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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Commodity Credit Corporation

Notice of Funds Availability: Inviting Applications for the Emerging Markets Program

Announcement Type: New.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number: 10.603.)

SUMMARY: The Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) announces the availability of funding for the Emerging Markets Program (EMP) for fiscal year (FY) 2008. The intended effect of this notice is to solicit applications from the private sector and from government agencies for FY 2008 and award funds in early 2008. The EMP is administered by personnel of the Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS).

DATES: All proposals must be received by 5 p.m. Eastern Standard Time February 25, 2008. Applications received after this time will not be considered.

Note: Another notice regarding the availability of FY 2009 EMP funds will be published later this year.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Entities wishing to apply for funding should contact the Grants Management Branch, Foreign Agricultural Service, Portals Office Building, Suite 400, 1250 Maryland Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20024, phone: (202) 720-5306, fax: (202) 690-0193, e-mail: emo@fas.usda.gov. Information is also available on the Foreign Agricultural Service Web site at <http://www.fas.usda.gov/mos/em-markets/em-markets.asp>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Funding Opportunity Description

Authority: The EMP is authorized by section 1542(d)(1) of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation and Trade Act of 1990 (The

Act), as amended. The EMP regulations appear at 7 CFR part 1486.

1. *Purpose:* The EMP assists U.S. entities in developing, maintaining, or expanding exports of U.S. agricultural commodities and products by funding technical assistance activities that promote U.S. products in emerging foreign markets. The Program is intended primarily to support export market development efforts of the private sector, but program resources may also be used to assist public organizations.

All U.S. agricultural commodities and products, except tobacco, are eligible for consideration. Agricultural product(s) should be comprised of at least 50 percent U.S. origin content by weight, exclusive of added water, to be eligible for funding. Proposals which seek support for multiple commodities are also eligible. EMP funding may only be used to support exports of U.S. agricultural commodities and products through generic activities.

2. *Appropriate Activities:* Following are the types of project activities that may be considered for funding under the EMP:

- Projects designed specifically to improve market access in emerging foreign markets. Example: Activities intended to mitigate the impact of political or economic events in order to maintain U.S. market share;
- Marketing and distribution of value-added products. Examples: Market research on the potential for consumer-ready foods; new uses of a product;
- Studies of food distribution channels in emerging markets, including infrastructural impediments to U.S. exports. Examples: Grain storage handling and inventory systems; distribution infrastructure development;
- Projects that specifically address various constraints to U.S. exports, including sanitary and phytosanitary issues and other non-tariff barriers. Examples: Seminars on U.S. food safety standards and regulations; assessing and addressing pest and disease problems that inhibit U.S. exports;
- Assessments and follow up activities designed to improve country-wide food and business systems, and to determine potential use of general export credit guarantees. Example:

- Product needs assessments and market analysis;
- Projects that help foreign governments collect and use market information and develop free trade policies that benefit U.S. exporters as well as the target country or countries. Examples: Agricultural statistical analysis; development of market information systems; and
- Short-term training in broad aspects of agriculture and agribusiness trade that will benefit U.S. exporters. Examples: Retail training; transportation and distribution seminars.

EMP funds may not be used to support normal operating costs of individual organizations, nor as a source to recover pre-award costs or prior expenses from previous or ongoing projects. Proposals that counter national strategies or duplicate activities planned or already underway by U.S. non-profit agricultural commodity or trade associations (“cooperator”) organizations will not be considered. Ineligible expenditures include branded product promotions (in-store, restaurant advertising, labeling, etc.); advertising; administrative and operational expenses for trade shows; Web site development; equipment purchases; and the preparation and printing of brochures, flyers, posters (except in connection with specific technical assistance activities such as training seminars). For a more complete description of ineligible activities, please refer to the EMP Regulations.

3. *Eligible Markets:* The Act defines an emerging market as any country that the Secretary of Agriculture determines:

(a) Is taking steps toward developing a market-oriented economy through the food, agriculture, or rural business sectors of the economy of the country; and

(b) Has the potential to provide a viable and significant market for United States agricultural commodities or products of United States agricultural commodities.

