

MAP applicants plus, for those groups participating in the Cooperator program, the 2-year average share (2010–2011) of Cooperator marketing plan budgets.

(c) *Projected Export Goals (15)*

- The total dollar value of projected exports promoted by the applicant for 2012 compared to;
- The applicant's requested funding level;

(d) *Accuracy of Past Projections (15)*

- Actual exports for 2010 as reported in the 2012 MAP application compared to;
- Past projections of exports for 2010 as specified in the 2010 MAP application.

The Commodity Branches' recommended funding levels for each applicant are converted to percentages of the total MAP funds available and then multiplied by each weight factor as described above to determine the amount of funds allocated to each applicant.

2. *Anticipated Announcement Date:* Announcements of funding decisions for the MAP are anticipated during October 2011.

VI. Award Administration Information

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

2. *Administrative and National Policy Requirements:* Interested parties should review the MAP regulations, which are available at the following URL address: <http://www.fas.usda.gov/mos/programs/map.asp>. Hard copies may be obtained by contacting the Program Operations Division.

3. *Reporting:* The FAS requires various reports and evaluations from MAP participants. Reporting requirements are detailed in the MAP regulations in section 1485.20(b) and (c).

VII. Agency Contact(s)

For additional information and assistance, contact the Program Operations Division, Office of Trade Programs, Foreign Agricultural Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture at: Portals Office Building, Suite 400, 1250 Maryland Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20024, or by phone: (202) 720-4327,

or by fax: (202) 720-9361, or by e-mail: podadmin@fas.usda.gov.

Signed at Washington, DC, on the 25th of March, 2011.

John D. Brewer,

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

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Commodity Credit Corporation

Notice of Funds Availability: Inviting Applications for the Foreign Market Development Cooperator Program

Announcement Type: New.
Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number: 10.600.

SUMMARY: The Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) announces that it is inviting proposals for the 2012 Foreign Market Development Cooperator (Cooperator) program. The intended effect of this notice is to solicit applications from eligible applicants for 2012 and to award funds in October 2011. The Cooperator program is administered by personnel of the Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS).

DATES: All applications must be received by 5 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time, May 16, 2011. Applications received after this date will not be considered.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Entities wishing to apply for funding assistance should contact the Program Operations Division, Office of Trade Programs, Foreign Agricultural Service, Portals Office Building, Suite 400, 1250 Maryland Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20024, or by phone: (202) 720-4327, or by fax: (202) 720-9361, or by e-mail: podadmin@fas.usda.gov. Information is also available on the FAS Web site at <http://www.fas.usda.gov/mos/programs/fmdprogram.asp>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Funding Opportunity Description

Authority: The Cooperator program is authorized by title VII of the Agricultural Trade Act of 1978, as amended. Cooperator program regulations appear at 7 CFR part 1484.

Purpose: The Cooperator program is designed to create, expand, and maintain foreign markets for U.S. agricultural commodities and products through cost-share assistance. Financial assistance under the Cooperator program will be made available on a competitive basis and applications will

be reviewed against the evaluation criteria contained herein and in the Cooperator program regulations. All U.S. agricultural commodities, except tobacco, are eligible for consideration.

The FAS allocates funds in a manner that effectively supports the strategic decision-making initiatives of the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA) of 1993. In deciding whether a proposed project will contribute to the effective creation, expansion, or maintenance of foreign markets, the FAS considers whether the applicant provides a clear, long-term agricultural trade strategy, and a program effectiveness time line against which results can be measured at specific intervals using quantifiable product or country goals. The FAS also considers the extent to which a proposed project targets markets with the greatest growth potential. These factors are part of the FAS resource allocation strategy to fund applicants who can demonstrate performance and address the objectives of the GPRA.

II. Award Information

Under the Cooperator program, the FAS enters into agreements with eligible nonprofit U.S. trade organizations to share the cost of certain overseas marketing and promotion activities. Funding priority is given to organizations that have the broadest possible producer representation of the commodity being promoted and that are nationwide in membership and scope. Cooperators may receive assistance only for generic activities that do not involve promotions targeted directly to consumers. The program generally operates on a reimbursement basis.

III. Eligibility Information

1. *Eligible Applicants:* To participate in the Cooperator program, an applicant must be a nonprofit U.S. agricultural trade organization.

2. *Cost Sharing:* To participate in the Cooperator program, an applicant must agree to contribute resources to its proposed promotional activities. The Cooperator program is intended to supplement, not supplant, the efforts of the U.S. private sector. The contribution must be at least 50 percent of the value of resources provided by CCC for activities conducted under the project agreement.

The degree of commitment of an applicant to the promotional strategies contained in its application, as represented by the agreed cost-share contributions specified therein, is considered by the FAS when determining which applications will be approved for funding. Cost-share may be

actual cash invested or in-kind contributions, such as professional staff time spent on design and execution of activities. The Cooperator program regulations, including sections 1484.50 and 1484.51, provide detailed discussion of eligible and ineligible cost-share contributions.

