

In addition, \$50 million was appropriated under the Commodity Assistance Program heading of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2005, as administrative funds. However, 0.80% of this amount, or \$400,000, was rescinded as the result of an across the board reduction in discretionary spending, leaving \$49.6 million to be allocated to the States for administrative funds. State agencies have the option of requesting that the Department use any or all of their "fair shares" of this \$49.6 million to purchase additional commodities for them.

For FY 2005, the Department anticipates purchasing the following commodities for distribution through TEFAP: Dehydrated potatoes, corn syrup, egg mix, blackeye beans, great northern beans, kidney beans, lima beans, pinto beans, dried plums, raisins, bakery mix, lowfat bakery mix, egg noodles, white and yellow corn grits, macaroni, oats, peanut butter, rice, spaghetti, vegetable oil, rice cereal, corn flakes, corn squares, oat cereal, bran flakes, frozen ground beef, frozen chicken, frozen ham, frozen turkey roast, and the following canned items: Green beans, refried beans, vegetarian beans, carrots, cream corn, whole kernel corn, sliced potatoes, spaghetti sauce, tomatoes, tomato sauce, tomato soup, vegetarian soup, apple juice, cranapple juice, grapefruit juice, orange juice, pineapple juice, tomato juice, apricots, peaches, pineapples, applesauce, pears, plums, beef, beef stew, chicken, pork, tuna, turkey and roasted peanuts. The amounts of each item purchased will depend on the prices the Department must pay, as well as the quantity of each item requested by the States. Changes in agricultural market conditions may result in the availability of additional types of commodities or the non-availability of one or more types listed above.

Dated: March 11, 2005.

Roberto Salazar,
Administrator.

[FR Doc. 05-5557 Filed 3-21-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-30-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Notice of Lincoln County Resource Advisory Committee Meeting

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the authorities in the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463) and under the Secure

Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 (Pub. L. 106-393) the Kootenai National Forest's Lincoln County Resource Advisory Committee will meet on Wednesday April 6, 2005 at 6 p.m. at the Supervisor's Office in Libby, Montana for a business meeting. The meeting is open to the public.

DATES: April 6, 2005.

ADDRESSES: Kootenai National Forest, Supervisor's Office, 1101 U.S. Hwy 2 West, Libby, Montana.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Barbara Edgmon, Committee Coordinator, Kootenai National Forest at (406) 293-6211, or e-mail bedgmon@fs.fed.us.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Agenda topics include presentation on road storage, status of approved projects, and receiving public comment. If the meeting date or location is changed, notice will be posted in the local newspapers, including the Daily Interlake based in Kalispell, Montana.

Dated: March 16, 2005.

Bob Castaneda,

Forest Supervisor.

[FR Doc. 05-5570 Filed 3-21-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Utilities Service

Revolving Fund Program; Announcement of Grant and Loan Application Deadlines and Funding Levels

AGENCY: Rural Utilities Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of funding availability and solicitation of applications.

SUMMARY: The Rural Utilities Service (RUS) announces that it is accepting grant applications for its Revolving Fund Program (RFP) for fiscal year (FY) 2005. FY 2005 available funding for the RFP grant program is \$496,000.

DATES: You may submit completed RFP grant applications on paper or electronically according to the following deadlines:

- Paper applications must be postmarked and mailed, shipped, or sent overnight no later than May 23, 2005, to be eligible for FY 2005 grant funding. Late applications are not eligible for FY 2005 grant funding.
- Electronic applications must be submitted through Grants.gov no later than May 23, 2005, to be eligible for FY 2005 grant funding.

ADDRESSES: You may obtain application guides and materials for the RFP

program from the RUS Water and Environmental Programs (WEP) Web site: <http://www.usda.gov/rus/Water>. You may also request application guides and materials from RUS by contacting the WEP at (202) 720-9586.

Submit completed paper applications for RFP grant to the Rural Utilities Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Ave., SW., Room 2233, STOP 1570, Washington, DC 20250-1570. Applications should be marked "Attention: Assistant Administrator, Water and Environmental Programs."

Submit electronic grant applications at <http://www.grants.gov> (Grants.gov), following the instructions you find on that Web site.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Stephen S. Saulnier, Loan Specialist, Water Program Division, Rural Utilities Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, telephone: (202) 690-2526, fax: (202) 690-0649.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Overview

Federal Agency: Rural Utilities Service (RUS).

