

Notices

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This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains documents other than rules or proposed rules that are applicable to the public. Notices of hearings and investigations, committee meetings, agency decisions and rulings, delegations of authority, filing of petitions and applications and agency statements of organization and functions are examples of documents appearing in this section.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Marketing Service

[Doc. # TB-03-04]

National Advisory Committee for Tobacco Inspection Services; Open Meeting

AGENCY: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of advisory committee meeting.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App. II) announcement is made of a forthcoming meeting of the National Advisory Committee for Tobacco Inspection Services.

DATES: March 11, 2003, 9 a.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Old Town Alexandria Holiday Inn, 480 King Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: John P. Duncan III, Deputy Administrator, Tobacco Programs, AMS, USDA, Telephone number (202) 205-0567 or fax (202) 205-0235.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The purpose of the meeting is to elect officers, recommend the level of service to be provided to producers by AMS, review the financial status of the tobacco inspection program, recommend the user fee rate needed to maintain the desired level of service for the 2003-2004 marketing season, and review various regulations issued pursuant to the Tobacco Inspection Act (7 U.S.C. 511 *et seq.*), and the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act for 2002 (Pub. L. 107-76; 7 U.S.C. 511s).

The meeting is open to the public. Persons, other than members, who wish to address the Committee at the meeting should contact John P. Duncan III, Deputy Administrator, Tobacco

Programs, AMS, USDA, STOP 0280, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-0280, prior to the meeting. Written statements may be submitted to the Committee before, at or after the meeting. If you need any accommodations to participate in the meeting, please contact the Tobacco Programs at (202) 205-0567 by March 5, 2003, and inform us of your needs.

Dated: January 21, 2003.

A.J. Yates,

Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.

[FR Doc. 03-1753 Filed 1-24-03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Commodity Credit Corporation

Public Hearing on New Entrant's 2003 Crop Cane Sugar Marketing Allotment

AGENCY: Commodity Credit Corporation, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of public hearing.

SUMMARY: The Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) will hold a public hearing to receive comments on providing an allocation to a new entrant processor and allotment to a new entrant State and possible impacts on existing cane processors and producers. CCC will also receive comments on the evidence CCC should require from a new entrant to demonstrate eligibility for a marketing allocation.

DATES: The public hearing will be held January 29, 2003, in the Jefferson Auditorium of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) South Building, 1400 Independence Ave, SW., Washington, DC. The hearing will start at 10 a.m. eastern standard time (e.s.t.).

ADDRESSES: Barbara Fecso, Dairy and Sweeteners Analysis Group, Economic Policy and Analysis Staff, Farm Service Agency, USDA, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., STOP 0516, Washington, DC 20250-0516; telephone (202) 720-4146; FAX (202) 690-1480; e-mail: barbara.fecso@usda.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Barbara Fecso at (202) 720-4146.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: USDA will hold a public hearing as requested by sugarcane producers and processors regarding the application of the Arizona Sugar Factory, L.L.C., for a cane sugar

marketing allocation for the 2003 crop year. The Arizona Sugar Factory is requesting a 2003-crop year allocation of 10,000 short tons, raw value, and an increase to 50,000 short tons, raw value, for the 2005 crop. The new processor will be located in California and Arizona, States that currently have no allotment (*i.e.*, a new entrant State).

Section 359d(b)(1)(E) of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938, as amended, authorizes CCC to provide a sugarcane processor, who begins processing after May 13, 2002, an allocation that provides a fair, efficient, and equitable distribution of the allocations from the allotment for the State in which the processor is located. To make an allocation to a processor in California or Arizona, the Secretary will have to provide those States with an allotment. CCC considers the adverse effects on existing cane processors and producers when determining whether a new entrant processor allocation and new entrant State allotment are warranted. Also, prior to the promulgation of the 2003-crop marketing allotments, the Arizona Sugar Factory must provide satisfactory evidence that it has a viable processing facility, an adequate sugarcane supply, and a market for the cane sugar product. If approved, the new California or Arizona allotment will be subtracted, on a pro rata basis, from the allotments otherwise provided to each mainland State when the 2003 crop allotments are determined by USDA.

CCC will use this forum to collect comments on (1) any adverse effects that the provisions of an allocation to the Arizona Sugar Factory, L.L.C., and an allotment to California or Arizona may have on existing cane processors and producers, and (2) the evidence CCC should require from a new entrant to demonstrate the ability to process, produce, and market raw cane sugar. Attendance is open to interested parties.

The hearing will be held on January 29, 2003, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. e.s.t. in the Jefferson Auditorium of USDA South Building, 1400 Independence Ave., Washington, DC.

Anyone wishing to make an oral statement may do so, time permitting. Comments will be limited to 5 minutes. A sign-up sheet for oral statements will be available at the entrance of the Jefferson Auditorium one hour before the hearing begins. Oral statements will