Because EMP funds are limited and the range of potential emerging market countries is worldwide, consideration will be given to proposals that target countries or regional groups with per capita income of less than \$11,115 (the current ceiling on upper middle income economies as determined by the World Bank [World Development Indicators;

July 2007, <http://siteresources.worldbank.org/DATASTATISTICS/Resources/CLASS.XLS>) and populations of greater than 1 million.

Income limits and their calculation can change from year to year with the result that a given country may qualify under the legislative and administrative criteria one year but not the next. Therefore, CCC has not established a fixed list of "emerging market" countries.

A few countries technically qualify as emerging markets but may require a separate determination before funding can be considered because of political sensitivities.

II. Award Information

In general, all qualified proposals received before the application deadline will compete for EMP funding. Priority consideration will be given to proposals that identify and seek to address specific problems or constraints to agricultural exports in emerging markets through technical assistance activities that are intended to expand or maintain U.S. agricultural exports. The applicants' willingness to contribute resources, including cash, goods and services will be a critical factor in determining which proposals are funded under the EMP. Proposals will also be judged on the potential benefits to the industry represented by the applicant and the degree to which the proposal demonstrates industry support.

The limited funds and the range of eligible emerging markets worldwide generally preclude CCC from approving large budgets for individual projects. While there is no minimum or maximum amount set for EMP-funded projects, most projects are funded at a level of less than \$500,000 and for a duration of approximately one year. Private entities may submit multi-year proposals requesting higher levels of funding that may be considered in the context of a detailed strategic implementation plan. Funding in such cases is normally provided one year at a time with commitments beyond the first year subject to interim evaluations and funding availability. Government entities are not eligible for multi-year funding.

Funding for successful proposals will be provided through specific agreements. The CCC, through FAS, will be kept informed of the implementation of approved projects through the requirement to provide regular progress reports and final performance reports. Changes in the original project timelines and adjustments within project budgets must be approved by FAS. EMP funds

awarded to federal government agencies must be expended or otherwise obligated by COB September 30, 2008.

III. Eligibility and Qualification Information

1. Eligible Applicants. Any United States private or government entity with a demonstrated role or interest in exports of U.S. agricultural commodities or products may apply to the program. Government entities consist of Federal, State, and local agencies. Private entities include non-profit trade associations, universities, agricultural cooperatives, state regional trade groups, and profit-making entities and consulting businesses. Proposals from research and consulting organizations will be considered if they provide evidence of substantial participation and financial support from the U.S. industry. For-profit entities are also eligible but may not use program funds to conduct private business, promote private self-interests, supplement the costs of normal sales activities, or promote their own products or services beyond specific uses approved by CCC in a given project.

U.S. market development cooperators and state regional trade groups (SRTGs) may seek funding to address priority, market specific issues and to undertake activities not suitable for funding under other marketing programs, e.g., the Foreign Market Development (Cooperator) Program and the Market Access Program (MAP). Foreign organizations, whether government or private, may participate as third parties in activities carried out by U.S. organizations, but are not eligible for funding assistance from the program.

2. Cost Sharing. No private sector proposal will be considered without the element of cost-share from the applicant and/or U.S. partners. The EMP is intended to complement, not supplant, the efforts of the U.S. private sector. There is no minimum or maximum amount of cost share, though the range in recent successful proposals has been between 35 and 75 percent. The degree of commitment to a proposed project, represented by the amount and type of private funding, is used in determining which proposals will be approved for funding. Cost-share may be actual cash invested or professional time of staff assigned to the project. Proposals for which private industry is willing to commit cash, rather than in-kind contributions such as staff resources, will be given priority consideration.

Cost-sharing is not required for proposals from U.S. federal, state or local government agencies, but is mandatory for all other eligible entities,

even when they may be party to a joint proposal with a U.S. government agency. Contributions from USDA or other U.S. government agencies or programs may not be counted toward the stated cost share requirement. Similarly, contributions from foreign (non-U.S.) organizations may not be counted toward the cost share requirement, but may be counted in the total cost of the project.