Funding Opportunity Title: Grant Program To Establish a Fund for Financing Water and Wastewater Projects (Revolving Fund Program (RFP)).

Announcement Type: Funding Level Announcement, and Solicitation of Applications.

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number: 10.864.

Dates: You may submit a completed application for a RFP grant on or before May 23, 2005.

Reminder of Competitive Grant Application Deadline: Applications must be mailed, shipped or submitted electronically through Grants.gov no later than May 23, 2005, to be eligible for FY 2005 grant funding.

Items in Supplementary Information

I. Funding Opportunity: Brief introduction to the RFP.

II. Award Information: Available funds, maximum amounts.

III. Eligibility Information: Who is eligible, what kinds of projects are eligible, what criteria determine basic eligibility.

IV. Application and Submission Information: Where to get application materials, what constitutes a completed application, how and where to submit applications, deadlines, items that are eligible.

V. Application Review Information: Considerations and preferences, scoring criteria, review standards, selection information.

VI. Award Administration
Information: Award notice information, award recipient reporting requirements.

VII. Agency Contacts: Web, phone, fax, email, contact name.

I. Funding Opportunity

Drinking water systems are basic and vital to health and economic development. With dependable water facilities, rural communities can attract families and businesses that will invest in the community and improve the quality of life for all residents. Without dependable water facilities, the communities cannot sustain economic development.

The Rural Utilities Service (RUS) supports the sound development of rural communities and the growth of our economy without endangering the environment. RUS provides financial and technical assistance to help communities bring safe drinking water and sanitary, environmentally sound waste disposal facilities to rural Americans in greatest need.

The Revolving Fund (RFP) Grant Program has been established to assist communities with water or wastewater systems. Qualified private non-profit organizations will receive RFP grant funds to establish a lending program for eligible entities. Eligible entities for the revolving loan fund will be the same entities eligible to obtain a loan, loan guarantee, or grant from the Rural Utilities Service Water and Waste Disposal and Wastewater loan and grant programs. As grant recipients, the non-profit organizations will set up a revolving loan fund to provide loans to finance predevelopment costs of water or wastewater projects, or short-term small capital projects not part of the regular operation and maintenance of current water and wastewater systems. The amount of financing to an eligible entity shall not exceed \$100,000.00 and shall be repaid in a term not to exceed 10 years. The rate shall be determined in the approved grant work plan.

II. Award Information

FY 2005 funding for the RFP Grant Program is \$496,000.

III. Eligibility Information

A. What Are the Basic Eligibility Requirements for Applying?

1. Is a private, non-profit organization that has tax-exempt status from the United States Internal Revenue Service (IRS);
2. Is legally established and located within one of the following:
 - a. A state within the United States.
 - b. The District of Columbia.

- c. The Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.
- d. A United States territory.
- e. Has the legal capacity and authority to carry out the grant purpose;
- f. Has a proven record of successfully operating a revolving loan fund to rural areas;
- g. Has capitalization acceptable to the Agency, and is composed of at least 51 percent of the outstanding interest or membership being citizens of the United States or individuals who reside in the United States after being legally admitted for permanent residence;
- h. Has no delinquent debt to the Federal Government or no outstanding judgments to repay a Federal debt; and
- i. Demonstrates that it possesses the financial, technical, and managerial capability to comply with Federal and State laws and requirements.

B. What Are the Basic Eligibility Requirements for a Project?

1. The following activities are authorized under the RFP statute:
 - a. Grant funds must be used to capitalize a revolving fund program for the purpose of providing direct loan financing to Ultimate Recipients for pre-development costs associated with proposed or with existing water and wastewater systems; or
 - b. Short-term costs incurred for equipment replacement, small-scale extension of services, or other small capital projects that are not part of the regular operations and maintenance activities of existing water and wastewater systems.
2. Grant funds may not be used to pay any of the following:
 - a. Payment of the Intermediary's administrative costs or expenses, and
 - b. Delinquent debt owed to the Federal Government.

IV. Application and Submission Information

A. Where To Get Application Information

The application guide, copies of necessary forms, the RFP regulation, and samples are available from these sources:

1. The RFP of RUS Web site: <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water>, or <http://www.grants.gov>.
2. Telephone the RFP of RUS for paper copies: (202) 720-9586.

