#### AO-UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Farm Service Agency Washington, DC 20250 **Notice AO-1633** 

For: State and County Offices

## 2015 COC Makeup Election

Approved by: Deputy Administrator, Field Operations

# 1 2015 COC Makeup Election

#### A Background

Makeup election procedure has been established for the 2015 COC elections. A makeup election differs from the special election process that is in place. Ballots for a:

- makeup election ballots will be prepared by a printing company
- **special election** ballots are prepared and mailed by the County Office holding the special election according to 15-AO, paragraph 187.

A makeup election is designed to enable a County Office to conduct a new 2015 election, if uncontrollable circumstances occurred during the regular election period, such as, but not limited to the following:

- loss of current member by resignation, removal, or death
- candidate's name is withdrawn, in an election with only 1 candidate.

If these or other circumstances occur during the regular election process, and a new election is required, the County Office may be eligible to hold a makeup election following approval from the State Office. Requests for makeup or special elections must be submitted to DAFO in all instances where a new election is needed because of any irregularity with the 2015 election.

#### **B** Purpose

This notice provides County Offices with the calendar for conducting a 2015 makeup election (Exhibit 1). See 15-AO, paragraph 186 for procedure on the makeup election process.

**Note:** See Exhibit 1 for the COC makeup election calendar.

| Disposal Date | Distribution   |
|---------------|--|
| June 1, 2016  | State Offices; State Offices relay to County Offices |

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#### **Notice AO-1633**

# 1 2015 COC Makeup Election (Continued)

## **C** Nomination Forms

Use FSA-669A-1 (8-11-15) for nominations in the makeup election. Nominations submitted on FSA-669A (04-10-15) are also acceptable.

## **D** Contact

To request a makeup or special election, or if there are questions about this notice, contact Jean Knight by either of the following:

- e-mail at jean.knight@wdc.usda.gov
- telephone at 202-720-0067.

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# 2015 Makeup Election Calendar

The following is the 2015 COC makeup election schedule and deadlines.

| Date                 | Activity   |
|----------------------|--|
| October 1, 2015 -    | After receiving written approval for a makeup election from DAFO,  |
| February 1, 2016     | publicize the makeup election, the election process, and dates.  |
| October 19, 2015     | • Ensure that FSA-669A-1 (8-11-15) or FSA-669A's (04-10-15) are  |
|                      | available at the County Office.  |
|                      |  |
|                      | Make the eligible voters list available to the public.   |
|                      |  |
|                      | • Final date to submit plan to State Office to ensure that all producers   |
|                      | are adequately informed of COC nomination and election.  |
| December 7, 2015     | • Final date for FSA-669A-1 (8-11-15) or FSA-669A's (04-10-15) to  |
|                      | be:  |
|                      |  |
|                      | accepted, if hand delivered to the County Office   |
|                      | <ul> <li>postmarked, if mailed.</li> </ul>   |
|                      | The first was in the same of I AA and an Classed all all all a   |
|                      | • Verify that nominees are in the correct LAA and are flagged eligible to vote.  |
| December 14, 2015    | Review nominations.  |
| December 14, 2013    | G 1 . TG 1 . TO 2  |
|                      | 1 -  |
| December 14-21, 2015 | <ul> <li>Final date for mailing letter of congratulations to nominees.</li> <li>County Office will enter nominee and ballot data for makeup election in</li> </ul> |
| December 14-21, 2013 | COC Election web site.   |
| January 4, 2016      | Printing company will mail makeup election ballots.  |
| January 11, 2016     | State Office will certify to DAFO that each County Office has adequately   |
|                      | and timely publicized the makeup election.   |
| February 1, 2016     | Final date for voters to return completed makeup election ballots or for   |
| , ,                  | ballots to be postmarked.  |
| February 8, 2016     | Final date for counting makeup election ballots.   |
| February 1-12, 2016  | Enter makeup election results in COC Election web site.  |
| March 1, 2016        | New members take office. Reporting screens for entering election results   |
|                      | closed.  |
| March 13, 2016       | Directory Report to be entered by this date.   |

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