

of at least 33 percent during the three most recent fiscal years excluding the current fiscal year.

- Fiscal Year 2028 assessment and each fiscal year thereafter: An SBC subject to this benchmark must demonstrate a non-SBIR revenue share of at least 50 percent during the three most recent fiscal years excluding the current fiscal year.

For example, if a company received 30 Phase II awards across Fiscal Years 2022 through 2026, it would be subject to this benchmark at the June 1, 2027, determination. If, for the three most recent fiscal years, the company reports total revenue of \$4,000,000, of which \$800,000 came from private commercial sales, \$300,000 came from an award made under Phase III authority from a federal agency, and \$100,000 came from another government contract, for a combined non-SBIR revenue of \$1,200,000, the company's non-SBIR revenue would represent 30 percent of their total revenue, and thus the company would not meet the 33 percent Fiscal Year 2027 threshold and would be subject to the consequence described below. Note that the private commercial revenue and all non-SBIR government funding count toward the 30 percent figure under this benchmark's definition of non-SBIR revenue. Beginning with the Fiscal Year 2028 assessment, that same company would need to reach a 50 percent non-SBIR revenue share during the three most recent fiscal years to pass.

Consequence of Failing to Meet the Benchmark. An SBC that fails to meet the applicable minimum non-SBIR revenue share threshold is not eligible to submit a proposal for a new Phase I or Direct-to-Phase-II award from any participating agency during the one-year period beginning on the date on which the determination was made.

Section 9(qq)(4) of the Small Business Act requires that each system and minimum performance standard established under Section 9(qq)(1) or (qq)(2) be submitted to, and approved by, the SBA Administrator, who must ensure that the minimum performance standard exceeds a de minimis level. SBA is required to publish, at least 60 days before becoming effective, the system and performance standard to be used, and the approval by SBA. SBA will review all comments received in response to this notice and issue the final commercialization benchmark requirement within the timeframe noted above in the **DATES** section of this notice. That requirement will be

published at www.sbir.gov, consistent with 15 U.S.C. 638(qq)(4)(A).

Joshua Carter,

Associate Administrator.

[FR Doc. 2026–17987 Filed 9–1–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8026–09–P

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice: 13100]

Privacy Act of 1974; System of Records

AGENCY: Department of State.

ACTION: Rescindment of a system of records notice.

SUMMARY: The former Bureau of Economic and Business Affairs Contact List, State-03 which is being rescinded, contained contact information from business, labor, agricultural and non-government organizations, and others working in the international economic arena as well as individuals who were interested in or requested information about economic issues. The information was used for inviting individuals to Department briefings on international economic issues, disseminating speeches and articles on economic issues by Department officials, and providing U.S. government fact sheets on major international economic issues.

DATES: The Department of State published Bureau of Economic and Business Affairs, State-03 on October 26, 2001. Effective February 2025, the Department no longer maintains this system of records.

ADDRESSES: Questions can be submitted by mail, email, or by calling Timothy J. Kootz, the Senior Agency Official for Privacy on (202) 485–2051. If mail, please write to: U.S. Department of State; Office of Shared Knowledge Services, A/SKS; Room 4534, 2201 C St. NW, Washington, DC 20520. If email, please address the email to the Senior Agency Official for Privacy, Timothy J. Kootz, at SORN@state.gov. Please write “Bureau of Economic and Business Affairs Contact List, State-03” on the envelope or the subject line of your email.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Timothy J. Kootz, Senior Agency Official for Privacy; U.S. Department of State; Office of Shared Knowledge Services, A/SKS; Room 4534, 2201 C St. NW, Washington, DC 20520 or by calling (202) 485–2051.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Due to their age and short-term temporary nature, the records in “Bureau of Economic and Business Affairs Contact List State-03” are presumed to have