B. You May File an Application in Either Paper or Electronic Format

1. Applications submitted on paper:
 - a. Send or deliver paper applications by the U.S. Postal Service (USPS) or courier delivery services to: Assistant Administrator, Water and

Environmental Programs, Rural Utilities Service, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., STOP 1548, Room 5145 South, Washington, DC 20250-1548. RUS will not accept applications by fax or e-mail.

b. Submit the original paper application (no stamped, photocopied, or initialed signatures) and two copies on or before the deadline date. The application and any materials sent with it become Federal records by law and cannot be returned to you.

2. Electronically submitted applications:

a. Applications will not be accepted by RUS via facsimile machine or electronic mail.

b. Electronic applications for grants will be accepted if submitted through the Federal Government's Grant.gov Web site: <http://www.grants.gov>.

c. How to register with Grants.gov: You must be registered with Grants.gov before you can submit a grant application. If you have not used Grants.gov before, you will need to register with the Central Contractor Registry (CCR) and the Credential Provider. You will also need a DUNS number to access or register for these services. The registration processes may take several business days to complete. Follow the instructions at Grants.gov for registering and submitting an electronic application. RUS may request original signatures on electronically submitted documents later.

d. The CCR registers your organization, housing your organizational information and allowing Grants.gov to use it to verify your identity. You may register for the CCR by calling the CCR Assistance Center at 1-888-227-2423 or you may register online at: <http://www.ccr.gov>.

e. The Credential Provider gives you or your representative a username and password, as part of the Federal Government's e-Authentication to ensure a secure transaction. You will need the username and password when you register with Grants.gov or use Grants.gov to submit your application. You must register with the Central Provider through Grants.gov: <https://apply.grants.gov/OrcRegister>.

f. DUNS number. As required by OMB, a Dun and Bradstreet Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number (DUNS) number is required for paper and electronically submitted grant applications. The Standard Form 424 (SF-424), "Application for Federal Assistance" contains a field for you to use when supplying your DUNS number. Obtaining a DUNS number costs nothing and requires a brief telephone call to Dun and Bradstreet. To verify that your organization has a

DUNS number or to receive one, call the dedicated toll-free request line at 1-866-705-5711. The following information is required when requesting a DUNS number:

- (i) Legal Name.
- (ii) Headquarters name and address of the organization
- (iii) Doing business as (dba) or other name by which the organization is commonly recognized.
- (iv) Physical address.
- (v) Mailing address (if separate from headquarters and/or physical address).
- (vi) Telephone number.
- (vii) Contact name and title.
- (viii) Number of employees at the physical location.

For more information, please visit Grants.gov and the Dun and Bradstreet Web site: <http://www.dunandbradstreet.com>.

C. What Constitutes a Completed Application?

1. To be considered for a RFP grant award, you must be an eligible entity and must submit a complete application on or before May 23, 2005. You should consult the cost principles and general administrative requirements for grants pertaining to their organizational type in order to prepare the budget and complete other parts of the application. You also must demonstrate compliance (or intent to comply), through certification or other means, with a number of public policy requirements.

2. Applicants must complete and submit the following forms to apply for a RFP grant:

- a. Standard Form 424, "Application for Federal Assistance."
- b. Standard Form 424A, "Budget Information—Non-Construction Programs."
- c. Standard Form 424B, "Assurances—Non-Construction Programs."
- d. Standard Form LLL, "Disclosure of Lobbying Activity."
- e. Form RD 400-1, "Equal Opportunity Agreement."
- f. Form RD 400-4, "Assurance Agreement (Under Title VI, Civil Rights Act of 1964)."

3. The project proposal should outline the project in sufficient detail to provide a reader with a complete understanding of how the loan program will work. Explain what you will accomplish by lending funds to eligible entities. Demonstrate the feasibility of the proposed loan program in meeting the objectives of this grant program. The proposal should cover the following elements:

- a. Present a brief project overview. Explain the purpose of the project, how

it relates to RUS's purposes, how you will carry out the project, what the project will produce, and who will direct it.

b. Describe why the project is necessary. Demonstrate that eligible entities need loan funds. Quantify the number of prospective borrowers or provide statistical or narrative evidence that a sufficient number of borrowers will exist to justify the grant award. Describe the service area. Address community needs.

c. Clearly state your project goals. Your objectives should clearly describe the goals and be concrete and specific enough to be quantitative or observable. They should also be feasible and relate to the purpose of the loan program.

d. The narrative should cover in more detail the items briefly described in the Project Summary. It should establish the basis for any claims that you have substantial expertise in promoting the safe and productive use of Revolving Funds. In describing what the project will achieve, you should tell the reader if it also will have broader influence. The narrative should address the following points:

(i) Document your ability to administer and service a revolving fund in accordance with the provisions of 7 CFR Part 1783.

