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Title 3—

The President

Proclamation 10845 of October 25, 2024

National First Responders Day, 2024

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

On National First Responders Day, we recognize and celebrate all the brave first responders across our country who risk their lives to keep the rest of us safe.

Our first responders represent the best of who we are as a people. They are the police officers and sheriff's deputies who answer our calls, ready to help, no matter the situation. They are the firefighters running toward the flames to protect our communities. They are emergency medical technicians, paramedics, 911 dispatchers, 988 crisis responders, and all the medical professionals providing emergency care, who sacrifice so much to be there for us when a crisis hits. Our first responders are everyday heroes, and we are so grateful for their service. In the wake of Hurricane Milton and Hurricane Helene, we witnessed the courage and bravery of our first responders firsthand and just how much they sacrifice to keep the rest of us safe, including the brave search and rescue teams who have saved thousands of lives in the aftermath of the storms.

My Administration is committed to supporting our first responders and ensuring they have access to the resources they need to thrive. During the COVID–19 pandemic, I signed the American Rescue Plan to keep first responders on the job, which provided billions of dollars to help cities, States, and Tribal Nations retain and hire more law enforcement officers, firefighters, and emergency health providers and pay their bonuses and overtime. I also signed the Protecting America's First Responders Act, which expanded death, disability, and education benefits for first responders killed or permanently disabled in the line of duty and their families. My Administration is also making sure that firefighters are getting the health care they need by launching the National Firefighter Registry for Cancer—our Nation's largest effort to reduce the risk of cancer among firefighters—providing access to job-related disability benefits for firefighters diagnosed with certain kinds of cancer or lung disease, and protecting firefighters from toxic PFAS chemicals in their gear and equipment.

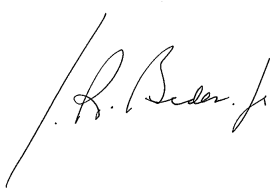
My Administration is working to make our communities safer and more resilient while keeping our first responders safe. I signed the most significant gun safety law in nearly 30 years while also strengthening background checks for gun purchasers and cracking down on illegal gun sales and ghost guns. And my Investing in America agenda included funding to make our communities more resilient to natural disasters.

This month, Vice President Harris and I visited North Carolina and Florida in the aftermath of Hurricane Helene and Hurricane Milton. Lives were lost. Entire neighborhoods had been turned into debris. Portions of entire cities were underwater. But our first responders stepped up in this time of need, picking up the pieces and acting as a source of strength for everyone else. Today, may we honor the critical role first responders play in our lives—showing up in our darkest times to provide hope, light, and care.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JOSEPH R. BIDEN JR., President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim October 28, 2024,

as National First Responders Day. I call upon all the people of the United States to observe this day with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities to honor our brave first responders and to pay tribute to those who have lost their lives in the line of duty.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-fifth day of October, in the year of our Lord two thousand twenty-four, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-ninth.



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Rules and Regulations

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Bureau of Industry and Security

15 CFR Part 744

[Docket No. 241028–0283]

RIN 0694–AJ94

Additions and Revisions of Entities to the Entity List

AGENCY: Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: In this rule, the Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS) amends the Export Administration Regulations (EAR) by adding 40 entities under 42 entries and four addresses under four entries to the Entity List. These entries are listed on the Entity List under the destinations of China, People's Republic of (China) (11), India (5), Malaysia (2), Russia (13), Singapore (1), and Turkey (14). Two entities are added to the Entity List under two destinations, which accounts for the difference in the totals. This final rule also modifies 52 existing entries on the Entity List under the destinations of China, Estonia, Finland, India, Turkey, the United Arab Emirates (UAE), and the United Kingdom. These entities have been determined by the U.S. Government to be acting contrary to the national security or foreign policy interests of the United States. This final rule is being published concurrently with a BIS final rule, ''Implementation of Additional Export Controls Against Russia and Belarus Under the Export Administration Regulations (EAR); and Clarifications'' (RIN 0694–AJ93), which includes additional changes related to export controls related to Russia and Belarus.

DATES: This rule is effective November 1, 2024.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Chair, End-User Review Committee, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Export Administration, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, Phone: (202) 482–5991, Email: *ERC@bis.doc.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The Entity List (supplement no. 4 to part 744 of the EAR (15 CFR parts 730–774)) identifies entities for which there is reasonable cause to believe, based on specific and articulable facts, that the entities have been involved, are involved, or pose a significant risk of being or becoming involved in activities contrary to the national security or foreign policy interests of the United States, pursuant to § 744.11(b). The EAR impose additional license requirements on, and limit the availability of, most license exceptions for exports, reexports, and transfers (in-country) when a listed entity is a party to the transaction. The license review policy for each listed entity is identified in the ''License Review Policy'' column on the Entity List, and the impact on the availability of license exceptions is described in the relevant **Federal Register** document that added the entity to the Entity List. The Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS) places entities on the Entity List pursuant to part 744 (Control Policy: End-User and End-Use Based) and part 746 (Embargoes and Other Special Controls) of the EAR.

The End-User Review Committee (ERC), composed of representatives of the Departments of Commerce (Chair), State, Defense, Energy and, where appropriate, the Treasury, makes all decisions regarding additions to, removals from, or other modifications to the Entity List. The ERC makes all decisions to add an entry to the Entity List by majority vote and makes all decisions to remove or modify an entry by unanimous vote.

Additions to the Entity List

The ERC determined to add one entity to the Entity List: Agrim Aviation Private Limited, under the destination of India. This addition is being made because the entity has diverted or attempted to divert U.S.-origin items to Russia without prior authorization from BIS. These shipments were likely diverted to a party in Russia's aerospace sector who is subject to a BIS Temporary Denial Order. In addition, the entity has engaged in dilatory, evasive, or misleading behavior regarding the importation of U.S.-origin items that effectively prevented end-use checks (EUCs) from occurring or made the EUCs inaccurate. This activity is contrary to U.S. national security and foreign policy interests under § 744.11 of the EAR. A license is required for all items subject to the EAR. License applications will be reviewed under a presumption of denial.

The ERC determined to add five entities to the Entity List: Federal State Budgetary Institute A.V. Zhirmunskiy National Scientific Research Center of Marine Biology, Far East Branch, Russian Academy of Sciences; Federal State Budgetary Institution of Science Institute of Bioorganic Chemistry named after Academicians M.M. Shemyakin and Yu.A. Ovchinnikov, Russian Academy of Sciences; Federal State Budgetary Institution of Science Institute of Fundamental Problems of Biology, Russian Academy of Sciences; Federal State Budgetary Institution of Science Institute of Molecular and Cell Biology, Siberian Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences; and Federal State Unitary Enterprise Scientific Center Signal under the destination of Russia. Specifically, these entities have engaged in research, production, and/or attempted procurement of materials in support of Russia's chemical and biological warfare (CBW) program. These activities are contrary to U.S. national security and foreign policy interests under § 744.11. These entities will receive footnote 3 designations because the ERC has determined that they are Russian or Belarusian 'military end users' pursuant to § 744.21. A footnote 3 designation subjects these entities to the Russia/Belarus-Military End User and Procurement Foreign Direct Product (FDP) rule, detailed in § 734.9(g). These entities are added with a license requirement for all items subject to the EAR and a license review policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR apart from food and medicine designated as EAR99, which will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.

The ERC determined to add four entities to the Entity List: Supra Tech Sdn Bhd under the destination of Malaysia; and Ix Medikal Buro Malzemeleri Ticaret Limited Sirketi, Panorama Invest Dis Ticaret As, and Union Trade Turkey Makina Ithalat Ve

Ihracat Limited Sirketi under the destination of Turkey. These entities are added for the transshipment of sensitive U.S.-origin goods to Russia that would contribute to their defense industrial base. The ERC has determined that these entities qualify as Russian Procurement Entities under § 734.9(g) of the EAR and are receiving a footnote 3 designation due to their significant risk of involvement in the supply or diversion of items subject to the EAR to procurement networks for Russia's defense industry or intelligence services. A footnote 3 designation subjects these entities to the Russia/Belarus-Military End User and Procurement Foreign Direct Product (FDP) rule, detailed in § 734.9(g). These entities are added with a license requirement for all items subject to the EAR. They are added with a license review policy of denial.

The ERC determined to add two entities to the Entity List: FUTREVO and Theorax Dynamics Private Limited under the destination of India. These entities are added for procuring or attempting to procure items in support of Russia's military and/or defense industrial base. Specifically, these two entities have supplied U.S.-origin and/or U.S.-branded components to a sanctioned entity known to procure foreign components for Russian drone production. This activity is contrary to U.S. national security and foreign policy interests under Section § 744.11 of the EAR. The ERC has determined that these entities qualify as Russian Procurement Entities under § 734.9(g) of the EAR and are receiving a footnote 3 designation due to their involvement in the supply or diversion of items subject to the EAR to procurement networks for Russia's defense industry or intelligence services. A footnote 3 designation subjects these entities to the Russia/Belarus-Military End User and Procurement Foreign Direct Product (FDP) rule, detailed in § 734.9(g). These entities are added with a license requirement for all items subject to the EAR. They are added with a license review policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR.

The ERC determined to add the following two entities to the Entity List: Analog Technology Limited, under the destinations of China and India, and Avrora India Marine Systems Pvt., Ltd., under the destination of India. These entities are added for continuing to procure or attempting to procure items in support of Russia's military and/or defense industrial base. Specifically, these entities have supplied U.S.-origin and U.S.-branded components to Russian entities that have been sanctioned since Russia's further invasion of Ukraine or are otherwise linked to the Russian defense industrial base. This activity is contrary to U.S. national security and foreign policy interests under § 744.11 of the EAR. The ERC has determined that these entities qualify as Russian Procurement Entities under § 734.9(g) of the EAR and are receiving a footnote 3 designation due to their significant risk of involvement in the supply or diversion of items subject to the EAR to procurement networks for Russia's defense industry or intelligence services. A footnote 3 designation subjects these entities to the Russia/Belarus-Military End User and Procurement Foreign Direct Product (FDP) rule, detailed in § 734.9(g). These entities are added with a license requirement for all items subject to the EAR. They are added with a license review policy of denial.

The ERC determined to add four entities to the Entity List: LLC A–K–S, under the destination of Russia; and Shenzhen True Price Technology Co., Ltd.; Woke Trading H.K. Limited; and Woke Trading Hongkong Limited under the destination of China. These entities are added for engaging in the transshipment of sensitive, controlled, U.S.-origin goods to Russia. This activity is contrary to U.S. national security and foreign policy interests under § 744.11 of the EAR. The ERC has determined that these entities qualify as Russian Procurement Entities under § 734.9(g) of the EAR and are receiving a footnote 3 designation due to a significant risk of their involvement in the supply or diversion of items subject to the EAR to procurement networks for Russia's defense industry or intelligence services. A footnote 3 designation subjects these entities to the Russia/Belarus-Military End User and Procurement Foreign Direct Product (FDP) rule, detailed in § 734.9(g). These entities are added with a license requirement for all items subject to the EAR. They are added with a license review policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR.

The ERC determined to add 12 entities to the Entity List: Atlas Trade Dis Ticaret Limited, Aviatech Havacilik Sanayi Ve Yedek Parcalari Ltd Sti, B2M Lojistik Ve Dis Ticaret Anonim Sirketi, DML Group Makine Pazarlama Ic Ve Dis Ticaret Ltd Sirketi, Madena Otomotiv Insaat Elektronik Tic Ltd, Mia Antalya Insaat Sanayi Ve Ticaret A.S., RLY Ic Ve Dis Ticaret Limited Sirketi, TDT Havacilik Bakim Ve Ticaret, Ultimate Havacilik Hizmetleri Limited Sirketi, and Yildiz Cip Teknoloji Elektronik Elektrik Bilg. Malz. Tic. San. Ltd. Sti., under the destination of Turkey; and one entity, Reka Grup Danismanlik ve Tic Ltd Sti., under the destinations of Malaysia and Turkey. These companies have diverted or attempted to divert controlled U.S.-origin items to Russia without prior authorization from BIS. In addition, these companies have engaged in dilatory, evasive, or misleading behavior regarding the importation of U.S.-origin items during end-use checks (EUCs). These activities are contrary to U.S. national security and foreign policy interests under § 744.11 of the EAR. The ERC has determined that these entities qualify as Russian Procurement Entities under § 734.9(g) of the EAR and they are receiving a footnote 3 designation due to their significant risk of involvement in the supply or diversion of items subject to the EAR to procurement networks for Russia's defense industry or intelligence services. A footnote 3 designation subjects these entities to the Russia/Belarus-Military End User and Procurement Foreign Direct Product (FDP) rule, detailed in § 734.9(g). These entities are added with a license requirement for all items subject to the EAR. They are added with a license review policy of denial.

The ERC determined to add four addresses, all under the destination of China, to the Entity List. These addresses are denoted as Address 12, 13, 14, and 15. These addresses are associated with significant transshipment of sensitive goods to Russia and are also associated with a significant number of entities whose activities risk violating the EAR. These risks include associations with parties on the U.S. Department of the Treasury's Specially Designated Nationals (SDN) List and entities on the Entity List. These activities are contrary to U.S. national security and foreign policy interests under § 744.11 of the EAR. Licenses will be required for all entities at these addresses for all items on the Commerce Control List and EAR99 items listed in supplement no. 7 to part 746 of the EAR. License applications will be reviewed with a license review policy of presumption of denial.

The ERC determined to add TechCamel Pte. Ltd., under the destination of Singapore, to the Entity List. This entity is added because it has supplied U.S.-origin aircraft parts to Russia without prior authorization from BIS, as required. This activity is contrary to U.S. national security and foreign policy interests under § 744.11 of the EAR. The ERC has determined that this entity qualifies as a Russian Procurement Entity under § 734.9(g) of the EAR and is receiving a footnote 3 designation due to its significant risk of

involvement in the supply or diversion of items subject to the EAR to procurement networks for Russia's defense industry or intelligence services. A footnote 3 designation subjects this entity to the Russia/Belarus-Military End User and Procurement Foreign Direct Product (FDP) rule, detailed in § 734.9(g). This entity is added with a license requirement for all items subject to the EAR. It is added with a license review policy of denial.

The ERC determined to add Beijing Aerospace Hill Test Technology Co., Ltd.; Suzhou Tiangong Mechanics Testing Technology Co., Ltd.; and Suzhou Tiangong Testing Technology Co., Ltd., under the destination of China, to the Entity List. These entities are added for acquiring and attempting to acquire U.S.-origin items related to vibration tables which have explicit military applications and subsequently supplying Chinese entities on the Entity List. Additionally, Beijing Aerospace Hill Test Technology Co., Ltd. has been involved in the shipment of controlled items to Russia since Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine in February 2022. This activity is contrary to the national security and foreign policy interests of the United States under § 744.11 of the EAR. These entities are added with a license requirement for all items subject to the EAR and licenses will be reviewed under a presumption of denial.

For the reasons described above, this final rule adds the following 40 entities and four addresses under 46 entries to the Entity List and includes, where appropriate, aliases:

China

- Analog Technology Limited,
- Address 12,
- Address 13,
- Address 14,
- Address 15,
- Beijing Aerospace Hill Test Technology Co., Ltd.,
- Shenzhen True Price Technology Co., Ltd.,
- Suzhou Tiangong Mechanics Testing Technology Co., Ltd.,
- Suzhou Tiangong Testing Technology Co., Ltd.,
- Woke Trading H.K. Limited, *and*
- Woke Trading Hongkong Limited.

India

- Agrim Aviation Private Limited,
- Analog Technology Limited,
- Avrora India Marine Systems Pvt., Ltd.,
- FUTREVO, *and*
- Theorax Dynamics Private Limited.

Malaysia

- Supra Tech Sdn Bhd.; *and*
- Reka Grup Danismanlik ve Tic Ltd Sti.

Russia

- Bespilotnye Sistemy LLC,
- Federal State Budgetary Institute A.V. Zhirmunskiy National Scientific Research Center of Marine Biology, Far East Branch, Russian Academy of Sciences,
- Federal State Budgetary Institution of Science Federal Research Center Pushchino Scientific Center for Biology, Russian Academy of Sciences,
- Federal State Budgetary Institution of Science Institute of Bioorganic Chemistry named after Academicians M.M. Shemyakin and Yu.A. Ovchinnikov, Russian Academy of Sciences,
- Federal State Budgetary Institution of Science Institute of Molecular and Cell Biology, Siberian Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences,
- Federal State Unitary Enterprise Scientific Center Signal,
- Fincor LLC,
- Finko LLC,
- JSC Zavod Kopir,
- LLC A–K–S,
- OOO IAZ,
- Pavlin Techno LLC, *and*
- Superkam LLC.

Singapore

- TechCamel Pte. Ltd.

Turkey

- Atlas Trade Dis Ticaret Limited,
- Aviatech Havacilik Sanayi Ve Yedek Parcalari Ltd Sti,
- B2M Lojistik Ve Dis Ticaret Anonim Sirketi,
- DML Group Makine Pazarlama Ic Ve Dis Ticaret Ltd Sirketi,
- Ix Medikal Buro Malzemeleri Ticaret Limited Sirketi,
- Madena Otomotiv Insaat Elektronik Tic Ltd,
- Mia Antalya Insaat Sanayi Ve Ticaret A.S.,
- Panorama Invest Dis Ticaret As,
- Reka Grup Danismanlik ve Tic Ltd Sti,
- RLY Ic Ve Dis Ticaret Limited Sirketi,
- TDT Havacilik Bakim Ve Ticaret,
- Ultimate Havacilik Hizmetleri Limited Sirketi,
- Union Trade Turkey Makina Ithalat Ve Ihracat Limited Sirketi, *and*
- Yildiz Cip Teknoloji Elektronik Elektrik Bilg., Malz., Tic., San., Ltd., Sti.

Modifications to the Entity List

The ERC determined to modify the following 49 entities under 52 existing entries on the Entity List: Ace Electronics (HK) Co., Limited, Alliance Electro Tech Co., Alpha Trading Investments Limited, Asialink Shanghai Int'l Logistics Co., Ltd., Benico Limited, Check IC Solution Limited, Chengdu Jingxin Technology Co., Ltd., E-Chips Solution Co., Ltd., Farteco Limited, Glite Electronic Technology Co., Global Broker Solutions Limited, Grants Promotion Service Limited, Guangdong Munpower Electronic Commerce Co., Ltd., Huayuanshitong Technology Co., Ltd., IMAXChip, Insight Electronics, Kingford PCB Electronics Co., Ltd., Kobi International Company, Most Technology Limited, New Wally Target International Trade Co., Nuopuxun Electronic Technology Co., Onstar Electronics Co., Ltd., Robotronix Semiconductors Limited, Rui En Koo Technology Co., Ltd, Shaanxi Yingsaeir Electronic Technology Co., Ltd., Shanghai IP3 Information Technology Co., Ltd., Shenzhen One World International Logistics Co., Shvabe Opto-Electronics Co., LTD., Suntop Semiconductor Co., LTD., Tordan Industry Limited, TYT Electronics Co., Ltd., UCreate Electronics Group, Wargos Industry Limited, Win Key Limited, Xin Quan Electronics Hong Kong Co., ZeYuan Technology Limited, Zhejiang Foso Electronics Technology Co., Ltd., Zixis Limited, and Zone Chips Electronics Hong Kong Co., Limited, under the destination of China; Elmec Trade OU under the destination of Estonia; Abhar Technologies and Services Private Limited, Si2 Microsystems Private Limited, and Innovio Ventures under the destination of India; LL Chip Elektrik Elektronic Paz and Scitech Tasimacilik Ticaret Limited under the destination of Turkey; Hulm al Sahra Elect Devices TR under the destination of the UAE; Photon Pro LLP under the destination of the UK; C & I Semiconductor Co., Ltd. under the destinations of China and India; China Shengshi International Trade Ltd., under the destinations of China and the UK; and PT Technology Asia Limited under the destinations of China and Finland. These entities pose a significant risk of involvement in the supply or diversion of items subject to the EAR to procurement networks for Russia's defense industry or intelligence services. Therefore, each of these entities is being modified to have a footnote 3 designation on the Entity List, subjecting them to the Russia/Belarus-Military End User and Procurement Foreign Direct Product (FDP) rule, detailed in § 734.9(g). These entities were previously added to the Entity List in October 2023 with a

license requirement for all items subject to the EAR and a license review policy of denial. See 88 FR 70352 (Oct. 11, 2023). This license requirement and licensing policy will continue to apply for these entities, including for transactions involving items subject to the EAR under § 734.9(g) of the EAR.

Savings Clause

For the changes being made in this final rule, shipments of items removed from eligibility for a License Exception or export, reexport, or transfer (in-country) without a license (NLR) as a result of this regulatory action that were en route aboard a carrier to a port of export, reexport, or transfer (in-country), on November 1, 2024, pursuant to actual orders for export, reexport, or transfer (in-country) to or within a foreign destination, may proceed to that destination under the previous eligibility for a License Exception or export, reexport, or transfer (in-country) without a license (NLR) before December 2, 2024. Any such items not actually exported, reexported, or transferred (in-country) before midnight, on December 2, 2024, require a license in accordance with this final rule.

Export Control Reform Act of 2018

On August 13, 2018, the President signed into law the John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2019, which included the Export Control Reform Act of 2018 (ECRA) (50 U.S.C. 4801–4852). ECRA provides the legal basis for BIS's principal authorities and serves as the authority under which BIS issues this rule. In particular, Section 1753 of ECRA (50 U.S.C. 4812) authorizes the regulation of exports, reexports, and transfers (in-country) of items subject to U.S. jurisdiction. Further, Section 1754(a)(1)–(16) of ECRA (50 U.S.C. 4813(a)(1)–(16)) authorizes, inter alia, establishing and maintaining a list of foreign persons and end-uses that are determined to be a threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States pursuant to the policy set forth in Section 1752(2)(A), and restricting exports, reexports, and in-country transfers of any controlled items to any foreign person or end-use so listed; apprising the public of changes in policy, regulations, and procedures; and any other action necessary to carry out ECRA that is not otherwise prohibited by law. Pursuant to Section 1762(a) of ECRA (50 U.S.C. 4821(a)), these changes can be imposed in a final rule without prior notice and comment.

Rulemaking Requirements

1. This rule has been determined to be not significant for purposes of Executive Order 12866.

2. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no person is required to respond to or be subject to a penalty for failure to comply with a collection of information, subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*) (PRA), unless that collection of information displays a currently valid Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Control Number. This regulation involves an information collection approved by OMB under control number 0694–0088, Simplified Network Application Processing System. BIS does not anticipate a change to the burden hours associated with this collection as a result of this rule. Information regarding the collection, including all supporting materials, can be accessed at *https://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain.*

3. This rule does not contain policies with federalism implications as that term is defined in Executive Order 13132.

4. Pursuant to section 1762 of the Export Control Reform Act of 2018, this action is exempt from the Administrative Procedure Act (5 U.S.C. 553) requirements for notice of proposed rulemaking, opportunity for public participation, and delay in effective date.

5. Because a notice of proposed rulemaking and an opportunity for public comment are not required to be given for this rule by 5 U.S.C. 553, or by any other law, the analytical requirements of the Regulatory Flexibility Act, 5 U.S.C. 601, *et seq.,* are not applicable. Accordingly, no regulatory flexibility analysis is required, and none has been prepared.

List of Subjects in 15 CFR Part 744

Exports, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Terrorism.

Accordingly, part 744 of the Export Administration Regulations (15 CFR parts 730–774) is amended as follows:

PART 744—CONTROL POLICY: END-USER AND END-USE BASED

■ 1. The authority citation for 15 CFR part 744 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 50 U.S.C. 4801–4852; 50 U.S.C. 4601 *et seq.;* 50 U.S.C. 1701 *et seq.;* 22 U.S.C. 3201 *et seq.;* 42 U.S.C. 2139a; 22 U.S.C. 7201 *et seq.;* 22 U.S.C. 7210; E.O. 12058, 43 FR 20947, 3 CFR, 1978 Comp., p. 179; E.O. 12851, 58 FR 33181, 3 CFR, 1993 Comp., p. 608; E.O. 12938, 59 FR 59099, 3 CFR, 1994 Comp., p. 950; E.O. 13026, 61 FR 58767, 3 CFR, 1996 Comp., p. 228; E.O. 13099, 63 FR 45167, 3 CFR, 1998 Comp., p. 208; E.O. 13222, 66 FR 44025, 3 CFR, 2001 Comp., p. 783; E.O. 13224, 66 FR 49079, 3 CFR, 2001 Comp., p. 786; Notice of September 18, 2024, 89 FR 77011 (September 23, 2024).

■ 2. Supplement no. 4 to part 744 is amended by:

■ a. Under CHINA, PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF:

■ i. Revising the entry for ''Ace Electronics (HK) Co., Limited'';

■ ii. Adding entries in alphabetical order for ''Address 12'', ''Address 13'', ''Address 14'', and ''Address 15'';

■ iii. Revising the entries for ''Alliance Electro Tech Co., Limited'' and ''Alpha Trading Investments Limited'';

■ iv. Adding an entry, in alphabetical order, for ''Analog Technology Limited'';

■ v. Revising the entry for ''Asialink Shanghai Int'l Logistics Co., Ltd.'';

■ vi. Adding an entry, in alphabetical order, for ''Beijing Aerospace Hill Test Technology Co., Ltd.'';

■ vii. Revising the entries for ''Benico Limited'', ''C & I Semiconductor Co., Ltd.'', ''Check IC Solution Limited'', ''Chengdu Jingxin Technology Co., Ltd.'', ''China Shengshi International Trade Ltd.'', ''E-Chips Solution Co., Ltd.'', ''Farteco Limited'', ''Glite Electronic Technology Co., Limited'', ''Global Broker Solutions Limited'', ''Grants Promotion Service Limited'', ''Guangdong Munpower Electronic Commerce Co., Ltd.'', ''Huayuanshitong Technology Co., Ltd.'', ''IMAXChip'', ''Insight Electronics,'' ''Kingford PCB Electronics Co., Ltd'', ''Kobi International Company'', ''Most Technology Limited'', ''New Wally Target International Trade Co., Limited'', ''Nuopuxun Electronic Technology Co., Limited'', ''Onstar Electronics Co., Ltd.'', ''PT Technology Asia Limited'', ''Robotronix Semiconductors Limited'', ''Rui En Koo Technology Co., Ltd'', ''Shaanxi Yingsaeir Electronic Technology Co., Ltd.'', ''Shanghai IP3 Information Technology Co., Ltd.'', and ''Shenzhen One World International Logistics Co., Limited'',

■ viii. Adding an entry, in alphabetical order, for ''Shenzhen True Price Technology Co., Ltd.'';

■ ix. Revising the entries for ''Shvabe Opto-Electronics Co., LTD.'' and ''Suntop Semiconductor Co., LTD.'';

■ x. Adding entries, in alphabetical order, for ''Suzhou Tiangong Mechanics Testing Technology Co., Ltd.'', and ''Suzhou Tiangong Testing Technology Co., Ltd.'';

■ xi. Revising the entries for ''Tordan Industry Limited'', ''TYT Electronics Co. Ltd.'', ''UCreate Electronics Group'',

''Wargos Industry Limited'', and ''Win Key Limited'',

■ xii. Adding entries in alphabetical order for ''Woke Trading H.K. Limited'' and ''Woke Trading Hongkong Limited'';

■ xiii. Revising the entries for ''Xin Quan Electronics Hong Kong Co., Limited'', ''ZeYuan Technology Limited'', ''Zhejiang Foso Electronics Technology Co., Ltd.'', ''Zixis Limited'', and ''Zone Chips Electronics Hong Kong Co., Limited'';

■ b. Under ESTONIA, by revising the entry for ''Elmec Trade OU'';

■ c. Under FINLAND, by revising the entry for ''PT Technology Asia Limited'';

■ d. Under INDIA:

■ i. Revising the entry for ''Abhar Technologies and Services Private Limited'';

■ ii. Adding entries in alphabetical order for ''Agrim Aviation Private Limited'', ''Analog Technology Limited'', and ''Avrora India Marine Systems Pvt. Ltd.'',

■ iii. Revising the entry for ''C & I Semiconductor Co., Ltd.'';

■ iv. Adding an entry, in alphabetical order, for ''FUTREVO'';

■ v. Revising the entries for ''Innovio Ventures'' and ''Si2 Microsystems Private Limited'', and

■ vi. Adding an entry, in alphabetical order, for ''Theorax Dynamics Private Limited'';

■ e. Under MALAYSIA, by adding entries in alphabetical order for ''Reka Grup Danismanlik ve Tic Ltd Sti'' and ''Supra Tech Sdn Bhd'';

■ f. Under RUSSIA:

■ i. Adding entries in alphabetical order for ''Bespilotnye Sistemy LLC'', ''Federal State Budgetary Institute A.V. Zhirmunskiy National Scientific Research Center of Marine Biology, Far East Branch, Russian Academy of Sciences'', ''Federal State Budgetary Institution of Science Federal Research Center Pushchino Scientific Center for Biology, Russian Academy of Sciences'', ''Federal State Budgetary Institution of Science Institute of Bioorganic Chemistry named after Academicians M.M. Shemyakin and Yu.A. Ovchinnikov, Russian Academy of Sciences'', ''Federal State Budgetary Institution of Science Institute of Molecular and Cell Biology, Siberian Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences'', ''Federal State Unitary Enterprise Scientific Center Signal'', ''Fincor LLC'', ''Finko LLC'', ''JSC Zavod Kopir'', ''LLC A–K–S'', ''OOO IAZ'', ''Pavlin Techno LLC'', and ''Superkam LLC'';

■ g. Under SINGAPORE, by adding an entry in alphabetical order for ''TechCamel Pte. Ltd.'';

■ h. Under TURKEY:

■ i. Adding entries in alphabetical order for ''Atlas Trade Dis Ticaret Limited'', ''Aviatech Havacilik Sanayi Ve Yedek Parcalari Ltd Sti'', ''B2M Lojistik Ve Dis Ticaret Anonim Sirketi'', ''DML Group Makine Pazarlama Ic Ve Dis Ticaret Ltd Sirketi'', ''Ix Medikal Buro Malzemeleri Ticaret Limited Sirketi'';

■ ii. Revising the entry for ''LL Chip Elektrik Elektronic Paz'';

■ iii. Adding entries in alphabetical order for ''Madena Otomotiv Insaat Elektronik Tic Ltd'', ''Mia Antalya Insaat Sanayi Ve Ticaret A.S.'', ''Panorama Invest Dis Ticaret As'', ''Reka Grup Danismanlik ve Tic Ltd Sti'', and ''RLY Ic Ve Dis Ticaret Limited Sirketi'';

■ iv. Revising the entry for ''Scitech Tasimacilik Ticaret Limited'';

■ v. Adding entries in alphabetical order for ''TDT Havacilik Bakim Ve Ticaret'', ''Ultimate Havacilik Hizmetleri Limited Sirketi'', ''Union Trade Turkey Makina Ithalat Ve Ihracat Limited Sirketi'', and ''Yildiz Cip Teknoloji Elektronik Elektrik Bilg., Malz., Tic., San., Ltd., Sti'';

■ i. Under UNITED ARAB EMIRATES, revising the entry for ''Hulm al Sahra Elect Devices TR''; and

■ j. Under UNITED KINGDOM, revising the entry for ''China Shengshi International Trade Ltd.''

The additions and revisions read as follows:

Supplement No. 4 to Part 744—Entity List

* * * * *

Country	Entity	License requirement	License review policy	**Federal Register** citation
*	* * *	*	* *	*
CHINA, PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF.	* *	*	* *	*
	Ace Electronics (HK) Co., Limited, a.k.a., the following two aliases: —ACE (HK) Electronics Technology Co., Ltd; *and* —Ace Electronic (HK) Co., Ltd. 18F Block B, World Trade Plaza, No. 9 Fuhong Road, Futian District, Shenzhen, Guangdong, China; and E2 Unit, 22/F Kingsway Industrial Building Phase II, 167–175 Wo Yi Hop Road, Kwai Chung, New Territories, Hong Kong; *and* 9F International Technology Building No. 3007, Shennan Avenue, Futian District, Shenzhen, Guangdong, China; *and* Unit 04 7/F Bright Way Tower, No. 33 Mong Kok Road, Kowloon, Hong Kong.	For all items subject to the EAR. (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.11 of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR. See § 746.8(b).	88 FR 70353, 10/11/23. 89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER] November 1, 2024.
	* *	*	* *	*
	Address 12, Room 1502, EaseyNovember 1, 2024 Commercial Building, 253–261 Hennessy Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong.	For items on the CCL and EAR99 items listed in supplement no. 7 to part 746 of the EAR.	Presumption of denial	89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], November 1, 2024.
	Address 13, Room 1005, 10/F, Ho King Commercial Center, 2–16 Fayuen St, Mong Kok, Kowloon, Hong Kong.	For items on the CCL and EAR99 items listed in supplement no. 7 to part 746 of the EAR.	Presumption of denial	89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
	Address 14, Room B, 5/F Gaylord Commercial Building, 114–118 Lockhart Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong.	For items on the CCL and EAR99 items listed in supplement no. 7 to part 746 of the EAR.	Presumption of denial	89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.

Country	Entity	License requirement	License review policy	**Federal Register** citation
	Address 15, Flat 1512, 15/F, Lucky Centre, No. 165–171 Wan Chai Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong.	For items on the CCL and EAR99 items listed in supplement no. 7 to part 746 of the EAR.	Presumption of denial	89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
	* *	*	* *	*
	Alliance Electro Tech Co., Limited, 114–118 Lockhart Road, Gaylord Commercial Building, 5th Floor, Room B, Hong Kong.	For all items subject to the EAR. (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.11 of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR. See § 746.8(b).	88 FR 70353, 10/11/23. 89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
	* *	*	* *	*
	Alpha Trading Investments Limited, a.k.a., the following two aliases: —Alpha Trading Investments; *and* —Alpha Trading Investments Ltd. Unit 617, 6/F Solo Workshops 131–132, Connaught Road West, Hong Kong.	For all items subject to the EAR. (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.11 of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR. See § 746.8(b).	88 FR 70353, 10/11/23. 89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
	* *	*	* *	*
	Analog Technology Limited, Room A4, 8/F, Block A1 Yau Tong Industrial City, 17 Ko Fai Road, Yau Tong, Kowloon, Hong Kong; *and* Unit 17, 9th Floor, Tower A, Mandarin Plaza, No. 14 Science Museum Road, Kowloon, Hong Kong; *and* Room 83, 3/F, Yau Lee Centre, 45 Hoi Yuen Rd., Kwun Tong, Hong Kong; *and* Room 1302, B Block, Jiahe Huaqiang Building, Zhonghang Road, Futian District, Shenzhen, Guangdong, 518031, China; *and* Room 19H, Hangdu Building, Huafu Road, Futian, Shenzhen, Guangdong, 518039, China. (See alternate address under India).	For all items subject to the EAR (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.11 of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR. See § 746.8(b).	89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
	* *	*	* *	*
	Asialink Shanghai Int'l Logistics Co., Ltd., a.k.a., the following two aliases: —Asialink; *and* —Asialink; Xi'an Int'l Logistics Co., Ltd. 1128 Tianyueqiao South Road, Building 8, Room 319, Xuhui District, Shanghai, China; *and* 218 West Tian Mu Road, Kerry Everbright City Tower 1 Offices 2508–2510, Jing'an District, Shanghai, 200070, China; *and* 3rd Kong Gang West Road, Xi'an Xianyang International Airport Offices 211–212, Kong Gang New Area, XiXian District, Xi'an, Shaanxi,710000, China; *and* 17 Xinda Road, Building 7, 4th Floor Office 437, Shunyi District, Beijing, 101399, China; *and* 158 Hangzhong Road, East Tower, Room 1607, Zhabei District, Shanghai, 200070, China.	For all items subject to the EAR. (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.11 of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR. See § 746.8(b).	88 FR 70353, 10/11/23. 89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
	* *	*	* *	*
	Beijing Aerospace Hill Test Technology Co., Ltd., a.k.a., the following five aliases: —ETS Solutions; —Aerospace Hill; —ETS Solutions (China); —ETC Solutions (China); *and* —Beijing ETS Solutions Ltd. No. 1, Nandahongmen Road, Beijing, China; *and* No. 66, Tongdun Street, Suzhou, China; *and* No. 9, Zhongbei 3rd Street, Tianjin, China; *and* No. 9, Qianzhao Road, Chongqing, China; and Room 2Q, Changning Building, No. 1, Xinghuo Road, Beijing, China.	For all items subject to the EAR. (See § 744.11 of the EAR).	Presumption of denial	89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
	* *	*	* *	*
	Benico Limited, Valiant Industrial Center, 10th Floor, Room U, Sha Tin, Hong Kong; and 11 On Lai Street, Corporation Park, 6th Floor, Room 617, Sha Tin, Hong Kong.	For all items subject to the EAR. (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.11 of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR. See § 746.8(b).	88 FR 70353, 10/11/23. 89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
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	C & I Semiconductor Co., Ltd., a.k.a., the following one alias: —China India Semiconductor Co. Ltd. Ko Fai Road Block A1, 8th Floor, Room A4, Yau Tong Industrial City, Kowloon, Hong Kong. (See alternate address under India).	For all items subject to the EAR. (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.11 of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR. See § 746.8(b).	88 FR 70353, 10/11/23. 89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
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	Check IC Solution Limited, 2–16 Fa Yuen Street, Ho King Commercial Building, 10th Floor, Room 1005, Mong Kok, Kowloon, Hong Kong.	For all items subject to the EAR. (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.11 of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR. See § 746.8(b).	88 FR 70353, 10/11/23. 89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.

Country	Entity	License requirement	License review policy	Federal Register citation
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	Chengdu Jingxin Technology Co. Ltd., a.k.a., the following one alias: —Chengdu Jingxin Teck Inc. 118 Jitai 5th Road, Building 3, 8th Floor, Room 5, Chengdu High-Tech Zone, China Pilot Free Trade Zone, Chengdu, Sichuan, 610000, China; *and* 5th Street, Jingrong Start-Up Hub, Tianfu, Chengdu, Sichuan, 610000, China; *and* No. 97 Shiren N. Road, Floor 2, Qingyang District, Chengdu, Sichuan, 610014, China.	For all items subject to the EAR. (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.11 of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR. See § 746.8(b).	88 FR 70353, 10/11/23. 89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
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	China Shengshi International Trade Ltd., a.k.a., the following one alias: —Hong Kong Development Group. 21 Jianshe Road, Yufeng Building Room 313B, Xitou Xincun District 3, Longhua District, Shenzhen, Guangdong, China. (See alternate address under United Kingdom).	For all items subject to the EAR. (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.11 of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR. See § 746.8(b).	88 FR 70353, 10/11/23. 89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
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	E-Chips Solution Co. Ltd., a.k.a., the following one alias: —Yichuangxin International Ltd. Shen Nan Road Block A, JiaHe HuaQiang Building, Room 3008, Futian District, Shenzhen, Guangdong, 518031, China.	For all items subject to the EAR. (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.11 of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR. See § 746.8(b).	88 FR 70353, 10/11/23. 89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
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	Farteco Limited, a.k.a., the following one alias: —Farteco Ltd. 501–503 Castle Peak Road, Unit B090, International Industrial Building, Kowloon, Hong Kong; *and* Unit D, 16/F One Capital Place, 18 Luard Rd, Wan Chai, Hong Kong; *and* Unit B909, 9th Floor, International Industrial Building, 501–503 Castle Peak Rd., Kowloon, Hong Kong.	For all items subject to the EAR. (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.11 of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR. See § 746.8(b).	88 FR 70353, 10/11/23. 89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
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	Glite Electronic Technology Co., Limited, Xiangmihu Road, Building 1, Room 1002, Shenzhen, Guangdong, China; *and* Fuhong Road, World Trade Plaza, Building A, Room 1106, Funan Community, Futian District, Shenzhen, Guangdong, China.	For all items subject to the EAR. (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.11 of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR. See § 746.8(b).	88 FR 70353, 10/11/23. 89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
	Global Broker Solutions Limited, 11 Shing Yip Street, Wah Shing Center, 9th Floor, Unit 9, Kwun Tong, 518002, Hong Kong; *and* 54–56 Jervois Street, Lower Ground Floor, Room B, Sheung Wan, Hong Kong.	For all items subject to the EAR. (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.11 of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR. See § 746.8(b).	88 FR 70353, 10/11/23. 89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
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	Grants Promotion Service Limited, a.k.a., the following three aliases: —Catalano Limited; —Zhenao Co. Ltd.; *and* —GPSL. 430–436 Nathan Road, Nathan Commercial Building, 8th Floor, Room A, Yau Ma Tei, Hong Kong.	For all items subject to the EAR. (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.11 of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR. See § 746.8(b).	88 FR 70353, 10/11/23. 89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
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	Guangdong Munpower Electronic Commerce Co. Ltd., a.k.a., the following one alias: —Guangzhou Munpower Electronic Technology Co. Ltd. 38 Renzhen Xixing Street, Baiyun District, Guangzhou, Guangdong, China; *and* 82 Langbao West Road, 6th Floor, Rooms 605–610, Chancheng District, Foshan, Guangdong, China.	For all items subject to the EAR. (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.11 of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR. See § 746.8(b).	88 FR 70353, 10/11/23. 89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
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Country	Entity	License requirement	License review policy	**Federal Register** citation
	Huayuanshitong Technology Co. Ltd., a.k.a., the following two aliases: —Shenzhen Huayuanshitong Technology Limited; *and* —HK Huayuanshitong Technology Limited. Middle Shennan Road Block B, Jiahe Huaquiang Building, Room 1309, Futian District, Shenzhen, Guangdong, China; *and* Zhenhua Road, Gaokede Electronics Market, Room 62826, Futian District, Shenzhen, Guangdong, China; *and* 1002 Seg Plaza, 32nd Floor, Room 3203, Huaqiao, Shenzhen, Guangdong, China.	For all items subject to the EAR. (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.11 of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR. See § 746.8(b).	88 FR 70353, 10/11/23. 89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
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	IMAXChip, No. 59 King Yip Street, King Yip Factory Building, 5th Floor, Unit D5, Kwun Tong, Kowloon, Hong Kong; *and* Shennan Middle Road, International Culture Building, Room 2508B, Futian District, Shenzhen, Guangdong, China; *and* Kwun Tong Industrial Center Phase 3, 3rd Floor, Unit L, Kwun Tong, Kowloon, Hong Kong; *and* Nos. 436–446 Kwun Tong Road, 13th Floor, Unit A15, Kowloon, Hong Kong; *and* Shennan Road, Phoenix Building 2, Room 18E, Futian District, Shenzhen, Guangdong, 518000, China; *and* Lianqiu Building, No. 735 Renmin West Road, Wucheng District, Jinhua, Zhejiang, China; *and* Shenfang Building B3109, Futian District, Shenzhen, Guangdong, 518031, China.	For all items subject to the EAR. (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.11 of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR. See § 746.8(b).	88 FR 70353, 10/11/23. 89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
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	Insight Electronics, No. 195 Keji Road, Room 12A06, Block A, Century Yi Yuan, Yanta District, Xi'an, Shaanxi, China; *and* Nos. 351 & 353 King's Road, Bank Tower, 3rd Floor, Flat 3B, North Point, Hong Kong.	For all items subject to the EAR. (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.11 of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR. See § 746.8(b).	88 FR 70353, 10/11/23. 89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
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	Kingford PCB Electronics Co., Ltd., a.k.a., the following two aliases: —Shenzhen Jingfu Circuit Board Co., Ltd.; *and* —Shenzhen Xinjingfu Technology Co., Ltd. Building 6, Longhui Industrial Park, Fuqiao Third Industrial Zone, Fuyong Town, Bao'an District, Shenzhen, Guangdong, China.	For all items subject to the EAR. (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.11 of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR. See § 746.8(b).	88 FR 70353, 10/11/23. 89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
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	Kobi International Company, No. 17 Sheung Hei Street, Success Industrial Building, 14th Floor, Room A1, San Po Kong, Kowloon, Hong Kong.	For all items subject to the EAR. (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.11 of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR. See § 746.8(b).	88 FR 70353, 10/11/23. 89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
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	Most Technology Limited, Nos. 436–446 Kwun Tong Road, Block 4, 14th Floor, Room A15, Kowloon, Hong Kong; and 59 King Yip Street, King Yip Factory Building, 5th Floor, Room D5, Kwun Tong, Hong Kong; *and* No. 75–77 Garden Street, Garden Commercial Building, 7th Floor, Room 705, Mong Kok, Kowloon, Hong Kong.	For all items subject to the EAR. (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.11 of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR. See § 746.8(b).	88 FR 70353, 10/11/23. 89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
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	New Wally Target International Trade Co., Limited, 91–97 Jervois Street, Tung Lee Commercial Building, 19th Floor, Room B3, Sheung Wan, Hong Kong.	For all items subject to the EAR. (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.11 of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR. See § 746.8(b).	88 FR 70353, 10/11/23. 89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
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	Nuopuxun Electronic Technology Co., Limited, a.k.a., the following one alias: —Shenzhen Nuopuxun Electronic Technology Co., Ltd. Huishang Center 3809, Futian District, Shenzhen, Guangdong, China; *and* No. 4 Longshan 4th Road, Building F, Floor 2, Third Industrial Zone, Songgang Community, Bao'an District, Shenzhen, Guangdong, 518015, China.	For all items subject to the EAR. (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.11 of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR. See § 746.8(b).	88 FR 70353, 10/11/23. 89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
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Country	Entity	License requirement	License review policy	Federal Register citation
	Onstar Electronics Co. Ltd., No. 45 Hoi Yuen Road, Yau Lee Center, 3rd Floor, Unit 83, Kwun Tong, Kowloon, Hong Kong; *and* Zhonghang Road, Dynamic World Building Room 811, Futian District, Shenzhen, Guangdong, 18031, China.	For all items subject to the EAR. (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.11 of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR. See § 746.8(b).	88 FR 70353, 10/11/23. 89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
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	PT Technology Asia Limited, a.k.a., the following one alias: —PT-Technology Asia Limited. 615–617 Tai Nan West Street, Park Fook Industrial Building, Room 623, Kowloon, Hong Kong; *and* Wah Kit Commercial Building, 11th Floor, Room B, Sheung Wan, Hong Kong. (See alternate address under Finland).	For all items subject to the EAR. (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.11 of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR. See § 746.8(b).	88 FR 70353, 10/11/23. 89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
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	Robotronix Semiconductors Limited, 89 Lockhart Road, Wan Chai Central Building, 4th Floor, Room 401, Wan Chai, Hong Kong.	For all items subject to the EAR. (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.11 of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR. See § 746.8(b).	88 FR 70353, 10/11/23. 89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
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	Rui En Koo Technology Co. Ltd, a.k.a., the following two aliases: —Rui En Koo Technology; *and* —Rui En Ke Technology Co. Ltd. 59 King Yip Street, King Yip Factory Building, 7th Floor, Room B22, Kwun Tong, Kowloon, Hong Kong; *and* Fenghuang Street, Nantaiyun Chuanggu Center Building 4, Room 1202, Guangming District, Shenzhen, Guangdong, 518132, China.	For all items subject to the EAR. (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.11 of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR. See § 746.8(b).	88 FR 70353, 10/11/23. 89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
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	Shaanxi Yingsaeir Electronic Technology Co. Ltd., a.k.a., the following two aliases: —Shaanxi Yingsaier Electronic Science & Technology Co. Ltd.; *and* —Shaanxi Yingsai'er Commerce and Trade Co. Ltd. No. 28 Xinxi Avenue, Zone B of Shaanxi Xi'an Export Processing Zone, 3A Section 6, Xi'an, 710119, China; *and* No. 10804, Floor 8, Unit 1, Building No. 2, Xibeijiao More Center, Keji 6th Road, Fenghui S. Road, High-Tech Zone, Xi'an, Shaanxi, China; *and* No. 195 Keji Road, Room 12A06, Block A, Century Yiyuan, Yanta District, Xi'an, Shaanxi, China.	For all items subject to the EAR. (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.11 of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR. See § 746.8(b).	88 FR 70353, 10/11/23. 89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
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	Shanghai IP3 Information Technology Co. Ltd., No. 68, Zhongchuang Road, Building 16, 2nd Floor, Songjiang District, Shanghai, 200001, China.	All items subject to the EAR. (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.21(b) of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR. See § 746.8(b).	88 FR 70353, 10/11/23. 89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
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	Shenzhen One World International Logistics Co., Limited, Shennan East Road, Hongchang Square Building, 30th Floor, Room 3005, Luohu District, Shenzhen, Guangdong, 518002, China; *and* 8 Leung Yip Street, Kar Wah Industrial Building, 7th Floor, Room 18, Yuen Long, Hong Kong; *and* No. 1 Liyumen Street, Room 201, Building A, Zonghe Office, Qianhai Shenzhen-Hong Kong Cooperation Zone Administration, Shenzhen, Guangdong, China.	For all items subject to the EAR. (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.11 of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR. See § 746.8(b).	88 FR 70353, 10/11/23. 89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
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	Shenzhen True Price Technology Co., Ltd., 605 East Liuxian Avenue, Dingxin Building, Nanshan District, Shenzhen, China; *and* No. 6008 Liuxian Avenue, Xinwei Community, Xili Street, Nanshan District, Shenzhen City, China; *and* No. 6008 Liuxian Avenue, 605 Dingxin Building, Xinwei Community, Xili Street, Nanshan District, Shenzhen, Guangdong, China; *and* No. 1001 South, Xueyuan Avenue, Room 508–1, Building C2, Nanshan Zhiyuan, Changyuan Community, Taoyuan Street, Nanshan District, Shenzhen, China.	For all items subject to the EAR (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.11 of the EAR).	Policy of denial. See § 746.8 of the EAR.	89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
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Country	Entity	License requirement	License review policy	**Federal Register** citation
	Shvabe Opto-Electronics Co. LTD., a.k.a., the following three aliases: —UOMZ (Meizhou) Co., Ltd.; —Shvabe Opto-Electronics Shenzhen Co. Ltd.; *and* —Shvabe Opto-Electronics Meizhou Co. Ltd. 16 A, No. 4044 Pingshan Road, Building 16, Room A, Heping Street, Shenzhen, Guangdong, China; *and* No. 4044 Pingshan Road, Investment Building, Room 1619, Heping Street, Pingshan District, Shenzhen, Guangdong, 518118, China; *and* No. 20 Meilong Road, Bati Dasha 3rd Floor, Room 303, Meizhou City, Guangdong, China.	For all items subject to the EAR. (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.11 of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR. See § 746.8(b).	88 FR 70353, 10/11/23. 89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
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	Suntop Semiconductor Co., LTD., No. 34–36 Au Pui Wan Street, Block B, Veristrong Industrial Centre, 12th Floor, Room 03, Shatin, New Territory, Hong Kong; *and* No. 116–118 How Ming Street, Manning Industrial Building, 1st Floor, Room B5, Kwun Tong, Kowloon, Hong Kong; *and* Zhonghang Road, Dynamic World Building, Room 811, Futian District, Shenzhen, Guangdong, 518031, China.	For all items subject to the EAR. (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.11 of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR. See § 746.8(b).	88 FR 70353, 10/11/23. 89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
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	Suzhou Tiangong Mechanics Testing Technology Co., Ltd., No. 66, Tongdun Street, Suzhou, China; *and* Building 4, No. 99, Taishan Road, Suzhou, China.	For all items subject to the EAR. (See § 744.11 of the EAR).	Presumption of denial	89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
	Suzhou Tiangong Testing Technology Co., Ltd., a.k.a., the following three aliases: —TG Testing; —Suzhou TG Testing Technology Co., Ltd.; *and* —CVMSL China. Building 15, No. 70, Yaofeng West Road, Suzhou, China; *and* Building F, No. 28, Yongchang Road, Suzhou, China; *and* Room 19C, Lockhart Center, 301–307 Lockhart Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong; *and* Caohu Industrial Park, Tangbang Road, Suzhou, China.	For all items subject to the EAR. (See § 744.11 of the EAR).	Presumption of denial	89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
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	Tordan Industry Limited, a.k.a., the following two aliases: —Tordan Industry; *and* —Tordan Industry Ltd. Unit 617, 6/F, 131–132 Connaught Road West, Solo Workshops, Hong Kong.	For all items subject to the EAR. (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.11 of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR. See § 746.8(b).	88 FR 70353, 10/11/23. 89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
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	TYT Electronics Co. Ltd., a.k.a., the following one alias: —Quanzhou Nan'an Teyitong Electronics Co., Ltd. Block 39–1, Optoelectronics-Information Industry Building, Nan'an, Quanzhou, Fujian, China.	For all items subject to the EAR. (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.11 of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR. See § 746.8(b).	88 FR 70353, 10/11/23. 89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
	UCreate Electronics Group, a.k.a., the following one alias: —UCreate PCB Co., Ltd. No. 42 Caiyun Road, Yunhai Enterprise Headquarters Base, Building C, Room 315, Jixiang Community, Longgang District, Shenzhen, Guangdong, China; *and* Room 315, Building C, Yunhai Industrial Park, Longgang District, Shenzhen, Guangdong, China; *and* Xiangshui River Industrial Zone, Daya Bay, No. 11, East District, Industrial Park, Suichuan County, Ji'an, Jiangxi, China; *and* No. 116 Shuiku Road, Yanda Science Park, Baoan District, Shenzhen, Guangdong, China; *and* 45–51 Chatham Road, Chevalier House, Room 803, Tsim Sha Tsui, Hong Kong.	For all items subject to the EAR. (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.11 of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR. See § 746.8(b).	88 FR 70353, 10/11/23. 89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
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	Wargos Industry Limited, No. 131–132 Connaught Road West, Solo Workshops, 6th Floor, Room 617, Hong Kong.	For all items subject to the EAR. (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.11 of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR. See § 746.8(b).	88 FR 70353, 10/11/23. 89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
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Country	Entity	License requirement	License review policy	Federal Register citation
	Win Key Limited, a.k.a., the following two aliases: —Win Key; *and* —Win Key Ltd. Room 1606, 16/F Workingbond Commercial Centre, 162–164 Prince Edward Road West, Mong Kok, Kowloon, Hong Kong; *and* Unit 1008, 10/F, Sun Cheong Industrial Building, 2–4 Cheung Yee Street, Hong Kong.	For all items subject to the EAR. (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.11 of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR. See § 746.8(b).	88 FR 70353, 10/11/23. 89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
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	Woke Trading H.K. Limited, a.k.a., the following three aliases: —Shenzhen Walker Trade Co., Ltd.; —Woke Trading Shenzhen Co., Ltd; *and* —Shenzhen Woke Commerce and Trade Co., Ltd. Chuangye 1st Road, Room 1815, Hongfa Center Building, Baoan District, Shenzhen, China; *and* Chuangye 1st Road, Room 815, Hongfa Center, Baoan Center, Shenzhen, China; *and* Chuangye 1st Road, Room 181, Hongfa Center Building, Baoan Central District, Baoan District, Shenzhen City, China; *and* Longjing 1st Road, B509, Huachuangda Qianhai Maker Technology Innovation Base, District 38, Anle Community, Xin'an Street, Baoan District, Shenzhen City, China.	For all items subject to the EAR (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.11 of the EAR).	Policy of denial. See § 746.8 of the EAR.	89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
	Woke Trading Hongkong Limited, a.k.a., the following alias: —Woke Trading Hong Kong Limited No: 66–82, Chai Cwan Kok St., Unit E, 8/F, Golden Bear Industrial Center, Tsuen Wan, New Territories, Hong Kong; *and* 1 Wang Kwong Rd, Hong Kong; *and* Rm D, 10/F, Tower A, Billion Ctr, Kowloon Bay, Hong Kong; *and* 1 Wang Kwong Road, Hogfa Center, Kowloon Bay, Hong Kong.	For all items subject to the EAR (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.11 of the EAR).	Policy of denial. See § 746.8 of the EAR.	89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
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	Xin Quan Electronics Hong Kong Co., Limited, a.k.a., the following two aliases: —Xin Quan (HK) Electronics Ltd.; *and* —XQHK. No. 14–24 Au Pui Wan Street Block 1, Kin Ho Industrial Building, 17th Floor, Room 1, Shatin, New Territories, Hong Kong; *and* 75–77 Fa Yuen Street, Fa Yuen Commercial Building, Room 705, Kowloon, Hong Kong; *and* 18 Luard Road, One Capital Place, 16th Floor, Room D, Wan Chai, Hong Kong; *and* 19–21 Shing Yip Street, Shing Yip Building, Room 1302, Kwun Tong, Kowloon, Hong Kong; *and* Room B, Bank Tower, Nos. 351 & 353 King's Road, North Point, Hong Kong; *and* No. 3018, ShenNan Middle Road, Century Place-Duhuixun, Room 2601, Futian, Shenzhen, China.	For all items subject to the EAR. (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.11 of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR. See § 746.8(b).	88 FR 70353, 10/11/23. 89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
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	ZeYuan Technology Limited, Shennan Middle Road, Futian Building, Room 510, Funan Community, Futian District, Shenzhen, Guangdong, 518000, China; *and* Room 1007, Funan Community, Futian Street, Futian District, Shenzhen, Guangdong, 518000, China; *and* Room 3009, Funan Community, Futian Street, Futian District, Shenzhen, Guangdong, 518000, China; *and* 45–51 Chatham Road South, Chevalier House Room 803, Tsim Sha Tsui, Kowloon, Hong Kong.	For all items subject to the EAR. (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.11 of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR. See § 746.8(b).	88 FR 70353, 10/11/23. 89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
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	Zhejiang Foso Electronics Technology Co. Ltd., No. 8 Haining Avenue, Caohejing Technology Park, Block 13, Haining, Jiaxing, Zhejiang, 314400, China.	For all items subject to the EAR. (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.11 of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR. See § 746.8(b).	88 FR 70353, 10/11/23. 89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
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Country	Entity	License requirement	License review policy	**Federal Register** citation
	Zixis Limited, 501–503 Castle Peak Road, Unit B090, International Industrial Building, Kowloon, Hong Kong; and Unit D, 16/F One Capital Place, 18 Luard Rd, Wan Chai, Hong Kong *and* Unit A22, Block A, 10/F, Prince Industrial Building, 706 Prince Edward Road East, San Po Kong, Kowloon, Hong Kong.	For all items subject to the EAR. (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.11 of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR. See § 746.8(b).	88 FR 70353, 10/11/23. 89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
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	Zone Chips Electronics Hong Kong Co., Limited, a.k.a., the following two aliases: —BomChips; *and* —SQXY Technology (Shenzhen) Co. Room 2811/Building Shijihui, Shennan Avenue 3018, Futian District, Shenzhen, China; *and* Unit 2 D6, 2nd Floor, Mai Wah Industrial Building, Nos. 1/7, Wah Sing Street, Kwai Chung, New Territories, Hong Kong; *and* 22 Huafu Road, Hangdu Building E, Futian District, Shenzhen, Guangdong, 518000 China; *and* Metropolitan Heights at Century Place, Room 3417, Shenzhen, Guangdong, 518000, China.	For all items subject to the EAR. (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.11 of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR. See § 746.8(b).	88 FR 70353, 10/11/23. 89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
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ESTONIA	* *	*	* *	*
	Elmec Trade OU, Katusepapi tn 6–502, Lasnamäe linnaosa, Tallinn, Harju maakond, 11412, Estonia; *and* Valukoja tn 8/1, Tallinn, 11415, Estonia.	For all items subject to the EAR. (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.11 of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR. See § 746.8(b).	88 FR 70353, 10/11/23. 89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
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FINLAND	* *	*	* *	*
	PT Technology Asia Limited, a.k.a., the following one alias: —PT-Technology Asia Limited. Valtakatu 52, Lappeenranta, 53100, Finland. (See alternate address under China).	For all items subject to the EAR. (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.11 of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR. See § 746.8(b).	88 FR 70353, 10/11/23. 89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
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INDIA	Abhar Technologies and Services Private Limited, a.k.a., the following one alias: —Abhartech. RMZ Latitude Building, 10th Floor, Bellary Road, Hebbal, Bangalore, Karnataka, 560024, India; *and* No 6, 80 Feet Road, 4th Block, Koramangala, Bangalore, Karnataka, 560034, India.	For all items subject to the EAR. (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.11 of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR. See § 746.8(b).	88 FR 70353, 10/11/23. 89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
	Agrim Aviation Private Limited, World Trade Centre, 516A 5th Floor, Babar Road, New Delhi, Central Delhi, 110001, India; *and* B–675, Weavers Colony Ashok Vihar, Phase-IV New Delhi, Delhi, 110052, India; *and* World Trade Centre, 133 LGF, Babar Road, New Delhi, Delhi, 110001, India; *and* 133, LGF, World Trade Centre, Babar Road, New Delhi, 110052, India.	For all items subject to the EAR. (See § 744.11 of the EAR).	Presumption of denial	89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER AND DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE **Federal Register**].
	Analog Technology Limited, No. 53 40 Feet Road 3rd Cross, Ground Floor, Raghava Nagar, Bangalore, Karnataka, 560026, India. (See alternate address under China).	For all items subject to the EAR (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.11 of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR. See § 746.8(b).	89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
	Avrora India Marine Systems Pvt. Ltd., a.k.a., the following two aliases: —Avrora (India) Marine Systems Pvt. Ltd.; *and* —Avrora (India) Marine Systems Private Limited. 407 Raheja Arcade, Plot No. 61, Sector 11, Central Business District Belapur, Navi Mumbai, Thane, Maharashtra, 400614, India; *and* 1201/1202 Great Eastern Summit 'B' Plot No. 66, Sector 15, Central Business District Belapur, Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra, 400614, India.	For all items subject to the EAR (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.11 of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR. See § 746.8(b).	89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.

