

and Development, PPD, APHIS, Station 3A-03.8, 4700 River Road Unit 118, Riverdale, MD 20737-1238.

Supporting documents and any comments we receive on this docket may be viewed at <http://www.regulations.gov/#!docketDetail;D=APHIS-2018-0058> or in our reading room, which is located in Room 1141 of the USDA South Building, 14th Street and Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC. Normal reading room hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. To be sure someone is there to help you, please call (202) 799-7039 before coming.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For information on the importation of fresh peppers from Peru into the continental United States and the Territories, contact Ms. Claudia Ferguson, Senior Regulatory Policy Coordinator, PPQ, APHIS, 4700 River Road Unit 39, Riverdale, MD 20737; (301) 851-2532. For more detailed information on the information collection, contact Ms. Kimberly Hardy, APHIS' Information Collection Coordinator, at (301) 851-2483.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Title:* Importation of Fresh Peppers From Peru Into the Continental United States and the Territories.

*OMB Control Number:* 0579-0434.

*Type of Request:* Revision to and extension of approval of an information collection.

*Abstract:* The Plant Protection Act (PPA, 7 U.S.C. 7701 *et seq.*) authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to restrict the importation, entry, or interstate movement of plants, plant products, and other articles to prevent the introduction of plant pests into the United States or their dissemination within the United States. Regulations authorized by the PPA concerning the importation of fruits and vegetables into the United States from certain parts of the world are contained in "Subpart—Fruits and Vegetables" (7 CFR 319.56-1 through 319.56-83).

The regulations in § 319.56-73 allow the importation of fresh peppers into the continental United States and the Territories from Peru. As a condition of entry, the peppers have to be produced in accordance with a systems approach that includes requirements for operational workplans, quality control programs, fruit fly trapping, pre-harvest production site inspections, production site and packinghouse registration, emergency action notifications, notices of arrival for imports, and packinghouse procedures designed to exclude quarantine pests. The peppers are also

required to be imported in commercial consignments and accompanied by a phytosanitary certificate issued by the national plant protection organization (NPPO) of Peru with an additional declaration stating that the consignment was produced in accordance with the systems approach outlined in the regulations. These actions allow for the importation of fresh peppers from Peru while continuing to provide protection against the introduction of plant pests into the United States and the Territories.

We are asking the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to approve our use of these information collection activities, as described, for an additional 3 years.

The purpose of this notice is to solicit comments from the public (as well as affected agencies) concerning our information collection. These comments will help us:

(1) Evaluate whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;

(2) Evaluate the accuracy of our estimate of the burden of the collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

(3) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(4) Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, through use, as appropriate, of automated, electronic, mechanical, and other collection technologies; *e.g.*, permitting electronic submission of responses.

*Estimate of burden:* The public burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 1 hour per response.

*Respondents:* Exporters, importers, and the NPPO of Peru.

*Estimated annual number of respondents:* 15.

*Estimated annual number of responses per respondent:* 16.

*Estimated annual number of responses:* 249.

*Estimated total annual burden on respondents:* 294 hours. (Due to averaging, the total annual burden hours may not equal the product of the annual number of responses multiplied by the reporting burden per response.)

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

Done in Washington, DC, this 14th day of September 2018.

**Kevin Shea,**

*Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.*

[FR Doc. 2018-20449 Filed 9-19-18; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3410-34-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

**U.S. Codex Office**

**Codex Alimentarius Commission: Meeting of the Codex Committee on Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses (CCNFSDU)**

**AGENCY:** U.S. Codex Office, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of public meeting and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Codex Program is sponsoring a public meeting on Tuesday, November 6, 2018. The objective of the public meeting is to provide information and receive public comments on agenda items and draft United States (U.S.) positions to be discussed at the 40th session of the Codex Committee on Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses (CCNFSDU) of the Codex Alimentarius Commission in Berlin, Germany November 26-30, 2018. The U.S. Manager for Codex Alimentarius and the Under Secretary, Office of Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs, recognize the importance of providing interested parties the opportunity to obtain background information on the 40th Session of the CCNFSDU and to address items on the agenda.

**DATES:** The public meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 6, 2018 from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** The public meeting will take place at the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition, Wiley Building, Room 1A002, 55 Campus Drive, College Park, MD 20740.

Documents related to the 40th Session of the CCNFSDU will be accessible via the internet at the following address: <http://www.codexalimentarius.org/meetings-reports/en>.

Dr. Douglas Balentine, U.S. Delegate to the 40th Session of the CCNFSDU, invites U.S. interested parties to submit their comments electronically to the following email address: [douglas.balentine@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:douglas.balentine@fda.hhs.gov).

Call-In-Number: If you wish to participate in the public meeting for the 40th Session of the CCNFSDU by conference call, please use the call-in-number listed below:

Call-In-Number: 1-877-465-7975—U.S. Toll Free.

