

Notices

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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

Commodity Credit Corporation

Public Hearing on New Entrant's 2008—Crop Cane Sugar Marketing Allocation

AGENCY: Commodity Credit Corporation, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of invitation to request a public hearing.

SUMMARY: The Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) issues this notice to advise sugarcane processors and growers that they may request a public hearing as a result of an application made by a new sugarcane processor, Andino Energy Enterprises, L.L.C., for a cane sugar allocation starting with the 2008 crop year. Andino Energy Enterprises, L.L.C., is requesting a 2008-crop year allocation of 50,000 short tons, raw value (STRV), with annual increases in its allocation to 60,000, 80,000, 100,000 and 120,000 STRV, for crop years 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2012, respectively. The new processor will be located in Louisiana, an existing mainland State in the CCC sugar marketing allotment program. If CCC receives a request for a hearing, CCC will conduct a hearing.

DATES: Send requests for hearings by June 3, 2008.

ADDRESSES: Please send hearing requests to Barbara Fecso, Farm Service Agency, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Stop 0516, 1400 Independence Ave, SW., Washington, DC 20250-0540, fax: (202) 690-1480, e-mail: barbara.fecso@wdc.usda.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Barbara Fecso Farm Service Agency, telephone: (202) 720-4146, fax: (202) 690-1480, e-mail: barbara.fecso@wdc.usda.gov. To view original application, go to <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/webapp?area=home&subject=ecpa&topic=dsa>. Persons with disabilities who require

alternative means for communication (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact the USDA Target Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Section 359d(b)(1)(E) of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938, as amended, authorizes CCC to provide a sugarcane processor, who begins processing after May 13, 2002, with an allocation that provides a fair, efficient, and equitable distribution of the allocations from the allotment for the State in which the processor is located. CCC is also required to establish proportionate shares in a quantity sufficient to produce the sugarcane required to satisfy the new allocation. If an allocation is provided by CCC to the new applicant, that processor's allocation will be subtracted, on a pro rata basis, from the allocations otherwise provided to each sugarcane processor in Louisiana.

CCC will publicly announce the hearing if one is requested.

Signed in Washington, DC on May 13, 2008.

Teresa C. Lasseter,

Executive Vice President, Commodity Credit Corporation.

[FR Doc. E8-11213 Filed 5-19-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-05-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Food and Nutrition Service

Request for Public Comments for Use in Preparing for 2009 Reauthorization of the Child Nutrition Programs and the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children

AGENCY: Food and Nutrition Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of request for comments.

SUMMARY: This notice announces a request for public comments to help senior officials of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) prepare for the 2009 Reauthorization of the Child Nutrition Programs and the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC). USDA believes that public input and assessment of the performance of current programs—including WIC, National School Lunch Program, School Breakfast Program,

Child and Adult Care Food Program, Summer Food Service Program, WIC Farmers Market Nutrition Program, Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program, and Special Milk Program—are essential to help the Department plan for reauthorization.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The nutrition assistance programs administered by USDA work together to ensure a nutrition safety net for the Nation's children, elderly, and low-income families. These programs help protect children and low-income households from hunger. They inform all of us about the importance of healthful diets and active lifestyles. They help to prevent the health problems associated with poor nutrition and physical inactivity for all Americans.

While these programs are designed to meet the needs of people of all ages who may require assistance, they focus most strongly on the needs of children. The Child Nutrition Programs include the school meal programs (National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program) and the Child and Adult Care Food Program, which support nutritious meals and snacks served to children in schools, child care institutions, and afterschool care programs. In addition, the Summer Food Service Program and the Seamless Summer component of the National School Lunch Program provide nutritious food to children in programs in the summer months, when school is not in session.

WIC addresses the special needs of at-risk, low-income pregnant, breastfeeding, and postpartum women, infants, and children up to five years of age. It provides participants with monthly supplemental food packages targeted to their dietary needs, nutrition education, and referrals to a range of health and social services—benefits that promote a healthy pregnancy for mothers and a healthy start for their children.

Public Comment Submission

The reauthorization process provides Congress with a regular opportunity to examine the operation and effectiveness of the Federal nutrition assistance programs, and consider making improvements to their statutory structure under the Richard B. Russell

National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1751–1769i) and the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1771–1791). In anticipation of these discussions, USDA intends to gather input that will help the Department better understand the needs and concerns of program cooperators and participants at the State and local levels, including representatives from State agencies, local program offices, industry, and State and local advocacy groups.

