

“Introduction of Organisms and Products Altered or Produced Through Genetic Engineering Which Are Plant Pests or Which There Is Reason to Believe Are Plant Pests,” regulate, among other things, the introduction (importation, interstate movement, or release into the environment) of organisms and products altered or produced through genetic engineering that are plant pests or that there is reason to believe are plant pests. Such genetically engineered organisms and products are considered “regulated articles.” A permit must be obtained or a notification acknowledged before a regulated article may be introduced. The regulations set forth the permit application requirements and the notification procedures for the importation, interstate movement, or release in the environment of a regulated article.

On December 18, 2006, the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) received a permit application (APHIS No. 06–363–103r) from SemBioSys Genetics, Inc., of West Sacramento, CA, for a field trial using a line of transgenic safflower. Permit application 06–363–103r describes a transgenic safflower (*Carthamus tinctorius*) cultivar that has been genetically engineered to express a fusion protein consisting of oleosin from *Arabidopsis thaliana* and human proinsulin exclusively within its seeds. Expression of this fusion protein is controlled by the phaseolin promoter and terminator sequences from *Phaseolus vulgaris* L. (common bean). Constructs were inserted into the recipient organisms via a disarmed *Agrobacterium tumefaciens* vector system. The seed from these safflower plants will be ground and used for the development of proinsulin purification technology and is not for commercial production.

The subject safflower is considered a regulated article under the regulations in 7 CFR part 340 because it has been genetically engineered utilizing a recombinant DNA technique that uses a vector derived from *Agrobacterium tumefaciens*.

To provide the public with documentation of APHIS’ review and analysis of any potential environmental impacts and plant pest risks associated with the proposed release of the transgenic safflower, we have prepared an environmental assessment (EA). The EA was prepared in accordance with (1) The National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), as amended (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), (2) regulations of the Council on Environmental Quality for implementing the procedural provisions

of NEPA (40 CFR parts 1500–1508), (3) USDA regulations implementing NEPA (7 CFR part 1b), and (4) APHIS’ NEPA Implementing Procedures (7 CFR part 372).

The EA may be viewed on the Regulations.gov Web site or in our reading room. (Instructions for accessing Regulations.gov and information on the location and hours of the reading room are provided under the heading **ADDRESSES** at the beginning of this notice.) In addition, copies may be obtained by calling or writing to the individual listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 7701–7772 and 7781–7786; 31 U.S.C. 9701; 7 CFR 2.22, 2.80, and 371.3.

Done in Washington, DC, this 18th day of June 2007.

Kevin Shea,

Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[FR Doc. E7–12098 Filed 6–21–07; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Food and Nutrition Service

Agency Information Collection Activities: Extension of Proposed Collection; Comment Request—Food Stamp Forms: Applications, Periodic Reporting, Notices

AGENCY: Food and Nutrition Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice invites the general public and other public agencies to comment on the proposed extension of this collection. The information collection requirement described in this notice is OMB Number 0584–0064: Application and Certification of Food Stamp Households.

DATES: Written comments must be received on or before August 21, 2007.

ADDRESSES: Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency’s estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who respond, including the

use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments may be sent to Patrick Waldron, Branch Chief, Certification Policy Branch, Program Development Division, Food and Nutrition Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 3101 Park Center Drive, Alexandria, VA 22302. Comments may also be submitted via fax to the attention of Mr. Waldron at (703) 305–2486 or via e-mail at patrick.waldron@FNS.USDA.GOV. All written comments will be open for public inspection at the office of the Food and Nutrition Service during regular business hours (8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday) at 3101 Park Center Drive, Alexandria, Virginia, 22302, Room 800.

All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will be a matter of public record.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information should be directed to Mr. Waldron at (703) 305–2495.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Food Stamp Forms: Applications, Periodic Reporting, Notices.

OMB Number: 0584–0064.

Form Number: None.

Expiration Date: 7/31/07.

Type of Request: Extension of a currently approved information collection.

Abstract: Title 7, Part 273 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) sets forth the Food Stamp Program requirements for the application, certification and continued eligibility for food stamp benefits.

Listed below are the components of the forms and requirements included in the information collection.

Application to participate in the Food Stamp Program. The application is filed by all applicant households when first applying to participate in the program and is used by the State agencies that administer the program to determine household eligibility. Based on FY 2006 data, we estimate that the burden associated with the application for certification at 3,473,171 hours for households (10,967,909 applications × 19 minutes (0.32 hrs) to complete the application). We estimate the burden for State agencies at 3,473,171 hours (10,967,909 applications × 19 minutes (0.32 hrs) to review the application).

Application for Recertification. All food stamp households are assigned finite certification periods. In order to continue participating in the Food

Stamp Program, ongoing households must apply for recertification using an application, which is very similar to the above-mentioned application for initial certification. The average certification period is 10 months in length although the length of the certification period may range from 1-month to 24-months depending on household circumstances. Based on FY 2006 data, we estimate that the burden associated with the application for recertification at 3,205,217 hours for households (10,121,739 applications \times 19 minutes (0.32 hrs) to complete the application). We estimate the burden for State agencies at 3,205,217 hours (10,121,739 applications \times 19 minutes (0.32 hrs) to review the application).

