

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20250

DEPARTMENTAL REGULATION		Number: 1043-019
SUBJECT: Grain Inspection Advisory Committee	DATE: January 12, 2009	
	OPI: Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA)	

1. PURPOSE

- a. Under Section 21 of the United States Grain Standards (Act), as amended, the Grain Inspection Advisory Committee was established on September 29, 1981.
- b. The purpose of the Advisory Committee (Advisory Committee) is to provide advice to the Administrator of the Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA) with respect to the implementation of the Act and the Reorganization Act of 1994.
- c. The renewal of this Advisory Committee is in the public interest in connection with duties and responsibilities of GIPSA mandated by law to facilitate the marketing of grain. The Advisory Committee serves an essential function.

2. SPECIAL INSTRUCTION/CANCELLATION

- a. This regulation will expire two years from the date of filing.
- b. Departmental Regulation 1043-019, dated January 10, 2007, is hereby superseded.

3. OFFICERS AND MEMBERSHIP

- a. The Advisory Committee shall elect from among its members a Chairperson and a Vice Chairperson. Elections shall be by majority vote of those members present. The Vice Chairperson will act in the absence of the Chairperson. A representative of GIPSA will serve as Executive Secretary and will provide the necessary staff support for the Committee. The Administrator of GIPSA is the Department official designated to call or approve the calling of meetings of the Committee and to approve the agenda for such meetings.

- b. The Advisory Committee will consist of 15 members and 15 alternates to be appointed by the Secretary. Members and alternates will be selected from and will represent the interests of all segments of the grain producing, processing, storing, merchandising, consuming, and exporting industries, including grain inspection and weighing agencies and scientists with expertise in research related to the policies in Section 2 of the Act. Members and alternates of the Advisory Committee shall be appointed to three-year terms. No member of the Advisory Committee may serve successive terms.
- c. Equal Opportunity practices, in line with USDA policies, will be followed in all appointments to the Advisory Committee. To ensure that the recommendations of the Advisory Committee have taken into account the needs of the diverse groups served by the Department, membership shall include to the extent practicable individuals with demonstrated ability to represent minorities, women, and persons with disabilities.

4. DUTIES

- a. The duties of the Advisory Committee involve providing advice to the Administrator of GIPSA with respect to the implementation of the Act consistent with the declarations of policy in Section 2 of this Act. The Advisory Committee may also provide advice to the Administrator with respect to the implementation of assigned Responsibilities of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946.
- b. The duties of the Advisory Committee are solely advisory.

5. ESTIMATED ANNUAL OPERATING COSTS

- a. Annual operating costs are estimated to be \$45,000 and 0.70 staff-years.
- b. Members shall serve without pay, but may be reimbursed for travel expenses and per diem for attendance at the Advisory Committee functions in accordance with USDA travel regulations. Alternatively, travel expenses may be paid by Advisory Committee members.

6. NUMBER AND FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS

- a. It is estimated that the Advisory Committee will meet two times annually.
- b. Subcommittees of the Advisory Committee will meet as established by the Chairperson of the Committee.

- c. Meetings will be open to the public.

7. REPORTS/SUPPORT

- a. The Advisory Committee will report to the Administrator of GIPSA.
- b. Support to the Advisory Committee will be provided by GIPSA's Federal Grain Inspection Service.

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