3. *Other:* Applications 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 participating organization(s) are unlikely to carry out the project without such assistance.

IV. Application and Submission Information

1. *Address to Request Application Package:* Organizations are encouraged to submit their FMD applications to the FAS through the Unified Export Strategy (UES) application Internet Web site. The UES allows applicants to submit a single consolidated and strategically coordinated proposal that incorporates requests for funding and recommendations for virtually all of the FAS marketing programs, financial assistance programs, and market access programs. The suggested UES format encourages applicants to examine the constraints or barriers to trade faced, identify activities that would help overcome such impediments, consider the entire pool of complementary marketing tools and program resources, and establish realistic export goals.

Applicants planning to use the Internet-based system must contact the FAS/Program Operations Division to obtain site access information. The Internet-based application may be found at the following URL address: <https://www.fas.usda.gov/ues/webapp/>.

The FAS highly recommends applying via the Internet-based application as this format virtually eliminates paperwork and expedites the FAS processing and review cycle. However, applicants also have the option of submitting an electronic version of their application to FAS at podadmin@fas.usda.gov.

2. *Content and Form of Application Submission:* To be considered for the Cooperator program, an applicant must submit to the FAS information required by the Cooperator program regulations in section 1484.20. In addition, in accordance with the Office of Management and Budget's policy (68 FR 38402 (June 27, 2003)) regarding the need to identify entities that are receiving government awards, all applicants must submit a Dun and Bradstreet Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number. An applicant

may request a DUNS number at no cost by calling the dedicated toll-free DUNS number request line at 1-866-705-5711.

Incomplete applications and applications that do not otherwise conform to this announcement will not be accepted for review.

The FAS administers various other agricultural export assistance programs, including the Market Access Program (MAP), the Emerging Markets Program, the Quality Samples Program, and the Technical Assistance for Specialty Crops Program. Any organization that is not interested in applying for the Cooperator program but would like to request assistance through one of the other programs mentioned should contact the Program Operations Division.

3. *Submission Dates and Times:* All applications must be received by 5 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time, May 16, 2011. All Cooperator program applicants, regardless of the method of submitting an application, also must submit by the application deadline, an original signed certification statement as specified in 7 CFR section 1484.20(a)(14) to the Program Operations Division, Office of Trade Programs, Foreign Agricultural Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Portals Office Building, Suite 400, 1250 Maryland Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20024. Applications or certifications received after this date will not be considered.

4. *Funding Restrictions:* Certain types of expenses are not eligible for reimbursement by the program, and there are limits on other categories of expenses. CCC also will not reimburse unreasonable expenditures or expenditures made prior to approval. Full details are available in the Cooperator program regulations including sections 1484.54 and 1484.55.

V. Application Review Information

1. *Criteria and Review Process:* Following is a description of the FAS process for reviewing applications and the criteria for allocating available Cooperator program funds.

(1) Phase 1—Sufficiency Review and FAS Divisional Review

Applications received by the closing date will be reviewed by FAS to determine the eligibility of the applicants and the completeness of the applications. These requirements appear in sections 1484.14 and 1484.20 of the Cooperator program regulations. Applications that meet the requirements then will be further evaluated by the appropriate Commodity Branch office of the FAS/Cooperator Programs Division. The Commodity Branch will review

each application against the criteria listed in sections 1484.21 and 1484.22 of the Cooperator program regulations. The purpose of this review is to identify meritorious proposals and to recommend an appropriate funding level for each application based upon these criteria.

(2) Phase 2—Competitive Review

Meritorious applications then will be passed on to the Office of the Deputy Administrator, Office of Trade Programs, for the purpose of allocating available funds among the applicants. Applicants will compete for funds on the basis of the following allocation criteria (the number in parentheses represents a percentage weight factor):

(a) Contribution Level (40)

- The applicant's 6-year average share (2007–2012) of all contributions (contributions may include cash and goods and services provided by U.S. entities in support of foreign market development activities) compared to;
 - The applicant's 6-year average share (2007–2012) of all Cooperator marketing plan expenditures.

(b) Past Export Performance (20)

- The 6-year average share (2006–2011) of the value of exports promoted by the applicant compared to;
 - The applicant's 6-year average share (2006–2011) of all Cooperator marketing plan expenditures plus a 6-year average share (2006–2011) of MAP expenditures, if any.

(c) Past Demand Expansion Performance (20)

- The 6-year average share (2006–2011) of the total value of world trade of the commodities promoted by the applicant compared to;
 - The applicant's 6-year average share (2006–2011) of all Cooperator marketing plan expenditures plus a 6-year average share (2006–2011) of MAP expenditures, if any.

(d) Future Demand Expansion Goals (10)

- The projected total dollar value of world trade of the commodities being promoted by the applicant for the year 2017 compared to;
 - The applicant's requested funding level.

