
Certificate

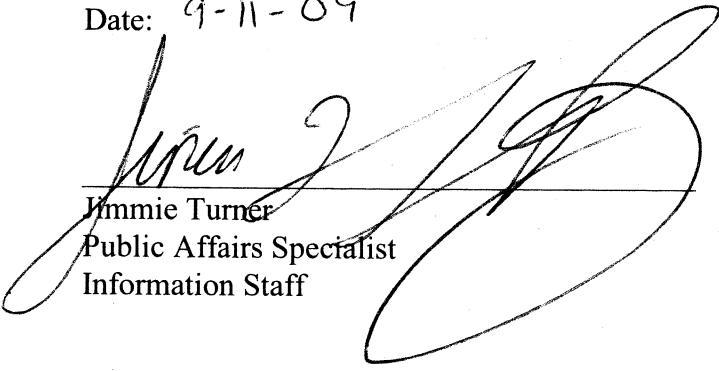
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MAKING NEWS RELEASE AVAILABLE
TO LOCAL NEWSPAPERS, TELEVISION,
AND RADIO STATIONS

Docket No. [AO-FV-09-0138;
AMS-FV-09-0029; FV09-970-1]
Leafy Green Vegetables Handled in the
United States; Hearing on Proposed
Marketing Agreement No. 970

I, Jimmie Turner, hereby certify that on the second day of September, 2009, by authority vested in me by the Administrator and in accordance with §900.4(b)(1)(iii) (23 F.R. 4027) of the applicable rules of practice and procedure (7 CFR Part 900), as amended, I made available a press release to such newspapers and television and radio stations in the area subject to regulation as reasonably will tend to bring to the attention of interested persons the notice of hearing with respect to USDA setting a hearing on a proposed national marketing agreement regulating the handling of leafy green vegetables.

Date: 9-11-09



Jimmie Turner
Public Affairs Specialist
Information Staff

Exhibit 7



PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT

AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE

United States Department of Agriculture ♦ 1400 Independence Ave., SW ♦ Room 2632-S
Washington, DC 20250 ♦ (202) 720-8998 ♦ World Wide Web: <http://www.ams.usda.gov>

AMS No. 161-09

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USDA SETS HEARING FOR PROPOSED NATIONAL MARKETING AGREEMENT FOR LEAFY GREEN VEGETABLES

WASHINGTON, Sept. 2, 2009 – The U.S. Department of Agriculture today announced the dates and locations of seven hearings related to a proposed national marketing agreement for leafy green vegetables. The hearings will be held September and October 2009.

A cross-section of producers and handlers from the fresh-produce industry proposed the establishment of a marketing agreement to facilitate the practical application of Good Agricultural Practices, Good Handling Practices, and Good Manufacturing Practices guidelines published by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

If established, only handlers who sign on to the marketing agreement would be subject to the requirements of the accord. Signatory handlers could only handle leafy green vegetables (domestic or imported) that meet the requirements of the program.

The hearings provide the public an opportunity to learn more about the proposed agreement and to offer comments in support of or opposition to the agreement. The hearings will be held at the following locations from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. (local time) or as determined by the presiding administrative law judge:

- Sept. 22-24, at the Hyatt Regency Monterey, 1 Old Golf Course Road, Monterey, Calif.
- Sept. 30 to Oct. 1, at the Wyndham Jacksonville Riverwalk, 1515 Prudential Drive, Jacksonville, Fla.
- Oct. 6, at the Greater Columbus Convention Center, Room D130, 400 North High Street, Columbus, Ohio.
- Oct. 8, at the Denver Airport Marriott at Gateway Park, 16455 East 40th Circle, Aurora, Colo.
- Oct. 14-15, at the Yuma Civic Center, Yuma Room, 1440 Desert Hills Drive, Yuma, Ariz.
- Oct. 20, at the Renaissance Syracuse Hotel, 701 East Genesee Street, Syracuse, N.Y.
- Oct. 22, at the Charlotte Marriot Executive Park, 5700 Westpark Drive, Charlotte, N.C.

The proposal and the hearing notice will be published in the Sept. 3, 2009, *Federal Register*. A copy of the proposal is also available on the home page of the Agricultural Marketing Service's Web site.

Copies may be obtained from Antoinette Carter, Marketing Order Administration Branch, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, AMS, USDA, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Stop 0237, Washington, DC 20250-0237, phone: (202)720-2491, or fax: (202)720-8938; or Melissa Schmaedick, Marketing Order Administration Branch, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Northwest Marketing Field Office, AMS, USDA, 1220 SW Third Avenue, Room 385, Portland, OR 97204; phone: (503)326-2724, or fax: (503)326-7440.

An electronic version of this news release can be obtained via the Internet at <http://www.ams.usda.gov/news/newsrel.html>.