Country	Entity	License requirement	License review policy	Federal Register citation
	C & I Semiconductor Co., Ltd., a.k.a., the following one alias: —China India Semiconductor Co. Ltd. No. 53 40 Feet Road 3rd Cross, Ground Floor, Raghava Nagar, Bangalore, Karnataka, 560026, India. (See alternate address under China).	For all items subject to the EAR. (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.11 of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR. See § 746.8(b).	88 FR 70353, 10/11/23. 89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
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	FUTREVO, a.k.a., the following one alias: —Future R-Evolution. 31C Bollineni Hillside Road, Apt. Flat 202, Kanchipuram, Tamil Nadu, 600126, India; *and* 39/12 Haddows Road, Nungambakkam, Chennai, 600006, India; *and* 3 Dinshaw Vachha Road, Churchgate, Mumbai, 400020, India; and 21 Nehru Place, New Delhi, 110019, India.	For all items subject to the EAR (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.21(b) of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR. See § 746.8(b).	89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
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	Innovio Ventures, 944 Block C Sushant Lok Phase 1, Gurugram, Haryana, 122001, India; *and* Basai Road, Shop No-141, Gurgaon, Haryana, 122001, India.	For all items subject to the EAR. (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.11 of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR. See § 746.8(b).	88 FR 70353, 10/11/23. 89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
	Si2 Microsystems Private Limited, 84, Deep Towers, EPIP Industrial Area, Whitefield, Bangalore, Karnataka, 560066, India; *and* #52/A, 1st Cross, 3rd Main KIADB Industrial Area, Hoskote, Bangalore, Karnataka, 562114, India; *and* 3796, 7th Main, Hal II Stage, Bangalore, Karnataka, 560008, India; *and* 493/3 Bramhalingeshwara Complex, Airport Road, Bangalore, Karnataka, 560008, India; *and* 177/2 Bannerghatta Road, Begur Hobli Bilekahalli Industrial Area, Bangalore, Karnataka, 560076, India.	For all items subject to the EAR. (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.11 of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR. See § 746.8(b).	88 FR 80957, 11/21/23. 89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
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	Theorax Dynamics Private Limited, a.k.a., the following three aliases: —Theorax Dynamics Pvt Ltd; —Theorax Dynamics; *and* —Theorax. No. 93, 2nd Floor, Yelenahalli Main Road, Akshayanagar Begur Post, Bangalore, Karnataka, 560008, India; *and* 2nd Floor, 147 5th Main Road, HSR Layout, Bangalore, Karnataka, 560102, India; *and* 3rd Floor, Pixel Park A, Hosur Road, Electronic City, Bangalore, Karnataka, 560100, India.	For all items subject to the EAR (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.21(b) of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR. See § 746.8(b).	89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
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MALAYSIA	* *	*	* *	*
	Reka Grup Danismanlik ve Tic Ltd Sti, a.k.a., the following one alias: —Reka Global. 16 Persiaran Setia Dagang, Setia Alam, Seksyen U13, Alam Nusantara, 40170 Shah Alam, Selangor, Malaysia. (See alternate address under Turkey.)	For all items subject to the EAR. (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.11 of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR. See § 746.8(b).	89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
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	Supra Tech Sdn Bhd, 33–3, IB Tower, Persiaran KLCC, Kuala Lumpur, 50450, Malaysia.	For all items subject to the EAR. (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.11 of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR . See § 746.8(b).	89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
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RUSSIA	* *	*	* *	*
	Bespilotnye Sistemy LLC, a.k.a., the following three aliases: —OOO Bespilotnye Sistemy; —LLC Unmanned Systems; *and* —Unmanned Systems Group of Companies. 24 10 Let Oktyabrya Street, Apartment 62, Izhevsk, Republic of Udmurtskaya, 426011, Russia.	For all items subject to the EAR. (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.11 of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR. See § 746.8(b).	89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
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Country	Entity	License requirement	License review policy	**Federal Register** citation
	Federal State Budgetary Institute A.V. Zhirmunskiy National Scientific Research Center of Marine Biology, Far East Branch, Russian Academy of Sciences, a.k.a., the following six aliases: —Federalnoe Gosudarstvennoe Byudzhetnoe Uchrezhdenie Nauki Natsionalny Nauchny Tsentr Morskoi Biologii Im. A.V. Zhirmunskogo Dalnevostochnogo Otdeleniya Rossiskoi Akademii Nauk; —A.V. Zhirmunsky Institute of Marine Biology of the Far Eastern Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences; —A.V. Shirmunsky National Scientific Center of Marine Biology; —FBU NNTsMB DVO RAN; —NSCMB FEB RAS; *and* —NNTsMB DVO RAN. 17 Palchevskogo Street, Vladivostok, Primorsky Region, 690041, Russia; *and* 1 Chugunova Street, Vityaz Settlement, Khasanski Region, Primorsky Region, 692707, Russia; *and* 25 Akademika Kasyanova Street, Russian Island, Vladivostok, Primorsky Region, 690992, Russia; *and* Building 3, Nakhodka, Primorsky Region, 692952, Russia.	For all items subject to the EAR. (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.21(b) of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR apart from food and medicine designated as EAR99, which will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. See §§ 746.8(b) and 744.21(e).	89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
	Federal State Budgetary Institution of Science Federal Research Center Pushchino Scientific Center for Biology, Russian Academy of Sciences, a.k.a., the following four aliases: —Federal Research Center Pushchino Scientific Center for Biological Research of the Russian Academy of Sciences; —FRC PSCBI RAS; —FITS PNTSBI RAN, FGBU; *and* —FITS PNTSBI RAN. 3 Nauki Avenue, Pushchino, Moscow Region, 142290, Russia; *and* 5 Nauki Avenue, Pushchino, Moscow Region, 142290, Russia; *and* 3 Institutskaya Street, Pushchino, Moscow Region, 142290, Russia; *and* 7 Institutskaya Street, Pushchino, Moscow Region, 142290, Russia; *and* 2 Institutskaya Street, Pushchino, Moscow Region, 142290, Russia; *and* 2 Institutskaya Street, Building 2, Pushchino, Moscow Region, 142290, Russia.	For all items subject to the EAR. (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.21(b) of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR apart from food and medicine designated as EAR99, which will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. See §§ 746.8(b) and 744.21(e).	89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
	Federal State Budgetary Institution of Science Institute of Bioorganic Chemistry named after Academicians M.M. Shemyakin and Yu.A. Ovchinnikov, Russian Academy of Sciences, a.k.a., the following six aliases: —Federalnoe Gosudarstvennoe Byudzhetnoe Uchrezhdenie Nauki Institut Bioorganicheskoi Khimii Im. Akademikov M.M. Shemyakina I Yu.A. Ovchinnikova Rossiskoi Akademii Nauk; —Shemyakin-Ovchinnikov Institute of Bioorganic Chemistry; —IBCh RAN; —IBCh RAS; —IBKh RAN; *and* —IBKh RAS. 16/10 Miklukho-Maklaya Street, Moscow, 117997, Russia; *and* 6 Nauki Avenue, Pushchino, Moscow Region, 142290, Russia.	For all items subject to the EAR. (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.21(b) of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR apart from food and medicine designated as EAR99, which will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. See §§ 746.8(b) and 744.21(e).	89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.

Country	Entity	License requirement	License review policy	Federal Register citation
	Federal State Budgetary Institution of Science Institute of Molecular and Cell Biology, Siberian Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences, a.k.a., the following six aliases: —Federalnoe Gosudarstvennoe Byudzhetnoe Uchrezhdenie Nauki Institut Molekulyarnoi I Kletochnoi Biologii Sibirskogo Otdeleniya Rossiskoi Akademii Nauk; —Institute of Cell Biophysics of the Russian Academy of Sciences; —Institute of Cell Biophysics; —Institute of Molecular and Cellular Biology SB RAS; —IMCB SB RAS; *and* —IMCB SO RAN. 8/2 Akademika Lavrenteva Avenue, Novosibirsk, Novosibirsk Region, 630090, Russia.	For all items subject to the EAR. (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.21(b) of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR apart from food and medicine designated as EAR99, which will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. See §§ 746.8(b) and 744.21(e).	89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
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	Federal State Unitary Enterprise Scientific Center Signal, a.k.a., the following six aliases: —Federalnoe Gosudarstvennoe Unitarnoe Predpriyatie ''Nauchny Tsentr ''Signal''. —FSUE Scientific Center Signal; —FGUP NTs Signal; —NTs Signal; —Scientific Center Signal; *and* —SC Signal. 8 Bolshaya Olenya Street, Moscow, 107014, Russia.	For all items subject to the EAR. (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.21(b) of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR apart from food and medicine designated as EAR99, which will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. See §§ 746.8(b) and 744.21(e).	89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
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	Fincor LLC, a.k.a., the following two aliases: —OOO Fincor; *and* —SMU–5 OOO. 24 10 Let Oktyabrya Street, Apartment 62, Izhevsk, Republic of Udmurtskaya, 426011, Russia.	For all items subject to the EAR. (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.11 of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR. See § 746.8(b).	89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
	Finko LLC, a.k.a., the following one alias: —OOO Finko. 24 10 Let Oktyabrya Street, Apartment 62, Izhevsk, Republic of Udmurtskaya, 426011, Russia.	For all items subject to the EAR. (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.11 of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR. See § 746.8(b).	89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
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	JSC Zavod Kopir, a.k.a., the following three aliases: —Gostevoi dom ''U Ostapa'' Aktsionernogo Obshchestva ''Zavod ''Kopir'' (dlya 1–KSR); —Factory ''Copier'' JSC; —AO Zavod Kopir; *and* —Zavod Kopir OAO. 10 Gagarin Str., Kozmodemyansk, Republic of Mari El, 425350, Russia; and d. 62 ul. Nekrasova, Kozmodemyansk, Mari El, 425350, Russia.	For all items subject to the EAR. (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.11 of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR. See § 746.8(b).	89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
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	LLC A–K–S, a.k.a., the following two aliases: —Obshchestvos Ogranichennoi Otvetstvennostyu ''A–K–S''; *and* —OOO ''A–K–S'' Revolution Highway, Building 69, Saint Petersburg, 195279, Russia.	For all items subject to the EAR (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.11 of the EAR).	Policy of denial. See § 746.8 of the EAR.	89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
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	OOO IAZ, 2 Ul Ordzhonikidze, Liter Yu Tsokolny Etazh 10 Kab. 11, , Gorod Izhevsk, Udmurtskaya Resp, 426063, Russia.	For all items subject to the EAR. (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.11 of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR. See § 746.8(b).	89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
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	Pavlin Techno LLC, a.k.a., the following two aliases: —OOO Pavlin Tekhno; *and* —Pawlin Technologies. 13 Ul. Lenina, Apartment. 11, Dubna, Moskovskaya Obl., 141983, Russia; *and* 100 Dmitrovskoe Highway Moscow, Office 2307, 3rd floor building 2 Nord Khaus, Moscow, 127591, Russia.	For all items subject to the EAR. (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.11 of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR. See § 746.8(b).	89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
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Country	Entity	License requirement	License review policy	**Federal Register** citation
	Superkam LLC, a.k.a., the following one alias: —OOO Superkam. 24 10 Let Oktyabrya Street, Apartment 62, Izhevsk, Republic of Udmurtskaya, 426011, Russia.	For all items subject to the EAR. (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.11 of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR. See § 746.8(b).	89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
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SINGAPORE	TechCamel Pte. Ltd., a.k.a., the following two aliases: —TechCamel; *and* —TECHCAMELTECHCAMEL PTE.LTD. 18 Sin Ming Lane, #07–40 Midview City, 573960, Singapore; *and* 320 Serangoon Road, #13–05 Centrium Square, 218108, Singapore; *and* 320 Serangoon Road, #21, 218108, Singapore.	For all items subject to the EAR (See § 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.11 of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR. See § 746.8(b).	89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
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TURKEY	* *	*	* *	*
	Atlas Trade Dis Ticaret Limited, a.k.a., the following one alias: —Atlas Trade Dis Tic Ltd Sti. No: 12 Mecidiyekoy Road., Trump Tower Interior Door No: 221, Kustepe Mah., Sisli, Istanbul, Turkey.	For all items subject to the EAR. (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.11 of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR apart from food and medicine designated as EAR99, which will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. See §§ 746.8(b) and 744.21(e).	89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
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	Aviatech Havacilik Sanayi Ve Yedek Parcalari Ltd Sti, No: 13 K: 7 D: 192 Mustafa Akyol Sok., MVK Work Square, A2 Blok, Yenişehir Mah. Pendik, Istanbul, Turkey.	For all items subject to the EAR. (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.11 of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR apart from food and medicine designated as EAR99, which will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. See §§ 746.8(b) and 744.21(e).	89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
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	B2M Lojistik Ve Dis Ticaret Anonim Sirketi, Giyim Sanatkarları 3A Blok Sok. 3.Ada A Blok, Kat:5 No:506, İOSB Mah., Başakşehir, Istanbul, Turkey; *and* Giyim Sanatkarları 3A Blok Sok. 3.Ada A Blok, Kat:5 No:508, İOSB Mah., Başakşehir, Istanbul, Turkey; *and* No:9/2Madalya Sok., Haraççı Mah., Arnavutköy, Istanbul, Turkey.	For all items subject to the EAR. (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.11 of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR apart from food and medicine designated as EAR99, which will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. See §§ 746.8(b) and 744.21(e).	89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
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	DML Group Makine Pazarlama Ic Ve Dis Ticaret Ltd Sirketi, No: 52 Hasat Sk., Kamara İç Kapı No: 1, Merkez Mah., Şişli, Istanbul, Turkey.	For all items subject to the EAR. (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.11 of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR apart from food and medicine designated as EAR99, which will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. See §§ 746.8(b) and 744.21(e).	89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER, 11/1/24 REGISTER].
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	Ix Medikal Buro Malzemeleri Ticaret Limited Sirketi, a.k.a., the following six aliases: —Ix Elektronik Ic Ve Dis Ticaret Ltd Sirketi; —Ix Elektronik Ic Ve Dis Ticaret Limited Serketi; —Ix Elektronik Ic Ve Dis Ticaret Limited Sirkety; —Ix Electronics Domestic and Foreign Trade Limited; —Ix Electronics Domestic and Foreign Trade Limited Company Istanbul Industry and Trade Free Zone Branch; *and* —Ix Elektronik İç Ve Diş Ticaret Limited Şirketi. Mah 225, Sokak-1 Summ, Alanya/Antalya, 07460, Turkey; *and* No:8, D, Sok Summer Park Sitesi, Oba Mahallesi 225, Alanya/Antalya, 07450, Turkey; *and* No:8D–23, D Block, Summer Park Sitesi, Oba Mahallesi 225, Alanya/Antalya, 07450, Turkey; *and* No:8 D BL, Summer Park Sitesi, Oba Mahallesi 225, Alanya/Antalya, 07450, Turkey; *and* Block No:4, Inside Door No: z01, PiloT Deri BinasI, Kosar Cad, Aydinli Sb Mah, Tuzla/Istanbul, 34953, Turkey.	For all items subject to the EAR. (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.11 of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR. See § 746.8(b)..	89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
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Country	Entity	License requirement	License review policy	Federal Register citation
	LL Chip Elektrik Elektronic Paz, a.k.a., the following three aliases: —LL Chip Elektrik Elektronik Pazarlama Ic ve Dis Ticaret Limited Sirketi; —LL Chip Ltd.; *and* —LL Chip Electric Electronic Marketing Domestic and Foreign Trade Limited Company. Merkez Mah., Hasat Sokak Kamara, No: 52, Şişli, Istanbul, 34360, Turkey.	For all items subject to the EAR. (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.11 of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR. See § 746.8(b).	88 FR 70353, 10/11/23. 89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
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	Madena Otomotiv Inşaat Elektronik Tic Ltd, 67.Sk. Konut No: 4 İç Kapi No: 13, Yakuplu Mah., Beylikdüzü, İstanbul, Turkey.	For all items subject to the EAR. (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.11 of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR apart from food and medicine designated as EAR99, which will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. See §§ 746.8(b) and 744.21(e).	89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
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	Mia Antalya Insaat Sanayi Ve Ticaret A.S., a.k.a., the following two aliases: —Mia Ticaret A.S.; *and* —Antalya Mia. No:109/4, Eski Lara Cad. Funda Apartmani, Şirinyali Mah., Muratpaşa, Antalya, Turkey; *and* 4550. Sk. No:04, Safak, 07220, Kepez, Antalya, Turkey.	For all items subject to the EAR. (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.11 of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR apart from food and medicine designated as EAR99, which will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. See §§ 746.8(b) and 744.21(e).	89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
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	Panorama Invest Dis Ticaret As, a.k.a., the following three aliases: —Panorama Invest Dis Ticaret Anonim Sirketi; —Panorama İnvest Diş Ticaret Anonim Şirketi; *and* —Panorama Invest Foreign Trade Company. EGS Business Park B212–8, DTM, Bakhiroy/Istanbul, 34149, Turkey; *and* EGS Business Park B2 8, Dunya Ticaret Merkezi, Yesilkoy Mahallesi, Bakirkoy/Istanbul, 34149, Turkey; *and* EGS Business Park B2 8, World Trade Center, Yeşilköy Neighborhood, Bakirkoy/Istanbul, 34149, Turkey.	For all items subject to the EAR. (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.11 of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR. See § 746.8(b).	89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
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	Reka Grup Danismanlik ve Tic Ltd Sti, a.k.a., the following one alias: —Reka Global. 274–1 Sokak, No:1–16, Bahcelievler Mahallesi, Golbasi, Ankara 06065, Turkey; *and* Üniversitesi Caddesi, Paragon Tower, Çankaya, Ankara 06510, Turkey, *and* Yalı, Mithatpaşa Cd. No:409, 35310 Güzelbahçe/İzmir, Turkey; *and* Ahmet Mithat Efendi Sk. 18/A, Güzeltepe, 06690 Çankaya/Ankara, Turkey; *and* 274. Sk. No:12/F, Bahçelievler, 06830 Gölbaşı/Ankara, Turkey. (See alternate address under Malaysia.)	For all items subject to the EAR. (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.11 of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR apart from food and medicine designated as EAR99, which will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. See §§ 746.8(b) and 744.21(e).	89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
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	RLY Ic Ve Dis Ticaret Limited Sirketi, a.k.a., the following two aliases: —RLY Sey. Uru. Tic. And San. Ltd. Sti.; *and* —RLY Project. No:3, Kap, Barbaros Ihlamur Bulv. Agaoglu My Newwork, Atasehir, Istanbul, 34746, Turkey.	For all items subject to the EAR. (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.11 of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR apart from food and medicine designated as EAR99, which will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. See §§ 746.8(b) and 744.21(e).	89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
	Scitech Tasimacilik Ticaret Limited, a.k.a., the following two aliases: —Scitech Tasimacililk Ticaret, Limited Sirketi; *and* —Scitech Transport Trade Limited Company. 235 SK Kamac, Apt No. 6, Ic Kapi No. 3, Yildiz Mah., Muratpasa, Antalya, 11111, Turkey; *and* 37 Sokak, Cengizhan Apt Block No: 6/102, Kisla Mah., Muratpasa, Antalya, 07040, Turkey.	For all items subject to the EAR. (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.11 of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR. See § 746.8(b).	88 FR 70353, 10/11/23. 89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
*	*	*	*	*

Country	Entity	License requirement	License review policy	**Federal Register** citation
	TDT Havacilik Bakim Ve Ticaret, a.k.a., the following two aliases: —TD Team; *and* —TDT Havacilik Bakim Ve Ticaret Anonim Şirketi. 39/1 Nolu Sokak No:35, İç Kapı No:1, Altınova Sinan Mah. Antalya, Kepez 07170, Turkey; *and* Rauf Denktaş Cad. 2209 Sok., No:24/101, Güzeloba Mah. Antalya, Muratpaşa 07230, Turkey; *and* Antalya Airport—Apron, Antalya, Antalya 07025, Turkey; *and* Dalaman Airport Apron, Dalaman, Muğla 48770, Turkey; *and* Bodrum Milas Airport Apron, Milas, Muğla 48200, Turkey; *and* Istanbul Airport Apron, IGA, Istanbul 34283, Turkey; *and* Alanya Gazipasa Airport Apron, Gazipasa , Antalya 07900, Turkey; *and* Izmir Adnan Menderes Airport Apron, İzmir, 35410, Turkey.	For all items subject to the EAR. (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.11 of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR apart from food and medicine designated as EAR99, which will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. See §§ 746.8(b) and 744.21(e).	89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
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	Ultimate Havacilik Hizmetleri Limited Sirketi, a.k.a., the following one alias: —Ultimate Aviation Services. No:4/9, Konyaaltı Caddesi, Türker Apartmanı, Deniz Mahallesi, Muratpaşa, Antalya, Turkey; *and* Evliya Celebi Caddesi Remel Plaza, Etiler Mahallesi, Muratpasa, Antalya, 07010, Turkey.	For all items subject to the EAR. (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.11 of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR apart from food and medicine designated as EAR99, which will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. See §§ 746.8(b) and 744.21(e).	89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
	Union Trade Turkey Makina Ithalat Ve Ihracat Limited Sirketi, a.k.a., the following three aliases: —Union Trade Turkey Mak.Ith.Ve Ihr. Ltd; —Union Trade Turkey Machinery Import and Export Limited Company; *and* —Union Trade Turkey Machinery Import and Export Ltd. Block No: 203, Abide-i Hurriyet Street, Aykac Plaza, Inside Door No: 17, Central Mah, Sisli/Istanbul, 34381, Turkey.	For all items subject to the EAR. (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.11 of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR. See § 746.8(b).	89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
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	Yildiz Cip Teknoloji Elektronik Elektrik Bilg. Malz. Tic. San. Ltd. Sti, a.k.a., the following two aliases: —Yildiz Chip; *and* —Yildiz Chip Technology Electronic Electric Computer Materials Trade Industry Limited. Blok No:118 İç Kapi No:401, Şehit Binbaşi Cengiz Toytunç Cad. Antelsan İş Merkezi Antelsan İş Merkezi, Kişla Mah. Muratpaşa, Antalya, Turkey.	For all items subject to the EAR. (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.11 of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR apart from food and medicine designated as EAR99, which will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. See §§ 746.8(b) and 744.21(e).	89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
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UNITED ARAB EMIRATES.	* *	*	* *	*
	Hulm al Sahra Elect Devices TR, a.k.a., the following one alias: —Hulm Al Sahra. P.O. Box 62105, Al Dhaid, New Industrial Area Sharjah, Sharjah, United Arab Emirates; *and* Building 38, Industrial Area No.1, Al Dhaid City, Sharjah, United Arab Emirates; *and* Al Khan 2 Street 1, Al Dhaid City, Sharjah, 235545, United Arab Emirates.	For all items subject to the EAR. (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.11 of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR. See § 746.8(b).	88 FR 70353, 10/11/23. 89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
	* *	*	* *	*
UNITED KINGDOM	* *	*	* *	*
	China Shengshi International Trade Ltd., a.k.a., the following one alias: —Hong Kong Development Group. P.O. Box 957, Offshore Incorporations Center, Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands. (See alternate address under China).	For all items subject to the EAR. (See §§ 734.9(g),[3] 746.8(a)(3), and 744.11 of the EAR).	Policy of denial for all items subject to the EAR. See § 746.8(b).	88 FR 70353, 10/11/23. 89 FR [INSERT FR PAGE NUMBER], 11/1/24.
	* *	*	* *	*

[3] For this entity, ''items subject to the EAR'' includes foreign-produced items that are subject to the EAR under § 734.9(g) of the EAR. See §§ 744.11, 744.21, and 746.8 of the EAR for related license requirements, license review policy, and restrictions on license exceptions.

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Matthew S. Borman,

Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Strategic Trade and Technology Security.

[FR Doc. 2024–25411 Filed 10–30–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–JT–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Bureau of Industry and Security

15 CFR Parts 744 and 746

[Docket No. 241028–0281]

RIN 0694–AJ93

Implementation of Additional Export Controls Against Russia and Belarus Under the Export Administration Regulations (EAR); and Clarifications

AGENCY: Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: In this final rule, the Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS) makes changes to the export controls against Russia and Belarus under the Export Administration Regulations (EAR). This final rule expands the scope of the Russian and Belarusian Industry Sector Sanctions by imposing controls on nine key precursors for riot control agents and a chemical weapon that Russia has deployed against Ukraine in violation of the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC). This final rule also makes adjustments to exclusions, exceptions, and licensing policy for exports, reexports, or transfers (in-country) to certain components of the governments of Country Group A:5 and A:6 destinations that are in Russia and Belarus. Lastly, this final rule clarifies that the Russia/Belarus-Military End User and Procurement Foreign-Direct Product (FDP) rule and the EAR's other Entity List FDP rules' license requirements extend to or within any destination or to any end user or party that otherwise meets the criteria. This final rule is being published concurrently with a BIS final rule, ''Additions and Revisions of Entities to the Entity List'' (RIN 0694–AJ94), which includes additional changes related to export controls related to Russia and Belarus.

DATES: This rule is effective November 1, 2024.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For general questions on this final rule, contact Collmann Griffin, Senior Policy Advisor, International Policy Office, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, Phone: 202–482–1430, Email: *william.griffin@bis.doc.gov.*

For questions on the Entity List changes in this final rule, contact the Chair, End-User Review Committee, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Export Administration, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, Phone: (202) 482–5991, Email: *ERC@bis.doc.gov.* For emails, include ''Russia and Belarus, October 2024 export control measures'' in the subject line.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

A. Export Controls Implemented Against Russia and Belarus

In response to Russia's February 2022 full-scale invasion of Ukraine, BIS imposed extensive export controls on Russia under the EAR as part of the final rule, ''Implementation of Sanctions Against Russia Under the Export Administration Regulations (EAR)'' (''Russia Sanctions Rule'') (87 FR 12226, March 3, 2022). To address Belarus's complicity in the invasion, BIS imposed similar export controls on Belarus under the EAR in a final rule, ''Implementation of Sanctions Against Belarus'' (''Belarus Sanctions Rule'') (87 FR 13048, March 6, 2022). Since March 2022, BIS has published numerous final rules strengthening the export controls on Russia and Belarus, including measures undertaken in coordination with U.S. allies and partners.

B. Overview of This Final Rule

BIS is amending the EAR (15 CFR parts 730–744) to strengthen export controls against Russia and Belarus by expanding the scope of the Russian and Belarusian Industry Sector Sanctions and clarify the applicability of the Entity List FDP rules. BIS in this final rule is also making adjustments to exclusions, exceptions, and licensing policy for exports, reexports, or transfers (in-country) of items for the official business of diplomatic or consular missions of the governments of Country Group A:5 and A:6 destinations that are located in Russia and Belarus.

The Export Control Reform Act (ECRA) provides the legal basis for BIS's principal authorities and serves as the authority under which BIS issues this rule.

The three sets of changes this final rule makes are described in section II as follows:

A. Additions to supplement no. 6 to part 746 to control nine key precursors for riot control agents and a chemical weapon that Russia has deployed against Ukraine;

B. Changes related to governments of Country Group A:5 and A:6 destinations for certain exclusions, license exception eligibility, and licensing policy; *and*

C. Clarifying that the Entity List FDP rules' license requirement extends to or within any destination or to any end user or party that otherwise meets the criteria.

II. Amendments to the EAR

A. Additions to Supplement No. 6 to Part 746 To Control Key Precursors for Riot Control Agents and a Chemical Weapon That Russia Has Deployed Against Ukraine

The U.S. Department of Commerce is expanding controls under the EAR to include certain chemical precursors that are essential for the ''production'' of chemical riot control agents (RCAs) and chloropicrin that Russia has deployed against Ukraine in violation of the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC). These new regulatory restrictions, which are specific to Russia and Belarus, aim to limit the use of these chemical precursors in the context of the war in Ukraine.

RCAs such as tear gas and other crowd dispersal chemicals have the potential for misuse in the context of armed conflict. While RCAs are commonly used by law enforcement, their use as a method of warfare is prohibited by Article I of the CWC. Chloropicrin is a toxic chemical included on Schedule 3 of the CWC's Annex on Chemicals. Its use against Ukrainian armed forces constitutes use of a chemical weapon and is also prohibited under Article I of the CWC.

On April 4, 2024, the Department of State published its annual report to Congress on Compliance with the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC), which stated that Russia had used RCAs as a method of warfare against Ukrainian forces in violation of the CWC. This report concluded that ''the United States assesses that Russia has repeatedly used RCAs as a method of warfare across the frontlines in Ukraine.'' On May 1, 2024, the Department of State announced that it had made a determination pursuant to the Chemical and Biological Weapons Control and Warfare Elimination Act of 1991 (CBW Act of 1991) (22 U.S.C. 5604–5605) that Russia had used chloropicrin against Ukrainian troops in violation of the CWC (see May 1, 2024 State Dept. Fact Sheet (Imposing New Measures on Russia for its Full-Scale War and Use of Chemical Weapons Against Ukraine)). On June 7, 2024, in connection with this determination under the CBW Act of 1991, the Acting

Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs imposed restrictions on Russia, including on arms sales and related financing. The **Federal Register** Notice announcing these restrictions made reference to the export controls that Commerce maintains on Russia under parts 744 and 746 (see 89 FR 48701, June 7, 2024).

Russia's use of RCAs as a method of warfare and its use of chloropicrin as a chemical weapon during its war of aggression in Ukraine raise concerns about Russia's further production and weaponization of these chemicals. Controlling the export of key chemical precursors, therefore, represents a critical step toward preventing the misuse of these chemicals in furtherance of Russia's military efforts.

This final rule builds upon a BIS final rule that imposed controls on two precursors of chloropicrin, nitromethane and picric acid, as part of a set of restrictions on Russia and Belarus by targeting chemicals that could be useful for Russia's chemical and biological weapons production capabilities or diverted from Belarus to Russia for these activities of concern (87 FR 57068, September 16, 2022). Adding additional chemical precursors of chloropicrin in this current rule further supports that objective.

In assessing whether to impose these new controls, it is important to acknowledge that the chemical precursors listed for control play a significant role in civilian applications. For example, these chemical precursors are used in the production of pharmaceuticals for treating respiratory ailments and in anesthetic formulations. In agriculture, these precursor chemicals can function as pest control agents or can be used for the production of fertilizers, both crucial to food security and medical treatments. Recognizing these civilian applications, these new controls are narrowly tailored to apply only to Russia and Belarus. The restrictions address the CWC Treaty's objective regarding the need to guard against the potential misuse of these chemical precursors while ensuring continuing exports, reexports, and transfers (in-country) as part of supply chains related to legitimate use under the CWC, particularly in medical and agricultural sectors, in all destinations, which for purposes of license applications for Russia and Belarus is addressed under the case-by-case license review policy under § 746.8(b)(3)(iii).

Therefore, this final rule adds a new paragraph (i) (Precursors for riot control agents and chloropicrin as follows) to supplement no. 6 to part 746 to control certain precursors of CS (o-Chlorobenzylidenemalononitrile or o-Chlorobenzalmalononitrile) (CAS 2698–41–1); CN (Phenylacyl chloride or w-Chloroacetophenone) (CAS 532–27–4); and Trichloro(nitro)methane (Chloropicrin—CAS 76–06–2) and CR (Dibenzoxazpine—CAS 257–07–8). Specifically, this final rule adds paragraphs (i)(1) through (9) to describe these chemical precursors that will be controlled under the EAR's Russian and Belarusian Industry Sector Sanctions. The chemical precursors listed below may be utilized in the production of RCAs and chloropicrin:

1. Malononitrile (CAS 109–77–3)
2. 2-Chlorobenzaldehyde (CAS 89–98–5)
3. 2-Chlorobenzyl Alcohol (CAS 17849–38–6)
4. 2-Chlorobenzylamine (CAS 89–97–4)
5. Benzene, 1-chloro-2-(dimethoxymethyl) (CAS 70380–66–4)
6. Acetophenone (CAS 98–86–2)
7. Chloroacetyl Chloride (CAS 79–04–9)
8. Chloroform (CAS 67–66–3)
9. o-Aminophenol (CAS 95–55–6)

These expanded controls will supplement the existing CCL controls under ECCNs 1A984, 1C607, and 1C350. BIS estimates that these changes will result in an increase of ten license applications submitted to BIS annually.

B. Changes Related to Governments of Country Group A:5 and A:6 Destinations for Certain Exclusions, License Exception Eligibility, and Licensing Policy

This final rule makes the following changes to reduce the licensing burden on certain government entities located in Russia and Belarus by granting them the same eligibility for certain exclusions, license exceptions, and licensing policy as is currently available for private sector entities headquartered in Country Group A:5 and A:6 countries.

1. Addition of license exception eligibility in § 746.8(c)(2)(vi) for official business of diplomatic or consular missions of the governments of Country Group A:5 and A:6 destinations

In § 746.8, this final rule expands the scope of paragraph (c)(2)(vi) to add the phrase ''or for the official business of diplomatic or consular missions of the governments of Country Group A:5 and A:6 destinations'' that are operating in Russia or Belarus as entities eligible under this paragraph to receive items under License Exception Encryption commodities, software, and technology (ENC). In order to receive items under License Exception ENC, the export, reexport, or transfer (in-country) would also need to not be restricted under § 740.2 and meet all of the applicable terms and conditions of License Exception ENC under § 740.17. The addition of license exception eligibility for the embassies and consulates of Country Group A:5 and A:6 destinations is consistent with U.S. national security and foreign policy interests. BIS decided to make this change after reviewing a question from the public that asked whether License Exception ENC could be used for an export that otherwise met the terms of License Exception ENC for an export to an embassy for the official use of a Country Group A:5 and A:6 destination. Prior to this final rule, paragraph (c)(2) of § 746.8 would have excluded the use of License Exception ENC by such government entities.

BIS estimates that these changes will result in a decrease of five license applications submitted to BIS annually.

2. Addition to exclusion in § 746.8(a)(12)(ii) for official business of diplomatic or consular missions of the governments of Country Group A:5 and A:6 destinations.

In § 746.8(a)(12)(ii) (*Mass market encryption commodities and software, and software designated EAR99),* this final rule revises this paragraph to add a new exclusion under paragraph (a)(12)(ii)(F) to specify that exports, reexports, and transfers (in-country) for the official business of diplomatic or consular missions of the governments of Country Group A:5 and A:6 destinations that are operating in Russia or Belarus are also within the scope of this paragraph (a)(12) exclusion. This final rule also revises paragraph (a)(12)(ii)(D) to remove the word 'or' and revises paragraph (a)(12)(E) to remove the period and add a semi-colon and the word 'or' at the end of the paragraph to reflect the addition of new paragraph (a)(12)(ii)(F).

3. Addition of governments of Country Group A:5 and A:6 destinations to the case-by-case licensing policy under § 746.8(b)(3)(vi).

In § 746.8(b)(3)(vi), this final rule revises the case-by-case licensing policy for license applications submitted pursuant to paragraphs (a)(1), (2), and (4) through (8) of this section, to add a new paragraph (b)(3)(vi)(F). With this revision, the case-by-case license review policy to determine whether the transaction in question would benefit the Russian or Belarusian government or defense sector will also apply to applications involving items destined for official business of governments of Country Group A:5 and A:6 destinations that are operating in Russia or Belarus. This final rule also revises paragraph (b)(3)(vi)(D) to remove the word 'or' and revises paragraph (b)(3)(vi)(E) to remove

the period and add a semi-colon and the word 'or' at the end of the paragraph to reflect the addition of new paragraph (b)(3)(vi)(F).

C. Clarifying That the Entity List-Related FDP Rules License Requirement Extends to or Within Any Destination or to Any End User or Party That Otherwise Meets the Criteria

This final rule revises §§ 744.11 and 746.8 of the EAR to clarify that the three Entity List-related FDP rules' license requirements extend to or within any destination or to any end user or party. This final rule makes clarifying changes to § 744.11 by revising paragraphs (a)(2)(i) (Footnote 1 entities) and (a)(2)(iv) (Footnote 4 entities) to specify that parties may not, without a license, reexport, export from abroad, or transfer (in-country) to or within any destination or to any end user or party any foreign-produced item subject to the EAR pursuant to the referenced FDP rules under § 734.9(e)(1) or (2), respectively. Specifically, this final rule adds the phrase 'to or within any destination or to any end user or party' to clarify the scope of this license requirement. This final rule makes the same clarifying revision in § 746.8(a)(3) (Russia/Belarus-Military End User and Procurement FDP rule) (Footnote 3 entities).

BIS estimates these changes described in section II.C will not result in any change to the number of license applications submitted to BIS annually.

Savings Clause

For the changes being made in this final rule, shipments of items removed from eligibility for a License Exception or export, reexport, or transfer (in-country) without a license (NLR) as a result of this regulatory action that were en route aboard a carrier to a port of export, reexport, or transfer (in-country), on November 1, 2024, pursuant to actual orders for export, reexport, or transfer (in-country) to or within a foreign destination, may proceed to that destination under the previous eligibility for a License Exception or export, reexport, or transfer (in-country) without a license (NLR), provided the export, reexport, or transfer (in-country) is completed no later than on December 2, 2024.

Export Control Reform Act of 2018

On August 13, 2018, the President signed into law the John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2019, which included the Export Control Reform Act of 2018 (ECRA) (codified, as amended, at 50 U.S.C. 4801–4852). ECRA provides the legal basis for BIS's principal authorities and serves as the authority under which BIS issues this rule. In particular, and as noted elsewhere, Section 1753 of ECRA (50 U.S.C. 4812) authorizes the regulation of exports, reexports, and transfers (in-country) of items subject to U.S. jurisdiction. Further, Section 1754(a)(1)–(16) of ECRA (50 U.S.C. 4813(a)(1)–(16)) authorizes, inter alia: (1) the establishment of a list of controlled items; (2) the prohibition of unauthorized exports, reexports, and transfers (in-country); (3) the requirement of licenses or other authorizations for exports, reexports, and transfers (in-country) of controlled items; (4) the apprising of the public of changes in policy, regulations, and procedures; and (5) any other action necessary to carry out ECRA that is not otherwise prohibited by law. Pursuant to Section 1762(a) of ECRA (50 U.S.C. 4821(a)), these changes can be imposed in a final rule without prior notice and comment.

Rulemaking Requirements

1. BIS has examined the impact of this rule as required by Executive Orders (E.O.) 12866, 13563, and 14094, which direct agencies to assess all costs and benefits of available regulatory alternatives and, if regulation is necessary, to select regulatory approaches that maximize net benefits (*e.g.,* potential economic, environmental, public, health, and safety effects, distributive impacts, and equity). Pursuant to E.O. 12866, as amended, this final rule has not been determined to be a ''significant regulatory action.''

2. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no person is required to respond to, nor shall any person be subject to a penalty for failure to comply with, a collection of information subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA) (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), unless that collection of information displays a currently valid Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Control Number. This rule involves the following OMB-approved collections of information subject to the PRA:

- 0694–0088, ''Simple Network Application Process and Multipurpose Application Form,'' which carries a burden hour estimate of 29.4 minutes for a manual or electronic submission;
- 0694–0096 ''Five Year Records Retention Period,'' which carries a burden hour estimate of less than 1 minute for a manual or electronic submission; and
- 0607–0152 ''Automated Export System (AES) Program,'' which carries a burden hour estimate of 3 minutes per electronic submission.

BIS estimates that these new controls on Russia and Belarus under the EAR will result in an increase of five license applications submitted annually to BIS. However, the additional burden falls within the existing estimates currently associated with these control numbers. Additional information regarding these collections of information—including all background materials—can be found at: *https://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain* by using the search function to enter either the title of the collection or the OMB Control Number.

3. This rule does not contain policies with Federalism implications as that term is defined under E.O. 13132.

4. Pursuant to section 1762 of ECRA (50 U.S.C. 4821), this action is exempt from the Administrative Procedure Act (APA) (5 U.S.C. 553) requirements for notice of proposed rulemaking, opportunity for public participation, and delay in effective date. While section 1762 of ECRA provides sufficient authority for such an exemption, this action is also independently exempt from these APA requirements because it involves a military or foreign affairs function of the United States (5 U.S.C. 553(a)(1)).

5. Because neither the Administrative Procedure Act nor any other law requires that notice of proposed rulemaking and an opportunity for public comment be given for this rule, the analytical requirements of the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601 *et seq.*) are not applicable. Accordingly, no Final Regulatory Flexibility Analysis is required, and none has been prepared.

List of Subjects

15 CFR Part 744

Exports, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Terrorism.

15 CFR Part 746

Exports, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

Accordingly, parts 744 and 746 of the Export Administration Regulations (15 CFR parts 730 through 774) are revised to read as follows:

PART 744—END-USE AND END-USER CONTROLS

■ 1. The authority citation for part 744 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 50 U.S.C. 4801–4852; 50 U.S.C. 4601 *et seq.;* 50 U.S.C. 1701 *et seq.;* 22 U.S.C. 3201 *et seq.;* 42 U.S.C. 2139a; 22 U.S.C. 7201 *et seq.;* 22 U.S.C. 7210; E.O. 12058, 43 FR 20947, 3 CFR, 1978 Comp., p. 179; E.O. 12851, 58 FR 33181, 3 CFR, 1993 Comp., p.

608; E.O. 12938, 59 FR 59099, 3 CFR, 1994 Comp., p. 950; E.O. 13026, 61 FR 58767, 3 CFR, 1996 Comp., p. 228; E.O. 13099, 63 FR 45167, 3 CFR, 1998 Comp., p. 208; E.O. 13222, 66 FR 44025, 3 CFR, 2001 Comp., p. 783; E.O. 13224, 66 FR 49079, 3 CFR, 2001 Comp., p. 786; Notice of November 8, 2022, 87 FR 68015, 3 CFR, 2022 Comp., p. 563; Notice of September 18, 2024, 89 FR 77011 (September 20, 2024).

■ 2. Section 744.11 is amended by revising the first sentence of paragraph (a)(2)(i) and the first sentence of paragraph (a)(2)(iv) to read as follows:

§ 744.11 License requirements that apply to entities acting or at significant risk of acting contrary to the national security or foreign policy interests of the United States.

* * * * *

(a) * * *

(2) * * *

(i) *Footnote 1 entities.* You may not, without a license or license exception, reexport, export from abroad, or transfer (in-country) to or within any destination or to any end user or party any foreign-produced item subject to the EAR pursuant to § 734.9(e)(1) of the EAR.

* * *

* * * * *

(iv) *Footnote 4 entities.* You may not, without a license, reexport, export from abroad, or transfer (in-country) to or within any destination or to any end user or party any foreign-produced item subject to the EAR pursuant to § 734.9(e)(2) of the EAR. * * *

* * * * *

PART 746—EMBARGOES AND OTHER SPECIAL CONTROLS

■ 3. The authority citation for 15 CFR part 746 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 50 U.S.C. 4801–4852; 50 U.S.C. 4601 *et seq.;* 50 U.S.C. 1701 *et seq.;* 22 U.S.C. 287c; Sec 1503, Pub. L. 108–11, 117 Stat. 559; 22 U.S.C. 2151 note; 22 U.S.C. 6004; 22 U.S.C. 7201 *et seq.;* 22 U.S.C. 7210; E.O. 12854, 58 FR 36587, 3 CFR, 1993 Comp., p. 614; E.O. 12918, 59 FR 28205, 3 CFR, 1994 Comp., p. 899; E.O. 13222, 66 FR 44025, 3 CFR, 2001 Comp., p. 783; E.O. 13338, 69 FR 26751, 3 CFR, 2004 Comp., p 168; Presidential Determination 2003–23, 68 FR 26459, 3 CFR, 2004 Comp., p. 320; Presidential Determination 2007–7, 72 FR 1899, 3 CFR, 2006 Comp., p. 325; Notice of May 8, 2024, 89 FR 40355 (May 9, 2024).

■ 4. Section 746.8 is amended by:
■ a. Revising paragraphs (a)(3), (a)(12)(ii)(D) and (E);
■ b. Adding paragraph (a)(12)(ii)(F);
■ c. Revising paragraphs (b)(3)(vi)(D) and (E);
■ d. Adding paragraph (b)(3)(vi)(F); and
■ e. Revising paragraph (c)(2)(vi).

The additions and revisions read as follows:

§ 746.8 Sanctions against Russia and Belarus.

(a) * * *

* * * * *

(3) *Russia/Belarus-Military End User and Procurement FDP rule.* A license is required to reexport, export from abroad, or transfer (in-country) to or within any destination or to any end user or party any foreign-produced item subject to the EAR under § 734.9(g) of the EAR.

* * * * *

(12) * * *

(ii) * * *

(D) Wholly owned subsidiaries, branches, or sales offices of companies headquartered in countries from Country Group A:5 and A:6 in supplement no. 1 to part 740;

(E) Joint ventures between two or more companies headquartered in Country Group A:5 and A:6 in supplement no. 1 to part 740, including the wholly owned subsidiaries, branches, or sales offices of such joint ventures; *or*

(F) For official business of diplomatic or consular missions of the governments of Country Group A:5 and A:6 destinations.

* * * * *

(b) * * *

(3) * * *

(vi) * * *

(D) The wholly owned subsidiaries, branches, or sales offices of companies headquartered in countries from Country Group A:5 and A:6 in supplement no. 1 to part 740;

(E) Joint ventures of companies headquartered in Country Groups A:5 and A:6 with other companies headquartered in Country Groups A:5 and A:6; *or*

(F) For official business of governments of Country Group A:5 and A:6 destinations.

(vii) Applications for companies headquartered in Country Groups A:5 and A:6 to support civil telecommunications infrastructure.

* * * * *

(c) * * *

(2) * * *

(vi) License Exception Encryption commodities, software, and technology (ENC) for civil end-users that are wholly-owned U.S. subsidiaries, branches, or sales offices; foreign subsidiaries, branches, or sales offices of U.S. companies that are joint ventures with other U.S. companies; joint ventures of U.S. companies with companies headquartered in countries from Country Group A:5 and A:6 in supplement no. 1 to part 740 of the EAR countries; the wholly-owned subsidiaries, branches, or sales offices of companies headquartered in countries from Country Group A:5 and A:6 in supplement no. 1 to part 740; joint ventures of companies headquartered in Country Group A:5 and A:6 with other companies headquartered in Country Groups A:5 and A:6; or for official business of diplomatic or consular missions of the governments of Country Group A:5 and A:6 destinations (§§ 740.13(c) and 740.17 of the EAR).

■ 5. Supplement no. 6 to part 746 is amended by adding paragraph (i) to read as follows:

Supplement No. 6 to Part 746—Russian and Belarusian Industry Sector Sanctions Pursuant to § 746.8(a)(6)

(i) Pre-cursors for riot control agents and chloropicrin as follows:

(1) Malononitrile (CAS 109–77–3);

(2) 2-Chlorobenzaldehyde (CAS 89–98–5);

(3) 2-Chlorobenzyl Alcohol (CAS 17849–38–6);

(4) 2-Chlorobenzylamine (CAS 89–97–4);

(5) Benzene, 1-chloro-2-(dimethoxymethyl) (CAS 70380–66–4);

(6) Acetophenone (CAS 98–86–2);

*(7) C*hloroacetyl Chloride (CAS 79–04–9);

(8) Chloroform (CAS 67–66–3); *and*

(9) o-Aminophenol (CAS 95–55–6).

Matthew S. Borman,

Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Strategic Trade and Technology Security.

[FR Doc. 2024–25445 Filed 10–30–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–JT–P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Highway Administration

23 CFR Part 630

[Docket No. FHWA–2022–0017]

RIN 2125–AG05

Work Zone Safety and Mobility and Temporary Traffic Control Devices

AGENCY: Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT).

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: The FHWA amends its regulations that govern traffic safety and mobility in highway and street work zones. The FHWA recognizes that increasing road construction activity on our highways can lead to travel disruptions which could potentially result in congestion and crashes, as well as loss in productivity and public frustration with work zones. The changes will facilitate consideration of the broader safety and mobility impacts of work zones in a more coordinated

and comprehensive manner across project development stages.

DATES: This final rule is effective December 2, 2024. The incorporation by reference of certain publications listed in this rule is approved by the Director of the Federal Register as of December 2, 2024.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Jawad Paracha, Office of Transportation Operations (HOTO–1), (202) 366–4628, or via email at *Jawad.Paracha@dot.gov,* or Mr. William Winne, Office of the Chief Counsel (HCC–30), (202) 366–1379, or via email at *William.Winne@dot.gov*. Office hours are from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., E.T., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Electronic Access and Filing

This document, the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM), and all comments received may be viewed online through the Federal eRulemaking portal at *www.regulations.gov* using the docket number listed above. Electronic retrieval help and guidelines are also available at *www.regulations.gov.* An electronic copy of this document may also be downloaded from the Office of the Federal Register's website at *www.FederalRegister.gov* and the U.S. Government Publishing Office's website at *www.GovInfo.gov.*

Background

The principal mission of DOT is to ensure America has the safest, most efficient, and modern transportation system in the world. This system boosts our economic productivity and global competitiveness and enhances the quality of life in communities both rural and urban. We depend on transportation for access to jobs, to enable us to conduct our business, to supply us with services and goods, and to facilitate our leisure and recreational activities. The Department's mission is accomplished through strategic goals pertaining to safety, economic strength and global competitiveness, equity, climate and sustainability, transformation, and organizational excellence.

An efficient and well-maintained roadway network is a critical component of our overall transportation system. Our roadway network must be continuously monitored and repaired to keep it functioning. Periodically, roadways must also be rehabilitated, reconstructed, or otherwise improved. Work zones are a necessary part of maintaining and upgrading our aging roadway infrastructure. The FHWA strongly encourages that work zones be implemented and maintained as safely as possible, and with the least possible amount of travel disruption. Doing so directly supports DOT's safety strategic goal, facilitates the movement of people and goods while work occurs on our highways, and is essential for maintaining economic strength and global competitiveness. Similarly, effective work zone management also ensures that work zone impacts do not unduly burden any one user group, and that appropriate efforts are taken to mitigate the differential impacts caused by work zones. Congestion generated by work zones contributes to vehicular pollution; reducing congestion undoubtedly supports DOT goals pertaining to climate and sustainability. Continuous development and support of new technologies, strategies, and uses of new sources of data for work zone management relate directly to the Department's transformation and organizational excellence goals.

