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Postal Mail/Commercial Delivery: Please send four copies of your comment (an original and three copies) to Docket No. 04-110-1, Regulatory Analysis and Development, PPD, APHIS, Station 3C71, 4700 River Road Unit 118, Riverdale, MD 20737-1238. Please state that your comment refers to Docket No. 04-110-1.

E-mail: Address your comment to regulations@aphis.usda.gov. Your comment must be contained in the body of your message; do not send attached files. Please include your name and address in your message and "Docket No. 04-110-1" on the subject line.

Agency Web site: Go to <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/ppd/rad/cominst.html> for a form you can use to submit an e-mail comment through the APHIS Web site.

Reading Room: You may read any comments that we receive on this docket in our reading room. The reading room is located in room 1141 of the USDA South Building, 14th Street and Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC. Normal reading room hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. To be sure someone is there to help you, please call (202) 690-2817 before coming.

Other Information: You may view APHIS documents published in the **Federal Register** and related information, including the names of groups and individuals who have commented on APHIS dockets, on the Internet at <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/ppd/rad/webrepor.html>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For information on the payment of indemnity for chronic wasting disease, contact Dr. Dean Goeldner, Senior Staff Veterinarian, Eradication and Surveillance Team, National Center for Animal Health Programs, VS, APHIS, 4700 River Road Unit 43, Riverdale, MD 20737-1231; (301) 734-4916. For copies of more detailed information on the information collection, contact Mrs. Celeste Sickles, APHIS' Information Collection Coordinator, at (301) 734-7477.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Chronic Wasting Disease in Cervids; Payment of Indemnity.

OMB Number: 0579-0189.

Type of Request: Extension of approval of an information collection.

Abstract: The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) is responsible for, among other things, preventing the interstate spread of pests and diseases of livestock within the United States and for conducting eradication programs. In connection with this mission, the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service established regulations to provide for the payment of indemnity by USDA for the voluntary depopulation of captive cervid herds known to be affected with chronic wasting disease (CWD).

CWD is a transmissible spongiform encephalopathy of cervids (elk, deer, and other members of the deer family) and is typified by chronic weight loss leading to death. The presence of CWD in cervids causes significant economic and market losses to U.S. producers.

The regulations in 9 CFR part 55 authorize the payment of indemnity for the voluntary depopulation of CWD-positive, -exposed, or -suspect captive cervids. In order to take part in the indemnity program, cervid producers must apply for participation, must sign a payment, appraisal, and agreement form, and must certify as to whether any other parties hold mortgages on the herd. These requirements involve the use of two information collection instruments: an Appraisal/Indemnity Claim Form (VS Form 1-23) and a Herd Plan Agreement.

We are asking the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to approve our use of these information collection activities for an additional 3 years.

The purpose of this notice is to solicit comments from the public (as well as affected agencies) concerning this information collection. These comments will help us:

- (1) Evaluate whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;
- (2) Evaluate the accuracy of our estimate of the burden of the information collection, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
- (3) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
- (4) Minimize the burden of the information collection on those who are to respond, through use, as appropriate, of automated, electronic, mechanical, and other collection technologies, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

Estimate of burden: The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 1 hour per response.

Respondents: Cervid herd owners, State personnel who perform appraisal work.

Estimated annual number of respondents: 20.

Estimated annual number of responses per respondent: 1.

Estimated annual number of responses: 20.

Estimated total annual burden on respondents: 20 hours. (Due to averaging, the total annual burden hours may not equal the product of the annual number of responses multiplied by the reporting burden per response.)

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

Done in Washington, DC, this 27th day of October 2004.

Elizabeth E. Gaston,

Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[FR Doc. E4-2948 Filed 10-29-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-34-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

[Docket No. 04-030-2]

Mycogen c/o Dow; Extension of Determination of Nonregulated Status for Corn Genetically Engineered for Insect Resistance and Glufosinate Herbicide Tolerance

AGENCY: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: We are advising the public of our decision to extend to one additional corn line our determination that a corn line developed by Mycogen Seeds c/o Dow AgroSciences LLC, which has been genetically engineered for insect resistance and tolerance to the herbicide glufosinate, is no longer considered a regulated article under our regulations governing the introduction of certain genetically engineered organisms. Our decision is based on our evaluation of data submitted by Mycogen c/o Dow in its request for an extension of a determination of nonregulated status, an analysis of other scientific data, and a comment received from the public in response to a previous notice. This notice also announces the availability of our written determination and our finding of no significant impact.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 20, 2004.

ADDRESSES: You may read the extension request, the environmental assessment and finding of no significant impact, and the comment we received on our previous notice in our reading room. The reading room is located in room 1141 of the USDA South Building, 14th Street and Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC. Normal reading room hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. To be sure someone is there to help you, please call (202) 690-2817 before coming.

