

This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains documents other than rules or proposed rules that are applicable to the public. Notices of hearings and investigations, committee meetings, agency decisions and rulings, delegations of authority, filing of petitions and applications and agency statements of organization and functions are examples of documents appearing in this section.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Commodity Credit Corporation

Installation and Improvement of Grain Cleaning Equipment

AGENCY: Commodity Credit Corporation, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of public hearing and extension of comment period.

SUMMARY: On November 29, 1999, the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) published a Notice (64 FR 66606) soliciting public comment on the merits of whether the CCC should finance, in some manner, the installation or upgrading of grain cleaning systems at wheat export elevators in the United States. This Notice announces that CCC will conduct a public hearing regarding this proposal and extend the time period for public comments.

DATES: *Public Hearing:* The Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS), United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), will hold a public hearing to solicit comments on a proposal to finance cleaning systems at wheat elevators in the United States. This hearing will take place on January 28, 2000, beginning at 10 a.m. in the Jefferson Auditorium, USDA South Building, 1400 Independence Ave., SW., Washington, DC. Handicap facilities, including sign language, will be available at the hearing. FAS will prepare a transcript of the hearing.

Those who wish to be assured the opportunity to provide a statement at the hearing must register no later than Wednesday, January 26, 2000.

Comment Date Extension: The date for receipt of written comments on the Notice published at 64 FR 66606 is extended to February 4, 2000. Comments must be received on or before that date to be assured of consideration.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Please direct written correspondence to:

Timothy J. Galvin, Administrator, Foreign Agricultural Service, Room 5071, 1400 Independence Ave., SW., Washington, DC 20250. Telephone, fax or e-mail correspondence may be directed to: Sam Dunlap, Assistant to the Administrator, Foreign Agricultural Service, Phone: (202) 720-1743, Fax: (202) 690-0493, e-mail: dunlaps@fas.usda.gov.

Signed at Washington, DC on January 13, 2000.

Timothy J. Galvin,

Administrator, Foreign Agricultural Service, Vice President, Commodity Credit Corporation.

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BILLING CODE 3410-10-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Farm Service Agency

National Drought Policy Commission

AGENCY: Farm Service Agency, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of Commission public hearing.

SUMMARY: The National Drought Policy Commission (Commission) shall conduct a thorough study and submit a report to the President and Congress on national drought policy. This notice announces a public hearing to be held on February 3, 2000, in Atlanta, Georgia, and seeks comments on issues that the Commission should address and recommendations that the Commission should consider as part of its report. The hearing is open to the public.

DATES: The Commission will conduct a public hearing on February 3, 2000, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (Eastern Standard Time) at Georgia State University Student Center, Speaker's Auditorium, 44 Courtland Street, Atlanta, Georgia.

Anyone wishing to make an oral presentation to the Commission at the public hearing, must contact the Executive Director, Leona Dittus, in writing (by letter, fax or internet) no later than COB, January 27, 2000, in order to be included on the agenda. Presenters will be approved on a first-come, first-served basis. The request should identify the name and affiliation of the individual who will make the presentation and an outline of the issues to be addressed. Thirty-five copies of any written presentation material shall

be given to the Executive Director by all presenters no later than the time of the presentation for distribution to the Commission and the interested public. Those wishing to testify, but who are unable to notify the Commission office by January 27, 2000, will be able to sign up as a presenter the day of the hearing (February 3, 2000) between 8:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. (Eastern Standard Time). These presenters will testify on a first-come, first-served basis and comments will be limited based on the time available and the number of presenters. Written statements will be accepted at the meeting, or may be mailed or faxed to the Commission office.

Persons with disabilities who require accommodations to attend or participate in this meeting should contact Leona Dittus, on 202-720-3168, or Federal Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339, and leona.dittus@usda.gov, by COB January 27, 2000.

Comments: The public is invited to respond and/or to submit additional comments, concerns, and issues for consideration by the Commission.

ADDRESSES: Comments and statements should be sent to Leona Dittus, Executive Director, National Drought Policy Commission, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Room 6701-S, STOP 0501, Washington, D.C. 20250-0501.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Leona Dittus (202) 720-3168; FAX (202) 720-9688; Internet: leona.dittus@usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The purpose of the Commission is to provide advice and recommendations to the President and Congress on the creation of an integrated, coordinated Federal policy, designed to prepare for and respond to serious drought emergencies. Tasks for the Commission include developing recommendations that will (a) better integrate Federal laws and programs with ongoing State, local, and tribal programs, (b) improve public awareness of the need for drought mitigation, prevention, and response and (c) determine whether all Federal drought preparation and response programs should be consolidated under one existing Federal agency, and, if so, identify the agency.

Below is a draft vision statement and set of principles to guide the Commission. Draft Vision Statement: Our vision is of a well-informed,