(e) Accuracy of Past Demand Expansion Projections (10)

- The actual dollar value share of world trade of the commodities being promoted by the applicant for the year 2010 compared to;
 - The applicant's past projected share of world trade of the commodities being

promoted by the applicant for the year 2010, as specified in the 2007 Cooperator program application.

The Commodity Branches' recommended funding levels for each applicant are converted to percentages of the total Cooperator program funds available and then multiplied by each weight factor to determine the amount of funds allocated to each applicant.

2. *Anticipated Announcement Date:* Announcements of funding decisions for the Cooperator program are anticipated during October 2011.

VI. Award Administration Information

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

2. *Administrative and National Policy Requirements:* Interested parties should review the Cooperator program regulations, which are available at the following URL address: <http://www.fas.usda.gov/mos/programs/fmdprogram.asp>. Hard copies may be obtained by contacting the Program Operations Division.

3. *Reporting:* The FAS requires various reports and evaluations from Cooperators. Reporting requirements are detailed in the Cooperator program regulations in sections 1484.53, 1484.70, and 1484.72.

VII. Agency Contact(s)

For additional information and assistance, contact the Program Operations Division, Office of Trade Programs, Foreign Agricultural Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture.

Courier address: Portals Office Building, Suite 400, 1250 Maryland Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20024, or *by phone:* (202) 720-4327, or *by fax:* (202) 720-9361, or *by e-mail:* podadmin@fas.usda.gov.

Signed at Washington, DC, on the 25th of March, 2011.

John D. Brewer,

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

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest; Nevada; Environmental Impact Statement for Geothermal Leasing on the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of Intent to prepare an environmental impact statement.

SUMMARY: The Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest (HTNF) will prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) to evaluate certain National Forest System (NFS) lands for geothermal leasing availability. The project area includes NFS lands on the HTNF in Douglas, Lyon, Mineral, Lander, Nye and White Pine County, NV.

DATES: Comments concerning the scope of the analysis must be received by May 16, 2011. The draft environmental impact statement is expected in October 2011 and the final environmental impact statement is expected in March 2012.

ADDRESSES: Send written comments to Keith Whaley, Project Manager, Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest, Bridgeport Ranger District, HC 62 Box 1000, Bridgeport, CA 93517. Comments may also be sent via e-mail to comments-intermtn-humboldt-toiyabe@fs.fed.us or via facsimile to (760) 932-5899. Comments can be hand-delivered to: Bridgeport Ranger Station, Highway 395 South, Bridgeport, CA, Attn. Keith Whaley. Comments received in response to this Notice of Intent (NOI), including names and addresses of those who comment, will be considered part of the public record for this project and will be available for public inspection and will be released, if requested, under the Freedom of Information Act.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Keith Whaley, Project Manager, Bridgeport Ranger District, HC 62 Box 1000, Bridgeport, CA 93517; *Telephone:* (760) 932-5821; *E-mail:* kwhaley@fs.fed.us.

Individuals who use telecommunication devices for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m., Eastern Time, Monday through Friday.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Purpose and Need for Action

The purpose of the proposed action is to determine if certain lands within the HTNF may be made available for geothermal leasing, and if so, to identify reasonable and necessary conditions to protect surface resources. The need for

the proposed action is to allow the FS to satisfy their respective statutory and policy mandates in responding to requests for the environmentally responsible development of energy resources; to address provisions of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (Sections 211 and 222[d][1]); respond to other policy directives calling for clean and renewable energy; and to meet the increasing energy demands of the nation while reducing reliance on foreign energy imports, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and improving national security.

Proposed Action

The HTNF would make approximately 662,700 acres of NFS lands administratively available for geothermal leasing. The lands to be made available encompass the Nevada portion of the Bridgeport Ranger District (approximately 659,000 acres), one area on the Austin Ranger District (approximately 3,200 acres), one area (approximately 160 acres) on the Tonopah District and one area on the Ely Ranger District (approximately 3,574 acres). Leasing would include stipulations from Chapter 2 of the Geothermal Leasing Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (BLM, October 2008) and other stipulations determined to be reasonable and necessary to protect surface resources.

The Decision resulting from this analysis would not affect any prior decisions on: (1) Geothermal leases in effect (2) Regional Forester Consent Decisions for specific geothermal leases or (3) lands made available under previous Forest-Level Availability Determination Decisions at the time said Decision is made. In addition, this analysis does not make any leasing determination decisions on any lands being analyzed under a separate environmental analysis at the time of this EIS.

Possible Alternatives

The No-Action Alternative: The USFS would not make an availability determination on these lands identified under this analysis. Processing of geothermal lease applications and nominations would continue, however, they would be evaluated on a case-by-case basis under separate NEPA analyses.

The No Leasing Alternative: The No Leasing Alternative would not allow leasing of geothermal resources on the subject NFS lands. Under this alternative, lands within the project area analyzed would not be available for leasing.