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

Rural Housing Service

Rural Business-Cooperative Service

Rural Utilities Service

Privacy Act of 1974; System of Records; USDA/Rural Development-1 Current or Prospective Producers or Landowners, Applicants, Borrowers, Grantees, Tenants, and Other Participants in RD Programs

AGENCY: Rural Housing Service, Rural Business-Cooperative Service, and Rural Utilities Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of proposed revision to an existing Privacy Act System of Records.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the requirements of the Privacy Act of 1974 as amended; Section 12204 of the Agricultural Act of 2014 (2014 Farm Bill) further modified by the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (2008 Farm Bill) as amended; and Section 14003 of the 2014 Farm Bill, as amended by the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (2008 Farm Bill), as amended, USDA/Rural Development (RD) gives notice of its proposal to revise the system of records entitled USDA/Rural Development-1, including several revisions related to the receipt for services (RFS) program. Section 2501A of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 was amended by Section 14003 of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (2008 Farm Bill) to require that upon the request of a current or prospective producer or landowner, certain agencies, including agencies of the Rural Development Mission Area, provide a receipt for service concerning any benefit or service offered to agricultural producers or landowners. Section 12204 of the Agricultural Act of 2014 (2014 Farm Bill) further modified this requirement to mandate the issuance of a receipt for service to every current or prospective producer or landowner that requests about any benefit or service provided to a customer by agencies of the Rural Development Mission Area (or denial of service). Accordingly, the receipt for service program provides inquirers, applicants, or customers of the Rural Business Cooperative Service, the Rural Housing Service, and the Rural Utilities Service with a receipt for service for certain types of transactions requested.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For general questions, please contact: Kelvin Fairfax Chief Privacy Officer, Cyber and Privacy Policy and Oversight, Office of the Chief Information Officer, Department of Agriculture, Washington, DC 20250.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Privacy Act of 1974, as amended (5 U.S.C. 552a), requires agencies to publish in the Federal Register notice of new or revised systems of records maintained by the agency. A system of records is a group of any records under the control of any agency, from which information is retrieved by the name of an individual or by some identifying number, symbol, or other identifying particular assigned to an individual.

In accordance with the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A–130, Rural Development of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) is proposing to revise an existing Privacy Act system of records, which was last published in full on July 17, 1998 (63 FR 38546).

The agency proposes to make various revisions to USDA/RD–1, including several revisions related to the receipt for services (RFS) program. Section 2501A of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 was amended by Section 14003 of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (2008 Farm Bill) to require that upon the request of a current or prospective producer or landowner, certain agencies, including agencies of the Rural Development Mission Area, provide a receipt for service concerning any benefit or service offered to agricultural producers or landowners. Section 12204 of the Agricultural Act of 2014 (2014 Farm Bill) further modified this requirement to mandate the issuance of a receipt for service to every current or prospective producer or landowner that requests about any benefit or service provided to a customer by agencies of the Rural Development Mission Area (or denial of service). Accordingly, the receipt for service program provides inquirers, applicants, or customers of the Rural Business Cooperative Service, the Rural Housing Service, and the Rural Utilities Service with a receipt for service for certain types of transactions requested.

While these routine uses allow disclosures outside USDA, and so have some impact on privacy of individuals, they are either necessary for carrying out the agency mission and minimizing waste, fraud, and abuse; are required by law; or benefit the subjects of the records. On balance, the needs of the agency and the benefits to the individuals of these disclosures justify the minimal impact on privacy. The current SORN is located at: http://www.ocio.usda.gov/sites/default/files/docs/2012/Rural%20Development-1.txt. Rural Development proposes to revise the System of Records to reflect the following changes:

1. A security classification is added to the System Notice.
2. The system locations section is revised to reflect organizational and office location and responsibility changes.
3. The categories of individuals covered by the system section is revised to reflect the Receipt for Services program.
4. The categories of records in the system section is revised to reflect the Receipt for Services program.
5. The authority for maintenance of the system section is revised to reflect changes in the statutory authorities.
6. A purpose(s) section is added to the System Notice.
7. RD proposes the following changes to the routine uses:
   a. The language of routine uses 2, 5–13, 15, 16, and 18 is revised slightly for clarity and consistency.
   b. Routine use 14 is revised to identify the system, Credit Alert Verification Reporting System (CAIVRS) that is used by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the purpose of prescreening applicants.
   c. Routine use 17 is deleted.

