Notices

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
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

Significant Guidance Documents

AGENCY: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the availability of a Web site that will list significant guidance documents issued by the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service and provides related information.


FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Cindy Howard, Chief, Regulatory Analysis and Development, Policy and Program Development, APHIS, 4700 River Road Unit 118, Riverdale, MD 20737–1238; (301) 734–5957.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On January 18, 2007, the President issued Executive Order (EO) 13422, “Amendment to Executive Order 12866 for Regulatory Planning and Review.” On that same day, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) issued a related document, the OMB Bulletin on Agency Good Guidance Practices (the Bulletin). The primary focus of the EO and the Bulletin is on improving the way the Federal government does business with respect to significant guidance documents issued to the public by increasing their quality, transparency, accountability, and coordination. OMB subsequently issued a memorandum to assist agencies in their implementation of the EO and Bulletin.1

Among other things, the Bulletin requires an agency to:
- Maintain on its Web site a list of significant guidance documents in effect, along with a link to each document.
- Establish and clearly advertise on the Web site a means for the public to submit comments electronically on significant guidance documents, and to submit a request electronically for issuance, reconsideration, modification, or rescission of significant guidance documents.
- Designate an office (or offices) to receive and address complaints by the public that the agency is not following procedures in the Good Guidance Bulletin or is treating a significant guidance document as a binding requirement. Provide the name and contact information for the office(s) on the Web site.

This notice announces the Web address where APHIS will maintain its list of significant guidance documents in effect, along with a link to each document. That Web address, also shown in the ADDRESSES section of this notice, is http://www.aphis.usda.gov/guidance.

APHIS intends to make new or revised significant guidance documents available for public comment through the Federal eRulemaking Portal, http://www.regulations.gov. If we issue an economically significant guidance document, we will take public comment on a draft of the economically significant guidance document prior to making it effective, as required by the Bulletin. We will also publish a response to comments we receive on the economically significant guidance document and make our response and the final guidance document available at Regulations.gov as well as on our Web site. We may make significant guidance documents that are not economically significant effective prior to taking public comment. We will give due consideration to comments we receive on significant guidance documents that are not economically significant, but, as provided in the Bulletin, we will not publish a response to the comments. All comments we receive through Regulations.gov will be available for the public to view on that site.

As announced on our significant guidance document Web site, members of the public who wish to request that APHIS issue, reconsider, modify, or rescind a significant guidance document, or who wish to complain that the agency is not following the procedures in OMB’s Bulletin or is improperly treating a significant guidance document as a binding requirement, may do so by sending an e-mail to Good_Guidance_Comments@aphis.usda.gov or by mailing a letter to the following office: Guidance Officer, Policy and Program Development, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA, 4700 River Road, Unit 20, Riverdale, MD 20737–1230.

Done in Washington, DC, this 18th day of July 2007.

Kevin Shea,
Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[FR Doc. E7–14254 Filed 7–23–07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–34–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Foreign Agricultural Service

Privacy Act of 1974: New System of Records

AGENCY: Foreign Agricultural Service.

ACTION: Notice of a new system of records.

SUMMARY: The Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) proposes to add a system of records notice to its inventory of records systems subject to the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C. 552a), as amended. This action is necessary to meet the requirements of the Privacy Act to publish in the Federal Register notice of the existence and character of record systems maintained by the agency (5 U.S.C. 552a(e)(4)).

DATES: This action will be effective without further notice August 23, 2007 unless comments are received that would result in a contrary determination.

ADDRESSES: Send written comments to Privacy Act Officer, U.S. Department of Agriculture, FAS/OAO, Mail Stop 1031, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250–1031.

Notes

1 Links to the (1) revised EO, (2) the Bulletin, and (3) OMB’s memorandum for implementing the revised EO and Bulletin may be found at:

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
William Hawkins, Director, Program Management Division, USDA/FAS/OAO, Mail Stop 1031, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250–1031.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The International Passport and Travel Tracking System (IPATTS) was primarily designed to track official and diplomatic passports, and to maintain support documentation for all agencies within the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). It is also used to track visas obtained for USDA travelers. The social security number is used to ensure the traveler’s identity and verify employment of persons applying for issuance of passports for USDA travel. The information maintained in the records is used to establish the U.S. citizenship and identity of persons for a variety of legal purposes including, but not limited to the adjudication of passport applications. The principal user of this information is USDA’s Internation Travel Section (ITS).

USDA/FAS–7 SYSTEM NAME: International Passport and Travel Tracking System.

SYSTEM LOCATION: Electronic records are maintained by the Foreign Agricultural Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250.

CATEGORIES OF INDIVIDUALS COVERED BY THE SYSTEM: USDA employees and their dependents who travel abroad on official business; employees and their dependents who have been issued or have applied for the issuance, amendment, extension or renewal of U.S. passports.

CATEGORIES OR RECORDS IN THE SYSTEM: Federal employees and their dependents records may include name, address, social security number, date of birth, photo ID, and passport number.


PURPOSE: The information maintained in the IPATTS records is used to provide international travel services for official USDA travelers; administer foreign visa requests and official passports of USDA agencies; and manage international travel support to the FFAS mission area.

STORAGE: Records are stored in paper and electronic format.

RETRIEVABILITY: Records are retrieved by individual name or social security numbers.

SAFEGUARDS: All employees of USDA undergo a thorough background investigation, while contractors are subject to a background investigation in accordance to their contract. All records containing personal information are maintained in secured file cabinets or in restricted accessed areas which is limited to authorized personnel. Access to computerized data is password-protected and under the responsibility of the system manager and his staff. The database administrator has the ability to review audits trails, thereby permitting regular ad hoc monitoring of computer usage.

RETENTION AND DISPOSAL: Retention of the records varies depending upon the specific record. They are retired or destroyed in accordance with published record schedules of the Department.

SYSTEM MANAGER(S) AND ADDRESS: Director, Program Management Division, USDA/FAS/OAO, Mail Stop 1031, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250–1031.

NOTIFICATION PROCEDURE: Individuals seeking to determine whether this system of records contains information about themselves may submit a written request to the Privacy Act Officer, USDA/FAS/OAO, Mail Stop 1031, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250–1031.

INDIVIDUALS SEEKING TO DETERMINE WHETHER THIS SYSTEM OF RECORDS CONTAINS INFORMATION ABOUT THEMSELVES MAY SUBMIT A WRITTEN REQUEST TO THE PRIVACY ACT OFFICER, USDA/FAS/OAO, MAIL STOP 1031, 1400 INDEPENDENCE AVENUE, SW., WASHINGTON, DC 20250–1031.


FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Paola Felix, USDA/FAS/OAO/BD, Mail Stop 1028, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250–1028.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The International Funds Control Reporting System (IFCRS) is a major tool in providing FAS with specialized reports for management down to the sub-organizational level, as well as supporting reimbursable agreements with other government entities, such as the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). IFCRS is also a critical link between the Department of State (DOS) and USDA’s Foundation Financial Information System (FFIS). IFCRS provides the ability to convert DOS data into a format accepted by FFIS. In addition, IFCRS provides the Agency the tools to manage and report in order to support reimbursable agreements of the agency.

While official accounting functions are handled by the National Finance Center in New Orleans, USDA maintains