

renewable energy systems and make energy efficiency improvements. Section 9006 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (Pub. L. 107-71) (the Act) provides \$23 million annually for this purpose. The program will be made available to farmers, ranchers, and rural small businesses. We anticipate that this program will support energy self-sufficiency and promote rural economic development.

DATES: The meeting will be held on December 3, 2002. Registration will start at 8:30 a.m.; the program will begin at 9 a.m. and conclude by 3 p.m.

ADDRESSES: Jefferson Auditorium, South Agriculture Building, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC. Participants should enter the building through the 4th wing entrance of the South Building located on Independence Avenue between 12th and 14th Street. Valid photo identification is required for clearance by building security personnel.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR PARTICIPATION:

Although registration is encouraged, walk-ins will be accommodated to the extent that space permits. Registered participants will be given priority for making presentations prior to walk-ins. Anyone interested in renewable energy systems and energy efficiency improvements is encouraged to attend the public meeting. Presentations will be limited to 10 minutes in duration. To register and request time for an oral statement, contact Elsa De Leon, Office of the Deputy Administrator for Business Programs, Room 5050 South Agriculture Building, Stop 3220, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20250-3220; Email: elsa.deleon@usda.gov; Telephone: 202-720-0813. To submit comments by email, send to pandor.hadjy@usda.gov in an ASCII file. Written comments should follow the issues described in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section of this notice.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Pandor Hadjy, Assistant Deputy Administrator, Business Programs, RBS, Room 5050 South Agriculture Building, Stop 3220, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-3220, telephone: 202-720-9693.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The oral and written information obtained from interested parties will be considered in implementing provisions of Section 9006 of the 2002 Act, which authorizes the Department to make loan guarantees, loans, and grants to farmers, ranchers, and rural small businesses for renewable energy systems and energy efficiency improvements. In order to

assure that the Act is implemented to meet constituent needs, RBS is sponsoring a listening forum and soliciting written comments to encourage public participation in gathering input and comments and in making recommendations on program implementation. All comments are welcome, and no attempt will be made to establish a consensus.

RBS is particularly interested in receiving comments on the following specific issues as they relate to Section 9006:

1. The Act stipulates that financial assistance may be provided to purchase renewable energy systems and make energy efficiency improvements.

—What projects should be eligible for funding?

—Should certain types of projects receive priority for funding?

—Should preference be given to new, innovative technologies or proven technologies?

2. Loan guarantees, direct loans, and grant programs are authorized under the legislation.

—What type of financial assistance is most in need (*i.e.*, grants, direct loans, or loan guarantees)?

3. Section 9006 states that, in determining the amount of grant or loan, the Secretary shall take into consideration as applicable:

a. The type of renewable energy system to be purchased;

b. The estimated quantity of energy to be generated by the renewable energy system;

c. The expected environmental benefits of the renewable energy system;

d. The extent to which the renewable energy system will be replicable;

e. The amount of energy savings expected to be derived from the activity, as demonstrated by an energy audit comparable to an energy audit under Section 9005 of the Act;

f. The estimated length of time it would take for energy savings generated by the activity to equal the cost of the activity; and

g. Other factors as appropriate.

—What other factors, if any, should the Department consider in determining the amount of grant or loan?

—Should certain types of projects or geographic areas be targeted and given preference for financial assistance?

4. The Act states that the amount of grant shall not exceed 25 percent of the cost of the activity funded under the program. Additionally, the combined amount of a grant and loan made or guaranteed shall not exceed 50 percent of the cost of the activity funded.

—What are various sources of program matching funds (*i.e.*, other Federal, State, local, or private programs)?

Those who wish to make oral presentations should restrict their presentation to 10 minutes and are encouraged to have written copies of their complete comments, including exhibits, for inclusion in the Agency record. Those who register their attendance at the meeting, but have not been scheduled in advance to present oral testimony, will be given an opportunity to do so if time permits. Otherwise, the opportunity will be given to submit their views in writing prior to December 6, 2002. Participants who require a sign language interpreter or other special accommodations should contact Ms. De Leon as directed above.

Copies of the presentations will not be available for distribution from the Department. However, they will be available for public inspection in Room 5050 South Agriculture Building, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC, during regular business hours, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. EST.

Dated: November 18, 2002.

Thomas C. Dorr,

Under Secretary, Rural Development.

[FR Doc. 02-29703 Filed 11-21-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-XY-P

COMMITTEE FOR PURCHASE FROM PEOPLE WHO ARE BLIND OR SEVERELY DISABLED

Procurement List; Proposed Addition

AGENCY: Committee for Purchase from People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled.

ACTION: Proposed addition to Procurement List.

SUMMARY: The Committee is proposing to add to the Procurement List a service to be furnished by a nonprofit agency employing persons who are blind or have other severe disabilities.

Comments Must be Received on or Before: December 22, 2002.

ADDRESSES: Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled, Jefferson Plaza 2, Suite 10800, 1421 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, Virginia 22202-3259.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Sheryl D. Kennerly, (703) 603-7740.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This notice is published pursuant to 41 U.S.C. 47(a)(2) and 41 CFR 51-2.3. Its purpose is to provide interested persons an opportunity to submit comments on the possible impact of the proposed action.

