regards to the estimated completion time burden, the Service recognizes that many of the applicants that fill out form 3–200–88 are large orchestras that may have multiple instruments that need to be exported. While the Service believes that each musician involved in the orchestra or, if the instruments are owned by the orchestra itself, should have all of the relevant information about their instruments readily available, it may take longer to compile all of the information than we initially estimated to complete the application form. Therefore, we are increasing our estimated time burden to 1.5 hours. Lastly, as with the previous commenters, the Service supports the concept of creating an electronic permitting system and is actively working on that endeavor at this time.

Comment 4: Email Comment Dated 04/21/2017 from the National Association of Music Merchants: The commenter represents over 900 members in the United States and 100 other countries, many of which are involved in the commercial trade of products regulated by CITES. Due to the recent listing of the affected timber species, many members are unfamiliar with the Service’s permitting process. The commenter requested that the Service provide greater clarity of the need for permits due to the recent CITES listing and the permitting process.

The commenter requested more detailed instructions as to the document requirements to conduct legal international business with products manufactured with listed wood species and greater recognition on the part of the Service on how the permitting process affects the commenter’s members. Finally, the commenter requesting that an electronic permitting system be developed to streamline the permitting process.

FWS Response to Comment 4: The Service has been actively working with the commenter and its members since the timber species were listed on CITES and the impact that the permitting process would have on international trade carried out by the commenter’s members. The Service had modified the proposed applications to provide greater clarity and to make the applications more user-friendly. Several of the commenter’s statements go outside this specific information collection process, but will be the comments into consideration in other actions taken by the Service.

Comment 5: Email Comment Dated 04/21/2017 from Taylor Guitars: Taylor Guitars addressed several factors that they stated affects their business process in order to export finish guitars. Taylor raised concerns about the permit application processing by the Service once an application is submitted to the Service. They were specifically concerned that how the Service reviews submitted applications and the permits issued creates a burden for Taylor to carry out the business as they did before a recent listing of a number of timber species in January 2017 under CITES. Taylor also raised issues that when the Service considers the time and cost burdens that applicants/permittees face when carrying out export business, particularly in regards to the cost of applying for a permit and the cost of clearance at the port of export. Taylor also recommended several ways to reduce the application burden. As with other commenters, Taylor suggested that the Service implement an electronic application process. Taylor also recommended that the Service consider establishing a permitting process for applicants that would consider to be “low risk exporters”. This process would combine both the permit application process and the clearance process at the port.

FWS Response to Comment 5: Most of the comments provided by Taylor addressed the application process and the clearance process, not the application forms themselves or how those forms could be revised to improve the information collection. Taylor raised several aspects that would require specific rulemakings to address the Service’s current regulatory structure and the implementation of CITES. The Service will take these comments into consideration as we consider revisions to our current regulations. The Service is, as stated previously, currently developing electronic applications that would allow applicants to supply permit applications electronically and pay the application fee online. This process, once in place, should allow for a smoother application process in regards to submissions and subsequent communication with the application.

We again invite comments concerning this information collection on:

- Whether or not the collection of information is necessary, including whether or not the information will have practical utility;
- The accuracy of our estimate of the burden for this collection of information;
- Ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
- Ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents.

Comments that you submit in response to this notice are a matter of public record. We will include or summarize each comment in our request to OMB to approve this IC. Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment, including your personal identifying information, may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

IV. Authorities


Madonna L. Baucum, Information Collection Clearance Officer, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

[FR Doc. 2017–10702 Filed 5–24–17; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Office of the Secretary

[Docket No. ONRR–2012–0003; DS63602000 DR2000000.PX8000 178D0102R2]

U.S. Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (USEITI) Advisory Committee; Postponement of Meeting

AGENCY: Office of the Secretary, Office of Natural Resources Revenue, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The June 2017 United States Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative Advisory Committee meeting has been postponed.

DATES: The meeting was scheduled for June 7–8, 2017, in Washington, DC, and will be rescheduled at a later date. We will publish a future notice with a new meeting date and location.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Judith Wilson, Program Manager, 1849 C Street NW., MS 4211, Washington, DC 20240. You may also contact the USEITI
INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION


ACTION: Notice that the Commission will accept additional comments from the public on certain petitions for duty suspensions and reductions included in its preliminary report to the House Committee on Ways and Means and the Senate Committee on Finance.

