



NEWS RELEASE

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USDA SEEKS PUBLIC COMMENT ON EMERGENCY CONSERVATION PROGRAM

Washington, DC – (September 5, 2007)-The U.S. Department of Agriculture Farm Service Agency (FSA) announced it will hold a series of public meetings to solicit comments on the Emergency Conservation Program (ECP).

The comment shall be considered in the preparation of the supplemental environmental impact statement (SEIS) for ECP. The purpose of the SEIS is to aid in providing USDA decision-makers and the public with an analysis of the environmental benefits and potential impacts associated with implementing various changes to ECP.

The first three meetings will be held on the following dates and locations:

September 13, 2007, 6:30pm
John Archer Agricultural Center
821070 Schillinger Rd North
Mobile, AL

September 14, 2007, 7:00pm
Doubletree Guest Suites, Ballroom
12200 Tamiami Trail North
Naples, FL

September 17, 2007, 7:00pm
Hyatt Place Atlanta South
1889 Sullivan Road
Atlanta, GA

Public meeting attendees will have an opportunity to verbally comment during the meeting. Written and electronic comments may be submitted by the close of business on November 19, 2007, to ensure consideration. Comments submitted after this date will be considered to the extent possible. Comments and requests for draft SEIS information packages should be directed to ECP SEIS, Geo-Marine Incorporated, 2713 Magruder Blvd., Suite D, Hampton, VA 23666-1572; or by logging on to <http://public.geo-marine.com>.

More detailed information on ECP may be obtained from FSA's Web site: <http://disaster.fsa.usda.gov>