The participant code will be posted on the web page below: <http://www.fsis.usda.gov/wps/portal/food/food-safety/food-safety-topics/international-affairs/us-codex-alimentarius/public-meetings>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

About the 40th Session Of the CCNFSDU: Doug Balentine, Director, Office of Nutrition and Food Labelling, Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition, U.S. Food and Drug Administration, 5001 Campus Drive (HFS-830), College Park, MD 20740. Phone: +1 240 402 2373. Fax: +1 (301) 436-2636. Email: [Douglas.Balentine@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:Douglas.Balentine@fda.hhs.gov).

About the Public Meeting: Doreen Chen-Moulec, U.S. Codex Office, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Room 4861, South Agriculture Building, Washington, DC 20250, Phone: (202) 720-4063, Fax: (202) 720-3157, Email: [Doreen.Chenmoulec@osec.usda.gov](mailto:Doreen.Chenmoulec@osec.usda.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Registration**

Attendees may register to attend the public meeting by emailing [doreen.chenmoulec@osec.usda.gov](mailto:doreen.chenmoulec@osec.usda.gov) by October 24, 2018.

Early registration is encouraged because it will expedite entry into the building. The meeting will take place in a Federal building. Attendees should bring photo identification and plan for adequate time to pass through the security screening systems. Attendees who are not able to attend the meeting in person, but who wish to participate, may do so by phone, as discussed above.

**Background**

Codex was established in 1963 by two United Nations organizations, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the World Health Organization (WHO). Through adoption of food standards, codes of practice, and other guidelines developed by its committees, and by promoting their adoption and implementation by governments, Codex seeks to protect the health of consumers and ensure fair practices in the food trade.

The CCNFSDU is responsible for:

- (a) Studying nutrition issues referred to it by the Codex Alimentarius Commission;
- (b) Drafting general provisions, as appropriate, on nutritional aspects of all foods and developing standards, guidelines, and related texts for foods for special dietary uses, in cooperation with other committees where necessary; and
- (c) Considering, amending if necessary, and endorsing provisions on

nutritional aspects proposed for inclusion in Codex standards, guidelines, and related texts.

The CCNFSDU is hosted by Germany. The U.S. attends CCNFSDU as a member country of Codex.

**Issues To Be Discussed at the Public Meeting**

The following items on the Agenda for the 40th Session of the CCNFSDU will be discussed during the public meeting:

- Matters referred by the Codex Alimentarius Commission and its subsidiary bodies
- Matters of Interest Arising from FAO and WHO:
  - Review of the Standard for Follow-up Formula (CXS 156-1987)1
  - Comments in reply to CL 2018/62-NFSDU
  - Review of the Standard for Follow-up Formula (CXS 156-1987)2
  - Comments in reply to CL 2018/63-NFSDU
  - Proposed Draft Guideline for Ready-to-use Therapeutic Foods
  - Comments at in reply to CL 2018/64-NFSDU
  - Proposed Draft Definition for Biofortification
  - Comments in reply to CL 2018/65-NFSDU
  - Proposed Draft NRV-NCD for EPA and DHA long chain omega-3 fatty acids
  - Comments in reply to CL 2018/66-NFSDU
  - Proposed draft Claim for “free” of Trans Fatty Acids
  - Comments in reply to CL 2017/89/OCS-NFSDU
  - Discussion paper of NRV-R for older infants and young children
  - Discussion paper on mechanism/framework for considering the technological justification of food additives
  - Discussion paper on harmonized probiotic guidelines for use in foods and dietary supplements
  - Discussion paper on general guidelines to establish nutritional profiles
- Other Business and Future Work. Each issue listed will be fully described in documents distributed, or to be distributed by the Secretariat before the Committee meeting. Members of the public may access or request copies of these documents (see **ADDRESSES**).

**Public Meeting**

At the Tuesday, November 6, 2018 public meeting, draft U.S. positions on the agenda items will be described and discussed, and attendees will have the

opportunity to pose questions and offer comments. Written comments may be offered at the meeting or sent to Douglas Balentine, U.S. Delegate for the 40th Session of the CCNFSDU (see **ADDRESSES**). Written comments should state that they relate to activities of the 40th Session of the CCNFSDU.

**Additional Public Notification**

Public awareness of all segments of rulemaking and policy development is important. Consequently, the U.S. Codex Office will announce this **Federal Register** publication on-line through the FSIS web page located at: <http://www.fsis.usda.gov/federal-register>. The U.S. Codex Office also offers an email subscription service which provides automatic and customized access to selected food safety news and information. This service is available at: <http://www.fsis.usda.gov/subscribe>. Options range from recalls to export information, regulations, directives, and notices. Customers can add or delete subscriptions themselves, and have the option to password protect their accounts.

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Send your completed complaint form or letter to USDA by mail, fax, or email. Mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410.

Fax: (202) 690-7442, Email: [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov).

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication (Braille, large print, audiotope, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).

Done at Washington, DC, on September 14th, 2018.

Mary Lowe,

U.S. Manager for Codex Alimentarius.