Subpart J—Work Zone Safety and Mobility Overview

Over the last two decades, significant strides have been made in managing work zone safety and mobility, with States establishing overarching work zone safety and mobility policies and implementing processes to better understand and manage work zone impacts (*e.g.,* implementing processes for significant projects, applying intelligent technologies for work zone operations, measuring work zone performance). However, opportunities still exist to improve the consistency and continuity of work zone management practices across States, including proactively monitoring and managing work zone impacts of projects during implementation and leveraging available data sources for data-driven work zone performance reviews. Work zones continue to have significant safety and mobility impacts on our transportation system, which are further expected to increase due to increased road construction and rehabilitation projects funded by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL). Further, Congress, through the BIL, required FHWA to update the process review and significant projects sections.

In light of the above, FHWA published an NPRM on September 20, 2023, at 88 FR 64836, to update Subpart J to meet current and future work zone management needs while also making the subpart compliant with the BIL. The key changes proposed in the NPRM included: incorporating safety and mobility performance measures in States' work zone policies; increasing the reporting interval for work zone process reviews from 2 to 5 years (as per the BIL) and reframing process reviews to programmatic reviews; clarifying certain unclear terms; and clarifying the significant projects and associated Transportation Management Plan (TMP) criteria for Interstate and non-Interstate projects (as per the BIL).

Several States, a few trade associations, and some private industry representatives provided responses to the NPRM. Most State department of transportation (State DOT) commenters agreed with the intent and concepts proposed in the NPRM but they recommended revisions to minimize regulatory burden, increase flexibility and scalability, and make the provisions more practical to apply in the field. States also noted that some of the terms used in the proposed rule were ambiguous and lent themselves to subjective interpretation, and asked for clarification on the compliance dates. In this final rule, FHWA has addressed the comments received in response to the NPRM that are within the scope of this rulemaking. The regulation addresses the comments related to flexibility and scalability of provisions; revises, eliminates, or clarifies ambiguous terms pointed out by the commenters; and clarifies compliance timeframes.

The final rule revises §§ 630.1004, 630.1006, 630.1008, 630.1010, 630.1012, 630.1014, and 630.1016 of the existing rule published in 2004 to clarify certain aspects of the regulation and to update and provide additional emphasis on certain elements. The regulation will enhance the current state of practice in work zone management by promoting data-driven assessment of work zone performance, motivating agencies to conduct a thorough review of work zone management processes, and encouraging comprehensive assessment and management of work zone safety and mobility impacts. This final rule incorporates new definitions and clarifies some existing definitions; includes a requirement in States' Work Zone Safety and Mobility Policies to define the safety and mobility performance measures that States will monitor and report; reframes Work Zone Process Reviews to Work Zone Programmatic Reviews (WZPR), emphasizing the importance of reviewing all aspects of a State's work zone management program; changes the WZPR reporting timeframe from every 2 years to every 5 years to comply with the BIL; strengthens the requirement for States to develop and implement work zone assessment and management procedures with an added notion of addressing impacts to all anticipated road users and highway workers; and clarifies the significant project and TMP

criteria for Interstate and Non-Interstate projects to comply with the BIL.

Subpart K—Temporary Traffic Control Devices Overview

In 2007, at 72 FR 68489, FHWA added a new Subpart K to 23 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) part 630 to facilitate the appropriate use of, and expenditure of funds for, uniformed law enforcement officers, positive protective measures between workers and motorized traffic, and installation and maintenance of temporary traffic control devices during construction, utility, and maintenance operations. The intent of the regulation was to reduce both worker and motorist fatalities and injuries in work zones. Overall, work zone fatalities decreased significantly during the latter half of that decade, from a high of 1,068 work zone fatalities in 2004 to 590 fatalities in 2011.[1] Unfortunately, since then that trend has reversed, growing from 590 fatalities in 2011 to 891 fatalities in 2022 (the most recent year of available national work zone fatality data). Work zones continue to have significant safety and mobility impacts on our transportation system, which are further expected to increase due to increased road construction and rehabilitation projects funded by the BIL.

Vehicle collisions with highway workers as a percentage of all highway worker fatalities have also been trending upward in recent years. In 2015, 35 percent of all highway worker fatalities at road construction sites were caused by a vehicle striking a worker; by 2020, that number has increased to 53 percent.[2] [3]

It has been over 15 years since the Subpart K rule was first published. New technologies, such as work zone intelligent transportation systems (also referred to as smart work zones) and automated flagger assistance devices (AFAD), have become dependable tools that are now readily available to help mitigate the safety and mobility impacts of work zones and should be listed as options to consider within the regulation. Other advanced technologies to support connected and automated vehicle travel through and around work zones continue to be developed and deployed. Conversely, despite sufficient time to develop appropriate procedures to do so, adoption of the requirement to base decisions regarding the need for longitudinal traffic barriers and other positive protection devices on an ''engineering study'' have been uneven across the States. A need exists to strengthen the rule with regard to what constitutes an engineering study. Finally, the existing regulation references guidelines and other documents that have been superseded by newer publications.

In light of the above, FHWA published an NPRM on September 20, 2023, at 88 FR 64836, to update Subpart K to meet current and future work zone safety needs. The regulations proposed in the NPRM were intended to facilitate improved agency guidelines backed by engineering research to determine the use of positive protection and other strategies. In addition, the proposed regulations mandated the use of positive protective strategies to minimize worker exposure to motorized traffic in work zones with high anticipated operating speeds that provide workers no means of escape from motorized traffic intruding into the workspace. Several States, a few trade associations, and some private industry representatives provided responses to the NPRM. While most of the commenters agreed with the intent and the concepts proposed in the NPRM, they recommended that the proposed provisions be revised and altered to make them practical for application in the field. The commenters identified the need for flexibility and scalability in the implementation of the provisions of the proposed rule; noted that some of the terms used in the proposed rule were ambiguous and lent themselves to subjective interpretation; and asked for clarification on compliance timeframes of the final rule. In this final rule, FHWA has addressed the comments received in response to the NPRM that are within the scope of this rulemaking. The regulation addressed the comments related to flexibility and scalability of provisions; revised, eliminated, or clarified ambiguous terms pointed out by the commenters; and clarified compliance timeframes.

The final rule revises §§ 630.1104, 630.1106, 630.1108, and 630.1110 of the existing rule published in 2007 to clarify certain aspects of the regulation and to update and provide additional emphasis to certain elements that have not seen the quality of implementation that was initially envisioned. The final rule also adds § 630.1112 to the existing rule to clarify the compliance timeframe. The final rule incorporates new definitions and clarifies some existing definitions; updates the requirement in States' Work Zone Safety Management Policies and Procedures to clarify that agency processes, procedures, or guidance regarding strategies and devices to be used for the management of work zone impacts, including the use of positive protection devices and other strategies, are to be based on an engineering study; updates the requirement in States' Work Zone Safety Management Policies and Procedures to provide characteristics of an engineering study and examples of the types of engineering decisionmaking tools that can be used in the engineering study; and modifies § 630.1108(a) to: (i) require that positive protection devices be used in work zones with high anticipated operating speeds that provide workers no means of escape from motorized traffic intruding into the workspace unless an engineering study determines otherwise; and (ii) remove redundant language indicating that decisions regarding the use of longitudinal traffic barriers and other positive protection devices shall be based on an engineering study.

Profile of Commenters

A total of 53 parties commented on the NPRM. Of these, 35 were from State DOTs, 12 were from trade associations, 3 were from private companies, and 3 were from private citizens. Representatives from 20 State DOTs provided 35 responses. The 20 States represented a diverse range of geographies from across the country. The DOTs of Idaho, South Dakota, North Dakota, Wyoming, and Montana provided a consolidated response to the NPRM, while the remaining State DOTs submitted individual comments. The trade associations that provided comments included the Laborers' Health and Safety Fund of North America (LHSFNA), American Traffic Safety Services Association (ATSSA), Associated General Contractors of America (AGC), American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), American Road and Transportation Builders Association (ARTBA), Motorcycle Industry Council (MIC), American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees (AFSCME), International Safety Equipment Association (ISEA), and Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE).

The commenters represented a cross-section of job categories across DOT functions including planning, engineering, traffic, safety, design, construction and contracting.

[1] Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS) maintained by NHTSA and is available at the following URL: *http://www.fars.nhtsa.dot.gov/*.

[2] Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries. Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Washington, DC. Accessible at *https://www.bls.gov/iif/overview/cfoi.htm*.

[3] Worker Fatalities and Injuries at Road Construction Sites. National Work Zone Safety Information Clearinghouse. Accessible at *https://workzonesafety.org/work-zone-data/worker-fatalities-and-injuries-at-road-construction-sites/*.

Subpart J—Work Zone Safety and Mobility

Overall Position of Commenters

Most commenters were generally supportive of the intent and stated purpose of the proposed revisions. Some commenters offered additional comments on specific areas of concern and recommended changes to improve the rule's language and interpretability.

Generally, State DOTs commented that the proposed revisions should not have a mandatory impact, but instead allow for flexibility and scalability while limiting unintended liability and cost. Five States agreed with FHWA's intent and the concepts for improving work zone safety and mobility but did not agree with many of the mandatory provisions. States also sought clarification on whether FHWA intended to mandate the performance measures listed in some of the ''shall'' conditions or whether the measures were provided as examples. In addition, States asked for clarification on certain ambiguous terms as well as the compliance timeframe for the final rule.

Most State DOT commenters appreciated the updated 5-year reporting timeframe for WZPRs but had concerns about the new 3-year performance reporting requirement. They commented that the 3-year requirement contradicts BIL § 11302 and would require significant commitments from its limited staff. In addition, they sought clarification on the flexibility for States to choose the number of performance measures and specific measures to meet final rule requirements.

Private sector commenters also offered comments on certain areas of concern. Details regarding these issues and FHWA's specific response are discussed in the following section, which provides a section-by-section analysis of the comments.

Section-by-Section Analysis of NPRM Comments and FHWA Response—Subpart J

Overview of the Organization of This Section

This section consists of a detailed discussion on the comments received on specific NPRM sections and the FHWA response and resolution to the comments. For each section, the following information is presented:

- Breakdown of the position of the commenters with regards to the provisions proposed in that section;
- Major issues cited by the commenters; and
- FHWA action in response to the comments and explanation of the provisions being implemented in the final rule.

The following paragraphs present a section-by-section analysis and resolution of the comments on the NPRM.

§ 630.1004 Definitions and Explanation of Terms

Most commenters were supportive of this section. Some commenters offered specific comments on some of the definitions proposed in the NPRM. They are discussed as follows:

Definition of ''Agency''

A commenter pointed out that the term ''agency'' only appears in the definitions of ''Highway Workers,'' ''Transportation Management Plan,'' and ''Work Zone Programmatic Review.'' The commenter mentioned that all remaining sections refer to ''States'' and have no actionable items for agencies. The commenter sought clarification on the intent of using the term ''agency'' and any final rule provisions or action items applicable to local highway agencies or authorities.

The FHWA will retain the ''Agency'' definition as proposed in the NPRM and add clarification in § 630.1010 that provisions in §§ 630.1010, 630.1012, and 630.1014 apply to State and local agencies that receive Federal funding for their work zone projects. The FHWA updated the definition of ''Agency'' by adding, ''that receives Federal-aid highway funding'' at the end to be consistent with the Subpart K definition.

Definition of ''Mobility''

Four commenters provided input on this definition, with three commenters opposed to the deletion of language associated with highway worker or road user safety and one being neutral. The three commenters suggesting that the language associated with the safety of highway workers and road users should not be deleted believe that keeping the language intact would help emphasize the fact that safety is a crucial aspect that underpins the movement of road users. Another commenter suggested adding 'level of service' as an example of commonly used performance measures.

As requested by the commenters, FHWA will retain the safety language related to highway workers and road users in the mobility definition. The FHWA did not add 'level of service' as an example measure because it is a metric that can be derived from the other example metrics included in the provision.

Definition of ''Road Users''

While FHWA did not propose a definition for ''Road User'' in the NPRM, one commenter asked FHWA to clarify the term in relation to the use of this term in § 630.1008(b).

The FHWA declines to add a new definition here but notes that the definition for the term ''Road Users'' is provided in 23 United States Code (U.S.C.) 148(a)(8).

Definition of ''Safety''

Ten commenters supported the removal of superfluous language on highway worker safety. Four of the commenters suggested removing ''the rate of highway worker fatalities and injuries per hours of work activity'' from commonly used measures. They suggested this removal due to the difficulty of obtaining accurate information for these measures.

The FHWA understands the difficulty cited by commenters in collecting accurate hours of work activity and numbers of highway worker fatalities and injuries. To this end, FHWA removed ''the rate of highway worker fatalities and injuries per hours of work activity'' from the commonly used measures.

Definition of ''Transportation Management Plan''

Five commenters pointed out that the section-by-section discussion of § 630.1004 in the NPRM inaccurately stated that the TMP definition includes references to the temporary traffic control (TTC) plan and transportation operations (TO) and public information and outreach (PIO) components to the TMP.

The FHWA agrees with the commenters' observation that the TMP definition does not provide information about the TTC, TO, and PIO components. Sections 630.1010(d) and 630.1012(b) provide a detailed explanation of these TMP components. The FHWA added a clarifying sentence at the end of the TMP definition that readers can refer to § 630.1010(d) and § 630.1012(b) for more information on the TMP and its components.

Definition of ''Work Zone Crash''

Three commenters supported the proposed changes. Two commenters asked FHWA to compare the proposed work zone crash definition with the Model Minimum Uniform Crash Criteria (MMUCC) definition of secondary crashes.[4] The MMUCC says that

[4] MMUCC Guideline Model Minimum Uniform Crash Criteria 6th edition. National Highway Traffic

Continued

secondary crashes are identified from the time the initial crash is detected, occurring either at the primary crash site or within the traffic queue or backup, including those in the opposite direction caused by the primary crash. A commenter recommended providing additional clarification that the crash tracking requirement is not intended to capture any crash within the area of impact, and only specifically work-zone-related crashes per the MMUCC.

The FHWA did not make any changes to the proposed NPRM language. The existing ''Work Zone Crash'' definition in § 630.1004 refers to the crash definition in MMUCC, which also addresses secondary crashes outside the work zone limits influenced by the primary work zone crashes. The FHWA encourages States to include secondary work zone crashes in their safety analysis to the extent data are available.

Definition of ''Work Zone Impacts''

Two commenters supported the proposed changes. One commenter recommended adding ''Type of Temporary Traffic Control'' to the list of factors for assessing the work zone impacts and extent. Another commenter asked for clarification on whether States need to use minimum parameters or engineering judgement to assess ''distance between workers and traffic and availability of escape paths for workers'' factors.

The FHWA updated the rule language by adding type of temporary traffic control as a factor that States can consider for assessing the extent of work zone impacts. In addition, FHWA clarifies that States can (i) use data from work zone planning and implementation logs to identify ''the distance between workers and traffic'' and (ii) a combination of data (*e.g.,* work zone type, location, closure status) and engineering judgement to assess ''the availability of escape paths for workers.'' Workers in this instance refers to flaggers and highways workers.

§ 630.1006 Work Zone Safety and Mobility Policy

§ 630.1006(b) Identification of Safety and Mobility Performance Measures in the Policy

Twenty-one commenters provided comments in response to this paragraph. Of these, 12 commenters expressed concerns about the inclusion of a list of safety and mobility performance measures within the ''shall'' condition of the work zone policy requirement. They believe that it gives the impression that FHWA mandates the use of these performance measures. The commenters sought clarity on whether FHWA mandates the use of these measures or whether they are just examples. They also asked whether they can choose performance measures not listed in this paragraph and whether there is a minimum number of safety and mobility performance measures that each State should identify to meet this requirement. A commenter noted that the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devises (MUTCD) uses American National Standards Institute/ISEA (ANSI/ISEA) 107–2015 standard for compliance requirements of high-visibility safety apparel for all workers performing daytime and nighttime work activity within temporary traffic control zone. The commenter suggested adding a new paragraph to recognize the new ANSI/ISEA 107–2020, the American National Standard for High Visibility Safety Apparel.

The safety and mobility performance measures included in the NPRM are examples and are not mandatory. To avoid confusion, FHWA split the proposed sentence into two. The revised first sentence contains the requirement for States to identify performance measures in their work zone policies. The second sentence provides examples of measures to consider. States can comply with this requirement by identifying at least one safety and one mobility performance measure, but they are encouraged to use as many performance measures as needed to manage the performance of their work zones. States may choose performance measures that are best suited to their work zone conditions and impacts but they must have a documented work zone performance management approach for selecting projects, identifying performance measures, and collecting performance data. In response to the suggestion to add a new paragraph regarding ANSI/ISEA 107–2020, Subpart J incorporates the MUTCD and requires the use of Part 6 by reference. Section 6C.05 of the MUTCD requires all workers performing daytime and nighttime work activity within temporary traffic control zones to wear high-visibility safety apparel that meets the Performance Class 2 or 3 requirements of the ANSI/ISEA 107–2015 standard or equivalent revisions.

§ 630.1006(c) Multi-Disciplinary Team

Eight commenters provided input on this paragraph. Note that FHWA did not propose any changes to existing language related to the multi-disciplinary team. The only change that FHWA made to this paragraph was to assign a paragraph number, ''(c),'' to this sentence. Six commenters suggested removing this paragraph to allow States flexibility for selecting members for the multidisciplinary team. Two commenters sought clarification on whether States can keep this team internal and involve external parties only if necessary. Another commenter commented that the language in § 630.1006(c) is redundant with § 630.1008(e)(5).

The FHWA disagrees with the suggestion of deleting this paragraph and retained the language as proposed in the NPRM. The intent of the ''should'' condition is to encourage States to include members from various work zone management divisions in their policy development and implementation in a comprehensive manner. States can determine the members of their multidisciplinary team based on their needs. The team and developed policies can remain internal to the States, but external members can be added if deemed necessary. While § 630.1006(c) addresses the members that participate in the development and implementation of the work zone safety and mobility policy, § 630.1008(e)(5) addresses the members that participate in the work zone programmatic review.

§ 630.1008 State-Level Processes and Procedures

§ 630.1008(b) Work Zone Assessment and Management Procedures

Ten commenters provided comments on this paragraph. Among these, seven commenters suggested to retain the previous ''should'' condition for this requirement instead of elevating to a ''shall.'' These commenters also believed that the term ''potential'' in ''potential work zone impacts'' could be construed as requiring analysis for outcomes that may be unlikely but are nonetheless ''potential'' impacts. They recommended replacing the term ''potential'' with ''likely'' or ''possible'' so that the implementation of this requirement can be more practical. A commenter expressed concern with the use of term ''all'' in ''all road users and highway workers'' as some road users (*e.g.,* pedestrians and bicyclists) might not be applicable when assessing impacts on certain work zones. The commenter suggested removing the term ''all'' or qualifying with a caveat such as ''all anticipated road users.'' Another commenter recommended adding ''(including motorcyclists)'' next to road users.

The FHWA disagrees with the commenters' suggestion to retain the

Safety Administration. Accessed at: *https://www.nhtsa.gov/file-downloads?p=nhtsa/downloads/MMUCC/.*

''should'' condition instead of ''shall'' condition. The Work Zone Assessment and Management Procedures provision was introduced in 2007 as a new concept, hence the use of ''should'' was appropriate at that time. Since then, States have made significant progress in their work zone impacts assessment and management procedures. Therefore, using ''shall'' will reinforce this progress and facilitate continued improvement in work zone safety and mobility nationwide. The FHWA made additional changes for clarity and to address the issues cited by the commenters.

§ 630.1008(c) Work Zone Data

Thirteen commenters provided comments on this paragraph. Of these, eight commenters suggested changing the ''shall'' condition for this requirement to a ''should.'' These States noted that the term ''available'' is missing in front of safety surrogate data. Some commenters asked FHWA to clarify its intent in using the term ''available'' in front of multiple data sources. They commented that some data sources might be available in the market but not accessible for States to use due to factors such as required subscriptions and funding. In addition, five commenters sought clarity on whether FHWA mandates the use of performance measures listed in this paragraph or whether they are just examples. Two other commenters asked for clarity on the term ''specific projects'' and if it is the same as significant projects defined in § 630.1010.

The existing rule already requires States to use data in their work zone safety and mobility management processes. The FHWA retained the ''shall'' condition to facilitate improved data-driven assessments of work zone performance nationwide. To address the comment about performance measures, FHWA split the paragraph into two sentences in the final rule. The revised first sentence presents the requirement, and the second sentence identifies example measures for each data source. The FHWA's intent in using the term ''available'' in this paragraph is not to require States to acquire additional data available in the market, but rather to make use of data accessible and available to them through existing sources. ''Specific projects'' in this paragraph refers to individual projects that State DOTs choose for monitoring and management of work zone impacts during implementation. Specific projects may include significant or non-significant projects, and are selected based on factors such as land use, type of roadway, work zone type, and the extent of potential work zone impacts.

§ 630.1008(d) Training

Three commenters provided comments on this paragraph. Note that FHWA did not propose any changes to existing language for this paragraph. The commenters did not cite any major issues. One commenter asked about training and certification requirements pursuant to § 630.1008(d). Another commenter recommended that State and local roadway owners should require a trained and certified Work Zone Supervisor to be assigned for each significant project. The third commenter recommended to update the paragraph language by adding an established time period that informs workers when they should recertify their training to ensure workers are thoroughly trained in the best safety practices when working in work zones.

The FHWA did not make any changes to this provision. With regard to the commenter's question on training and certification requirements, FHWA's position is that State DOTs need to tailor training and certification for each role based on their own requirements. For example, Virginia DOT's Work Zone Traffic Control Training Requirements document [5] identifies various roles in design, construction, and maintenance/operations divisions and their respective training and certification requirements. The current state of the practice is that most agencies require their staff to be retrained once every 2 to 4 years. With regard to the comment on retraining, FHWA believes that the second sentence in this provision (*i.e.,* States shall require periodic training updates that reflect changing industry practices and State processes and procedures) addresses the comment by requiring periodic training updates that reflect changing industry practices, which includes state-of-the-art practices.

§ 630.1008(e) Work Zone Programmatic Review

Eleven commenters provided input on this paragraph. All commenters were supportive of this high-level provision. Note that § 630.1008(e) speaks about the high-level provision for work zone programmatic reviews and its reporting timeframe, whereas paragraphs § 630.1008(e)(1) through (e)(5) provide more specifics on the contents of the work zone programmatic reviews, project selection for conducting reviews, data-driven assessment needs, and examination of various work zone efforts. Commenters provided separate comments on these individual paragraphs, which are discussed following this section. Six commenters asked for clarification for the timeframe of the data to be included in the 5-year programmatic review. They noted a technical concern in the wording that calls for a State to share its 5-year review with FHWA ''by the end of the 5-year review period.'' They suggested that the review period for each WZPR report should include the review of work zones from 5 calendar years prior to the year of the report. Commenters also asked for clarification on the compliance dates for the reframed WZPR requirement. They mentioned that it may take at least 12 to 24 months to update their policies and data collection practices to meet the new requirements. They asked FHWA to consider these factors when identifying the compliance dates/timeframes. A commenter recommended application of data driven assessments to a representative sample of work zone projects over the 5-year review period that justify their inclusion.

The FHWA finds the approach suggested by the State DOTs for Programmatic Reviews' review period (*i.e.,* the review period for each WZPR report includes selection and review of work zones from 5 calendar years prior to the year of the report) to be reasonable. States may use this approach for selecting the review period for their Programmatic Reviews. The FHWA addressed comments about compliance timeframes in § 630.1016 by indicating that the next Programmatic Review reports are due by December 31, 2030. The FHWA reemphasizes that States shall use a documented approach for selecting representative projects based on factors such as land use (urban and rural locations), roadway type, type of work zone, and extent of the work zone impacts.

§ 630.1008(e)(1) Work Zone Programmatic Review—Qualification

Six commenters provided comments on this paragraph. Of these, two commenters suggested changing the requirement from ''shall'' to ''should'' and indicated that this change will allow flexibility to States in selection of projects for WZPRs. These two commenters along with four other commenters noted a major concern with the use of term ''all'' in ''all work zones'' and indicated that this implies that States shall include all their work zones in their WZPRs. They indicated that the term ''all'' is particularly concerning in rural areas where there are very few

[5] *https://ops.fhwa.dot.gov/wz/resources/final_rule/webcast/020112wztpdi/rush_ppt/rush.htm.*

projects that qualify as ''significant.'' These commenters suggested removing the term ''all'' from the regulation. Another commenter asked whether States are required to negotiate and confirm the representative project selection approach with the FHWA division offices.

The FHWA retained the ''shall'' condition and addressed the concern raised by multiple commenters by removing the term ''all'' from the final rule language. To avoid confusion, FHWA split the first sentence into two sentences. The revised first sentence addresses the data-driven assessment requirement of WZPRs, and the second sentence presents the minimum Programmatic Review requirement to include a representative sample of the State's work zones over the 5-year period being reviewed. This revision provides flexibility to State DOTs to select a representative set of projects based on a documented and well-reasoned approach. To the extent possible, FHWA encourages States to include all work zones in their programmatic review to make it a comprehensive review of systemwide performance. While States are not required to include FHWA division offices in defining the approach for representative project selection, they are encouraged to do so.

§ 630.1008(e)(2) Explanation of Work Zone Programmatic Review

Two commenters provided input on this paragraph. One commenter suggested changing the requirement from ''shall'' to ''should'' to minimize regulatory burden on States. Another commenter commented that the terms ''divisions or offices'' used in this paragraph are not clearly defined.

The FHWA retained the ''shall'' condition in the final rule to ensure uniform implementation and reporting of WZPRs across the country. To make it clear that Programmatic Reviews should identify State divisions and offices responsible for implementing action items, FHWA added the term ''State'' in front of ''divisions or offices.''

§ 630.1008(e)(3) Work Zone Programmatic Review Data and Reporting

Nine commenters provided comments on this paragraph and opposed the provisions in it. A commenter suggested changing the requirement from ''shall'' to ''should'' to minimize regulatory burden on States. Eight commenters indicated that the requirement to report performance at the end of the third year might be contradictory to the BIL. Commenters noted inconsistent use of the term ''available'' in front of data sources. A commenter asked for clarification on contents to be included in the 3-year report. Another commenter suggested consistency in use of example measures listed in § 630.1008(e)(3) and § 630.1008(c). In addition, five commenters sought clarity on whether FHWA mandates the use of performance measures listed in this paragraph or whether they are just examples.

The FHWA removed the mid-point performance data reporting from the rule provision to address the comments received. The FHWA retained the annual performance monitoring requirement. The purpose of the annual monitoring is to facilitate continuity in assessing work zone performance. States are encouraged to use the performance measures they identify in their policies for the annual monitoring and incorporate their findings into their 5-year WZPRs. The FHWA added the term ''available'' in front of all data sources to make it consistent. The FHWA removed the performance measures proposed in the § 630.1008(e)(3) of NPRM and added a sentence noting that agencies can use examples of performance measures listed in § 630.1008(c) for each data source.

§ 630.1008(e)(4) Examination of Other Efforts

Seven commenters provided comments on this paragraph. Of these, two commenters suggested changing the requirement from ''shall'' to ''should'' to minimize regulatory burden on States. Four commenters opposed the use of the term ''all'' in ''all State divisions and offices,'' and noted that the selection of applicable divisions or efforts to be examined as part of WZPRs varies between States depending on factors such as staff and data availability in those divisions. They asked whether the efforts listed in the requirement are examples or requirements, and if States have flexibility in selection of these efforts based on their work zone assessment criteria.

The FHWA retained the ''shall'' condition in the final rule to emphasize the importance of covering all aspects of program planning and project development that affect work zone safety and mobility. The FHWA removed the term ''all'' in front of ''State divisions or offices'' to allow States flexibility to select efforts applicable to their work zone safety and mobility assessment. The FHWA further clarifies that the efforts listed in § 630.1008(e)(4) apply to work zone processes and procedures requirements between § 630.1008(e)(2) and § 630.1008(e)(4). The FHWA's intent is for States to select the efforts considering the assessment of the work zone safety and mobility performance. The FHWA encourages States to involve FHWA division offices in selecting efforts, but it is not mandatory.

§ 630.1010 Significant Projects

§ 630.1010(a) Significant Project Explanation

Only one commenter provided comments in response to this paragraph. Note that FHWA did not propose any changes to existing language for this paragraph. This commenter suggested adding the words ''work zone'' in between significant projects to distinguish work zone projects from other types of projects that may have different impacts and requirements.

The FHWA did not propose any changes to this provision in the NPRM. Therefore, FHWA did not make any change to the final rule. With regards to the one comment on this topic, the significant project definition addresses sustained work zone impacts, and it is implied that these projects are work zone projects.

§ 630.1010(c) Significant Project Qualification—Interstates

Four commenters provided comments on this paragraph. Note that FHWA did not propose any changes to existing language for this paragraph. Three of the commenters recommended deleting this paragraph, noting that States have a defined policy under § 630.1010(a) for determining significant projects. Two commenters asked FHWA to consider providing flexibility for intermittent closures associated with preservation and maintenance activities with lower/mitigated impacts on the interstate system. Another commenter mentioned that the BIL language about significant projects does not include intermittent lane closures.

In compliance with BIL § 11303(a), FHWA retained the language as proposed in the NPRM. Although States define their policy under § 630.1010(a), work zones on interstates that meet the conditions of § 630.1010(c) would still qualify as significant projects. This section identifies minimum criteria for significant projects. If a State determines a project or a class of projects as not significant, they can make use of the State DOT policy in § 630.1010(b) and exception process in § 630.1010(d) to file an exception and not prepare the PIO and TO components of a TMP. The BIL § 11303(a) mentions that ''The Secretary shall amend section 630.1010(c) of title 23, Code of Federal Regulations, to ensure that only a

project described in that paragraph with a lane closure for 3 or more consecutive days shall be considered to be a significant project for purposes of that section.'' The projects described in paragraph § 630.1010(c) include work zone projects with intermittent or continuous lane closures.

§ 630.1010(d) Significant Project Qualification—Non-Interstates

Three commenters provided comments on this paragraph. All of them recommend deleting this paragraph, noting that TMP requirements are covered in § 630.1012(b).

The FHWA retained this paragraph because it is required for compliance with BIL § 11303(b) and to address TO/PIO requirements for non-interstate projects. However, FHWA modified this paragraph to simplify the language and make it consistent with the interstate system projects requirement. The FHWA also changed the numbering for this section § 630.1010(d) in the NPRM to § 630.1010(e). This change allows the significant project exceptions for interstate projects (*i.e.,* previously § 630.1012(e) in the NPRM) to be next to the significant project qualification section (*i.e.,* § 630.1012(c)).

§ 630.1010(e) Significant Project Exceptions—Interstates

One commenter provided comments on this paragraph. Note that FHWA did not propose any changes to this paragraph. The commenter requested clarity on the process and time frame to request and receive an exception from FHWA.

Since there was no change proposed in the NPRM, FHWA did not make any changes to this paragraph in the final rule. With regards to the commenter's requested clarification on the process and time frame for exceptions, States are encouraged to coordinate with FHWA division offices on how to handle exceptions either on a project-by-project basis or for a particular project category, in order to streamline and simplify the process.

§ 630.1012 Project-Level Procedures

§ 630.1012(a) Section Overview and (b) Transportation Management Plan

Five commenters provided comments in response to the NPRM preamble language of this paragraph. Note that FHWA did not propose any changes to existing language for this paragraph in the NPRM. A commenter asked FHWA to clarify which agencies would be responsible for developing TMPs for projects outside the State DOT's jurisdiction. Further, the commenter mentioned that the State should not be required to develop and implement TMPs for such projects and manage their impacts. The section-by-section discussion of the NPRM's § 630.1004 talks about updating the public information component to PIO in the TMP definition. However, the TMP definition does not cover the TO and PIO components of a TMP. All five commenters pointed out that the preamble discussion on expanding public information to PIO is more appropriate in the section-by-section discussion of § 630.1012(b) as that section explains about PIO.

The FHWA decided to remove the requirement that TTC plans are consistent with the work zone hardware recommendations in Chapter 9 of the 2011 American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) Roadway Design Guide (RDG), which had been proposed for incorporation by reference in the NPRM. The 4th edition of the RDG includes some statements that are no longer accurate (*e.g.,* reference to FHWA's approval of crashworthy products by issuing acceptance letters). Despite this change in mandatory requirement, agencies are encouraged to consider the work zone hardware recommendations in the AASHTO RDG when preparing their TTC plan. This RDG document was developed by AASHTO to present the concepts of roadside safety (including those in work zones) to designers so that the most practical, appropriate, and beneficial roadside design can be accomplished for each project.

The FHWA clarifies that the provisions in §§ 630.1010, 630.1012, and 630.1014 apply to all State and local agencies that receive Federal funding for their work zone projects. An agency (State or local) that receives Federal funds for their work zone projects is responsible for developing and implementing TMPs and managing impacts of those projects. The FHWA agrees with the commenters and clarifies that the description of a public information component in § 630.1010(d) and § 630.1012(b) has been expanded to PIO to be consistent with the intent of that aspect of the TMP.

The rulemaking to adopt the 11th edition of MUTCD was in progress when FHWA published the NPRM for this rule. In December 2023, FHWA published the new version of MUTCD. Since § 630.1012(b) refers to MUTCD Part 6, FHWA updated the MUTCD reference in § 630.1018 to reflect the new version.

§ 630.1012(c) Inclusion of TMP in Plans, Specification, and Estimates

Two commenters provided comments on this paragraph. Both suggested removing the ''shall'' condition from this paragraph and noted that including TMP into Plans, Specification, and Estimates will require additional policy and process development, training, and legal review.

The FHWA did not make any change to this paragraph in the final rule. The ''shall'' condition has been in place since the initial Work Zone Safety and Mobility Rule published in 2004 and does not introduce any new requirements.

§ 630.1012(e) Responsible Persons

Only one commenter provided comments in response to this paragraph. The FHWA did not propose any changes to this paragraph in the NPRM. The commenter inquired if the trained person referred to in this paragraph must meet any ATSSA certification requirements.

The FHWA did not make any changes to this paragraph. With regards to the commenter's question, FHWA does not establish specific training and certification requirements, as each agency determines its own.

§ 630.1016 Compliance Date

Eleven commenters provided comments in response to this paragraph. Of these, ten commenters asked questions about the compliance date for the provision and the timeframe for the mid-point performance summary and WZPR reporting. Commenters asked for the effective date to be a minimum of 12 months from the date of final rule publication.

The FHWA changed the compliance date to December 31, 2026, which allows at least 24 months for States to comply with the rule. The next WZPR reporting date will be December 31, 2030, respectively. In addition, FHWA removed the phrase ''and once every 5 years thereafter'' as it is already covered in § 630.1008(e).

Subpart K—Temporary Traffic Control Devices

Overall Position of Commenters

Commenters were generally supportive of the intent and purpose of the updates to Subpart K and acknowledged the importance of work zone safety, and specifically, worker safety. The commenters offered comments on specific areas of concern and recommended changes to improve the rule's language. State DOTs expressed concern that the rule should

not mandate provisions but rather it should allow for adequate flexibility and scalability while limiting unintended liability and cost. States also sought clarification of certain ambiguous terms and the compliance timeframe. Private sector commenters also offered comments on certain areas of concern. Details regarding these issues and FHWA's specific responses are discussed in the following section, which provides a section-by-section analysis of the comments.

The majority of commenters expressed overall support for the provisions proposed in the NPRM. While the commenters' overall position on the NPRM was supportive, many of these commenters suggested modifications and revised language for specific provisions as they deemed appropriate.

Of the six commenters who did not expressly support the updates, five of them agreed with FHWA's intent and the concepts for improving work zone safety and worker protection, but did not agree with the mandatory provisions. They opposed the change proposed in § 630.1108(a) to require positive protection devices in specific conditions unless an engineering study concludes otherwise. To this end, they mentioned the specific work zone conditions where these requirements would not be practically applicable, and the additional investments associated with implementing these strategies. They suggested additional changes to specific sections and removal of ambiguous terms. They also sought clarification on the compliance timeframe for the final rule. The remaining commenter opposed the provision for development of broader guidelines based on an engineering study that agencies can use for determining the requirement of positive protection or other strategies, and also opposed adding the ''high anticipated operating speeds'' qualifier in the provision (§ 630.1108(a)) that addresses the positive protection requirement.

Section-by-Section Analysis of Comments and FHWA Response—Subpart K

§ 630.1104 Definitions and Explanation of Terms

Most commenters were supportive of this section. Some commenters offered specific comments on some of the definitions proposed in the NPRM. They are discussed as follows:

Definition of ''Engineering Study''

Eight commenters provided input on this definition. All eight commenters stated that the term ''comprehensive'' in ''comprehensive analysis and evaluation of available pertinent information . . .'' is unclear. They recommended deleting this term to be consistent with the definition of Engineering Study from the recently published MUTCD 11th edition. A commenter suggested adding the term ''temporary'' in front of ''traffic control.''

Keeping consistency with the MUTCD definition, FHWA deleted the term ''comprehensive'' from this definition. The term ''traffic control'' is used in a broad sense here. As the definition of ''Engineering Study'' applies to the entire Subpart K, which provides guidance on how to approach strategies related to all work-zone-related temporary traffic control, FHWA did not add ''temporary'' before ''traffic control'' in this definition.

Definition of ''Positive Protection Devices''

Four commenters provided input on this paragraph. Three commenters opposed removing the crashworthiness qualifier requirements from the definition of positive protection devices. They mentioned that the crashworthiness requirements ensure that the various positive protection mechanisms used are tested for their appropriateness to offer the necessary protections at relevant speeds. The remaining commenter asked for a more detailed definition of positive protection devices, including example devices that constitute a positive protection device.

The FHWA updated the definition language to include that the positive protection devices meet applicable industry crashworthiness evaluation criteria. For example, AASHTO's Manual for Assessing Safety Hardware includes current industry crashworthiness evaluation criteria. Industry crashworthiness evaluation criteria are not regulatory, and use of them is voluntary and not required by law. This updated language reemphasizes FHWA's longstanding policy that all roadside safety hardware installed on the National Highway System be crashworthy. States can refer to 23 U.S.C. 112(g)(4) for examples of positive protection devices, which include temporary traffic barriers, crash cushions, and other strategies to avoid traffic crashes in work zones, including full road closures.

§ 630.1106 Policy and Procedures for Work Zone Safety Management

§ 630.1106(b) Agency Processes, Procedures, or Guidance

Eight commenters provided input on this section. Three of the commenters opposed the requirement that agency processes, procedures, or guidance regarding strategies and devices to be used for the management of work zone impacts, including the use of positive protection devices and other strategies, are to be based on an engineering study. The remaining commenter suggested requiring that State DOTs conduct a project-specific engineering study instead of using agency guidelines based on an engineering study.

The FHWA decided to remove the reference to the AASHTO RDG. The 4th edition of the RDG includes some statements that are no longer accurate (*e.g.,* reference to FHWA's approval of crashworthy products by issuing acceptance letters). Despite this change, agencies are encouraged to consider work zone related information in the AASHTO RDG during the development of their processes, procedures, and guidance. The FHWA reemphasizes that agencies need to use reasonable and well-documented approaches backed by engineering research to develop their processes, procedures, or guidance for managing work zone impacts, including using positive protection devices and other strategies. Such well-documented approaches can provide evidence-based justification for agencies to determine the need for positive protection and other strategies to ensure worker safety.

A commenter suggested moving the detailed discussion of engineering study from this paragraph to the ''engineering study'' definition in § 630.1104.

The definitions section offers a broader definition of engineering study. In contrast, this section provides more in-depth details of who conducts the study, how to document it, and applicable tools to perform it. Therefore, FHWA believes the details of the engineering study are more applicable to this section.

Another commenter asked for a clear definition of the terms ''safety impacts'' used in § 630.1106 (b)(3) ''anticipated traffic safety impacts.''

As noted in § 630.1004—definitions of ''Safety'' and ''Work Zone Impacts,'' work zone safety impacts refer to work-zone-induced potential hazards to road users in the vicinity of a work zone and highway workers at the work zone interface with traffic. Anticipated traffic safety impacts in this paragraph refer to identifying the safety risks to work zone workers and road users associated with

various factors such as exposure to traffic, time of activity, type of activity, intrusion of motorized traffic into activity area, lane widths, speed limits, crash frequency and severity prior to work zone implementation, and pre-work zone inspection findings. This safety impact identification approach can be a simple checklist for short-term and limited-exposure projects and a more involved assessment for long-term and complex projects.

A commenter recommended adding a minimum safety requirement for work zone workers to this section.

The FHWA does not see a need to add specific requirements for worker safety in this paragraph as worker safety is addressed in various sections of 23 CFR 630 Subparts J and K, and MUTCD 11th edition.

The FHWA referenced four benefit-cost studies in the NPRM Subpart-K discussion section to justify that research and data did not support the thresholds stated in the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP–21). In response, two commenters stated that these studies overestimated the cost of positive protection devices.

Studies found it difficult to justify positive protection based on crash statistics and benefit cost analysis. Due to limited availability and challenges associated with collecting positive protection-specific data, FHWA has no new credible information to justify updating the implementation thresholds of positive protection strategies.

§ 630.1108 Work Zone Safety Management Measures and Strategies

§ 630.1108(a) Positive Protection Devices

Seven commenters provided input on this paragraph. Five commenters opposed the use of the ''shall'' condition for implementing positive protection devices and mentioned that these devices require a significant investment. They suggested retaining the existing rule provision language, which would allow States to determine the need for positive protection devices based on an engineering study. They also mentioned that several previous studies have demonstrated that cost-benefit analyses do not justify this policy. In addition, two commenters noted that the requirement to use positive protection devices ''unless an engineering study determines otherwise'' is the opposite of the current rule and contrary to the findings of prior research. These commenters also asked about the extent of conducting these engineering studies across different projects.

The FHWA made a minor update but retained the remaining language as proposed in the NPRM. In the NPRM, FHWA added the ''shall'' condition for the use of positive protection in response to increasing trend of fatalities in worker struck incidents and to address the requirements in MAP–21 Section 1405. Since this is a ''shall'' condition, FHWA is restricting the implementation requirement to the situations where the workers are most vulnerable, which is work zones with high anticipated operating speeds that provide workers no means of escape from motorized traffic intruding into the workspace. The FHWA added the ''high anticipated operating speeds'' as the majority of fatal work zone crashes occur on high-speed roadways such as urban and rural interstates, urban and rural principal arterials, and freeways/expressways.[6] These facility types generally operate at high speeds (45 mph or greater). The FHWA prioritizes the implementation of enhanced safety measures in high-risk environments, ultimately safeguarding the lives of those working in the most vulnerable conditions. The language adopted is consistent with that used in MAP–21 Section 1405 for these situations. However, agencies may choose to use positive protection devices on roadways with lower operating speeds.

State DOTs may use a tiered approach to conduct engineering studies for the type of work zones identified in this provision. Agencies may develop their engineering analysis criteria based on factors such as type of work, exposure to traffic, expected work zone level of effort, worker protection needs, vehicle mix, time of day, geometry, and location. For example, Caltrans established Guidelines on the Use of Positive Work Zone Protection and Mitigation Measures,[7] which provide a detailed approach and weightage criteria to conduct a safety risk assessment and engineering analysis to determine positive protection and other mitigation measures for their work zones. This guidance document also allows Caltrans to determine the required level of positive protection based on the safety risk. The engineering analysis may vary from a simple assessment of checklist items summarized in a few paragraphs for smaller projects (*e.g.,* short-term maintenance) to a more thorough assessment and risk analysis of checklist items for larger/complex projects (*e.g.,* bridge approach slab replacement, widening projects, and shoulder maintenance).

A commenter suggested six recognized serious hazards for consideration of positive protection. This commenter also suggested including a requirement for States to specify positive protection and provide an associated pay item when serious hazards are foreseen or encountered on a project unless an agency determines the same to be impractical under applicable agency standards.

The serious hazards recognized by the commenter did not have any changes compared to the NPRM language on example scenarios and situations for positive protection consideration, except for ''Any other situation not specifically outlined above which merits the use of positive protection.'' The FHWA updated § 630.1108(b)(4) to include ''within one lane width'' as an example for determining closeness of workers to open travel lanes as a result of work operations. Section 630.1106(a) addresses the commenter's suggestion for agencies to specify the use of positive protection in their policy whereas § 630.1108(d)(2) addresses the suggestion for inclusion of pay items for such specified positive protection.

A commenter opposed the omission of language associated with use of temporary longitudinal barriers to protect workers. This commenter also mentioned that the ''high anticipated operating speeds'' qualifier used in this positive protection requirement regulation does not fully comply with MAP–21.

As longitudinal barrier is one type of positive protection device, the NPRM already covers these barriers in the engineering study requirement. In addition, agencies can refer to 23 U.S.C. 112(g)(4) for examples of positive protection devices, which include temporary traffic barriers, crash cushions, and other strategies. As indicated previously, the majority of fatal and injury work zone crashes occur on high-speed roadways such as urban and rural interstates, rural interstates, urban and rural principal arterials, and freeways/expressways. These facility types generally operate at high speeds (operating speeds of 45 mph or greater). The language adopted is consistent with that used in MAP–21 Section 1405 for these situations.

§ 630.1108(b) Exposure Control Measures

One commenter provided input on this paragraph. Note that FHWA did not propose any changes to existing language for this paragraph. The

[6] *https://workzonesafety.org/work-zone-data/work-zone-traffic-crash-trends-and-statistics/.*

[7] *https://dot.ca.gov/-/media/dot-media/programs/design/documents/final-dib-91_06282021_a11y.pdf.*

commenter suggested updating the requirement from ''should'' to ''shall.''

The FHWA did not make any changes to this provision. The FHWA retained the ''should'' condition to provide agencies with the flexibility to explore exposure and other traffic control measures as an alternative suite of options to preserve safety.

§ 630.1108(c) Other Traffic Control Measures

Two commenters provided comments in response to this paragraph. One commenter supported the inclusion of AFADs as an exposure control device. Another commenter recommended defining ''protection vehicles.''

The FHWA updated § 630.1108(c)(22) from ''Protection vehicles'' to ''Protection or shadow vehicles used to protect workers and equipment from impacts by errant vehicles'' to reflect the fact that there is inconsistency in how agencies define and use these terms.

§ 630.1110 Maintenance of Temporary Traffic Control Devices.—Footnotes

Six commenters provided input on this paragraph. Note that FHWA did not propose any changes to existing language for this paragraph. All six commenters recommended removing references to Illinois and Minnesota Quality Standards for Work Zone Traffic Control Devices from § 630.1110 footnotes. They opposed the suggestion of guidelines from other agencies in the footnotes and mentioned that agencies should be able to establish their own maintenance of TTC device standards or use ATSSA's ''Quality Guidelines for Temporary Traffic Control Devices and Features.''

The FHWA encourages agencies to establish their TTC device standards as applicable to their needs and policies. To this end, FHWA removed references to agency-specific quality standards (Illinois DOT and Minnesota DOT) and retained one of the commonly used industry standards (ATSSA's Quality Guidelines for Temporary Traffic Control Devices and Features) as an example.

§ 630.1112 Compliance Date

Nine commenters asked about the compliance timeframe for the Subpart K final rule. The commenters asked for the effective date to be minimum 12 months from the date of final rule publication.

In the anticipation that the rule is published in 2024, FHWA proposed the effective date of December 31, 2025, which allows at least 12 months for States to update their policy in compliance with the rule. The implementation date for the updated policy will be December 31, 2026.

Discussion Under 1 CFR Part 51

The FHWA is incorporating by reference the most current version of the MUTCD. At the time of NPRM publication, the rulemaking to adopt the 11th edition of the MUTCD was still underway. The FHWA published the 11th edition of MUTCD in December 2023. To this end, FHWA updated the references to incorporate the ''Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Streets and Highways,'' 11th edition dated December 2023. This document was developed by FHWA to define the standards used by road managers nationwide to install and maintain traffic control devices on all public streets, highways, bikeways, and private roads open to public travel.

The document that FHWA is incorporating by reference is reasonably available to interested parties, primarily State DOTs, local agencies, and Tribal governments carrying out Federal-aid highway projects. This documentrepresents the most recent refinements that have been formally accepted and are currently in use by the transportation industry. The document incorporated by reference is available on the docket of this rulemaking and at the sources identified in the regulatory text below. The specific standards are discussed in greater detail elsewhere in this preamble.

Rulemaking Analyses and Notices

Executive Order 12866 (Regulatory Planning and Review), Executive Order 13563 (Improving Regulation and Regulatory Review), and DOT Regulatory Policies and Procedures

The FHWA has considered the impacts of this rule under Executive Order (E.O.) 12866 (58 FR 51735, Oct. 4, 1993), Regulatory Planning and Review, as amended by E.O. 14094 (''Modernizing Regulatory Review''), and DOT's regulatory policies and procedures. The Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs within the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has determined that this rulemaking is not a significant regulatory action under section 3(f) of E.O. 12866. Accordingly, OMB has not reviewed it under that E.O.

It is anticipated that the final rule would not be economically significant for purposes of E.O. 12866. The final rule would not have an annual effect on the economy of $200 million or more. The final rule would not adversely affect in a material way the economy, any sector of the economy, productivity, competition, or jobs. In addition, the changes would not interfere with any action taken or planned by another Agency and would not materially alter the budgetary impact of any entitlements, grants, user fees, or loan programs.

Regulatory Flexibility Act

In compliance with the Regulatory Flexibility Act (Pub. L. 96–354, 5 U.S.C. 601–612), FHWA has evaluated the effects of this final rule on small entities and has determined that it is not anticipated to have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities. This rule applies to all State and local highway agencies that use Federal-aid highway funding in the execution of their highway program. However, the regulatory action only directly impacts State requirements regarding work zone programmatic reviews, and otherwise would clarify the characteristics of a significant project. State governments are not included in the definition of small entity set forth in 5 U.S.C. 601. Therefore, FHWA certifies that the final rule will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities.

Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995

This final rule would not impose unfunded mandates as defined by the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104–4, 109 Stat. 48). This final rule would not result in the expenditure by State, local, and Tribal governments, in the aggregate, or by the private sector, of $168 million or more in any one year (2 U.S.C. 1532). In addition, the definition of ''Federal Mandate'' in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act excludes financial assistance of the type in which State, local, or Tribal governments have authority to adjust their participation in the program in accordance with changes made in the program by the Federal Government. The Federal-aid highway program permits this type of flexibility.

Executive Order 13132 (Federalism Assessment)

This final rule has been analyzed in accordance with the principles and criteria contained in E.O. 13132, and FHWA has determined that this final rule would not have sufficient federalism implications to warrant the preparation of a federalism assessment. The FHWA also has determined that this final rule would not preempt any State law or State regulation or affect the States' ability to discharge traditional State governmental functions.

Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA) (44 U.S.C. 3501, *et seq.*), Federal Agencies must obtain approval from OMB for each collection of information they conduct, sponsor, or require through regulations. The FHWA has determined that the rule does not contain collection of information requirements for the purposes of the PRA.

National Environmental Policy Act

The FHWA has analyzed this final rule pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*) and has determined that it is categorically excluded under 23 CFR 771.117(c)(20), which applies to the promulgation of rules, regulations, and directives. Categorically excluded actions meet the criteria for categorical exclusions under the Council on Environmental Quality regulations and under 23 CFR 771.117(a) and normally do not require any further NEPA approvals by FHWA. The FHWA does not anticipate any adverse environmental impacts from this final rule.

Executive Order 13175 (Tribal Consultation)

The FHWA has analyzed this regulatory action in accordance with the principles and criteria contained in E.O. 13175, ''Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments.'' The purpose of the regulatory action is to improve motorist, worker, and other vulnerable road user safety and mobility on Federal-aid highway projects. The FHWA believes that the regulatory action would not have substantial direct effects on one or more Indian Tribes, would not impose substantial direct compliance costs on Indian Tribal governments, and would not preempt Tribal law. Therefore, the funding and consultation requirements of E.O. 13175 do not apply and a Tribal summary impact statement is not required.

Executive Order 12898 (Environmental Justice)

The E.O. 12898 requires that each Federal Agency make achieving environmental justice part of its mission by identifying and addressing, as appropriate, disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of its programs, policies, and activities on minorities and low-income populations. The FHWA has determined that this final rule does not raise any environmental justice issues.

Rulemaking Summary, 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(4)

As required by 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(4), a summary of this rule can be found in the Abstract section of the Department's Unified Agenda entry for this rulemaking at [*https://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/eAgendaViewRule?pubId=202310&RIN=2125-AG05*].

Regulation Identifier Number

A Regulation Identifier Number (RIN) is assigned to each regulatory action listed in the Unified Agenda of Federal Regulations. The Regulatory Information Service Center publishes the Unified Agenda twice each year. The RIN contained in the heading of this document can be used to cross reference this action with the Unified Agenda.

List of Subjects in 23 CFR Part 630

Government contracts, Grant programs—transportation, Highway safety, Highways and roads, Incorporation by reference, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Traffic regulations.

Issued under authority delegated in 49 CFR 1.81 and 1.85.

Kristin R. White,

Acting Administrator, Federal Highway Administration.

In consideration of the foregoing, FHWA amends Title 23, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 630, as set forth below:

PART 630—PRECONSTRUCTION PROCEDURES

■ 1. The authority citation for Part 630 is revised to read as follows:

Authority: 23 U.S.C. 106, 109, 112, 115, 315, 320, and 402(a); Sec. 1110, 1501, and 1503 of Pub. L. 109–59, 119 Stat. 1144; Pub. L. 105–178, 112 Stat. 193; Pub. L. 104–59, 109 Stat. 582; Pub. L. 97–424, 96 Stat. 2106; Pub. L. 90–495, 82 Stat. 828; Pub. L. 85–767, 72 Stat. 896; Pub. L. 84–627, 70 Stat. 380; 23 CFR 1.32 and 49 CFR 1.81 and 1.85, and Pub. L. 112–141, 126 Stat. 405, sections 1303 and 1405.

Subpart J—Work Zone Safety and Mobility

■ 2. Revise subpart J of part 630 to read as follows:

Subpart J—Work Zone Safety and Mobility

Sec.

630.1002 Purpose.
630.1004 Definitions and explanation of terms.
630.1006 Work zone safety and mobility policy.
630.1008 State-level processes and procedures.
630.1010 Significant projects.
630.1012 Project-level procedures.
630.1014 Implementation.
630.1016 Compliance date.
630.1018 Incorporation by reference.

§ 630.1002 Purpose.

Work zones directly impact the safety and mobility of road users and highway workers. These safety and mobility impacts are exacerbated by an aging highway infrastructure and growing congestion in many locations. Addressing these safety and mobility issues requires considerations that start early in project development and continue through project completion. Part 6 of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Streets and Highways (MUTCD) (incorporated by reference, see § 630.1018) sets forth basic principles and prescribes standards for the design, application, installation, and maintenance of traffic control devices for highway and street construction, maintenance operation, and utility work. In addition to the provisions in the MUTCD, there are other actions that could be taken to further help mitigate the safety and mobility impacts of work zones. This subpart establishes requirements and provides guidance for systematically addressing the safety and mobility impacts of work zones, and for developing strategies to help manage these impacts on Federal-aid highway projects.

§ 630.1004 Definitions and explanation of terms.

As used in this subpart:

Agency means a State or local highway agency or authority that receives Federal-aid highway funding.

Highway workers include, but are not limited to, personnel of the contractor, subcontractor, agency, utilities, and law enforcement, performing work within the right-of-way of a transportation facility.

