

AGAR ADVISORY

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF PROCUREMENT AND PROPERTY MANAGEMENT
AGAR ADVISORY NO. 87A**

USDA Federal Procurement Data Quality Plan

INTRODUCTION: This Agriculture Acquisition Regulation (AGAR) Advisory cancels AGAR Advisory 87, dated September 5, 2008. The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has issued a new memorandum, "Improving Acquisition Data Quality for Fiscal Years 2009 and 2010," dated October 7, 2009, entailing new guidance and requirements concerning the USDA Verification and Validation process.

The purpose of this AGAR Advisory is to implement this new policy and procedure of the verification and validation of the Federal procurement data submitted to General Service Administration to comply with the Office of Federal Procurement Policy's (OFPP) directive that Federal Agencies verify and validate the accuracy of the information entered into the Federal Procurement Data System (FPDS).

SUMMARY: Review of USDA's data certification process is essential for effective management and to ensure that the data submitted into FPDS is accurate. OMB has called for the Agencies to take additional steps to verify and validate the accuracy of the data entered into the FPDS. In accordance with the policy issued by OMB, Chief Acquisition Officers (CAOs) must establish requirements for ensuring that the Fiscal Year (FY) 2009 FPDS data reflect accurate and timely contract information. To that end, USDA has updated its process for submission of its Annual Statement of Verification and Validation that must be submitted annually to OFPP. This new process is effective November 13, 2009.

ACTION: A copy of USDA's FPDS Data Quality Plan summary is attached with three parts. Part three titled FY 2009 FPDS Data Call Questions, of the attached USDA's FPDS Data Quality Plan summary has been added per OMB guidance, under section III, titled Measuring and Reporting Data Accuracy. The Office of Procurement and Property Management (OPPM) has added the nine FY 2009 Data Call Questions for agencies to answer in support of USDA's FPDS FY 2009 Data Quality Plan. Agencies shall take action as required by the plan to ensure that the FY 2009 FPDS data reflect accurate and timely contract information.

If you have questions regarding this advisory, please contact Robert Niedzwiecki, Acting Chief of Procurement and Policy Division at Robert.Niedzwiecki@da.usda.gov or by phone at (202) 720-3211 or contact Donna Calacone, Procurement Analyst via phone (202-205-4036) or email (Donna.Calacone@da.usda.gov).

This advisory is available at <http://www.usda.gov/procurement/policy/advisories.html>.

EXPIRATION DATE: This advisory will remain in effect until cancelled.