3. Other. Proposals should include a justification for funding assistance from the program—an explanation as to what specifically could not be accomplished without federal funding assistance and why the participating organization(s) would be unlikely to carry out the project without such assistance. Applicants may submit more than one proposal.

IV. Application and Submission Information

1. Address To Request Package. EMP applicants may use the Unified Export Strategy (UES) application process, an online system which allows interested applicants to submit a consolidated and strategically coordinated single proposal that incorporates funding requests for any or all of the market development programs administered by FAS.

Applicants are not required to use the UES, but are strongly encouraged to do so because it reduces paperwork and expedites the FAS processing and review cycle. Applicants planning to use the online UES system must contact the Program Policy Staff at (202) 720-4327 to obtain site access information including a user id and password. The Internet-based application, including step-by-step instructions for its use, is located at the following URL address: <http://www.fas.usda.gov/cooperators.html>. A Help file is available to assist applicants with the process. Applicants using the online system should also provide, promptly after the deadline for submitting the online application, a printed or e-mailed version of each proposal (using Word or compatible format) to one of the following addresses:

Hand Delivery (including FedEx, DHL, UPS, etc.): U.S. Department of Agriculture, Foreign Agricultural Service, Grants Management Branch, Portals Office Building, Suite 400, 1250 Maryland Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20024.

U.S. Postal Delivery: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Foreign Agricultural Service, Grants Management Branch, STOP 1042, 1400 Independence Ave., SW., Washington, DC 20250-1042.

Applicants electing not to use the online system must submit both (1) a

printed copy of their application to the addresses above and (2) an electronic version to the e-mail address above.

2. *Content and Form of Application Submission.* It is highly recommended that any organization considering applying to the program first obtain a copy of the EMP Regulations. The regulations contain information on requirements that a proposal meet to be considered for funding under the program, along with other important information. EMP regulations and additional information are available at the following URL address: <http://www.fas.usda.gov/mos/em-markets/em-markets.asp>.

In addition, in accordance with the Office of Management and Budget's policy directive regarding the use of a universal identifier for all Federal grants or cooperative agreements, all applicants must submit a Dun and Bradstreet Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number prior to submitting applications. An applicant may request a DUNS number at no cost by calling the dedicated toll-free DUNS number request line on 1-866-705-5711.

Applications should be no longer than ten (10) pages and include the following information:

- (a) Date of proposal;
- (b) Name of organization submitting proposal;
- (c) Organization address, telephone and fax numbers;
- (d) Tax ID number;
- (e) DUNS number;
- (f) Primary contact person;
- (g) Full title of proposal;
- (h) Target market(s);
- (i) Current conditions in the target market(s) affecting the intended commodity or product;
- (j) Description of problem(s), i.e., constraint(s), to be addressed by the project, such as inadequate knowledge of the market, insufficient trade contacts, lack of awareness by foreign officials of U.S. products and business practices, impediments (infrastructure, financing, regulatory or other non-tariff barriers), etc.;
- (k) Project objectives;
- (l) Performance measures: benchmarks for quantifying progress in meeting the objectives;
- (m) Rationale: Explanation of the underlying reasons for the project proposal and its approach, the anticipated benefits, and any additional pertinent analysis;
- (n) Clear demonstration that successful implementation will benefit a particular industry as a whole, not just the applicant(s);
- (o) Explanation as to what specifically could not be accomplished without

federal funding assistance and why the participating organization(s) would be unlikely to carry out the project without such assistance;

- (p) Specific description of activity/activities to be undertaken;
- (q) Timeline(s) for implementation of activity, including start and end dates;
- (r) Information on whether similar activities are or have previously been funded with USDA sources in target country/countries (e.g., under MAP and/or FMD programs); and

(s) Detailed line item activity budget. Cost items should be allocated separately to each participating organization. Expense items constituting a proposed activity's overall budget (e.g., salaries, travel expenses, consultant fees, administrative costs, etc.), with a line item cost for each, should be listed, clearly indicating:

- (1) Which items are to be covered by EMP funding;
- (2) Which by the participating U.S. organization(s); and
- (3) Which by foreign third parties (if applicable).

