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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration

Designations for the Minot (ND), Southern Illinois (IL), and Tri-State (OH) Areas

AGENCY: **Grain Inspection Packers and Stockyards Administration**

(GIPSA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: GIPSA announces the designation of Minot Grain Inspection, Inc. (Minot), Southern Illinois Grain Inspection Service, Inc. (Southern Illinois), and Tri-State Grain Inspection Service, Inc. (Tri-State), to provide official services under the United States Grain Standards Act, as amended (Act).

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 1997.

ADDRESSES: USDA, GIPSA, FGIS, Janet M. Hart, Chief, Review Branch, Compliance Division, STOP 3604, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, DC 20250-3604.

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 April 1, 1997, Federal Register (62 FR 15456), GIPSA asked persons interested in providing official services in the geographic areas assigned to Minot, Southern Illinois, and Tri-State to submit an application for designation. Applications were due by April 30, 1997. Minot, Southern Illinois, and Tri-State, the only applicants, each applied for designation to provide official services in the entire area currently assigned to them.

Since Minot, Southern Illinois, and Tri-State were the only applicants for the respective areas, GIPSA did not ask for comments on the applicants.

GIPSA evaluated all available information regarding the designation criteria in Section 7(f)(1)(A) of the Act; and according to Section 7(f)(1)(B), determined that Minot, Southern Illinois, and Tri-State are able to provide official services in the geographic areas for which they applied. Effective October 1, 1997, and ending September 30, 2000, Minot, Southern Illinois, and Tri-State are designated to provide official services in the geographic areas specified in the April 1, 1997, Federal Register.

Interested persons may obtain official services by contacting Minot at 701-838-1734, Southern Illinois at 618-632-1921, and Tri-State at 513-251-6571.

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

Dated: August 14, 1997

Neil E. Porter

Director, Compliance Division

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