ADVISORY ISSUED: August 10, 2007 REVISION O1 ISSUED: October 15, 2007

AGAR ADVISORY

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE OFFICE OF PROCUREMENT AND PROPERTY MANAGEMENT AGAR ADVISORY NO. 84, REVISION 01.

USDA Federal Procurement Data Verification and Validation Plan

INTRODUCTION: This Agriculture Acquisition Regulation (AGAR) Advisory supersedes AGAR Advisory 84, dated August 10, 2007 and updates information concerning parts of the USDA Verification and Validation process. The purpose of this Agriculture Acquisition Regulation (AGAR) Advisory is to establish interim policy and procedures for the verification and validation of the Federal Procurement Data submitted to GSA to comply with the Office of Federal Procurement Policy's (OFPP) directive that the Federal Agencies verify and validate the accuracy of the information entered into the Federal Procurement Data System-Next Generation (FPDS-NG).

SUMMARY: Review of USDA's data certification process is essential for effective management and to ensure that the data submitted into FPDS-NG is accurate. The Office of Federal Procurement Policy (OFPP) has called on the agencies to take additional steps to verify and validate the accuracy of the data entered into the FPDS-NG system. In accordance with the policy issued by OMB, Chief Acquisition Officers (CAOs) must establish requirements for ensuring that the fiscal year 2007 FPDS-NG data reflect accurate and timely contract information. To that end, the Department has developed a new process for the submission of its Annual Statement of Verification and Validation that must be submitted to OFPP on an annual basis. This new process will be effective September 30, 2007.

ACTION:

A copy of USDA's Federal Procurement Data Verification and Validation Plan is attached. Agencies shall take action as required by the plan to ensure that the fiscal year 2007 FPDS-NG data reflect accurate and timely contract information.

If you have questions about this advisory, please contact Todd Repass by telephone on (202) 690-1060 or email at <u>Todd.Repass@USDA.gov</u>.

This advisory is available at http://www.usda.gov/procurement/policy/advisories.html.

EXPIRATION DATE: This Advisory remains in effect until superseded.