

the State of Arkansas (FEMA-1861-DR), dated 12/03/2009.

*Incident:* Severe Storms, Tornadoes, and Flooding.

*Incident Period:* 10/29/2009 and continuing.

*Effective Date:* 12/03/2009.

*Physical Loan Application Deadline Date:* 02/01/2010.

*Economic Injury (EIDL) Loan Application Deadline Date:* 09/03/2010.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit completed loan applications to: U.S. Small Business Administration, Processing and Disbursement Center, 14925 Kingsport Road, Fort Worth, TX 76155.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Michael Mitrovich, Office of Disaster Assistance, U.S. Small Business Administration, 409 3rd Street, SW., Suite 6050, Washington, DC 20416.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Notice is hereby given that as a result of the President's major disaster declaration on 12/03/2009, Private Non-Profit organizations that provide essential services of governmental nature may file disaster loan applications at the address listed above or other locally announced locations.

The following areas have been determined to be adversely affected by the disaster:

*Primary Counties:* Boone, Bradley, Calhoun, Carroll, Cleburne, Cleveland, Columbia, Conway, Cross, Dallas, Franklin, Fulton, Grant, Izard, Jackson, Johnson, Lafayette, Lawrence, Lincoln, Logan, Marion, Monroe, Nevada, Newton, Ouachita, Poinsett, Prairie, Pulaski, Randolph, Saint Francis, Scott, Sharp, Stone, Union, Van Buren, White, Woodruff.

The Interest Rates are:

	Percent
Other (Including Non-Profit Organizations) With Credit Available Elsewhere .....	3.625
Businesses and Non-Profit Organizations Without Credit Available Elsewhere .....	3.000

The number assigned to this disaster for physical damage is 11960B and for economic injury is 11961B.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Numbers 59002 and 59008)

**James E. Rivera,**

*Acting Associate Administrator for Disaster Assistance.*

[FR Doc. E9-29596 Filed 12-11-09; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 8025-01-P**

**SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION**

**Export Express Pilot Program**

**AGENCY:** U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA).

**ACTION:** Notice of Pilot Program extension.

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces the extension of SBA's Export Express Pilot Program until December 31, 2010. This extension will allow time for the Agency to further market and evaluate this specific loan program for exporters and analyze the Program's performance during the next 12 months.

**DATES:** The Export Express Pilot Program is extended under this notice until December 31, 2010.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Patrick Tunison, Office of International Trade, U.S. Small Business Administration, 409 Third Street, SW., Washington, DC 20416; Telephone (202) 205-7429; *Patrick.Tunison@sba.gov*.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Established in 1998, the Export Express Pilot Program assists current and prospective small business exporters, particularly those needing revolving lines of credit. Export Express is an SBA Pilot Program under the Agency's 7(a) lending program that extends a streamlined process to small business exporters and their lenders. The maximum loan amount under this Program is \$250,000. The pilot was scheduled to end on December 31, 2009. This notice announces the extension of SBA's Export Express Pilot Program until December 31, 2010.

SBA estimates that small business exports grew by 58% from 2002 to 2007, from \$300 billion to \$475 billion (Source: SBA, Bureau of Economic Analysis GDP data and Census Bureau *A Profile of US Exporting Companies*). Almost a quarter of a million small businesses export, and they account for 29 percent of all U.S. exports (Source: *A Profile of US Exporting Companies*, Census Bureau). Designed to serve the particular capital needs of small business exporters, the number of Export Express loans approved in 2009 was double those closed in 2008 (227 versus 104) and the approved loan dollar amount increased by more than 91% (\$15M versus \$8M). In addition, the number of lenders delegated the authority to use expedited loan processing was increased by five in 2009. These indicators reflect an increasing utility and need for the Export Express Program. Extension of this pilot program through December 31, 2010 will enable the Agency to analyze performance and refine the elements/

structure of the Export Express Loan Pilot Program.

In prior years, the Agency stated that it would complete an analysis of this program to help determine its long-term viability. This analysis primarily includes lender and borrower participation in the program as well as portfolio performance. Because this year the program was changed through Recovery Act provisions that reduced program fees and increased guarantees, the Agency is unable to separate baseline program statistics from this year's special circumstances and is therefore providing an additional pilot year to review performance.

**Authority:** 13 CFR 120.3.

**Richard Blewett,**

*Acting Director, Office of Financial Assistance.*

[FR Doc. E9-29673 Filed 12-11-09; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 8025-01-P**

**SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION**

**SBA North Florida District Advisory Council**

**AGENCY:** U.S. Small Business Administration.

**ACTION:** Notice of open Federal Advisory Committee meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The SBA is issuing this notice to announce the location, date, time, and agenda for the next meeting of the SBA North Florida District Advisory Council. The meeting will be open to the public.

**DATES:** The meeting will be held on Thursday, January 14, 2010 from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Eastern Standard Time.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at the Disney Entrepreneur Center, 315 East Robinson St., Orlando, FL 32801.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Pursuant to section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C., Appendix 2), SBA announces the meeting of the SBA North Florida District Advisory Council. The SBA North Florida District Advisory Council is tasked with providing advice and opinions to SBA regarding the effectiveness of and need for SBA programs, particularly within North Florida and for listening to what is currently happening in the Florida small business community.