The agency proposes to make various revisions to USDA/RD–1, including several revisions related to the receipt for services (RFS) program. Section 2501A of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 was amended by Section 14003 of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (2008 Farm Bill) to require that upon the request of a current or prospective producer or landowner, certain agencies, including agencies of the Rural Development Mission Area, provide a receipt for service concerning any benefit or service offered to agricultural producers or landowners. Section 12204 of the Agricultural Act of 2014 (2014 Farm Bill) further modified this requirement to mandate the issuance of a receipt for service to every current or prospective producer or landowner that requests about any benefit or service provided to a customer by agencies of the Rural Development Mission Area (or denial of service). Accordingly, the receipt for service program provides inquirers, applicants, or customers of the Rural Business Cooperative Service, the Rural Housing Service, and the Rural Utilities Service with a receipt for service for certain types of transactions requested.

FOOTNOTES:
1. A security classification is added to the System Notice.
2. The system locations section is revised to reflect organizational and office location and responsibility changes.
3. The categories of individuals covered by the system section is revised to reflect the Receipt for Services program.
4. The categories of records in the system section is revised to reflect the Receipt for Services program.
5. The authority for maintenance of the system section is revised to reflect changes in the statutory authorities.
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   b. Routine use 14 is revised to identify the system, Credit Alert Verification Reporting System (CAIVRS) that is used by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the purpose of prescreening applicants.
   c. Routine use 17 is deleted.

Hand Delivery/Courier: Submit written comments via Federal Express Mail or other courier service requiring a street address to the Branch Chief, Regulations and Paperwork Management Branch, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 300 7th Street SW., 7th Floor, Washington, DC 20024.

All written comments will be available for public inspection during regular work hours at the 300 7th Street SW., 7th Floor address listed above.

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d. Routine use 18 is renumbered as routine use 17 and is revised slightly for clarity and consistency.

e. New routine use 18 is added to disclose to the Department of Health and Human Services parent locator system for finding parents who do not pay child support.

f. Routine use 19 is added to allow disclosure to contractors, grantees, experts, consultants or volunteers who are performing a service on behalf of the agency.

g. Routine use 20 is added to allow disclosure of records to customer service agents for training and evaluation purposes.

h. Routine use 21 is added to allow disclosure of records to appropriate agencies, entities, and persons for purposes of response and remedial efforts in the event that there has been a breach of the data contained in the systems.

i. Routine use 22 is added to comply with Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act for public disclosure purposes.

j. Routine use 23 is added to allow disclosure to the National Archives and Records Administration for records management purposes.

k. Routine use 24 is added to allow disclosure to the Department of the Treasury for the purpose of identifying, preventing, or recouping improper payments.

8. The policies and practices for storing, retrieving, accessing, retaining, and disposing of records in the system section is revised to reflect changes in record keeping including use of electronic records.

9. The system manager and address section is revised to include a Web site link.

10. The record source categories section is revised to reflect the Receipt for Services program.


Lisa Mensah,
Under Secretary, Rural Development.

SYSTEM OF RECORDS
USDA/Rural Development-1.

SYSTEM NAME:
Applicant, Borrower, Grantee, or Tenant File.
Security Classification: unclassified.

SYSTEM LOCATION:
Each Rural Development current or prospective producers or landowners, applicants, borrowers, grantees, tenants, their respective household members, including members of associations, and other participants in RD programs. Files is located in the Local, Area, or State Office through which the financial assistance is sought or was obtained; in the Centralized Servicing Center (CSC), St. Louis, Missouri; and in the Finance Office in St. Louis, Missouri. A State Office version of the Local or Area Office file may be located in or accessible by the State Office which is responsible for that Local or Area Office. Correspondence regarding borrowers is located in the State and National Office files:

A list of all State Offices and any additional States/Offices for which an office is responsible is as follows:

- Montgomery, AL
- Palmer, AK
- Phoenix, AZ
- Little Rock, AR
- Davis, CA
- Lakewood, CO
- Dover, DE (includes Maryland)
- Gainesville, FL (includes U. S. Virgin Islands)
- Athens, GA
- Hilo, HI (includes Western Pacific Territories of American Samoa, Guam, and Commonwealth of the Marianas Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Republic of Palau, and the Marshall Islands)
- Boise, ID
- Champaign, IL
- Indianapolis, IN
- Des Moines, IA
- Topeka, KS
- Lexington, KY
- Alexandria, LA
- Bangor, ME
- Amherst, MA (includes Connecticut and Rhode Island)
- East Lansing, MI
- St. Paul, MN
- Jackson, MS
- Columbia, MO
- Bozeman, MT
- Lincoln, NE
- Carson City, NV
- Mt. Laurel, NJ
- Albuquerque, NM
- Syracuse, NY
- Raleigh, NC
- Bismarck, ND
- Columbus, OH
- Stillwater, OK
- Portland, OR
- Harrisburg, PA
- San Juan, PR
- Columbia, SC
- Huron, SD
- Nashville, TN
- Temple, TX
- Salt Lake City, UT
- Montpelier, VT (includes New Hampshire)
- Richmond, VA
- Olympia, WA
- Morgantown, WV
- Stevens Point, WI
- Casper, WY

