

The Exchange notes that the proposed increase in the quality grade differentials for U.S. No. 1 and U.S. No. 2 grade northern spring wheat "will bring the grade differentials for Northern Spring Wheat in line with the grade differentials for Hard Red Winter, Soft Red Winter and Dark Northern Spring Wheat."

With respect to the proposal to introduce lower speculative position limit levels during the last five trading days of the March and May wheat contract months, the Exchange states that, "The purpose of the decrease in speculative position limits is to satisfy CFTC concerns on the adequacy of deliverable supply of wheat." The Exchange further notes that, "while the decrease in the speculative position limits in the last five business days has the potential to reduce liquidity, the proposed [lower] limits would not have restrained positions held by speculators in the last five years."

The Exchange states that the proposed last trading day for both wheat and oats is the same as that for grain futures contracts and thus "will standardize the last trading day for CBOT commodities of wheat, corn, oats, soybeans, soybean meal and soybean oil." Finally, according to the Exchange, the proposed load-out requirements to give takers of delivery on the wheat and oats futures contracts preference in loading grain over the warehouse operator's non-futures delivery commitments "will allow delivery wheat to be more accessible to takers of delivery and allow the futures to be more reflective of nearby cash grain prices."

The Commission finds that the proposed changes in wheat differentials are of major economic significance and the publication of the CBT's proposed amendments as a whole is in the public interest and will assist the Commission in its consideration of the amendments. In particular, commenters are invited to analyze the following issues and to submit written data, views or comments relating to the CBT's proposals.

1. Would available deliverable supplies under the proposed contract terms for wheat be sufficient to prevent or diminish price manipulation, market congestion, or the abnormal movement of such commodity in interstate commerce?

2. Do the proposed locational price differentials for delivery of wheat at Toledo and St. Louis reflect cash market price differentials for wheat at such locations relative to cash market values at Chicago?

3. Do the proposed quality price differentials for delivery of U.S. No 1 and U.S. No. 2 grade northern spring

wheat reflect cash market pricing relationships between such wheat and other deliverable classes and grades of wheat, particularly U.S. No. 2 grades soft red winter wheat?

4. Are the proposed amendments to the corn, wheat, soybeans and oats futures contracts concerning load out of grain against warehouse receipts and shipping certificates consistent with cash market practices for those commodities at the regular warehouse at the contracts' delivery points? If not, to what extent, if any, will the proposed load-out amendments limit deliverable supplies available for the wheat, oats, corn and soybean futures contracts?

5. In light of recently announced plans concerning changes⁴ in the ownership and/or operational control of the wheat futures contract's delivery facilities, what effect, if any, will the increased concentration in the control of delivery capacity resulting from these changes have on the contract's susceptibility to price manipulation, market congestion or the abnormal movement of wheat in interstate commerce? To what extent do these changes reflect general trends in the cash market?

Copies of the proposed amendments will be available for inspection at the Office of the Secretariat, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, Three Lafayette Centre, 1155 21st Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20581. Copies of the proposed amendments can be obtained through the Office of the Secretariat by mail at the above address or by telephone at (202) 418-5100.

Other materials submitted by the CBT may be available upon request pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) and the Commission's regulations thereunder (17 C.F.R. Part 145 (1987)), except to the extent they are entitled to confidential treatment as set forth in 17 C.F.R. 145.5 and 145.9. Requests for copies of such materials should be made to the FOI, Privacy and Sunshine Act Compliance Staff of the Office of the Secretariat at the Commission's headquarters in accordance with 17 C.F.R. 145.7 or 145.8.

⁴ On March 25, 1998, Cargill, Inc. announced an agreement under which The Andersons, Inc. would lease Cargill's two grain handling facilities in Toledo/Maumee, Ohio and provide on-site management of those facilities, in addition to the Andersons' own grain-handling facilities in Toledo/Maumee. Cargill also announced that it would provide marketing services for grain originated from all facilities owned or leased by the Andersons in Toledo/Maumee. In addition, on November 10, 1998, Cargill announced the purchase of all of Continental Grain Co.'s grain merchandising operations, including Continental's existing wheat futures delivery facilities located in Chicago and St. Louis.

Issued in Washington, DC, on November 19, 1998.

Jean A. Webb,

Secretary of the Commission.

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COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION

Global Markets Advisory Committee Meeting

This is to give notice, pursuant to Section 10(a) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App. 2, section 10(a), that the Commodity Futures Trading Commission's Global Markets Advisory Committee ("GMAC") will conduct a public meeting on December 9, 1998 in the first floor hearing room (Room 1000) of the Commission's Washington, D.C. headquarters, Three Lafayette Centre, 1155 21st Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20581. The meeting will begin at 1:00 p.m. and last until 4:30 p.m. The agenda will consist of the following:

Agenda

1. Introductory Remarks—
 - Commissioner Barbara P. Holum
2. Reports of GMAC Working Groups
 - A. Working Group I—Electronic Terminals—Comment on CFTC Federal Register Release
 - B. Working Group II—Impediments to Cross-Border Business—Report on Work Projects
 - C. Working Group III—IOSCO initiatives
3. Discussion
4. New Business

The meeting is open to the public. The Chairman of the Advisory Committee, Commissioner Barbara P. Holum, is empowered to conduct the meeting in a fashion that will, in her judgment, facilitate the orderly conduct of business. Any member of the public who wishes to file a written statement with the Advisory Committee should mail a copy of the statement to the attention of: The Global Markets Advisory Committee, c/o Commissioner Barbara P. Holum, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, Three Lafayette Centre, 1155 21st Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20581, before the meeting. Members of the public who wish to make oral statements should inform Commissioner Holum in writing at the foregoing address at least three business days before the meeting. Reasonable provision will be made, if time permits, for an oral presentation of no more than five minutes each in duration.