APHIS documents published in the **Federal Register**, and related information, including the names of organizations and individuals who have commented on APHIS dockets, are available on the Internet at <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/ppd/rad/webrepor.html>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Robyn Rose, Biotechnology Regulatory Services, APHIS, Suite 5B05, 4700 River Road Unit 147, Riverdale, MD 20737-1236; (301) 734-0489. To obtain a copy of the extension request or the environmental assessment and finding of no significant impact, contact Ms. Terry Hampton at (301) 734-5715; e-mail: Terry.A.Hampton@aphis.usda.gov. The extension request and the environmental assessment and finding of no significant impact are also available on the Internet at http://www.aphis.usda.gov/brs/aphisdocs/03_18101p.pdf and http://www.aphis.usda.gov/brs/aphisdocs/03_18101p_ea.pdf.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The regulations in 7 CFR part 340, "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."

The regulations in § 340.6(a) provide that any person may submit a petition to the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) seeking a determination that an article should not be regulated under 7 CFR part 340. Further, the regulations in § 340.6(e)(2) provide that a person may request that APHIS extend a determination of nonregulated status to other organisms.

Such a request must include information to establish the similarity of the antecedent organism and the regulated article in question.

Background

On June 30, 2003, APHIS received a request for an extension of a determination of nonregulated status (APHIS No. 03-181-01p) from Mycogen Seeds c/o Dow AgroSciences LLC (Mycogen/Dow) of Indianapolis, IN, for corn (*Zea mays* L.) designated as maize line 6275 (corn line 6275), which has been genetically engineered for resistance to certain lepidopteran pests and tolerance to the herbicide glufosinate. Mycogen/Dow requested an extension of a determination of nonregulated status issued in response to APHIS petition number 00-136-01p for insect resistant and glufosinate tolerant corn line 1507, the antecedent organism (see 66 FR 42624-42625, published August 14, 2001, Docket No. 00-070-3). Based on the similarity of corn line 6275 to the antecedent corn line 1507, Mycogen/Dow requested a determination that corn line 6275 does not present a plant pest risk and, therefore, is not a regulated article under APHIS' regulations in 7 CFR part 340.

On August 17, 2004, APHIS published a notice in the **Federal Register** (69 FR 51058-51059, Docket No. 04-030-1) announcing that an environmental assessment (EA) for the Mycogen/Dow extension request had been prepared and was available for public comment. APHIS received one comment on the subject EA during the designated 30-day public comment period, which ended September 16, 2004. The comment, which was from a private individual, stated, without reference to any supporting data, that corn line 6275 should continue to be regulated because it is harmful to humans and contains plant pathogens. APHIS evaluated the safety of corn line 6275 in the EA and has provided a response to this comment as an attachment to the finding of no significant impact (FONSI). The EA and FONSI are available as indicated under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

Analysis

Like the antecedent organism, corn line 6275 has been genetically engineered to express a Cry1F insecticidal protein derived from the common soil bacterium *Bacillus thuringiensis* subsp. *Aizawi* (*Bt aizawi*). The Cry1F protein is said to be effective in controlling certain lepidopteran pests of corn, including European corn borer, black cutworm, fall army worm, and

southwestern corn borer. Corn line 6275 also contains the *bar* gene isolated from the bacterium *Streptomyces hygroscopicus*. The *bar* gene encodes a phosphinothricin acetyltransferase enzyme which confers tolerance to the herbicide glufosinate. The antecedent organism contains the *pat* gene derived from the bacterium *Streptomyces viridochromogenes*. The *pat* gene encodes a phosphinothricin acetyltransferase (PAT) protein, which also confers tolerance to glufosinate herbicides. Corn line 6275 was developed through use of *Agrobacterium*-mediated transformation, while microprojectile bombardment was used to transfer the added genes into the antecedent organism, corn line 1507. The recipient line used in both the antecedent organism and corn line 6275 was the public line designated Hi-II.

Corn line 6275 expresses an insecticidal crystal protein identical in amino acid sequence to the Cry1F protein expressed in line 1507, both lines express an identical protein which confers tolerance to the herbicide glufosinate, and the recipient line used in both lines was the same public line Hi-II. Accordingly, we have determined that corn line 6275 is similar to the antecedent organism in APHIS petition number 00-136-01p and that corn line 6275 should no longer be regulated under the regulations in 7 CFR part 340.

Corn line 6275 has been considered a regulated article under APHIS regulations in 7 CFR part 340 because it contains gene sequences derived from plant pathogens. However, corn line 6275 has been field tested since 1999 under APHIS authorizations. In the process of reviewing the notifications for field trials of the subject corn, APHIS determined that the vectors and other elements were disarmed and that the trials, which were conducted under conditions of reproductive and physical confinement or isolation, would not present a risk of plant pest introduction or dissemination.