The address of Local, Area, and State Offices are listed in the telephone directory of the appropriate city or town under the heading, “United States Government, Department of Agriculture, and Rural Development.” The Financial Office and CSC are located at 4300 Goodfellow Blvd., St. Louis, MO 63120–0011.

CATEGORIES OF INDIVIDUALS COVERED BY THE SYSTEM:
Current or prospective producers or landowners, applicants, borrowers, grantees, tenants, and their respective household members, including members of associations and other participants in RD programs.

CATEGORIES OF RECORDS IN THE SYSTEM:
The system includes files containing the names of current or prospective producers or landowners, applicants, borrowers, grantees, tenants and their respective household members, including members of associations and other participants in RD programs. It may also include their social security or employer identification number, bank routing and account numbers; and their respective household members’ characteristics, such as gross and net income, sources of income, capital, assets and liabilities, net worth, age, race, number of dependents, marital status, reference material, farm or ranch operating plans, and property appraisal. The system also includes credit reports and personal references from credit agencies, lenders, businesses, and individuals. In addition, a running record of observation concerning the operations of the person being financed is included. A record of deposits to and withdrawals from an individual’s supervised bank account is also contained in those files where appropriate. In some Local Offices, this record is maintained in a separate folder containing only information relating to activity within supervised bank accounts. Some items of information are extracted from the individual’s file and placed in a card file for quick reference.

AUTHORITY FOR MAINTENANCE OF THE SYSTEM:
interest in tribal allotted or trust land. Pursuant to the Cranston-Gonzales National Affordable Housing Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12701 et seq.), liquidation may be pursued only after offering to transfer the account to an eligible tribal member, the tribe, or the Indian housing authority serving the tribe(s).

5. Disclosure of names, home addresses, social security numbers, and financial information to a collection or servicing contractor, financial institution, or a local, State, or Federal agency, when Rural Development determines such referral is appropriate for servicing or collecting the borrower’s account or as provided for in contracts with servicing or collection agencies.

6. To a court or adjudicative body in a proceeding when: (a) The agency or any component thereof; or (b) any employee of the agency in his or her official capacity; or (c) any employee of the agency in his or her individual capacity when the agency has agreed to represent the employee; or (d) the United States Government, is a party to litigation or has an interest in such litigation, and by careful review, the agency determines that the records are both relevant and necessary to the litigation and the use of such records is therefore deemed by the agency to be for a purpose that is compatible with the purpose for which the agency collected the records.

7. Disclosure of names, home addresses, and financial information for selected borrowers to financial consultants, advisors, lending institutions, packagers, agents, and private or commercial credit sources, when Rural Development determines such referral is appropriate to encourage the borrower to refinance his Rural Development indebtedness as required by Title V of the Housing Act of 1949, as amended (42 U.S.C. 1471), or to assist the borrower in the sale of the property.

8. Disclosure of legally enforceable debts to the Department of the Treasury, Internal Revenue Service (IRS), to be offset against any tax refund that may become due the debtor for the tax year in which the referral is made, in accordance with the IRS regulations at 26 CFR 301.6402–6T, Offset of Past Due Legally Enforceable Debt Against Overpayment, and under the authority contained in 31 U.S.C. 3720A.

9. Disclosure of information regarding indebtedness to the Defense Manpower Data Center, Department of Defense, and the United States Postal Service for the purpose of conducting computer matching to identify and locate individuals receiving Federal salary or benefit payments and who are delinquent in their repayment of debts owed to the U.S. Government under certain programs administered by Rural Development in order to collect debts under the provisions of the Debt Collection Act of 1982 (5 U.S.C. 5514) by voluntary repayment, administrative or salary offset procedures, or by collection agencies.

10. Disclosure of names, home addresses, and financial information to lending institutions when Rural Development determines the individual may be financially capable of qualifying for credit with or without a guarantee.

