

Notices

Federal Register

Vol. 68, No. 16

Friday, January 24, 2003

This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains documents other than rules or proposed rules that are applicable to the public. Notices of hearings and investigations, committee meetings, agency decisions and rulings, delegations of authority, filing of petitions and applications and agency statements of organization and functions are examples of documents appearing in this section.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Office of the Secretary

[Docket No. 03-001-2]

Declaration of Extraordinary Emergency Because of Exotic Newcastle Disease in Nevada

Exotic Newcastle disease (END) has been confirmed in the State of Nevada. The disease has been confirmed in backyard poultry, which are raised on private premises for hobby, exhibition, and personal consumption. Previously, END had been confirmed in the State of California, and on January 6, 2003, the Secretary of Agriculture signed a declaration of extraordinary emergency with respect to the END situation in California (see 68 FR 1432, Docket No. 03-001-1, published January 10, 2003).

END is a contagious and fatal viral disease affecting domestic, wild, and caged poultry and birds. It is one of the most infectious diseases of poultry in the world, and is so virulent that many birds die without showing any clinical signs. A death rate of almost 100 percent can occur in unvaccinated poultry flocks. END can infect and cause death even in vaccinated poultry. This disease in poultry and birds is characterized by respiratory signs accompanied by nervous manifestations, gastrointestinal lesions, and swelling of the head.

END is spread primarily through direct contact between healthy birds or poultry and the bodily discharges of infected birds or poultry. Within an infected flock, END is transmitted by direct contact, contaminated feeding and watering equipment, and aerosols produced by coughing, gasping, and other respiratory disturbances. Dissemination between flocks over long distances is often due to movement of contaminated equipment and service personnel, such as vaccination crews. Movement of carrier birds and those in an incubating stage accounts for most of the outbreaks in the pet bird industry.

The existence of END in Nevada represents a threat to the U.S. poultry and bird industries. It constitutes a real danger to the national economy and a potential serious burden on interstate and foreign commerce. The United States Department of Agriculture (the Department) has reviewed the measures being taken by Nevada to control and eradicate END and has consulted with the appropriate State government and Indian tribal officials in Nevada. Based on such review and consultation, the Department has determined that the measures being taken by the State are inadequate to control or eradicate END. Therefore, the Department has determined that an extraordinary emergency exists because of END in Nevada.

This declaration of extraordinary emergency authorizes the Secretary to (1) hold, seize, treat, apply other remedial actions to, destroy (including preventative slaughter), or otherwise dispose of, any animal, article, facility, or means of conveyance if the Secretary determines the action is necessary to prevent the dissemination of END and (2) prohibit or restrict the movement or use within the State of Nevada, or any portion of the State of Nevada, of any animal or article, means of conveyance, or facility if the Secretary determines that the prohibition or restriction is necessary to prevent the dissemination of END. The appropriate State government and Indian tribal officials in Nevada have been informed of these facts.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This declaration of extraordinary emergency shall become effective January 17, 2003.

Ann M. Veneman,
Secretary of Agriculture.

[FR Doc. 03-1610 Filed 1-23-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-34-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Yakutat Resource Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Yakutat Resource Advisory Committee will meet in Yakutat, Alaska. The purpose of the meeting is to continue business of the Yakutat Resource Advisory Committee.

The committee was formed to carry out the requirements of the Secure Rural Schools and Self-Determination Act of 2000. The agenda for this meeting is to finalize the form that the Yakutat Resource Advisory Committee will use to solicit project proposals and to determine what criteria they will use to select projects. The intent of the meeting is also to share with the public the project proposal process.

DATES: The meeting will be held February 7, 2003 from 6-9 p.m. and will continue on February 8, 2003 from 9-12 a.m., if necessary.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Kwaan Conference Room, 712 Ocean Cape Drive, Yakutat, Alaska. Send written comments to Tricia O'Connor, c/o Forest Service, USDA, PO Box 327, Yakutat, AK 99689, (907) 784-3359 or electronically to poconnor@fs.fed.us.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Tricia O'Connor, District Ranger and Designated Federal Official, Yakutat Ranger District, (907) 784-3359.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The meeting is open to the public. Council discussion is limited to Forest Service staff and Council members. However, persons who wish to bring resource projects or other Resource Advisory Committee matters to the attention of the Council may file written statements with the Council staff before or after the meeting. Public input sessions will be provided and individuals who made written requests by January 31, 2003 will have the opportunity to address the Council at those sessions.

Dated: January 14, 2003.

Patricia M. O'Connor,
District Ranger, Yakutat Ranger District,
Tongass National Forest.

[FR Doc. 03-1570 Filed 1-23-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

COMMITTEE FOR PURCHASE FROM PEOPLE WHO ARE BLIND OR SEVERELY DISABLED

Procurement List; Proposed Additions

AGENCY: Committee for Purchase from People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled.

ACTION: Proposed Additions to Procurement List.

SUMMARY: The Committee is proposing to add to the Procurement List services

to be furnished by nonprofit agencies employing persons who are blind or have other severe disabilities.

