

**Star of the West Milling Co.**

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March 9, 2006

Director, Commodity Procurement Policy & Analysis Division
Farm Service Agency, US Department of Agriculture
Rm. 5755-S
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20250-0512

Re: Proposed Rule on Procurement of Commodities for Foreign Donation

Dear Sir,

These comments are submitted in response to the above referenced proposed rule published by the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) in the December 16, 2005 edition of the Federal Register (70 FR 74717-74721). Star of The West Milling Company supplies dry beans to CCC in its export food aid programs and strongly supports the proposal that would require firm, fixed freight availability and rates to be submitted to CCC for use in export food aid commodity purchase evaluations and subsequent freight bookings.

Star of The West Milling agrees that the adoption of this proposal would streamline CCC's procurement process making the actual purchase more cost efficient. These increased efficiencies will result in overall cost saving to the food aid programs. Budget savings that accrue from the implementation of this proposal could be used to purchase more food. This would be beneficial not only for hungry food aid recipients overseas but for homeland security concerns in the U.S. People that have food in their bellies are less likely to become terrorists.

Sincerely,

STAR OF THE WEST MILLING COMPANY

Joseph Cramer