11. Disclosure of names, home addresses, social security numbers, and financial information to lending institutions that have a lien against the same property as Rural Development for the purpose of the collection of the debt. These loans may be under the direct and guaranteed loan programs.

12. Disclosure to private attorneys under contract with either Rural Development or with the Department of Justice for the purpose of foreclosure and possession actions and collection of past due accounts in connection with Rural Development.

13. To the Department of Justice when: (a) The agency or any component thereof; or (b) any employee of the agency in his or her official capacity where the Department of Justice has agreed to represent the employee; or (c) the United States Government, is a party to litigation or has an interest in such litigation, and by careful review, the agency determines that the records are both relevant and necessary to the litigation and the use of such records by the Department of Justice is therefore deemed by the agency to be for a purpose that is compatible with the purpose for which the agency collected the records.

14. Disclosure of names, home addresses, social security numbers, and financial information to the Department of Housing and Urban Development for the purpose of evaluating a loan applicant’s creditworthiness, information that will allow for the pre-screening of applicants through the Credit Alert Verification Reporting System (CAIVRS) computer matching program. An applicant shall be pre-screened for any debts owed or loans guaranteed by the Federal government to ascertain if the applicant is delinquent in paying a debt owed to or insured by the Federal government. Authorized employees of, and approved private lenders acting on behalf of, the Federal agencies participating in the CAIVRS computer matching program will be able to search the CAIVRS database.
Explanatory Text: Credit Alert Verification Reporting System (CAIVRS) is a Federal government database of delinquent Federal debtors that when reviewed, allows Federal agencies to reduce the risk to Federal loan and loan guarantee programs. CAIVRS alerts participating Federal lending agencies when an applicant for credit benefits has a Federal lien, judgment, or a Federal loan that is currently in default or foreclosure, or has had a claim paid by a reporting agency. CAIVRS allows authorized employees of participating Federal agencies to access a database of delinquent Federal borrowers for the purpose of pre-screening direct loan applicants for credit worthiness and also permits approved private lenders acting on behalf of the Federal agency to access the delinquent borrower database for the purpose of pre-screening the credit worthiness of applicants for federally guaranteed loans. CAIVRS authority derives from the Computer Matching and Privacy Protection Act of 1988 (Pub. L. 100–503) as amended, Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circulars A–129 (Managing Federal Credit Programs) and A–70 (Policies and Guidelines for Federal Credit Programs), the Budget and Accounting Acts of 1921 and 1950, as amended, the Debt Collection Act of 1982, as amended, the Deficit Reduction Act of 1984, as amended, and the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996, as amended.

15. Disclosure of names, home addresses, social security numbers, and financial information to the Department of Labor, State Wage Information Collection Agencies, and other Federal, State, and local agencies, as well as those responsible for verifying information furnished to qualify for Federal benefits, to conduct wage and benefit matching through manual and/or automated means, for the purpose of determining compliance with Federal regulations and appropriate servicing actions against those not entitled to program benefits, including possible recovery of improper benefits.

16. Disclosure of names, home addresses, and financial information to financial consultants, advisors, or underwriters, when Rural Development determines such referral is appropriate for developing packaging and marketing strategies involving the sale of Rural Development loan assets.

17. Disclosure of names, home and work addresses, home telephone numbers, social security numbers, and financial information to escrow agents (which also could include attorneys and title companies) selected by the applicant or borrower for the purpose of closing the loan.

18. Disclosure to Health and Human Services (HHS) parent locator system for finding parents who do not pay child support: The name and current address of record of an individual may be disclosed from this system of records to the parent locator service of the Department of HHS or authorized persons defined by Public Law 93–647, 42 U.S.C. 653.

19. To agency contractors, grantees, experts, consultants or volunteers who have been engaged by the agency to assist in the performance of a service related to this system of records and who need to have access to the records in order to perform the activity. Recipients shall be required to comply with the requirements of the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552a(m).

20. Disclosure to customer service agents for training and evaluation purposes. Information is collected during calls made by the client to the CSC Customer Service Section to discuss questions or concerns pertaining to their mortgage account(s) with Rural Development. The information discussed during the call to the CSC help desk is captured and used for training and evaluation purposes to ensure proper procedures are being followed and accurate information is provided when assisting the client.