Mobility is the ability to move from place to place and is significantly dependent on the availability of transportation facilities and on system operating conditions. With specific reference to work zones, mobility pertains to moving road users efficiently through or around a work zone area with minimum delay compared to baseline travel when no work zone is present, while not compromising the safety of highway workers or road users. The commonly used performance measures for the assessment of mobility include delay, speed, travel time, and queue lengths.

Safety is a representation of the level of exposure to potential hazards for users of transportation facilities and

highway workers. With specific reference to work zones, safety refers to minimizing potential hazards to road users in the vicinity of a work zone and highway workers at the work zone interface with traffic. The commonly used performance measures for highway work zone safety are the number of crashes or the consequences of crashes (fatalities and injuries) at a given location or along a section of highway during a period of time. In terms of highway worker safety performance measures, the number of highway worker fatalities and injuries at a given location or along a section of highway during a period of time are commonly used measures.

State refers to a State department of transportation.

Transportation management plan (TMP) consists of strategies to manage the work zone impacts of a project. Its scope, content, and degree of detail may vary based upon the agency's work zone policy and the agency's understanding of the expected work zone impacts of the project. Refer to § 630.1010(d) and § 630.1012(b) for more information on a TMP and its components.

Work zone is an area of a highway with construction, maintenance, or utility work activities. A work zone is typically marked by one or more of the following: signs, channelizing devices, barriers, pavement markings, or work vehicles. It extends from the first warning sign or high intensity rotating, flashing, oscillating, or strobe lights on a vehicle to the END ROAD WORK sign or the last temporary traffic control (TTC) device. See MUTCD, Part 6, ''Temporary Traffic Control'' (incorporated elsewhere in this subpart).

Work zone crash is a crash that occurs in or related to a construction, maintenance, or utility work zone, whether or not workers were actually present at the time of the crash. ''Work zone-related'' crashes may also include crashes involving motor vehicles slowed or stopped because of the work zone, even if the first harmful event occurred before the first warning sign. See ''Model Minimum Uniform Crash Criteria Guideline'' (MMUCC), 5thEd. (Electronic), 2017, produced by NHTSA. Available at the following website: *https://www.nhtsa.gov/mmucc-1.*

Work zone impacts refer to work zone-induced deviations from the normal range of transportation system safety and mobility. The extent of the work zone impacts may vary based on factors such as: road classification and geometrics; area type (urban, suburban, and rural); traffic and travel characteristics (volumes, speeds, vehicle mix and classification, etc.); type of work being performed; type of temporary traffic control; distance between workers and traffic; availability of escape paths for workers; time of day/night; and complexity and duration of the project. These impacts may extend beyond the physical location of the work zone itself, including upstream or downstream of the work zone location, other highway corridors, other modes of transportation, and/or the regional transportation network.

Work zone programmatic review is a data-driven, systematic, and holistic analysis that uses quantitative and qualitative data from different sources to assess the safety and mobility performance of work zones under a State's jurisdiction in order to identify improvements to that agency's work zone processes and procedures.

§ 630.1006 Work zone safety and mobility policy.

(a) Each State shall implement a policy for the systematic consideration and management of work zone impacts on all Federal-aid highway projects. This policy shall address work zone impacts throughout the various stages of the project development and implementation process. This policy may take the form of processes, procedures, or guidance, and may vary based on the characteristics and expected work zone impacts of individual projects or classes of projects.

(b) At a minimum, the policy shall identify safety and mobility performance measures that will be used to manage work zone performance. Examples of such performance measures include number of fatal and injury crashes occurring in a work zone, percent of projects that exceed a preestablished crash rate in the work zone, number of highway worker fatalities and injuries experienced, highway worker fatality and injury rate per hours worked, percent of projects that experience queues above a predefined threshold, and percent of time when speeds in a work zone drop below a predefined threshold.

(c) The States should institute this policy using a multi-disciplinary team and in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). The States are encouraged to implement this policy for non-Federal-aid projects as well.

§ 630.1008 State-level processes and procedures.

(a) *General.* This section consists of State-level processes and procedures for States to implement and sustain their respective work zone safety and mobility policies. State-level processes and procedures, data and information resources, training, and periodic evaluation enable a systematic approach for addressing and managing the safety and mobility impacts of work zones.

(b) *Work zone assessment and management procedures.* States shall develop and implement systematic procedures to assess likely work zone impacts to all highway workers and anticipated road users in project development and to manage safety and mobility impacts occurring during project implementation. The scope of these procedures shall be based on the project characteristics.

(c) *Work zone data.* States shall use field observations, available work zone crash data, available safety surrogate data, available operational information, and available exposure data to monitor and manage work zone impacts for specific projects during implementation and to perform its work zone programmatic reviews. Examples of crash data include fatalities, injuries, and crashes; examples of safety surrogate data include speed differentials, hard braking, and other data from connected and autonomous vehicles; examples of available operational information include speeds, travel times, queue length, and duration; and examples of available exposure data include number of projects, number and length of lane closures, and vehicle-miles traveled through work zones.

(d) *Training.* States shall require that personnel involved in the development, design, implementation, operation, inspection, and enforcement of work-zone-related transportation management and traffic control be trained, appropriate to the job decisions each individual is required to make. States shall require periodic training updates that reflect changing industry practices and State processes and procedures.

(e) *Work zone programmatic review.* In order to assess the effectiveness of work zone safety and mobility processes and procedures, States shall perform a work zone programmatic review every 5 years and share that review with FHWA by the end of the 5-year review period.

(1) The work zone programmatic review shall include a data-driven assessment of the safety and mobility performance of the State's work zones. At a minimum, this review shall include a representative sample of the State's significant work zones over the 5-year period being reviewed. The approach used for selecting the representative projects shall be documented and should be based on factors such as land use (urban and rural locations), roadway

type, type of work zone, and extent of the work zone impacts.

(2) Each programmatic review shall include an assessment of the work zone safety and mobility performance occurring since the last review was performed, systematic identification and assessment of the States' work zone management processes and procedures to be improved, action items to be taken to achieve improvement, State divisions or offices responsible for implementing the actions, and estimated timeline for implementation.

(3) States shall use available crash data, available safety surrogate data, available operational data, and the performance measures specified in their work zone policy to conduct the assessment. Section 630.1008(c) provides example performance measures for each data source listed in this section. To ensure assessment of the safety and mobility performance of their work zones on a continuous basis, States shall monitor performance annually.

(4) The work zone programmatic review shall include examination of efforts across State divisions or offices affecting work zone safety and mobility management, including but not limited to: project planning, project design, project implementation, maintenance activities, transportation operations and management, permitting (*e.g.,* utilities, oversize/overweight, lane closures, sidewalk closures), training, and public information and outreach.

(5) Appropriate personnel who represent the project development and implementation stages and the different offices within the State and FHWA should participate in this review. Other non-State stakeholders may also be included in this review, as appropriate.

§ 630.1010 Significant projects.

(a) A significant project is one that, alone or in combination with other concurrent projects nearby, is anticipated to cause sustained work zone impacts (as defined in § 630.1004) that are greater than what is considered tolerable based on State policy and engineering judgment.

(b) The applicability of the provisions in §§ 630.1012(b)(2) and 630.1012(b)(3) is dependent upon whether a project is determined to be significant. The State shall identify upcoming projects that are expected to be significant. This identification of significant projects should be done as early as possible in the project delivery and development process, and in cooperation with FHWA. The State's work zone policy provisions, the project's characteristics, and the magnitude and extent of the anticipated work zone impacts should be considered when determining if a project is significant or not.

(c) All Interstate system projects within the boundaries of a designated Transportation Management Area that require intermittent or continuous lane closures for 3 or more consecutive days shall be considered as significant projects.

(d) For an Interstate system project or categories of Interstate system projects that are classified as significant through the application of the provisions in paragraph (c) of this section but in the judgment of the State do not cause sustained work zone impacts, the State may request from FHWA an exception to §§ 630.1012(b)(2) and 630.1012(b)(3). The FHWA may grant exceptions to these provisions based on the State's ability to show that the specific Interstate system project or categories of Interstate system projects do not have sustained work zone impacts.

(e) Non-interstate system projects with less than 3 consecutive days of intermittent or continuous lane closures do not require the transportation operations (TO) or public information and outreach (PIO) components of a TMP (as described in § 630.1012(b)).

§ 630.1012 Project-level procedures.

(a) *Scope.* This section provides guidance and establishes procedures for States to manage the work zone impacts of individual projects.

(b) *Transportation Management Plan.* For significant projects (as described in § 630.1010), the State shall develop a TMP that consists of a TTC plan and addresses both TO and PIO components. For individual projects or classes of projects that the State determines to have less than significant work zone impacts, the TMP may consist only of a TTC plan. States are encouraged to consider TO and PIO issues for all projects.

(1) A TTC plan describes TTC measures to be used for facilitating road users through a work zone or an incident area. The TTC plan shall be consistent with the provisions under Part 6 of the MUTCD (incorporated by reference, see § 630.1018). In developing and implementing the TTC plan, pre-existing roadside safety hardware shall be maintained at an equivalent or better level than existed prior to project implementation. The scope of the TTC plan is determined by the project characteristics and the traffic safety and control requirements identified by the State for that project. The TTC plan shall either be a reference to specific TTC elements in the MUTCD, approved standard TTC plans, State transportation department TTC manual, or be designed specifically for the project.

(2) The TO component of the TMP shall include the identification of strategies that the State will use to mitigate impacts of the work zone on the operation and management of the transportation system within the work zone impact area. Typical TO strategies may include, but are not limited to, demand management, corridor/network management, safety management and enforcement, and work zone traffic management. The scope of the TO component should be determined by the project characteristics and the transportation operations and safety strategies identified by the State.

(3) The PIO component of the TMP shall include communications strategies that seek to inform affected road users, the general public, area residences and businesses, and appropriate public entities about the project, the expected work zone impacts, and the changing conditions on the project. This may include traveler information strategies. The scope of the PIO component should be determined by the project characteristics and the public information and outreach strategies identified by the State. Public information and outreach should be provided through methods best suited for the project, and may include, but not be limited to, information on the project characteristics, expected impacts, closure details, and commuter alternatives.

(4) States should develop and implement the TMP in sustained consultation with stakeholders (*e.g.,* other transportation agencies, railroad agencies/operators, transit providers, freight movers, utility suppliers, police, fire, emergency medical services, schools, business communities, and regional transportation management centers).

(c) *Inclusion of TMP in Plans, Specification, and Estimates.* The Plans, Specifications, and Estimates (PS&E) shall include either a TMP or provisions for contractors to develop a TMP at the most appropriate project phase as applicable to the State's chosen contracting methodology for the project. A contractor-developed TMP shall be subject to the approval of the State and shall not be implemented before it is approved by the State.

(d) *Inclusion of Pay Item Provisions in Plans, Specification, and Estimates.* The PS&Es shall include appropriate pay item provisions for implementing the TMP, either through method- or performance-based specifications.

(e) *Responsible persons.* The State and the contractor shall each designate a

trained person, as specified in § 630.1008(d), at the project level who has the primary responsibility and sufficient authority for implementing the TMP and other safety and mobility aspects of the project.

§ 630.1014 Implementation.

Each State shall work in cooperation with FHWA in the implementation of its policies and procedures to improve work zone safety and mobility. At a minimum, this shall involve an FHWA review of conformance of the State's policies and procedures with this regulation and reassessment of the State's implementation of its procedures at appropriate intervals. Each State is encouraged to address implementation of this regulation in its stewardship agreement with FHWA.

§ 630.1016 Compliance date.

States shall comply with all the provisions of this rule no later than December 31, 2026. The next work zone programmatic review will be due December 31, 2030. For projects that are in the later stages of development at or about the compliance date, and if it is determined that the delivery of those projects would be significantly impacted as a result of this rule's provisions, States may request variances for those projects from FHWA on a project-by-project basis.

§ 630.1018 Incorporation by reference.

Certain material is incorporated by reference into this subpart with the approval of the Director of the Federal Register under 5 U.S.C. 552(a) and 1 CFR part 51. All approved incorporation by reference (IBR) material is available for inspection at FHWA and at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). Contact FHWA at: Federal Highway Administration, Office of Transportation Operations, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590; phone: (202) 366–8043; website: *ops.fhwa.dot.gov/contactus.htm.* For information on the availability of this material at NARA, visit *www.archives.gov/federal-register/cfr/ibr-locations* or email *fr.inspection@nara.gov.* The material may be obtained from the following sources:

(a) FHWA, Federal Highway Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590; phone: (202) 366–1993; website: *mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov.*

(1) Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Streets and Highways (MUTCD), 11th Edition, FHWA, December 2023; approved for §§ 630.1002; 630.1012.

(2) [Reserved]

(b) [Reserved]

Subpart K—Temporary Traffic Control Devices

■ 3. Revise subpart K of part 630 to read as follows:

Subpart K—Temporary Traffic Control Devices

Sec.

630.1102 Purpose.
630.1104 Definitions and explanation of terms.
630.1106 Policy and procedures for work zone safety management.
630.1108 Work zone safety management measures and strategies.
630.1110 Maintenance of temporary traffic control devices.
630.1112 Compliance date.

§ 630.1102 Purpose.

To decrease the likelihood of highway work zone fatalities and injuries to workers and road users by establishing minimum requirements and providing guidance for the use of positive protection devices between the work space and motorized traffic; installation and maintenance of temporary traffic control devices; use of uniformed law enforcement officers during construction, utility, and maintenance operations; and by requiring contract pay items to ensure the availability of funds for these provisions. This subpart is applicable to all Federal-aid highway projects, and its application is encouraged on other highway projects as well.

§ 630.1104 Definitions and explanation of terms.

For the purposes of this subpart, the following definitions apply:

Agency means a State or local highway agency or authority that receives Federal-aid highway funding.

Exposure control measures means traffic management strategies to avoid work zone crashes involving workers and motorized traffic by eliminating or reducing traffic through the work zone, or diverting traffic away from the work space.

Federal-aid highway project means highway construction, maintenance, and utility projects funded in whole or in part with Federal-aid funds.

Motorized traffic means the motorized traveling public. This term does not include motorized construction or maintenance vehicles and equipment within the work space.

Other traffic control measures means all strategies and temporary traffic controls other than Positive Protection Devices and Exposure Control Measures, but including uniformed law enforcement officers, used to reduce the risk of work zone crashes involving motorized traffic.

Engineering study means the analysis and evaluation of available pertinent information, and the application of appropriate principles, provisions, and practices for the purpose of determining the choice and application of work zone positive protection devices, exposure control measures, or other traffic control measures to safely manage work zones.

Positive protection devices means devices that contain or redirect vehicles and meet applicable industry crashworthiness evaluation criteria. Industry crashworthiness evaluation criteria are not regulatory, and use of them is voluntary and not required by law.

§ 630.1106 Policy and procedures for work zone safety management.

(a) Each agency's policy and processes, procedures, or guidance for the systematic consideration and management of work zone impacts, to be established in accordance with § 630.1006, shall include the consideration and management of road user and worker safety on Federal-aid highway projects. These processes, procedures, or guidance, to be developed in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), shall address the use of Positive Protection Devices to prevent the intrusion of motorized traffic into the work space and other potentially hazardous areas in the work zone; Exposure Control Measures to avoid or minimize worker exposure to motorized traffic and road user exposure to work activities; Other Traffic Control Measures including uniformed law enforcement officers to minimize work zone crashes; and the safe entry/exit of work vehicles onto/from the travel lanes. Each of these strategies should be used to the extent that they are possible, practical, and adequate to manage work zone exposure and reduce the risks of crashes resulting in fatalities or injuries to workers and road users.

(b) Agency processes, procedures, or guidance should be based on consideration of standards or guidance contained in the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Streets and Highways (MUTCD), as well as project characteristics and factors. The strategies and devices to be used may be determined by a project-specific engineering study or determined from agency guidelines developed from an engineering study that indicate when positive protection devices or other strategies and approaches are to be used based on project and highway characteristics and factors. An engineer,

or an individual working under the supervision of an engineer shall perform an engineering study through the application of procedures and criteria established by the engineer. The person conducting the engineering study shall document such study. Benefit-cost analyses, decision matrices, decision tree analysis, or other appropriate engineering decision-making tools may be used in the engineering study. The types of measures and strategies to be used are not mutually exclusive, and should be considered in combination as appropriate based on characteristics and factors such as those listed below:

(1) Project scope and duration;

(2) Anticipated operating conditions including traffic volume, vehicle mix, and speeds through the work zone;

(3) Anticipated traffic safety impacts;

(4) Type of work (as related to worker exposure and crash risks);

(5) Distance between traffic and workers, and extent of worker exposure;

(6) Escape paths available for workers to avoid a vehicle intrusion into the work space;

(7) Time of day (*e.g.,* night work);

(8) Work area restrictions (including impact on worker exposure);

(9) Consequences from/to road users resulting from roadway departure;

(10) Potential hazard to workers and road users presented by device itself and during device placement and removal;

(11) Geometrics that may increase crash risks (*e.g.,* poor sight distance, sharp curves);

(12) Access to/from work space;

(13) Roadway classification; and

(14) Impacts on project cost and duration.

(c) Each agency, in partnership with FHWA, shall develop a policy addressing the use of uniformed law enforcement on Federal-aid highway projects. The policy may consist of processes, procedures, and/or guidance. The processes, procedures, or guidance should address the following:

(1) Basic interagency agreements between the highway agency and appropriate law enforcement agencies to address work zone enforcement needs;

(2) Interaction between highway and law-enforcement agencies during project planning and development;

(3) Conditions where law enforcement involvement in work zone traffic control may be needed or beneficial, and criteria to determine the project-specific need for law enforcement;

(4) General nature of law enforcement services to be provided, and procedures to determine project-specific services;

(5) Appropriate work zone safety and mobility training for the officers, consistent with the training requirements in § 630.1008(d);

(6) Procedures for interagency and project-level communications between highway agency and law enforcement personnel; and

(7) Reimbursement agreements for law enforcement service.

§ 630.1108 Work zone safety management measures and strategies.

(a) *Positive protection devices.* At a minimum, agencies shall use positive protection devices in work zones with high anticipated operating speeds that provide workers no means of escape from motorized traffic intruding into the workspace unless an engineering study determines otherwise. Positive protection devices shall be considered in other situations that place workers at increased risk from motorized traffic, and where positive protection devices offer the highest potential for increased safety for workers and road users such as:

(1) Work zones that provide workers no means of escape from motorized traffic (*e.g.,* tunnels, bridges, etc.);

(2) Long-duration work zones (*e.g.,* two weeks or more) resulting in substantial worker exposure to motorized traffic;

(3) Projects with high anticipated operating speeds (*e.g.,* 45 mph or greater), especially when combined with high traffic volumes;

(4) Work operations that place workers close (*e.g.,* within one lane width) to travel lanes open to traffic; and

(5) Roadside hazards, such as drop-offs or unfinished bridge decks, that will remain in place overnight or longer.

(b) *Exposure control measures.* Exposure control measures should be considered where appropriate to avoid or minimize worker exposure to motorized traffic and exposure of road users to work activities, while also providing adequate consideration to the potential impacts on mobility. A wide range of measures may be appropriate for use on individual projects, such as:

(1) Full road closures;

(2) Ramp closures;

(3) Median crossovers;

(4) Full or partial detours or diversions;

(5) Protection of work zone setup and removal operations using rolling road blocks;

(6) Performing work at night or during off-peak periods when traffic volumes are lower; and

(7) Accelerated construction techniques.

(c) *Other traffic control measures.* Other traffic control measures should be given appropriate consideration for use in work zones to reduce work zone crashes and risks and consequences of motorized traffic intrusion into the work space. These measures, which are not mutually exclusive and should be considered in combination as appropriate, include a wide range of other traffic control measures such as:

(1) Effective, credible signing;

(2) Changeable message signs;

(3) Arrow panels;

(4) Warning flags and lights on signs;

(5) Longitudinal and lateral buffer space;

(6) Trained flaggers and spotters;

(7) Enhanced flagger station setups or use of automated flagger assistance devices (AFADs);

(8) Intrusion alarms;

(9) Rumble strips;

(10) Pace or pilot vehicle;

(11) High-quality work zone pavement markings and removal of misleading markings;

(12) Channelizing device spacing reduction;

(13) Longitudinal channelizing barricades;

(14) Work zone speed management (including changes to the regulatory speed or variable speed limits);

(15) Law enforcement;

(16) Speed Safety Cameras (where permitted by State/local laws):

(17) Drone radar;

(18) Worker and work vehicle/equipment visibility;

(19) Worker training;

(20) Public information and traveler information;

(21) Temporary traffic signals.

(22) Protection or shadow vehicles used to protect workers and equipment from impacts by errant vehicles; and

(23) Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) and other advanced technology solutions and strategies.

(d) *Uniformed law enforcement officers.* (1) A number of conditions may indicate the need for or benefit of uniformed law enforcement in work zones. The presence of a uniformed law enforcement officer and marked law enforcement vehicle in view of motorized traffic on a highway project can affect driver behavior, helping to maintain appropriate speeds and improve driver alertness through the work zone. However, such law enforcement presence is not a substitute for the temporary traffic control devices required by Part 6 of the MUTCD. In general, the need for law enforcement is greatest on projects with high traffic speeds and volumes, and where the work zone is expected to result in substantial disruption to or changes in normal traffic flow patterns. Specific

project conditions should be examined to determine the need for or potential benefit of law enforcement, such as the following:

(i) Frequent worker presence adjacent to high-speed traffic without positive protection devices;

(ii) Traffic control setup or removal that presents significant risks to workers and road users;

(iii) Complex or very short-term changes in traffic patterns with significant potential for road user confusion or worker risk from traffic exposure;

(iv) Night work operations that create substantial traffic safety risks for workers and road users;

(v) Existing traffic conditions and crash histories that indicate a potential for substantial safety and congestion impacts related to the work zone activity, and that may be mitigated by improved driver behavior and awareness of the work zone;

(vi) Work zone operations that require brief stoppage of all traffic in one or both directions;

(vii) High-speed roadways where unexpected or sudden traffic queuing is anticipated, especially if the queue forms a considerable distance in advance of the work zone or immediately adjacent to the work space; and

(viii) Other work site conditions where traffic presents a high risk for workers and road users, such that the risk may be reduced by improving road user behavior and awareness.

(2) Costs associated with the provision of uniformed law enforcement to help protect workers and road users, and to maintain safe and efficient travel through highway work zones, are eligible for Federal-aid participation. Federal-aid eligibility excludes law enforcement activities that would normally be expected in and around highway problem areas requiring routine or ongoing law enforcement traffic control and enforcement activities. Payment for the services of uniformed law enforcement in work zones may be included in the construction contract, or be provided by direct reimbursement from the highway agency to the law enforcement agency. When payment is included through the construction contract, the contractor will be responsible for reimbursing the law enforcement agency, and in turn will recover those costs through contract pay items. Direct interagency reimbursement may be made on a project-specific basis, or on a programwide basis that considers the overall level of services to be provided by the law enforcement agency. Contract pay items for law enforcement service may be either unit price or lump sum items. Unit price items should be utilized when the highway agency can estimate and control the quantity of law enforcement services required on the project. The use of lump sum payment should be limited to situations where the quantity of services is directly affected by the contractor's choice of project scheduling and chosen manner of staging and performing the work. Innovative payment items may also be considered when they offer an advantage to both the highway agency and the contractor. When reimbursement to the law enforcement agency is made by interagency transfer of funds, the highway agency should establish a program-level or project-level budget that is adequate to meet anticipated program or project needs, and include provisions to address unplanned needs and other contingencies.

(e) *Work vehicles and equipment.* In addition to addressing risks to workers and road users from motorized traffic, the agency processes, procedures, and guidance established in accordance with § 630.1006 should also address safe means for work vehicles and equipment to enter and exit traffic lanes and for delivery of construction materials to the workspace, based on individual project characteristics and factors.

(f) *Payment for traffic control.* Consistent with the requirements of § 630.1012, Project-level Procedures, project plans, specifications and estimates (PS&Es) shall include appropriate pay item provisions for implementing the project Transportation Management Plan (TMP), which includes a Temporary Traffic Control (TTC) plan, either through method- or performance-based specifications. Pay item provisions include, but are not limited to, the following:

(1) Payment for work zone traffic control features and operations shall not be incidental to the contract, or included in payment for other items of work not related to traffic control and safety;

(2) As a minimum, separate pay items shall be provided for major categories of traffic control devices, safety features, and work zone safety activities, including but not limited to positive protection devices, and uniformed law enforcement activities when funded through the project;

(3) For method-based specifications, the specifications and other PS&E documents should provide sufficient details such that the quantity and types of devices and the overall effort required to implement and maintain the TMP can be determined;

(4) For method-based specifications, unit price pay items, lump sum pay items, or a combination thereof may be used;

(5) Lump sum payment should be limited to items for which an estimate of the actual quantity required is provided in the PS&E or for items where the actual quantity required is dependent upon the contractor's choice of work scheduling and methodology;

(6) For Lump Sum items, a contingency provision should be included such that additional payment is provided if the quantity or nature of the required work changes, either an increase or decrease, due to circumstances beyond the control of the contractor;

(7) Unit price payment should be provided for those items over which the contractor has little or no control over the quantity, and no firm estimate of quantities is provided in the PS&Es, but over which the highway agency has control of the actual quantity to be required during the project;

(8) Specifications should clearly indicate how placement, movement/relocation, and maintenance of traffic control devices and safety features will be compensated; and

(9) The specifications should include provisions to require and enforce contractor compliance with the contract provisions relative to implementation and maintenance of the project TMP and related traffic control items. Enforcement provisions may include remedies such as liquidated damages, work suspensions, or withholding payment for noncompliance.

§ 630.1110 Maintenance of temporary traffic control devices.

To provide for the continued effectiveness of temporary traffic control devices, each agency shall develop and implement quality guidelines to help maintain the quality and adequacy of the temporary traffic control devices for the duration of the project. Agencies may choose to adopt existing quality guidelines such as those developed by the American Traffic Safety Services Association (ATSSA) or other state highway agencies.[1] A level of inspection necessary to provide ongoing compliance with the quality guidelines shall be provided.

[1] ATSSA's Quality Guidelines for Temporary Traffic Control Devices and Features uses photos and written descriptions to help judge when a traffic control device has outlived its usefulness. These guidelines are available for purchase from ATSSA through the following URL:

https://www.atssa.com/resource/quality-guidelines/. Similar guidelines are available from various State highway agencies.

§ 630.1102 Compliance Date.

States shall update their policy no later than December 31, 2025, and implement the policy no later than December 31, 2026. For projects that are in the later stages of development at or about the compliance date, and if it is determined that the delivery of those projects would be significantly impacted as a result of this rule's provisions, States may request variances for those projects from FHWA on a project-by-project basis.

[FR Doc. 2024–25065 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910–22–P

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Coast Guard

33 CFR Part 165

[USCG–2024–0996]

Safety Zone; Claytor Lake, Dublin, VA

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DHS.

ACTION: Notification of enforcement of regulation.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard will enforce a safety zone in Virginia for portions of Claytor Lake to protect personnel, vessels, and the marine environment from potential hazards created by hazardous debris within the waterway due to a tropical storm. Any vessel in the regulated area must comply with directions from the Coast Guard Patrol Commander or his representative, including a Federal, State, and local officer designated by or assisting the Captain of the Port Virginia (COTP) in the enforcement of the safety zone.

DATES: The regulations in 33 CFR 165.520 will be enforced for Claytor Lake from October 30th, 2024 through January 31st, 2025.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: If you have questions about this rule, call or email LCDR Justin Strassfield, Sector Virginia, Waterways Management Division, U.S. Coast Guard, Telephone: 757–668–5580, email: *VirginiaWaterways@uscg.mil.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Coast Guard will enforce a safety zone for Hurricanes, Tropical Storms, and other Storms with High Wind for portions of Claytor Lake from October 30th, 2024, through January 31st, 2025, to protect personnel, vessels, and the marine environment from potential hazards created by hazardous debris within the waterway due to tropical storm Helene. The safety zone is now in Port Condition RECOVERY. This action is being taken to provide for the safety of life on navigable waterways while cleanup operations are conducted. The safety zone encompasses Claytor Lake.

It is bound by the following positions: Claytor Lake: 37°02′2.4″ N, 80°39′40.7″ W; 37°04′31.5″ N 80°35′06.8″ W.

During enforcement periods, the operator of a vessel in the regulated area must comply with directions from the Coast Guard Patrol Commander, including a Coast Guard coxswain, petty officer, or other officer operating a Coast Guard vessel and a Federal, State, and local officer designated by or assisting the Captain of the Port Virginia (COTP) in the enforcement of the safety zone. To seek permission to enter, contact the COTP or the COTP's representative by VHF–FM Channel 16.

In addition to this notification of enforcement in the **Federal Register**, the Coast Guard plans to provide notification of this enforcement period via the Local Notice to Mariners and marine information broadcasts.

Dated: October 28, 2024.

P.M. Britton,

Captain, U.S. Coast Guard, Captain of the Port Sector Virginia.

[FR Doc. 2024–25466 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 9110–04–P

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Federal Emergency Management Agency

44 CFR Parts 61 and 62

[Docket ID FEMA–2024–0030]

RIN 1660–AB16

National Flood Insurance Program Installment Payment Plan

AGENCY: Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security (DHS).

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: The National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) is a voluntary program in which interested persons can purchase flood insurance for their property, if it is located in a community that participates in the NFIP by adopting and enforcing a set of minimum floodplain management requirements to reduce future flood damages. FEMA is revising the NFIP's regulations to offer NFIP policyholders the option of paying their annual flood insurance premium in monthly installments.

DATES: This rule is effective December 31, 2024.

ADDRESSES: The docket for this rulemaking is available for inspection using the Federal eRulemaking Portal at *https://www.regulations.gov* and can be viewed by following that website's instructions.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kelly Bronowicz, Director, Policyholder Services Division, Federal Insurance Directorate, Resilience, Federal Emergency Management Agency, (202) 557–9488, *Kelly.Bronowicz@fema.dhs.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

A. The National Flood Insurance Program

Congress created the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) through enactment of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 (NFIA) (title XIII of Pub. L. 90–448, 82 Stat. 572), 42 U.S.C. 4001 *et seq.* The NFIP is a Federal program enabling property owners in participating communities that adopt and enforce floodplain management regulations to purchase insurance as a protection against flood losses. A consumer may purchase an NFIP federally-backed flood insurance policy either: (1) directly from the Federal Government through a direct servicing agent (referred to as ''NFIP Direct''); or (2) from a participating private insurance company through the Write Your Own (WYO) Program. The Standard Flood Insurance Policy (SFIP) sets out the terms and conditions of insurance. *See* 44 CFR part 61, appendix A. FEMA establishes terms and conditions of coverage and sets premiums for coverage. The terms, coverage limits, and flood insurance premiums are the same whether a policy is purchased from the NFIP Direct or a private WYO insurance company in the WYO Program. *See* 44 CFR 62.23(a). Under the regulations in place prior to this rule change, FEMA required policyholders to pay their applicable SFIP annual premium in full at the time of application.[1] 44 CFR 61.4(b). Requiring payment of the annual premium in full at the time of application reduced administrative costs to the program, and because of the seasonal nature of flooding, ensured the receipt of premium and exposure to risk

[1] Policyholders must also pay policy fees and statutory surcharges at the time of application or policy renewal. *See* 44 CFR 61.10.

would align.[2] In 2012, Congress passed the Biggert-Waters Flood Insurance Reform Act (BW–12), amending the NFIA to mandate that FEMA provide NFIP policyholders who were ''not required to escrow their premiums and fees for flood insurance as set forth under section 102 of the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 (42 U.S.C. 4012a)[3] with the option of paying their premiums annually or in more frequent installments.'' Sec. 100205(d), Public Law 112–141, 126 Stat 405. The Homeowner Flood Insurance Affordability Act of 2014 (HFIAA) amended BW–12 and the NFIA regarding the frequency of the installments by striking the language ''annually or in more frequent installments'' and inserting ''annually or monthly'' instead. 42 U.S.C. 4001 *et seq.;* sec. 11, Public Law 113–89, 128 Stat. 1025 (2014). The NFIP, having operated for several decades within an annual payment structure for premiums, provides payment compliance measures that will apply to the amended regulations discussed herein.[4] The changes in this rule will bring FEMA's regulations into compliance with the nondiscretionary statutory mandate to provide policyholders with the option of paying their premiums annually or in monthly installments.

B. Installment Plans Reduce Barriers To Purchasing Flood Insurance

This rulemaking, in addition to fulfilling a statutory mandate, will also reduce barriers to purchasing flood insurance. In administering the NFIP, FEMA provides information to help communities and individuals better understand their flood risk. However, flood risk knowledge by itself is not enough if households cannot act to protect themselves. Providing an option for monthly installments will expand access to flood insurance to meet the evolving needs of the Nation. The option to pay in installments may also increase policyholders' budgetary flexibility by alleviating cash flow pressure, as they could use the deferred payment to address other monthly needs.

Some consumers may lack the financial ability to pay the entire premium at one time.[5] In this scenario, consumers will need to either finance their purchase of flood insurance through debt (*e.g.,* interest-bearing credit cards) or forego flood insurance protection entirely. Both outcomes can exacerbate negative financial outcomes following a flood disaster, as many consumers may lack adequate funds to recover. The installment plan relieves the immediate financial pressure on policyholders from paying the entire premium amount at one time.

Finally, the ability to pay in installments may result in more policyholders retaining their flood insurance protection. Under the NFIP's current annual premium payment requirement, a policyholder who pays annually typically only interacts with their flood insurance coverage at the time of initial purchase or renewal. The policyholder must pay the full cost of flood insurance all at once, creating a different trade-off dynamic than when the cost is spread out. Facing a one-time annual payment, a policyholder may rationalize a decision to opt out of renewing on grounds that they perceive their risk to be low or that they will instead save the money spent on premium to self-fund repairs. In contrast, policyholders who make more frequent flood insurance payments will have an ongoing reminder that they are protected against flood, and may be more aware of flood alerts, news about flooding, and more accurately perceive their risk. At the time of renewal, the ability to pay in installments may support a decision to retain flood insurance.

II. Final Rule

FEMA is revising 44 CFR parts 61 and 62 as follows to add an installment plan payment option for NFIP policies.

A. 44 CFR 61.4: Special Terms and Conditions

Section 61.4(b) requires that flood insurance applicants pay their full policy premium at the time of application. FEMA is removing paragraph (b) because it conflicts with the option to pay by monthly installment plan. FEMA will retain paragraph (a) of § 61.4, as that section is unrelated to installment plans, will undesignate paragraph (a), and will rename § 61.4 ''Properties in violation of law, regulation or ordinance'' as this more accurately describes the contents of this revised section.

B. 44 CFR 61.10: Requirements for Issuance or Renewal of Flood Insurance Coverage

Section 61.10 provides that FEMA will not issue or renew flood insurance unless FEMA receives: (a) the full amount due (including applicable premiums, surcharges, and fees); and (b) a complete application, including the information necessary to establish a premium rate for the policy, or submission of corrected or additional information necessary to calculate the premium for the renewal of the policy. FEMA is revising paragraph (a) to specify that FEMA will not issue or renew flood insurance unless it receives the full amount due, which is either presentment of the full annual premium, or presentment of the first of a series of monthly premium installment payments inclusive of all surcharges, fees, and assessments.

The revised paragraph (a) requires the first payment to include all surcharges, fees, and assessments because the NFIA categorizes premiums separately from the surcharges, fees, and assessments of administrative expenses the agency is authorized to collect. *See, e.g.,* 42 U.S.C. 4014(a)(1)(B)(ii); 42 U.S.C. 4014(a)(1)(B)(iii). In 1990, Congress authorized the Federal Policy Fee (FPF) which helps pay for the administrative expenses of the program, including the floodplain management and mapping activities FEMA is required to fund.[6] 42 U.S.C. 4017a.; sec. 100212, Public Law 112–141, 126 Stat. 992. In BW–12, Congress also authorized FEMA to establish and maintain a National Flood Insurance Program Reserve Fund to cover future claim and debt expenses, especially those from catastrophic disasters. 42 U.S.C. 4014(a)(1)(B)(iii).

As a result of these statutory distinctions, FEMA currently separates the premium from the fees/surcharges/assessments in the annual bill, allowing policyholders to see their flood risk. Combining divided fees and surcharges with all the installment premium payments might distort the important

[2] The NFIA requires FEMA to account for administrative costs when setting rates. *See* 42 U.S.C. 4014(a)(1)(B); 42 U.S.C. 4015(b)(3)). *See also* 44 CFR 61.5(c) (2018) (restricting ability to refund premium due to seasonal nature of flooding).

[3] Pursuant to section 102 of the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973, federal entities responsible for regulating lenders must require federally backed lenders to allow borrowers who are required to purchase flood insurance as a condition of a loan to escrow flood insurance premiums ''with the same frequency as payments on the loan are made, for the duration of the loan.'' 42 U.S.C. 4012a(d). Mortgage payments are typically made monthly which means mortgagees who are required to have flood insurance already pay for their flood insurance premiums on a monthly basis.

[4] *See e.g., Insufficient Premium or Rating Information at* 44 CFR part 61, appendix A(1), art. VII.D.

[5] *See Lending Club, 9.3 Million More Consumers Ended 2022 Living Paycheck to Paycheck Than in 2021,* Jan. 30, 2022, *available at https://ir.lendingclub.com/news/news-details/2023/9.3-Million-More-U.S.-Consumers-Ended-2022-Living-Paycheck-to-Paycheck-Than-in-2021/default.aspx* (reporting that 64 percent of the 166 million consumers in the U.S. were living paycheck to paycheck in 2022) (last accessed October 7, 2024).

[6] 42 U.S.C. 4014(a)(1)(B)(iii); *see also* Congressional Research Service, Introduction to the National Flood Insurance Program, R44593, pg. 18 *available* at *https://crsreports.congress.gov/product/pdf/R/R44593/42* (last accessed October 7, 2024).

risk assessment signal to policyholders. See, *e.g.,* 42 U.S.C. 4014(a)(1)(B)(ii)–(iii). In this rulemaking, FEMA continues to separate the premium from the fees/surcharges/assessments and requires payment of the fees and surcharges up front instead of dividing them over the life of the policy. Fees and surcharges are both used to carry out certain mandatory operational activities, such as floodplain management and mapping, and fund the interest-earning National Flood Insurance Reserve Fund. 42. U.S.C. 4017(a); 42 U.S.C. 4017(c). Upfront payment of fees and surcharges with the initial premium payment will reduce administrative costs for the NFIP, a benefit to all policyholders, and align the NFIP with other commercial services familiar to policyholders (*e.g.,* cable, where installation fees, taxes and the like are due up front).

FEMA is moving to paragraph (a) the language currently in paragraph (b) that explains FEMA must receive a complete application or submission of corrected or additional information necessary to establish a premium.

FEMA is revising paragraph (b) to include paragraphs (b)(1) and (2). The Standard Flood Insurance Policy currently provides that FEMA will reduce coverage on a policy if the premium it receives is not sufficient to buy the kinds and amounts of coverage requested. *See e.g.,* 44 CFR part 61, appendix A(1), art. VII.D.2. This makes sense in the context of an annual premium payment but not for monthly payments; as such, FEMA has revised paragraph (b) to provide that FEMA will not reduce coverage or reform the policy for any policyholder who makes timely installment payments in accordance with the terms identified in paragraph (a)(1)(i)(B). If a policyholder misses an installment payment, current regulations provide an opportunity to cure, as a policyholder can provide any missed or additional payment and avoid reductions in coverage or policy reformation. *See e.g.,* 44 CFR part 61, appendix A(1), art. VII.D.3.a.(1).

Revised paragraph (b)(1) will further provide that in the event of a claim occurring prior to a policyholder completing all installment payments, the policyholder must remit the balance of the premium owed. The policyholder may settle their balance out of claim proceeds in accordance with the Standard Flood Insurance Policy. *See e.g.,* 44 CFR part 61, appendix A(1), art. VII.D.3.a(3). FEMA is adding this language to avoid a scenario where the policyholder would consider withholding premium for reasons other than ability to pay, such as when they disagree with aspects of FEMA's claim handling, and FEMA would be forced to reduce coverage. *See e.g., id. at* appendix A(1), art. VII.D.2–3. Giving policyholders the option to pay their remaining premium out of their claims proceeds mitigates this risk.

Revised paragraph (b)(2) will provide that FEMA will require payment in full for premiums in the next policy term for any policyholder who fails to make all installment payments in accordance with the terms identified in paragraph (a)(1).[7] A significant portion of policyholders are subject to seasonal flooding risk, meaning that the likelihood they will file a claim is higher during certain months of the year. For example, many policyholders in Florida face the risk of flooding due to tropical storms and hurricanes, which typically occur from the start of June through November. The purpose of paragraph (b)(2) will be to ensure policyholders are not incentivized to miss payments or cancel their coverage before the end of the policy term (for instance, at the end of hurricane season), as this could potentially create adverse financial consequences for the NFIP.[8]

C. 44 CFR 62.23: WYO Companies Authorized

Section 62.23 governs FEMA's WYO program. Paragraph (h) describes the procedures used by WYO companies in underwriting and servicing flood insurance policies. Paragraph (h)(7) currently authorizes WYO companies to offer premium payment plans so long as the net premium depository requirements specified under the NFIP/WYO Program accounting procedures are met. This subsection also states that a WYO company's cancellation of a policy for non-payment of premium will not produce a pro rata return of the net premium deposit to the WYO company. In effect, this subsection authorizes WYO companies to offer installment payment plans if they pay the full annual premium to the NFIP and bear the risk of policyholders' non-payment of installments.

FEMA is revising paragraph (h)(7) to explain that WYO companies must offer premium payment plans under the terms prescribed by the FEMA Administrator in § 61.10(a)(1). FEMA's current regulations have provided WYO companies the ability to offer payment via installment plan, but to date, no WYO company has chosen to offer it. Because FEMA has a statutory obligation to offer policyholders the option of paying their premium via monthly installment plan, FEMA will require WYO companies to offer installment plans consistent with this rule. *See* 42 U.S.C. 4015. Requiring adherence to FEMA's installment plan terms will ensure that all eligible policyholders with federally backed flood insurance will be treated similarly.

III. Regulatory and Economic Analysis

A. Administrative Procedure Act

1. Good Cause Exemption

The Administrative Procedure Act (APA) generally requires agencies to publish a notice of proposed rulemaking in the **Federal Register** and provide interested persons the opportunity to submit comments. *See* 5 U.S.C. 553(b) and (c). The Administrative Procedure Act, 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(3)(B), provides that, when an agency for good cause finds that public notice and comment procedures are impracticable, unnecessary, or contrary to the public interest, the agency may issue a rule without providing notice and an opportunity for public comment. FEMA has determined that there is good cause to issue this rulemaking without prior proposal and opportunity for comment. The amendments to the NFIA require FEMA to offer policyholders the option to pay their premiums in monthly installments and the agency lacks discretion to reach a different outcome in response to comment. This rule revises two sections in FEMA's prior regulations requiring policyholders to pay the full amount due on a flood insurance policy before it would issue a policy for flood insurance. FEMA previously interpreted the full amount due to include the annual premium, fees and surcharges, or the amount of premium due at the time of the claim. Previously, the regulations authorized, but did not require, WYO companies to offer the monthly installment plan option to policyholders. The

[7] FEMA does not have discretion in whether to implement the statutory requirement to make installment payments available to NFIP policy holders. However, FEMA relies on 42 U.S.C. 4013(a) and 4015 which provide the terms and conditions of insurability, including premium payments. Section 4013 includes a non-exhaustive list of items to include in regulations, such as ''any other terms and conditions relating to insurance coverage or exclusion which may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this chapter.'' *Id.* at 4013(a)(6).

[8] For example, imagine a scenario where a policyholder's annual premium is $6,000, with $5,000 being the proportion of the risk attributable to hurricane season (June–November). If a policyholder obtains coverage in June but fails to pay any installments after November, the NFIP will have only collected $3,000 ($500 × 6) but will have provided a transfer of risk valued at $5,000. If this occurs on a large enough scale, it would negatively impact the NFIP's financial position and could require FEMA to increase rates among all policyholders.

amendment to the NFIA requires FEMA and servicing agent, NFIP Direct, to offer the monthly installment plan as an option to policyholders. The regulations now accurately reflect the statutory language of the NFIA. Considering the statutory mandate, FEMA revises these sections without discretion.

2. Contract Exemption

Section 553(a)(2) of the APA provides an exception to this prior notice and comment requirement for matters relating to public property, loans, grants, benefits, or contracts. The exemption covers both narrow ''managerial'' proprietary decisions and broader proprietary ''matters of interpretation and policy.'' *Alphapointe* v. *Dep't of Veterans Affairs,* 416 F. Supp. 3d (D.D.C. 2019) (*quoting Nat'l Wildlife Fed'n* v. *Snow,* 561 F.2d 227, 231–32 (D.C. Cir. 1976)). The case law interpreting the requirement sets forth a relatively brief framework for analysis: namely, that the exempted subject matters are ''clearly and directly'' implicated in the rulemaking at issue. *Humana of S.C., Inc.* v. *Califano,* 191 U.S. App. D.C. 368, 590 F.2d 1070, 1082 (1978) (That the governmental function is not strictly ''proprietary,'' or the regulation's character is not ''mechanical,'' does not curtail section 553(a)(2)'s permissive effect. Public policy may be sorely affected, and the wisdom of public input manifest, but the statutory exemption still prevails when ''grants,'' ''benefits,'' or other named subjects are ''clearly and directly'' implicated.).

As described more fully in the background section, *supra,* this rule is clearly and directly related to contracts. The NFIP is a Federal program enabling property owners in participating communities to purchase insurance as a protection against flood losses. A consumer may purchase a SFIP either: (1) directly from the Federal Government through a direct servicing agent (referred to as ''NFIP Direct''); or (2) from a participating private insurance company through the Write Your Own (WYO) Program. The SFIP sets out the terms and conditions of insurance. *See* 44 CFR part 61, appendix A. FEMA establishes terms and conditions of coverage and sets premiums for coverage. The terms, coverage limits, and flood insurance premiums are the same whether purchased from the NFIP Direct or the WYO Program. *See* 44 CFR 62.23(a). For an eligible policyholder to obtain flood insurance from the NFIP, they must pay their premium and any surcharges, fees and assessments, and in exchange, they will be covered by the SFIP (*i.e.,* an insurance contract). This rule provides an additional approach to payment of premium to complete the contractual relationship. This statutory construct is similar to other Federal programs in which Congress has authorized an agency to enter into contracts with individuals and upheld the application of the APA contract exemption to a subsequent agency policy change that ultimately resulted in a change in terms for individual contractees or policyholders. *See, e.g., Rainbow Valley Citrus Corp.* v. *FCIC,* 506 F.2d 467 (9th Cir. 1974) (Plaintiffs, three citrus growers in Arizona, sued the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation (FCIC) challenging the FCIC's decision to discontinue citrus insurance in their area, and argued that the decision was in violation of the notice and comment rulemaking requirement under the APA. The Court found in favor of the FCIC, citing to the APA contract exemption.); *Housing Authority of the City of Omaha* vs. *U.S. Housing Authority,* 468 F.2d 1 (8th Cir. 1972) (Plaintiffs, local housing authorities, sued the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) alleging that two circulars issued by HUD that required Plaintiffs to include certain tenant's rights in contracts the housing authorities entered into with renters was in violation of the notice and comment rulemaking requirement under the APA. The Court found in favor of HUD citing to the APA contract exemption.).

FEMA acknowledges its general policy to provide for public participation in rulemaking unless it determines that circumstances warrant a departure from that general policy. 44 CFR 1.3(a) and (c). The circumstances presented here warrant such a departure. The statute requires FEMA to offer policyholders the option to pay in monthly installments and notice and opportunity for comment on the revisions is unnecessary because the agency lacks discretion to reach a different outcome regarding installment plan payments for policyholders in response to comment.

B. Executive Orders 12866, ''Regulatory Planning and Review,'' and 13563, ''Improving Regulation and Regulatory Review''

Executive Orders 12866 (Regulatory Planning and Review), as amended by Executive Order 14094 (Modernizing Regulatory Review), and 13563 (Improving Regulation and Regulatory Review) direct agencies to assess the costs and benefits of available regulatory alternatives and, if regulation is necessary, to select regulatory approaches that maximize net benefits (including potential economic, environmental, public health and safety effects, distributive impacts, and equity). Executive Order 13563 emphasizes the importance of quantifying both costs and benefits, reducing costs, harmonizing rules, and promoting flexibility.

The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has not designated this rule a significant regulatory action under section 3(f) of Executive Order 12866, as amended by Executive Order 14094. Accordingly, OMB has not reviewed this regulatory action.

Need for Regulation

In BW–12 and the HFIAA, Congress amended the NFIA requiring FEMA to provide certain eligible policyholders with a federally backed SFIP, ''the option of paying their premiums annually or monthly.'' Sec. 100205(d), Public Law 112–141, 126 Stat. 405, 919 (2012) (codified at 42 U.S.C. 4015(g)), as amended by sec. 11(a), Public Law 113–89, 128 Stat. 1020, 1025 (2014). Currently, FEMA and WYO companies bill their customers' NFIP premiums on an annual basis as a lump sum. This rule will fulfill the statutory requirement by allowing residential and commercial policyholders to pay their premiums in 11 to 12 payments over the course of the year.[9]

FEMA, through its subcomponent the Federal Insurance Directorate, is promulgating this rule to implement a monthly installment payment plan option for policyholders not currently paying flood insurance premiums through escrow.[10] The installment plan option is available for residential and non-residential SFIP policyholders.

A monthly installment payment plan is in keeping with the property and casualty insurance industry standard. Aligning with these consumer expectations will make it easier for consumers to consider acquiring flood insurance. Additionally, some consumers may lack the financial ability to pay the entire premium at one time. The option to pay in installments may increase policyholders' budgetary flexibility by alleviating cash flow pressure, as they could use the deferred payment to address other needs.

[9] Customers will make 11 payments in their first year due to a 30-day waiting period for their initial enrollment in the NFIP. Following years will have 12 monthly payments.

[10] Mortgage lenders set aside a portion of monthly mortgage payments to cover annual costs such as property taxes and homeowners' insurance premiums.

Affected Population

NFIP enables homeowners, renters, and businesses in participating communities to purchase Federal insurance protection against losses from floods. Communities participate in the NFIP after they agree to adopt and enforce minimum floodplain development regulations designed to reduce future flood risk in Special Flood Hazard Areas (SFHAs).

As of April 30, 2024, according to FEMA's PIVOT database,[11] there were 4,664,515 NFIP policies in force, including 3,248,737 residential Dwelling Form Policies, 290,800 Commercial Policies, 1,115,443 Condominium Association Policies and 9,535 Group Flood Insurance Policies (GFIPs). GFIPs are not included in the population of policyholders that will pay monthly,[12] which means the affected population of potentially eligible individual policies is 4,654,980 (3,248,737 + 290,800 + 1,115,443).

FEMA expects the number of individual policyholders who will make the change from paying annually to paying monthly will be much less than the total eligible affected population. FEMA estimates that 45 percent [13] of potentially eligible individual policyholders are residential mortgage holders who already pay their NFIP premiums on a regular basis (generally monthly) into an escrow account as required under section 102 of the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973. FEMA does not have enough information to estimate how many condominium association policyholders might switch from an annual payment to a monthly payment. Condominium associations typically include flood insurance payments in their condominium association fees [14] which means such associations typically collect the premium before the renewal premium is due. FEMA does not expect condo associations to utilize installment plans because these associations will have the available cash reserves to pay a yearly premium. Switching to monthly payments would increase uncertainty and unnecessarily complicate their accounting practices.

Excluding these two populations from the analysis decreases the total population from approximately 4.7 million policyholders to 1.9 million policyholders. Specifically, according to PIVOT data, in 2023 there were 1,794,911 residential policyholders who did not have a mortgage [15] and were not condominium associations who would most likely opt for installment plans as they must currently make an annual lump sum payment. Additionally, FEMA expects 76,876 small businesses and houses of worship (according to PIVOT data) to change to monthly payment installments because they typically have smaller cash reserves on hand.[16] This makes a total of 1,871,787 (1,794,911 + 76,876) out of 4,664,515 policyholders that will utilize monthly installment plans to pay their flood insurance premiums. For the purposes of this analysis, FEMA assumed that all eligible policyholders, excluding residential mortgage holders, condominium associations, and larger commercial policyholders will utilize installment plans. This leaves 1,453,826 mortgage-paying residential policyholders, 1,115,443 condominium association policyholders, and 211,175 commercial property policyholders that are not expected to opt for installment plans. This may overestimate the number of policyholders paying in installments and the overall economic impact of this rule.

Baseline and Affected Population

Following OMB Circular A–4 guidance, FEMA assessed impacts of this rule against a no-action baseline. The no-action baseline considers what the world will look like without this rule. Accordingly, measuring the rule against a no-action baseline shows the effects of the rule as compared to current FEMA practice, because FEMA has not implemented the option to pay flood insurance premiums through installment plans. Currently, SFIPs are issued on a one-year term, and policyholders must pay full annual premiums at the inception of policy coverage and at annual renewal.

FEMA used policies-in-force data from 2023 to 2024 [17] to estimate the number of affected NFIP policyholders. During this period, the number of NFIP policies was 4,720,559 on April 1, 2023 and 4,672,375 policies on April 1, 2024. FEMA was not able to forecast an increase in currently uninsured property owners purchasing flood insurance once the installment plan option is available. However, FEMA anticipates the flexibility provided through implementation of an installment payment plan will likely result in greater retention of policyholders and incentivize greater participation in the NFIP.

Flood insurance premiums are subject to change year-to-year due to any number of factors that may cause unexpected increases in yearly premiums. The option to pay in installments may relieve some of the burden of changes in flood insurance premiums. Due to the numerous factors affecting premium rates and the rate of flood insurance uptake nationwide, FEMA is unable to forecast the impact that the availability of installment plans may have on affordability or future participation in the NFIP.

Costs

This rule will result in start-up (upfront) and annual costs to FEMA and WYO insurance companies. Over 10 years, FEMA estimates a total cost of $34,181,503 undiscounted. The following is a breakdown of the specific costs to FEMA,WYO companies, and NFIP Policyholders.

Federal Costs: FEMA expects to incur development costs to adapt current NFIP systems to handle the administration of installment plans and payments that will be processed by the existing *pay.gov* system.[18] Based on estimates from FEMA subject matter experts, development work will require one General Schedule (GS)–13 Step 5 and eight GS–12 Step 5 equivalent contractors for a total of 700 hours. According to the Office of Personnel Management (OPM), hourly wage rates in the Washington-Baltimore-Arlington locality for GS–13 Step 5 is $60.83 and

[11] FEMA's PIVOT database contains NFIP information. Please note that PIVOT is the name of the database, and it is not an acronym.

[12] A GFIP is a policy covering all individuals named by a State as recipients of assistance under FEMA's Individual Assistance (IA) program. 44 CFR 61.17(a). FEMA or the State pays the premium on behalf of recipients by withholding the applicable amount from the IA ''other needs assistance'' (ONA) award for which recipients are eligible. 44 CFR 61.17(b) and 206.119. ONA is provided to recipients as a one-time award, *i.e.,* on a non-continuing basis; as such, FEMA will continue to make those one-time payments at the time of ONA award.

[13] Derived by subtracting the 1,794,911 policies without a mortgage from the 3,248,737 total Dwelling Form Policies and finding the percent of that whole [(3,248,737 − 1,794,911) ÷ 3,248,737].

[14] Residential Condominium Building Association Policies (RCBAP) are sold to the condominium associations to cover the whole building. Condominium associations pass on their costs to their members in the form of condo fees *https://www.fema.gov/pdf/nfip/manual201110/content/06condo.pdf,* pg.1.

[15] This group includes condominium owners that have purchased flood insurance for their individual units outside of their condominium association.

