

programs are managed in accordance with the Rural Electrification Act (RE Act) of 1936, 7 U.S.C. 901 *et seq.*, as amended, and as prescribed by Office of Management and Budget Circular A-129, Policies for Federal Credit Programs and Non-Tax Receivable, which states that agencies must, based on a review of a loan application, determine that an applicant complies with statutory, regulatory, and administrative eligibility requirements for loan assistance. RUS has the authority to use consultants voluntarily funded by borrowers for financial, legal, engineering, and other technical services. However, all RUS borrowers are eligible to fund consultant services but are not required to fund consultants.

**Need and Use of the Information:** RUS will collect information to determine whether it is appropriate to use a consultant voluntarily funded by the borrower to expedite a particular borrower application. If the information were not submitted, RUS would be unable to determine if using a consultant would accelerate the specific application process.

**Description of Respondents:** Not-for-profit institutions; Business or other for-profit.

**Number of Respondents:** 1.

**Frequency of Responses:** Reporting: On occasion.

**Total Burden Hours:** 2.

**Title:** 7 CFR 1717 Subpart Y, Settlement of Debt Owed by Electric Borrowers.

**OMB Control Number:** 0572-0116.

**Summary of Collection:** The Rural Utilities Service (RUS) makes mortgage loans and loan guarantees to electric systems to provide and improve electric service in rural areas pursuant to the Rural Electrification Act of 1936, as amended (7 U.S.C. 901 *et seq.*) (RE Act). Only those electric borrowers that are unable to fully repay their debts to the government and who apply to RUS for relief will be affected by this collection of information. The information collected will be similar to that which any prudent lender would need to determine whether debt settlement is required and the amount of relief that is needed.

**Need and Use of the Information:** RUS will collect information to determine the need for debt settlement; the amount of debt the borrower can repay; the future scheduling of debt repayment; and, the range of opportunities for enhancing the amount of debt that can be recovered.

**Description of Respondents:** Non-for-profit institutions; Business or other for-profit.

**Number of Respondents:** 1.

**Frequency of Responses:** Reporting: On occasion.

**Total Burden Hours:** 2,000.

**Charlene Parker,**

*Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

August 24, 2012.

The Department of Agriculture will submit the following information collection requirement(s) to OMB for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13 on or after the date of publication of this notice. Comments regarding (a) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of burden including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology should be addressed to: Desk Officer for Agriculture, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC;

**OIRA Submission@OMB.EOP.GOV** or fax (202) 395-5806 and to Departmental Clearance Office, USDA, OCIO, Mail Stop 7602, Washington, DC 20250-7602.

**DATES:** Comments regarding these information collections are best assured of having their full effect if received by October 1, 2012. Copies of the submission(s) may be obtained by calling (202) 720-8681.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a currently valid OMB control number and the agency informs potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information that such persons are not required to respond to the collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

### Agricultural Marketing Service

**Title:** Reporting Requirements under Regulations Governing Inspection and Grading Services of Manufactured or Processed Dairy Products.

**OMB Control Number:** 0581-0126.

**Summary of Collection:** The Agricultural Marketing Act (AMA) of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1621-1627), directs and authorizes the Department to develop standards of quality, condition, quantity, grading programs, and services to enable a more orderly marketing of agricultural products. The Government, industry and consumer will be well served if the Government can help insure that dairy products are produced under sanitary conditions and that buyers have the choice of purchasing the quality of the product they desire. The dairy grading program is a voluntary user fee program. In order for a voluntary inspection program to perform satisfactorily with a minimum of confusion, information must be collected to determine what services are requested.

**Need and Use of the Information:** The information collected is used to identify the product offered for grading, to identify and contact the individuals responsible for payment of the grading fee and to identify the person responsible for administering the grade label program. The Agriculture Marketing service will use several forms to collect essential information to carry out and administer the inspection and grading program.

**Description of Respondents:** Business or other for profit.

**Number of Respondents:** 400.

**Frequency of Responses:** Reporting: On occasion.

**Total Burden Hours:** 364.

### Agricultural Marketing Service

**Title:** National Processed Raspberry Promotion, Research and Information Program.

**OMB Control Number:** 0581-0258.

**Summary of Collection:** The Processed Raspberry Promotion, Research, and Information Order (7 CFR part 1208) was established under the Commodity Promotion, Research, and Information Act of 1996, (Act) (7 U.S.C. 7411-7425). The program consists of projects relating to research, consumer information, advertising, sales promotion, producer information, market development and product research to assist, improve, or promote the marketing, distribution, and utilization of processed raspberries. The program is administered by a Council appointed by the Secretary of Agriculture and financed by a

mandatory assessment on producers and importers of processed raspberries.

**Need and Use of the Information:** The Agricultural Marketing Service will use several forms to collect the necessary information. The forms require the minimum information necessary to carry out the intent of the Act. The objective in carrying out this responsibility includes assuring the following: (1) Funds are collected and properly accounted for; (2) expenditures of all funds are for the purposes authorized by the Act and Order; and (3) the council's administration of the programs conforms to USDA policy.

