

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

[Disaster Declaration #15775;
Massachusetts Disaster Number MA-00076]

**Declaration of Economic Injury;
Administrative Declaration of an
Economic Injury Disaster for the
Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

AGENCY: U.S. Small Business Administration.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This is a notice of an Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) declaration for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, dated 10/23/2018.

Incident: Natural Gas Line Explosions.

Incident Period: 09/13/2018.

DATES: Issued on 10/23/2018.

Economic Injury (EIDL) Loan Application Deadline Date: 07/23/2019.

ADDRESSES: Submit completed loan applications to: U.S. Small Business Administration, Processing and Disbursement Center, 14925 Kingsport Road, Fort Worth, TX 76155.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: A. Escobar, Office of Disaster Assistance, U.S. Small Business Administration, 409 3rd Street SW, Suite 6050, Washington, DC 20416, (202) 205-6734.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Notice is hereby given that as a result of the Administrator's EIDL declaration, applications for economic injury disaster loans may be filed at the address listed above or other locally announced locations.

The following areas have been determined to be adversely affected by the disaster:

Primary Counties: Essex

Contiguous Counties:

Massachusetts: Middlesex, Suffolk.

New Hampshire: Hillsborough, Rockingham.

The Interest Rates are:

	Percent
Businesses and Small Agricultural Cooperatives without Credit Available Elsewhere	3.675
Non-Profit Organizations without Credit Available Elsewhere	2.500

The number assigned to this disaster for economic injury is 157750.

The States which received an EIDL Declaration # are Massachusetts, New Hampshire.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number 59008)

Dated: October 23, 2018.

Linda E. McMahon,
Administrator.

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**OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES
TRADE REPRESENTATIVE**

[Docket Number USTR-2018-0036]

**Request for Comments on Negotiating
Objectives for a U.S.-United Kingdom
Trade Agreement**

AGENCY: Office of the United States Trade Representative.

ACTION: Request for comments and notice of public hearing.

SUMMARY: On October 16, 2018, the United States Trade Representative notified Congress of the Administration's intention to enter into negotiations with the United Kingdom (UK) for a U.S.-UK Trade Agreement after the UK has exited the European Union on March 29, 2019. The Office of the United States Trade Representative (USTR) is seeking public comments on a proposed U.S.-UK Trade Agreement, including U.S. interests and priorities, in order to develop U.S. negotiating positions. You can provide comments in writing and orally at a public hearing. The Administration's aim in negotiations with the UK is to address both tariff and non-tariff barriers and to achieve free, fair, and reciprocal trade.

DATES: January 15, 2019: Deadline for the submission of written comments and for written notification of your intent to testify, as well as a summary of your testimony at the public hearing. January 29, 2019: The Trade Policy Staff Committee (TPSC) will hold a public hearing beginning at 9:30 a.m., at the main hearing room of the United States International Trade Commission, 500 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20436.

ADDRESSES: You should submit notifications of intent to testify and written comments through the Federal eRulemaking Portal: <https://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments in parts 2 and 3 below. For alternatives to on-line submissions, please contact Yvonne Jamison at (202) 395-3475.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For procedural questions concerning written comments, please contact Yvonne Jamison at (202) 395-3475. Direct all other questions to Timothy Wedding, Deputy Assistant U.S. Trade Representative for Europe, at (202) 395-6072.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

1. Background

The decision to launch negotiations for a U.S.-UK Trade Agreement is an important step toward achieving free, fair, and reciprocal trade with the UK and was preceded by the establishment of the U.S.-UK Trade and Investment Working Group in July 2017. The Working Group was launched to provide commercial continuity for UK and U.S. businesses, workers, and consumers as the UK leaves the European Union, explore ways to strengthen trade and investment ties, and lay the groundwork for a potential future trade agreement with the UK.

On October 16, 2018, following consultations with relevant Congressional committees, the United States Trade Representative informed Congress that the President intends to commence negotiations with the UK for a U.S.-UK Trade Agreement.

2. Public Comment and Hearing

The TPSC invites interested parties to submit comments and/or oral testimony to assist USTR as it develops negotiating objectives and positions for the agreement, including with regard to objectives identified in section 102 of the Bipartisan Congressional Trade Priorities and Accountability Act of 2015 (19 U.S.C. 4201). In particular, the TPSC invites interested parties to comment on issues including, but not limited to, the following:

- a. General and product-specific negotiating objectives for the proposed agreement.
- b. Relevant barriers to trade in goods and services between the U.S. and the UK that should be addressed in the negotiations.
- c. Economic costs and benefits to U.S. producers and consumers of removal or reduction of tariffs and removal or reduction of non-tariff barriers on articles traded with the UK.
- d. Treatment of specific goods (described by HTSUS numbers) under the proposed agreement, including comments on:
 - i. Product-specific import or export interests or barriers.
 - ii. Experience with particular measures that should be addressed in the negotiations.
 - iii. Ways to address export priorities and import sensitivities in the context of the proposed agreement.
- e. Customs and trade facilitation issues that should be addressed in the negotiations.
- f. Sanitary and phytosanitary measures and technical barriers to trade that should be addressed in the negotiations.