[16] On average, small businesses hold $12,000 in cash. JP Morgan Chase & Co., Cash is King: Flows, Balances, and Buffer Days (*jpmorganchase.com*) available at *https://www.jpmorganchase.com/institute/research/small-business/report-cash-flows-balances-and-buffer-days#finding-2* (last accessed October 7, 2024).

[17] The data was limited due to the implementation of a new risk rating approach on April 1, 2023. Because of these changes, pre-2023 data are not directly comparable to data after April 1, 2023.

[18] *Pay.gov* is a website where users can fill out a government or pay a bill to a U.S. Government agency. *See https://www.pay.gov/public/about-us/pay-gov* (last accessed October 7, 2024).

GS–12 Step 5 staff is $51.15.[19] FEMA assumes the contractors would have equivalent salaries to their respective GS levels. The combined hourly staff wage rate equals $470.03 ((1 × $60.83) + (8 × $51.15)). Additionally, FEMA adds a 1.45 wage multiplier to the wage rate to account for the full cost of employment, making it $681.54 ($470.03 × 1.45) per hour for 700 hours for a total of $477,078 (((1 × $60.83) + (8 × $51.15)) × 1.45 × 700).[20]

To create marketing materials, FEMA subject matter experts estimate a team of four GS–14 level employees working for 40 hours each on this project. Using the prior methodology, OPM wage rate for a GS–14 Step 5 is $71.88 per hour and including the wage multiplier equals $104.23 ($71.88 × 1.45) per hour for a total cost of $16,677 ($104.23 × 4 staff × 40 hours). FEMA expects a total of $493,755 (477,078 + $16,677) for startup costs.

For ongoing costs, FEMA expects to hire two additional GS–13 Step 5 employees to handle the installment plan program full time. This would cost $368,152 (2 GS–13 Step 5 × $126,949 annual salary × 1.45) per year.[21] These costs include the cost for FEMA developing and testing guidance materials, systems, trainings, and marketing content as well as ongoing support for managing installment plans. FEMA anticipates that it will largely use existing NFIP infrastructure and resources to support implementation of installment plans and that annual costs associated with maintaining installment plan policies are comparable to annual policies and thus do not represent an additional cost.

WYO Costs: FEMA's current regulations have provided WYO companies the ability to offer payment via installment plan, but to date, no WYO company has chosen to offer it. Because FEMA has a statutory obligation to offer policyholders the option of paying their premium via monthly installment plan, FEMA will require WYO companies to offer installment plans consistent with this rule. WYO insurers will use their customary business practices to secure monthly payment of flood insurance premiums from policyholders.[22] However, for many WYO insurers, flood insurance premiums are handled separately and will require additional systems or modification of existing systems and infrastructure to support flood insurance installment payment plans. FEMA does not have access to internal WYO insurance company data on their information technology (IT) costs. However, based on FEMA's experience with managing IT costs for insurance purposes, FEMA estimates eight WYO vendors [23] to each incur $200,000 in costs for updating their internal systems for a total upfront starting cost of $1,600,000 ($200,000 × 8) in year 1.[24] Based on feedback from WYO vendors and their finance teams, FEMA expects each of the eight WYO vendors to hire 2 additional staff members for the support and operation of installment plan systems, incurring $1,986,152 (8 × 2 × $85,610 × 1.45) per year.[25] Bureau of Labor Statistics data regarding insurance underwriters is used as a proxy for the salary of the additional hires.

Policyholder Costs: FEMA estimates that there will be no additional financial costs to policyholders.[26] However, it may result in a small amount of time burden to make 12 installment payments in lieu of one annual payment. Policyholders will make payments via automatic payments from a bank account, debit card, or credit card through the *pay.gov* system.[27] FEMA estimates a total burden hour cost of $8,544,708 for NFIP policyholders to enroll in *pay.gov.* This estimate is based on an expectation that *pay.gov* account creation takes 6 minutes on average [28] for a total of 187,179 hours for the estimated 1,871,787 policyholders that will use the system. At a fully loaded wage rate of $45.65 ($31.48 × 1.45) per hour [29] [30] for all workers, this makes a total of $8,544,708 one-time cost for account creation. Policyholders that do not have access to *pay.gov* payment methods will not be eligible. Policyholders that decide to switch to installment plans will receive their information via already existing marketing sources and thus will not incur additional familiarization costs.

Table 1 shows FEMA, WYO, and policyholder estimated costs over a 10-year period. The total cost over 10 years equals $34,181,503 undiscounted and $31,577,602 discounted at 2 percent in 2023 dollars.

TABLE 1—TOTAL COSTS OVER 10 YEARS

[2023$]

Year	Policyholder costs	FEMA costs	WYO insurance company costs	Total costs undiscounted	Annual costs discounted at 2%
1	$8,544,708	$861,907	$3,586,152	$12,992,767	$12,738,007

[19] OPM 2023 Pay and Leave Tables for the Washington-Baltimore-Arlington, DC-MD-VA-WV-PA locality, available at: *http://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/pay-leave/salaries-wages/salary-tables/23Tables/html/DCB_h.aspx* (last accessed October 7, 2024).

[20] The national wage multiplier is calculated by dividing total compensation for all workers of $42.48 by wages and salaries for all workers of $29.32 per hour yielding a benefits multiplier of approximately 1.45.U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), Employer Costs for Employee Compensation, Table 1. Available at *https://www.bls.gov/news.release/archives/ecec_03172023.pdf.* (last accessed October 7, 2024).

[21] OPM 2023 Pay and Leave Tables for the Washington-Baltimore-Arlington, DC-MD-VA-WV-PA locality, available at *https://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/pay-leave/salaries-wages/salary-tables/pdf/2023/DCB.pdf* (last accessed October 7, 2024).

[22] ''Write Your Own'' refers to private insurance companies that work with FEMA in providing NFIP policies and are able to write and service NFIP policies in their own names.

[23] There are 8 vendors (*i.e.,* companies) that support the 50+ WYOs. All but one WYO work with an outside company to support them in operational work such as management of systems, customer services, financial reporting, servicing of policies, etc.

[24] Implementation costs are derived from an estimate of IT infrastructure and development costs FEMA anticipates would be borne by WYO vendors servicing payments but paid for by WYO companies.

[25] Based on 2023 BLS mean salary data for Insurance Underwriters (SOC 13–2053), available at: *https://www.bls.gov/oes/2023/may/oes132053.htm* (last accessed October 7, 2024).

[26] Installment plans will be implemented by FEMA using operational dollars within the NFIP and the WYO vendors will use their expense allowance received under their financial agreements with FEMA. The current financial agreements include provisions for WYOs to implement installment plans.

[27] All policyholders, NFIP Direct and WYO, will go through *pay.gov* to make their installment payment.

[28] Dep't. of Treasury, OMB Approval No.1530–0071, available at *https://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAViewICR?ref_nbr=202308-1530-001* (last accessed October 7, 2024).

[29] Information on the mean wage rate from the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics is available at: *https://www.bls.gov/oes/2023/may/oes_nat.htm* (last accessed October 7, 2024).

[30] The national wage multiplier is calculated by dividing total compensation for all workers of $45.42 by wages and salaries for all workers of $31.29 per hour yielding a benefits multiplier of approximately 1.45.Bureau of Labor Statistics, Employer Costs for Employee Compensation, Table 1, available at: *https://www.bls.gov/news.release/archives/ecec_03132024.pdf* (last accessed October 7, 2024).

TABLE 1—TOTAL COSTS OVER 10 YEARS—Continued

[2023$]

Year	Policyholder costs	FEMA costs	WYO insurance company costs	Total costs undiscounted	Annual costs discounted at 2%
2	0	368,152	1,986,152	2,354,304	2,262,884
3	0	368,152	1,986,152	2,354,304	2,218,513
4	0	368,152	1,986,152	2,354,304	2,175,013
5	0	368,152	1,986,152	2,354,304	2,132,366
6	0	368,152	1,986,152	2,354,304	2,090,555
7	0	368,152	1,986,152	2,354,304	2,049,563
8	0	368,152	1,986,152	2,354,304	2,009,376
9	0	368,152	1,986,152	2,354,304	1,969,976
10	0	368,152	1,986,152	2,354,304	1,931,349
Total	8,544,708	4,175,275	21,461,520	34,181,503	31,577,602
Annualized					3,515,425

Benefits

The benefits from a monthly installment plan option will include increased NFIP policy retention and improved flexibility to policyholders. Allowing policyholders the option of making flood insurance payments in monthly installments rather than a single annual payment provides increased budgetary flexibility on how to use the deferred payment which may be especially relevant for policyholders unable to pay a lump-sum annual premium or otherwise experiencing a financial burden thereby alleviating some cash flow pressure. FEMA believes offering installment plans will help policyholders remain in the program. Policyholder retention also maintains the societal and policyholder benefits associated with the NFIP in proportion to those policyholders retained. FEMA does not have data available to estimate the number of policyholders that will remain in the program due to the installment plan option, or to project any growth in the number of policies.

Providing a monthly installment brings the NFIP into alignment with other insurance (auto, homeowners) that typically allow monthly payments, making the flood insurance product more attractive to potential policyholders, and potentially increasing participation in the NFIP.

Transfers

FEMA does not expect transfers from this rule since it does not impact what policyholders pay in premiums, but the timing of when they pay. Policyholders may make investment gains or interest savings based on retaining money throughout the year that they would have spent on a lump sum payment. However, FEMA is unable to estimate if and how policyholders will adjust their behavior based on the ability to pay in installments.

Alternatives Considered

FEMA did not consider any alternatives to issuing this regulation allowing monthly installments. BW–12 and HFIAA collectively mandated FEMA to promulgate a rule allowing the option of paying flood insurance premiums either annually or monthly. As such, FEMA must pursue a regulatory action to accomplish this requirement. While FEMA could have set a different premium schedule in addition to monthly payments (*i.e.,* quarterly or biannual), FEMA considers monthly payments to be the most appropriate payment schedule that poses the least burden on policyholders.

Conclusion

In summary, FEMA quantitatively estimated the impacts of the rule. This includes estimating the costs to FEMA, WYO companies, and policyholders. In terms of benefits, FEMA anticipates the implementation of an installment payment plan will result in greater retention of policyholders and incentivize greater participation in the NFIP. Transfer payments will be minimal. This rule fulfills a statutory requirement in a cost-effective manner and warrants implementation. For the future 10-year period, the estimated costs of the rule are $34,181,503 undiscounted. The Present Value (PV), discounted at 2 percent, is $31,577,602 ($3,515,425 annualized). The primary benefit associated with installment plans is increased retention and potential increased participation in the NFIP.

C. Regulatory Flexibility Act

The Regulatory Flexibility Act (RFA) (5 U.S.C. 601–612) and section 213(a) of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996, Public Law 104–121, 110 Stat. 847, 858–9 (Mar. 29, 1996) (5 U.S.C. 601 note), require that special consideration be given to the effects of regulations on small entities. The RFA applies only when an agency is ''required by section 553 . . . to publish general notice of proposed rulemaking for any proposed rule.'' 5 U.S.C. 603(a). An RFA analysis is not required for this rulemaking because the Regulatory Flexibility Act is inapplicable to final rules issued pursuant to an exemption from notice and comment. FEMA issues the NFIP Installment Plans rulemaking pursuant to the 5 U.S.C. 553(a)(2), for all rules relating to ''public property, loans, grants, benefits or contracts,'' as well as 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(3)(B), which provides that, when an agency for good cause finds that public notice and comment procedures are impracticable, unnecessary, or contrary to the public interest, the agency may issue a rule without providing notice and an opportunity for public comment.

D. Unfunded Mandates Reform Act

The Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995, 2 U.S.C. 658, 1501–1504, 1531–1536, 1571, pertains to any rulemaking which is likely to result in the promulgation of any rule that includes a Federal mandate that may result in the expenditure by State, local, and Tribal governments, in the aggregate, or by the private sector, of $100 million (adjusted annually for inflation) or more in any one year. If the rulemaking includes a Federal mandate, the Act requires an agency to prepare an assessment of the anticipated costs and benefits of the Federal mandate. The Act also pertains to any regulatory requirements that might significantly or uniquely affect small governments. Before establishing

any such requirements, an agency must develop a plan allowing for input from the affected governments regarding the requirements.

FEMA has determined that this rulemaking will not result in the expenditure by State, local, and Tribal governments, in the aggregate, nor by the private sector, of $100,000,000 or more in any one year as a result of a Federal mandate, and it will not significantly or uniquely affect small governments. Therefore, no actions are deemed necessary under the provisions of the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 (UMRA).

Additionally, regulations are only reviewable under UMRA when an agency has published a notice of proposed rulemaking as defined by 5 U.S.C. 553(b). *See* 2 U.S.C. 658(10); 5 U.S.C. 601(2). FEMA is not required to publish a notice of proposed rulemaking; thus, this rule is exempt from UMRA's requirements pertaining to the preparation of a written statement.

E. National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA)

Section 102 of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), Public Law 91–190, 83 Stat. 852 (Jan. 1, 1970) (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), as amended, requires Federal agencies to evaluate the impacts of a proposed major Federal action that significantly affect the quality of the human environment, consider alternatives to the proposed action, provide public notice and opportunity to comment, and properly document its analysis. DHS and its component agencies analyze proposed actions to determine whether NEPA applies to those actions and, if so, what level of documentation and analysis is required. 40 CFR 1501.3.

DHS Directive 023–01, Rev. 01 and DHS Instruction Manual 023–01–001–01, Rev. 01 (Instruction Manual) establish the policies and procedures DHS and its component agencies use to comply with NEPA and the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations for implementing the procedural requirements of NEPA codified at 40 CFR parts 1500 through 1508. The CEQ regulations allow Federal agencies to establish, in their NEPA implementing procedures, with CEQ review and concurrence, categories of actions (''categorical exclusions'' or ''Catex'') that experience has shown normally do not, individually or in the aggregate, have a significant effect on the human environment and, therefore, do not require preparation of an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement. 40 CFR 1501.4, 1507.3(c)(8), 1508.1(e). DHS Instruction Manual, Appendix A, lists the categorical exclusions established by DHS in conformity with CEQ's regulations. Under DHS NEPA implementing procedures, for an action to be categorically excluded it must satisfy each of the following conditions: (1) the entire action clearly fits within one or more of the categorical exclusions; (2) the action is not a piece of a larger action; and (3) no extraordinary circumstances exist that create the potential for a significant environmental effect. Instruction Manual, section V.B. (2) (a–c).

This rulemaking is a major Federal action subject to NEPA. Under DHS Instruction Manual 023–01–001–01, Appendix A, DHS has established that certain categories of rulemaking, to include (1) the promulgation of rules that are of a strictly administrative or procedural nature and (2) rules that implement, without substantive change, statutory or regulatory requirements, meet the criteria for categorical exclusion and therefore do not require preparation of an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement. (Catex A3(a) and (b)). This rulemaking satisfies the conditions for categorical exclusion established under DHS Instruction Manual, section V.B.(2) and Appendix A because: (1) the final rule is both strictly administrative in nature and is intended only to implement, without substantive change, the statutory requirement that FEMA offer policyholders the option of paying their annual flood insurance premiums in monthly installments; (2) the impact of the final rule affects only payment schedules available under the NFIP and is not part of a larger action that would impact other FEMA programs; and (3) the final rule will not result in any extraordinary circumstances that would make application of a categorical exclusion inappropriate or trigger the need for additional analysis. *See* DHS Instruction Manual 023–01–001–01 V(B)(2). FEMA has therefore determined that this rulemaking is categorically excluded under both Catex A3(a) and (b) of DHS Instruction Manual 023–01–001–01, Appendix A and no further NEPA analysis or documentation is required.

F. Privacy Act/E-Government Act

Under the Privacy Act of 1974, 5 U.S.C. 552a, an agency must determine whether implementation of a proposed regulation will result in a system of records. A ''record'' is any item, collection, or grouping of information about an individual that is maintained by an agency, including, but not limited to, his/her education, financial transactions, medical history, and criminal or employment history and that contains his/her name, or the identifying number, symbol, or other identifying particular assigned to the individual, such as a finger or voice print or a photograph. 5 U.S.C. 552a(a)(4). A ''system of records'' is a group of records under the control of an agency from which information is retrieved by the name of the individual or by some identifying number, symbols, or other identifying particular assigned to the individual. An agency cannot disclose any record that is contained in a system of records except by following specific procedures. The E-Government Act of 2002, 44 U.S.C. 3501 note, also requires specific procedures when an agency takes action to develop or procure information technology that collects, maintains, or disseminates information that is in an identifiable form. This Act also applies when an agency initiates a new collection of information that will be collected, maintained, or disseminated using information technology if it includes any information in an identifiable form permitting the physical or online contacting of a specific individual.

In accordance with DHS policy, FEMA has completed a Privacy Threshold Analysis (PTA) for this rule. DHS/FEMA has determined that this rulemaking does not affect the 1660–0006 OMB Control Number's current compliance with the E-Government Act of 2002 or the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended. As a result, DHS/FEMA has concluded that the 1660–0006 OMB Control Number is covered by the DHS/FEMA/PIA–011—National Flood Insurance Program Information Technology Systems (NFIP ITS) Privacy Impact Assessment (PIA). Additionally, DHS/FEMA has decided that the 1660–0006 OMB Control Number is covered by the DHS/FEMA–003 National Flood Insurance Program Files, 79 FR 28747, May 19, 2014, System of Records Notice.

G. Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), as amended, 44 U.S.C. 3501–3520, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless the agency obtains approval from OMB for the collection and the collection displays a valid OMB control number. *See* 44 U.S.C. 3506,3507. This rulemaking does not call for a new collection of information under the PRA. There is an existing collection of information, 1660–0006,

the NFIP Policy Forms, Public Law 90–448 (1968) (expanded by Pub. L. 93–234 (1973)), included in this rulemaking. BW–12 and HFIAA required modifications to the NFIP. Program changes resulting from BW–12 and HFIAA necessitated revision of the NFIP Policy Forms to assure proper classification of properties for rating purposes and to rate and issue the policies in accordance with the provisions of BW–12 and HFIAA. However, this rule will not impact this collection because the forms have already been updated as needed.

H. Executive Order 13175, ''Consultation and Coordination With Indian Tribal Governments''

Executive Order 13175, ''Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments,'' 65 FR 67249 (Nov. 9, 2000), applies to agency regulations that have Tribal implications, that is, regulations that have substantial direct effects on one or more Indian Tribes, on the relationship between the Federal Government and Indian Tribes, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities between the Federal Government and Indian Tribes. Under this Executive order, to the extent practicable and permitted by law, no agency shall promulgate any regulation that has Tribal implications, that imposes substantial direct compliance costs on Indian Tribal governments, and that is not required by statute, unless funds necessary to pay the direct costs incurred by the Indian Tribal government in complying with the regulation are provided by the Federal Government or the agency consults with Tribal officials. Nor, to the extent practicable by law, may an agency promulgate a regulation that has Tribal implications and preempts Tribal law, unless the agency consults with Tribal officials. This rule involves no policies that have Tribal implications under Executive Order 13175.

The purpose of this rulemaking is to implement the statutory requirement that FEMA offer policyholders the option of paying their flood insurance premiums in installments. FEMA lacks discretion to change course based on public comment which applies to comments from Indian Tribal governments. Further, the benefits anticipated for the general public are similarly shared amongst Indian Tribal Governments. Allowing Tribal Nation citizen policyholders to pay in smaller installments reduces barriers to entry in the flood insurance marketplace. The ability to pay in installments may also result in more Tribal Nation citizen policyholders retaining their flood insurance protection.

Under the NFIP's current annual premium payment requirement, a Tribal Nation citizen policyholder who is making annual payments typically only interacts with their flood insurance coverage at the time of initial purchase or renewal. Additionally, the Tribal Nation citizen policyholder must consider the full cost of flood insurance all at once, creating a different trade-off dynamic than when the cost is spread out. Facing a one-time annual payment, the policyholder may rationalize a decision to not renew on grounds that they perceive their risk to be low or that they will instead save the money spent on premium to self-fund repairs. In contrast, Tribal Nation citizen policyholders who make more frequent flood insurance payments will have an ongoing relationship with their insurer and a consistent reminder that they are protected against flood, and may be more aware of flood alerts, news about flooding, and more accurately perceive their risk.

This rulemaking would benefit Indian Tribal governments subject to the NFIP, offering existing Tribal Nation citizen policyholders the option of paying their premiums in monthly installments rather than in one annual lump sum. The rulemaking would not have substantial negative direct effects on citizens of Tribal Nations, on the relationship between the Federal Government and Indian Tribes, or the distribution of power and responsibilities between the Federal Government and Indian Tribes.

I. Executive Order 13132, ''Federalism''

Executive Order 13132, ''Federalism,'' 64 FR 43255 (Aug. 10, 1999), sets forth principles and criteria that agencies must adhere to in formulating and implementing policies that have federalism implications, that is, regulations that have ''substantial direct effects on the States, on the relationship between the national government and the States, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities among the various levels of government.'' For the purposes of this Executive order, the term States also includes local governments or other subdivisions established by the States. Under this Executive order, Federal agencies must closely examine the statutory authority supporting any action that would limit the policymaking discretion of the States. Further, to the extent practicable and permitted by law, no agency shall promulgate any regulation that has federalism implications, that imposes substantial direct compliance costs on State and local governments, and that is not required by statute, unless the Federal Government provides funds necessary to pay the direct costs incurred by the State and local governments in complying with the regulation, or the agency consults with State and local officials. Nor, to the extent practicable by law, may an agency promulgate a regulation that has federalism implications and preempts State law, unless the agency consults with State and local officials.

FEMA has reviewed this rule under Executive Order 13132 and has determined that it does not have substantial direct effects on the States, on the relationship between the National Government and the States, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities among the various levels of government, and therefore does not have federalism implications as defined by the Executive order. This rulemaking implements the statutory requirement that FEMA offer policyholders the option of paying their annual flood insurance premiums in monthly installments. As such, it would not have substantial direct effects on the States or participating communities, on the relationship between the National Government and the States or participating communities, or the distribution of power among the various levels of government.

J. Executive Order 11988, ''Floodplain Management''

Executive Order 11988, 42 FR 26951 (May 25, 1977), as amended by Executive Order 13690, ''Establishing a Federal Flood Risk Management Standard (FFRMS) and a Process for Further Soliciting and Considering Stakeholder Input,'' 80 FR 6425 (Feb. 4, 2015), and Executive Order 14030, ''Climate-Related Financial Risk,'' 86 FR 27967 (May 25, 2021), requires each Federal agency to provide leadership and take action to reduce the risk of flood loss, to minimize the impact of floods on human safety, health and welfare, and to restore and preserve the natural and beneficial values served by floodplains in carrying out its responsibilities for (1) acquiring, managing, and disposing of Federal lands and facilities; (2) providing federally undertaken, financed, or assisted construction and improvements; and (3) conducting Federal activities and programs affecting land use, including but not limited to water and related land resources planning, regulating, and licensing activities. In carrying out these responsibilities, each agency must evaluate the potential effects of any

actions it may take in a floodplain; ensure that its planning programs and budget requests reflect consideration of flood hazards and floodplain management; and prescribe procedures to implement the policies and requirements of the Executive order.

Before promulgating any regulation, an agency must determine whether the proposed regulations will affect a floodplain(s), and if so, the agency must consider alternatives to avoid adverse effects and incompatible development in the floodplain(s). If the head of the agency finds that the only practicable alternative consistent with the law and with the policy set forth in Executive Order 11988 is to promulgate a regulation that affects a floodplain(s), the agency must, prior to promulgating the regulation, design or modify the regulation to minimize potential harm to or within the floodplain, consistent with the agency's floodplain management regulations. It must also prepare and circulate a notice containing an explanation of why the action is proposed to be located in the floodplain.

FEMA regulations at 44 CFR part 9 implement E.O.s 11988 and 13690 by establishing an 8-step decision-making process for actions which have the potential to affect floodplains or their occupants, or which are subject to potential harm by location in floodplains. Under 44 CFR 9.5, actions affecting floodplains include actions which have the potential to result in the long- or short-term impacts associated with: (1) the occupancy or modification of floodplains, and the direct or indirect support of floodplain development; or (2) the destruction and modification of wetlands and the direct or indirect support of new construction in wetlands. Pursuant to 44 CFR 9.5(f), FEMA generally must apply the 8-step process for program-wide actions under the NFIP such as regulations, procedures, or other issuances making or amending program policy. This rulemaking implements the statutory requirement under the NFIP that FEMA offer policyholders the option of paying their annual flood insurance premiums in monthly installments. FEMA has determined that the changes in this rule do not meet the definition of an action as outlined in 44 CFR 9.4 and the rulemaking therefore does not trigger the requirements of 44 CFR part 9 as described in 44 CFR 9.5, including those outlined in 44 CFR 9.5(f).

K. Executive Order 11990, ''Protection of Wetlands''

Executive Order 11990, ''Protection of Wetlands,'' 42 FR 26961 (May 24, 1977), sets forth that each agency must provide leadership and take action to minimize the destruction, loss or degradation of wetlands, and to preserve and enhance the natural and beneficial values of wetlands in carrying out the agency's responsibilities. These responsibilities include (1) acquiring, managing, and disposing of Federal lands and facilities; and (2) providing federally undertaken, financed, or assisted construction and improvements; and (3) conducting Federal activities and programs affecting land use, including but not limited to water and related land resources planning, regulating, and licensing activities. Each agency, to the extent permitted by law, must avoid undertaking or providing assistance for new construction located in wetlands unless the head of the agency finds (1) that there is no practicable alternative to such construction, and (2) that the proposed action includes all practicable measures to minimize harm to wetlands which may result from such use. In making this finding, the head of the agency may take into account economic, environmental, and other pertinent factors.

In carrying out the activities described in Executive Order 11990, each agency must consider factors relevant to a proposal's effect on the survival and quality of the wetlands. These include public health, safety, and welfare, including water supply, quality, recharge and discharge; pollution; flood and storm hazards; sediment and erosion; maintenance of natural systems, including conservation and long-term productivity of existing flora and fauna, species and habitat diversity and stability, hydrologic utility, fish, wildlife, timber, and food and fiber resources. They also include other uses of wetlands in the public interest, including recreational, scientific, and cultural uses.

This rulemaking implements the statutory requirement that FEMA offer policyholders the option of paying their annual flood insurance premiums in monthly installments. FEMA has determined that the changes in this rule do not meet the definition of an action as outlined in 44 CFR 9.4 and the rulemaking therefore does not trigger the requirements of 44 CFR part 9 as described in 44 CFR 9.5, including those outlined in 44 CFR 9.5(f).

L. Executive Order 12898, ''Environmental Justice''

Under Executive Order 12898, ''Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations,'' 59 FR 7629 (Feb. 16, 1994), as amended by Executive Order 12948, 60 FR 6381 (Feb. 1, 1995), FEMA incorporates environmental justice into its policies and programs. The Executive order requires each Federal agency to identify and address disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of its programs, policies, and activities on minority populations and low-income populations.

This rulemaking will not have a disproportionately high or adverse human health or environmental effect on low-income or minority populations.

M. Congressional Review of Agency Rulemaking

Before a rule can take effect, the Congressional Review of Agency Rulemaking Act (CRA), 5 U.S.C. 801–808, requires the Federal agency promulgating the rule to submit to Congress and to the Government Accountability Office (GAO) a copy of the rule, a concise general statement relating to the rule, including whether it is a major rule, the proposed effective date of the rule, a copy of any cost-benefit analysis, descriptions of the agency's actions under the Regulatory Flexibility Act and the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act, and any other information or statements required by relevant Executive orders.

FEMA will send this rule to the Congress and to GAO pursuant to the CRA. This rule is not a ''major rule'' within the meaning of the CRA. It will not have an annual effect on the economy of $100,000,000 or more or result in a major increase in costs or prices for consumers, individual industries, Federal, State, or local government agencies, or geographic regions. Nor will it have significant adverse effects on competition, employment, investment, productivity, innovation, or on the ability of United States-based enterprises to compete with foreign-based enterprises in domestic and export markets.

List of Subjects

44 CFR Part 61

Flood insurance, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

44 CFR Part 62

Claims, Flood insurance, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

For the reasons stated in the preamble, FEMA amends 44 CFR chapter I as follows:

PART 61—INSURANCE COVERAGE AND RATES

■ 1. The authority citation for part 61 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 42 U.S.C. 4001 *et seq.;* 6 U.S.C. 101 *et seq.*

■ 2. Revise § 61.4 to read as follows:

§ 61.4 Properties in violation of law, regulation, or ordinance.

No new flood insurance or renewal of flood insurance policies will be written for properties declared by a duly constituted State or local zoning or other authority to be in violation of any floodplain, mudslide (*i.e.,* mudflow), or flood-related erosion area management or control law, regulation, or ordinance.

■ 3. Revise § 61.10 to read as follows:

§ 61.10 Requirements for issuance or renewal of flood insurance coverage.

(a) *Issuance or renewal of flood insurance.* FEMA will not issue or renew flood insurance unless FEMA receives:

(1) The full amount due, which is:

(i) Either:

(A) Presentment of the full premium; or

(B) Presentment of the first of a series of monthly premium installment payments; and

(ii) Presentment of the full amount of surcharges, fees, and assessments; and

(2) A complete application, including the information necessary to establish a premium rate for the policy, or submission of corrected or additional information necessary to calculate the premium for the renewal of the policy.

(b) *Impact of installment payments.* (1) FEMA will not reduce coverage or reform the policy for any policyholder who makes timely installment payments in accordance with the terms identified in paragraph (a)(1)(i)(B) of this section. In the event of a claim occurring prior to a policyholder completing all installment payments, the policyholder must remit the balance of payment. The policyholder may settle their balance out of claim proceeds in accordance with the Standard Flood Insurance Policy.

(2) FEMA shall require payment in full in the next policy term for any policyholder who fails to make all installment payments in accordance with the terms identified in paragraph (a)(1)(i)(B) of this section.

PART 62—SALE OF INSURANCE AND ADJUSTMENT OF CLAIMS

■ 4. The authority citation for part 62 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 42 U.S.C. 4001 *et seq.;* 6 U.S.C. 101 *et seq.*

■ 5. Revise § 62.23(h)(7) to read as follows:

§ 62.23 WYO Companies authorized.

* * * * *

(h) * * *

(7) Premium payment plans must be offered by the WYO Company under the terms prescribed by the Administrator in § 61.10(a)(1).

* * * * *

Deanne Criswell,

Administrator, Federal Emergency Management Agency.

[FR Doc. 2024–25213 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 9111–52–P

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

47 CFR Part 8

[PS Docket Nos. 23–239; FR ID 258059]

Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau Announces 15-Business Day Filing Window for Cybersecurity Labeling Administrator and Lead Administrator Applications; Correction

AGENCY: Federal Communications Commission.

ACTION: Final rule; correction.

SUMMARY: The Federal Communications Commission is correcting the **DATES** section of a final rule that appeared in the **Federal Register** on October 21, 2024 announcing a 15-business day filing window for applications from entities seeking designation as a Cybersecurity Labeling Administrator (CLA) and Lead Administrator and also adopting additional requirements for CLAs and Lead Administrators.

DATES: Effective November 20, 2024.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Tara Shostek, Attorney Advisor, Cybersecurity and Communications Reliability Division, Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau, (202) 418–8130, or by email to *Tara.Shostek@fcc.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In rule document 2024–23844 at 89 FR 84086, appearing on page 84086 in the **Federal Register** of Monday, October 21, 2024, in the third column, the **DATES** section is corrected to read as follows:

Effective date: November 20, 2024, except for amendment 3 (47 CFR 8.220(f)(14)) which is delayed indefinitely until the Office of Management and Budget has completed review under the Paperwork Reduction Act. The Commission will publish a document in the **Federal Register** announcing that effective date.

Federal Communications Commission.

Marlene Dortch,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2024–25404 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6712–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 648

[Docket No. 241028–0280; RTID 0648–XE301]

Atlantic Surfclam and Ocean Quahog Fisheries; 2025 Fishing Quotas for Atlantic Surfclams and Ocean Quahogs; and Suspension of Atlantic Surfclam Minimum Size Limit

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: NMFS announces that the quotas for the Atlantic surfclam and ocean quahog fisheries for 2025 will remain status quo. NMFS also suspends the minimum size limit for Atlantic surfclams for the 2025 fishing year. Regulations for these fisheries require NMFS to notify the public of the allowable harvest levels for Atlantic surfclams and ocean quahogs from the Exclusive Economic Zone even if the previous year's quota specifications remain unchanged. The 2025 quotas were previously announced as projected values. This action confirms the final quotas are unchanged from those projections. This action would not result in harm to these fisheries.

DATES: Effective January 1, 2025, through December 31, 2025.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Douglas Potts, Fishery Policy Analyst, 978–281–9341.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Atlantic Surfclam and Ocean Quahog Fishery Management Plan (FMP) requires that NMFS issue notice in the **Federal Register** of the upcoming year's quota, even if the quota remains unchanged from the previous year. At its August 2024 meeting, the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (Council) recommended no change to the quota specifications for Atlantic surfclams and ocean quahogs for the 2025 fishing year. We are announcing 2025 quota levels of 3.4 million bushels

(bu) (181 million L) for Atlantic surfclams, 5.36 million bu (285 million L) for ocean quahogs, and 100,000 Maine bu (3.52 million L) for Maine ocean quahogs. These quotas were published as projected 2025 limits in the **Federal Register** on May 13, 2021 (86 FR 26186). This rule establishes these quotas as unchanged from 2021 and final.

In addition, the regulations at 50 CFR 648.75(b)(3) allow the Regional Administrator to annually suspend the minimum size limit for Atlantic surfclams unless discard, catch, and biological sampling data indicate that 30 percent or more of the Atlantic surfclams have a shell length less than 4.75 inches (121 mm) and the overall reduced size is not attributable to harvest from beds where growth of the individual clams has been reduced because of density-dependent factors. The default minimum size limit is intended to prevent the fishery from harvesting too many small clams such that it could harm the overall population. The size limit is unnecessary if small clams are not a significant portion of overall catch. At its August 2024 meeting, the Council reviewed recent developments in the fishery and recommended the Regional Administrator once again suspend the minimum size limit for Atlantic surfclams for the 2025 fishing year. Commercial surfclam data for 2024 indicated that 8.4 percent of the overall commercial landings were composed of surfclams that were less than the 4.75-inch (121-mm) default minimum size.

Based on the information available, the Regional Administrator concurs with the Council's recommendation and is suspending the minimum size limit for Atlantic surfclams for the upcoming fishing year (January 1 through December 31, 2025).

Classification

NMFS is issuing this rule pursuant to section 305(d) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act. In a previous action taken pursuant to section 304(b), the FMP authorized NMFS to take this action pursuant to MSA section 305(d). See 50 CFR 648.72. The Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, NOAA, has determined that this rule is consistent with the Atlantic Surfclam and Ocean Quahog FMP, other provisions of the Magnuson-Stevens Act, and other applicable law.

This action does not introduce any new reporting, recordkeeping, or other compliance requirements. This rule does not duplicate, overlap, or conflict with other Federal rules.

Pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(B), there is good cause to waive prior notice and an opportunity for public comment on this action, as notice and comment would be unnecessary and contrary to the public interest. This rule is routine and formulaic. The public was given the opportunity to comment on the proposed rule for the 2021–2026 specifications (86 FR 9901, February 17, 2021), including the projected 2025 specifications, which remain unchanged. Delaying this action would prolong public uncertainty about the final quotas for the 2025 fishing year, and could delay issuance of 2025 Individual Transferable Quota cage tags to quota shareholders. The public and industry participants expect this action because we previously alerted the public that we would conduct this review in interim years of the multi-year specifications and announce the final quotas before or as close as possible to the January 1 start of the fishing year. This rule could not be published earlier because of the time necessary to collect data and conduct the analysis to support suspending the minimum size limit for Atlantic surfclams.

This rule is exempt from the requirements of Executive Order 12866 because it contains no implementing regulations.

Because prior notice and opportunity for public comment are not required for this rule by 5 U.S.C. 553, or any other law, the analytical requirements of the Regulatory Flexibility Act, 5 U.S.C. 601 *et seq.,* are inapplicable. Accordingly, no Regulatory Flexibility Analysis is required and none has been prepared.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*

Dated: October 28, 2024.

Samuel D. Rauch, III,

Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 2024–25412 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–22–P

Proposed Rules

Federal Register
Vol. 89, No. 212
Friday, November 1, 2024

This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains notices to the public of the proposed issuance of rules and regulations. The purpose of these notices is to give interested persons an opportunity to participate in the rule making prior to the adoption of the final rules.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. FAA–2024–2416; Project Identifier MCAI–2024–00491–T]

RIN 2120–AA64

Airworthiness Directives; ATR—GIE Avions de Transport Régional Airplanes

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM).

SUMMARY: The FAA proposes to adopt a new airworthiness directive (AD) for certain ATR—GIE Avions de Transport Régional Model ATR42–500 and ATR72–212A airplanes. This proposed AD was prompted by a report of the possible use of improper material during the manufacturing of vertical stabilizer to horizontal stabilizer junction fittings. This proposed AD would require inspections of affected parts, applicable repairs, and eventual replacement of certain affected parts, as specified in a European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) AD, which is proposed for incorporation by reference (IBR). The FAA is proposing this AD to address the unsafe condition on these products.

DATES: The FAA must receive comments on this proposed AD by December 16, 2024.

ADDRESSES: You may send comments, using the procedures found in 14 CFR 11.43 and 11.45, by any of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* Go to *regulations.gov.* Follow the instructions for submitting comments.
- *Fax:* 202–493–2251.
- *Mail:* U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, M–30, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12–140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590.
- *Hand Delivery:* Deliver to Mail address above between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

AD Docket: You may examine the AD docket at *regulations.gov* under Docket No. FAA–2024–2416; or in person at Docket Operations between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The AD docket contains this NPRM, the mandatory continuing airworthiness information (MCAI), any comments received, and other information. The street address for Docket Operations is listed above.

Material Incorporated by Reference:

- For EASA material identified in this proposed AD, contact EASA, Konrad-Adenauer-Ufer 3, 50668 Cologne, Germany; telephone +49 221 8999 000; email *ADs@easa.europa.eu;* website *easa.europa.eu.* You may find this material on the EASA website at *ad.easa.europa.eu.* It is also available at *regulations.gov* under Docket No. FAA–2024–2416.
- You may view this material at the FAA, Airworthiness Products Section, Operational Safety Branch, 2200 South 216th St., Des Moines, WA. For information on the availability of this material at the FAA, call 206–231–3195.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Shahram Daneshmandi, Aviation Safety Engineer, FAA, 1600 Stewart Avenue, Suite 410, Westbury, NY 11590; telephone 206–231–3220; email *shahram.daneshmandi@faa.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Comments Invited

The FAA invites you to send any written relevant data, views, or arguments about this proposal. Send your comments to an address listed under the **ADDRESSES** section. Include ''Docket No. FAA–2024–2416; Project Identifier MCAI–2024–00491–T'' at the beginning of your comments. The most helpful comments reference a specific portion of the proposal, explain the reason for any recommended change, and include supporting data. The FAA will consider all comments received by the closing date and may amend this proposal because of those comments.

Except for Confidential Business Information (CBI) as described in the following paragraph, and other information as described in 14 CFR 11.35, the FAA will post all comments received, without change, to *regulations.gov,* including any personal information you provide. The agency will also post a report summarizing each substantive verbal contact received about this NPRM.

Confidential Business Information

CBI is commercial or financial information that is both customarily and actually treated as private by its owner. Under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) (5 U.S.C. 552), CBI is exempt from public disclosure. If your comments responsive to this NPRM contain commercial or financial information that is customarily treated as private, that you actually treat as private, and that is relevant or responsive to this NPRM, it is important that you clearly designate the submitted comments as CBI. Please mark each page of your submission containing CBI as ''PROPIN.'' The FAA will treat such marked submissions as confidential under the FOIA, and they will not be placed in the public docket of this NPRM. Submissions containing CBI should be sent to Shahram Daneshmandi, Aviation Safety Engineer, FAA, 1600 Stewart Avenue, Suite 410, Westbury, NY 11590; telephone 206–231–3220; email *shahram.daneshmandi@faa.gov.* Any commentary that the FAA receives which is not specifically designated as CBI will be placed in the public docket for this rulemaking.

Background

EASA, which is the Technical Agent for the Member States of the European Union, has issued EASA AD 2024–0171, dated August 27, 2024 (EASA AD 2024–0171) (also referred to as the MCAI), to correct an unsafe condition for certain ATR—GIE Avions de Transport Régional Model ATR42–500 and ATR72–212A airplanes. The MCAI states that a report was received of the possible use of improper material during the manufacturing of vertical stabilizer to horizontal stabilizer junction fittings. Subsequent review identified the population of affected parts and the airplanes equipped with those affected parts. Vertical stabilizer to horizontal stabilizer junction fittings manufactured with improper material, if not addressed, could reduce the structural integrity of the airplane.

The FAA is proposing this AD to address the unsafe condition on these products.

You may examine the MCAI in the AD docket at *regulations.gov* under Docket No. FAA–2024–2416.

Material Incorporated by Reference Under 1 CFR Part 51

EASA AD 2024–0171 specifies procedures for a special detailed inspection (SDI) (conductivity measurement, hardness test, and X-ray fluorescence (XRF) inspection) to determine the material tolerance of affected vertical to horizontal stabilizer junction fittings installed on group 1 or 2 airplanes; repair of parts not within the tolerances of material AL7075–T73 (except those within the tolerances of material AL7050–T7452); repetitive detailed visual inspections for any damage (including corrosion and dents) of each affected part that is within the tolerances of material AL7050–T7452 or is installed on a group 3 airplane; repair of damaged parts; and eventual replacement of any affected part that is within the tolerances of material AL7050–T7452 or installed on a group 3 airplane. EASA AD 2024–0171 also specifies reporting the inspection results of the SDI to ATR. This material is reasonably available because the interested parties have access to it through their normal course of business or by the means identified in the **ADDRESSES** section.

FAA's Determination

This product has been approved by the aviation authority of another country and is approved for operation in the United States. Pursuant to the FAA's bilateral agreement with this State of Design Authority, it has notified the FAA of the unsafe condition described in the MCAI referenced above. The FAA is issuing this NPRM after determining that the unsafe condition described previously is likely to exist or develop in other products of the same type design.

Proposed AD Requirements in This NPRM

This proposed AD would require accomplishing the actions specified in EASA AD 2024–0171 described previously, except for any differences identified as exceptions in the regulatory text of this proposed AD.

Explanation of Required Compliance Information

In the FAA's ongoing efforts to improve the efficiency of the AD process, the FAA developed a process to use some civil aviation authority (CAA) ADs as the primary source of information for compliance with requirements for corresponding FAA ADs. The FAA has been coordinating this process with manufacturers and CAAs. As a result, the FAA proposes to incorporate EASA AD 2024–0171 by reference in the FAA final rule. This proposed AD would, therefore, require compliance with EASA AD 2024–0171 in its entirety through that incorporation, except for any differences identified as exceptions in the regulatory text of this proposed AD. Using common terms that are the same as the heading of a particular section in EASA AD 2024–0171 does not mean that operators need comply only with that section. For example, where the AD requirement refers to ''all required actions and compliance times,'' compliance with this AD requirement is not limited to the section titled ''Required Action(s) and Compliance Time(s)'' in EASA AD 2024–0171. Material required by EASA AD 2024–0171 for compliance will be available at *regulations.gov* under Docket No. FAA–2024–2416 after the FAA final rule is published.

Interim Action

The FAA considers that this proposed AD would be an interim action. The inspection reports specified in this proposed AD will provide the manufacturer additional data for determining the extent of the improper material usage, and to determine if further action is needed to address the unsafe condition.

Costs of Compliance

The FAA estimates that this AD, if adopted as proposed, would affect 36 airplanes of U.S. registry. The FAA estimates the following costs to comply with this proposed AD:

ESTIMATED COSTS FOR REQUIRED ACTIONS

Labor cost	Parts cost	Cost per product	Cost on U.S. operators
Up to 26 work-hours × $85 per hour = $2,210	$0	Up to $2,210	Up to $79,560.

The FAA estimates the following costs to do any necessary on-condition actions that would be required based on the results of any required actions. The FAA has no way of determining the number of aircraft that might need these on-condition actions:

ESTIMATED COSTS OF ON-CONDITION ACTIONS

Labor cost	Parts cost	Cost per product
Up to 523 work-hours × $85 per hour = $44,455	$6,340	$50,795

The FAA has received no definitive data on which to base the cost estimates for the on-condition repairs specified in this proposed AD.

The FAA has included all known costs in its cost estimate. According to the manufacturer, however, some or all of the costs of this proposed AD may be covered under warranty, thereby reducing the cost impact on affected operators.

Paperwork Reduction Act

A federal agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, nor shall a person be subject to a penalty for failure to comply with a collection of information subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act unless that collection of information displays a currently valid OMB Control Number. The OMB Control Number for this information collection is 2120–0056. Public reporting for this collection of information is estimated to take approximately 1 hour per response, including the time for reviewing

instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. All responses to this collection of information are mandatory. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to: Information Collection Clearance Officer, Federal Aviation Administration, 10101 Hillwood Parkway, Fort Worth, TX 76177–1524.

Authority for This Rulemaking

Title 49 of the United States Code specifies the FAA's authority to issue rules on aviation safety. Subtitle I, section 106, describes the authority of the FAA Administrator. Subtitle VII: Aviation Programs, describes in more detail the scope of the Agency's authority.

The FAA is issuing this rulemaking under the authority described in Subtitle VII, Part A, Subpart III, Section 44701: General requirements. Under that section, Congress charges the FAA with promoting safe flight of civil aircraft in air commerce by prescribing regulations for practices, methods, and procedures the Administrator finds necessary for safety in air commerce. This regulation is within the scope of that authority because it addresses an unsafe condition that is likely to exist or develop on products identified in this rulemaking action.

Regulatory Findings

The FAA determined that this proposed AD would not have federalism implications under Executive Order 13132. This proposed AD would not have a substantial direct effect on the States, on the relationship between the national government and the States, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities among the various levels of government.

For the reasons discussed above, I certify this proposed regulation:

(1) Is not a ''significant regulatory action'' under Executive Order 12866,

(2) Would not affect intrastate aviation in Alaska, and

(3) Would not have a significant economic impact, positive or negative, on a substantial number of small entities under the criteria of the Regulatory Flexibility Act.

List of Subjects in 14 CFR Part 39

Air transportation, Aircraft, Aviation safety, Incorporation by reference, Safety.

The Proposed Amendment

Accordingly, under the authority delegated to me by the Administrator, the FAA proposes to amend 14 CFR part 39 as follows:

PART 39—AIRWORTHINESS DIRECTIVES

■ 1. The authority citation for part 39 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 49 U.S.C. 106(g), 40113, 44701.

§ 39.13 [Amended]

■ 2. The FAA amends § 39.13 by adding the following new airworthiness directive:

ATR—GIE Avions de Transport Régional: Docket No. FAA–2024–2416; Project Identifier MCAI–2024–00491–T.

(a) Comments Due Date

The FAA must receive comments on this airworthiness directive (AD) by December 16, 2024.

(b) Affected ADs

None.

(c) Applicability

This AD applies to ATR—GIE Avions de Transport Régional Model ATR42–500 and ATR72–212A airplanes, certificated in any category, as identified in European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) AD 2024–0171, dated August 27, 2024 (EASA AD 2024–0171).

(d) Subject

Air Transport Association (ATA) of America Code 55, Stabilizers.

(e) Unsafe Condition

This AD was prompted by a report of the possible use of improper material during the manufacturing of vertical stabilizer to horizontal stabilizer junction fittings. The FAA is issuing this AD to address the potential usage of improper material during the manufacturing of vertical stabilizer to horizontal stabilizer junction fittings. The unsafe condition, if not addressed, could result in reduced structural integrity of the airplane.

(f) Compliance

Comply with this AD within the compliance times specified, unless already done.

(g) Requirements

Except as specified in paragraph (h) of this AD: Comply with all required actions and compliance times specified in, and in accordance with, EASA AD 2024–0171.

(h) Exceptions to EASA AD 2024–0171

(1) Where EASA AD 2024–0171 refers to its effective date, this AD requires using the effective date of this AD.

(2) Where paragraph (2) of EASA AD 2024–0171 specifies to ''accomplish a detailed visual inspection (DVI) of each affected part in accordance with the instructions of ATR Maintenance Procedure (MP) A–55–36–XX–02ZZZ–281Z–A'' for this AD replace that text with ''accomplish a detailed visual inspection (DVI) for damage of each affected part in accordance with the instructions of ATR Maintenance Procedure (MP) A–55–36–XX–02ZZZ–281Z–A, and before further flight repair any damage using a method approved by the Manager, International Validation Branch, FAA; or EASA; or ATR—GIE Avions de Transport Régional's EASA Design Organization Approval (DOA). If approved by the DOA, the approval must include the DOA-authorized signature.''

(3) Where paragraph (4) of EASA AD 2024–0171 specifies to ''accomplish a DVI of the affected part in accordance with the instructions of ATR MP A–55–36–XX–02ZZZ–281Z–A'' for this AD replace that text with ''accomplish a DVI for damage of the affected part in accordance with the instructions of ATR MP A–55–36–XX–02ZZZ–281Z–A, and before further flight repair any damage using a method approved by the Manager, International Validation Branch, FAA; or EASA; or ATR—GIE Avions de Transport Régional's EASA DOA. If approved by the DOA, the approval must include the DOA-authorized signature.''

(4) Paragraph (5) of EASA AD 2024–0171 specifies to report inspection results to ATR within a certain compliance time. For this AD, report inspection results at the applicable time specified in paragraph (h)(4)(i) or (ii) of this AD.

(i) If the inspection was done on or after the effective date of this AD: Submit the report within 30 days after the inspection.

(ii) If the inspection was done before the effective date of this AD: Submit the report within 30 days after the effective date of this AD.

(5) This AD does not adopt the ''Remarks'' section of EASA AD 2024–0171.

(i) Additional AD Provisions

The following provisions also apply to this AD:

(1) *Alternative Methods of Compliance (AMOCs):* The Manager, International Validation Branch, FAA, has the authority to approve AMOCs for this AD, if requested using the procedures found in 14 CFR 39.19. In accordance with 14 CFR 39.19, send your request to your principal inspector or responsible Flight Standards Office, as appropriate. If sending information directly to the manager of the International Validation Branch, send it to the attention of the person identified in paragraph (j) of this AD and email to: *AMOC@faa.gov.* Before using any approved AMOC, notify your appropriate principal inspector, or lacking a principal inspector, the manager of the responsible Flight Standards Office.

(2) *Contacting the Manufacturer:* For any requirement in this AD to obtain instructions from a manufacturer, the instructions must be accomplished using a method approved by the Manager, International Validation Branch, FAA; or EASA; or ATR—GIE Avions de Transport Régional's EASA Design Organization Approval (DOA). If approved by the DOA, the approval must include the DOA-authorized signature.

(j) Additional Information

For more information about this AD, contact Shahram Daneshmandi, Aviation Safety Engineer, FAA, 1600 Stewart Avenue, Suite 410, Westbury, NY 11590; phone: 206–231–3220; email: *shahram.daneshmandi@faa.gov.*

(k) Material Incorporated by Reference

(1) The Director of the Federal Register approved the incorporation by reference of the material listed in this paragraph under 5 U.S.C. 552(a) and 1 CFR part 51.

(2) You must use this material as applicable to do the actions required by this AD, unless this AD specifies otherwise.

(i) European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) AD 2024–0171, dated August 27, 2024.

(ii) [Reserved]

(3) For EASA material identified in this AD, contact EASA, Konrad-Adenauer-Ufer 3, 50668 Cologne, Germany; telephone +49 221 8999 000; email *ADs@easa.europa.eu;* website *easa.europa.eu.* You may find this material on the EASA website at *ad.easa.europa.eu.*

(4) You may view this material at the FAA, Airworthiness Products Section, Operational Safety Branch, 2200 South 216th St., Des Moines, WA. For information on the availability of this material at the FAA, call 206–231–3195.

(5) You may view this material at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). For information on the availability of this material at NARA, visit *www.archives.gov/federal-register/cfr/ibr-locations* or email *fr.inspection@nara.gov.*

Issued on October 28, 2024.

Victor Wicklund,

Deputy Director, Compliance & Airworthiness Division, Aircraft Certification Service.

[FR Doc. 2024–25368 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910–13–P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. FAA–2024–2418; Project Identifier MCAI–2024–00239–T]

RIN 2120–AA64

Airworthiness Directives; ATR—GIE Avions de Transport Régional Airplanes

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM).

SUMMARY: The FAA proposes to adopt a new airworthiness directive (AD) for certain ATR—GIE Avions de Transport Régional Model ATR42 and ATR72 airplanes. This proposed AD was prompted by a report that a flight deck emergency escape hatch was difficult to open due to the hose ends being connected to the hatch with incorrect parts, which could affect drainage of the hatch. This proposed AD would require inspection of the flight deck emergency escape hatch drain hose for discrepancies and applicable corrective actions, and prohibit accomplishment of maintenance actions using the instructions of certain maintenance tasks, as specified in a European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) AD, which is proposed for incorporation by reference (IBR). The FAA is proposing this AD to address the unsafe condition on these products.

DATES: The FAA must receive comments on this proposed AD by December 16, 2024.

ADDRESSES: You may send comments, using the procedures found in 14 CFR 11.43 and 11.45, by any of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* Go to *regulations.gov.* Follow the instructions for submitting comments.
- *Fax:* 202–493–2251.
- *Mail:* U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, M–30, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12–140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590.
- *Hand Delivery:* Deliver to Mail address above between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

AD Docket: You may examine the AD docket at *regulations.gov* under Docket No. FAA–2024–2418; or in person at Docket Operations between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The AD docket contains this NPRM, the mandatory continuing airworthiness information (MCAI), any comments received, and other information. The street address for Docket Operations is listed above.

Material Incorporated by Reference:

- For EASA material identified in this proposed AD, contact EASA, Konrad-Adenauer-Ufer 3, 50668 Cologne, Germany; telephone +49 221 8999 000; email *ADs@easa.europa.eu;* website *easa.europa.eu.* You may find this material on the EASA website at *ad.easa.europa.eu.* It is also available at *regulations.gov* under Docket No. FAA–2024–2418.
- You may view this material at the FAA, Airworthiness Products Section, Operational Safety Branch, 2200 South 216th St., Des Moines, WA. For information on the availability of this material at the FAA, call 206–231–3195.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Shahram Daneshmandi, Aviation Safety Engineer, FAA, 1600 Stewart Avenue, Suite 410, Westbury, NY 11590; telephone 206–231–3220; email: *Shahram.Daneshmandi@faa.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Comments Invited

The FAA invites you to send any written relevant data, views, or arguments about this proposal. Send your comments to an address listed under the **ADDRESSES** section. Include ''Docket No. FAA–2024–2418; Project Identifier MCAI–2024–00239–T'' at the beginning of your comments. The most helpful comments reference a specific portion of the proposal, explain the reason for any recommended change, and include supporting data. The FAA will consider all comments received by the closing date and may amend this proposal because of those comments.

Except for Confidential Business Information (CBI) as described in the following paragraph, and other information as described in 14 CFR 11.35, the FAA will post all comments received, without change, to *regulations.gov*, including any personal information you provide. The agency will also post a report summarizing each substantive verbal contact received about this NPRM.