Monthly Report. Three State agencies require a portion of their caseload to report changes in household circumstances through monthly reports. Because the household does not submit a separate monthly report when it submits the application for recertification, households are required to submit monthly reports 11 times a year. We estimate a total annual household reporting burden of 182,883 hours for the monthly report (142,506 households \times 11 reports per year \times 7 minutes or 0.12 hrs per report). We estimate a State agency burden of 287,387 hours (142,506 households \times 11 reports per year \times 11 minutes or 0.18 hrs per report).

Quarterly Report. Currently, only one State, California, requires households to report changes in circumstances on a quarterly basis. Since households are not required to submit a separate quarterly report when they submit an application for recertification, the report is submitted three times a year. We estimate a household reporting burden of 319,787 hours for the quarterly report (799,469 households \times 3 reports per year \times 8 minutes or 0.13 hrs per report). We estimate a State agency burden of 479,681 hours (799,469 households \times 3 reports per year \times 12 minutes or 0.2 hrs per report).

Semiannual or Simplified Reporting. Under the simplified reporting option, adopted by 47 States, most households report changes in their circumstances through a report that they normally submit every six months. In addition to the semiannual report, a household in a simplified reporting system must report when its gross income exceeds 130 percent of the poverty threshold. Based on recent information regarding State choices, we estimate that 10,788,683 households are currently subject to simplified reporting. Under simplified reporting, households submit one report annually (these households submit an

application for recertification at least once every 12 months), and we estimate a household burden of 1,438,491 hours (10,788,683 reports \times 8 minutes or .133 hrs per report) and a State agency burden of 1,977,925 hours (10,788,683 reports \times 11 minutes or .18 hrs per report).

Change Reporting. Households not subject to monthly, quarterly reporting or semiannual reporting must report most changes in household circumstances with 10 days of the date that the change becomes known to the household. Most households subject to change reporting are statutorily exempt from periodic reporting, primarily are those households with no earned income in which all adult members are elderly or disabled. We estimate a total household burden for change reporting at 138,737 hours per year (1,664,843 households submitting an average of 1 report per year at 5 minutes or 0.08 hrs per report). We estimate the annual State agency burden to process the reports at 305,221 hours (1,664,843 households submitting an average of 1 report per year with an agency processing time of 11 minutes or 0.18 hrs per report).

Notice of Eligibility or Denial. Based on an estimated 21,089,658 notices issued annually, we estimate a total State agency burden of 632,690 hours based on 2 minutes (.03 hrs) to generate each report.

We estimate a total annual burden of 367,412 hours to issue the following notices: Notice of Late/Incomplete Report, Adequate Notice (notice of reduction or termination based on information reported by the household), Notice of Adverse Action, Notice of Expiration of Certification, Request for Contact, and Notice of Missed Interview. The total is based on total of 3,365,104 responses with an average burden of 3 minutes or .03 hrs per response for the first five notices and 953,915 responses with an average burden of 1 minute or 0.167 hrs for the Notice of Missed Interview.

Recordkeeping burden only. Local agencies are required to maintain client case records for three years and to perform duplicate participation checks on individual household members to ensure the member is not participating in more than one household. Data are not available on the actual number of local food stamp offices in each State or the actual number of workers (recordkeepers) that would be maintaining case files and performing duplicate participation checks. For the purpose of this burden package, we are using the number of food stamp project areas, which equals 2,724.

(A) **Case Files:** The caseload to be maintained is equal to the number of participating households and their subsequent files. The number of times recordkeepers must access these case files is equal to the number of documents expected to be filed or noted in the file annually. We anticipate minimal filing to involve a burden of 2 minutes per document. Including documentation (i.e. electronic files, caseworker written entry into the file, or hard copies of the document) for notices which were sent to the household and when, we anticipate a total of 127,192,305 documents/year. Annual recordkeeping burden associated with creating, filing, and maintaining household case files is estimated to be 4,239,744 burden hours (127,192,305 \times 2/60 = 4,239,744).

(B) **Monitoring Duplicate Participation:** The estimated annual recordkeeping burden for maintaining this system that is automated by most States is based on the number of total applications (all approved and denied initial and recertification applications) expected to be received (20,250,469) and the average number of persons (2.3) in each applicant household. We estimate the number of duplicate participation checks (responses) that must be performed by State agencies at 46,576,079. Burden is estimated to be 15 seconds (or 0.00416666 hour) per response, for a total burden of 194,067 burden hours annually (20,250,469 \times 2.3 \times 15 seconds or 0.00416666 hrs).

(C) Total recordkeeping burden would be 4,433,811 hours. Burden per recordkeeper would be 1,627 hours.

Summary of burden hours for public—state and local governments, potential applicants, and current participants:

Number of Respondents: 21,089,698.

Annual responses: 110,196,575.

Total burden hours: 24,017,997.

Dated: June 19, 2007.

Roberto Salazar,

Administrator, Food and Nutrition Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Settlement Land Transfers: Pueblo de San Ildefonso and Los Alamos County, Sante Fe National Forest, Los Alamos County/Rio Arriba/Santa Fe County, NM

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare an environmental impact statement.