Cost items for individual consultant fees should show calculation of daily rate and number of days. Cost items for travel expenses should show number of trips, destinations, cost, and objective for each trip. Qualifications of applicant(s) should be included as an attachment.

3. *Submission Dates and Times.* All proposals must be received by 5 p.m. Eastern Standard Time on [insert date 30 days after day of publication], in the Grants Management Branch, either electronically, hand delivered, or by mail. Proposals received after this date and time will not be reviewed or considered for program funding.

4. *Funding Restrictions.* Certain types of expenses are not eligible for reimbursement by the program, and there are limits on other categories of expenses such as indirect overhead charges, travel expenses and consulting fees. CCC will not reimburse unreasonable expenditures or expenditures made prior to approval of a proposal. Full details of the funding restrictions are available in the EMP regulations.

V. Application Review Information

- 1. *Criteria.* Key criteria used in judging proposals include:
 - Appropriateness of the activities for the targeted market(s) and the extent to which the project identifies market barriers, e.g., a fundamental deficiency in the market, and/or a recent change in market conditions;
 - Potential of the project to expand U.S. market share, increase U.S. exports or

- sales, and/or improve awareness of U.S. agricultural commodities and products;
- Quality of the project's performance measures and the degree to which they relate to the objectives, deliverables, and proposed approach and activities;
- Justification for federal funding;
- Overall cost of the project and the amount of funding provided by the applicant and any partners; and
- Evidence that the organization has the knowledge, expertise, ability, and resources to successfully implement the project.

Additional evaluation criteria are discussed in the EMP regulations.

2. *Review and Selection Process.* All applications undergo a multi-phase review within FAS, including appropriate FAS overseas offices, and by the private sector Advisory Committee on Emerging Markets to determine the qualifications, quality and appropriateness of projects, and reasonableness of project budgets.

3. *Anticipated Announcement Date.* EMP funding decisions will be announced in the spring of 2008.

VI. Award Administration Information

1. *Award Notices.* FAS will notify each applicant in writing of the final disposition of its application. FAS will send an approval letter and project agreement to each approved applicant. The approval letter and agreement will specify the terms and conditions applicable to the project, including the level of EMP funding and cost-share contribution requirements.

2. *Administrative and National Policy Requirements.* Interested parties should review the EMP regulations which are available at the following URL address: <http://www.fas.usda.gov/mos/em-markets/em-markets.asp>.

3. *Reporting.* Quarterly progress reports for all programs one year or longer in duration are required. Projects of less than one year generally require a mid-term progress report. Final performance reports are due 90 days after completion of each project. Content requirements for both types of reports are contained in the Project Agreement. Final financial reports are also due 90 days after completion of each project as attachments to the final performance report.

VII. Agency Contact(s)

For additional information and assistance, contact the Grants Management Branch, Foreign Agricultural Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Portals Office Building, Suite 400, Stop 1042, 1250 Maryland

Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20024, phone: (202) 720-5306, fax: (202) 690-0193, e-mail: emo@fas.usda.gov.

Signed at Washington, DC, on January 17, 2008.

W. Kirk Miller,

Acting Administrator, Foreign Agricultural Service and Vice President, Commodity Credit Corporation.

[FR Doc. 08-238 Filed 1-23-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-10-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Wasatch-Cache National Forest, UT; West Bear Landscape Management Project

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare a supplemental environmental impact statement to the West Bear Vegetation Management Project.

SUMMARY: The USDA Forest Service announces its intent to prepare a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) to the West Bear Vegetation Management Project Final Environment Impact Statement (FEIS). The West Bear Vegetation Management Project FEIS evaluated three alternatives using timber harvest and prescribed fire as management tools to treat vegetation. The treatment is intended to move the West Bear landscape towards properly functioning condition (PFC).

DATES: Scoping will not be conducted in accordance with 40 CFR 1502.9(c)(4). The draft supplemental environmental impact statement is expected in February 2008 and the final supplemental environmental impact statement and a new Record of Decision are expected in April 2008.