been destroyed, in accordance with the Department's records disposition schedule, since the Office of Economic Policy Analysis and Public Diplomacy (EB/EPPD) no longer exists and thus no longer uses or maintains the system of records, and both EB/EPPD and the Department's Office of Enterprise Records Management are unable to locate or confirm whether the records were destroyed. [Note: As of July 14, EB/EPPD no longer exists, and the Bureau of Economic and Business Affairs is now the Bureau of Economic, Energy, and Business Affairs. End Note.] The underlying records previously maintained in this system of records were temporary and presumed destroyed or deleted in accordance with Disposition Authority Number DAA–GRS–2017–0002–0002 (GRS 6.5, item 020). As a result, the information is no longer subject to any routine uses. Due to the age of this SORN, EB/EPPD and the Enterprise Records Management Office (A/SKS/PPKM/ERM) are unable to identify a specific date or timeframe of when the records were destroyed or deleted. State-03 was last published at 66 FR 54320 on October 26, 2001.

SYSTEM NAME AND NUMBER:

Bureau of Economic and Business Affairs Contact List State–03.

HISTORY:

66 FR 54320.

Authority: 22 U.S.C. 2651a and 5 U.S.C. 552a.

Timothy J. Kootz,

Deputy Assistant Secretary, Shared Knowledge Services (A/SKS), U.S. Department of State.

[FR Doc. 2026–17975 Filed 9–1–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710–07–P

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

[Docket No. AB 290 (Sub-No. 422X)]

Norfolk Southern Railway Company—Abandonment Exemption—in Scioto County, Ohio

Norfolk Southern Railway Company (NSR) filed a verified notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1152 subpart F—Exempt Abandonments to abandon approximately 24.43 miles of rail line located between milepost CT 80.57 ± and approximately milepost CT 105.0 ± in Scioto County, Ohio (the Line). The Line traverses U.S. Postal Service Zip Codes 45662, 45652, 45663, 45660, 45671, and 45657.

NSR has certified that: (1) no local traffic has moved over the Line for at least two years; (2) any overhead traffic

on the Line can be rerouted over other lines; (3) no formal complaint filed by a user of rail service on the Line (or by a state or local government on behalf of such user) regarding cessation of service over the Line is pending with either the Surface Transportation Board (Board) or any U.S. District Court or has been decided in favor of a complainant within the two-year period prior to the filing of the notice; and (4) the requirements at 49 CFR 1105.7(b) and 1105.8(c) (notice of environmental and historic reports), 49 CFR 1105.12 (newspaper publication), and 49 CFR 1152.50(d)(1) (notice to government agencies) have been met.

As a condition to this exemption, any employee adversely affected by the abandonment shall be protected under *Oregon Short Line Railroad—Abandonment Portion Goshen Branch Between Firth & Ammon, in Bingham & Bonneville Counties, Idaho*, 360 I.C.C. 91 (1979). To address whether this condition adequately protects affected employees, a petition for partial revocation under 49 U.S.C. 10502(d) must be filed.

Provided no formal expression of intent to file an offer of financial assistance (OFA) has been received,¹ this exemption will be effective on October 2, 2026, unless stayed pending reconsideration. Petitions to stay that do not involve environmental issues² must be filed by September 11, 2026.³ Formal expressions of intent to file an OFA under 49 CFR 1152.27(c)(2) and interim trail use/railbanking requests under 49 CFR 1152.29 must be filed by September 14, 2026. Petitions to reopen and requests for public use conditions under 49 CFR 1152.28 must be filed by September 22, 2026.

All pleadings, referring to Docket No. AB 290 (Sub No. 422X), must be filed with the Surface Transportation Board either via e-filing on the Board's website or in writing addressed to 395 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20423-0001. In addition, a copy of each pleading must

be served on NSR's representative, William A. Mullins, Mullins Law Group PLLC, 2001 L St. NW, Suite 720 Washington, DC 20036.

If the verified notice contains false or misleading information, the exemption is void ab initio.

NSR has filed a combined environmental and historic report that addresses the potential effects, if any, of the abandonment on the environment and historic resources. OEA will issue a Draft Environmental Assessment (Draft EA) by September 4, 2026. The Draft EA will be available to interested persons on the Board's website, by writing to OEA, or by calling OEA at (202) 245-0294. If you require an accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities Act, please call (202) 245-0245. Comments on environmental or historic preservation matters must be filed within 15 days after the Draft EA becomes available to the public.