Confidential Business Information

CBI is commercial or financial information that is both customarily and actually treated as private by its owner. Under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) (5 U.S.C. 552), CBI is exempt from public disclosure. If your comments responsive to this NPRM contain commercial or financial information that is customarily treated as private, that you actually treat as private, and that is relevant or responsive to this NPRM, it is important that you clearly designate the submitted comments as CBI. Please mark each page of your submission containing CBI as ''PROPIN.'' The FAA will treat such marked submissions as confidential under the FOIA, and they will not be placed in the public docket of this NPRM. Submissions containing CBI should be sent to Shahram Daneshmandi, Aviation Safety Engineer, FAA, 1600 Stewart Avenue, Suite 410, Westbury, NY 11590; telephone 206–231–3220; email: *Shahram.Daneshmandi@faa.gov.* Any commentary that the FAA receives that is not specifically designated as CBI will be placed in the public docket for this rulemaking.

Background

EASA, which is the Technical Agent for the Member States of the European Union, has issued EASA AD 2024–0090, dated April 16, 2024 (also referred to as

the MCAI), to correct an unsafe condition for certain ATR—GIE Avions de Transport Régional Model ATR42–200, ATR42–300, ATR42–320, ATR42–400, ATR42–500, ATR72–101, ATR72–102, ATR72–201, ATR72–202, ATR72–211, ATR72–212, and ATR72–212A airplanes. Model ATR42–400 airplanes are not certificated by the FAA and are not included on the U.S. type certificate data sheet; this proposed AD therefore does not include those airplanes in the applicability.

The MCAI states that following a report that a flight deck emergency escape hatch was difficult to open, an ATR investigation revealed hatch drain hose ends connected to the hatch with incorrect parts (zip-tie and ty-rap) and installed collars with a too-small diameter that would not permit the drain hose to slide inside. These installation nonconformities could occur only during maintenance and could affect the hatch drainage and possibly result in difficulties in removing the hatch in case of an emergency evacuation. ATR has updated the maintenance procedures to clarify the correct procedures.

The FAA is proposing this AD to address these installation nonconformities, which could prevent flightcrew evacuation from the airplane in case of an emergency, possibly resulting in personal injury.

You may examine the MCAI in the AD docket at *regulations.gov* under Docket No. FAA–2024–2418.

Material Incorporated by Reference Under 1 CFR Part 51

EASA AD 2024–0090 specifies procedures for inspecting for discrepancies of the flight deck emergency escape hatch drain hose (including checking for the presence of a fastening system on the drain hoses at the level of the escape hatch drains and checking whether a drain hose slides freely in the clamp (collar)). Discrepancies include any zip-tie/ty-rap that is detected and any drain hose that does not slide freely in the clamp. Corrective actions include removing the fastening system and replacing the clamp. EASA AD 2024–0090 also prohibits accomplishment of maintenance actions using the instructions of Maintenance Procedure (MP) Tasks ATR–A–52–22–XX–00ZZZ–520Z–A and ATR–A–52–22–XX–00ZZZ–720Z–A issued December 31, 2023, or earlier. This material is reasonably available because the interested parties have access to it through their normal course of business or by the means identified in the **ADDRESSES** section.

FAA's Determination

This product has been approved by the aviation authority of another country and is approved for operation in the United States. Pursuant to the FAA's bilateral agreement with this State of Design Authority, it has notified the FAA of the unsafe condition described in the MCAI referenced above. The FAA is issuing this NPRM after determining that the unsafe condition described previously is likely to exist or develop in other products of the same type design.

Proposed AD Requirements in This NPRM

This proposed AD would require accomplishing the actions specified in EASA AD 2024–0090 described previously, except for any differences identified as exceptions in the regulatory text of this proposed AD.

Explanation of Required Compliance Information

In the FAA's ongoing efforts to improve the efficiency of the AD process, the FAA developed a process to use some civil aviation authority (CAA) ADs as the primary source of information for compliance with requirements for corresponding FAA ADs. The FAA has been coordinating this process with manufacturers and CAAs. As a result, the FAA proposes to incorporate EASA AD 2024–0090 by reference in the FAA final rule. This proposed AD would, therefore, require compliance with EASA AD 2024–0090 in its entirety through that incorporation, except for any differences identified as exceptions in the regulatory text of this proposed AD. Using common terms that are the same as the heading of a particular section in EASA AD 2024–0090 does not mean that operators need comply only with that section. For example, where the AD requirement refers to ''all required actions and compliance times,'' compliance with this AD requirement is not limited to the section titled ''Required Action(s) and Compliance Time(s)'' in EASA AD 2024–0090. Material required by EASA AD 2024–0090 for compliance will be available at *regulations.gov* under Docket No. FAA–2024–2418 after the FAA final rule is published.

Costs of Compliance

The FAA estimates that this AD, if adopted as proposed, would affect 80 airplanes of U.S. registry. The FAA estimates the following costs to comply with this proposed AD:

ESTIMATED COSTS FOR REQUIRED ACTIONS

Labor cost	Parts cost	Cost per product	Cost on U.S. operators
0.25 work-hour × $85 per hour = $21.25	$0	$21.25	$1,700

The FAA estimates the following costs to do any replacement that would be required based on the results of any required actions. The FAA has no way of determining the number of aircraft that might need this replacement:

ESTIMATED COSTS OF ON-CONDITION ACTIONS

Labor cost	Parts cost	Cost per product
0.25 work-hour × $85 per hour = $21.25	Minimal	$21.25

The FAA has included all known costs in its cost estimate. According to the manufacturer, however, some or all of the costs of this proposed AD may be covered under warranty, thereby reducing the cost impact on affected operators.

Authority for This Rulemaking

Title 49 of the United States Code specifies the FAA's authority to issue rules on aviation safety. Subtitle I, section 106, describes the authority of the FAA Administrator. Subtitle VII: Aviation Programs, describes in more detail the scope of the Agency's authority.

The FAA is issuing this rulemaking under the authority described in Subtitle VII, Part A, Subpart III, Section 44701: General requirements. Under that section, Congress charges the FAA with promoting safe flight of civil aircraft in air commerce by prescribing regulations for practices, methods, and procedures the Administrator finds necessary for safety in air commerce. This regulation is within the scope of that authority because it addresses an unsafe condition that is likely to exist or develop on products identified in this rulemaking action.

Regulatory Findings

The FAA determined that this proposed AD would not have federalism implications under Executive Order 13132. This proposed AD would not have a substantial direct effect on the States, on the relationship between the national government and the States, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities among the various levels of government.

For the reasons discussed above, I certify this proposed regulation:

(1) Is not a ''significant regulatory action'' under Executive Order 12866,

(2) Would not affect intrastate aviation in Alaska, and

(3) Would not have a significant economic impact, positive or negative, on a substantial number of small entities under the criteria of the Regulatory Flexibility Act.

List of Subjects in 14 CFR Part 39

Air transportation, Aircraft, Aviation safety, Incorporation by reference, Safety.

The Proposed Amendment

Accordingly, under the authority delegated to me by the Administrator, the FAA proposes to amend 14 CFR part 39 as follows:

PART 39—AIRWORTHINESS DIRECTIVES

■ 1. The authority citation for part 39 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 49 U.S.C. 106(g), 40113, 44701.

§ 39.13 [Amended]

■ 2. The FAA amends § 39.13 by adding the following new airworthiness directive:

ATR—GIE Avions de Transport Régional; Docket No. FAA–2024–2418; Project Identifier MCAI–2024–00239–T.

(a) Comments Due Date

The FAA must receive comments on this airworthiness directive (AD) by December 16, 2024.

(b) Affected ADs

None.

(c) Applicability

This AD applies to the ATR—GIE Avions de Transport Régional airplanes, certificated in any category, specified in paragraphs (c)(1) and (2) of this AD and identified in European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) AD 2024–0090, dated April 16, 2024 (EASA AD 2024–0090).

(1) Model ATR42–200, –300, –320, and –500 airplanes.

(2) Model ATR72–101, –102, –201, –202, –211, –212, and –212A airplanes.

(d) Subject

Air Transport Association (ATA) of America Code 52, Doors.

(e) Unsafe Condition

This AD was prompted by a report that a flight deck emergency escape hatch was difficult to open due to the hose ends being connected to the hatch with incorrect parts or and installed collars with a too-small diameter that would not permit the drain hose to slide inside. The FAA is issuing this AD to address such installation nonconformities, which could affect drainage of the hatch. The unsafe condition, if not addressed, could prevent flightcrew evacuation in case of an emergency, possibly resulting in personal injury.

(f) Compliance

Comply with this AD within the compliance times specified, unless already done.

(g) Requirements

Except as specified in paragraphs (h) and (i) of this AD: Comply with all required actions and compliance times specified in, and in accordance with, EASA AD 2024–0090.

(h) Exceptions to EASA AD 2024–0090

(1) Where EASA AD 2024–0090 refers to its effective date, this AD requires using the effective date of this AD.

(2) This AD does not adopt the ''Remarks'' section of EASA AD 2024–0090.

(3) Where EASA AD 2024–0090 states ''any discrepancy, as defined in the AOM, is detected'' for this AD replace that text with ''any fastening system (*e.g.,* zip-tie/ty-rap) is detected or any drain hose does not slide freely in the clamp (collar).''

(i) No Reporting

Although the material referenced in EASA AD 2024–0090 specifies to submit certain information to the manufacturer, this AD does not include that requirement.

(j) Additional AD Provisions

The following provisions also apply to this AD:

(1) *Alternative Methods of Compliance (AMOCs):* The Manager, International Validation Branch, FAA, has the authority to approve AMOCs for this AD, if requested using the procedures found in 14 CFR 39.19. In accordance with 14 CFR 39.19, send your request to your principal inspector or responsible Flight Standards Office, as appropriate. If sending information directly to the manager of the International Validation Branch, send it to the attention of the person identified in paragraph (k) of this AD and email to: *AMOC@faa.gov.* Before using any approved AMOC, notify your appropriate principal inspector, or lacking a principal inspector, the manager of the responsible Flight Standards Office.

(2) *Contacting the Manufacturer:* For any requirement in this AD to obtain instructions from a manufacturer, the instructions must be accomplished using a method approved by the Manager, International Validation Branch, FAA; or EASA; or ATR—GIE Avions de Transport Régional's EASA Design Organization Approval (DOA). If approved by the DOA, the approval must include the DOA-authorized signature.

(k) Additional Information

For more information about this AD, contact Shahram Daneshmandi, Aviation Safety Engineer, FAA, 1600 Stewart Avenue, Suite 410, Westbury, NY 11590; telephone 206–231–3220; email: *shahram.daneshmandi@faa.gov.*

(l) Material Incorporated by Reference

(1) The Director of the Federal Register approved the incorporation by reference of the material listed in this paragraph under 5 U.S.C. 552(a) and 1 CFR part 51.

(2) You must use this material as applicable to do the actions required by this AD, unless this AD specifies otherwise.

(i) European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) AD 2024–0090, dated April 16, 2024.

(ii) [Reserved]

(3) For EASA material identified in this AD, contact EASA, Konrad-Adenauer-Ufer 3, 50668 Cologne, Germany; telephone +49 221 8999 000; email *ADs@easa.europa.eu;* website *easa.europa.eu.* You may find this material on the EASA website at *ad.easa.europa.eu.*

(4) You may view this material at the FAA, Airworthiness Products Section, Operational Safety Branch, 2200 South 216th St., Des Moines, WA. For information on the availability of this material at the FAA, call 206–231–3195.

(5) You may view this material at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). For information on the availability of this material at NARA, visit *www.archives.gov/federal-register/cfr/ibr-locations* or email *fr.inspection@nara.gov.*

Issued on October 28, 2024.

Victor Wicklund,

Deputy Director, Compliance & Airworthiness Division, Aircraft Certification Service.

[FR Doc. 2024–25369 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910–13–P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. FAA–2024–2417; Project Identifier AD–2024–00336–E]

RIN 2120–AA64

Airworthiness Directives; General Electric Company Engines

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM).

SUMMARY: The FAA proposes to supersede Airworthiness Directive (AD) 2020–20–17 and AD 2021–15–05, which apply to all General Electric Company (GE) Model GE90–110B1 and GE90–115B engines. AD 2020–20–17 prohibits dispatch of an airplane if certain status messages are displayed on the engine indicating and crew alerting system (EICAS) and if certain conditions are present; and as terminating action, requires revision of the existing FAA-approved minimum equipment list (MEL) by incorporating the dispatch restrictions into the MEL. AD 2021–15–05 requires initial and repetitive replacement of the full authority digital engine control (FADEC) integrated circuit (MN4) microprocessor. Since the FAA issued AD 2020–20–17 and AD 2021–15–05, the manufacturer has developed a software revision for the electronic engine control (EEC) FADEC that further mitigates the unsafe condition. This proposed AD would retain all the actions of AD 2020–20–17 and AD 2021–15–05, and it would also require upgrading the EEC FADEC software to an EEC FADEC software version eligible for installation as a terminating action. The FAA is proposing this AD to address the unsafe condition on these products.

DATES: The FAA must receive comments on this proposed AD by December 16, 2024.

ADDRESSES: You may send comments, using the procedures found in 14 CFR 11.43 and 11.45, by any of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* Go to *regulations.gov.* Follow the instructions for submitting comments.
- *Fax:* (202) 493–2251.
- *Mail:* U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, M–30, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12–140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590.
- *Hand Delivery:* Deliver to Mail address above between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

AD Docket: You may examine the AD docket at *regulations.gov* under Docket No. FAA–2024–2417; or in person at Docket Operations between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The AD docket contains this NPRM, any comments received, and other information. The street address for Docket Operations is listed above.

Material Incorporated by Reference:

- For GE material identified in this proposed AD, contact GE, 1 Neumann Way, Cincinnati, OH 45215; phone: (513) 552–3272; email: *aviation.fleetsupport@ge.com;* website: *ge.com.*
- You may view this material at the FAA, Airworthiness Products Section, Operational Safety Branch, 1200 District Avenue, Burlington, MA 01803. For information on the availability of this material at the FAA, call (817) 222–5110.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Alexander Thickstun, Aviation Safety Engineer, FAA, 2200 South 216th Street, Des Moines, WA 98198; phone: (202) 267–8292; email: *alexander.m.thickstun@faa.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Comments Invited

The FAA invites you to send any written relevant data, views, or arguments about this proposal. Send your comments to an address listed under the **ADDRESSES** section. Include ''Docket No. FAA–2024–2417; Project Identifier AD–2024–00336–E'' at the beginning of your comments. The most helpful comments reference a specific portion of the proposal, explain the reason for any recommended change, and include supporting data. The FAA will consider all comments received by the closing date and may revise this proposal because of those comments.

Except for Confidential Business Information (CBI) as described in the following paragraph, and other information as described in 14 CFR 11.35, the FAA will post all comments received, without change, to *regulations.gov*, including any personal information you provide. The agency will also post a report summarizing each substantive verbal contact received about this NPRM.

Confidential Business Information

CBI is commercial or financial information that is both customarily and actually treated as private by its owner. Under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) (5 U.S.C. 552), CBI is exempt from public disclosure. If your comments responsive to this NPRM contain commercial or financial information that is customarily treated as private, that you actually treat as private, and that is relevant or responsive to this NPRM, it is important that you clearly designate the submitted comments as CBI. Please mark each page of your submission containing CBI as ''PROPIN.'' The FAA will treat such marked submissions as confidential under the FOIA, and they will not be placed in the public docket of this NPRM. Submissions containing CBI should be sent to Alexander Thickstun, Aviation Safety Engineer, FAA, 2200 South 216th Street, Des Moines, WA 98198. Any commentary that the FAA receives which is not specifically designated as CBI will be placed in the public docket for this rulemaking.

Background

The FAA issued AD 2020–20–17, Amendment 39–21273 (85 FR 63443, October 8, 2020) (''AD 2020–20–17'') and AD 2021–15–05, Amendment 39–21652 (86 FR 43409, August 9, 2021) (''AD 2021–15–05''), for all GE Model GE90–110B1 and GE90–115B engines.

AD 2020–20–17 was prompted by an in-service occurrence of loss of engine thrust control resulting in uncommanded high thrust. AD 2020–20–17 prohibits dispatch of an airplane if certain status messages are displayed on the EICAS and if certain conditions are present; and as terminating action, requires revision of the existing FAA-approved MEL by incorporating the dispatch restrictions listed in AD 2020–20–17 into the MEL. The agency issued AD 2020–20–17 to prevent dispatch of the airplane when certain faults caused by degradation of the MN4 integrated circuit in the FADEC are displayed and certain FADEC conditions are present which, if not addressed, could result in loss of engine thrust control and reduced control of the airplane.

AD 2021–15–05 was also prompted by the in-service occurrence of loss of engine thrust control resulting in uncommanded high thrust. AD 2021–15–05 requires initial and repetitive replacement of the FADEC MN4 microprocessor. The agency issued AD 2021–15–05 to prevent failure of the FADEC MN4 microprocessor solder ball which, if not addressed, could result in

loss of engine thrust control and reduced control of the airplane.

Actions Since AD 2020–20–17 and AD 2021–15–05 Were Issued

Since the FAA issued AD 2020–20–17 and AD 2021–15–05, the manufacturer has developed a software revision for the FADEC. The FAA has determined that the software revision for the FADEC further mitigates the unsafe conditions specified AD 2020–20–17 and AD 2021–15–05, and therefore, must be required for the affected engines.

FAA's Determination

The FAA is issuing this NPRM after determining that the unsafe condition described previously is likely to exist or develop on other products of the same type design.

Material Incorporated by Reference Under 1 CFR Part 51

The FAA reviewed GE GE90–100 Service Bulletin 73–0117 R01, dated August 5, 2020, which the Director of the Federal Register approved for incorporation by reference as of October 23, 2020 (85 FR 63443, October 8, 2020). This material describes procedures for checking for an inbound FADEC EICAS ''ENG EEC C1'' status message and corresponding conditions.

The FAA also reviewed GE GE90–100 Service Bulletin 73–0118, Revision 01, dated April 27, 2021, which the Director of the Federal Register approved for incorporation by reference as of September 13, 2021 (86 FR 43409, August 9, 2021). This material specifies procedures for replacing the FADEC MN4 microprocessor.

This material is reasonably available because the interested parties have access to it through their normal course of business or by the means identified in the **ADDRESSES** section.

Proposed AD Requirements in This NPRM

This proposed AD would retain all of the requirements of AD 2020–20–17 and AD 2021–15–05. Furthermore, this proposed AD would require upgrading the EEC FADEC software to an EEC FADEC software version that is eligible for installation as a terminating action for the retained requirements from AD 2020–20–17 and AD 2021–15–05.

Costs of Compliance

The FAA estimates that this AD, if adopted as proposed, would affect 330 engines installed on airplanes of U.S. registry.

The FAA estimates the following costs to comply with this proposed AD:

ESTIMATED COSTS

Action	Labor cost	Parts cost	Cost per product	Cost on U.S. operators
Revise the existing MEL (Retained action from AD 2020–20–17).	1 work-hour × $85 per hour = $85	$0	$85	$28,050
Remove and replace FADEC (Retained action from AD 2021–15–05).	1 work-hour × $85 per hour = $85	25,200	25,285	8,344,050
Upgrade the EEC FADEC software (New Action).	1 work-hour × $85 per hour = $85	0	85	28,050

Authority for This Rulemaking

Title 49 of the United States Code specifies the FAA's authority to issue rules on aviation safety. Subtitle I, section 106, describes the authority of the FAA Administrator. Subtitle VII, Aviation Programs, describes in more detail the scope of the Agency's authority.

The FAA is issuing this rulemaking under the authority described in Subtitle VII, Part A, Subpart III, Section 44701: General requirements. Under that section, Congress charges the FAA with promoting safe flight of civil aircraft in air commerce by prescribing regulations for practices, methods, and procedures the Administrator finds necessary for safety in air commerce. This regulation is within the scope of that authority because it addresses an unsafe condition that is likely to exist or develop on products identified in this rulemaking action.

Regulatory Findings

The FAA determined that this proposed AD would not have federalism implications under Executive Order 13132. This proposed AD would not have a substantial direct effect on the States, on the relationship between the national government and the States, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities among the various levels of government.

For the reasons discussed above, I certify that the proposed regulation:

(1) Is not a ''significant regulatory action'' under Executive Order 12866,

(2) Would not affect intrastate aviation in Alaska, and

(3) Would not have a significant economic impact, positive or negative, on a substantial number of small entities under the criteria of the Regulatory Flexibility Act.

List of Subjects in 14 CFR part 39

Air transportation, Aircraft, Aviation safety, Incorporation by reference, Safety.

The Proposed Amendment

Accordingly, under the authority delegated to me by the Administrator, the FAA proposes to amend 14 CFR part 39 as follows:

PART 39—AIRWORTHINESS DIRECTIVES

■ 1. The authority citation for part 39 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 49 U.S.C. 106(g), 40113, 44701.

§ 39.13 [Amended]

■ 2. The FAA amends § 39.13 by:

■ a. Removing Airworthiness Directives 2020–20–17, Amendment 39–21273 (85 FR 63443, October 8, 2020); and 2021–15–05, Amendment 39–21652 (86 FR 43409, August 9, 2021); and

■ b. Adding the following new airworthiness directive:

General Electric Company: Docket No. FAA–2024–2417; Project Identifier AD–2024–00336–E.

(a) Comments Due Date

The FAA must receive comments on this airworthiness directive (AD) by December 16, 2024.

(b) Affected ADs

This AD replaces AD 2020–20–17, Amendment 39–21273 (85 FR 63443, October 8, 2020) (AD 2020–20–17); and AD 2021–15–05, Amendment 39–21652 (86 FR 43409, August 9, 2021) (AD 2021–15–05).

(c) Applicability

This AD applies to General Electric Company (GE) Model GE90–110B1 and GE90–115B engines.

(d) Subject

Joint Aircraft System Component (JASC) Code 7320, Fuel Controlling System.

(e) Unsafe Condition

This AD was prompted by an in-service occurrence of loss of engine thrust control resulting in uncommanded high thrust. The FAA is issuing this AD to prevent dispatch of the airplane when certain faults caused by degradation of the MN4 integrated circuit in the full authority digital engine control (FADEC) are displayed and certain FADEC conditions are present, and to prevent failure of the electronic engine control (EEC) FADEC integrated circuit (MN4) microprocessor solder ball. The unsafe condition, if not addressed, could result in loss of engine thrust control and reduced control of the airplane.

(f) Compliance

Comply with this AD within the compliance times specified, unless already done.

(g) Retained Actions From AD 2020–20–17

(1) After October 23, 2020 (the effective date of AD 2020–20–17), notwithstanding the provisions of the operator's minimum equipment list (MEL), dispatch of an airplane is prohibited if the engine indicating and crew alerting system (EICAS) displays the status message ''ENG EEC C1 L'' or ''ENG EEC C1 R'' and any condition is present that is listed in the Accomplishment Instructions, paragraphs 3.A.(2)(f), 3.A.3(a), or 3.A.(4) of GE GE90–100 Service Bulletin 73–0117 R01, dated August 5, 2020.

(2) As terminating action for the requirements of paragraph (g)(1) of this AD, within 120 days of October 23, 2020 (the effective date of AD 2020–20–17), revise the existing FAA-approved MEL by incorporating into the MEL the dispatch restrictions listed in paragraph (g)(1) of this AD as a required operation or maintenance procedure. Specific alternative MEL wording to accomplish the actions specified in paragraph (g)(1) of this AD can be approved by the operator's principal operations or maintenance inspector.

(h) Retained Actions From AD 2021–15–05

(1) Within the following compliance times after September 13, 2021 (the effective date of AD 2021–15–05), replace the FADEC MN4 microprocessor using an approved overhaul procedure:

(i) For a FADEC MN4 microprocessor with 10,500 or more cycles since new (CSN), replace the FADEC MN4 microprocessor before accumulating 500 additional cycles on the FADEC MN4 microprocessor.

(ii) For a FADEC MN4 microprocessor with 5,000 CSN or more, but fewer than 10,500 CSN, replace the FADEC MN4 microprocessor at the next FADEC component shop visit or before accumulating 11,000 CSN on the FADEC MN4 microprocessor, whichever occurs first.

(2) Thereafter, repeat the replacement of the FADEC MN4 microprocessor at the first FADEC component shop visit after accumulating 5,000 cycles since the last replacement but before accumulating 11,000 cycles since the last replacement.

(i) Retained Definitions From AD 2021–15–05

For the purpose of this AD:

(1) An ''approved overhaul procedure'' is one of the following:

(i) Replacement of the FADEC MN4 microprocessor using FADEC International-approved maintenance procedures; or

(ii) Replacement of the FADEC MN4 microprocessor using the Accomplishment Instructions, paragraph 3.A., of GE GE90–100 Service Bulletin 73–0118, Revision 01, dated April 27, 2021.

(2) A ''FADEC component shop visit'' is the induction of the FADEC into a repair facility to perform internal maintenance on the FADEC.

(j) New Required Actions

Within 180 days after the effective date of this AD, replace any EEC FADEC software version that is earlier than A.0.8.6 with an EEC FADEC software version that is eligible for installation.

(k) Terminating Action

The actions specified in paragraph (j) of this AD constitute terminating action for all the requirements of paragraphs (g) and (h) of this AD.

(l) Installation Prohibition

As of the effective date of this AD, no person may install on any engine, an EEC FADEC software version that is earlier than A.0.8.6.

(m) Definition

For the purpose of this AD, an ''EEC FADEC software version that is eligible for installation'' is any software version that is A.0.8.6 or later.

(n) Alternative Methods of Compliance (AMOCs)

(1) The Manager, AIR–520 Continued Operational Safety Branch, FAA, has the authority to approve AMOCs for this AD, if requested using the procedures found in 14 CFR 39.19. In accordance with 14 CFR 39.19, send your request to your principal inspector or local Flight Standards District Office, as appropriate. If sending information directly to the manager of the AIR–520 Continued Operational Safety Branch, send it to the attention of the person identified in paragraph (o) of this AD and email to: *AMOC@faa.gov*.

(2) Before using any approved AMOC, notify your appropriate principal inspector, or lacking a principal inspector, the manager of the local flight standards district office/certificate holding district office.

(o) Additional Information

For more information about this AD, contact Alexander Thickstun, Aviation Safety Engineer, FAA, 2200 South 216th Street, Des Moines, WA 98198; phone: (202) 267–8292; email: *alexander.m.thickstun@faa.gov*.

(p) Material Incorporated by Reference

(1) The Director of the Federal Register approved the incorporation by reference (IBR) of the material listed in this paragraph under 5 U.S.C. 552(a) and 1 CFR part 51.

(2) You must use this material as applicable to do the actions required by this AD, unless the AD specifies otherwise.

(3) The following material was approved for IBR on October 23, 2020 (85 FR 63443, October 8, 2020).

(i) General Electric Company (GE) GE90–100 Service Bulletin 73–0117 R01, dated August 5, 2020.

(ii) [Reserved]

(4) The following material was approved for IBR on September 13, 2021 (86 FR 43409, August 9, 2021).

(i) GE GE90–100 Service Bulletin 73–0118, Revision 01, dated April 27, 2021.

(ii) [Reserved]

(5) For GE material identified in this AD, contact GE, 1 Neumann Way, Cincinnati, OH 45215; phone: (513) 552–3272; email: *aviation.fleetsupport@ge.com;* website: *ge.com.*

(6) You may view this material at the FAA, Airworthiness Products Section, Operational Safety Branch, 1200 District Avenue, Burlington, MA 01803. For information on the availability of this material at the FAA, call (817) 222–5110.

(7) You may view this material at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). For information on the availability of this material at NARA, visit *www.archives.gov/federal-register/cfr/ibr-locations* or email *fr.inspection@nara.gov.*

Issued on October 25, 2024.

Suzanne Masterson,

Deputy Director, Integrated Certificate Management Division, Aircraft Certification Service.

[FR Doc. 2024–25377 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910–13–P

POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION

39 CFR Part 3050

[Docket No. RM2025–2; Order No. 7831]

Periodic Reporting

AGENCY: Postal Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking.

SUMMARY: The Commission is acknowledging a recent Postal Service filing requesting the Commission initiate a rulemaking proceeding to consider changes to analytical principles relating to periodic reports. This document informs the public of the filing, invites public comment, and takes other administrative steps.

DATES: *Comments are due:* November 27, 2024.

ADDRESSES: Submit comments electronically via the Commission's Filing Online system at *http://www.prc.gov.* Those who cannot submit comments electronically should contact the person identified in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section by telephone for advice on filing alternatives.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: David A. Trissell, General Counsel, at 202–789–6820.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Table of Contents

I. Introduction
II. Proposal
III. Notice and Comment
IV. Ordering Paragraphs

I. Introduction

On October 22, 2024, the Postal Service filed a petition pursuant to 39 CFR 3050.11 requesting that the Commission initiate a rulemaking proceeding to consider changes to analytical principles relating to periodic reports.[1] The Petition identifies the proposed analytical changes filed in this docket as modifications to the mail processing cost model for Parcel Select and Parcel Return Service. Petition, Proposal at 1.

II. Proposal

Background. The Postal Service states that, in Order No. 6536, the Commission approved structural changes designed to simplify the Parcel Select price structure. *See id.* at 1, n.3. The Postal Service further states that, in Order No. 6798, the Commission approved conforming changes to the Parcel Select and Parcel Return Service (PRS) mail processing and transportation cost models. *See id.* at 2, n.4. The Postal Service notes that in Fiscal Year (FY) 2024, the Commission approved several Negotiated Service Agreements (NSAs) that include a provision for DHub-entered packages, whose supporting workpapers ''utilized the DSCF–SCF mail processing cost as a proxy for the DHub non-presort cost[.]'' *See id.* at 2. The Postal Service states that in its requests it declared the intention to propose a DHub non-presort mail flow model and corresponding mail processing cost for Commission review. *Id.*

Proposal. For purposes of reporting costs for NSAs under which ''the customer will be able to enter machinable non-presorted DHub packages at specific designated Sorting & Delivery Centers (S&DCs) that contain parcel sorting equipment[,]'' the Postal Service proposes that the Parcel Select and PRS mail processing cost model be modified to ''include a non-presort machinable mail flow (DHub) and corresponding mail processing cost estimates for DHub-entered packages.'' *See id.* at 2–3. This new flow and corresponding cost estimate would be in addition to existing flows and cost estimates for 5-digit presorted DHub-entered packages and non-presorted DSCF-entered packages. *See id.*

The Postal Service filed under seal the proposed modified mail processing cost model with the Petition. *Id.* at 3. The proposed cost model includes DHub cost estimates for non-presort machinable Parcel Select Heavy Weight (PSHW) and non-presort machinable Parcel Select Light Weight (PSLW) mailpieces. *Id.* The corresponding new mail flow includes ''differing hub container movement costs and additional sortation'' and has ''only pallet container unloading costs, as well as additional costs for parcel machine processing and manual processing'' along with ''[c]osts for the loading and unloading of Postal Service hampers of sorted parcels[.]'' *Id.* The new mail flow uses the same delivery unit cost for secondary parcel sortation as the existing 5-digit presorted DHub mail flow. *Id.* A second, similar new mail flow is included in the proposed cost model for DHub non-presort PSLW which uses delivery unit costs specific to PSLW. *See id.*

Impact. The Postal Service emphasizes that existing mail processing unit costs are, in general, not impacted by the Proposal, which instead introduces two new cost estimates. *Id.* at 4. The Postal Service notes that adoption of the Proposal would not have had any effect on FY 2023 costs at the Cost and Revenue Analysis (CRA) level, and that the approved NSAs that include a provision for DHub-entered packages had no such volume in FY 2024. *Id.*

III. Notice and Comment

The Commission establishes Docket No. RM2025–2 for consideration of matters raised by the Petition. More information on the Petition may be accessed via the Commission's website at *http://www.prc.gov.* Interested persons may submit comments on the Petition and the Proposal no later than November 27, 2024. Pursuant to 39 U.S.C. 505, Arif Hafiz is designated as an officer of the Commission (Public Representative) to represent the interests of the general public in this proceeding.

IV. Ordering Paragraphs

It is ordered:

1. The Commission establishes Docket No. RM2025–2 for consideration of the matters raised by the Petition of the United States Postal Service to Initiate a Proceeding to Change Analytical Principles and Notice of Filing Non-Public Materials, filed October 22, 2024.

2. Comments by interested persons in this proceeding are due no later than November 27, 2024.

3. Pursuant to 39 U.S.C. 505, the Commission appoints Arif Hafiz to serve as an officer of the Commission (Public Representative) to represent the interests of the general public in this docket.

4. The Secretary shall arrange for the publication of this order in the **Federal Register**.

By the Commission.

Erica A. Barker,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2024–25401 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7710–FW–P

[1] Petition of the United States Postal Service to Initiate a Proceeding to Change Analytical Principles and Notice of Filing Non-Public Materials, October 22, 2024 (Petition). The proposed change is attached to the Petition (Proposal).

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

40 CFR Part 52

[EPA–R06–OAR–2021–0539; FRL–12282–03–R6]

Air Quality State Implementation Plans; Partial Approval, Partial Disapproval and Promulgation; Texas; Regional Haze; Extension of Comment Period

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Proposed rule; extension of comment period.

SUMMARY: The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is extending the comment period for the proposed rule ''Air Quality State Implementation Plans; Partial Approval, Partial Disapproval and Promulgation; Texas; Regional Haze'' that was published on October 15, 2024. The proposal provided for a public comment period ending November 14, 2024. In response to requests for additional time to develop and submit comments on the proposed rulemaking, the EPA is extending the comment period to December 3, 2024.

DATES: The comment period for the proposed rule published on October 15, 2024, at 89 FR 83338 is extended. Comments must be received on or before December 3, 2024.

ADDRESSES: Submit your comments, identified by Docket No. EPA–R06–

OAR–2021–0539, at *https://www.regulations.gov.* Follow the online instructions for submitting comments. Once submitted, comments cannot be edited or removed from *Regulations.gov*. The EPA may publish any comment received to its public docket. Do not submit electronically any information you consider to be Confidential Business Information (CBI) or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. Multimedia submissions (audio, video, etc.) must be accompanied by a written comment. The written comment is considered the official comment and should include discussion of all points you wish to make. The EPA will generally not consider comments or comment contents located outside of the primary submission (*i.e.,* on the web, cloud, or other file sharing system). For additional submission methods, please contact the person identified in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section. For the full EPA public comment policy, information about CBI or multimedia submissions, and general guidance on making effective comments, please visit *https://www.epa.gov/dockets/commenting-epa-dockets.*

Docket: The index to the docket for this action is available electronically at *www.regulations.gov.* While all documents in the docket are listed in the index, some information may not be publicly available due to docket file size restrictions or content (*e.g.,* CBI).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jennifer Huser, EPA Region 6 Office, 214–665–7347, *huser.jennifer@epa.gov.* We encourage the public to submit comments via *https://www.regulations.gov.* Please call or email the contact listed above if you need alternative access to material indexed but not provided in the docket.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Throughout this document wherever ''we,'' ''us,'' or ''our'' is used, we mean the EPA.

On October 15, 2024, we published in the **Federal Register** ''Air Quality State Implementation Plans; Partial Approval, Partial Disapproval and Promulgation; Texas; Regional Haze'', where we proposed to partially approve and partially disapprove the regional haze State implementation plan (SIP) revision submitted by Texas on July 20, 2021, under the Clean Air Act (CAA) and EPA's Regional Haze Rule (RHR) for the program's second implementation period. In response to requests for additional time to develop and submit comments on the proposed rulemaking, we have decided to extend the public comment period. The original deadline to submit comments was November 14, 2024. The comment period will now close on December 3, 2024. This action will allow interested persons additional time to prepare and submit comments on the proposed action listed above.

List of Subjects in 40 CFR Part 52

Environmental protection, Air pollution control, Incorporation by reference, Nitrogen dioxide, Ozone, Particulate matter, Sulfur oxides.

Authority: 42 U.S.C. 7401 *et seq.*

Dated: October 28, 2024.

David Garcia,

Director, Air and Radiation Division, Region 6.

[FR Doc. 2024–25452 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560–50–P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

40 CFR Part 180

[EPA–HQ–OPP–2024–0059; FRL–11682–08–OCSPP]

Receipt of a Pesticide Petition Filed for Residues of Pesticide Chemicals in or on Various Commodities (August 2024)

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of filing of petition and request for comment.

SUMMARY: This document announces the Agency's receipt of an initial filing of a pesticide petition requesting the establishment or modification of regulations for residues of pesticide chemicals in or on various commodities.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before December 2, 2024.

ADDRESSES: Submit your comments, identified by docket identification (ID) number EPA–HQ–OPP–2024–0059, through the *Federal eRulemaking Portal* at *https://www.regulations.gov.* Follow the online instructions for submitting comments. Do not submit electronically any information you consider to be Confidential Business Information (CBI) or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. Additional instructions on commenting and visiting the docket, along with more information about dockets generally, is available at *https://www.epa.gov/dockets.*

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Charles Smith, Registration Division (RD) (7505T), main telephone number: (202) 566–1030, email address: *RDFRNotices@epa.gov.* The mailing address is Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20460–0001. As part of the mailing address, include the contact person's name, division, and mail code.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. General Information

A. Does this action apply to me?

You may be potentially affected by this action if you are an agricultural producer, food manufacturer, or pesticide manufacturer. The following list of North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS) codes is not intended to be exhaustive, but rather provides a guide to help readers determine whether this document applies to them. Potentially affected entities may include:

- Crop production (NAICS code 111).
- Animal production (NAICS code 112).
- Food manufacturing (NAICS code 311).
- Pesticide manufacturing (NAICS code 32532).

B. What should I consider as I prepare my comments for EPA?

1. *Submitting CBI.* Do not submit this information to EPA through *regulations.gov* or email. Clearly mark the part or all of the information that you claim to be CBI. For CBI information in a disk or CD–ROM that you mail to EPA, mark the outside of the disk or CD–ROM as CBI and then identify electronically within the disk or CD–ROM the specific information that is claimed as CBI. In addition to one complete version of the comment that includes information claimed as CBI, a copy of the comment that does not contain the information claimed as CBI must be submitted for inclusion in the public docket. Information so marked will not be disclosed except in accordance with procedures set forth in 40 CFR part 2.

2. *Tips for preparing your comments.* When preparing and submitting your comments, see the commenting tips at *https://www.epa.gov/dockets/commenting-epa-dockets.*

3. *Environmental justice.* EPA seeks to achieve environmental justice, the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of any group, including minority and/or low-income populations, in the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies. To help address potential environmental justice issues, the Agency seeks information on any groups or segments of the population who, as a result of their location, cultural practices, or other factors, may have atypical or disproportionately high and adverse

human health impacts or environmental effects from exposure to the pesticides discussed in this document, compared to the general population.

II. What action is the Agency taking?

EPA is announcing receipt of a pesticide petition filed under section 408 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FFDCA), 21 U.S.C. 346a, requesting the establishment or modification of regulations in 40 CFR part 180 for residues of pesticide chemicals in or on various food commodities. The Agency is taking public comment on the request before responding to the petitioner. EPA is not proposing any particular action at this time. EPA has determined that the pesticide petition described in this document contains data or information prescribed in FFDCA section 408(d)(2), 21 U.S.C. 346a(d)(2); however, EPA has not fully evaluated the sufficiency of the submitted data at this time or whether the data supports granting of the pesticide petition. After considering the public comments, EPA intends to evaluate whether and what action may be warranted. Additional data may be needed before EPA can make a final determination on this pesticide petition.

Pursuant to 40 CFR 180.7(f), a summary of the petition that is the subject of this document, prepared by the petitioner, is included in a docket EPA has created for this rulemaking. The docket for this petition is available at *https://www.regulations.gov.*

As specified in FFDCA section 408(d)(3), 21 U.S.C. 346a(d)(3), EPA is publishing notice of the petition so that the public has an opportunity to comment on this request for the establishment or modification of regulations for residues of pesticides in or on food commodities. Further information on the petition may be obtained through the petition summary referenced in this unit.

Notice of Filing—New Tolerances for Non-Inerts

1. *PP 4E9106.* EPA–HQ–OPP–2024–0201. The Interregional Research Project No. 4 (IR–4), IR–4 Project Headquarters, North Carolina State University, 1730 Varsity Drive, Venture IV, Suite 210, Raleigh, NC 27606, requests to establish tolerances in 40 CFR part 180.378 for residues of the insecticide permethrin [(3-phenoxyphenyl)methyl 3-(2,2-dichloroethenyl)-2,2-dimethylcyclopropanecarboxylate], as the sum of its *cis-* and *trans-* isomers in or on the raw agricultural commodities: Arugula at 50 parts per million (ppm); cress, garden at 50 ppm; cress, upland at 50 ppm; dragon fruit (pitaya) at 1.5 ppm; field corn subgroup 15–22C at 0.05 ppm; leafy greens subgroup 4–16A at 50 ppm; and sweet corn subgroup 15–22D at 0.1 ppm. Adequate gas chromatography (GC) electron capture detection (GC/ECD) methods are available for enforcing tolerances of permethrin *per se. Contact:* RD.

2. *PP 4E9140.* EPA–HQ–OPP–2024–0323. IR–4 Project Headquarters, North Carolina State University, 1730 Varsity Drive, Venture IV, Suite 210, Raleigh, NC 27606, requests to establish a tolerance in 40 CFR part 180.649 for residues of the herbicide Saflufenacil, including its metabolites and degradates. Compliance with the tolerance levels specified below is to be determined by measuring only the sum of saflufenacil, 2-chloro-5-[3,6-dihydro-3-methyl-2,6-dioxo-4-(trifluoromethyl)-1(2H)-pyrimidinyl]-4-fluoro-N-[[methyl(1-methylethyl)amino]sulfonyl]benzamide, and its metabolites N-[2-chloro-5-(2,6-dioxo-4-(trifluoromethyl)-3,6-dihydro-1(2H)-pyrimidinyl)-4-fluorobenzoyl]-N′-isopropylsulfamide and N-[4-chloro-2-fluoro-5-({[(isopropylamino) sulfonyl]amino}carbonyl)phenyl]urea, calculated as the stoichiometric equivalent of saflufenacil, in or on the raw agricultural commodity pennycress, seed at 0.45 ppm. Adequate enforcement methodology (liquid chromatography/mass spectrometry/mass spectrometry (LC/MS/MS) methods for plant and livestock commodities are available for enforcing the tolerance of saflufenacil. *Contact:* RD.

Authority: 21 U.S.C. 346a.

Dated: October 11, 2024.

Kimberly Smith,

Acting Director, Information Technology and Resources Management Division, Office of Program Support.

[FR Doc. 2024–25474 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560–50–P

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

47 CFR Part 76

[MB Docket No.23–203; Report No. 3220; FR ID 258224]

Petition for Reconsideration of Action in Rulemaking Proceeding

AGENCY: Federal Communications Commission.

ACTION: Petition for Reconsideration.

SUMMARY: Petition for Reconsideration (Petition) has been filed in the Commission's proceeding by Gerard Lavery Lederer on behalf of Texas Coalition of Cities for Utility Issues.

DATES: Oppositions to the Petition must be filed on or before November 18, 2024. Replies to oppositions to the Petition must be filed on or before November 12, 2024.

ADDRESSES: Federal Communications Commission, 45 L Street NE, Washington, DC 20554.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For additional information on this proceeding, contact Joseph Price, Media Bureau, (202) 418–1423 or *joseph.price@fcc.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This is a summary of the Commission's document, Report No. 3220, released October 25, 2024. The full text of the Petition can be accessed online via the Commission's Electronic Comment Filing System at: *http://apps.fcc.gov/ecfs/.* The Commission will not send a Congressional Review Act (CRA) submission to Congress or the Government Accountability Office pursuant to the CRA, 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A), because no rules are being adopted by the Commission.

Subject: Part 76—Multichannel Video And Cable Television Service.

Number of Petitions Filed: 1.

Federal Communications Commission.

Marlene Dortch,

Secretary, Office of the Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2024–25497 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6712–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 229

[Docket No. 240911–0235]

RIN 0648–BM91

Marine Mammal Protection Act List of Fisheries for 2025; Reopening Public Comment Period

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Proposed rule; reopening of comment period.

SUMMARY: On September 24, 2024, NMFS published its proposed List of Fisheries (LOF) for 2025, as required by the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA). The original comment period closed on October 24, 2024. In response to requests to extend the public comment period, NMFS is reopening

the comment period through December 1, 2024.

DATES: Comments must be received by December 1, 2024.

ADDRESSES: A plain language summary of this proposed rule is available at *https://www.regulations.gov/docket/NOAA-NMFS-2024-0037.* You may submit comments on this document, identified by NOAA–NMFS–2024–0037, by either of the following methods:

Electronic Submission: Submit all electronic public comments via the Federal e-Rulemaking Portal. Go to *https://www.regulations.gov* and enter NOAA–NMFS–2024–0037 in the Search box. Click on the ''Comment'' icon, complete the required fields, and enter or attach your comments.

Mail: Chief, Marine Mammal and Sea Turtle Conservation Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910.

Instructions: Comments sent by any other method, to any other address or individual, or received after the end of the comment period may not be considered by NMFS. All comments received are a part of the public record and will generally be posted for public viewing on *https://www.regulations.gov* without change. All personal identifying information (*e.g.,* name, address), confidential business information, or otherwise sensitive information submitted voluntarily by the sender will be publicly accessible. NMFS will accept anonymous comments (enter N/A in the required fields if you wish to remain anonymous).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jaclyn Taylor, Office of Protected Resources, 301–427–8402; Cheryl Cross, Greater Atlantic Region, 978–281–9100; Jessica Powell, Southeast Region, 727–824–5312; Dan Lawson, West Coast Region, 206–526–4740; Suzie Teerlink, Alaska Region, 907–586–7240; Jamie Marchetti 808–725–5108, Pacific Islands Region, 808–725–5085. Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the hearing impaired may call the Federal Information Relay Service at 1–800–877–8339 between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. Eastern time, Monday through Friday, excluding Federal holidays.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On September 24, 2024, NMFS published its proposed LOF for 2025, as required by the MMPA, in the **Federal Register** (89 FR 77789). The original 30-day comment period for the proposed rule closed on October 24, 2024. NMFS received two requests to extend the comment period. Based on the requests, NMFS is reopening the comment period for the proposed rule through December 1, 2024.

Dated: October 28, 2024.

Samuel D. Rauch III,

Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 2024–25419 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–22–P

Notices

Federal Register
Vol. 89, No. 212
Friday, November 1, 2024

This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains documents other than rules or proposed rules that are applicable to the public. Notices of hearings and investigations, committee meetings, agency decisions and rulings, delegations of authority, filing of petitions and applications and agency statements of organization and functions are examples of documents appearing in this section.

AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

2024 USAID Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility Bi-Annual Survey

AGENCY: United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

ACTION: Notice of information collection; request for comment.

SUMMARY: The 2024 USAID DEIA survey will utilize workforce data to establish metrics in diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility (DEIA), enable long-term evaluation at all levels, and, by comparing this version with the pilot survey, identify areas for improvement.

DATES: Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to *www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain.* Find this particular information collection by selecting ''Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments'' or by using the search function.''

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For specific questions related to collection activities, please contact Yasmine Taylor Hart, 202–712–5590 or email at *ythart@usaid.com.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to 5 CFR 1320.13, the Agency submitted a request for emergency approval of new information collection from the agency's workforce on DEIA, including U.S. Direct Hires (permanent and temporary) U.S. Personal Services Contractors, Institutional Support Contractors, Cooperating Country Nationals, and other expanded demographic categories in 6 main areas on a 5-point Likert scale, including 13 diversity questions, 7 equity questions, 13 accessibility questions, and 29 talent impact questions.

Description of Proposed Use of Information

The information will be collected via a digital survey and used by the workforce to capture the viewpoints and perceptions of USAID headquarters and overseas employees across all staffing mechanisms and at all grades and ranks; allow for data disaggregation by Bureau, Independent Office, and Mission; provide data for analysis to support evidence-based and data-driven approaches to determine whether and to what extent Agency policies programs, and practices present barriers to equal and equitable and opportunities and employment outcomes and what needs to be changed or developed to remove said barriers; and to support USAID efforts to monitor and report on DEIA and EEO program effectiveness, enabling continuous program improvement.

Based on the pilot survey, distributed in 2022, this survey includes minor updates to sections about demographics, sexual orientation and gender identity (SOGI), and sexual misconduct. The 2024 survey will compare results with the pilot survey to find areas for improvement. It also will gather information from the Agency workforce allowing USAID to establish a baseline for DEIA-related metrics, create a more inclusive working environment, and promote long-term evaluation at the Agency level and within Missions, Bureaus, and Independent Offices (M/B/IOs).

Time Burden

OMB's approval enables USAID to engage 11,000 respondents. Each respondent will be able to provide 20 minutes in participation time, totaling 3,667 estimated time burden of this proposed information collection.

Yasmine Taylor-Hart,

Management Analyst.

[FR Doc. 2024–25408 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

The Department of Agriculture will submit the following information collection requirement(s) to OMB for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104–13 on or after the date of publication of this notice. Comments are requested regarding: (1) whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of burden including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments regarding these information collections are best assured of having their full effect if received by December 2, 2024. Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be submitted within 30 days of the publication of this notice on the following website *www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain.* Find this particular information collection by selecting ''Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments'' or by using the search function.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a currently valid OMB control number and the agency informs potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information that such persons are not required to respond to the collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS)

Title: Commercial Floriculture Survey.

OMB Control Number: 0535–0093.

Summary of Collection: The primary function of the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) is to prepare and issue current official State and national estimates of crop and livestock production. The Commercial Floriculture Survey (CFS) is conducted annually and represents all growers that produced and sold $10,000 or more of floriculture crops during the previous year. Currently, the survey is conducted

in all 50 States. General authority for these data collection activities is granted under 7 U.S.C. 2204.

Need and Use of the Information: The CFS is conducted annually to collect total production and sales figures for the floriculture industry. Since many items included in this survey are seasonal, such as cut roses for Valentine's Day, bedding plants for summertime, chrysanthemums for fall, and poinsettias for Christmas, the survey must be conducted annually to get a complete data set for this industry.

Description of Respondents: Farms; Businesses or other for-profits.

Number of Respondents: 12,500.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: Annually.

Total Burden Hours: 11,673.

National Agricultural Statistics Service

Title: Cost of Pollination Survey.

OMB Control Number: 0535–0258.

Summary of Collection: The primary objectives of the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) are to prepare and issue official State and national estimates of crop and livestock production, disposition and prices, economic statistics, and environmental statistics related to agriculture and to conduct the Census of Agriculture and its follow-on surveys. Pollinators (honeybees) are vital to the agricultural industry for producing food for the world's population. NASS' primary focus will center on costs associated with honey bee pollination, but will also collect some basic information relating to other forms of pollination. General authority for these data collection activities is granted under 7 U.S.C. 2204.

Need and Use of The Information: NASS plans to collect economic data under this new collection using the ''Cost of Pollination Inquiry'' survey. Data relating to the targeted crops (fruits, nuts, vegetables and specialty crops) will be collected for the total number of acres that rely on honey bee pollination, the number of honey bee colonies that were used on those acres, and any cash fees associated with honey bee pollination. By publishing both regional and crop specific pollination costs, both, crop farmers and beekeepers will be able to benefit from this additional data.

Description of Respondents: Farms; Businesses or other for-profits.

Number of Respondents: 16,050.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: Annually.

Total Burden Hours: 5,231.

Levi S. Harrell,

Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 2024–25484 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–20–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

October 29, 2024.

The Department of Agriculture will submit the following information collection requirement(s) to OMB for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104–13 on or after the date of publication of this notice. Comments are requested regarding: (1) whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of burden including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments regarding these information collections are best assured of having their full effect if received by December 2, 2024. Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be submitted, identified by docket number 0535–0264, within 30 days of the publication of this notice by any of the following methods:

- *Email: omb officer@nass.usda.gov.* Include docket number above in the subject line of the message.
- *E-fax:* 855–838–6382.
- *Mail:* Mail any paper, disk, or CD–ROM submissions to: Richard Hopper, NASS Clearance Officer, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Room 5336 South Building, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250–2024.
- *Hand Delivery/Courier:* Hand deliver to: Richard Hopper, NASS Clearance Officer, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Room 5336 South Building, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250–2024.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a currently valid OMB control number and the agency informs potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information that such persons are not required to respond to the collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

National Agricultural Statistics Service

Title: Hawaii Farm Technology Survey.

OMB Control Number: 0535–0264.

Summary of Collection: The primary objectives of the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) are to prepare and issue official State and national estimates of crop and livestock production, disposition and prices, economic statistics, and environmental statistics related to agriculture and to conduct the Census of Agriculture and its follow-on surveys. This project will collect data from a sample of farmers and ranchers with land operated in the State of Hawaii. The reference period will be calendar year 2024.

General authority for these data collection activities is granted under 7 U.S.C. 2204. This survey will be conducted on a full cost recovery basis with the Hawaii Department of Agriculture.

Need and Use of the Information: The purpose of this survey is to collect data related to what types of technologies are used on farms during the past year. These technologies will include both physical and non-physical types such as tablets, applications, automatic sensors, etc. The collected data will be used by the State Department of Agriculture and Land Grant University to determine the need for providing assistance to farmers and ranchers to fulfill their technology needs, indicated by the data.

Description of Respondents: Farmers.

Number of Respondents: 1,800.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: Once a year.

Total Burden Hours: 503.

Levi S. Harrell,

Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 2024–25479 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–20–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Farm Production and Conservation Business Center

[Docket ID: FPAC–2024–0002]

Information Collection Request; Request for Geospatial Products and Services

AGENCY: Farm Production and Conservation Business Center, USDA.

ACTION: Notice; request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act requirement, the Farm Production and Conservation (FPAC) Business Center (BC) is requesting comments from all interested individuals and organizations on a revision and an extension of a currently approved information collection associated with Request for Geospatial Products and Service under the FPAC Geospatial Enterprise Operations (GEO) Program (formerly FSA Aerial Photography Program). GEO uses the information from the forms to collect the customer and product information needed to produce and ship the various geospatial and photographic products ordered.

DATES: We will consider comments that we receive by December 31, 2024.

ADDRESSES: We invite you to submit comments on this notice. You may submit comments to this following method: Federal eRulemaking Portal: Go to *http://www.regulations.gov www.regulations.gov* and search for Docket ID FPAC–2024–0002. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.

You may also send comments to the Desk Officer for Agriculture, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20503. Copies of the information collection may be requested by contacting David Parry below.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: David Parry, (801) 844–2923; email: *david.parry@usda.gov.* Individuals who require alternative means of communication for program information should contact the USDA Target Center at (202) 720–2600 (voice) or dial 711 for Telecommunications Relay Service (both voice and text telephone users can initiate this call from any telephone).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Request for Geospatial Products and Services.

OMB Control Number: 0560–0176.

Expiration Date: January 31, 2025.

Type of Request: Extension with a revision.

Abstract: The information collection is needed to enable the Department of Agriculture to effectively administrate the Geospatial and Aerial Photography Programs. GEO has the responsibility for acquiring and conducting coordination of the FPAC's geospatial datasets and the aerial photography flying contracts and remote sensing programs. The geospatial data and digital aerial imagery secured by FPAC BC is public domain and reproductions are available at cost to any customer with a need. All receipts from the sale of geospatial products and services are retained by FPAC BC. This collection will get an FPAC OMB control number. The FPAC–ISD–441, Request for Geospatial Products and Services, is the form FPAC supplies to the customers for placing an order for aerial imagery products and services. The burden hours have decreased because FPAC–ISD–441B Request for Custom Aerial Print and FPAC–ISD441D One Time Credit Card Payment Authorization forms are now obsolete.

For the following estimated total annual burden on respondents, the formula used to calculate the total burden hour is the estimated average time per responses hours multiplied by the estimated total annual responses. The information collection request will get new FPAC OMB control number.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for the information collection is estimated to average 16 minutes per response.

Type of Respondents: Farmers, Ranchers, and other customers who wish to purchase imagery products and services.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 1,425.

Estimated Annual Number of Responses per Respondent: 1.

Estimated Total Annual Responses. 1,425.

Estimated Average Time per Response: 0.303.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours on Respondents: 432 hours.

