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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

**Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration**

Opportunity To Comment on the Applicants for the Alton (IL) Area

AGENCY: **Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration  
(GIPSA).**

ACTION: Notice.

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SUMMARY: GIPSA requests comments on the applicants for designation to provide official services in the geographic area assigned to Alton Grain Inspection Department (Alton).

DATES: Comments must be postmarked, or sent by telecopier (FAX) by October 31, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Comments must be submitted in writing to USDA, GIPSA, Janet M. Hart, Chief, Review Branch, Compliance Division, STOP 3604, Room 1647-S, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, DC 20250-3604. Telecopier (FAX) users may send comments to the automatic telecopier machine at 202-690-2755, attention: Janet M. Hart. All comments received will be made available for public inspection at the above address located at 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., during regular business hours.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Janet M. Hart, telephone 202-720-8525.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This action has been reviewed and determined not to be a rule or regulation as defined in Executive Order 12866 and Departmental Regulation 1512-1; therefore, the Executive Order and Departmental Regulation do not apply to this action.

In the August 3, 1998, Federal Register (63 FR 41224), GIPSA asked persons interested in providing official services in the Alton area to submit an application for designation by September 1, 1998. There were two applicants: Alton and the Missouri Department of Agriculture. Each applied for designation to provide official services in the entire Alton area.

GIPSA is publishing this notice to provide interested persons the opportunity to present comments concerning the applicants. Commenters are encouraged to submit reasons and pertinent data for support or objection to the designation of the applicants. All comments must be submitted to the Compliance Division at the above address. Comments and other available information will be considered in making a final decision. GIPSA will publish notice of the final decision in the Federal Register, and GIPSA will send the applicants written notification of the decision.

Authority: Pub. L. 94-582, 90 Stat. 2867, as amended (7 U.S.C. 71 et seq.).

Dated: September 24, 1998.

Neil E. Porter,  
Director, Compliance Division.  
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