OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

[Docket No. USTR–2017–0024]

2018 Special 301 Review: Identification of Countries Under Section 182 of the Trade Act of 1974; Request for Public Comment and Notice of a Public Hearing; Correction

AGENCY: Office of the United States Trade Representative.

ACTION: Request for comments and notice of public hearing; Correction.

SUMMARY: The Office of the United States Trade Representative (USTR) published a document in the Federal Register on December 27, 2017 (82 FR 61363), concerning a request for comments and notices of intent to appear at a public hearing on Section 182 of the Trade Act of 1974, commonly referred to as the “Special 301” provisions. The dates specified in the notice have changed. Additional information on the hearing is also provided.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Sung Chang, Director for Innovation and Intellectual Property, Office of the United States Trade Representative, at special301@ustr.eop.gov. You can find information about the Special 301 Review at www.ustr.gov.

Corrections

“Dates” Caption

In the Federal Register on December 27, 2017 (82 FR 61363), correct the “Dates” caption to read as follows:

DATES: March 8, 2018: The Special 301 Subcommittee will hold a public hearing at the Office of the United States Trade Representative, 1724 F Street NW, Rooms 1 & 2, Washington DC. If necessary, the hearing may continue on the next business day. Please consult the USTR website for confirmation of the date and location and the schedule of witnesses.

March 14, 2018 at midnight EST: Deadline for submission of post-hearing written comments from persons who testified at the public hearing.

About April 30, 2018: USTR will publish the 2018 Special 301 Report within 30 days of the publication of the National Trade Estimate (NTE) Report.

“Background” Caption

In the Federal Register on December 27, 2017 (82 FR 61363), correct the “Background” caption to read as follows:

I. Background

Section 182 of the Trade Act of 1974 (Trade Act) (19 U.S.C. 2242), commonly known as the “Special 301” provisions, requires the Trade Representative to identify countries that deny adequate and effective intellectual property protection. The Trade Act requires the Trade Representative to determine which, if any, of these countries to identify as Priority Foreign Countries. Acts, policies or practices that are the basis of a country’s identification as a Priority Foreign Country can be subject to the procedures set out in sections 301–305 of the Trade Act (19 U.S.C. 2411–2415).

In addition, USTR has created a “Priority Watch List” and “Watch List” to assist the Administration in pursuing the goals of the Special 301 provisions. Placement of a trading partner on the Priority Watch List or Watch List indicates that particular problems exist in that country with respect to IPR protection, enforcement or market access for persons that rely on intellectual property protection. Trading partners placed on the Priority Watch List are the focus of increased bilateral attention concerning the problem areas.

USTR chairs the Special 301 Subcommittee (Subcommittee) of the Trade Policy Staff Committee. The Subcommittee reviews information from many sources, and consults with and makes recommendations to the Trade Representative on issues arising under Special 301. Written submissions from the public are a key source of information for the Special 301 review process. In 2018, USTR will conduct a public hearing as part of the review process and will allow hearing participants to provide additional information relevant to the review. At the conclusion of the process, USTR will publish the results of the review in a Special 301 Report.

USTR requests that interested persons identify through the process outlined in this notice those countries whose acts, policies, or practices deny adequate and effective protection for intellectual property rights or deny fair and equitable market access to U.S. persons who rely on intellectual property protection.

Section 182 also requires the Trade Representative to identify any act, policy, or practice of Canada that affects cultural industries, was adopted or expanded after December 17, 1992, and is actionable under Article 2106 of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). USTR invites the public to submit views relevant to this aspect of the review.

Section 182 requires the Trade Representative to identify all such acts, policies, or practices within 30 days of the publication of the NTE Report. In accordance with this statutory requirement, USTR will publish the annual Special 301 Report about April 30, 2018.

“Public Comments” Caption

In the Federal Register on December 27, 2017 (82 FR 61363), correct the “Public Comments” caption to read as follows:

II. Public Comments

To facilitate the review, written comments should be as detailed as possible and provide all necessary information to identify and assess the effect of the acts, policies, and practices. USTR invites written comments that provide specific references to laws, regulations, policy statements, including innovation policies, executive, presidential, or other orders, and administrative, court, or other determinations that should factor in the review. USTR also requests that, where relevant, submissions mention particular regions, provinces, states, or other subdivisions of a country in which an act, policy, or practice is believed to warrant special attention. Finally, submissions proposing countries for review should include data, loss estimates, and other information regarding the economic impact on the United States, U.S. industry, and the U.S. workforce caused by the denial of adequate and effective intellectual property protection. Comments that include quantitative loss claims should include the methodology used to calculate the estimated losses.
Public Hearing” Caption

In the Federal Register on December 27, 2017 (82 FR 61363), correct the “Public Hearing” caption to read as follows:

III. Public Hearing

The Special 301 Subcommittee will convene a public hearing on March 8, 2018, at the Office of the United States Trade Representative, 1724 F Street NW, Rooms 1 & 2, Washington DC, at which interested persons, including representatives of foreign governments, may appear to provide oral testimony. If necessary, the hearing may continue on the next business day. Because the hearing will take place in Federal facilities, attendees must show photo identification and will be screened for security purposes. Please consult www.ustr.gov to confirm the date and location of the hearing and to obtain copies of the hearing schedule. USTR also will post the transcript and recording of the hearing on the USTR website as soon after the hearing as possible. Witnesses must deliver prepared oral testimony, which is limited to five minutes, before the Special 301 Subcommittee in person and in English. Subcommittee member agencies may ask questions following the prepared statement.