Issued by the Commission in Washington, D.C. on November 20, 1998.

Jean A. Webb,

Secretary of the Commission.

[FR Doc. 98-31631 Filed 11-24-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

Proposed Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: Defense Finance and Accounting Service.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Defense Finance and Accounting Service announces the proposed public information collection and seeks public comment on the provisions thereof. 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 information collection; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the information collection on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

DATES: Consideration will be given to all comments received by January 25, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and recommendations on the proposed information collection should be sent to the Denver Center, Defense Finance and Accounting Service, DFAS-DE/FJPD, Attn: Carolyn Crane, 6760 East Irvington Place, Denver, CO 80279-3000.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: To request more information on this proposed information collection or to obtain a copy of the proposal and associated collection instruments, please write to the above address, or call Carolyn Crane, 303-676-7818.

Title, Associated Form, and OMB Number: Dependency Statement—Ward of a Court.

Needs and Uses: A military member may claim a ward of a court for monetary allowances. Pursuant to 37 U.S.C. 401, 403 and 406, the member must provide over one-half of the claimed ward's monthly expenses. DoDFMR 7000.14, Volume 7A defines the definition of dependent and directs that dependency be proved. This form

may be prepared by the military member or may be prepared by another individual who may be a member of the public.

Affected Public: Individuals.

Annual Burden Hours: 187.5 hours.

Number of Respondents: 150.

Responses per Respondent: 1 (new form may be required if circumstances change).

Average Burden per Response: 1.25 hours.

Frequency: On occasion.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Summary of Information Collection

When military members apply for benefits, they will complete this form, Dependency Statement—Ward of a Court. While members would normally complete this form, they could also be completed by others considered members of the public. Dependency claim examiners will use information from these forms to determine the degree of benefits. This collection will also decrease the possibility of monetary allowances being approved on behalf of ineligible dependents, and alleviate the opportunity for fraud, waste and abuse.

Dated: November 19, 1998.

Patricia L. Toppings,

Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.

[FR Doc 98-31418 Filed 11-24-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 5000-04-M

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

TRICARE; the Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Uniformed Services (CHAMPUS); Specialized Treatment Services (STS) Program

AGENCY: Office of the Secretary, DoD.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice is to advise interested parties that Walter Reed Army Medical Center (WRAMC), Washington, DC, located in TRICARE Region 1 has been designated a Multi-Regional Specialized Treatment Services Facility (STSF) for Liver Transplantation and a National STSF for Renal Transplantation. The application for the STSF designation was submitted by WRAMC and approved by the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Health Affairs). The Lead Agent for Region 1 will ensure that the STSF maintains the quality and standards required for specialized treatment services. The designation covers the following Diagnosis Related Groups: 480—Liver Transplant

302—Kidney Transplant

Travel and lodging for the patient and, if stated to be medically necessary by a referring physician, for one non-medical attendant, will be reimbursed by WRAMC in accordance with the provisions of the Joint Federal Travel Regulation. DOD beneficiaries who reside in the Multi-Regional STS Catchment Area for liver transplant which includes TRICARE Regions 1, 2, and 5 must be evaluated by WRAMC before receiving TRICARE/CHAMPUS cost sharing for liver transplantation that falls under Diagnosis Related Group 480. DOD beneficiaries who reside in the National STS Catchment Area must be evaluated by WRAMC before receiving TRICARE/CHAMPUS cost sharing for kidney transplantation that falls under Diagnosis Related Group 302. Evaluation in person is preferred, and travel and lodging expenses for the evaluation will be reimbursed as stated above. It is possible to conduct the evaluation telephonically if the patient is unable to travel to WRAMC. If the procedures cannot be performed at WRAMC, the facility will provide a medical necessity review prior to issuance of a Nonavailability Statement.

The STS Multi-Regional Catchment Area for liver transplant covering TRICARE Regions 1, 2, and 5 includes all zip codes within those TRICARE Regions. The STS National Catchment Area for kidney transplant is defined as the continental United States (i.e., 48 contiguous states and the District of Columbia excluding Alaska and Hawaii).

EFFECTIVE DATE: March 1, 1999.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Ms. Kendra Drew, WRAMC, at (202) 782-4302, or Captain D. Michael Jones, TRICARE Region 1 Lead Agent Office, at (202) 782-1483; or Lieutenant Colonel Teresa Sommesse, TRICARE Management Activity, (703) 681-3628, extension 5029; or Mr. Tariq Shahid, TRICARE Management Activity, (303) 676-3801.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In FR DOC 93-27050, appearing in the **Federal Register** on November 5, 1993 (Vol. 58, FR 58955-58964), the final rule on the STS Program was published. Included in the final rule was a provision that a notice of all military and civilian STS facilities be published in the **Federal Register** annually. This notice is issued under the authority of 10 U.S.C. 1105 and 32 CFR 199.4(a)(10).