If the Committee approves the proposed addition, the entity of the Federal Government identified in the notice for the service will be required to procure the service listed below from nonprofit agency employing persons who are blind or have other severe disabilities. I certify that the following action will not have a significant impact on a substantial number of small entities. The major factors considered for this certification were:

1. If approved, the action will not result in any additional reporting, recordkeeping or other compliance requirements for small entities other than the small organizations that will furnish the service to the Government.
2. If approved, the action will result in authorizing small entities to furnish the service to the Government.
3. There are no known regulatory alternatives which would accomplish the objectives of the Javits-Wagner-O'Day Act (41 U.S.C. 46-48c) in connection with the service proposed for addition to the Procurement List. Comments on this certification are invited. Commenters should identify the statement(s) underlying the certification on which they are providing additional information.

The following service is proposed for addition to Procurement List for production by the nonprofit agency listed:

Service

Service Type/Location: Food Service, 105th Airlift Wing, Newburgh, New York.

NPA: Occupations, Inc., Middletown, New York.

Contract Activity: 105th Airlift Wing/LGC, Newburgh, New York.

Sheryl D. Kennerly,

Director, Information Management.

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COMMITTEE FOR PURCHASE FROM PEOPLE WHO ARE BLIND OR SEVERELY DISABLED

Procurement List; Additions and Deletions

AGENCY: Committee for Purchase from People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled.

ACTION: Additions to and deletions from Procurement List.

SUMMARY: This action adds to the Procurement List products and services to be furnished by nonprofit agencies employing persons who are blind or have other severe disabilities, and deletes from the Procurement List

products previously furnished by such agencies.

EFFECTIVE DATE: December 22, 2002.

ADDRESSES: Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled, Jefferson Plaza 2, Suite 10800, 1421 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, Virginia 22202-3259.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Sheryl D. Kennerly, (703) 603-7740.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Additions

On September 13, September 20, and September 27, 2002, the Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled published notice (67 F.R. 58014, 59249, 61066 and 61067) of proposed additions to the Procurement List.

After consideration of the material presented to it concerning capability of qualified nonprofit agencies to provide the products and services and impact of the additions on the current or most recent contractors, the Committee has determined that the products and services listed below are suitable for procurement by the Federal Government under 41 U.S.C. 46-48c and 41 CFR 51-2.4.

I certify that the following action will not have a significant impact on a substantial number of small entities. The major factors considered for this certification were:

1. The action will not result in any additional reporting, recordkeeping or other compliance requirements for small entities other than the small organizations that will furnish the products and services to the Government.

2. The action will result in authorizing small entities to furnish the products and services to the Government.

3. There are no known regulatory alternatives which would accomplish the objectives of the Javits-Wagner-O'Day Act (41 U.S.C. 46-48c) in connection with the products and services proposed for addition to the Procurement List.

Accordingly, the following products and services are added to the Procurement List:

Products

Product/NSN: Braided Nylon, Type II Parachute Cord

4020-00-262-2019

NPA: East Texas Lighthouse for the Blind, Tyler, Texas

Contract Activity: Defense Supply Center Philadelphia, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Product/NSN: Dog Collar
M.R. 1975 (Small)

M.R. 1976 (Medium)

M.R. 1977 (Large)

Product/NSN: Dog Leash

M.R. 1978

NPA: L.C. Industries For The Blind, Inc., Durham, North Carolina

Contract Activity: Defense Commissary Agency (DeCA), Ft. Lee, Virginia

Services

Service Type/Location: Administrative Services—Human Resources, Department of Interior—South, Office of Surface Mining, Washington, DC

NPA: ServiceSource, Inc., Alexandria, Virginia

Contract Activity: Department of Interior—South, Washington, DC

Service Type/Location: Custodial Service,

Building 4050, Fort Polk, Louisiana
NPA: Vernon Sheltered Workshop, Leesville, Louisiana

Contract Activity: Directorate of Contracting, Fort Polk, Louisiana

Service Type/Location: Telephone Switchboard Operations, Department of Veterans Affairs, Erie VA Medical Center, Erie, Pennsylvania

NPA: Elizabeth Pierce Olmsted, M.D. Center for the Visually Impaired, Buffalo, New York

Contract Activity: Erie Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Erie, Pennsylvania

Deletions

I certify that the following action will not have a significant impact on a substantial number of small entities. The major factors considered for this certification were:

1. The action may not result in any additional reporting, recordkeeping or other compliance requirements for small entities other than the small organizations that will furnish the products to the Government.

2. The action will not have a severe economic impact on future contractors for the products to the Government.

3. There are no known regulatory alternatives which would accomplish the objectives of the Javits-Wagner-O'Day Act (41 U.S.C. 46-48c) in connection with the products deleted from the Procurement List.

Accordingly, the following products are deleted from the Procurement List:

Products

Product/NSN: Clock, Atomic, Standard, Thermometer

6645-00-NIB-0076

NPA: The Chicago Lighthouse for People who are Blind or Visually Impaired, Chicago, Illinois

Contract Activity: Office Supplies & Paper Products Acquisition Center, New York, New York

Product/NSN: Clock, Wall, Battery

6645-01-467-8477

NPA: The Chicago Lighthouse for People who are Blind or Visually Impaired, Chicago, Illinois