(ii) Document that, to establish the revolving fund, you can commit financial resources your organization controls. This documentation should describe the sources of funds other than the RFP grant that will be used to pay your operational costs and provide financial assistance for projects.

(iii) Demonstrate that you have secured commitments of significant financial support from other funding sources, if appropriate.

(iii) List the fees and charges that borrowers will be assessed.

e. The work plan must describe the tasks and activities that will be accomplished with available resources during the grant period. It must show the work you plan to do to achieve the anticipated outcomes, goals, and objectives set out for the RFP Program. The plan must:

(i) Describe the work to be performed by each person.

(ii) Give a schedule or timetable of work to be done.

(iii) Show evidence of previous experience with the techniques to be used or their successful use by others.

(iv) Outline the loan program to include the following: Specific loan purposes, a loan application process; priorities, borrower eligibility criteria, limitations, fees, interest rates, terms, and collateral requirements.

(v) Provide a marketing plan.

(vi) Explain the mechanics of how you will transfer loan funds to the borrowers.

(vii) Describe follow-up or continuing activities that should occur after project completion such as monitoring and reporting borrowers' accomplishments.

(viii) Project Evaluation. It should describe how the results will be evaluated, in line with the project objectives.

(ix) Personnel. The applicant should list all personnel responsible for administering this program along with a statement of their qualifications and experience.

f. The written justification for projected costs should explain how budget figures were determined for each category. It should indicate which costs are to be covered by grant funds and which costs will be met by your organization or other organizations. The justification should account for all expenditures discussed in the narrative. It should reflect appropriate cost-sharing contributions. The budget justification should explain the budget and accounting system proposed or in place. The administrative costs for operating the budget should be expressed as a percentage of the overall budget. The budget justification should provide specific budget figures, rounding off figures to the nearest dollar. Applicants should consult OMB Circular A-122: "Cost Principles for Non-Profit Organizations" for information about appropriate costs for each budget category.

g. In addition to completing the standard application forms, you must submit supplementary materials.

h. Demonstrate that your organization is legally recognized under state and Federal law. Satisfactory documentation includes, but is not limited to, certificates from the Secretary of State, or copies of state statutes or laws establishing your organization. Letters from the IRS awarding tax-exempt status are not considered adequate evidence.

i. Submit a certified list of directors and officers with their respective terms.

j. Submit evidence of tax exempt status from the Internal Revenue Service.

k. You must disclose debarment and suspension information required in accordance with 7 CFR, Part 3017, subpart 3017.335, if it applies. The section heading is "What information must I provide before entering into a covered transaction with the Department of Agriculture?" It is part of the Department of Agriculture's rules on Government-wide Debarment and Suspension.

l. Submit the most recent audit of your organization.

m. Submit the following financial statements:

(i) A pro forma balance sheet at start-up and for at least three additional years; Balance sheets, income statements, and cash flow statements for the last three years. If your organization has been formed less than three years, the financial statements should be submitted for the periods from inception to the present.

(ii) Projected income and cash flow statements for at least three years supported by a list of assumptions showing the basis for the projections.

(iii) The projected income statement and balance sheet must include one set of projections that shows the revolving loan fund only and a separate set of projections that shows your organization's total operations.

n. You may present additional information to support and describe

your plan for achieving the grant objectives. The information may be regarded as essential for understanding and evaluating the project such as letters of support, resolutions, policies, etc. The supplements may be presented in appendices to the proposal.

4. You must identify all of your organization's known workplaces by including the actual address of buildings (or parts of buildings) or other sites where work under the award takes place. Workplace identification is required under the drug-free workplace requirements in accordance with 7 CFR, Part 3021, subpart 3021.230. The section heading is "How and when must I identify workplaces?" This is part of the Department of Agriculture's rules on Government-wide Requirements for Drug-Free Workplace (Financial Assistance).

V. Application Review Information

A. Criteria

1. Receipt Acknowledgment by letter sent within 30 days of receiving your application, RUS will acknowledge the application's receipt. Your application will be reviewed for completeness to determine if you included all of the items required. If your application is incomplete or ineligible, RUS will return it to you with an explanation.