Determination

Based on an analysis of the data submitted by Mycogen/Dow and a review of other scientific data, APHIS has determined that corn line 6275: (1) Exhibits no plant pathogenic properties; (2) is no more likely to become a weed than corn varieties developed by traditional breeding techniques and is unlikely to increase the weediness potential for any other cultivated or wild species with which it can interbreed; (3) will not cause damage to raw or processed agricultural commodities; (4) will not harm

threatened or endangered species or other organisms, such as bees, that are beneficial to agriculture; and (5) is unlikely to have any significant adverse impact on agricultural practices. Therefore, APHIS has concluded that corn line 6275 and any progeny derived from crosses with other corn varieties will be as safe to grow as corn that is not subject to regulation under 7 CFR part 340.

Because APHIS has determined that the subject corn line does not present a plant pest risk based on its similarity to the antecedent organism, Mycogen/Dow corn line 6275 will no longer be considered a regulated article under APHIS' regulations in 7 CFR part 340. Therefore, the requirements pertaining to regulated articles under those regulations no longer apply to the field testing, importation, or interstate movement of the subject corn line or its progeny. However, importation of corn line 6275 and seeds capable of propagation are still subject to the restrictions found in APHIS' foreign quarantine notices in 7 CFR part 319 and imported seed regulations in 7 CFR part 361.

National Environmental Policy Act

An EA was prepared to examine any potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed extension of a determination of nonregulated status for the subject corn line. 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). Based on that EA, APHIS has reached a FONSI with regard to the determination that Mycogen/Dow corn line 6275 and lines developed from it are no longer regulated articles under its regulations in 7 CFR part 340. Copies of the EA and FONSI are available as indicated under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

Done in Washington, DC, this 27th day of October 2004.

Elizabeth E. Gaston,

Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[FR Doc. E4–2949 Filed 10–29–04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–34–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Foreign Agricultural Service

Trade Adjustment Assistance for Farmers

AGENCY: Foreign Agricultural Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

The Administrator, Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS), re-certified the trade adjustment assistance (TAA) petition that was filed by the Puget Sound Salmon Commission on behalf of Washington salmon fishermen and initially certified on October 22, 2003. Salmon fishermen holding permits and licenses in the State of Washington will be eligible to apply for fiscal year 2005 benefits during a 90-day period beginning on November 1, 2004. The application period closes on January 31, 2005.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Upon investigation, the Administrator determined that continued increases in imports of farmed salmon contributed importantly to a decline in the average landed price of salmon in Washington by 24.6 percent during the 2003 marketing period (January–December 2003), compared to the 1997–2001 base period. Eligible producers may request technical assistance from the Extension Service at no cost and receive an adjustment assistance payment, if certain program criteria are satisfied. Applicants who did not receive technical assistance under the fiscal 2004 TAA program must obtain the technical assistance prior to May 2, 2005 in order to be eligible for financial payments.

Producers of raw agricultural commodities wishing to learn more about TAA and how they may apply should contact the Department of Agriculture at the addresses provided below for general information.

Producers Certified as Eligible for TAA, Contact: Farm Service Agency service centers.

For General Information about TAA, Contact: Jean-Louis Pajot, Coordinator, Trade Adjustment Assistance for Farmers, FAS, USDA, (202) 720–2916, e-mail: trade.adjustment@fas.usda.gov.

Dated: October 20, 2004.

Kenneth Roberts,

Acting Administrator, Foreign Agricultural Service.

[FR Doc. 04–24289 Filed 10–29–04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–10–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Information Collection; Request for Comments; Public Perceptions of Wildfire Management Within the Southern California Wildland-Urban Interface

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Forest Service is seeking comments from all interested individuals and organizations on the new information collection, Public Perceptions of Wildfire Management within the Southern California Wildland-Urban Interface. This study requires administration of a survey to a statistical sample of forest proximate residents and visitors.

DATES: Comments must be received in writing on or before January 3, 2005, to be assured of consideration. Comments received after that date will be considered to the extent practicable.

ADDRESSES: Comments concerning this notice should be addressed to Dr. James Absher, Pacific Southwest Research Station, Forest Service, USDA, 4955 Canyon Crest Drive, Riverside, CA 92507.

Comments may also be submitted via facsimile to (951) 680–1501 or by e-mail to jabsher@fs.fed.us.

The public may inspect comments received at the Pacific Southwest Research Station, Forest Service, USDA, 4955 Canyon Crest Drive, Riverside, California, during normal business hours. Visitors are encouraged to call ahead to (951) 680–1500 to facilitate entry to the building.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. James Absher, Pacific Southwest Research Station. (951) 680–1559. Individuals who use telecommunication devices for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Relay Service (FRS) at 1–800–877–8339 24 hours a day, every day of the year, including holidays.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Public Perceptions of Wildfire Management within the Southern California Wildland-Urban Interface.

OMB Number: 0596–New.

Expiration Date of Approval: N/A.

Type of Request: New.

Abstract: Recent wildfires in the Western United States and the resultant public response to the devastation caused by them highlight the need for understanding the human dimensions of forest and wildfire management. Because the impacts of wildland fire