

# AGAR ADVISORY

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

## **USDA Federal Procurement Data Quality Plan**

**INTRODUCTION:** This Agriculture Acquisition Regulation (AGAR) Advisory supersedes AGAR Advisory 87A Revision 01, dated November 13, 2009 and updates information concerning the upcoming Federal Procurement Data Quality Plan for Fiscal Year 2010. On October 7, 2009, The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) issued a memorandum titled, “Improving Acquisition Data Quality for Fiscal Years 2009 and 2010,” outlining new guidance and requirements concerning the USDA Verification and Validation process. In addition this Advisory speaks to the new addition of past performance assessment compliance.

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 requires Agencies to take additional steps to verify and validate the accuracy of data entered into the FPDS. In accordance with policy issued by OMB, Chief Acquisition Officers (CAOs) and Senior Procurement Executives (SPEs) must establish requirements for ensuring that FY 2010 FPDS data reflects accurate and timely contract information. To that end, USDA 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 5, 2010.

**ACTION:** A copy of USDA’s FPDS Data Quality Plan is attached with four appendices. The Office of Procurement and Property Management (OPPM) added appendix four titled, “Improving the use of Contractor Performance System” to support past performance assessments within the department. Agencies shall take action as required by the plan to ensure that the FY 2010 FPDS data reflects accurate and timely contract information.

If you have questions regarding this advisory, please contact Crandall Watson, Procurement Policy Division by phone (202-720-7529) or by email ([Crandall.Watson@dm.usda.gov](mailto:Crandall.Watson@dm.usda.gov) ) or email [Procurement.Policy@dm.usda.gov](mailto:Procurement.Policy@dm.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.

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