The purpose of the meeting is to discuss with the council the current status of small business across North Florida and to discuss the agency status, especially in regards to ARRA updates. The agenda includes: An overview of the status of the SBA as an agency from

Wilfredo J. Gonzalez, SBA District Director, as well as a luncheon/meeting to hear from the members of the council and to hear from the SBA staff on SBA updates for the District.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** The meeting is open to the public, however, advance notice of attendance is requested. Anyone wishing to attend and/or make a presentation to the SBA North Florida District Advisory Council must contact Lola Kress by January 11, 2010, by fax or e-mail in order to be placed on the agenda. Lola Kress, Business Development Specialist, SBA North Florida District Office, [lola.kress@sba.gov](mailto:lola.kress@sba.gov), (904) 443-1933, fax (202) 481-4188.

Additionally, if you need accommodations because of a disability or require additional information, please contact Lola Kress, Business Development Specialist, SBA North Florida District Office, [lola.kress@sba.gov](mailto:lola.kress@sba.gov), (904) 443-1933.

Dated: December, 8, 2009.

**Susan Walthall,**

*SBA Committee Management Officer.*

[FR Doc. E9-29590 Filed 12-11-09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8025-01-P

## SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

### Small Business Size Regulations; 8(a) Business Development/Small Disadvantaged Business Status Determinations

**AGENCY:** U.S. Small Business Administration.

**ACTION:** Notice of public meetings; request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) announces it is holding a series of public meetings on the topic of the proposed changes to the 8(a) Business Development (BD) Program Regulations and Small Business Size Regulations. Testimony and comments presented at the public comment meetings will become part of the administrative record as comments addressing the proposed changes to the regulations pertaining to the 8(a) BD program and small business size standards. In conjunction with the public meetings SBA is conducting tribal consultations prior to the end of the comment period for the proposed rulemaking.

**DATES:** See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section for meeting dates.

**ADDRESSES:** 1. New York, NY—Jacob Javitz Federal Bldg, 26 Federal Plaza, 6th Floor Conference Center—Room D, New York, New York 10278. (Visitors will be subject to a security screening and might be required to present valid photo identification.)

2. Seattle, Washington—South Seattle Community College's Georgetown Campus, Building C—Gene J. Colin Ed. Bldg, 6737 Corson Avenue South, Seattle, WA 98108.

3. Boston, Massachusetts—Tip O'Neil Federal Bldg, 1st Floor Auditorium, 10 Causeway Street, Boston, MA 02222. (Visitors will be subject to a security screening and might be required to present valid photo identification.)

4. Dallas, Texas—University of Texas In Arlington—Riverbend Campus, 7300 Jack Newell Blvd South, Fort Worth, Texas 76118.

5. Atlanta, Georgia—Sam Nunn Federal Center, Conference Level, 61 Forsyth Street, SW., Atlanta, GA 30303. (Visitors will be subject to a security screening and might be required to present valid photo identification.)

6. Albuquerque, NM—Central New Mexico Community College, Smith Brasher Hall of, 525 Buena Vista Dr., SE., Albuquerque, NM 87106.

7. Chicago, Illinois—SBA Illinois District Office, 500 West Madison Street, Suite 1250—Conference Room A, Chicago, IL 60661. (Visitors will be subject to a security screening and might be required to present valid photo identification.)

Send all written comments to Mr. Joseph Loddo, Associate Administrator for Business Development, U.S. Small Business Administration, 409 3rd Street, SW., Washington, DC 20416.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** If you have any questions on this proposed rulemaking, call or e-mail LeAnn Delaney, Deputy Associate Administrator, Office of Business Development, at (202) 205-5852, or [leann.delaney@sba.gov](mailto:leann.delaney@sba.gov). If you have any questions about registering or attending the public meeting please contact Ms. Latrice Andrews, SBA's Office of Business Development at (202) 205-5852, or [latrice.andrews@SBA.gov](mailto:latrice.andrews@SBA.gov), or by facsimile to (202) 481-4042.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

## I. Background

On October 28, 2009 (74 FR 55694-01), SBA issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM). In that document, SBA proposed to make a number of changes to the regulations governing the 8(a) BD Program Regulations and several changes to its Small Business Size Regulations. Some of the changes involve technical issues. Other changes are more substantive and result from SBA's experience in implementing the current regulations. In addition to written comments, SBA is requesting oral comments on the various approaches for the proposed changes.

## II. Public Hearings

The public meeting format will consist of a panel of SBA representatives who will preside over the session. The oral and written testimony will become part of the administrative record for SBA's consideration. Written testimony may be submitted in lieu of oral testimony. SBA will analyze the testimony, both oral and written, along with any written comments received. SBA officials may ask questions of a presenter to clarify or further explain the testimony. The purpose of the public meetings is to allow the general public to comment on SBA's proposed rulemaking. SBA requests that the comments focus on the proposed changes as stated in the NPRM. SBA requests that commentors do not raise issues pertaining to other SBA small business programs. Presenters may provide a written copy of their testimony. SBA will accept written material that the presenter wishes to provide that further supplements his or her testimony. Electronic or digitized copies are encouraged.

SBA will hold additional public meetings before the close of the comment period for this rulemaking. In conjunction with the public meetings SBA is conducting tribal consultations prior to the end of the comment period for the proposed rulemaking. The meeting notice for these tribal consultations was published in the **Federal Register** on December 7, 2009 (74 FR 64026).

The public meetings will be held on the dates listed below for each location from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day.