SUMMARY: The Commission intends to provide a limited opportunity for members of the public to submit additional comments on certain petitions for duty suspensions and reductions. Under the American Manufacturing Competitiveness Act of 2016 (the Act), the Commission will submit a preliminary report on the petitions for duty suspensions and reductions that have been filed with it to the House Ways and Means Committee and the Senate Finance Committee on June 9, 2017.

In that report, the Commission will categorize petitions as (a) petitions that meet the requirements of the Act with or without modification (Category I, II, III, or IV petitions), (b) petitions that do not contain the information required by the Act or that were not filed by a likely beneficiary (Category V petitions), and (c) petitions that the Commission does not recommend for inclusion in a miscellaneous tariff bill (Category VI petitions). The Commission has decided that it will accept additional comments from the public on any petitions that are listed as Category VI petitions for a ten day period beginning on June 12, 2017, at 8:45 a.m. As provided below, all such comments must be submitted to the Commission electronically through the Commission Web site (https://www.usitc.gov/mtbps). The Commission will not accept comments filed in paper form or in any other form or format.

DATES: June 12, 2017, 8:45 a.m. EST: Opening date and time for submission of additional comments on Category VI petitions.

June 21, 2017, 5:15 p.m. EST: Closing date and time for submission of comments on Category VI petitions.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For general inquiries, contact Jennifer Rohrbach at mtbinfo@usitc.gov. For filing inquiries, contact the Office of Secretary, Docket Services division, U.S. International Trade Commission, telephone (202) 205–3238. The media should contact Peg O’Laughlin, Public Affairs Officer (202–205–1819 or margaret.olaughlin@usitc.gov). General information concerning the Commission may be obtained by accessing its internet server (https://www.usitc.gov).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background: The American Manufacturing Competitiveness Act of 2016 (the Act), Public Law 114–159, May 20, 2016, 19 U.S.C. 1332 note, established a new process for the submission and consideration of requests for temporary duty suspensions and reductions. As required by the Act, the Commission initiated the new process by publishing a notice in the Federal Register permitting members of the public to submit petitions of duty suspensions and reductions to the Commission for a 60-day period beginning October 14, 2017. (See 81 FR 71114 (Oct. 14, 2017)). After the window for filing petitions closed on December 12, 2017, the Commission published, as required by the Act, a notice in the Federal Register announcing publication on its Web site of the petitions for duty suspensions and reductions that were submitted to the Commission and not withdrawn. (82 FR 3357 [Jan. 11, 2017]). The notice invited members of the public to submit comments on these petitions during a 45-day period, which ended February 24, 2017.

Pursuant to the Act, the Commission is required to submit preliminary and final reports on the petitions to the House Committee on Ways and Means and the Senate Committee on Finance (the Committees). The Commission’s preliminary report is due to the Committees on June 9, 2017. In its preliminary report to the Committees, the Commission must evaluate whether petitions meet the requirements of the Act and should be included in an omnibus miscellaneous tariff bill.

In preparing its report, the Act requires that the Commission take into account the report of the Secretary of Commerce, issued April 10, 2017. In the report, the Secretary analyzed, for each petition, whether there was domestic production of the article that was the subject of a petition, and if so, whether a domestic producer of the article objected to the petition. In the report, based on consultations with Customs and Border Protection, the Secretary also recommended whether any technical changes were necessary to make each petition’s article description administrable.

In its preliminary report, the Commission must place these petitions into one of six categories. Specifically, the Commission must categorize each petition as (a) a petition that meets the requirements of the Act without modification (Category I petition), (b) a petition that meets the requirements of the Act with certain modifications (Category II, III or IV petitions), (c) a petition that does not contain the information required by the Act or was not filed by a likely beneficiary (Category V petition), or (d) a petition that the Commission does not recommend for inclusion in a miscellaneous tariff bill (Category VI petition).

The Commission has decided to re-open its Web site portal for the limited purpose of allowing members of the public to submit comments on petitions that have been categorized as Category VI petitions in its preliminary report. The Commission will re-open the portal for this limited purpose on June 12, 2017 at 8:45 a.m. and will close the portal on June 21, 2017 at 5:15 p.m. As discussed below, the Commission will only accept information from the public that relates to its decision to place these petitions into Category VI.

Content of Comments: The public will be able to comment on the administrability of the article descriptions in the petitions, the existence of domestic producer objections to the petitions, and other issues affecting their placement in Category VI. In part, the Commission seeks input that would clarify or narrow the scope of proposed