criteria should APHIS consider to assure its independence, determine whether the scope of its services support and align with the AWA, and mitigate potential conflicts of interest and other potential risks? In addition, what information should a regulated facility provide so APHIS may verify its use of a third-party program?

5. Aside from recognizing the use of qualified, third-party programs, what are other methods APHIS could use to encourage facilities to achieve and sust maintaining compliance with the AWA? Also, where do you see the greatest opportunity for APHIS to improve the consistency and effectiveness of its AWA program?

Registration instructions for the listening session are available by contacting the person listed under FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT or by following the instructions available via the APHIS website at: https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/animalwelfare/animalwelfarenews/third-party-inspection-certification-programs.

If you require special accommodations, such as a sign language interpreter, please contact the person listed under FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT.

Done in Washington, DC, on January 16, 2018.

Kevin Shea,
Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[FR Doc. 2018–00966 Filed 1–19–18; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 3410–34–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

National Agricultural Statistics Service

Notice of Intent To Seek Approval To Revise and Extend a Currently Approved Information Collection

AGENCY: National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the intention of the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) to request revision and extension of a currently approved information collection, the Agricultural Resources Management Survey and Chemical Use Surveys. A revision to burden hours will be needed due to changes in the size of the target population, sampling design, and/or questionnaire length.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by March 23, 2018 to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments, identified by docket number 0535–0218, by any of the following methods:

• Email:ombofficer@nass.usda.gov. Include docket number above in the subject line of the message.

• Fax: (855) 838–6382.

• Mail: Mail any paper, disk, or CD–ROM submissions to: David Hancock, NASS Clearance Officer, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Room 5336 South Building, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250–2024.

• Hand Delivery/Courier: Hand deliver to: David Hancock, NASS Clearance Officer, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Room 5336 South Building, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250–2024.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Kevin L. Barnes, Associate Administrator, National Agricultural Statistics Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, (202) 720–4333. Copies of this information collection and related instructions can be obtained without charge from David Hancock, NASS—OMB Clearance Officer, at (202) 690–2388 or at ombofficer@nass.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Agricultural Resources Management Survey and Chemical Use Surveys.

OMB Control Number: 0535–0218.

Expiration Date of Current Approval: July 31, 2018.

Type of Request: Intent to revise and extend a currently approved information collection.

Abstract: The Agricultural Resource Management Survey(s) (ARMS) are the primary source of information for the U.S. Department of Agriculture on a broad range of issues related to: Production practices, costs and returns, pest management, chemical usage, and contractor expenses. Data is collected on both a whole farm level and on selected commodities.

ARMS is the only source of information available for objective evaluation of many critical issues related to agriculture and the rural economy, such as: Whole farm finance data, including data sufficient to construct estimates of income for farms by: Type of operation, loan commodities, income for operator households, credit, structure, and organization; marketing information; and other economic data on input usage, production practices, and crop substitution possibilities. Data from ARMS are used to produce estimates of net farm income by type of commercial producer as required in 7 U.S.C. 7998 as amended and estimates of enterprise production costs as required in 7 U.S.C. 1441(a) as amended. Data from ARMS are also used as weights in the development of the Prices Paid Index, a component of the Parity Index referred to in the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938, as amended. These indexes are used to calculate the annual federal grazing fee rates as described in the Public Rangelands Improvement Act of 1978 and Executive Order 12548 and as promulgated in regulations found at 36 CFR 222.51, as amended.

In addition, ARMS is used to produce estimates of sector-wide production expenditures and other components of income that are used in constructing the estimates of income and value-added which are transmitted to the U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, by the USDA Economic Research Service (ERS) for use in constructing economy-wide estimates of Gross Domestic Product. This transmittal of data, prepared using the ARMS, is undertaken to satisfy a 1956 agreement between the Office of Management and Budget and the Departments of Agriculture and Commerce that a single set of estimates be published on farm income.

Chemical Use Surveys: Congress has mandated that NASS and ERS build nationally coordinated databases on agricultural chemical use and related farm practices; these databases are the primary vehicles used to produce specified environmental and economic estimates. The surveys will help provide the knowledge and technical means for producers and researchers to address on-farm environmental concerns in a manner that maintains agricultural productivity.

In this approval request, there is only one significant program change. The annual Microbial Food Safety Practices—Packer Survey will be discontinued.

The commodities that are scheduled to be included in this approval are in the following table.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Survey</th>
<th>Target commodity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>ARMS Phase II (PPCRR)</td>
<td>Soybeans.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ARMS Phase II (PPR)</td>
<td>Corn and Peanuts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Chemical Use</td>
<td>Vegetables.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ARMS Phase III</td>
<td>Soybeans and Cow-Calif.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>ARMS Phase II (PPCRR)</td>
<td>Cotton, Barley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ARMS Phase II (PPR)</td>
<td>Sorghum.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Wheat.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Respondents: Approximately 115,000 respondents, including individual farmers, farm managers, farm contractors, and farm households.

Burden Estimation: The collection is estimated to average approximately 45 minutes per survey.

Comments: Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency’s estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, technological or other forms of information technology collection methods.

All responses to this notice will become a matter of public record and be summarized in the request for OMB approval.

Kevin L. Barnes, Associate Administrator.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Foreign-Trade Zones Board

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Foreign-Trade Zones Board

On September 19, 2017, Valeo North America, Inc. submitted a notification of proposed production activity to the FTZ Board for its facility within Subzone 47D, in Winchester, Kentucky.

The notification was processed in accordance with the regulations of the FTZ Board (15 CFR part 400), including notice in the Federal Register inviting public comment (82 FR 45263, September 28, 2017). On January 17, 2018, the applicant was notified of the FTZ Board’s decision that no further review of the activity is warranted at this time. The production activity described in the notification was authorized, subject to the FTZ Act and the FTZ Board’s regulations, including Section 400.14.

Dated: January 17, 2018.
Elizabeth Whiteman, Acting Executive Secretary.

FOREIGN-TRADE ZONES BOARD

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

[FR Doc. 2018–01042 Filed 1–19–18; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 3510–DS–P