ADDRESSES: Send written comments to Steve Ryberg, Evanston District Ranger, Wasatch-Cache National Forest, P.O. Box 1880, Evanston, Wyoming 82931.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Steve Ryberg, Evanston District Ranger, Evanston Ranger District, Evanston, Wyoming, (307) 789-3194.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Proposed Action

On March 5, 2007, Forest Supervisor Faye Krueger made a decision to implement the West Bear Vegetation Treatment Project to treat approximately 1,686 acres. The project consists of harvesting 1,489 acres, prescribed burning 523 acres of aspen and mixed aspen/conifer, construction of 7.8 miles of temporary roads, 0.9 miles of intermittent service roads and minor

reconstruction of 0.6 miles of existing service roads. The Record of Decision was appealed by two parties. On May 25, 2007, upon review, Forest Supervisor Krueger withdrew her March 5, 2007 decision. Her decision to withdraw was based on an error identified in the FEIS by an appellant and her finding that further environmental analysis was needed in regard to some species of the wildlife. The SEIS will be limited in its scope and focus on correction of the soils disclosure in FEIS, and additional effects disclosure for some species of wildlife. Clarification of goshawk territories will also be addressed.

Responsible Official

Brian Ferebee, Acting Forest Supervisor, Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest 8236 Bennett Federal Building, 125 South State Street, Salt Lake City, UT 84138.

Dated: January 16, 2008.

David R. Myers,

Deputy Forest Supervisor.

[FR Doc. 08-257 Filed 1-23-08; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[A-570-822]

Helical Spring Lock Washers From the People's Republic of China: Final Results of Antidumping Duty Administrative Review

AGENCY: Import Administration, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce ("the Department") is conducting an administrative review of the antidumping duty order on helical spring lock washers ("HSLWs") from the People's Republic of China ("PRC") covering the period October 1, 2005, through September 30, 2006. We invited interested parties to comment on our preliminary results. Based on our analysis of the comments received, we have made changes to our margin calculations. Therefore, the final results differ from the preliminary results.

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 24, 2008.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Marin Weaver or Charles Riggle, AD/CVD Operations, Office 8, Import Administration, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482-2336 or (202) 482-0650, respectively.

Background

On September 12, 2007, the Department of Commerce ("the Department") published *Certain Helical Spring Lock Washers From the People's Republic of China: Preliminary Results of Antidumping Duty Administrative Review*, 72 FR 52073 ("Preliminary Results"). The respondent in this case is Hangzhou Spring Washer Co., Ltd. (also known as Zhejiang Wanxin Group, Ltd.) ("HSW"). Shakeproof Assembly Components Division of Illinois Tool Works, Inc. ("Shakeproof"), the U.S. interested party, filed surrogate value information and data on April 19, 2007, August 3, 2007, and October 12, 2007. HSW filed surrogate value information and data on April 19, 2007, May 29, 2007, and July 24, 2007. We gave interested parties an opportunity to comment on the *Preliminary Results*. Shakeproof requested a one-month extension of the deadline for filing case and rebuttal briefs on September 28, 2007. On October 2, 2007, we granted a one-day extension of the deadline for filing case and rebuttal briefs. On October 16, 2007, HSW filed its case brief. Shakeproof submitted the final proprietary version of its brief on October 17, 2007. HSW submitted the final proprietary version of its rebuttal brief on October 23, 2007. Shakeproof did not submit a rebuttal brief.

We have conducted this administrative review in accordance with section 751 of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended ("the Act"), and 19 CFR 351.213.

Scope of the Order

The products covered by the order are HSLWs of carbon steel, of carbon alloy steel, or of stainless steel, heat-treated or non-heat-treated, plated or non-plated, with ends that are off-line. HSLWs are designed to: (1) Function as a spring to compensate for developed looseness between the component parts of a fastened assembly; (2) distribute the load over a larger area for screws or bolts; and (3) provide a hardened bearing surface. The scope does not include internal or external tooth washers, nor does it include spring lock washers made of other metals, such as copper.

HSLWs subject to the order are currently classifiable under subheading 7318.21.0030 of the *Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States* ("HTSUS"). Although the HTSUS subheading is provided for convenience and customs purposes, the written description of the scope of this proceeding is dispositive.