2. A review team, composed of at least two members, will evaluate all applications and proposals. They will make overall recommendations based on factors such as eligibility, application completeness, and conformity to application requirements. They will score the applications based on criteria in the next section.

3. All applications that are complete and eligible will be ranked competitively based on the following scoring criteria:

| Scoring criteria | Points |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| 1. Degree of expertise and successful experience in Up to 30 making and servicing commercial loans, with a points successful record. | Up to 30 points. |
| 2. Percentage of applicant contributions. Points allowed under this paragraph will be based on written evidence of the availability of funds from sources other than the proceeds of a RFP grant to pay part of the cost of a loan recipient's project. In-kind contributions will not be considered. Funds from other sources as a percentage of the RFP grant and points corresponding to such percentages are as follows: | |
| Less than 20 percent— | Ineligible. |
| At least 20 percent but not more than 49 percent of 10 points the total project costs | 10 points. |
| At least 50 percent of the total project costs | 20 points. |
| 3. Extent to which the work plan clearly articulates a well thought out approach to accomplishing objectives; points clearly defines who will be served by the project or program; and includes all components listed in 1783.37(b)(14). | Up to 40 points. |
| 4. Description of the service area, particularly the range of the area: | |
| State | 10 points. |
| Regional | 15 points. |
| National | 20 points. |
| 5. Extent to which the problem or issue being addressed in the Needs Assessment is defined clearly and points supported by data. | Up to 15 points. |
| 6. Extent to which the goals and objectives are clearly defined, tied to the need as defined in the Needs points Assessment, and are measurable. | Up to 15 points. |
| 7. Extent to which the evaluation methods are specific to the program, clearly defined, measurable, with points expected program outcomes. | Up to 20 points. |
| 8. Administrator's discretion, taking into consideration such factors as: Creative outreach ideas for marketing RFP loans; Amount of funds requested in relation to the amount of needs demonstrated in the proposal; Excellent utilization of a previous revolving loan fund; and (d) Optimizing the use of agency resources. | Up to 10 points. |

VI. Award Review Process

A. RUS Will Rank All Qualifying Applications by Their Final Score

Applications will be selected for funding, based on the highest scores and the availability of funding for RFP grants. Each applicant will be notified in writing of the score its application receives.

B. Application Determinations

In making its decision about your application, RUS may determine that your application is:

1. Eligible and selected for funding,

2. Eligible but offered fewer funds than requested,

3. Eligible but not selected for funding; or,

4. Ineligible for the grant.

C. Appeals

In accordance with 7 CFR part 1900, subpart B, you generally have the right to appeal adverse decisions. Some adverse decisions cannot be appealed. For example, if you are denied RUS funding due to a lack of funds available for the grant program, this decision cannot be appealed. However, you may make a request to the National Appeals Division (NAD) to review the accuracy

of our finding that the decision cannot be appealed. The appeal must be in writing and filed at the appropriate Regional Office, which can be found at <http://www.nad.usda.gov/offices.htm> or by calling (703) 305-1166.

VII. Award Administration Information

A. Terms and Conditions of Grant Award

Applicants selected for funding will complete a grant agreement which outlines the terms and conditions of the grant award.

B. Grantee Reimbursement

1. SF-270, "Request for Advance or Reimbursement," will be completed by the grantee and submitted to either the State or National Office not more frequently than monthly.

2. Upon receipt of a properly completed SF-270, the funds will be requested through the field office terminal system. Ordinarily, payment will be made within 30 days after receipt of a proper request for reimbursement.

3. Grantees are encouraged to use women- and minority-owned banks (a bank which is owned at least 50 percent by women or minority group members) for the deposit and disbursement of funds.

C. Post-Award Project Changes

Any change in the scope of the project, budget adjustments of more than 10 percent of the total budget, or any other significant change in the project must be reported to and approved by the approval official by written amendment to RUS Guide 1775—

1. Any change not approved may be cause for termination of the grant.

D. Project Reporting

1. Grantees shall constantly monitor performance to ensure that time schedules are being met, projected work by time periods is being accomplished, and other performance objectives are being achieved.

2. SF-269, "Financial Status Report (short form)," and a project performance activity report will be required of all grantees on a quarterly basis, due 30 days after the end of each quarter.

