



[Billing Code 3410-KD-U]

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS)

Designation for the Aberdeen, South Dakota; Hastings, Nebraska; and Missouri Areas

AGENCY: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of designation.

SUMMARY: AMS is announcing the designations of Aberdeen Grain Inspection, Inc. (Aberdeen); Hastings Grain Inspection, Inc. (Hastings); and the Missouri Department of Agriculture (Missouri) to provide official services under the United States Grain Standards Act (USGSA), as amended. The realignment of offices within the U.S. Department of Agriculture authorized by the Secretary's Memorandum dated November 14, 2017, eliminates the Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyard Administration (GIPSA) as a standalone agency. The grain inspection activities formerly part of GIPSA are now organized under the Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS).

DATES: October 1, 2017

ADDRESSES: Jacob Thein, Compliance Officer, USDA, AMS, FGIS, QACD, 10383 North Ambassador Drive, Kansas City, MO 64153

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jacob Thein, 816-866-2223, Jacob.D.Thein@usda.gov or FGIS.QACD@usda.gov. **Read applications:** All applications and comments are available for public inspection at the office above during regular business hours (7 CFR 1.27(c)).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In the May 22, 2017, and May 30, 2017, *Federal*

Register (82 FR 23174) and (82 FR 24671-24673), GIPSA requested applications for designation to provide official services in the geographic areas presently serviced by Aberdeen, Hastings, and Missouri. Applications for Missouri were due by June 21, 2017. Applications for Aberdeen and Hastings were due by June 29, 2017.

Because the current official agencies, Aberdeen, Hastings, and Missouri were the only applicants for designation to provide official services in these areas, GIPSA did not seek additional comments.

GIPSA evaluated the designation criteria in section 7(f) of the USGSA (7 U.S.C. 79(f)) and determined that Aberdeen, Hastings, and Missouri are qualified to provide official services in the geographic areas specified in the *Federal Register* on May 22 and May 30, 2017. These designations to provide official services in the specified areas of Aberdeen, Hastings, and Missouri became effective October 1, 2017, and expire September 30, 2022.

Interested persons may obtain official services by contacting these agencies at the following telephone number:

Official Agency	Headquarters Location and Telephone	Designation Start	Designation End
Aberdeen	Aberdeen, SD.....605-225-8432	10/1/2017	9/30/2022
Hastings	Hastings, NE.....402-462-4254	10/1/2017	9/30/2022
Missouri	Jefferson City, MO.....573-751-5515	10/1/2017	9/30/2022

Section 7(f) of the USGSA authorizes the Secretary to designate a qualified applicant to provide official services in a specified area after determining that the applicant is better able than any other applicant to provide such official services (7 U.S.C. 79 (f)).

Bruce Summers
 Acting Administrator
 Agricultural Marketing Service

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