We are requesting comments on all aspects of this information collection to help us to:

(1) Evaluate whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of FPAC, including whether the information will have practical utility;

(2) Evaluate the accuracy of FPAC's estimate of the burden of the collection of information including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

(3) Evaluate the quality, utility, and clarity of the information technology; and

(4) Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

All comments received in response to this notice, including names and addresses where provided, will be made a matter of public record. Comments will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval of the information collection.

USDA Non-Discrimination Policy

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and USDA civil rights regulations and policies, USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family or parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

Individuals who require alternative means of communication for program information (for example, braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the responsible Agency or USDA TARGET Center at (202) 720–2600 (voice and text telephone (TTY) or dial 711 for Telecommunications Relay Service (both voice and text telephone users can initiate this call from any telephone). Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD–3027, found online at *https://www.usda.gov/oascr/how-to-file-a-program-discrimination-complaint* and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632–9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by mail to: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250–9410 or email: *OAC@usda.gov.*

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

Robert Ibarra,

Chief Operating Officer, USDA Farm Production and Conservation Business Center.

[FR Doc. 2024–25279 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3411–E2–P

COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

Notice of Public Meeting of the Texas Advisory Committee

AGENCY: U.S. Commission on Civil Rights.

ACTION: Announcement of virtual briefing.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the provisions of the rules and regulations of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights (Commission) and the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) that the Texas Advisory Committee (Committee) to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights will hold a virtual briefing via ZoomGov on Wednesday, December 11, 2024, from 1 p.m.–3 p.m. Central Time. The purpose of the briefing is to hear testimony about racial disparities in maternal mortality in the state.

DATES: The briefing will take place on: Wednesday, December 11, 2024, from 1 p.m.–3 p.m. CT.

ADDRESSES: *Zoom Webinar Link to Join (Audio/Visual): https://www.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_yY8JJUjzQfKfl2JX28ey7Q.*

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Brooke Peery, Designated Federal Officer (DFO) at *bpeery@usccr.gov* or by phone at (202) 701–1376.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Committee meetings are available to the public through the videoconference link above. Any interested member of the public may listen to the meeting. An open comment period will be provided to allow members of the public to make a statement as time allows. Per the Federal Advisory Committee Act, public minutes of the meeting will include a list of persons who are present at the meeting. If joining via phone, callers can expect to incur regular charges for calls they initiate over wireless lines, according to their wireless plan. The Commission will not refund any incurred charges. Closed captioning will be available for individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing, or who have certain cognitive or learning impairments. To request additional accommodations, please email Angelica Trevino, Support Services Specialist, *atrevino@usccr.gov* at least 10 business days prior to the meeting.

Members of the public are entitled to make comments during the open period at the end of the meeting. Members of the public may also submit written comments; the comments must be received in the Regional Programs Unit within 30 days following the meeting. Written comments can be sent via email to Brooke Peery (DFO) at *bpeery@usccr.gov.*

Records generated from this meeting may be inspected and reproduced at the Regional Programs Coordination Unit Office, as they become available, both before and after the meeting. Records of the meetings will be available via *www.facadatabase.gov* under the Commission on Civil Rights, Texas Advisory Committee link. Persons interested in the work of this Committee are directed to the Commission's website, *http://www.usccr.gov,* or may contact the Regional Programs Coordination Unit at *atrevino@usccr.gov.*

Agenda

I. Welcome & Opening Remarks
II. Panelist Remarks
III. Committee Q&A
IV. Public Comment
V. Adjournment

Dated: October 29, 2024.

David Mussatt,

Supervisory Chief, Regional Programs Unit.

[FR Doc. 2024–25476 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6335–01–P

COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

Notice of Public Meetings of the New Mexico Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights

AGENCY: U.S. Commission on Civil Rights.

ACTION: Announcement of virtual briefings.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the provisions of the rules and regulations of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights (Commission) and the Federal Advisory Committee Act that the New Mexico Advisory Committee (Committee) will hold a series of virtual briefings via *ZoomGov* on the following dates and times for the purpose of hearing testimony on civil rights in immigrant detention centers in New Mexico.

DATES: These virtual briefings will take place on:

- PANEL I: Tuesday, December 3, 2024, from 1 p.m.–3 p.m. MT
- PANEL II: Tuesday, December 10, 2024, from 1 p.m.–3 p.m. MT

ADDRESSES: Zoom Webinar Link to Join:
December 3rd: *https://www.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_BYOaF637RGODHVqcoHyJdw*
December 10th: *https://www.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_p0x3OMwRQzGARkRtkiE0tQ*

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Brooke Peery, Designated Federal Officer (DFO), at *bpeery@usccr.gov* or (202) 701–1376.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Committee meetings are available to the public through the registration link above. Any interested member of the public may listen to the meeting. An open comment period will be provided to allow members of the public to make a statement as time allows. Per the Federal Advisory Committee Act, public minutes of the meeting will include a list of persons who are present at the meeting. If joining via phone, callers can expect to incur regular charges for calls they initiate over wireless lines, according to their wireless plan. The Commission will not refund any incurred charges. Callers will incur no charge for calls they initiate over land-line connections to the toll-free telephone number. Closed captioning will be available for individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing, or who have certain cognitive or learning impairments. To request additional accommodation, please email Angelica Trevino, Support Specialist, at *atrevino@usccr.gov* at least ten (10) days prior to the meeting. Members of the public are entitled to make comments during the open period at the end of the meeting. Members of the public may also submit written comments; the comments must be received in the Regional Programs Unit within 30 days following the meeting. Written comments may be emailed to Brooke Peery (DFO) at *bpeery@usccr.gov*

Records generated from this meeting may be inspected and reproduced at the Regional Programs Coordination Unit Office, as they become available, both before and after the meeting. Records of the meetings will be available via *www.facadatabase.gov* under the Commission on Civil Rights, New Mexico Advisory Committee link. Persons interested in the work of this Committee are directed to the Commission's website, *http://www.usccr.gov,* or may contact the Regional Programs Coordination Unit at *atrevino@usccr.gov.*

Agenda

I. Welcoming Opening Remarks

II. Panelist Remarks
III. Committee Q&A
IV. Public Comment
V. Adjournment

Dated: October 29, 2024.

David Mussatt,

Supervisory Chief, Regional Programs Unit.

[FR Doc. 2024–25473 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE P

COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

Notice of Public Meeting of the U.S. Virgin Islands Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights; Revision to Meeting Date and Time

AGENCY: Commission on Civil Rights.

ACTION: Revision to meeting date and time.

SUMMARY: The Commission on Civil Rights published a notice in the **Federal Register** on October 7, 2024, regarding the November 12th business meeting of the U.S. Virgin Islands Advisory Committee. The notice can be found in FR Doc. 2024–23121, located in the second and third columns of page 81039 and continuing into the first column of page 81040. This document provides the correct date and time for the Committee's next meeting.

DATES: Wednesday, November 13, 2024, from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Atlantic Time.

ADDRESSES: This meeting will be held via Zoom.

- *Registration Link (Audio/Visual): https://bit.ly/4dnFimk.*
- *Join by Phone (Audio Only):* 1–833–435–1820 USA Toll Free; Webinar ID: 160 093 2791#.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: David Barreras, Designated Federal Officer, at *dbarreras@usccr.gov* or 1–202–656–8937.

Dated: October 29, 2024.

David Mussatt,

Supervisory Chief, Regional Programs Unit.

[FR Doc. 2024–25477 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE P

COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

Notice of Public Meeting of the New Mexico Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights

AGENCY: U.S. Commission on Civil Rights.

ACTION: Announcement of virtual business meeting.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the provisions of the rules and regulations of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights (Commission) and the Federal Advisory Committee Act that the New Mexico Advisory Committee (Committee) will hold a virtual business meeting via ZoomGov for the purpose of planning upcoming panels.

DATES: The meeting will take place on:

- Wednesday, November 13, 2024, from 12 p.m.—1 p.m. MT.

ADDRESSES: *Zoom Webinar Link to Join: https://www.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_6xAe3ZtuTP-ZQA_ALrAmkw.*

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Brooke Peery, Designated Federal Officer (DFO), at *bpeery@usccr.gov* or (202) 701–1376.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Committee meetings are available to the public through the registration link above. Any interested member of the public may listen to the meeting. An open comment period will be provided to allow members of the public to make a statement as time allows. Per the Federal Advisory Committee Act, public minutes of the meeting will include a list of persons who are present at the meeting. If joining via phone, callers can expect to incur regular charges for calls they initiate over wireless lines, according to their wireless plan. The Commission will not refund any incurred charges. Callers will incur no charge for calls they initiate over land-line connections to the toll-free telephone number. Closed captioning will be available for individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing, or who have certain cognitive or learning impairments. To request additional accommodation, please email Angelica Trevino, Support Specialist, at *atrevino@usccr.gov* at least ten (10) days prior to the meeting.

Members of the public are entitled to make comments during the open period at the end of the meeting. Members of the public may also submit written comments; the comments must be received in the Regional Programs Unit within 30 days following the meeting. Written comments may be emailed to Brooke Peery (DFO) at *bpeery@usccr.gov*

Records generated from this meeting may be inspected and reproduced at the Regional Programs Coordination Unit Office, as they become available, both before and after the meeting. Records of the meetings will be available via *www.facadatabase.gov* under the Commission on Civil Rights, New Mexico Advisory Committee link. Persons interested in the work of this Committee are directed to the Commission's website, *http://www.usccr.gov,* or may contact the Regional Programs Coordination Unit at *atrevino@usccr.gov.*

Agenda

I. Welcome and Roll Call
II. Approval of Minutes
III. Committee Discussion
IV. Public Comment
V. Adjournment

Dated: October 29, 2024.

David Mussatt,

Supervisory Chief, Regional Programs Unit.

[FR Doc. 2024–25472 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6335–01–P

COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

Notice of Public Meeting of the Texas Advisory Committee

AGENCY: U.S. Commission on Civil Rights.

ACTION: Announcement of virtual business meetings.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the provisions of the rules and regulations of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights (Commission) and the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) that the Texas Advisory Committee (Committee) to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights will hold virtual business meetings via ZoomGov on the following dates and times listed below. The purpose of these meetings is to plan upcoming panels.

DATES: These meetings will take place on:

Wednesday, November 6th, From 12 p.m.–1 p.m. CT

Zoom Webinar Link to Join (Audio/Visual): https://www.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_nHePf0BDRkSi-vqprKWE5A.

Wednesday, November 20th, From 12 p.m.–1 p.m. CT

https://www.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_PErodjdFTg-aSgx0GV5WBw.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Brooke Peery, Designated Federal Officer (DFO) at *bpeery@usccr.gov* or by phone at (202) 701–1376.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Committee meetings are available to the public through the videoconference link above. Any interested member of the public may listen to the meeting. An open comment period will be provided to allow members of the public to make a statement as time allows. Per the Federal Advisory Committee Act, public minutes of the meeting will include a list of persons who are present at the meeting. If joining via phone, callers can

expect to incur regular charges for calls they initiate over wireless lines, according to their wireless plan. The Commission will not refund any incurred charges. Closed captioning will be available for individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing, or who have certain cognitive or learning impairments. To request additional accommodations, please email Angelica Trevino, Support Services Specialist, *atrevino@usccr.gov* at least 10 business days prior to the meeting.

Members of the public are entitled to make comments during the open period at the end of the meeting. Members of the public may also submit written comments; the comments must be received in the Regional Programs Unit within 30 days following the meeting. Written comments can be sent via email to Brooke Peery (DFO) at *bpeery@usccr.gov.*

Records generated from this meeting may be inspected and reproduced at the Regional Programs Coordination Unit Office, as they become available, both before and after the meeting. Records of the meetings will be available via *www.facadatabase.gov* under the Commission on Civil Rights, Texas Advisory Committee link. Persons interested in the work of this Committee are directed to the Commission's website, *http://www.usccr.gov,* or may contact the Regional Programs Coordination Unit at *atrevino@usccr.gov.*

Agenda

I. Welcome & Roll Call
II. Approval of Minutes
III. Committee Discussion
IV. Public Comment
V. Adjournment

Dated: October 29, 2024.

David Mussatt,

Supervisory Chief, Regional Programs Unit.

[FR Doc. 2024–25475 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Bureau of Industry and Security

Order Renewing Order Temporarily Denying Export Privileges

Mahan Airways, Mahan Tower, No. 21, Azadegan St., M.A. Jenah Exp. Way, Tehran, Iran
Pejman Mahmood Kosarayanifard, a/k/a Kosarian Fard, P.O. Box 52404, Dubai, United Arab Emirates;
Mahmoud Amini, G#22 Dubai Airport Free Zone, P.O. Box 393754, Dubai, United Arab Emirates
and
P.O. Box 52404, Dubai, United Arab Emirates
and
Mohamed Abdulla Alqaz Building, Al Maktoum Street, Al Rigga, Dubai, United Arab Emirates;
Kerman Aviation, a/k/a GIE Kerman Aviation, 42 Avenue Montaigne 75008, Paris, France
Sirjanco Trading LLC, P.O. Box 8709, Dubai, United Arab Emirates
Mahan Air General Trading LLC, 19th Floor Al Moosa Tower One, Sheik Zayed Road, Dubai 40594, United Arab Emirates
Mehdi Bahrami, Mahan Airways-Istanbul Office, Cumhuriye Cad. Sibil Apt No: 101 D:6, 34374 Emadad, Sisli Istanbul, Turkey
Al Naser Airlines, a/k/a al-Naser Airlines, a/k/a Al Naser Wings Airline, a/k/a Alnaser Airlines and, Air Freight Ltd., Home 46, Al-Karrada, Babil Region, District 929, St 21 Beside Al Jadirya Private Hospital, Baghdad, Iraq
and
Al Amirat Street, Section 309, St. 3/H.20 Al Mansour Baghdad, Iraq
and
P.O. Box 28360, Dubai, United Arab Emirates
and
P.O. Box 911399, Amman 11191, Jordan
Ali Abdullah Alhay, a/k/a Ali Alhay, a/k/a Ali Abdullah Ahmed Alhay, Home 46, Al-Karrada, Babil Region, District 929, St 21, Beside Al Jadirya Private Hospital, Baghdad, Iraq
and
Anak Street, Qatif, Saudi Arabia 61177
Bahar Safwa General Trading, P.O. Box 113212 Citadel Tower, Floor-5, Office #504, Business Bay, Dubai, United Arab Emirates
and
P.O. Box 8709, Citadel Tower, Business Bay, Dubai, United Arab Emirates
Sky Blue Bird Group, a/k/a Sky Blue Bird Aviation, a/k/a Sky Blue Bird Ltd., a/k/a Sky Blue Bird FZC, P.O. Box 16111, Ras Al Khaimah Trade Zone, United Arab Emirates
Issam Shammout, a/k/a Muhammad Isam Muhammad Anwar Nur Shammout, a/k/a Issam Anwar, Philips Building, 4th Floor, Al Fardous Street, Damascus, Syria
and
Al Kolaa, Beirut, Lebanon 151515
and
17–18 Margaret Street, 4th Floor, London, W1W 8RP, United Kingdom
and
Cumhuriyet Mah. Kavakli San St. Fulya, Cad. Hazar Sok. No.14/A Silivri, Istanbul, Turkey

Pursuant to § 766.24 of the Export Administration Regulations, 15 CFR parts 730–774 (2024) (''EAR'' or ''the Regulations''), I hereby grant the request of the Office of Export Enforcement (''OEE'') to renew the temporary denial order issued in this matter on October 31, 2023. I find that renewal of this order, as modified, is necessary in the public interest to prevent an imminent violation of the Regulations and that renewal for an extended period is appropriate because Mahan Airways has engaged in a pattern of repeated, ongoing and/or continuous apparent violations of the EAR.[1]

I. Procedural History

On March 17, 2008, Darryl W. Jackson, the then-Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Export Enforcement (''Assistant Secretary''), signed an order denying Mahan Airways' export privileges for a period of 180 days on the ground that issuance of the order was necessary in the public interest to prevent an imminent violation of the Regulations. The order also named as denied persons Blue Airways, of Yerevan, Armenia (''Blue Airways of Armenia''), as well as the ''Balli Group Respondents,'' namely, Balli Group PLC, Balli Aviation, Balli Holdings, Vahid Alaghband, Hassan Alaghband, Blue Sky One Ltd., Blue Sky Two Ltd., Blue Sky Three Ltd., Blue Sky Four Ltd., Blue Sky Five Ltd., and Blue Sky Six Ltd., all of the United Kingdom. The order was issued *ex parte* pursuant to § 766.24(a of the Regulations, and went into effect on March 21, 2008, the date it was published in the **Federal Register**.

This temporary denial order (''TDO'') was renewed in accordance with § 766.24(d of the Regulations.[2]

[1] The Regulations, currently codified at 15 CFR parts 730–774 (2023), originally issued pursuant to the Export Administration Act (50 U.S.C. 4601–4623 (Supp. III 2015)) (''EAA''), which lapsed on August 21, 2001. The President, through Executive Order 13222 of August 17, 2001 (3 CFR part 2001 Comp. 783 (2002)), as extended by successive Presidential Notices, continued the Regulations in effect under the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701, *et seq.* (2012)) (''IEEPA''). On August 13, 2018, the President signed into law the John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2019, which includes the Export Control Reform Act of 2018, 50 U.S.C. 4801–4852 (''ECRA''). While section 1766 of ECRA repeals the provisions of the EAA (except for three sections which are inapplicable here), section 1768 of ECRA provides, in pertinent part, that all orders, rules, regulations, and other forms of administrative action that were made or issued under the EAA, including as continued in effect pursuant to IEEPA, and were in effect as of ECRA's date of enactment (August 13, 2018), shall continue in effect according to their terms until modified, superseded, set aside, or revoked through action undertaken pursuant to the authority provided under ECRA. Moreover, section 1761(a)(5) of ECRA authorizes the issuance of temporary denial orders.

[2] Section 766.24(d) provides that BIS may seek renewal of a temporary denial order for additional 180-day renewal periods, if it believes that renewal is necessary in the public interest to prevent an imminent violation. In cases demonstrating a pattern of repeated, ongoing and/or continuous apparent violations, BIS may request the renewal of a temporary denial order for an additional period not exceeding one year. Renewal requests are to be made in writing no later than 20 days before the scheduled expiration date of a temporary denial order. Renewal requests may include discussion of any additional or changed circumstances, and may seek appropriate modifications to the order,

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Subsequent renewals also have issued pursuant to § 766.24(d), including most recently on October 31, 2023.[3] Some of the renewal orders and the modification orders that have issued between renewals have added certain parties as respondents or as related persons, or effected the removal of certain parties.[4]

The September 11, 2009 renewal order continued the denial order as to Mahan Airways, but not as to the Balli Group Respondents or Blue Airways of Armenia.[5] As part of the February 25, 2011 renewal order, Pejman Mahmood Kosarayanifard (a/k/a Kosarian Fard), Mahmoud Amini, and Gatewick LLC (a/k/a Gatewick Freight and Cargo Services, a/k/a Gatewick Aviation Services) were added as related persons to prevent evasion of the TDO.[6] A modification order issued on July 1, 2011, adding Zarand Aviation as a respondent in order to prevent an imminent violation.[7]

As part of the August 24, 2011 renewal, Kerman Aviation, Sirjanco Trading LLC, and Ali Eslamian were added as related persons. Mahan Air General Trading LLC, Equipco (UK) Ltd., and Skyco (UK) Ltd. were added as related persons by a modification order issued on April 9, 2012. Mehdi Bahrami was added as a related person as part of the February 4, 2013 renewal order.

On May 21, 2015, a modification order was issued adding Al Naser Airlines, Ali Abdullah Alhay, and Bahar Safwa General Trading as respondents. As detailed in that order and discussed further *infra,* these respondents were added to the TDO based upon evidence that they were acting together to, *inter alia,* obtain aircraft subject to the Regulations for export or reexport to Mahan in violation of the Regulations and the TDO. Sky Blue Bird Group and its chief executive officer, Issam Shammout, were added as related persons as part of the July 13, 2015 renewal order.[8] On November 16, 2017, a modification order issued to remove Ali Eslamian, Equipco (UK) Ltd., and Skyco (UK) Ltd. as related persons following a request by OEE for their removal.[9]

The December 11, 2018 renewal order continued the denial of the export privileges of Mahan Airways, Pejman Mahmood Kosarayanifard, Mahmoud Amini, Kerman Aviation, Sirjanco Trading LLC, Mahan Air General Trading LLC, Mehdi Bahrami, Al Naser Airlines, Ali Abdullah Alhay, Bahar Safwa General Trading, Sky Blue Bird Group, and Issam Shammout.

On April 6, 2023, BIS, through OEE, submitted a written request for renewal of the TDO that issued on November 8, 2022. The written request was made more than 20 days before the TDO's scheduled expiration. Notice of the renewal request was provided to Mahan Airways, Al Naser Airlines, Ali Abdullah Alhay, and Bahar Safwa General Trading in accordance with §§ 766.5 and 766.24(d) of the Regulations. No opposition to the renewal of the TDO has been received. Furthermore, no appeal of the related person determinations made as part of the September 3, 2010, February 25, 2011, August 24, 2011, April 9, 2012, February 4, 2013, and July 13, 2015 renewal or modification orders has been made by Kosarian Fard, Mahmoud Amini, Kerman Aviation, Sirjanco Trading LLC, Mahan Air General Trading LLC, Mehdi Bahrami, Sky Blue Bird Group, or Issam Shammout.[10]

II. Renewal of the TDO

A. Legal Standard

Pursuant to § 766.24, BIS may issue or renew an order temporarily denying a respondent's export privileges upon a showing that the order is necessary in the public interest to prevent an ''imminent violation'' of the Regulations. 15 CFR 766.24(b)(1) and 766.24(d). ''A violation may be 'imminent' either in time or degree of likelihood.'' 15 CFR 766.24(b)(3). BIS may show ''either that a violation is about to occur, or that the general circumstances of the matter under investigation or case under criminal or administrative charges demonstrate a likelihood of future violations.'' *Id.* As to the likelihood of future violations, BIS may show that the violation under investigation or charge ''is significant,

including the addition of parties as respondents or related persons, or the removal of parties previously added as respondents or related persons. BIS is not required to seek renewal as to all parties, and a removal of a party can be effected if, without more, BIS does not seek renewal as to that party. Any party included or added to a temporary denial order as a respondent may oppose a renewal request as set forth in § 766.24(d). Parties included or added as related persons can at any time appeal their inclusion as a related person, but cannot challenge the underlying temporary denial order, either as initially issued or subsequently renewed, and cannot oppose a renewal request. *See also* note 4, *infra.*

[3] The October 31, 2023 renewal order was effective upon issuance and published in the **Federal Register** on November 3, 2023 (88 FR 75541. Prior renewal orders issued on September 17, 2008, March 16, 2009, September 11, 2009, March 9, 2010, September 3, 2010, February 25, 2011, August 24, 2011, February 15, 2012, August 9, 2012, February 4, 2013, July 31, 2013, January 24, 2014, July 22, 2014, January 16, 2015, July 13, 2015, January 7, 2016, July 7, 2016, December 30, 2016, June 27, 2017, December 20, 2017, June 14, 2018, December 11, 2018, June 5, 2019, May 29, 2020, November 24, 2020, May 21, 2021, November 17, 2021, May 13, 2022, November 8, 2022, May 5, 2023, and October 31, 2024, respectively. The August 24, 2011 renewal followed the issuance of a modification order that issued on July 1, 2011, to add Zarand Aviation as a respondent. The July 13, 2015 renewal followed a modification order that issued May 21, 2015, and added Al Naser Airlines, Ali Abdullah Alhay, and Bahar Safwa General Trading as respondents. Each of the renewal orders and each of the modification orders referenced in this footnote or elsewhere in this order has been published in the **Federal Register**.

[4] Pursuant to §§ 766.23 and 766.24(c of the Regulations, any person, firm, corporation, or business organization related to a denied person by affiliation, ownership, control, or position of responsibility in the conduct of trade or related services may be added as a ''related person'' to a temporary denial order to prevent evasion of the order.

[5] Balli Group PLC and Balli Aviation settled proposed BIS administrative charges as part of a settlement agreement that was approved by a settlement order issued on February 5, 2010. The sanctions imposed pursuant to that settlement and order included, *inter alia,* a $15 million civil penalty and a requirement to conduct five external audits and submit related audit reports. The Balli Group Respondents also settled related charges with the Department of Justice and the Treasury Department's Office of Foreign Assets Control.

[6] *See* note 4, *supra,* concerning the addition of related persons to a temporary denial order. Kosarian Fard and Mahmoud Amini remain parties to the TDO. On August 13, 2014, BIS and Gatewick resolved administrative charges against Gatewick, including a charge for acting contrary to the terms of a BIS denial order (15 CFR 764.2(k)). In addition to the payment of a civil penalty, the settlement includes a seven-year denial order. The first two years of the denial period were active, with the remaining five years suspended conditioned upon Gatewick's full and timely payment of the civil penalty and its compliance with the Regulations during the seven-year denial order period. This denial order, in effect, superseded the TDO as to Gatewick, which was not included as part of the January 16, 2015 renewal order. The Gatewick LLC Final Order was published in the **Federal Register** on August 20, 2014. *See* 79 FR 49283 (Aug. 20, 2014).

[7] Zarand Aviation's export privileges remained denied until July 22, 2014, when it was not included as part of the renewal order issued on that date.

[8] The U.S. Department of the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (''OFAC'') designated Sky Blue Bird and Issam Shammout as Specially Designated Global Terrorists (''SDGTs'') on May 21, 2015, pursuant to Executive Order 13224, for ''providing support to Iran's Mahan Air.'' *See* 80 FR 30762 (May 29, 2015).

[9] The November 16, 2017 modification was published in the **Federal Register** on December 4, 2017. *See* 82 FR 57203 (Dec. 4, 2017). On September 28, 2017, BIS and Ali Eslamian resolved an administrative charge for acting contrary to the terms of the denial order (15 CFR 764.2(k)) that was based upon Eslamian's violation of the TDO after his addition to the TDO on August 24, 2011.

Equipco (UK) Ltd. and Skyco (UK) Ltd., two companies owned and operated by Eslamian, also were parties to the settlement agreement and were added to the settlement order as related persons. In addition to other sanctions, the settlement provides that Eslamian, Equipco, and Skyco shall be subject to a conditionally suspended denial order for a period of four years from the date of the settlement order.

[10] A party named or added as a related person may not oppose the issuance or renewal of the underlying temporary denial order, but may file an appeal of the related person determination in accordance with § 766.23(c). *See* also note 2, *supra.*

deliberate, covert and/or likely to occur again, rather than technical or negligent [.]'' *Id.* A ''lack of information establishing the precise time a violation may occur does not preclude a finding that a violation is imminent, so long as there is sufficient reason to believe the likelihood of a violation.'' *Id.*

If BIS believes that renewal of a denial order is necessary in the public interest to prevent an imminent violation, it may file a written request for renewal, with any modifications if appropriate. 15 CFR 766.24(d)(1). The written request, which must be filed no later than 20 days prior to the TDO's expiration, should set forth the basis for BIS's belief that renewal is necessary, including any additional or changed circumstances. *Id.* ''In cases demonstrating a pattern of repeated, ongoing and/or continuous apparent violations, BIS may request the renewal of a temporary denial order for an additional period not exceeding one year.'' [11] *Id.*

B. The TDO and BIS's Requests for Renewal

OEE's request for renewal is based upon the facts underlying the issuance of the initial TDO, and the renewal and modification orders subsequently issued in this matter, including the May 21, 2015 modification order and the renewal order issued on November 8, 2022, and the evidence developed over the course of this investigation, which indicate a blatant disregard of U.S. export controls and the TDO. The initial TDO was issued as a result of evidence that showed that Mahan Airways and other parties engaged in conduct prohibited by the EAR by knowingly re-exporting to Iran three U.S.-origin aircraft, specifically Boeing 747s (''Aircraft 1–3''), items subject to the EAR and classified under Export Control Classification Number (''ECCN'') 9A991.b, without the required U.S. Government authorization. Further evidence submitted by BIS indicated that Mahan Airways was involved in the attempted re-export of three additional U.S.-origin Boeing 747s (''Aircraft 4–6'') to Iran.

As discussed in the September 17, 2008 renewal order, evidence presented by BIS indicated that Aircraft 1–3 continued to be flown on Mahan Airways' routes after issuance of the TDO, in violation of the Regulations and the TDO itself.[12] It also showed that Aircraft 1–3 had been flown in further violation of the Regulations and the TDO on the routes of Iran Air, an Iranian Government airline. Moreover, as discussed in the March 16, 2009, September 11, 2009 and March 9, 2010 renewal orders, Mahan Airways registered Aircraft 1–3 in Iran, obtained Iranian tail numbers for them (EP–MNA, EP–MNB, and EP–MNE, respectively), and continued to operate at least two of them in violation of the Regulations and the TDO,[13] while also committing an additional knowing and willful violation when it negotiated for and acquired an additional U.S.-origin aircraft. The additional acquired aircraft was an MD–82 aircraft, which subsequently was painted in Mahan Airways' livery and flown on multiple Mahan Airways' routes under tail number TC–TUA.

The March 9, 2010 renewal order also noted that a court in the United Kingdom (''U.K.'') had found Mahan Airways in contempt of court on February 1, 2010, for failing to comply with that court's December 21, 2009 and January 12, 2010 orders compelling Mahan Airways to remove the Boeing 747s from Iran and ground them in the Netherlands. Mahan Airways and the Balli Group Respondents had been litigating before the U.K. court concerning ownership and control of Aircraft 1–3. In a letter to the U.K. court dated January 12, 2010, Mahan Airways' Chairman indicated, *inter alia,* that Mahan Airways opposes U.S. Government actions against Iran, that it continued to operate the aircraft on its routes in and out of Tehran (and had 158,000 ''forward bookings'' for these aircraft), and that it wished to continue to do so and would pay damages if required by that court, rather than ground the aircraft.

The September 3, 2010 renewal order discussed the fact that Mahan Airways' violations of the TDO extended beyond operating U.S.-origin aircraft and attempting to acquire additional U.S.-origin aircraft. In February 2009, while subject to the TDO, Mahan Airways participated in the export of computer motherboards, items subject to the Regulations and designated as EAR99, from the United States to Iran, via the United Arab Emirates (''UAE''), in violation of both the TDO and the Regulations, by transporting and/or forwarding the computer motherboards from the UAE to Iran. Mahan Airways' violations were facilitated by Gatewick LLC, which not only participated in the transaction, but also has stated to BIS that it acted as Mahan Airways' sole booking agent for cargo and freight forwarding services in the UAE.

Moreover, in a January 24, 2011 filing in the U.K. court, Mahan Airways asserted that Aircraft 1–3 were not being used, but stated in pertinent part that the aircraft were being maintained in Iran ''in an airworthy condition'' and that, depending on the outcome of its U.K. court appeal, the aircraft ''could immediately go back into service . . . on international routes into and out of Iran.'' Mahan Airways' January 24, 2011 submission to U.K. Court of Appeal, at p. 25, ¶¶ 108, 110. This clearly stated intent, both on its own and in conjunction with Mahan Airways' prior misconduct and statements, demonstrated the need to renew the TDO in order to prevent imminent future violations. Two of these three 747s subsequently were removed from Iran and are no longer in Mahan Airways' possession. The third of these 747s remained in Iran under Mahan's control. Pursuant to Executive Order 13224, this 747 was designated a Specially Designated Global Terrorist (''SDGT'') by the U.S. Department of the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (''OFAC'') on September 19, 2012.[14] Furthermore, as discussed in the February 4, 2013 Order, open source information indicated that this 747, painted in the livery and logo of Mahan Airways, had been flown between Iran and Syria, and was suspected of ferrying weapons and/or other equipment to the Syrian Government from Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps.

In addition, as first detailed in the July 1, 2011 and August 24, 2011 orders, and discussed in subsequent renewal orders in this matter, Mahan Airways also continued to evade U.S. export control laws by operating two Airbus A310 aircraft, bearing Mahan Airways' livery and logo, on flights into and out of Iran.[15] At the time of the July 1, 2011 and August 24, 2011 orders, these Airbus A310s were registered in France, with tail numbers F–OJHH and F–OJHI, respectively.[16] The August 2012

[11] 88 FR 59791 (Aug. 30, 2023).

[12] Engaging in conduct prohibited by a denial order violates the Regulations. 15 CFR 764.2(a) and (k).

[13] The third Boeing 747 appeared to have undergone significant service maintenance and may not have been operational at the time of the March 9, 2010 renewal order.

[14] *See http://www.treasury.gov/resource-center/sanctions/OFAC-Enforcement/pages/20120919.aspx.*

[15] The Airbus A310s are powered with U.S.-origin engines. The engines are subject to the Regulations and classified under Export Control Classification (''ECCN'') 9A991.d. The Airbus A310s contain controlled U.S.-origin items valued at more than 10 percent of the total value of the aircraft and as a result are subject to the Regulations. They are classified under ECCN 9A991.b. The export or reexport of these aircraft to Iran requires U.S. Government authorization pursuant to §§ 742.8 and 746.7 of the Regulations.

[16] OEE subsequently presented evidence that after the August 24, 2011 renewal, Mahan Airways

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renewal order also found that Mahan Airways had acquired another Airbus A310 aircraft subject to the Regulations, with MSN 499 and Iranian tail number EP–VIP, in violation of the Regulations.[17] On September 19, 2012, all three Airbus A310 aircraft (tail numbers F–OJHH, F–OJHI, and EP–VIP) were designated as SDGTs.[18]

The February 4, 2013 renewal order laid out further evidence of continued and additional efforts by Mahan Airways and other persons acting in concert with Mahan, including Kral Aviation and another Turkish company, to procure U.S.-origin engines—two GE CF6–50C2 engines, with MSNs 517621 and 517738, respectively—and other aircraft parts in violation of the TDO and the Regulations.[19] The February 4, 2013 order also added Mehdi Bahrami as a related person in accordance with § 766.23 of the Regulations. Bahrami, a Mahan Vice-President and the head of Mahan's Istanbul Office, also was involved in Mahan's acquisition of the original three Boeing 747s (Aircraft 1–3) that resulted in the original TDO, and has had a business relationship with Mahan dating back to 1997.

The July 31, 2013 renewal order detailed additional evidence obtained by OEE showing efforts by Mahan Airways to obtain another GE CF6–50C2 aircraft engine (MSN 528350) from the United States via Turkey. Multiple Mahan employees, including Mehdi Bahrami, were involved in or aware of matters related to the engine's arrival in Turkey from the United States, plans to visually inspect the engine, and prepare it for shipment from Turkey.

Mahan Airways sought to obtain this U.S.-origin engine through Pioneer Logistics Havacilik Turizm Yonetim Danismanlik (''Pioneer Logistics''), an aircraft parts supplier located in Turkey, and its director/operator, Gulnihal Yegane, a Turkish national who previously had conducted Mahan related business with Mehdi Bahrami and Ali Eslamian. Moreover, as referenced in the July 31, 2013 renewal order, a sworn affidavit by Kosol Surinanda, also known as Kosol Surinandha, Managing Director of Mahan's General Sales Agent in Thailand, stated that the shares of Pioneer Logistics for which he was the listed owner were ''actually the property of and owned by Mahan.'' He further stated that he held ''legal title to the shares until otherwise required by Mahan'' but would ''exercise the rights granted to [him] exactly and only as instructed by Mahan and [his] vote and/or decisions [would] only and exclusively reflect the wills and demands of Mahan[.]'' [20]

The January 24, 2014 renewal order outlined OEE's continued investigation of Mahan Airways' activities and detailed an attempt by Mahan, which OEE thwarted, to obtain, via an Indonesian aircraft parts supplier, two U.S.-origin Honeywell ALF–502R–5 aircraft engines (MSNs LF5660 and LF5325), items subject to the Regulations, from a U.S. company located in Texas. An invoice of the Indonesian aircraft parts supplier dated March 27, 2013, listed Mahan Airways as the purchaser of the engines and included a Mahan ship-to address. OEE also obtained a Mahan air waybill dated March 12, 2013, listing numerous U.S.-origin aircraft parts subject to the Regulations—including, among other items, a vertical navigation gyroscope, a transmitter, and a power control unit—being transported by Mahan from Turkey to Iran in violation of the TDO.

The July 22, 2014 renewal order discussed open source evidence from the March-June 2014 time period regarding two BAE regional jets, items subject to the Regulations, that were painted in the livery and logo of Mahan Airways and operating under Iranian tail numbers EP–MOI and EP–MOK, respectively.[21] In addition, aviation industry resources indicated that these aircraft were obtained by Mahan Airways in late November 2013 and June 2014, from Ukrainian Mediterranean Airline, a Ukrainian airline that was added to BIS's Entity List (Supplement No. 4 to Part 744 of the Regulations) on August 15, 2011, for acting contrary to the national security and foreign policy interests of the United States.[22] Open source information indicated that at least EP–MOI remained active in Mahan's fleet, and that the aircraft was being operated on multiple flights in July 2014.

The January 16, 2015 renewal order detailed evidence of additional attempts by Mahan Airways to acquire items subject to the Regulations in further violation of the TDO. Specifically, in March 2014, OEE became aware of an inertial reference unit bearing serial number 1231 (''the IRU'') that had been sent to the United States for repair. The IRU is a U.S.-origin item, subject to the Regulations, classified under ECCN 7A103, and controlled for missile technology reasons. Upon closer inspection, it was determined that IRU came from or had been installed on an Airbus A340 aircraft bearing MSN 056. Further investigation revealed that as of approximately February 2014, this aircraft was registered under Iranian tail number EP–MMB and had been painted in the livery and logo of Mahan Airways.

The January 16, 2015 renewal order also described related efforts by the Departments of Justice and Treasury to further thwart Mahan's illicit procurement efforts. Specifically, on August 14, 2014, the United States Attorney's Office for the District of

worked along with Kerman Aviation and others to de-register the two Airbus A310 aircraft in France and to register both aircraft in Iran (with, respectively, Iranian tail numbers EP–MHH and EP–MHI). It was determined subsequent to the February 15, 2012 renewal order that the registration switch for these A310s was cancelled, and that Mahan Airways then continued to fly the aircraft under the original French tail numbers (F–OJHH and F–OJHI, respectively). Both aircraft apparently remain in Mahan Airways' possession.

[17] *See* note 14, *supra*.

[18] *See http://www.treasury.gov/resource-center/sanctions/OFAC-Enforcement/pages/20120919.aspx*. Mahan Airways was previously designated by OFAC as a SDGT on October 18, 2011. 77 FR 64427 (October 18, 2011).

[19] Kral Aviation was referenced in the February 4, 2013 renewal order as ''Turkish Company No. 1.'' Kral Aviation purchased a GE CF6–50C2 aircraft engine (MSN 517621) from the United States in July 2012, on behalf of Mahan Airways. OEE was able to prevent this engine from reaching Mahan by issuing a redelivery order to the freight forwarder in accordance with § 758.8 of the Regulations. OEE also issued Kral Aviation a redelivery order for the second CF6–50C2 engine (MSN 517738) on July 30, 2012. The owner of the second engine subsequently cancelled the item's sale to Kral Aviation. In September 2012, OEE was alerted by a U.S. exporter that another Turkish company (''Turkish Company No. 2'') was attempting to purchase aircraft spare parts intended for re-export by Turkish Company No. 2 to Mahan Airways. *See* February 4, 2013 renewal order.

On December 31, 2013, Kral Aviation was added to BIS's Entity List, Supplement No. 4 to part 744 of the Regulations. *See* 78 FR 75458 (Dec. 12, 2013). Companies and individuals are added to the Entity List for engaging in activities contrary to the national security or foreign policy interests of the United States. *See* 15 CFR 744.11.

[20] Pioneer Logistics, Gulnihal Yegane, and Kosol Surinanda also were added to the Entity List on December 12, 2013. *See* 78 FR 75458 (Dec. 12, 2013).

[21] The BAE regional jets are powered with U.S.-origin engines. The engines are subject to the EAR and classified under ECCN 9A991.d. These aircraft contain controlled U.S.-origin items valued at more than 10 percent of the total value of the aircraft and as a result are subject to the EAR. They are classified under ECCN 9A991.b. The export or reexport of these aircraft to Iran requires U.S. Government authorization pursuant to §§ 742.8 and 746.7 of the Regulations.

[22] *See* 76 FR 50407 (Aug. 15, 2011). The July 22, 2014 renewal order also referenced two Airbus A320 aircraft painted in the livery and logo of Mahan Airways and operating under Iranian tail numbers EP–MMK and EP–MML, respectively. OEE's investigation also showed that Mahan obtained these aircraft in November 2013, from Khors Air Company, another Ukrainian airline that, like Ukrainian Mediterranean Airlines, was added to BIS's Entity List on August 15, 2011. Open source evidence indicates the two Airbus A320 aircraft may have been transferred by Mahan Airways to another Iranian airline in October 2014, and issued Iranian tail numbers EP–APE and EP–APF, respectively.

Maryland filed a civil forfeiture complaint for the IRU pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 401(b) that resulted in the court issuing an Order of Forfeiture on December 2, 2014. EP–MMB remains listed as active in Mahan Airways' fleet and has been used on flights into and out of Iran as recently as December 19, 2017.

Additionally, on August 29, 2014, OFAC blocked the property and interests in property of Asian Aviation Logistics of Thailand, a Mahan Airways affiliate or front company, pursuant to Executive Order 13224. In doing so, OFAC described Mahan Airways' use of Asian Aviation Logistics to evade sanctions by making payments on behalf of Mahan for the purchase of engines and other equipment.[23]

The May 21, 2015 modification order detailed the acquisition of two aircraft, specifically an Airbus A340 bearing MSN 164 and an Airbus A321 bearing MSN 550, that were purchased by Al Naser Airlines in late 2014/early 2015 and were under the possession, control, and/or ownership of Mahan Airways.[24] The sales agreements for these two aircraft were signed by Ali Abdullah Alhay for Al Naser Airlines.[25] Payment information reveals that multiple electronic funds transfers (''EFT'') were made by Ali Abdullah Alhay and Bahar Safwa General Trading in order to acquire MSNs 164 and 550.

The May 21, 2015 modification order also laid out evidence showing the respondents' attempts to obtain other controlled aircraft, including aircraft physically located in the United States in similarly-patterned transactions during the same recent time period. Transactional documents involving two Airbus A320s bearing MSNs 82 and 99, respectively, again showed Ali Abdullah Alhay signing sales agreements for Al Naser Airlines.[26] A review of the payment information for these aircraft similarly revealed EFTs from Ali Abdullah Alhay and Bahar Safwa General Trading that follow the pattern described for MSNs 164 and 550, *supra.* MSNs 82 and 99 were detained by OEE Special Agents prior to their planned export from the United States.

The July 13, 2015 renewal order outlined evidence showing that Al Naser Airlines' attempts to acquire aircraft on behalf of Mahan Airways extended beyond MSNs 164 and 550 to include a total of nine aircraft.[27] Four of the aircraft, all of which are subject to the Regulations and were obtained by Mahan from Al Naser Airlines, had been issued the following Iranian tail numbers: EP–MMD (MSN 164), EP–MMG (MSN 383), EP–MMH (MSN 391) and EP–MMR (MSN 416), respectively.[28] Publicly available flight tracking information provided evidence that at the time of the July 13, 2015 renewal, both EP–MMH and EP–MMR were being actively flown on routes into and out of Iran in violation of the Regulations.[29]

The January 7, 2016 renewal order discussed evidence that Mahan Airways had begun actively flying EP–MMD on international routes into and out of Iran. Additionally, the January 7, 2016 order described publicly available aviation database and flight tracking information indicating that Mahan Airways continued efforts to acquire Iranian tail numbers and press into active service under Mahan's livery and logo at least two more of the Airbus A340 aircraft it had obtained from or through Al Naser Airlines: EP–MME (MSN 371) and EP–MMF (MSN 376), respectively.

The July 7, 2016 renewal order described Mahan Airways' acquisition of a BAE Avro RJ–85 aircraft (MSN 2392) in violation of the Regulations and its subsequent registration under Iranian tail number EP–MOR.[30] This information was corroborated by publicly available information on the website of Iran's civil aviation authority. The July 7, 2016 order also outlined Mahan's continued operation of EP–MMF in violation of the Regulations on routes from Tehran, Iran to Beijing, China and Shanghai, China, respectively.

The December 30, 2016 renewal order outlined Mahan's continued operation of multiple Airbus aircraft, including EP–MMD (MSN 164), EP–MMF (MSN 376), and EP–MMH (MSN 391), which were acquired from or through Al Naser Airlines, as previously detailed in pertinent part in the July 13, 2015 and January 7, 2016 renewal orders. Publicly available flight tracking information showed that the aircraft were operated on flights into and out of Iran, including from/to Beijing, China, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, and Istanbul, Turkey.[31]

The June 27, 2017 renewal order included similar evidence regarding Mahan Airways' operation of multiple Airbus aircraft subject to the Regulations, including, but not limited to, aircraft procured from or through Al

[23] *See http://www.treasury.gov/resource-center/sanctions/OFAC-Enforcement/Pages/20140829.aspx. See* 79 FR 55073 (Sep. 15, 2014). OFAC also blocked the property and property interests of Pioneer Logistics of Turkey on August 29, 2014. *Id.* Mahan Airways' use of Pioneer Logistics in an effort to evade the TDO and the Regulations was discussed in a prior renewal order, as summarized, *supra,* at 14. BIS added both Asian Aviation Logistics and Pioneer Logistics to the Entity List on December 12, 2013. *See* 78 FR 75458 (Dec. 12, 2013).

[24] Both of these aircraft are powered by U.S.-origin engines that are subject to the Regulations and classified under ECCN 9A991.d. Both aircraft contain controlled U.S.-origin items valued at more than 10 percent of the total value of the aircraft and as a result are subject to the EAR regardless of their location. The aircraft are classified under ECCN 9A991.b. The export or re-export of these aircraft to Iran requires U.S. Government authorization pursuant to §§ 742.8 and 746.7 of the Regulations.

[25] The evidence obtained by OEE showed Ali Abdullah Alhay as a 25% owner of Al Naser Airlines.

[26] Both aircraft were physically located in the United States and therefore are subject to the Regulations pursuant to § 734.3(a)(1). Moreover, these Airbus A320s are powered by U.S.-origin engines that are subject to the Regulations and classified under Export Control Classification Number ECCN 9A991.d. The Airbus A320s contain controlled U.S.-origin items valued at more than 10 percent of the total value of the aircraft and as a result are subject to the EAR regardless of their location. The aircraft are classified under ECCN 9A991.b. The export or re-export of these aircraft to Iran requires U.S. Government authorization pursuant to §§ 742.8 and 746.7 of the Regulations.

[27] This evidence included a press release dated May 9, 2015, that appeared on Mahan Airways' website and stated that Mahan ''added 9 modern aircraft to its air fleet [,]'' and that the newly acquired aircraft included eight Airbus A340s and one Airbus A321. *See http://www.mahan.aero/en/mahan-air/press-room/44.* The press release was subsequently removed from Mahan Airways' website. Publicly available aviation databases similarly showed that Mahan had obtained nine additional aircraft from Al Naser Airlines in May 2015, including MSNs 164 and 550. As also discussed in the July 13, 2015 renewal order, Sky Blue Bird Group, via Issam Shammout, was actively involved in Al Naser Airlines' acquisition of MSNs 164 and 550, and the attempted acquisition of MSNs 82 and 99 (which were detained by OEE).

[28] The Airbus A340s are powered by U.S.-origin engines that are subject to the Regulations and classified under ECCN 9A991.d. The Airbus A340s contain controlled U.S.-origin items valued at more than 10 percent of the total value of the aircraft and as a result are subject to the EAR regardless of their location. The aircraft are classified under ECCN 9A991.b. The export or re-export of these aircraft to Iran requires U.S. Government authorization pursuant to §§ 742.8 and 746.7 of the Regulations.

[29] There is some publicly available information indicating that the aircraft Mahan Airways is flying under Iranian tail number EP–MMR is now MSN 615, rather than MSN 416. Both aircraft are Airbus A340 aircraft that Mahan acquired from Al Naser Airlines in violation of the Regulations. Moreover, both aircraft were designated as SDGTs by OFAC on May 21, 2015, pursuant to Executive Order 13224. *See* 80 FR 30762 (May 29, 2015).

[30] The BAE Avro RJ–85 is powered by U.S.-origin engines that are subject to the Regulations and classified under ECCN 9A991.d. The BAE Avro RJ–85 contains controlled U.S.-origin items valued at more than 10 percent of the total value of the aircraft and as a result is subject to the EAR regardless of its location. The aircraft is classified under ECCN 9A991.b, and its export or re-export to Iran requires U.S. Government authorization pursuant to §§ 742.8 and 746.7 of the Regulations.

[31] Specifically, on December 22, 2016, EP–MMD (MSN 164) flew from Dubai, UAE to Tehran, Iran. Between December 20 and December 22, 2016, EP–MMF (MSN 376) flew on routes from Tehran, Iran to Beijing, China and Istanbul, Turkey, respectively. Between December 26 and December 28, 2016, EP–MMH (MSN 391) flew on routes from Tehran, Iran to Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

Naser Airlines, on flights into and out of Iran, including from/to Moscow, Russia, Shanghai, China and Kabul, Afghanistan. The June 27, 2017 order also detailed evidence concerning a suspected planned or attempted diversion to Mahan of an Airbus A340 subject to the Regulations that had first been mentioned in OEE's December 13, 2016 renewal request.

The December 20, 2017 renewal order presented evidence that a Mahan employee attempted to initiate negotiations with a U.S. company for the purchase of an aircraft subject to the Regulations and classified under ECCN 9A610. Moreover, the order highlighted Al Naser Airlines' acquisition, via lease, of at least possession and/or control of a Boeing 737 (MSN 25361), bearing tail number YR–SEB, and an Airbus A320 (MSN 357), bearing tail number YR–SEA, from a Romanian company in violation of the TDO and the Regulations.[32] Open source information indicates that after the December 20, 2017 renewal order publicly exposed Al Naser's acquisition of these two aircraft (MSNs 25361 and 357), the leases were subsequently cancelled and the aircraft returned to their owner.

The December 20, 2017 renewal order also included evidence indicating that Mahan Airways was continuing to operate a number of aircraft subject to the Regulations, including aircraft originally procured from or through Al Naser Airlines, on flights into and out of Iran, including from/to Lahore, Pakistan, Shanghai, China, Ankara, Turkey, Kabul, Afghanistan, and Baghdad, Iraq.

The June 14, 2018 renewal order outlined evidence that Mahan began actively operating EP–MMT, an Airbus A340 aircraft (MSN 292) acquired in 2017 and previously registered in Kazakhstan under tail number UP–A4003, on international flights into and out of Iran.[33] It also discussed evidence that Mahan continued to operate a number of aircraft subject to the Regulations, including, but not limited to, EP–MME, EP–MMF, and EP–MMH, on international flights into and out of Iran, including from/to Beijing, China.

The June 14, 2018 renewal order also noted OFAC's May 24, 2018 designation of Otik Aviation, a/k/a Otik Havacilik Sanayi Ve Ticaret Limited Sirketi, of Turkey, as an SDGT pursuant to Executive Order 13224, for providing material support to Mahan, as well as OFAC's designation as SDGTs of an additional twelve aircraft in which Mahan has an interest.[34] The June 14, 2018 order also cited the April 2018 arrest and arraignment of a U.S. citizen on a three-count criminal information filed in the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey involving the unlicensed exports of U.S.-origin aircraft parts valued at over $2 million to Iran, including to Mahan Airways.

The December 11, 2018 renewal order detailed publicly available information showing that Mahan Airways had continued operating a number of aircraft subject to the EAR, including, but not limited to, EP–MMB, EP–MME, EP–MMF, and EP–MMQ, on international flights into and out of Iran from/to Istanbul, Turkey, Guangzhou, China, Bangkok, Thailand, and Dubai, UAE.[35] It also discussed that OEE's continued investigation of Mahan Airways and its affiliates and agents had resulted in an October 2018 guilty plea by Arzu Sagsoz, a Turkish national, in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia, stemming from her involvement in a conspiracy to export a U.S.-origin aircraft engine, valued at approximately $810,000, to Mahan.

The December 11, 2018 order also noted OFAC's September 14, 2018 designation of Mahan-related entities as SDGTs pursuant to Executive Order 13224, namely, My Aviation Company Limited, of Thailand, and Mahan Travel and Tourism SDN BHD, a/k/a Mahan Travel a/k/a Mihan Travel & Tourism SDN BHD, of Malaysia.[36] As general sales agents for Mahan Airways, these companies sold cargo space aboard Mahan Airways' flights, including on flights to Iran, and provided other services to or for the benefit of Mahan Airways and its operations.[37]

The June 5, 2019 renewal order highlighted Mahan's continued violation of the TDO and the Regulations. An end-use check conducted by BIS in Malaysia in March 2019 uncovered evidence that, on approximately ten occasions, Mahan had caused, aided and/or abetted the unlicensed export of U.S.-origin items subject to the Regulations from the United States to Iran via Malaysia. The items included helicopter shafts, transmitters, and other aircraft parts, some of which are listed on the Commerce Control List and controlled on anti-terrorism grounds. The June 5, 2019 order also detailed publicly available flight tracking information showing that Mahan continued to unlawfully operate a number of aircraft subject to the EAR on flights into and out of Iran, including on routes to and from Damascus, Syria.[38]

The June 5, 2019 order also described actions taken by both BIS and OFAC to thwart efforts by entities connected to or acting on behalf of Mahan Airways to violate U.S. export controls and sanctions related to Iran. On May 14, 2019, BIS added Manohar Nair, Basha

[32] The Airbus A320 is powered with U.S.-origin engines, which are subject to the EAR and classified under Export Control Classification (''ECCN'') 9A991.d. The engines are valued at more than 10 percent of the total value of the aircraft, which consequently is subject to the EAR. The aircraft is classified under ECCN 9A991.b, and its export or reexport to Iran would require U.S. Government authorization pursuant to §§ 742.8 and 746.7 of the Regulations.

[33] The Airbus A340 is powered by U.S.-origin engines that are subject to the Regulations and classified under ECCN 9A991.d. The Airbus A340 contains controlled U.S.-origin items valued at more than 10 percent of the total value of the aircraft and as a result is subject to the Regulations regardless of its location. The aircraft is classified under ECCN 9A991.b. The export or re-export of this aircraft to Iran requires U.S. Government authorization pursuant to §§ 742.8 and 746.7 of the Regulations. On June 4, 2018, EP–MMT (MSN 292) flew from Bangkok, Thailand to Tehran, Iran.

[34] *See* 83 FR 27828 (June 14, 2018). OFAC's related press release stated in part that ''[o]ver the last several years, Otik Aviation has procured and delivered millions of dollars in aviation-related spare and replacement parts for Mahan Air, some of which are procured from the United States and the European Union. As recently as 2017, Otik Aviation continued to provide Mahan Air with replacement parts worth well over $100,000 per shipment, such as aircraft brakes.'' The twelve additional Mahan-related aircraft that were designated are: EP–MMA (MSN 20), EP–MMB (MSN 56), EP–MMC (MSN 282), EP–MMJ (MSN 526), EP–MMV (MSN 2079), EP–MNF (MSN 547), EP–MOD (MSN 3162), EP–MOM (MSN 3165), EP–MOP (MSN 2257), EP–MOQ (MSN 2261), EP–MOR (MSN 2392), and EP–MOS (MSN 2347). *See https://home.treasury.gov/news/press-releases/sm0395. See also https://www.treasury.gov/resource-center/sanctions/OFAC-Enforcement/Pages/20180524.aspx.*

[35] Flight tracking information showed that on December 10, 2018, EP–MMB (MSN 56) flew from Istanbul, Turkey to Tehran, Iran, and EP–MME (MSN 371) flew from Guangzhou, China to Tehran, Iran. Additionally, on December 6, 2018, EP–MMF (MSN 376) flew from Bangkok, Thailand to Tehran, Iran, and on December 9, 2018, EP–MMQ (MSN 449) flew on routes between Dubai, United Arab Emirates and Tehran, Iran.

