

pound container or container equivalent. Therefore, the estimated assessment revenue for the 2003–04 fiscal period as a percentage of total grower revenue could range between 3.33 and 5.0 percent.

This action increases the assessment obligation imposed on handlers. While assessments impose some additional costs on handlers, the costs are minimal and uniform on all handlers. Some of the additional costs may be passed on to producers. However, these costs would be offset by the benefits derived from the operation of the marketing orders. In addition, the committees' meetings were widely publicized throughout the California nectarine and peach industries and all interested persons were invited to attend the meetings and participate in the committees' deliberations on all issues. Like all committee meetings, the May 1, 2003, meetings were public meetings and all entities of all sizes were able to express views on this issue. Finally, interested persons are invited to submit information on the regulatory and informational impacts of this action on small businesses.

This rule will impose no additional reporting or recordkeeping requirements on either small or large handlers. As with all Federal marketing order programs, reports and forms are periodically reviewed to reduce information requirements and duplication by industry and public sector agencies.

USDA has not identified any relevant Federal rules that duplicate, overlap, or conflict with this rule.

A small business guide on complying with fruit, vegetable, and specialty crop marketing agreements and orders may be viewed at: <http://www.ams.usda.gov/fv/moab.html>. Any questions about the compliance guide should be sent to Jay Guerber at the previously mentioned address in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section.

A 60-day comment period is provided to allow interested persons to respond to this rule. All written comments received will be considered before a final decision is made on this matter.

After consideration of all relevant material presented, including the Committees' recommendations, and other information, it is found that this interim final rule, as hereinafter set forth, will tend to effectuate the declared policy of the Act.

Pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 553, it is also found and determined upon good cause that it is impracticable, unnecessary and contrary to the public interest to give preliminary notice prior to putting this rule into effect and that good cause

exists for not postponing the effective date of this rule until 30 days after publication in the **Federal Register** because: (1) The 2003–04 fiscal periods began on March 1, 2003, and the marketing orders require that the rates of assessment for each fiscal period apply to all assessable nectarines and peaches handled during such fiscal period; (2) the committees need to have sufficient funds to pay their expenses which are incurred on a continuous basis; and (3) handlers are aware of this action which was recommended by the committees at public meetings and is similar to other assessment rate actions issued in past years; (4) this interim final rule provides a 60-day comment period, and all comments timely received will be considered prior to finalization of this rule.

List of Subjects

7 CFR Part 916

Marketing agreements, Nectarines, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

7 CFR Part 917

Marketing agreements, Peaches, Pears, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

■ For the reasons set forth in the preamble, 7 CFR parts 916 and 917 are amended as follows:

■ 1. The authority citation for 7 CFR parts 916 and 917 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 601–674.

PART 916—NECTARINES GROWN IN CALIFORNIA

■ 2. Section 916.234 is revised to read as follows:

§ 916.234 Assessment rate.

On and after March 1, 2003, an assessment rate of \$0.20 per 25-pound container or container equivalent of nectarines is established for California nectarines.

PART 917—PEACHES GROWN IN CALIFORNIA

■ 3. Section 917.258 is revised to read as follows:

§ 917.258 Assessment rate.

On and after March 1, 2003, an assessment rate of \$0.20 per 25-pound container or container equivalent of peaches is established for California peaches.

Dated: August 11, 2003.

A.J. Yates,

Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.

[FR Doc. 03–20875 Filed 8–14–03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–02–U

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Marketing Service

7 CFR Parts 1000 and 1032

[Docket # DA–03–09; AO–313–A45]

Milk in the Central Marketing Area

AGENCY: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Final rule; technical amendment.

SUMMARY: In a final rule published in the **Federal Register** on December 17, 1999 (64 FR 70868) the Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) consolidated Federal milk marketing orders. This document adds “Broomfield” to the Adjusted Class I differentials table.

EFFECTIVE DATE: August 16, 2003.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jack Rower, Marketing Specialist, Order Formulation and Enforcement Branch, USDA/AMS/Dairy Programs, Stop 0231–Room 2971, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250–0231, (202) 720–9363, e-mail: jack.rower@usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On December 17, 1999, the Agricultural Marketing Service published a final rule consolidating the Federal milk marketing orders and changing the Class I differentials contained therein. Subsequent to adoption of this final regulation, on November 15, 2001, Broomfield became Colorado's 64th county as a result of an amendment to the Colorado State constitution.

This document amends the regulations by adding the county of Broomfield, CO, to both parts 1000 and 1032 in the General Provisions of Federal milk marketing orders and the Central marketing area, respectively.