Comments Must Be Received On or Before: February 23, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled, Jefferson Plaza 2, Suite 10800, 1421 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, Virginia 22202-3259.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Sheryl D. Kennerly, (703) 603-7740.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This notice is published pursuant to 41 U.S.C. 47(a) (2) and 41 CFR 51-2.3. Its purpose is to provide interested persons an opportunity to submit comments on the possible impact of the proposed actions.

If the Committee approves the proposed additions, the entities of the Federal Government identified in the notice for each service will be required to procure the services listed below from nonprofit agencies employing persons who are blind or have other severe disabilities. I certify that the following action will not have a significant impact on a substantial number of small entities. The major factors considered for this certification were:

1. If approved, the action will not result in any additional reporting, recordkeeping or other compliance requirements for small entities other than the small organizations that will furnish the services to the Government.

2. If approved, the action will result in authorizing small entities to furnish the services to the Government.

3. There are no known regulatory alternatives which would accomplish the objectives of the Javits-Wagner-O'Day Act (41 U.S.C. 46-48c) in connection with the services proposed for addition to the Procurement List. Comments on this certification are invited. Commenters should identify the statement(s) underlying the certification on which they are providing additional information.

The following services are proposed for addition to Procurement List for production by the nonprofit agencies listed:

Services

Service Type/Location: Electronic Service Customer Representative Service, Securities & Exchange Commission Library, Washington, DC.

NPA: Columbia Lighthouse for the Blind, Washington, DC.

Contract Activity: U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, Alexandria, Virginia.

Service Type/Location: Housekeeping Services, Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Clarksburg, West Virginia.

NPA: Job Squad, Inc., Clarksburg, West Virginia.

Contract Activity: Department of Veterans Affairs, Coatesville, Pennsylvania.

Service Type/Location: Janitorial/ Grounds Maintenance, Immigration and Naturalization Service—Sector Headquarters, Imperial, California.

NPA: Association for Retarded Citizens—Imperial Valley, El Centro, California

Contract Activity: Immigration and Naturalization Service, DOJ.

G. John Heyer,

General Counsel.

[FR Doc. 03-1662 Filed 1-23-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6353-01-P

COMMITTEE FOR PURCHASE FROM PEOPLE WHO ARE BLIND OR SEVERELY DISABLED

Procurement List; Additions and Deletions

AGENCY: Committee for Purchase from People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled.

ACTION: Additions to and Deletions from Procurement List.

SUMMARY: This action adds to the Procurement List a product and services to be furnished by nonprofit agencies employing persons who are blind or have other severe disabilities, and deletes from the Procurement List a product and services previously furnished by such agencies.

EFFECTIVE DATE: February 23, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled, Jefferson Plaza 2, Suite 10800, 1421 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, Virginia 22202-3259.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Sheryl D. Kennerly, (703) 603-7740.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Additions

On September 13, November 29, and December 6, 2002, the Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled published notice (67 FR 58013, 71133, and 72640) of proposed additions to the Procurement List.

The following comments pertain to the Custodial Service, Walter Reed Army Medical Center.

Comments were received from a small disadvantaged business firm which holds a contract for other custodial

services at Walter Reed Army Medical Center under the 8(a) Program. The commenter noted that it had been pursuing the custodial service being added to the Procurement List for several years, and that a number of its other contracts are expiring and not being replaced by new work.

Consequently, the commenter believes that loss of the opportunity to win the contract for the custodial service being added to the Procurement List will constitute a severe adverse impact on the firm.

The Committee does not consider the loss of an opportunity to bid for contracts on this service, by itself, to constitute severe adverse impact on a firm, as no firm is guaranteed a contract under the competitive bidding system. The commenting firm has not held a contract for the custodial service being added to the Procurement List, so it cannot be said to be dependent on such a contract. The Committee originally contemplated adding the entire custodial service at Walter Reed Army Medical Center to the Procurement List, but declined to do so in order to minimize impact on the commenting firm. The commenter will retain its current contract at Walter Reed Army Medical Center and will remain eligible to pursue contracting opportunities in the 8(a) Program, as well as other competitive opportunities, for the near future. At the commenter's request, the Committee has facilitated discussions between the commenter and the nonprofit agency which will provide the service being added to the Procurement List, with a view toward further mitigating impact on the contractor through possible subcontracting opportunities. Accordingly, the Committee does not believe that addition of this portion of the custodial service at Walter Reed Army Medical Center to the Procurement List at this time will constitute severe adverse impact on the commenting firm.

The following material pertains to all of the items being added to the Procurement List.

After consideration of the material presented to it concerning capability of qualified nonprofit agencies to provide the product and services and impact of the additions on the current or most recent contractors, the Committee has determined that the product and services listed below are suitable for procurement by the Federal Government under 41 U.S.C. 46-48c and 41 CFR 51-2.4. I certify that the following action will not have a significant impact on a substantial number of small entities. The major factors considered for this certification were: