at the meetings and will take comments and develop draft U.S. positions. All interested parties are invited to provide information and comments on the above issues, or on any other issues that may be brought before CCFICS.

Public Meetings

At the January 8th public meeting, the issues will be reviewed and comments will be received. At the February 7th public meeting, the draft United States' positions on the issues will be described and discussed, and attendees will have the opportunity to pose questions and offer comments.

Please state that your comments relate to CCFICS activities and specify which issues your comments address.

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 the **Federal Register** publication in the FSIS Constituent Update. FSIS provides a weekly 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 meeting, recalls, and any other types of information that could effect 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.

F. Edward Scarbrough,

U.S. Manager for Codex Alimentarius.

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BILLING CODE 3410–DM–M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Foreign Agricultural Service

Notice of Request for Extension of a Currently Approved Information Collection

AGENCY: Foreign Agricultural Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the Foreign Agricultural Service's (FAS) intention to request an extension for a currently approved information collection in support of the Public Law 480, Title I program.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by February 26, 2002 to be assured of consideration.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: William Hawkins, Director, Program Administration Division, Foreign Agricultural Service, Room 4077 South Building, Stop 1031, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Ave., SW., Washington, DC 20250–1031, telephone (202) 720–3241.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Request for Vessel Approval, Form CCC–105; and Request for Vessel Approval Form CCC–105 (cotton).

OMB Number: 0551–0008.

Expiration Date of Approval: April 30, 2002.

Type of Request: Extension of a currently approved information collection.

Abstract: Title I of the Agricultural Trade Development and Assistance Act of 1954, as amended (Public Law 480) authorizes the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) to finance the sale and exportation of agricultural commodities on concessional terms. 7 U.S.C. 1701 et seq. Shipping agents or embassies submit pertinent shipping information on Form CCC–105 to facilitate approval by CCC of shipping arrangements. This approval is necessary to assure compliance with cargo preference requirements at the lowest cost to CCC. Agents submit this document in order that USDA can generate the CCC–106, a necessary payment document. Ocean carriers then receive payment for ocean freight.

Estimate of Burden: The public reporting burden is 15 minutes per response for suppliers of ocean transportation reporting details of freight transactions.

Respondents: Business or other for-profit.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 5.

Estimated Total Annual Burden of Respondents: 9 hours.

Copies of this information collection can be obtained from Kimberly Chisley, the Agency Information Collection Coordinator, at (202) 720–2568.

Requests for comments: Comments are requested on (a) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology. comments may be sent to William Hawkins, Director, Program Administration Division, Foreign Agricultural Service Room 4077 South Building, Stop 1031, U.S. department of agriculture, 1400 Independence Ave., SW., Washington, DC 20250–1031, telephone (202) 720–2600 (voice and TDD). All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All