

**Authority:** 7 U.S.C. 71–87k.

**Alan Christian,**

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

[FR Doc. E8–28247 Filed 11–28–08; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3410-KD-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

**Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration**

**Designation for the Alabama; Essex, IL; Springfield, IL; Savage, MN; and Washington Areas**

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

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** GIPSA is announcing designation of the following organizations to provide official services under the United States Grain Standards Act, as amended (USGSA or Act): Alabama Department of Agriculture and

Industries (Alabama); Kankakee Grain Inspection, Inc. (Kankakee); Springfield Grain Inspection, Inc. (Springfield); State Grain Inspection, Inc. (State Grain); and Washington Department of Agriculture (Washington).

**DATES:** Effective January 1, 2009.

**ADDRESSES:** USDA, GIPSA, Karen Guagliardo, Chief, Review Branch, Compliance Division, STOP 3604, Room 1647–S, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250–3604.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Karen Guagliardo at 202–720–7312, e-mail *Karen.W.Guagliardo@usda.gov*.

*Read Applications:* All applications and comments will be available for public inspection at the office above during regular business hours (7 CFR 1.27(b)).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** In the June 2, 2008, **Federal Register** (73 FR 31431), GIPSA requested applications for designations to provide official services in the geographic areas assigned to the

official agencies named above. Applications were due by July 1, 2008. Alabama, Kankakee, Springfield, State Grain, and Washington were the sole applicants for designation to provide official services in the areas currently assigned to them, so GIPSA did not ask for additional comments on them.

GIPSA evaluated all available information regarding the designation criteria in section 7(f)(1) of the USGSA (7 U.S.C. 79(f)) and determined that Alabama, Kankakee, Springfield, State Grain and Washington are able to provide official services in the geographic areas specified in the June 2, 2008, **Federal Register**, for which they applied. These designation actions to provide official services are effective January 1, 2009, and terminate December 31, 2011, for Alabama, Kankakee, Springfield, State Grain, and Washington.

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

Official agency	Headquarters location and telephone	Designation start	Designation end
Alabama .....	Montgomery, AL, 251–438–2549; Additional Locations: Decatur and Mobile, AL	1/1/2009	12/31/2011
Kankakee .....	Essex, IL, 815–365–2268; Additional Location: Tiskilwa, IL .....	1/1/2009	12/31/2011
Springfield .....	Springfield, IL, 217–522–5233 .....	1/1/2009	12/31/2011
State Grain .....	Savage, MN, 952–808–8566 .....	1/1/2009	12/31/2011
Washington .....	Olympia, WA, 360–753–1484; Additional Locations: Colfax, Kalama, Pasco, Se-attle, Spokane, Tacoma and Vancouver, WA.	1/1/2009	12/31/2011

Section 7(f)(1) of the USGSA 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 (7 U.S.C. 79 (f)(1)).

Under section 7(g)(1) of the USGSA, designations of official agencies are effective for 3 years unless terminated by the Secretary but may be renewed according to the criteria and procedures prescribed in section 7(f) of the Act.

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**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

**Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration**

**Opportunity for Designation in Topeka, KS; Cedar Rapids, IA; Minot, ND; and Cincinnati, OH, Areas and Request for Comments on the Official Agencies Serving These Areas**

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

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The designations of the official agencies listed below will end on June 30, 2009. GIPSA is asking persons interested in providing official services in the areas served by these agencies to submit applications for designation. GIPSA is also asking for comments on the quality of services provided by these currently designated agencies:

Kansas Grain Inspection Service, Inc. (Kansas);

Mid-Iowa Grain Inspection, Inc. (Mid-Iowa);

Minot Grain Inspection, Inc. (Minot); and

Tri-State Grain Inspection Service, Inc. (Tri-State).

**DATES:** Applications and comments must be received on or before January 2, 2009.

**ADDRESSES:** GIPSA invites you to submit applications and comments on this notice by any of the following methods:

- To apply for designation, go to “FGISonline” at [https://fgis.gipsa.usda.gov/default\\_home\\_FGIS.aspx](https://fgis.gipsa.usda.gov/default_home_FGIS.aspx) then select Delegations/Designations and Export Registrations (DDR). You will need a USDA e-authentication, username, password, and a customer number prior to applying.

- Hand Delivery or Courier:* Karen Guagliardo, Review Branch Chief, Compliance Division, GIPSA, USDA, Room 1647–S, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250.

- Fax:* (202) 690–2755, to the attention of: Karen Guagliardo.

- E-mail:* *Karen.W.Guagliardo@usda.gov*.

- Mail:* Karen Guagliardo, Review Branch Chief, Compliance Division, GIPSA, USDA, STOP 3604, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250–3604.