3. A final project performance report will be required with the last SF-269 due 90 days after the end of the last quarter in which the project is completed. The final report may serve as the last quarterly report.

4. All multi-State grantees are to submit an original of each report to the National Office. Grantees serving only one State are to submit an original of each report to the State Office. The project performance reports should detail, preferably in a narrative format, activities that have transpired for the specific time period.

5. The grantee will provide an audit report or financial statements as follows:

a. Grantees expending \$500,000 or more Federal funds per fiscal year will submit an audit conducted in accordance with OMB Circular A-133. The audit will be submitted within 9 months after the grantee's fiscal year. Additional audits may be required if the project period covers more than one fiscal year.

b. Grantees expending less than \$500,000 will provide annual financial statements covering the grant period, consisting of the organization's statement of income and expense and balance sheet signed by an appropriate official of the organization. Financial statements will be submitted within 90 days after the grantee's fiscal year.

VII. Agency Contacts

A. Web site: <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water>. The RUS' Web site maintains up-to-date resources and contact information for RFP programs.

B. Telephone: 202-720-9586.

C. Fax: 202-690-0649.

D. E-mail: stephen.saulnier@usda.gov.

E. Main point of contact: Stephen Saulnier, Loan Specialist, Water and Environmental Programs, Water Programs Division, Rural Utilities Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Dated: March 3, 2005.

Curtis M. Anderson,

Acting Administrator, Rural Utilities Service.

[FR Doc. 05-5582 Filed 3-21-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-15-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**Foreign-Trade Zones Board**

[Docket 15-2005]

**Foreign-Trade Zone 22—Chicago, IL;
Application for Subzone, Michelin
North America (Tire Distribution),
Monee, IL**

An application has been submitted to the Foreign-Trade Zones Board (the Board) by the Illinois International Port District, grantee of FTZ 22, requesting special-purpose subzone status for the tire and tire accessory warehousing/distribution facility of Michelin North America (MNA), in Monee, Illinois. The application was submitted pursuant to the provisions of the Foreign-Trade Zones Act, as amended (19 U.S.C. 81a-81u), and the regulations of the Board (15 CFR part 400). It was formally filed on March 14, 2005.

The MNA facility (1 building, 721,761 sq. ft. on 34.9 acres) is located at 25850 S. Ridgeland Avenue, within the Bailly Ridge Corporate Center, Monee, Illinois (Will County). The facility (80 employees) may be used under FTZ procedures for warehousing, inspection, labeling, packaging, scrapping, and distribution of tires and tire accessories (including tire flaps, inner tubes and gaskets). Some 50 to 80 percent of the tires at the facility are sourced abroad. About 25-30 percent of the tires at the facility are currently re-exported.

Zone procedures would exempt MNA from Customs duty payments on foreign products that are re-exported. On domestic sales, the company would be able to defer payments until merchandise is shipped from the plant. MNA would be able to avoid duty on foreign products which become scrap/waste, estimated at 1-3 percent of total inventory. FTZ designation would further allow MNA to realize significant logistical/procedural benefits. The application indicates that the savings from zone procedures will help improve the facility's international competitiveness.

In accordance with the Board's regulations, a member of the FTZ Staff has been designated examiner to investigate the application and report to the Board.

Public comment is invited from interested parties. Submissions (original and 3 copies) shall be addressed to the Board's Executive Secretary at one of the following addresses:

1. Submissions Via Express/Package Delivery Services: Foreign-Trade-Zones Board, U.S. Department of Commerce, Franklin Court Building—Suite 4100W, 1099 14th St., NW., Washington, DC 20005; or

2. Submissions Via the U.S. Postal Service: Foreign-Trade-Zones Board, U.S. Department of Commerce, FCB—Suite 4100W, 1401 Constitution Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20230.

The closing period for their receipt is May 23, 2005. Rebuttal comments in response to material submitted during the foregoing period may be submitted during the subsequent 15-day period (to June 6, 2005).

A copy of the application and accompanying exhibits will be available for public inspection at the Office of the Foreign-Trade Zones Board's Executive Secretary at address Number 1 listed above, and at the U.S. Department of Commerce Export Assistance Center, 200 West Adams Street, Suite 2450, Chicago, IL 60606.

Dated: March 15, 2005.

Dennis Puccinelli,

Executive Secretary.

[FR Doc. 05-5623 Filed 3-21-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-DS-P