List of Subjects in 7 CFR Parts 1000 and 1032

Milk marketing orders.

■ Accordingly we are amending 7 CFR parts 1000 and 1032 as follows:

■ 1. The authority citation for 7 CFR parts 1000 and 1032 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 601–674.

PART 1000—[AMENDED]

■ 2. Section 1000.52 is amended by adding “Broomfield, CO” immediately

following “Boulder, CO” in the table to read as follows:

\$ 1000.52 Adjusted Class I differentials.

* * * * *

County/parish/city				State	FIPS code	Class I differential adjusted for location
* * *	* * *	* * *	* * *	* * *	* * *	* * *
BROOMFIELD				CO	08014	2.45
* * *	* * *	* * *	* * *	* * *	* * *	* * *

PART 1032—[AMENDED]

■ 3. In § 1032.2, the county “Broomfield” is added immediately following “Boulder”.

Dated: August 11, 2003.

A.J. Yates,
Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.

[FR Doc. 03–20817 Filed 8–14–03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–02–U

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY**Office of the Comptroller of the Currency****12 CFR Part 24**

[Docket No. 03–20]

RIN 1557–AC09

Community and Economic Development Entities, Community Development Projects, and Other Public Welfare Investments

AGENCY: Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, Treasury.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: The Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (OCC) is amending 12 CFR part 24, the regulation governing national bank investments that are designed primarily to promote the public welfare. This final rule updates the regulation to reflect the additional types of public welfare investment structures that have become more common in recent years and that are permissible under the governing statute. It also clarifies the statutory standard that applies to the activities of those entities; simplifies the standards for making public welfare investments; clarifies how a national bank calculates the value of its public welfare investments for purposes of complying with the rule’s investment limits; simplifies the regulation’s investment self-certification and prior approval

processes; and expands the list of examples of qualifying public welfare investments that satisfy the rule’s requirements. The final rule also appends the form national banks may use to inform the OCC about an investment made under part 24. These changes are intended to encourage additional public welfare investments by national banks by simplifying the regulation and further reducing unnecessary burden associated with part 24 investments.

EFFECTIVE DATE: September 15, 2003.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Michele Meyer, Counsel, Legislative and Regulatory Activities Division, (202) 874–5090; Stephen Van Meter, Assistant Director, Community and Consumer Law Division, (202) 874–5750; or Barry Wides, Director, or Karen Bellesi, Investments Manager, Community Development Division, (202) 874–4930.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**The Proposal**

On January 10, 2003, the OCC published a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) to amend 12 CFR part 24.¹ Part 24 implements 12 U.S.C. 24 (Eleventh), which authorizes national banks to make investments designed primarily to promote the public welfare, including the welfare of low- and moderate-income communities and families, subject to certain percentage-of-capital limitations. The NPRM sought to eliminate unnecessary regulatory requirements associated with these investments and thus make it easier for national banks to use the public welfare investment authority that the statute and regulation provide, consistent with statutory requirements and safety and soundness considerations.

Description of Comments Received and Final Rule

The NPRM comment period closed March 11, 2003, and we received 10 comments. Commenters included banks,

a banking trade association, community groups, and individuals. The majority of the commenters supported the proposed changes. A summary of the comments and a description of the final rule follows.

Definitions (§ 24.2)

The NPRM proposed adding a new definition of “community and economic development entity” to replace the current definition of “community development corporation.” A community development corporation was defined in the former regulation as a corporation established by one or more insured financial institutions (with or without other investors) “to make one or more investments that meet the requirements of § 24.3.”² The proposal defined a community and economic development entity (CDE) as an entity—such as a national bank community development subsidiary, community development financial institution, limited liability company, or limited partnership—that makes investments or conducts activities that primarily benefit low- and moderate-income individuals or areas or other areas targeted for redevelopment. In our view, this proposed definition better reflected the scope of the statute and its legislative history, neither of which restricts the entities in which a national bank may invest to a particular form of organization, provided the bank is not exposed to unlimited liability.

None of the commenters objected to the substance of this proposed definition. Several, however, pointed out that the abbreviation “CDE” could cause confusion because that term is used in the context of the New Markets Tax Credit to refer to an entity that may have similar activities but must meet additional qualifications. To avoid this

² The prior rule set forth the criteria for a public welfare investment, including that the investment primarily benefits low- and moderate-income individuals or areas or other areas targeted for redevelopment, and that the bank demonstrates non-bank community support for the investment.

¹ 68 FR 1394 (January 10, 2003).