21. To appropriate agencies, entities, and persons when (1) When Rural Development suspects or has confirmed that the security or confidentiality of information in the system of records has been compromised; (2) the Department has determined that, as a result of the suspected or confirmed compromise, there is a risk of harm to economic or property interests, identity theft or fraud, or harm to the security or integrity of this system or other systems or programs (whether maintained by the Department or another agency or entity) that rely upon the compromised information; and (3) the disclosure made to such agencies, entities, and persons is reasonably necessary to assist in connection with the Department’s efforts to respond to the suspected or confirmed compromise and prevent, minimize, or remedy such harm.

22. To comply with Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act (FFATA) and similar statutory requirements for public disclosure in situations where records reflect loans, grants, or other payments to members of the public. USDA will disclose information about individuals from this system of records in accordance with the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (Pub. L. 109–282, codified at 31 U.S.C. 6101, et seq.); section 204 of the E-Government Act of 2002 (Pub. L. 107–347; 44 U.S.C. 3501 note), and the Office of Federal Procurement Policy Act (41 U.S.C. 403 et seq.), or similar statutes requiring agencies to make available publicly information concerning Federal financial assistance, including grants, subgrants, loan awards, cooperative agreements and other financial assistance; and contracts, subcontracts, purchase orders, task orders, and delivery orders.

23. To the National Archives and Records Administration for to the National Archives and Records Administration for records management inspections conducted under 44 U.S.C. 2904 and 2906.

24. To the Department of the Treasury for the purpose of identifying, preventing, or recouping improper payments to an applicant for, or recipient of, Federal funds, including funds disbursed by a State in a State-administered, Federally funded program, information that will allow for pre-payment eligibility review of a loan applicant through the Do Not Pay computer matching program. Authorized employees of, and approved private lenders acting on behalf of, the Federal agencies participating in the Do Not Pay computer matching program will be able to search the Do Not Pay database. The disclosure may include applicant’s name, home address, Social Security Number, income/financial data, date of birth, personal telephone number, and personal email address.

EXPLANATORY TEXT:
In order to help eliminate waste, fraud, and abuse in Federal programs, Federal agencies are to focus on preventing payment errors before they occur. The purpose of the Department of the Treasury’s Do Not Pay program is to reduce improper payments by intensifying efforts to eliminate payment error, waste, fraud, and abuse in the major programs administered by the Federal Government, while continuing to ensure that Federal programs serve and provide access to their intended beneficiaries. Federal agencies shall thoroughly review the Do Not Pay computer matching database, to the extent permitted by law to determine applicant eligibility before the release of any Federal funds. By checking the Do Not Pay database before making payments, Federal agencies can identify ineligible recipients and prevent certain improper payments from being made. The Do Not Pay program authority derives from the Improper...
RETENTION AND DISPOSAL:
Records are maintained subject to the Federal Records Disposal Act of 1943 (44 U.S.C. 33), and in accordance with Rural Development’s disposal schedules. The Local, Area, State, and National Offices dispose of records by shredding, burning, or other suitable disposal methods after established retention periods have been fulfilled. ( Destruction methods may never compromise the confidentiality of information contained in the records.) Applications, including credit reports and personal references, which are rejected, withdrawn, or otherwise terminated are kept in the Local, Area, or State Office for two full fiscal years and one month after the end of the fiscal year in which the application was rejected, withdrawn, canceled, or expired. If final action was taken on the application, including an appeal, investigation, or litigation, the application is kept for one full fiscal year after the end of the fiscal year in which final action was taken.

The records, including credit reports, of borrowers who have paid or otherwise satisfied their obligation are retained in the Local, Area, or State Office for one full fiscal year after the fiscal year in which the loan was paid in full. Correspondence records at the National Office which concern borrowers and applicants are retained for three full fiscal years after the last year in which there was correspondence.

SYSTEM MANAGER(S) AND ADDRESS:
The Community Development Manager at the Local Office; the Rural Development Manager at the Area Office; and the State Director at the State Office; the Deputy Chief Financial Officer in St. Louis, MO; and the respective Administrators in the National Office at the following addresses: Administrator, Rural Housing Service, USDA, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Room 5014, South Building, Stop 0701, Washington, DC 20250–0701; Administrator, Rural Business-Cooperative Service, USDA, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Room 5045, South Building, Stop 3201, Washington, DC 20250–3201;

BUDGET (OMB) Circular A–123, Management of Internal Controls.

Moreover, Specific USDA security requirements are adhered to through the USDA Cyber Security Manuals including but not limited to: DM3545–000, Personnel Security, and DM3510–001, Physical Security Standards for Information Technology Restricted Space.