[FR Doc. 2018-20443 Filed 9-19-18; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### U.S. Codex Office

#### Codex Alimentarius Commission: Meeting of the Codex Committee on Food Hygiene (CCFH)

**AGENCY:** U.S. Codex Office, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of public meeting and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Codex Office is sponsoring a public meeting on October 9, 2018. The objective of the public meeting is to provide information and receive public comments on agenda items and draft United States (U.S.) positions to be discussed at the 50th session of the Codex Committee on Food Hygiene (CCFH) of the Codex Alimentarius Commission in Panama City, Panama on November 12–16, 2018. The U.S. Manager for Codex Alimentarius and the Under Secretary, Office of Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs, recognize the importance of providing interested parties the opportunity to obtain background information on the 50th Session of the CCFH and to address items on the agenda.

**DATES:** The public meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 9, 2018 from 1:00 p.m. to 4 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** The public meeting will take place at the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Jamie L. Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Room 107–A, Washington, DC 20250. Documents related to the 50th Session of the CCFH will be accessible via the internet at the following address: <http://www.codexalimentarius.org/meetings-reports/en>.

Jenny Scott, U.S. Delegate to the 50th Session of the CCFH, invites U.S. interested parties to submit their comments electronically to the following email address: [Jenny.Scott@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:Jenny.Scott@fda.hhs.gov).

Call-In-Number: If you wish to participate in the public meeting for the 50th Session of the CCFH by conference call, please use the call-in-number listed below:

Call-In-Number: 1-888-844-9904.

The participant code will be posted on the web page below: <http://www.fsis.usda.gov/wps/portal/fsis/>

*topics/international-affairs/us-codex-alimentarius/public-meetings.*

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

About the 50th Session Of The CCFH: Jenny Scott, Senior Advisor, Office of Food Safety, Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition, U.S. Food and Drug Administration, 5001 Campus Drive HFS-300, Room 3B-014. College Park, MD 20740-3835 Phone: +1 (240) 402-2166. Fax: +1 (301) 436-2632. Email: [Jenny.Scott@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:Jenny.Scott@fda.hhs.gov).

About the Public Meeting: Barbara McNiff, U.S. Codex Office, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Room 4861, South Agriculture Building, Washington, DC 20250 Phone: (202) 690-4719, Fax: (202) 720-3157, Email: [Barbara.McNiff@osec.usda.gov](mailto:Barbara.McNiff@osec.usda.gov).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Registration

Attendees may register to attend the public meeting by emailing [Barbara.McNiff@osec.usda.gov](mailto:Barbara.McNiff@osec.usda.gov) by October 3, 2018. Early registration is encouraged because it will expedite entry into the building. The meeting will take place in a Federal building. Attendees should bring photo identification and plan for adequate time to pass through the security screening systems. Attendees who are not able to attend the meeting in person, but who wish to participate, may do so by phone, as discussed above.

##### Background

Codex was established in 1963 by two United Nations organizations, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the World Health Organization (WHO). Through adoption of food standards, codes of practice, and other guidelines developed by its committees, and by promoting their adoption and implementation by governments, Codex seeks to protect the health of consumers and ensure fair practices in the food trade.

The CCFH is responsible for:

- Developing basic provisions on food hygiene, applicable to all food or to specific food types;
- Considering and amending or endorsing provisions on food hygiene contained in Codex commodity standards and codes of practice developed by Codex commodity committees;
- Considering specific food hygiene problems assigned to it by the Commission;
- Suggesting and prioritizing areas where there is a need for microbiological risk assessment at the international level and developing questions to be addressed by the risk assessors; and

- Considering microbiological risk management matters in relation to food hygiene and in relation to the FAO/WHO risk assessments.

The CCFH is hosted by the United States. The 50th Session will be co-hosted by Panama and will convene in Panama City.

#### Issues To Be Discussed at the Public Meeting

The following items on the Agenda for the 50th Session of the CCFH will be discussed during the public meeting:

- Matters referred by the Codex Alimentarius Commission and its subsidiary bodies to the Food Hygiene
- Matters arising from the Work of FAO and WHO, including the Joint Expert Meeting on Microbiological Risk Assessment (JEMRA)
- Information from the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE)
- Proposed draft revision of the General Principles of Food Hygiene (CXC 1-1969) and its HACCP Annex
  - Comments in reply to CL 2018/69-FH
- Revision to the Code of Practice for Fish and Fishery Products (CXC 52-2003): Placement for the guidance on histamine control; amendments to other sections, and revisions to the section on sampling, examination and analyses related to histamine food safety
  - Comments in reply to CL 2018/70-FH
- Proposed draft code of practice on food allergen management for food business operators
  - Comments in reply to CL 2018/71-FH
- Proposed draft guidance for the management of (micro) biological foodborne crises/outbreaks
  - Comments in reply to CL 2018/72-FH
- Discussion paper on future work on Shiga toxin-producing *Escherichia coli* (STEC)
- Other business and Future Work
  - Proposals in reply to CL 2018/35-FH)

Each issue listed will be fully described in documents distributed, or to be distributed by the Secretariat before the Committee meeting. Members of the public may access or request copies of these documents (see **ADDRESSES**).

#### Public Meeting

At the October 9 public meeting, draft U.S. positions on the agenda items will be described and discussed, and attendees will have the opportunity to pose questions and offer comments. Written comments may be offered at the