This notice provides the public the opportunity to comment in writing on the issues that USDA expects to address in preparing for this reauthorization process. USDA has developed a framework of three themes to help focus the discussion of reauthorization issues. Commenters will be asked to address, but not be limited to, issues related to specific aspects of WIC, the WIC Farmers' Market Nutrition Program, National School Lunch Program, School Breakfast Program, Child and Adult Care Food Program, Summer Food Service Program, Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program, and Special Milk Program. Key among these are:

- Strengthening program management and improving nutrition services,
- Ensuring that all eligible persons have access to program benefits, and
- Advancing technology and innovation.

Electronic Access and Filing Addresses

USDA invites interested persons to submit written comments electronically or by postal mail. To be assured of consideration, written comments must be received on or before October 15, 2008. Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

Federal eRulemaking Portal: Go to <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments electronically.

Mail: Address comments to Mr. Robert M. Eadie, Chief, Policy and Program Development Branch, Child Nutrition Division, Food and Nutrition Service, Department of Agriculture, 3101 Park Center Drive, Room 640, Alexandria, Virginia 22302–1594.

Fax: Submit comments by facsimile transmission to: 703–305–2879, attention Mr. Robert M. Eadie.

Hand Delivery or Courier: Deliver comments to 3101 Park Center Drive, Room 640, Alexandria, Virginia 22302–1594, during normal business hours of 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

All comments submitted in response to this notice will be included in the record and will be made available to the public. Please be advised that comments, as well as the identity of the

individuals or entities submitting the comments, will be subject to public disclosure. All submissions will be available for public inspection at the address noted above, Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. USDA may also make the comments available on the Federal eRulemaking portal.

Dated: May 14, 2008.

Eric Steiner,

Acting Administrator, Food and Nutrition Service.

[FR Doc. E8–11236 Filed 5–19–08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–30–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Bureau of Industry and Security

[Docket No. 080512652–8653–01]

Reporting on Offsets Agreements in Sales of Weapon Systems or Defense-Related Items to Foreign Countries or Foreign Firms for Calendar Year 2007

AGENCY: Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice is to remind the public that U.S. firms are required to report annually to the Department of Commerce (Commerce) on contracts for the sale of defense-related items or defense-related services to foreign countries or foreign firms that are subject to offsets agreements exceeding \$5,000,000 in value. U.S. firms are also required to report annually to Commerce on offsets transactions completed in performance of existing offsets commitments for which offsets credit of \$250,000 or more has been claimed from the foreign representative. Such reports must be submitted to Commerce no later than June 15, 2008.

ADDRESSES: Reports should be addressed to “Offsets Program Manager, U.S. Department of Commerce, Office of Strategic Industries and Economic Security, Bureau of Industry and Security, Room 3878, Washington, DC 20230.”

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ronald DeMarines, Office of Strategic Industries and Economic Security, Bureau of Industry and Security, U.S. Department of Commerce, telephone: 202–482–3755; fax: 202–482–5650; e-mail: rdemarin@bis.doc.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

In 1984, the Congress enacted amendments to the Defense Production Act (DPA), including the addition of

Section 309, which addresses offsets in defense trade (*See* 50 U.S.C. app. § 2099). Offsets are compensation practices required as a condition of purchase in either government-to-government or commercial sales of defense articles and/or services, as defined by the Arms Export Control Act and the International Traffic in Arms Regulations.

Section 309(a)(1) requires the President to submit an annual report to the Congress on the impact of offsets on the U.S. defense industrial base. In 1992, section 309 was amended to direct the Secretary of Commerce (Secretary) to function as the President's executive agent for carrying out the responsibilities set forth in that section. Specifically, section 309 authorizes the Secretary to develop and administer the regulations necessary to collect offsets data from U.S. defense exporters.

The authorities of the Secretary regarding offsets have been redelegated to the Under Secretary of the Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS). The regulations associated with offsets reporting are set forth in Part 701 of title 15 of the Code of Federal Regulations. The offsets regulations of Part 701 set forth the obligations of U.S. industry to report to the Bureau of Industry and Security, no later than June 15 of each year, offsets agreement and transaction data for the previous calendar year.

As described in section 701.1 of the regulations, U.S. firms are required to report on contracts for the sale of defense-related items or defense-related services to foreign countries or foreign firms that are subject to offsets agreements exceeding \$5,000,000 in value. U.S. firms are also required to report annually on offsets transactions completed in performance of existing offsets commitments for which offsets credit of \$250,000 or more has been claimed from the foreign representative. The required data elements and filing procedures for such reports are outlined in section 701.4 of title 15, Code of Federal Regulations.

The Department's annual report to Congress includes an aggregated summary of the data reported by industry in accordance with the offsets regulation and the DPA. As provided by section 309(c) of the DPA, BIS will not publicly disclose the information it receives through offsets reporting unless the firm furnishing the information specifically authorizes public disclosure. The information collected is sorted and organized into an aggregate report of national offsets data, and therefore does not identify company-specific information.