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Board's authority to determine administrative or program expenditure allocations or administrative or program implementation; and

(2) Direct Qualified State Soybean Boards to participate or not participate in program activities or implementation.

(d) The Board shall establish procedures, after an opportunity for public comment and subject to approval of the Secretary, which provide Qualified State Soybean Boards with a right to present information to the Board prior to any determinations relating to non-participation as a Qualified State Soybean Board following initial election or determination as a Qualified State Soybean Board.

[56 FR 31049, July 9, 1991, as amended at 60 FR 58500, Nov. 28, 1995; 61 FR 50694, Sept. 27, 1996; 72 FR 2769, Jan. 23, 2007]

§ 1220.229 Influencing governmental action.

(a) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (b) of this section, funds collected or received by the Board under this subpart shall not be used in any manner for the purpose of influencing any action or policy of the United States Government, any foreign or State government, or any political subdivision thereof.

(b) The prohibition in paragraph (a) of this section shall not apply to—

(1) The development and recommendation of amendments to this subpart;

(2) The communication to appropriate government officials of information relating to the conduct, implementation, or results of promotion, research, consumer information, and industry information under this subpart; or

(3) Any action designed to market soybeans or soybean products directly to a foreign government or political subdivision thereof.

§ 1220.230 Promotion, research, consumer information, and industry information.

(a) The Board shall receive and evaluate, or on its own initiative, develop and submit to the Secretary for approval any plans or projects authorized

in this subpart. Such plans or projects shall provide for:

(1) The establishment, issuance, effectuation, and administration of appropriate promotion, research, consumer information, and industry information activities with respect to soybean and soybean products;

(2) The establishment and conduct of research, and studies with respect to the sale, distribution, marketing and utilization of soybean and soybean products and the creation of new products thereof, to the end that marketing and utilization of soybean and soybean products may be encouraged, expanded, improved or made more acceptable; and

(3) Such other activities as are authorized by the Act and this subpart.

(b) Each plan or project described in paragraph (a) of this section, shall be periodically reviewed or evaluated by the Board to ensure that each such plan or project contributes to an effective program of promotion, research, consumer information, and industry information. If it is found by the Board that any such plan or project does not further the purposes of the Act, then the Board shall terminate such plan or project.

(c) No such plans or projects shall make use of unfair or deceptive acts or practices with respect to the quality, value or use of any competing product. In carrying out any plan or project funded by the Board described in paragraph (a) of this section, no preference shall be given to a brand or trade name of any soybean product without the approval of the Board and the Secretary.

REPORTS, BOOKS, AND RECORDS

§ 1220.241 Reports.

Each producer marketing processed soybeans or soybean products of that producer's own production and each first purchaser responsible for the collection of assessments under §1220.223 shall be required to report to the Board periodically such information as may be required by the regulations recommended by the Board and approved by the Secretary. Such information may include but not be limited to the following:

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(a) The number of bushels of soybeans purchased, initially transferred, or which, in any other manner, is subject to the collection of assessment;

(b) The amount of assessments remitted;

(c) The basis, if necessary, to show why the remittance is less than one-half percent (0.5%) of the net market price per bushel of soybeans purchased multiplied by the number of bushels purchased; and

(d) The date any assessment was paid.

§ 1220.242 Books and records.

(a) Except as provided in paragraph (b) of this section, each person who is subject to this subpart shall maintain and make available for inspection by the Board or Secretary such books and records as are necessary to carry out the provisions of this subpart and the regulations issued under this part, including such records as are necessary to verify any reports required. Such records shall be retained for at least two years beyond the fiscal period of their applicability.

(b) Any producer who plants less than 25 acres of soybeans annually and does not market such soybeans shall not be required to maintain books or records pursuant to this subpart.

§ 1220.243 Confidential treatment.

Except as otherwise provided in the Act, financial or commercial information that is obtained under the Act and this subpart and that is privileged and confidential shall be kept confidential by all persons, including employees and former employees of the Board, all officers and employees and all former officers and employees of the Department, and by all officers and employees and all former officers and employees of contracting agencies having access to such information, and shall not be available to Board members or any other producers. Only those persons having a specific need for such information in order to effectively administer the provisions of this part shall have access to such information.

MISCELLANEOUS

§ 1220.251 Proceedings after termination.

(a) Upon the termination of this subpart, the Board shall recommend not more than five of its members to the Secretary to serve as trustees for the purpose of liquidating the affairs of the Board. 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 Board, including any unpaid claims or property not delivered or any other claims 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 Board under any contract or agreements entered into by it pursuant to § 1220.212(h);

(3) From time to time account for all receipts and disbursements; and

(4) Deliver all property on hand, together with all books and records of the Board and of the trustees, to such persons as the Secretary may direct, and 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 Board or the trustees pursuant to this subpart.

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

(d) Any residual funds not required to defray the necessary expenses of liquidation 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 plans or projects authorized pursuant to this subpart.

§ 1220.252 Effect of termination or amendment.

Unless otherwise expressly provided by the Secretary, the termination of