RETENTION AND DISPOSAL:
Records are maintained subject to the Federal Records Disposal Act of 1943 (44 U.S.C. 33), and in accordance with Rural Development’s disposal schedules. The Local, Area, State, and National Offices dispose of records by shredding, burning, or other suitable disposal methods after established retention periods have been fulfilled. ( Destruction methods may never compromise the confidentiality of information contained in the records.) Applications, including credit reports and personal references, which are rejected, withdrawn, or otherwise terminated are kept in the Local, Area, or State Office for two full fiscal years and one month after the end of the fiscal year in which the application was rejected, withdrawn, canceled, or expired. If final action was taken on the application, including an appeal, investigation, or litigation, the application is kept for one full fiscal year after the end of the fiscal year in which final action was taken.

The records, including credit reports, of borrowers who have paid or otherwise satisfied their obligation are retained in the Local, Area, or State Office for one full fiscal year after the fiscal year in which the loan was paid in full. Correspondence records at the National Office which concern borrowers and applicants are retained for three full fiscal years after the last year in which there was correspondence.

SYSTEM MANAGER(S) AND ADDRESS:
The Community Development Manager at the Local Office; the Rural Development Manager at the Area Office; and the State Director at the State Office; the Deputy Chief Financial Officer in St. Louis, MO; and the respective Administrators in the National Office at the following addresses: Administrator, Rural Housing Service, USDA, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Room 5014, South Building, Stop 0701, Washington, DC 20250–0701; Administrator, Rural Business-Cooperative Service, USDA, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Room 5045, South Building, Stop 3201, Washington, DC 20250–3201;
An application has been submitted to the Foreign-Trade Zones (FTZ) Board by the West Virginia Economic Development Authority, grantee of FTZ 229, requesting authority to reorganize and expand the zone under the alternative site framework (ASF) adopted by the FTZ Board (15 CFR Sec. 400.2(c)). The ASF is an option for grantees for the establishment or reorganization of zones and can permit significantly greater flexibility in the designation of new subzones or “usage-driven” FTZ sites for operators/users located within a grantee’s “service area” in the context of the FTZ Board’s standard 2,000-acre activation limit for a zone. The application was submitted pursuant to the Foreign-Trade Zones Act, as amended (19 U.S.C. 81a–81u), and the regulations of the Board (15 CFR part 400). It was formally docketed on April 22, 2016.

FTZ 229 was approved by the FTZ Board on February 13, 1998 (Board Order 954, 63 FR 9177, February 24, 1998). The current zone includes the following site: Site 1 (24 acres)—Charleston Ordnance Center, 3100 MacCorkle Avenue SW., South Charleston.

The grantee’s proposed service area under the ASF would be the Counties of Boone, Cabell, Calhoun, Clay, Fayette, Jackson, Kanawha, Lincoln, Logan, Mason, Mingo, Putnam, Raleigh, Roane, Wayne, Wirt, Wood and Wyoming, as described in the application. If approved, the grantee would be able to serve sites throughout the service area based on companies’ needs for FTZ designation.

The application indicates that the proposed service area is within and adjacent to the Charleston Customs and Border Protection port of entry.

The applicant is requesting authority to reorganize its existing zone to include existing Site 1 as a “magnet” site. The applicant is also requesting approval of the following “magnet” site: Proposed Site 2 (78 acres)—Heartland Intermodal Gateway, 401 Heartland Drive, Princeton, West Virginia. The ASF allows for the possible exemption of one magnet site from the “sunset” time limits that generally apply to sites under the ASF, and the applicant proposes that Site 2 be so exempted. The application would have no impact on FTZ 229’s previously authorized subzones.

In accordance with the FTZ Board’s regulations, Kathleen Boyce of the FTZ Staff is designated examiner to evaluate and analyze the facts and information presented in the application and case record and to report findings and recommendations to the FTZ Board. Public comment is invited from interested parties. Submissions shall be addressed to the FTZ Board’s Executive Secretary at the address below. The closing period for their receipt is June 27, 2016. Rebuttal comments in response to material submitted during the foregoing period may be submitted during the subsequent 15-day period to July 12, 2016.

A copy of the application will be available for public inspection at the Office of the Executive Secretary, Foreign-Trade Zones Board, Room 21013, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20230–0002, and in the “Reading Room” section of the FTZ Board’s Web site, which is accessible via www.trade.gov/ftz. For further information, contact Kathleen Boyce at Kathleen.Boyce@trade.gov or (202) 482–1346.

Dated: April 22, 2016.

Andrew McGilvray,
Executive Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2016–09965 Filed 4–27–16; 8:45 am]