Notices of intent to testify and hearing statements from the public were due on February 8, 2017, and are due from foreign governments on February 22, 2018. The submissions must be in English and should include: (1) The name, address, telephone number, fax number, email address, and firm or affiliation of the individual wishing to testify, and (2) a hearing statement that is relevant to the Special 301 review.

Elizabeth L. Kendall,
Assistant U.S. Trade Representative for Innovation and Intellectual Property (Acting), Office of the United States Trade Representative.

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BILLING CODE 4910–13–P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

Public Notice for Waiver of Aeronautical Land Use Assurance; Great Falls International Airport, Great Falls, MT

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Notice is being given that the FAA is considering a proposal from the Great Falls International Airport Authority to change certain portions of the airport from aeronautical use to non-aeronautical use at the Great Falls International Airport, Great Falls, MT. The proposal consists of 2.99 acres acquired with an Airport Improvement Program grant shown on the Airport’s Exhibit “A” as Parcel 15.

DATES: Comments must be received by March 26, 2018.

ADDRESSES: Comments on this application may be mailed or delivered to the FAA at the following address: Mr. William C. Garrison, Manager, Federal Aviation Administration, Northwest Mountain Region, Airports Division, Helena Airports District Office, 2725 Skyway Drive, Suite 2, Helena, Montana, 59602.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Joe Nye, Civil Engineer, Federal Aviation Administration, Northwest Mountain Region, Helena Airports District Office, 2725 Skyway Drive, Suite 2, Helena, MT, 59602, (406) 449–5719. The request to release aeronautical use restrictions may be reviewed, by appointment, in person at the same location.

Supplementary Information: The FAA invites public comment on the request to release aeronautical use restriction of 2.99 acres at the Great Falls International Airport under the provisions of the Title 49, U.S.C. Section 47107(h).

The Great Falls International Airport Authority, referred to herein as the Authority, has requested release from the aeronautical use restrictions assigned to 2.99 acres acquired under Airport Improvement Program Grant 3–30–0036–007–1986. The 2.99 acres is shown on the Airport’s Exhibit “A” as Parcel 15 and is isolated from the airfield by the airport entry road to the south and west.

The Great Falls International Airport has completed an appraisal of Parcel 15 and found that current fair market value of the property is $236,103. The Authority proposes to reimburse the federal interest in Parcel 15 by reinvesting an amount of $212,493 (90% of the current fair market value) towards the acquisition of an AIP eligible piece of snow removal equipment.

The Authority proposes to lease the property for continued operation of the City of Great Falls 911 Call Center as well as the construction and operation of a fueling station and restaurant on the property. The revenue from the lease of this property will be used for airport purposes.

The proposed use of this property is compatible with other airport operations and is in accordance with FAA’s Policy and Procedures Concerning the Use of Airport Revenue, published in Federal Register on February 16, 1999.

Any person may inspect the request in person at the FAA office listed above under FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT.

Issued in Helena, Montana on February 14, 2018.

William C. Garrison,
Manager, Helena Airports District Office.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

[Summary Notice No. 2018–12]

Petition for Exemption; Summary of Petition Received; Corvus Airlines, Inc.

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice contains a summary of a petition seeking relief from specified requirements of Federal Aviation Regulations. The purpose of this notice is to improve the public’s awareness of, and participation in, the FAA’s exemption process. Neither publication of this notice nor the inclusion or omission of information in the summary is intended to affect the legal status of the petition or its final disposition.

DATES: Comments on this petition must identify the petition docket number and must be received on or before March 14, 2018.

ADDRESSES: Send comments identified by docket number FAA–2017–1212 using any of the following methods:

• Federal eRulemaking: Go to http://www.regulations.gov and follow the online instructions for sending your comments electronically.

• Mail: Send comments to Docket Operations, M–30; U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Room W12–140, West Building Ground Floor, Washington, DC 20590–0001.

• Hand Delivery or Courier: Take comments to Docket Operations in Room W12–140 of the West Building Ground Floor at 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

• Fax: Fax comments to Docket Operations at 202–493–2257.

Privacy: In accordance with 5 U.S.C. 553(c), DOT solicits comments from the