



United States
Department of
Agriculture

December 3, 2002

EOD-116

Farm and Foreign
Agricultural
Services

NOTICE TO THE TRADE

Farm Service
Agency

Kansas City
Commodity Office
P.O. Box 419205
Kansas City,
Missouri
64141-6205

The USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) is soliciting industry comments on the proposed changes to streamline the bidding process through a reduction in the number of intermodal bridge point locations listed on the KC Form 362. FSA purchases commodities for the United States Agency for International Development under Title II, and for the Foreign Agricultural Service under the Food For Progress, Section 416(b), and Global Food for Education Initiative.

Under the current system, commodity suppliers and ocean carriers are permitted to bid on sixty-one different intermodal bridge point locations. All of the bids received for these locations must be evaluated even though the majority of these locations have not had a contract award in over a year and a half. Therefore, FSA proposes to remove any intermodal bridge point location that has not been used for export food aid cargo in the previous eighteen months. If this proposal is implemented, bids received for those locations would not be considered.

The attached table lists the intermodal bridge point locations that would remain after the reduction.

Prior to implementing this change, we are inviting comments from industry, non-government and government participants. In addition to comments regarding the specific proposals, we encourage other suggestions for assuring that the process for obtaining commodity and freight bids are as fair and competitive as possible. Comments should be submitted by December 31, 2002, to:

Office of the Director, KCCO
Farm Service Agency
P.O. Box 419205
Kansas City, MO 64141-6205

George W. Aldaya
Director

Attachment

ABBREVIATION

BBEA
BCHA
BCHI
BFRE
BHOU
BJCP
BKC
BLA
BLB
BLC
BMEM
BMOB
BNO
BNOR
BSVI
BTAC
LCHI
LDUL
LGB
LMIL
LSUP

LOCATION

BEAUMONT, TX
CHARLESTON, SC
CHICAGO, IL
FREEPORT, TX
HOUSTON, TX
JACINTOPORT, TX (HOUSTON)
KANSAS CITY, MO/KS
LOS ANGELES, CA
LONG BEACH, CA
LAKE CHARLES, LA
MEMPHIS, TN
MOBILE, AL
NEW ORLEANS, LA
NORFOLK, VA
SAVANNA, IL
TACOMA, WA
CHICAGO, IL
DULUTH, MN
GREEN BAY, WI
MILWAUKEE, WI
SUPERIOR, WI