

USDA proposes adjustments to  
Agriculture Quarantine Inspection (AQI) program user fees as well as  
fee increases for overtime services. (USDA APHIS 4.25.2014)

1. **Summary**

Please be advised that on April 25, 2014, the US Dept. of Agriculture Animal Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) issued a Proposed Rule for **a)** Fee Increases for Overtime Work performed by employees of APHIS and **b)** the amendment of User Fee Regulations for Agricultural Quarantine Inspection (AQI) Services

Comments on both Proposed Rules must be submitted to the docket on or before June 24, 2014.

These two Federal Register notice summaries, including links to the Proposed Rules in their entirety, are provided immediately below

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[Federal Register Volume 79, Number 80 (Friday, April 25, 2014)]  
[Proposed Rules]  
[Pages 22887-22895]  
From the Federal Register Online via the Government Printing Office [[www.gpo.gov](http://www.gpo.gov)]  
[FR Doc No: 2014-09463]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

7 CFR Part 354

9 CFR Parts 97 and 130

[Docket No. APHIS-2009-0047]

Fee Increases for Overtime Services

AGENCY: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.  
ACTION: Proposed rule.

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SUMMARY: We are proposing to change the hourly rates charged for Sundays, holidays, or other overtime work performed by employees of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) for any person, firm, or corporation having ownership, custody, or control of regulated commodities or articles subject to inspection, laboratory testing, certification, or quarantine under the regulations. We are proposing to increase these overtime rates for each of the fiscal years 2014 through 2018 to reflect the anticipated costs associated with providing these services during each year. Establishing

the overtime rate changes in advance would allow users of APHIS' services to incorporate the rates into their budget planning. We are also proposing to clarify the regulations to indicate that agricultural inspections performed by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) may be billed in accordance with DHS overtime regulations for services performed outside of regular business hours, as DHS rates may differ from those charged by APHIS.

DATES: We will consider all comments that we receive on or before June 24, 2014.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments by either of the following methods:

Federal eRulemaking Portal: Go to

<http://www.regulations.gov/#!docketDetail;D=APHIS-2009-0047>

Postal Mail/Commercial Delivery: Send your comment to Docket No. APHIS-2009-0047, Regulatory Analysis 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-2009-0047> 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 concerning Plant Protection and Quarantine program operations, contact Mr. William E. Thomas, AQI Coordinator, PPQ, APHIS, 4700 River Road Unit 131, Riverdale, MD 20737-1231; (301) 851-2306.

For information concerning Veterinary Services program operations, contact Ms. Carol Tuszynski, Director, Planning, Finance, and Strategy Staff, Program Support Services, VS, APHIS, 4700 River Road Unit 58, Riverdale, MD 20737-1231; (301) 851-3463.

For information concerning APHIS user fee development, contact Ms. Kris Caraher, Branch Chief, Review and Analysis, Financial Management Division, MRPBS, APHIS, 4700 River Road Unit 55, Riverdale, MD 20737; (301) 851-2834.

For information concerning DHS overtime fees, contact Mrs. Kara Welty, Chief, Debt Management Branch, Indianapolis, CBP, DHS, 6650 Telecom Drive Suite 100, Indianapolis, IN 46278-2010; (317) 614-4614.

<http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2014-04-25/html/2014-09463.htm>

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

7 CFR Part 354

[Docket No. APHIS-2013-0021]  
RIN 0579-AD77

User Fees for Agricultural Quarantine and Inspection Services

AGENCY: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Proposed rule.

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SUMMARY: We are proposing to amend the user fee regulations by adding new fee categories and adjusting current fees charged for certain agricultural quarantine and inspection services that are provided in connection with certain commercial vessels, commercial trucks, commercial railroad cars, commercial aircraft, and international passengers arriving at ports in the customs territory of the United States. We are also proposing to adjust or remove the fee caps associated with commercial trucks, commercial vessels, and commercial railcars. We have determined that revised user fee categories and revised user fees are necessary to recover the costs of the current level of activity, to account for actual and projected increases in the cost of doing business, and to more accurately align fees with the costs associated with each fee service.

DATES: We will consider all comments that we receive on or before June 24, 2014.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments by either of the following methods:

Federal eRulemaking Portal: Go to

<http://www.regulations.gov/#!docketDetail;D=APHIS-2013-0021> .

Postal Mail/Commercial Delivery: Send your comment to Docket No. APHIS-2013-0021, Regulatory Analysis 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-2013-0021> 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 concerning program operations, contact Mr. William E. Thomas, Senior Agriculturist, Office of the Deputy Administrator, PPQ, APHIS, 4700 River Road Unit 130, Riverdale, MD 20737 1231; (301) 851-2306. For information concerning rate development, contact Mr. Michael Peranio, Chief, User Fees, Financial Services Branch, FMD, MRPBS, APHIS, 4700 River Road Unit 55, Riverdale, MD 20737; (301) 851-2852.

<http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2014-04-25/html/2014-09466.htm>

## **2. Links to PDF's of Proposed Rules - from Federal Register**

4/25/14 USDA Fee increases for overtime services – Proposed Rule

[http://www.maritimedelriv.com/Port\\_Security/USDA/files/FR\\_2014\\_04\\_25\\_09463.pdf](http://www.maritimedelriv.com/Port_Security/USDA/files/FR_2014_04_25_09463.pdf)

4/25/14 USDA User fees for Agriculture quarantine & inspection services –  
Proposed Rule:

[http://www.maritimedelriv.com/Port\\_Security/USDA/files/FR\\_2014\\_04\\_25\\_09466.pdf](http://www.maritimedelriv.com/Port_Security/USDA/files/FR_2014_04_25_09466.pdf)

3. **USDA APHIS Stakeholder Announcement – USDA proposes Adjustments to Agriculture Quarantined Inspection (AQI) Program User Fees**

[http://www.aphis.usda.gov/newsroom/2014/04/pdf/AQI\\_fees.pdf](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/newsroom/2014/04/pdf/AQI_fees.pdf)

4. **APHIS PPQ Factsheet April, 2014 – Q&A: AQI Program Cost & Fees**

[http://www.aphis.usda.gov/publications/plant\\_health/2014/faq\\_aqi\\_fees.pdf](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/publications/plant_health/2014/faq_aqi_fees.pdf)