



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Grain Inspection,  
Packers and Stockyards  
Administration

Stop 3630  
1400 Independence Ave., SW  
Washington, DC 20250-3630

**Reference # 232**

May 18, 2010

**TO:** FGIS POLICY BULLETIN BOARD

**FROM:** Robert Lijewski, Director /s/ *Robert Lijewski*  
Field Management Division

**SUBJECT:** Official Commercial Inspection Results reported on a U. S. Warehouse Act Certificate

**ORIGINATING OFFICE:** Policies, Procedures. and Market Analysis Branch

## **1. PURPOSE**

This memorandum provides guidance to Official Agencies (OA) providing official inspection results to grain companies under GIPSA Directive 9180.55, "Official Commercial Inspection Services," when those results are shown on a U.S. Warehouse Act (USWA) certificate.

## **2. BACKGROUND**

It has come to our attention that some OA's provide official commercial results either through input to the grain company's electronic format, or transferred to a USWA certificate issued by a grain company. While providing official commercial results in this manner is permissible, GIPSA has determined that showing the name of the OA or the name of official personnel employed by the OA on the USWA certificate conflicts with sections 800.186(c)(2) and 800.196(g)(6)(ii) of the regulations under the United States Grain Standards Act (USGSA).

GIPSA has worked with the Farm Service Agency's Warehouse Program to resolve this problem in a way that serves the best interests of each program. To this end, the Deputy Administrator for FSA's Commodity Operations issued a memorandum on April 9, 2010, to the Director for the Kansas City Commodity Office modifying FSA's current policy in several important ways:

- It is not necessary to issue service licenses under the USWA to FGIS authorized official agency personnel who are performing official duties at USWA licensed warehouses.
- The insertion of the name of the OA or the name of official personnel on the USWA certificate is viewed as an unapproved addition to the USWA certificate.

- In the place of the name of the OA or the name of official personnel on the USWA certificate, the warehouse operators are instructed to insert the language, “Inspection performed by an official service provider. Records on File.”

### **3. GIPSA POLICY**

OA’s providing official commercial results to a warehouse operator shall not allow their name or the name of official personnel employed by the agency to appear on a USWA certificate. Nonetheless, OA’s may continue to provide official commercial results to a warehouse operator for the purpose of recording those results on a USWA certificate.

FSA is notifying federally licensed grain warehouse operators that personnel licensed under the USGSA to officially inspect/weigh grain do not require a USWA licenses to perform services under the USWA, and it is no longer necessary or approved to show the name of the OA or the name of OA personnel on the USWA certificates. The new statement on the USWA certificate will be:

**“Inspection performed by an official service provider. Records on file.”**

Since FSA no longer requires OA personnel to hold a USWA service license, OA personnel are to turn in their USWA service license to the warehouse operators who should forward the licenses to the FSA, Warehouse License and Examination Division, Licensing Branch, Kansas City Commodity Office.

### **4. QUESTIONS**

Direct any questions concerning this policy to Tom O’Connor at (202)720-8262.