Environmental, historic preservation, public use, or trail use/railbanking conditions will be imposed, where appropriate, in a subsequent decision.

Pursuant to the provisions of 49 CFR 1152.29(e)(2), NSR shall file a notice of consummation with the Board to signify that it has exercised the authority granted and fully abandoned the Line. If consummation has not been effected by NSR's filing of a notice of consummation by September 2, 2027, and there are no legal or regulatory barriers to consummation, the authority to abandon will automatically expire.

Board decisions and notices are available at www.stb.gov.

Decided: August 27, 2026.

By the Board, Anika S. Cooper, Chief Counsel, Office of Chief Counsel.

Zantori Dickerson,

Clearance Clerk.

[FR Doc. 2026-17900 Filed 9-1-26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915-01-P

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

Notice of Conforming Amendments to Product Exclusions: China's Acts, Policies, and Practices Related to Technology Transfer, Intellectual Property, and Innovation

AGENCY: Office of the United States
Trade Representative (USTR).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Effective July 1, 2026, the U.S. International Trade Commission (USITC) implemented certain changes to statistical reporting categories in the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS). As a result of

these changes, USTR is making conforming amendments to four product exclusions associated with the Section 301 investigation of China Acts, Policies, and Practices Related to Technology Transfer, Intellectual Property, and Innovation.

DATES: The conforming amendments announced in the Annex to this notice are effective as of July 1, 2026. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) will issue instructions on entry guidance and implementation.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For general questions about this notice, contact Senior Associate General Counsel Philip Butler or Assistant General Counsel Rachel Hasandras at (202) 395-5725. For specific questions on customs classification or implementation of the product exclusions identified in the Annex to this notice, contact traderemedycbp.dhs.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

A. Background

Effective July 1, 2026, the USITC implemented certain changes to ten-digit statistical reporting categories of the HTSUS in accordance with its responsibility under section 484(f) of the Tariff Act of 1930, 19 U.S.C. 1484(f). Four of the product exclusions associated with the Section 301 investigation of China's Acts, Policies, and Practices Related to Technology Transfer, Intellectual Property, and Innovation, as set out in the Annexes at 89 FR 46948 (May 30, 2024), 90 FR 23987 (June 5, 2025), 90 FR 42500 (September 2, 2025), and 90 FR 55232 (December 1, 2025), are affected by the amended statistical reporting categories.

B. Conforming Amendments to Product Exclusions

To maintain the pre-existing product coverage of the China 301 actions, four conforming amendments to the corresponding note provision in the HTSUS are required. In particular, the Annex to this notice makes conforming amendments to U.S. notes 20(vvv)(i)(4), 20(vvv)(i)(5), 20(vvv)(i)(6), and 20(vvv)(iv)(4) to subchapter III of chapter 99 of the HTSUS, as set out in the Annexes at 89 FR 46948, 90 FR 23987, 90 FR 42500, and 90 FR 55232.

Annex

1. Effective with respect to goods entered for consumption, or withdrawn from the warehouse for consumption, on or after 12:01 a.m. eastern standard time on July 1, 2026, note 20(vvv)(i)(4) to subchapter III of chapter 99 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) is modified by inserting "through June 30, 2026; described

¹ Persons interested in submitting an OFA must first file a formal expression of intent to file an offer, indicating the type of financial assistance they wish to provide (*i.e.*, subsidy or purchase) and demonstrating that they are preliminarily financially responsible. See 49 CFR 1152.27(c)(2)(i).

² The Board will grant a stay if an informed decision on environmental issues (whether raised by a party or by the Board's Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) in its independent investigation) cannot be made before the exemption's effective date. See *Exemption of Out-of-Serv. Rail Lines*, 5 I.C.C.2d 377 (1989). Any request for a stay should be filed as soon as possible so that the Board may take appropriate action before the exemption's effective date.

³ Filing fees for OFAs and trail use requests can be found at 49 CFR 1002.2(f)(25) and (27), respectively.