

Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA

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the handler is required to pay the assessment when due.

(b) The procedures for obtaining a postponement of payment to be developed by the Council for submission to the Secretary shall also include provisions with respect to the period of postponement, the conditions of payment that may be imposed and the basis, if any, on which further extensions of the time for payment will be granted so as to appropriately reflect the demonstrated needs of the qualified handler.

§ 1208.56 Determinations.

(a) The Council is authorized to make the determinations required by this subpart as to the status of persons as qualified handlers and exempt handlers including determinations of the status of persons as qualified wholesale handlers, distribution centers that are qualified handlers, producers that are qualified handlers, importers that are qualified handlers, as well as such other determinations of status and facts as may be required for the effective administration of this subpart. Based on such determinations, the Council from time to time shall publish lists of exempt handlers who are not required to pay assessments, and lists of qualified handlers who are required to pay assessments under this subpart.

(b) For the purpose of applying the \$750,000 annual sales limitation to a specific person in order to determine the status of the person as a qualified handler or an exempt handler or to a specific facility in order to determine the status of the facility as an eligible separate facility for the purpose of referenda, the Council is authorized to determine the annual sales volume of a person or facility.

(c) Any such determination shall be based on the sales of cut flowers and greens by the person or facility during the most recently-completed calendar year, except that in the case of a new business or other operation for which complete data on sales during all or part of the most recently-completed calendar year are not available to the Council, the determination may be made using an alternative time period or other alternative procedures as the

Council may find appropriate. In making such determinations, the Council is authorized to make attributions in accordance with paragraphs (c) (1) through (4) of this section and for the purpose of determining the annual sales volume of a person or a separate facility of a person, sales attributable to a person shall include:

(1) In the case of an individual, sales attributable to the spouse, children, grandchildren, parents, and grandparents of the person;

(2) In the case of a partnership or member of a partnership, sales attributable to the partnership and other partners of the partnership;

(3) In the case of an individual or a partnership, sales attributable to any corporation or other entity in which the individual or partnership owns more than 50 percent of the stock or (if the entity is not a corporation) that the individual or partnership controls; and

(4) In the case of a corporation, sales attributable to any corporate subsidiary or other corporation or entity in which the corporation owns more than 50 percent of the stock or (if the entity is not a corporation) that the corporation controls.

(d) The Council is also authorized to attribute any stock ownership interest as may be required to carry out this subpart. In doing so a stock ownership interest in the entity that is owned by the spouse, children, grandchildren, parents, grandparents, or partners of an individual, or by a partnership in which a person is a partner, or by a corporation more than 50 percent of the stock of which is owned by a person, shall be treated as owned by the individual or person.

(e) For the purpose of this subpart, the Council, with the approval of the Secretary, may require a person who sells cut flowers and greens to retailers to submit reports to the Council on annual sales by the person and on stock ownership.

SUSPENSION OR TERMINATION

§ 1208.60 Suspension and termination.

If the Secretary finds that this subpart, or any provision of this subpart, obstructs or does not tend to effectuate

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the policy of the Act, the Secretary shall terminate or suspend the operation of this subpart or the provision of this subpart under such terms as the Secretary determines are appropriate. Such termination or suspension shall not be considered an order within the meaning of such term in the Act.

§ 1208.61 Proceedings after termination.

(a) Upon the termination of this subpart, the Council shall recommend not more than five of its members to the Secretary to serve as trustees for the purpose of liquidating the assets of the Council. Such persons, upon designation by the Secretary, shall become trustees of all the funds and property owned, in the possession of, or under the control of the Council, including any claims unpaid or property not delivered, or any other claim existing at the time of such termination.

(b) The trustees shall:

(1) Continue in such capacity until discharged by the Secretary;

(2) Carry out the obligations of the Council under any contract or agreement entered into by it under this subpart;

(3) Make refunds from the escrow account to those persons who applied for refunds of assessments paid and who are eligible to receive such refunds. Such refunds shall be made within 30 days after the referendum results are issued.

(4) From time to time account for all receipts and disbursements, and deliver all property on hand, together with all books and records of the Council and of the trustees, to such persons as the Secretary may direct; and

(5) Upon the request of the Secretary, execute such assignments or other instruments necessary or appropriate to vest in such persons full title and right to all of the funds, property, and claims vested in the Council or the trustees under this subpart.

(c) Any person to whom funds, property, or claims have been transferred or delivered under this subpart shall be subject to the same obligations imposed upon the Council and upon the trustees.

(d) Any residual funds not required to defray the necessary expenses of liq-

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uidation shall be turned over to the Secretary to be used, to the extent practicable, in the interest of continuing one or more of the promotion, research, consumer information, or industry information programs, plans, or projects authorized under this subpart.

§ 1208.62 Effect of termination or amendment.

Unless otherwise expressly provided by the Secretary, the termination of this subpart or of any regulation or rule issued under this subpart, or the issuance of any amendment to such provisions, shall not:

(a) Affect or waive any right, duty, obligation, or liability that shall have arisen or may hereafter arise in connection with any provision of this subpart or any such regulation or rule;

(b) Release or extinguish any violation of this subpart or any such regulation or rule; or

(c) Affect or impair any rights or remedies of the United States, the Secretary, or any person with respect to any such violation.

REPORTS, BOOKS, AND RECORDS

§ 1208.70 Books, records, reports, cost control, and audits of the Council.

(a) The Council shall maintain the books and records that the Secretary may require to account for the receipt and disbursement of all funds entrusted to the Council in accordance with the provisions of this subpart, and shall prepare and submit to the Secretary, from time to time as prescribed by the Secretary, all reports that the Secretary may require.

(b) The Council shall, as soon as practicable after December 29, 1994 and after consultation with the Secretary and other appropriate persons, implement a system of cost controls based on normally accepted business practices that will ensure that the annual budgets of the Council include only amounts for administrative expenses that cover the minimum administrative activities and personnel needed to properly administer and enforce this subpart, and conduct, supervise, and evaluate plans and projects under this subpart.