**Description of Respondents:** Producers, first handlers, importers, foreign producers, and at-large nominees.

**Number of Respondents:** 297.

**Frequency of Responses:** Reporting: On occasion; Weekly; Quarterly; Recordkeeping.

**Total Burden Hours:** 282.

#### Agricultural Marketing Service

**Title:** National Organic Program; NOP Import Certificate.

**OMB Control Number:** 0581-0280.

**Summary of Collection:** The National Organic Program (NOP) is authorized by the Organic Foods Production Act of 1990, as amended, (7 U.S.C. 6501 *et seq.*). Under 7 CFR 205.500(c)(2) of the NOP regulations, the Department of Agriculture will accept a foreign certifying agent's accreditation to certify organic production or handling operations if the foreign government authority that accredited the foreign certifying agent acted under an equivalency agreement negotiated between the United States and the foreign government. On February 12, 2012 the U.S. and the European Union (EU) finalized an equivalence arrangement that became effective on June 1, 2012.

**Need and Use of the Information:** Organic products certified to the USDA organic standards or EU organic standards may be sold, labeled, and represented as organic in both countries as long as the terms of the arrangement are met. Organic products exported for sale to the U.S. must be accompanied by an NOP Import Certificate. EU designated certification entities will issue NOP Import Certificates for each shipment of organic product from the EU to the U.S. The NOP Import Certificate is necessary to document that the organic products were certified under the EU organic regulations and meet all the requirements specified in the EU-U.S. organic equivalency arrangement.

**Description of Respondents:** EU Designated Certification Entities.

**Number of Respondents:** 205.

**Frequency of Responses:** Reporting: On Occasion; Recordkeeping.

**Total Burden Hours:** 1,091.

**Charlene Parker,**

*Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Agricultural Marketing Service

**[Document Number AMS-NOP-12-0040; NOP-12-12]**

#### Notice of Meeting of the National Organic Standards Board

**AGENCY:** Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended, (5 U.S.C. App.), the Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) is announcing an upcoming meeting of the National Organic Standards Board (NOSB). Written public comments are invited in advance of the meeting, and the meeting will include scheduled time for oral comments from the public.

**DATES:** The meeting will be held October 15-18, 2012, from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. each day. The deadline for public comments in advance of the meeting is Monday, September 24, 2012.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will take place at the Biltmore Hotel, 11 Dorrance Street, Providence, RI 02903. Information and instructions pertaining to the meeting are posted at the following Web site address: <http://www.ams.usda.gov/NOSBMeetings>. For printed materials, write to Ms. Michelle Arsenault, Special Assistant, National Organic Standards Board, USDA-AMS-NOP, 1400 Independence Ave. SW., Room 2648-So., Mail Stop 0268, Washington, DC 20250-0268; Phone: (202) 720-3252; Email: [nosb@ams.usda.gov](mailto:nosb@ams.usda.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ms. Michelle Arsenault, Special Assistant, National Organic Standards Board, USDA-AMS-NOP, 1400 Independence Ave. SW., Room 2648-So., Mail Stop 0268, Washington, DC 20250-0268; Phone: (202) 720-3252; Email: [nosb@ams.usda.gov](mailto:nosb@ams.usda.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The purpose of the NOSB is to make recommendations about whether a

substance should be allowed or prohibited in organic production or handling, to assist in the development of standards for organic production, and to advise the Secretary on other aspects of the implementation of the Organic Foods Production Act (7 U.S.C. 6501-6522). The NOSB currently has seven subcommittees working on various aspects of the organic program. The subcommittees are: Compliance, Accreditation, and Certification; Crops; Handling; Livestock; Materials; Policy Development; and the ad hoc Genetically Modified Organisms (GMO).

The primary purpose of NOSB meetings is to provide an opportunity for the organic community to weigh in on proposed NOSB recommendations and discussion items. These meetings also allow the NOSB to receive updates from the USDA National Organic Program (NOP) on issues pertaining to organic agriculture.

The meeting will be open to the public. The meeting agenda, NOSB proposals and discussion documents, instructions for submitting and viewing public comments, and instructions for requesting a time slot for oral comments are available on the NOP Web site at <http://www.ams.usda.gov/NOSBMeetings>. The discussion documents and proposals encompass a wide range of topics, including: substances petitioned to the National List of Allowed and Prohibited Substances (National List), information on research priorities for organic agriculture, updates from working groups on technical issues, and amendments to the NOSB Policies and Procedures Manual.

Written public comments will be accepted through September 24, 2012 via [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov). Comments received after that date may not be reviewed by the NOSB before the meeting. The NOP strongly prefers comments to be submitted electronically, however, written comments may also be submitted by September 24, 2012 via mail to Ms. Michelle Arsenault, Special Assistant, National Organic Standards Board, USDA-AMS-NOP, 1400 Independence Ave. SW., Room 2648-S, Mail Stop 0268, Washington, DC 20250-0268. Instructions for viewing all comments are posted at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) and <http://www.ams.usda.gov/NOSBMeetings>.

The NOSB has scheduled time for oral comments from the public, and will accommodate as many individuals and organizations as possible during these sessions. Individuals and organizations wishing to make oral presentations at the meeting must pre-register to request