



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Farm and  
Foreign  
Agricultural  
Services

Farm  
Service  
Agency

Kansas City  
Commodity Office  
P.O. Box 419205  
Kansas City,  
Missouri  
64141-6205

April 11, 2012

TO: International Food Aid Participants

SUBJECT: New Licensing Requirements

This letter advises that the Farm Service Agency (FSA) is implementing a licensing requirement, including inspection and/or examination procedures for all port and transloading facilities receiving, storing, handling, and shipping export food assistance commodities for U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) and Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) foreign food assistance programs (PL 480, Title II and III, Food for Progress, Section 416(b) and McGovern-Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition programs). Commodities purchased by FSA on or after June 15, 2012, may be stored or handled only by facilities licensed under the United States Warehouse Act (USWA).

FSA has developed a Licensing Agreement for Export Food Aid Commodity Warehouse Operators (WA-502). The WA-502 applies exclusively to U. S. Government Export Food Aid Commodities (EFAC) received, stored, handled, and shipped at port warehouses or transloading facilities in the United States. This licensing agreement was developed in response to sanitation and security concerns of export food assistance suppliers; specifically, food products transiting domestic ports in preparation for export. FSA is committed to ensuring that commodities purchased for foreign food assistance programs are received, stored, handled, and shipped in clean and secure facilities, and protected from damage and contamination.

This program is designed to assess initial qualifications for licensing and verify continued compliance with the licensing agreement and federal regulations. By statute, fees for the licensing program must cover the government's costs of licensing, inspection, and examination. You can access the Licensing Agreement and the corresponding fee schedule on the FSA website at:

<http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/webapp?area=home&subject=coop&topic=was-ua>.

General information regarding the administration of the USWA is available on FSA's website at the following link:

<http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/webapp?area=home&subject=coop&topic=was-ua>.

Please note that warehouse or transload facilities currently approved to participate in EFAC storage and/or handling, but not licensed by June 15, 2012, will not be considered to receive food assistance shipments until licensed.

If you have questions or need additional information on the licensing process, please contact David Kirkland, Chief, Licensing Branch at (816) 926-6474. Questions



**International Food Aid Participants**  
**Page 2**

regarding the bid evaluation system and the cargo allocation process should be directed to Alan Grote, Chief, Procurement Support Branch at (816) 926-6078 or Todd Shuck, Chief, Procurement Branch at (816) 823-1114.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Patrick M. Dardis". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "P".

Patrick M. Dardis  
Deputy Director  
Kansas City Commodity Office