[36] *See* 83 FR 34301 (July 19, 2018) (designation of Mahan Travel and Tourism SDN BHD on July 9, 2018), and 83 FR 53359 (Oct. 22, 2018) (designation of My Aviation Company Limited and updating of entry for Mahan Travel and Tourism SDN BHD on September 14, 2018).

[37] OFAC's press release concerning its designation of My Aviation Company Limited on September 14, 2018, states in part that ''[t]his Thailand-based company has disregarded numerous U.S. warnings, issued publicly and delivered bilaterally to the Thai government, to sever ties with Mahan Air.'' My Aviation provides cargo services to Mahan Airways, including freight booking, and works with local freight forwarding entities to ship cargo on regularly scheduled Mahan Airways' flights to Tehran, Iran. My Aviation has also provided Mahan Airways with passenger booking services. *See https://home.treasury.gov/news/press-releases/sm484.*

[38] Specifically, on May 26, 2019, EP–MMJ (MSN 526) flew from Damascus, Syria to Tehran, Iran. In addition, on May 24, 2019, EP–MNF (MSN 547) flew on routes between Moscow, Russia and Tehran, and on May 23, 2019, EP–MMF (MSN 376) flew from Dubai, UAE to Tehran.

Asmath Shaikh, and two co-located companies that they operate, Emirates Hermes General Trading and Presto Freight International, LLC, to the Entity List pursuant to § 744.11 of the Regulations, including for engaging in activities to procure U.S.-origin items on Mahan's behalf.[39] On January 24, 2019, OFAC designated as SDGTs Flight Travel LLC, which is Mahan's general service agent in Yerevan, Armenia, and Qeshm Fars Air, an Iranian airline which operates two U.S.-origin Boeing 747s [40] and is owned or controlled by Mahan, and also linked to the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps-Qods Force (IRGC–QF).[41]

The December 2, 2019 renewal order noted that OEE's on-going investigation revealed that U.S.-origin passenger flight and database management software subject to the Regulations was provided to a company in Turkey and subsequently used to facilitate and service Mahan's operations into and out of Turkey in further violation of the Regulations.

Additionally, open source information, including flight tracking data and news articles published in October 2019, showed that Mahan Airways was now operating a U.S.-origin Boeing 747 on routes between Iranian airports in Tehran, Kish Island, and Mashhad. This aircraft, bearing Iranian tail number EP–MNB, appears to be one of the three aircraft that Mahan illegally acquired via Blue Airways of Armenia and U.K.-based Balli Group that resulted in the issuance of the original TDO.[42] *See supra* at 10–12.

Evidence was also described in the December 2, 2019 renewal order showing that on or about November 11, 2019, Mahan caused, aided and/or abetted the unlicensed export of a U.S.-origin atomic absorption spectrometer, an item subject to the Regulations, from the United States to Iran via the UAE. Finally, publicly available flight tracking information showed that Mahan continued to unlawfully operate a number of aircraft subject to the EAR on flights into and out of Iran, including on routes to and from Guangzhou, China, Istanbul, Turkey, and Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.[43]

The May 29, 2020 renewal order cited Mahan's operation of EP–MMD, EP–MMF, and EP–MMI, aircraft originally acquired from Al Naser Airlines, on international flights into and out of Iran from/to Bangkok, Thailand, Dubai, UAE, and Shanghai, China in violation of the TDO and EAR.[44] The May 29, 2020 renewal order also detailed the indictment of Ali Abdullah Alhay and Issam Shammout, parties added to the TDO in May and July 2015, respectively, in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia. Alhay and Shammout were charged with, among other violations, conspiring to export aircraft and parts to Mahan in violation of export control laws and the embargo on Iran beginning around August 2012 through May 2015.

In addition to detailing the operation of multiple aircraft in violation of the Regulations,[45] the November 24, 2020 renewal order discussed a related TDO issued on August 19, 2020, denying for 180 days the export privileges of Indonesia-based PT MS Aero Support (''PTMS Aero''), PT Antasena Kreasi (''PTAK''), PT Kandiyasa Energi Utama (''PTKEU''), Sunarko Kuntjoro, Triadi Senna Kuntjoro, and Satrio Wiharjo Sasmito based on their involvement in the unlicensed export of aircraft parts to Mahan Airways—often in coordination with Mustafa Ovieci, a Mahan executive.[46] These parties also facilitated the shipment of damaged Mahan parts to the United States for repair and subsequent export back to Iran in further violation of U.S. laws. In both instances, the fact that the items were destined to Iran/Mahan was concealed from U.S. companies, shippers, and freight forwarders.[47]

The November 24, 2020 renewal order also includes actions taken by other U.S. government agencies such as OFAC's August 19, 2020 designation of UAE-based Parthia Cargo, its CEO Amin Mahdavi, and Delta Parts Supply FZC as SDGTs pursuant to Executive Order 13224 for providing ''key parts and logistics services for Mahan Air . . . .'' The OFAC press release further states, in part, that Mahdavi ''has directly coordinated the shipment of parts on behalf of Mahan Air.'' [48] In addition, Mahdavi and Parthia Cargo were indicted in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia for violating sanctions on Iran.[49]

Moreover, in October 2020, the U.S. District Court for the District of New Jersey sentenced Joyce Eliasbachus to 18 months of confinement based on her role in a conspiracy to export $2 million dollars' worth of aircraft parts from the United States to Iran, including to Mahan Airways.[50]

The May 21, 2021 renewal order outlined Mahan's continued operation of a number of aircraft subject to the EAR, including, but not limited to, EP–MMH, EP–MMI, and EP–MMQ, on international flights into and out of Iran from/to Shanghai, China, and Dubai, United Arab Emirates, and Guangzhou, China, respectively.[51]

Open source news reporting also indicated that after five years of maintenance, Mahan Air is now operating EP–MNE, a Boeing 747 on domestic flights within Iran.[52] In addition to this aircraft being one of the original three Boeing aircraft Mahan obtained in violation of the Regulations, any service or maintenance involving

[39] *See* 84 FR 21233 (May 14, 2019).

[40] These 747s are registered in Iran with tail numbers EP–FAA and EP–FAB, respectively.

[41] OFAC's press release concerning these designations states that Qeshm Fars Air was being designated for ''being owned or controlled by Mahan Air, as well as for assisting in, sponsoring, or providing financial, material or technological support for, or financial or other services to or in support of, the IRGC–QF,'' and that Flight Travel LLC was being designated for ''acting for or on behalf of Mahan Air.'' It further states, *inter alia,* that ''Mahan Air employees fill Qeshm Fars Air management positions, and Mahan Air provides technical and operational support for Qeshm Fars Air, facilitating the airline's illicit operations.'' *See https://home.treasury.gov/news/press-releases/sm590. See also https://www.treasury.gov/resource-center/sanctions/OFAC-Enforcement/Pages/20190124.aspx.*

[42] The same open sources indicated this aircraft continued to operate on flights within Iran to include a May 11, 2020 flight from Tehran, Iran to Kerman, Iran.

[43] Publicly available flight tracking information shows that on November 23, 2019, EP–MME (MSN 371) flew from Guangzhou, China to Tehran, Iran, and on November 21, 2019, EP–MMF (MSN 376) flew on routes between Istanbul, Turkey and Tehran, Iran. Additionally, on November 20, 2019, EP–MMQ (MSN 449) flew from Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, to Tehran, Iran.

[44] Publicly available flight tracking information shows that on May 8, 2020, EP–MMD (MSN 164) flew on routes between Bangkok, Thailand and Tehran, Iran, and on May 10, 2020, EP–MMF (MSN 376) flew on routes between Dubai, UAE and Tehran. In addition, on May 9, 2020, EP–MMI (MSN 416) flew on routes between Shanghai, China and Tehran.

[45] Publicly available flight tracking information shows that on November 13, 2020, EP–MMQ (MSN 449) flew on routes between Istanbul, Turkey and Tehran, Iran, and on November 15, 2020, EP–MMI (MSN 416) flew on routes between Shenzhen, China and Tehran.

[46] *See* 85 FR 52321 (Aug. 25, 2020).

[47] PTMS Aero, PTAK, PTKEU, and Sunarko Kuntjoro were each indicted in December 2019 on multiple counts related to this conspiracy in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia.

[48] *https://home.treasury.gov/news/press-releases/sm1098.*

[49] *https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/iranian-national-and-uae-business-organization-charged-criminal-conspiracy-violate-iranian.*

[50] Eliasbachus' arrest and arraignment were detailed in the June 14, 2018 renewal order, as described *supra* at 21.

[51] Publicly available flight tracking information shows that on May 14, 2021, EP–MMH (MSN 391) flew on routes between Shanghai, China and Tehran, Iran, and on May 13, 2021, EP–MMI (MSN 416) flew on routes between Dubai, United Arab Emirates and Tehran. In addition, on May 20, 2021, EP–MMQ (MSN 346) flew on routes between Guangzhou, China and Tehran.

[52] *https://simpleflying.com/mahan-air-747-300-flies-again/.*

parts subject to the EAR would further violate the TDO.

The November 17, 2021 order details Mahan's continued operation of a number of aircraft subject to the EAR, including, but not limited to EP–MME, EP–MMJ, EP–MMQ, on flights into and out of Iran from/to Istanbul, Turkey, and Dubai, United Arab Emirates, and Shenzhen, China, respectively.[53] Additionally, publicly available industry sources showed that EP–MMG (MSN 383), an aircraft that Mahan acquired from Al Naser Air in violation of both the TDO and Regulations, was in a maintenance, repair, overhaul (''MRO'') status at Iran's Imam Khomeini International Airport in Tehran, Iran.

The May 13, 2022 renewal order outlines Mahan's continuing violation of the TDO and/or Regulations including, but not limited to the operation of EP–MME, EP–MNO, and EP–MMB on flights into and out of Iran from/to Moscow, Russia, Damascus, Syria, and Guangzhou, China, respectively.[54] Open source press reports also indicates that as of April 2022, Mahan Air increased its service into Moscow, Russia by adding two weekly flights to Moscow's Sheremetyevo Airport (''SVO'') to its current service into Moscow's Vnukovo Airport (''VKO'').[55] Mahan flights into Russia after February 24, 2022 violated the stringent export controls imposed on aviation-related (*e.g.,* Commerce Control List Categories 7 and 9) items to Russia in response to Russia's further invasion of Ukraine. These controls include a license requirement for the export, reexport or transfer (in-country) to Russia of any aircraft or aircraft parts specified in Export Control Classification Number (ECCN) 9A991 (§ 746.8(a)(1) of the EAR).[56]

The May 13, 2022 renewal order also cited OFAC's recent administrative enforcement action with an Australian freight forwarder resulting in a $6,131,855 civil penalty, which resolved, in part, allegations of receiving 327 payments from Mahan that were processed through U.S. financial institutions or foreign branches of U.S. financial institutions in apparent violation of OFAC sanctions.[57]

The November 8, 2022 order detailed Mahan Air's continued violation of the TDO and Regulations, including the Russia-related export controls set out in § 746.8 of the Regulations. On September 19, 2022, BIS publicly identified Mahan's EP–MEE aircraft for its unlicensed reexport to Russia in apparent violation of § 746.8 of the Regulations.[58] Additionally, open source evidence showed that Mahan continues to operate EP–MME, EP–MMJ, and EP–MMQ on flights into and out of Iran from/to Moscow, Russia, and Dubai, United Arab Emirates, respectively, without the requisite authorization.[59]

Further, on August 2, 2022, BIS took a related enforcement action against Venezuela-based cargo airline Empresa de Transporte Aéreocargo del Sur, S.A., a/k/a Aerocargo del Sur Transportation Company, a/k/a EMTRASUR (''EMTRASUR''), for acquiring custody and/or control from Mahan Air of a U.S.-origin Boeing 747 aircraft bearing manufacturer's serial number 23413 (''MSN 23413'') in violation of the TDO.[60] In or around October 2021, Mahan Air transferred custody and control of MSN 23413 to EMTRASUR's parent company, CONVIASA,[61] through an intermediary.

The May 5, 2023 renewal order outlined open source evidence showing Mahan continuing to operate EP–MNF, EP–MMQ, and EP–MME on flights into and out of Iran from/to Guangzhou, China, Kabul, Afghanistan, and Moscow, Russia, respectively, without the requisite authorization.[62] The renewal order also noted the national security and foreign policy concerns raised by Mahan's intention to start direct flights from Iran to Minsk, Belarus.[63] Lastly, the May 3, 2023 renewal order cited publicly available information showing that Russian airline Aeroflot, which is currently subject to its own TDO,[64] has begun sending its aircraft to Mahan for repairs and/or maintenance.[65]

OEE's October 31, 2023 renewal outlined Mahan's continued violation of the TDO by operating aircraft including EP–MME, EP–MMQ, and EP–MMB on flights into and out of Iran from/to Erbil, Iraq, Shanghai, China, Lahore, Pakistan, and Moscow, Russia.[66] The October 31, 2023 order also highlighted OEE's continued investigation into Mahan's recent acquisition of an Airbus A340 (MSN 75) bearing Iranian tail number EP–MJA, and its flights to/from Tehran, Iran and Moscow, Russia

The October 31, 2023 renewal order also detailed the on-going national security and foreign policy threats and concerns raised by Mahan's destabilizing activities. Specifically, open source reporting details October 12, 2023 airstrikes at Syria's Damascus and Aleppo airports made in an effort to divert a Mahan A340 (MSN 282 and bearing tail number EP–MMC) [67] which was in route at the time from Tehran, Iran to Syria and suspected of carrying weapons.[68]

OEE's October 8, 2024 request to renew the TDO and its on-going investigation further detail Mahan's blatant violations of the TDO by operating aircraft including EP–MME,

[53] Publicly available flight tracking information shows that on November 7, 2021, EP–MME (MSN 376) flew on routes between Istanbul, Turkey and Tehran, Iran, and on November 9, 2021, EP–MMJ (MSN 526) flew on routes between Dubai, United Arab Emirates and Tehran, Iran. In addition, on November 8, 2021, EP–MMQ (MSN 346) flew on routes between Shenzhen, China and Tehran, Iran.

[54] Publicly available flight tracking information shows that on May 2, 2022, EP–MME (MSN 376) flew on routes between Moscow, Russia and Tehran, Iran, and on May 5, 2022, EP–MNO (MSN 595) flew on routes between Damascus, Syria and Tehran, Iran. In addition, on May 6, 2022, EP–MMB (MSN 56) flew on routes between Guangzhou, China and Tehran, Iran.

[55] *https://centreforaviation.com/news/mahan-air-launches-moscow-sheremetyevo-service-1131185.*

[56] The TDO prohibits Mahan from being eligible to use license exception Aircraft, Vessels, and Spacecraft (AVS) (§ 740.15 of the EAR).

[57] *https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/126/20220425_toll.pdf.*

[58] *https://bis.doc.gov/index.php/documents/about-bis/newsroom/press-releases/3138-bis-press-release-gp10-iranian-craft-additions/file.*

[59] Publicly available flight tracking information shows that on October 9, 2022, EP–MME (MSN 376) flew on routes between Tehran, Iran and Moscow, Russia's VTO airport, and on October 26, 2022, EP–MMJ (MSN 526) flew on routes between Tehran, Iran and Moscow, Russia's SVO airport. On October 28, 2022, EP–MMQ (MSN 346) flew on routes between Dubai, United Arab Emirates and Tehran, Iran.

[60] BIS issued a separate TDO denying the export privileges of EMTRASUR for a period of 180 days. *See* 87 FR 47964 (Aug. 5, 2022).

[61] On or about February 7, 2020, U.S. Department of the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (''OFAC'') added CONVIASA, a Venezuelan state-owned airline, to the list of Specially Designated Nationals (''SDN'') pursuant to Executive Order (E.O.) 13884. *See https://home.treasury.gov/news/press-releases/sm903.*

[62] Publicly available flight tracking information shows that on April 24, 2023, EP–MMQ (MSN 346) flew on routes between Guangzhou, China, and Tehran, Iran, and on April 27, 2023, EP–MNF (MSN 547) flew on routes between Kabul, Afghanistan and Tehran, Iran. On April 28, 2023, EP–MME (MSN 371) flew on routes between Moscow, Russia and Tehran, Iran.

[63] *https://iranpress.com/content/76332/mahan-air-launches-direct-flight-from-tehran-minsk.*

[64] *See* 88 FR 66807 (Sep. 28, 2023).

[65] *https://simpleflying.com/aeroflot-airbus-a330-maintenance-iran-mahan-air/.*

[66] Publicly available flight tracking information shows that on October 24, 2023, EP–MME (MSN 371) flew on routes between Erbil, Iraq and Tehran, Iran, and on October 23, 2023, EP–MMB (MSN 56) flew on routes between Moscow, Russia and Tehran, Iran. On October 21–22, 2023, EP–MMQ (MSN 346) flew on routes between Lahore, Pakistan and Tehran, Iran.

[67] *See supra* at footnote 34.

[68] *https://www.jns.org/syria-airport-strikes-said-to-stop-iranian-missile-shipment/; https://www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/syria-state-tv-says-israeli-attack-targets-aleppo-damascus-airports-2023-10-12/; https://www.israelhayom.com/2023/10/17/revealed-this-could-be-why-israel-allegedly-bombed-2-airports-simultaneously/.*

EP–MMQ, EP–MMR on flights into and out Iran from/to Guangzhou, China, Moscow, Russia, and Erbil, Iraq.[69] Additionally, a May 2024 BIS post-shipment verification indicated that Taiwanese Company No. 1 diverted several shipments of electronic components to Russia via Iran aboard Mahan aircraft. The items at issue were subject to the Regulations and included items classified under ECCN 3A991.a.2 and others listed in Tier 1 of BIS's Common High Prior List.[70] Mahan's role in transporting the item violated the TDO.

Most recently, in October 2024, the European Union imposed sanctions on Mahan Air given its role in the ''transfer and supply, through transnational procurement networks, of Iran-made UAVs and related components and technologies to Russia, to be used in its war of aggression against Ukraine.'' [71]

C. Findings

Under the applicable standard set forth in § 766.24 of the Regulations and my review of the entire record, I find that the evidence presented by BIS convincingly demonstrates that the denied persons have acted in violation of the Regulations and the TDO; that such violations have been significant, deliberate and covert; and that given the foregoing and the nature of the matters under investigation, there is a likelihood of imminent violations. Moreover, I find that renewal for an extended period is appropriate given the pattern of repeated, ongoing and/or continuous apparent violations of the EAR. Therefore, renewal of the TDO is necessary in the public interest to prevent imminent violation of the Regulations and to give notice to companies and individuals in the United States and abroad that they should continue to avoid dealing with Mahan Airways and Al Naser Airlines and the other denied persons, in connection with export and reexport transactions involving items subject to the Regulations and in connection with any other activity subject to the Regulations.

III. Order

It is therefore ordered:

First, that MAHAN AIRWAYS, Mahan Tower, No. 21, Azadegan St., M.A. Jenah Exp. Way, Tehran, Iran; PEJMAN MAHMOOD KOSARAYANIFARD A/K/A KOSARIAN FARD, P.O. Box 52404, Dubai, United Arab Emirates; MAHMOUD AMINI, G#22 Dubai Airport Free Zone, P.O. Box 393754, Dubai, United Arab Emirates, and P.O. Box 52404, Dubai, United Arab Emirates, and Mohamed Abdulla Alqaz Building, Al Maktoum Street, Al Rigga, Dubai, United Arab Emirates; KERMAN AVIATION A/K/A GIE KERMAN AVIATION, 42 Avenue Montaigne 75008, Paris, France; SIRJANCO TRADING LLC, P.O. Box 8709, Dubai, United Arab Emirates; MAHAN AIR GENERAL TRADING LLC, 19th Floor Al Moosa Tower One, Sheik Zayed Road, Dubai 40594, United Arab Emirates; MEHDI BAHRAMI, Mahan Airways-Istanbul Office, Cumhuriye Cad. Sibil Apt No: 101 D:6, 34374 Emadad, Sisli Istanbul, Turkey; AL NASER AIRLINES A/K/A AL–NASER AIRLINES A/K/A AL NASER WINGS AIRLINE A/K/A ALNASER AIRLINES AND AIR FREIGHT LTD., Home 46, Al-Karrada, Babil Region, District 929, St 21, Beside Al Jadirya Private Hospital, Baghdad, Iraq, and Al Amirat Street, Section 309, St. 3/H.20, Al Mansour, Baghdad, Iraq, and P.O. Box 28360, Dubai, United Arab Emirates, and P.O. Box 911399, Amman 11191, Jordan; ALI ABDULLAH ALHAY A/K/A ALI ALHAY A/K/A ALI ABDULLAH AHMED ALHAY, Home 46, Al-Karrada, Babil Region, District 929, St 21, Beside Al Jadirya Private Hospital, Baghdad, Iraq, and Anak Street, Qatif, Saudi Arabia 61177; BAHAR SAFWA GENERAL TRADING, P.O. Box 113212, Citadel Tower, Floor-5, Office #504, Business Bay, Dubai, United Arab Emirates, and P.O. Box 8709, Citadel Tower, Business Bay, Dubai, United Arab Emirates; SKY BLUE BIRD GROUP A/K/A SKY BLUE BIRD AVIATION A/K/A SKY BLUE BIRD LTD A/K/A SKY BLUE BIRD FZC, P.O. Box 16111, Ras Al Khaimah Trade Zone, United Arab Emirates; and ISSAM SHAMMOUT A/K/A MUHAMMAD ISAM MUHAMMAD ANWAR NUR SHAMMOUT A/K/A ISSAM ANWAR, Philips Building, 4th Floor, Al Fardous Street, Damascus, Syria, and Al Kolaa, Beirut, Lebanon 151515, and 17–18 Margaret Street, 4th Floor, London, W1W 8RP, United Kingdom, and Cumhuriyet Mah. Kavakli San St. Fulya, Cad. Hazar Sok. No.14/A Silivri, Istanbul, Turkey, and when acting for or on their behalf, any successors or assigns, agents, or employees (each a ''Denied Person'' and collectively the ''Denied Persons'') may not, directly or indirectly, participate in any way in any transaction involving any commodity, software or technology (hereinafter collectively referred to as ''item'') exported or to be exported from the United States that is subject to the EAR, or in any other activity subject to the EAR including, but not limited to:

A. Applying for, obtaining, or using any license, license exception, or export control document;

B. Carrying on negotiations concerning, or ordering, buying, receiving, using, selling, delivering, storing, disposing of, forwarding, transporting, financing, or otherwise servicing in any way, any transaction involving any item exported or to be exported from the United States that is subject to the EAR, or engaging in any other activity subject to the EAR; or

C. Benefitting in any way from any transaction involving any item exported or to be exported from the United States that is subject to the EAR, or from any other activity subject to the EAR.

Second, that no person may, directly or indirectly, do any of the following:

A. Export, reexport, or transfer (in-country) to or on behalf of a Denied Person any item subject to the EAR;

B. Take any action that facilitates the acquisition or attempted acquisition by a Denied Person of the ownership, possession, or control of any item subject to the EAR that has been or will be exported from the United States, including financing or other support activities related to a transaction whereby a Denied Person acquires or attempts to acquire such ownership, possession or control;

C. Take any action to acquire from or to facilitate the acquisition or attempted acquisition from a Denied Person of any item subject to the EAR that has been exported from the United States;

D. Obtain from a Denied Person in the United States any item subject to the EAR with knowledge or reason to know that the item will be, or is intended to be, exported from the United States; or

E. Engage in any transaction to service any item subject to the EAR that has been or will be exported from the United States and which is owned, possessed or controlled by a Denied Person, or service any item, of whatever origin, that is owned, possessed or controlled by a Denied Person if such service involves the use of any item subject to the EAR that has been or will be exported from the United States. For

[69] Publicly available flight tracking information shows that on October 13–14, 2024, EP–MME (MSN 371) flew on routes between Guangzhou, China and Tehran, Iran, and on October 10, 2024, EP–MMQ (MSN 346) flew on routes between Moscow, Russia and Tehran, Iran. On October 15, 2024, EP–MMR (MSN 416) flew on routes between Erbil, Iraq and Tehran, Iran.

[70] Since February 24, 2022, BIS has implemented a series of stringent export controls that restrict Russia's access to the technologies and other items that it needs to sustain its brutal attack on Ukraine. Tier 1 items are of the highest concern due to their critical role in the production of advanced Russian precision-guided weapons systems, Russia's lack of domestic production, and limited global manufacturers.

[71] *https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/10/14/iran-seven-individuals-and-seven-entities-sanctioned-in-response-to-iran-s-missile-transfer-to-russia/.*

purposes of this paragraph, servicing means installation, maintenance, repair, modification or testing.

Third, that, after notice and opportunity for comment as provided in § 766.23 of the EAR, any other person, firm, corporation, or business organization related to a Denied Person by ownership, control, position of responsibility, affiliation or other connection in the conduct of trade or business may also be made subject to the provisions of this Order.

Fourth, that this Order does not prohibit any export, reexport, or other transaction subject to the EAR where the only items involved that are subject to the EAR are the foreign-produced direct product of U.S.-origin technology.

In accordance with the provisions of §§ 766.24(e) of the EAR, Mahan Airways, Al Naser Airlines, Ali Abdullah Alhay, and/or Bahar Safwa General Trading may, at any time, appeal this Order by filing a full written statement in support of the appeal with the Office of the Administrative Law Judge, U.S. Coast Guard ALJ Docketing Center, 40 South Gay Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21202–4022. In accordance with the provisions of §§ 766.23(c)(2) and 766.24(e)(3) of the EAR, Pejman Mahmood Kosarayanifard, Mahmoud Amini, Kerman Aviation, Sirjanco Trading LLC, Mahan Air General Trading LLC, Mehdi Bahrami, Sky Blue Bird Group, and/or Issam Shammout may, at any time, appeal their inclusion as a related person by filing a full written statement in support of the appeal with the Office of the Administrative Law Judge, U.S. Coast Guard ALJ Docketing Center, 40 South Gay Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21202–4022.

In accordance with the provisions of § 766.24(d) of the EAR, BIS may seek renewal of this Order by filing a written request not later than 20 days before the expiration date. A renewal request may be opposed by Mahan Airways, Al Naser Airlines, Ali Abdullah Alhay, and/or Bahar Safwa General Trading as provided in § 766.24(d), by filing a written submission with the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Export Enforcement, which must be received not later than seven days before the expiration date of the Order.

A copy of this Order shall be provided to Mahan Airways, Al Naser Airlines, Ali Abdullah Alhay, and Bahar Safwa General Trading and each related person, and shall be published in the **Federal Register**.

This Order is effective immediately and shall remain in effect for one year.

Matthew S. Axelrod,

Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Export Enforcement.

[FR Doc. 2024–25471 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–DT–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

Antidumping or Countervailing Duty Order, Finding, or Suspended Investigation; Opportunity To Request Administrative Review and Join Annual Inquiry Service List

AGENCY: Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Brenda E. Brown, Office of AD/CVD Operations, Customs Liaison Unit, Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20230, telephone: (202) 482–4735.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Each year during the anniversary month of the publication of an antidumping duty (AD) or countervailing duty (CVD) order, finding, or suspended investigation, an interested party, as defined in section 771(9) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act), may request, in accordance with 19 CFR 351.213, that the U.S. Department of Commerce (Commerce) conduct an administrative review of that AD or CVD order, finding, or suspended investigation.

All deadlines for the submission of comments or actions by Commerce discussed below refer to the number of calendar days from the applicable starting date.

Respondent Selection

In the event Commerce limits the number of respondents for individual examination for administrative reviews initiated pursuant to requests made for the orders identified below, Commerce intends to select respondents based on U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) data for U.S. imports during the period of review (POR). We intend to release the CBP data under Administrative Protective Order (APO) to all parties having an APO within five days of publication of the initiation notice and to make our decision regarding respondent selection within 35 days of publication of the initiation **Federal Register** notice. Therefore, we encourage all parties interested in commenting on respondent selection to submit their APO applications on the date of publication of the initiation notice, or as soon thereafter as possible. Commerce invites comments regarding the CBP data and respondent selection within five days of placement of the CBP data on the record of the review.

In the event Commerce decides it is necessary to limit individual examination of respondents and conduct respondent selection under section 777A(c)(2) of the Act:

In general, Commerce finds that determinations concerning whether particular companies should be ''collapsed'' (*i.e.,* treated as a single entity for purposes of calculating AD rates) require a substantial amount of detailed information and analysis, which often require follow-up questions and analysis. Accordingly, Commerce will not conduct collapsing analyses at the respondent selection phase of a review and will not collapse companies at the respondent selection phase unless there has been a determination to collapse certain companies in a previous segment of this AD proceeding (*i.e.,* investigation, administrative review, new shipper review, or changed circumstances review). For any company subject to a review, if Commerce determined, or continued to treat, that company as collapsed with others, Commerce will assume that such companies continue to operate in the same manner and will collapse them for respondent selection purposes. Otherwise, Commerce will not collapse companies for purposes of respondent selection. Parties are requested to: (a) identify which companies subject to review previously were collapsed; and (b) provide a citation to the proceeding in which they were collapsed. Further, if companies are requested to complete a Quantity and Value Questionnaire for purposes of respondent selection, in general each company must report volume and value data separately for itself. Parties should not include data for any other party, even if they believe they should be treated as a single entity with that other party. If a company was collapsed with another company or companies in the most recently completed segment of a proceeding where Commerce considered collapsing that entity, complete quantity and value data for that collapsed entity must be submitted.

Deadline for Withdrawal of Request for Administrative Review

Pursuant to 19 CFR 351.213(d)(1), a party that requests a review may

withdraw that request within 90 days of the date of publication of the notice of initiation of the requested review. The regulation provides that Commerce may extend this time if it is reasonable to do so. Determinations by Commerce to extend the 90-day deadline will be made on a case-by-case basis.

Deadline for Particular Market Situation Allegation

Section 504 of the Trade Preferences Extension Act of 2015 amended the Act by adding the concept of particular market situation (PMS) for purposes of constructed value under section 773(e) of the Act.[1] Section 773(e) of the Act states that ''if a particular market situation exists such that the cost of materials and fabrication or other processing of any kind does not accurately reflect the cost of production in the ordinary course of trade, the administering authority may use another calculation methodology under this subtitle or any other calculation methodology.'' When an interested party submits a PMS allegation pursuant to section 773(e) of the Act, Commerce will respond to such a submission consistent with 19 CFR 351.301(c)(2)(v). If Commerce finds that a PMS exists under section 773(e) of the Act, then it will modify its dumping calculations appropriately.

Neither section 773(e) of the Act nor 19 CFR 351.301(c)(2)(v) set a deadline for the submission of PMS allegations and supporting factual information. However, in order to administer section 773(e) of the Act, Commerce must receive PMS allegations and supporting factual information with enough time to consider the submission. Thus, should an interested party wish to submit a PMS allegation and supporting new factual information pursuant to section 773(e) of the Act, it must do so no later than 20 days after submission of initial Section D responses.

Opportunity to Request a Review: Not later than the last day of November 2024,[2] interested parties may request administrative review of the following orders, findings, or suspended investigations, with anniversary dates in November for the following periods:

	Period
Antidumping Duty Proceedings	
ARGENTINA: Oil Country Tubular Goods, A–357–824	11/1/23–10/31/24
ARMENIA: Aluminum Foil, A–831–804	11/1/23–10/31/24
AUSTRIA: Strontium Chromate, A–433–813	11/1/23–10/31/24
BRAZIL: Aluminum Foil, A–351–856	11/1/23–10/31/24
FRANCE: Strontium Chromate, A–427–830	11/1/23–10/31/24
GERMANY: Thermal Paper, A–428–850	11/1/23–10/31/24
INDIA:	
Paper File Folders, A–533–910	5/17/23–10/31/24
Welded Stainless Pressure Pipe, A–533–867	11/1/23–10/31/24
INDONESIA:	
Coated Paper Suitable For High-Quality Print Graphics Using Sheet-Fed Presses, A–560–823	11/1/23–10/31/24
Monosodium Glutamate, A–560–826	11/1/23–10/31/24
ITALY: Forged Steel Fittings, A–475–839	11/1/23–10/31/24
JAPAN: Thermal Paper, A–588–880	11/1/23–10/31/24
MEXICO:	
Certain Freight Rail Couplers and Parts Thereof, A–201–857	5/3/23–10/31/24
Circular Welded Non-Alloy Steel Pipe, A–201–805	11/1/23–10/31/24
Oil Country Tubular Goods, A–201–856	11/1/23–10/31/24
Seamless Refined Copper Pipe and Tube, A–201–838	11/1/23–10/31/24
Steel Concrete Reinforcing Bar, A–201–844	11/1/23–10/31/24
OMAN: Aluminum Foil, A–523–815	11/1/23–10/31/24
REPUBLIC OF KOREA:	
Circular Welded Non-Alloy Steel Pipe, A–580–809	11/1/23–10/31/24
Thermal Paper, A–580–911	11/1/23–10/31/24
REPUBLIC OF TÜRKIYE: Aluminum Foil, A–489–844	11/1/23–10/31/24
RUSSIA:	
Aluminum Foil, A–821–828	11/1/23–10/31/24
Oil Country Tubular Goods, A–821–833	11/1/23–10/31/24
Sodium Nitrite, A–821–836	11/1/23–10/31/24
SOCIALIST OF VIETNAM: Paper File Folders, A–552–834	5/17/23–10/31/24
SPAIN: Thermal Paper, A–469–824	11/1/23–10/31/24
TAIWAN:	
Certain Circular Welded Non-Alloy Steel Pipe, A–583–814	11/1/23–10/31/24
Certain Hot-Rolled Carbon Steel Flat Products, A–583–835	11/1/23–10/31/24
THAILAND: Certain Hot-Rolled Carbon Steel Flat Products, A–549–817	11/1/23–10/31/24
THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA:	
Certain Hot Rolled Carbon Steel Flat Products, A–570–865	11/1/23–10/31/24
Certain Coated Paper Suitable For High-Quality Print Graphic Using Sheet-Fed Presses, A–570–958	11/1/23–10/31/24
Diamond Sawblades and Parts Thereof, A–570–900	11/1/23–10/31/24
Fresh Garlic, A–570–831	11/1/23–10/31/24
Forged Steel Fittings, A–570–067	11/1/23–10/31/24
Lightweight Thermal Paper, A–570–920	11/1/23–10/31/24
Monosodium Glutamate, A–570–992	11/1/23–10/31/24
Paper Clips, A–570–826	11/1/23–10/31/24
Paper File Folders, A–570–147	5/17/23–10/31/24
Polyethylene Terephthalate (Pet) Film, A–570–924	11/1/23–10/31/24
Pure Magnesium in Granular Form, A–570–864	11/1/23–10/31/24

[1] *See* Trade Preferences Extension Act of 2015, Public Law 114–27, 129 Stat. 362 (2015).

[2] Or the next business day, if the deadline falls on a weekend, Federal holiday or any other day when Commerce is closed.

	Period
Refined Brown Aluminum Oxide, A–570–882	11/1/23–10/31/24
Seamless Carbon and Alloy Steel Standard, Line, And Pressure Pipe, A–570- 956	11/1/23–10/31/24
Seamless Refined Copper Pipe and Tube, A–570–964	11/1/23–10/31/24
Sodium Gluconate, Gluconic Acid, and Derivative Products, A–570–071	11/1/23–10/31/24
UKRAINE: Certain Hot-Rolled Carbon Steel Flat Products, A–823–811	11/1/23–10/31/24
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES: Polyethylene Terephthalate (Pet) Film, A–520–803	11/1/23–10/31/24
Countervailing Duty Proceedings	
INDIA:	
Paper File Folders, C–533–911	3/20/23–12/31/23
Welded Stainless Pressure Pipe, C–533–868	1/1/23–12/31/23
INDONESIA: Certain Coated Paper Suitable For High-Quality Print Graphics Using, Sheet-Fed Presses, C–560–824	1/1/23–12/31/23
OMAN: Aluminum Foil, C–523–816	1/1/23–12/31/23
REPUBLIC OF KOREA: Oil Country Tubular Goods, C–580–913	1/1/23–12/31/23
REPUBLIC OF TÜRKIYE:	
Aluminum Foil, C–489–845	1/1/23–12/31/23
Steel Concrete Reinforcing Bar, C–489–819	1/1/23–12/31/23
RUSSIA: Oil Country Tubular Goods, C–821–834	1/1/23–12/31/23
THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA:	
Chlorinated Isocyanurates, C–570–991	1/1/23–12/31/23
Certain Coated Paper Suitable For High-Quality Print Graphic Using Sheet-Fed Presses, C–570–959	1/1/23–12/31/23
Forged Steel Fittings, C–570–068	1/1/23–12/31/23
Lightweight Thermal Paper, C–570–921	1/1/23–12/31/23
Seamless Carbon and Alloy Steel Standard, Line, And Pressure Pipe, C–570–957	1/1/23–12/31/23
Sodium Gluconate, Gluconic Acid, and Derivative Products, C–570–072	1/1/23–12/31/23
Suspension Agreements	
UKRAINE: Certain Cut-To-Length Carbon Steel Plate, A–823–808	11/1/23–10/31/24

In accordance with 19 CFR 351.213(b), an interested party as defined by section 771(9) of the Act may request in writing that Commerce conduct an administrative review. For both AD and CVD reviews, the interested party must specify the individual producers or exporters covered by an AD finding or an AD or CVD order or suspension agreement for which it is requesting a review. In addition, a domestic interested party or an interested party described in section 771(9)(B) of the Act must state why it desires Commerce to review those particular producers or exporters. If the interested party intends for Commerce to review sales of merchandise by an exporter (or a producer if that producer also exports merchandise from other suppliers) which was produced in more than one country of origin and each country of origin is subject to a separate order, then the interested party must state specifically, on an order-by-order basis, which exporter(s) the request is intended to cover.

Note that, for any party Commerce was unable to locate in prior segments, Commerce will not accept a request for an administrative review of that party absent new information as to the party's location. Moreover, if the interested party who files a request for review is unable to locate the producer or exporter for which it requested the review, the interested party must provide an explanation of the attempts it made to locate the producer or exporter at the same time it files its request for review, in order for Commerce to determine if the interested party's attempts were reasonable, pursuant to 19 CFR 351.303(f)(3)(ii).

As explained in *Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Proceedings: Assessment of Antidumping Duties,* 68 FR 23954 (May 6, 2003), and *Non-Market Economy Antidumping Proceedings: Assessment of Antidumping Duties,* 76 FR 65694 (October 24, 2011), Commerce clarified its practice with respect to the collection of final antidumping duties on imports of merchandise where intermediate firms are involved. The public should be aware of this clarification in determining whether to request an administrative review of merchandise subject to antidumping findings and orders.[3]

Commerce no longer considers the non-market economy (NME) entity as an exporter conditionally subject to an AD administrative review.[4] Accordingly, the NME entity will not be under review unless Commerce specifically receives a request for, or self-initiates, a review of the NME entity.[5] In administrative reviews of AD orders on merchandise from NME countries where a review of the NME entity has not been initiated, but where an individual exporter for which a review was initiated does not qualify for a separate rate, Commerce will issue a final decision indicating that the company in question is part of the NME entity. However, in that situation, because no review of the NME entity was conducted, the NME entity's entries were not subject to the review and the rate for the NME entity is not subject to change as a result of that review (although the rate for the individual exporter may change as a function of the finding that the exporter is part of the NME entity). Following initiation of an AD administrative review when there is no review requested of the NME entity, Commerce will instruct CBP to liquidate entries for all exporters not named in the initiation notice, including those that were suspended at the NME entity rate.

All requests must be filed electronically in Enforcement and Compliance's Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Centralized Electronic Service System (ACCESS) on Enforcement and Compliance's ACCESS website at *https://access.trade.gov.*[6]

[3] *See* the Enforcement and Compliance website at *https://www.trade.gov/us-antidumping-and-countervailing-duties.*

[4] *See Antidumping Proceedings: Announcement of Change in Department Practice for Respondent Selection in Antidumping Duty Proceedings and Conditional Review of the Nonmarket Economy Entity in NME Antidumping Duty Proceedings,* 78 FR 65963 (November 4, 2013).

[5] In accordance with 19 CFR 351.213(b)(1), parties should specify that they are requesting a review of entries from exporters comprising the entity, and to the extent possible, include the names of such exporters in their request.

[6] *See Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Proceedings: Electronic Filing Procedures;*

Further, in accordance with 19 CFR 351.303(f)(l)(i), a copy of each request must be served on the petitioner and each exporter or producer specified in the request. Note that Commerce has amended certain of its requirements pertaining to the service of documents in 19 CFR 351.303(f).[7]

Commerce will publish in the **Federal Register** a notice of ''Initiation of Administrative Review of Antidumping or Countervailing Duty Order, Finding, or Suspended Investigation'' for requests received by the last day of November 2024. If Commerce does not receive, by the last day of November 2024, a request for review of entries covered by an order, finding, or suspended investigation listed in this notice and for the period identified above, Commerce will instruct CBP to assess antidumping or countervailing duties on those entries at a rate equal to the cash deposit of estimated antidumping or countervailing duties required on those entries at the time of entry, or withdrawal from warehouse, for consumption and to continue to collect the cash deposit previously ordered.

For the first administrative review of any order, there will be no assessment of antidumping or countervailing duties on entries of subject merchandise entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption during the relevant provisional-measures ''gap'' period of the order, if such a gap period is applicable to the period of review.

Establishment of and Updates to the Annual Inquiry Service List

On September 20, 2021, Commerce published the final rule titled ''*Regulations to Improve Administration and Enforcement of Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Laws*'' in the **Federal Register**.[8] On September 27, 2021, Commerce also published the notice entitled ''*Scope Ruling Application; Annual Inquiry Service List; and Informational Sessions*'' in the **Federal Register**.[9] The *Final Rule* and *Procedural Guidance* provide that Commerce will maintain an annual inquiry service list for each order or suspended investigation, and any interested party submitting a scope ruling application or request for circumvention inquiry shall serve a copy of the application or request on the persons on the annual inquiry service list for that order, as well as any companion order covering the same merchandise from the same country of origin.[10]

In accordance with the *Procedural Guidance,* for orders published in the **Federal Register** before November 4, 2021, Commerce created an annual inquiry service list segment for each order and suspended investigation. Interested parties who wished to be added to the annual inquiry service list for an order submitted an entry of appearance to the annual inquiry service list segment for the order in ACCESS and, on November 4, 2021, Commerce finalized the initial annual inquiry service lists for each order and suspended investigation. Each annual inquiry service list has been saved as a public service list in ACCESS, under each case number, and under a specific segment type called ''AISL-Annual Inquiry Service List.'' [11]

As mentioned in the *Procedural Guidance,* beginning in January 2022, Commerce will update these annual inquiry service lists on an annual basis when the *Opportunity Notice* for the anniversary month of the order or suspended investigation is published in the **Federal Register**.[12] Accordingly, Commerce will update the annual inquiry service lists for the above-listed AD and CVD proceedings. All interested parties wishing to appear on the updated annual inquiry service list must take one of the two following actions: (1) new interested parties who did not previously submit an entry of appearance must submit a new entry of appearance at this time; (2) interested parties who were included in the preceding annual inquiry service list must submit an amended entry of appearance to be included in the next year's annual inquiry service list. For these interested parties, Commerce will change the entry of appearance status from ''Active'' to ''Needs Amendment'' for the annual inquiry service lists corresponding to the above-listed proceedings. This will allow those interested parties to make any necessary amendments and resubmit their entries of appearance. If no amendments need to be made, the interested party should indicate in the area on the ACCESS form requesting an explanation for the amendment that it is resubmitting its entry of appearance for inclusion in the annual inquiry service list for the following year. As mentioned in the *Final Rule,*[13] once the petitioners and foreign governments have submitted an entry of appearance for the first time, they will automatically be added to the updated annual inquiry service list each year.

Interested parties have 30 days after the date of this notice to submit new or amended entries of appearance. Commerce will then finalize the annual inquiry service lists five business days thereafter. For ease of administration, please note that Commerce requests that law firms with more than one attorney representing interested parties in a proceeding designate a lead attorney to be included on the annual inquiry service list.

Commerce may update an annual inquiry service list at any time as needed based on interested parties' amendments to their entries of appearance to remove or otherwise modify their list of members and representatives, or to update contact information. Any changes or announcements pertaining to these procedures will be posted to the ACCESS website at *https://access.trade.gov.*

Special Instructions for Petitioners and Foreign Governments

In the *Final Rule,* Commerce stated that, ''after an initial request and placement on the annual inquiry service list, both petitioners and foreign governments will automatically be placed on the annual inquiry service list in the years that follow.'' [14] Accordingly, as stated above and pursuant to 19 CFR 351.225(n)(3), the petitioners and foreign governments will not need to resubmit their entries of appearance each year to continue to be included on the annual inquiry service list. However, the petitioners and foreign governments are responsible for making amendments to their entries of appearance during the annual update to the annual inquiry service list in

Administrative Protective Order Procedures, 76 FR 39263 (July 6, 2011).

[7] *See Administrative Protective Order, Service, and Other Procedures in Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Proceedings; Final Rule,* 88 FR 67069 (September 29, 2023).

[8] *See Regulations to Improve Administration and Enforcement of Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Laws,* 86 FR 52300 (September 20, 2021) (*Final Rule*).

[9] *See Scope Ruling Application; Annual Inquiry Service List; and Informational Sessions,* 86 FR 53205 (September 27, 2021) (*Procedural Guidance*).

[10] *Id.*

[11] This segment has been combined with the ACCESS Segment Specific Information (SSI) field which will display the month in which the notice of the order or suspended investigation was published in the **Federal Register**, also known as the anniversary month. For example, for an order under case number A–000–000 that was published in the **Federal Register** in January, the relevant segment and SSI combination will appear in ACCESS as ''AISL-January Anniversary.'' Note that there will be only one annual inquiry service list segment per case number, and the anniversary month will be pre-populated in ACCESS.

[12] *See Procedural Guidance,* 86 FR at 53206.

[13] *See Final Rule,* 86 FR at 52335.

[14] *Id.*

accordance with the procedures described above.

This notice is not required by statute but is published as a service to the international trading community.

Dated: October 23, 2024.

Scot Fullerton,

Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Operations.

[FR Doc. 2024–25493 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–DS–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[A–570–893]

Certain Frozen Warmwater Shrimp From the People's Republic of China: Rescission of Antidumping Duty Administrative Review; 2023–2024

AGENCY: Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of Commerce (Commerce) is rescinding the administrative review of the antidumping duty (AD) order on certain frozen warmwater shrimp (shrimp) from the People's Republic of China (China) for the period of review (POR) February 1, 2023, through January 31, 2024.

DATES: Applicable November 1, 2024.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Eric Hawkins, AD/CVD Operations, Office V, Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20230; phone: 202–482–1988.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On February 1, 2005, Commerce published in the **Federal Register** the AD order on shrimp from China.[1] On April 9, 2024, Commerce published in the **Federal Register** a notice of initiation of administrative review with respect to imports of shrimp from China in accordance with section 751(a) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act) and 19 CFR 351.221(c)(1)(i).[2] On May 21, 2024, we placed on the record data from the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) for entries of shrimp from China during the POR, showing no reviewable POR entries for any company listed in the *Initiation Notice* and invited interested parties to comment.[3] Commerce received no comments from any interested parties.

On May 24, 2024, Commerce notified all interested parties of our intent to rescind the review because there were no reviewable, suspended entries of subject merchandise by any of the companies subject to this review during the POR as listed in the *Initiation Notice* and invited interested parties to comment.[4] We did not receive any comments.

Rescission of Review

Pursuant to 19 CFR 351.213(d)(3), it is Commerce's practice to rescind an administrative review of an AD order when there are no reviewable entries of subject merchandise during the POR for which liquidation is suspended.[5] Normally, upon completion of an administrative review, the suspended entries are liquidated at the AD assessment rate calculated for the review period.[6] Therefore, for an administrative review to be conducted, there must be a reviewable, suspended entry that Commerce can instruct CBP to liquidate at the AD assessment rate calculated for the review period.[7] As noted above, there were no entries of subject merchandise for the companies subject to this review during the POR. Accordingly, in the absence of suspended entries of subject merchandise during the POR, we are hereby rescinding this administrative review, in its entirety, in accordance with 19 CFR 351.213(d)(3).

Assessment

Commerce will instruct CBP to assess antidumping duties on all appropriate entries. Antidumping duties shall be assessed at rates equal to the cash deposit of estimated antidumping duties required at the time of entry, or withdrawal from warehouse, for consumption, in accordance with 19 CFR 351.212(c)(1)(i). Commerce intends to issue assessment instructions to CBP no earlier than 35 days after the date of publication of this rescission notice in the **Federal Register**.

Notification Regarding Administrative Protective Order

This notice serves as the only reminder to parties subject to administrative protective order (APO) of their responsibility concerning the disposition of proprietary information disclosed under APO, in accordance with 19 CFR 351.305(a)(3). Timely written notification of the return or destruction of APO materials or conversion to judicial protective order is hereby requested. Failure to comply with the regulations and terms of an APO is a sanctionable violation.

Notification to Interested Parties

This notice is issued and published in accordance with sections 751(a)(1) and 777(i)(1) of the Act, and 19 CFR 351.213(d)(4).

Dated: October 29, 2024.

Scot Fullerton,

Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Operations.

[FR Doc. 2024–25494 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–DS–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648–XE421]

South Atlantic Fishery Management Council; Public Meetings

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of public meetings.

SUMMARY: The South Atlantic Fishery Management Council (Council) will hold four port meetings gathering input on Atlantic king mackerel and Atlantic Spanish mackerel as managed by the Fishery Management Plan for Coastal Migratory Pelagic Resources in the Gulf of Mexico and Atlantic Region.

DATES: The port meetings will take place November 18–21, 2024. The port meetings will begin at 6 p.m., local time. For specific dates and times, see **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

ADDRESSES:

Meeting addresses: The public hearings will be held in Virginia Beach, Virginia; White Stone, Virginia; Berlin, Maryland; and Manahawkin, New Jersey. For specific locations, see **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

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[1] *See Notice of Amended Final Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value and Antidumping Duty Order: Certain Frozen Warmwater Shrimp from the People's Republic of China,* 70 FR 5149 (February 1, 2005) (*Order*).

[2] *See Initiation of Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Administrative Reviews,* 89 FR 24780 (April 9, 2024) (*Initiation Notice*).

[3] *See* Memorandum, ''U.S. Customs and Border Protection Data Query,'' dated May 21, 2024.

[4] *See* Memorandum, ''Notice of Intent to Rescind Review,'' dated May 24, 2024.

[5] *See, e.g., Dioctyl Terephthalate from the Republic of Korea: Rescission of Antidumping Administrative Review; 2021–2022,* 88 FR 24758 (April 24, 2023); *see also Certain Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut-to-Length Plate from the Federal Republic of Germany: Recission of Antidumping Administrative Review; 2020–2021,* 88 FR 4154 (January 24, 2023).

[6] *See* 19 CFR 351.212(b)(1).

[7] *See* 19 CFR 351.213(d)(3).

Please visit the South Atlantic Council website at: *https://safmc.net/king-and-spanish-mackerel-port-meetings/* for meeting materials and location information.

Council address: South Atlantic Fishery Management Council, 4055 Faber Place Drive, Suite 201, N Charleston, SC 29405.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Christina Wiegand, Fishery Social Scientist, SAFMC; phone: (843) 571–4366 or toll free: (866) SAFMC–10; fax: (843) 769–4520; email: *christina.wiegand@safmc.net.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Council is hosting a series of port meetings along the Atlantic coast throughout 2024 in order to take a focused look at the Atlantic king mackerel and Atlantic Spanish mackerel fisheries. The agenda for the four in-person public hearings is as follows: Council staff will briefly introduce port meetings and the Council's goals and objectives. Attendees will then have the opportunity, through a series of discussion-based breakout groups, to provide input on a variety of issues related to the Atlantic king mackerel and Spanish mackerel fisheries including changing environmental conditions, needed management changes, commercial and recreational fishery dynamics, and the goals and objectives of the Coastal Migratory Pelagics Fishery Management Plan. Information provided during port meetings will be summarized and presented to the Council for use in management decision-making. Additional port meetings will be scheduled along the Atlantic coast throughout the remainder of 2024.

In-Person Locations

Monday, November 18, 2024: Brock Environmental Center, Oyster Conference Room, 3663 Marlin Bay Drive, Virginia Beach, VA 23455; phone: (1–888) 728–3229;

Tuesday, November 19, 2024: Town of White Stone, 433 Rappahannock Drive, White Stone, VA 22578; phone: (804) 435–3260;

Wednesday, November 20, 2024: Worcester County Library—Berlin Branch, 13 Harrison Avenue, Berlin, MD 21811; phone: (410) 641–0650; and

Thursday, November 21, 2024: Stafford Township Administration Building, 260 East Bay Avenue, Manahawkin, NJ 08050; phone: (609) 597–1000.

Special Accommodations

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for auxiliary aid should be directed to the Council office (see **ADDRESSES**) 3 days prior to the meeting.

Note: The times and sequence specified in this agenda are subject to change.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*

Dated: October 28, 2024.

Rey Israel Marquez,

Acting Deputy Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 2024–25407 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–22–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648–XE432]

Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; U.S. Fishing Opportunities in the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization Regulatory Area

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notification of U.S. fishing opportunities.

SUMMARY: We are announcing 2025 fishing opportunities in the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO) Regulatory Area with the possibility of being renewed for up to 2 subsequent years. This action is necessary to make fishing privileges in the Regulatory Area available on an equitable basis to the extent possible. The intended effect of this notice is to alert U.S. fishing vessels of fishing opportunities for Atlantic cod, redfish, and *Illex* squid, along with other fisheries that may become available; to relay the available quotas available to U.S. participants; and to outline the process and requirements for vessels to apply to participate in the 2025 fishery in the NAFO Regulatory Area.

DATES: Effective through December 31, 2025. Expressions of interest regarding fishing opportunities in NAFO will be accepted through November 18, 2024.

ADDRESSES: Expressions of interest regarding U.S. fishing opportunities should be made in writing to Michael Pentony, U.S. Commissioner to NAFO, NMFS Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office at 55 Great Republic Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930 (phone: 978–281–9315, email: *Michael.Pentony@noaa.gov*).

Information relating to chartering vessels of NAFO Contracting Party, transferring NAFO fishing opportunities to or from another NAFO Contracting Party, or U.S. participation in NAFO is available from Patrick E. Moran in the NMFS Office of International Affairs, Trade, and Commerce at 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910 (phone: 301–427–8370, fax: 301–713–2313, email: *Pat.Moran@noaa.gov*).

Additional information about NAFO fishing opportunities, NAFO Conservation and Enforcement Measures (CEM), and the High Seas Fishing Compliance Act (HSFCA) Permit required for NAFO participation is available from Shannah Jaburek, in the NMFS Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office at 55 Great Republic Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930 (phone: 978–282–8456, fax: 978–281–9135, email: *Shannah.Jaburek@noaa.gov*) and online from NAFO at *https://www.nafo.int.*

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Shannah Jaburek, Fishery Policy Analyst, (978) 282–8456.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

General NAFO Background

The United States is a Contracting Party to NAFO. NAFO is an intergovernmental fisheries science and management body whose convention applies to most fishery resources in international waters of the Northwest Atlantic, except salmon, tunas/marlins, whales, and sedentary species such as shellfish. Currently, NAFO has 13 contracting parties from North America, Europe, Asia, and the Caribbean. NAFO's Commission is responsible for the management and conservation of the fishery resources in the NAFO Regulatory Area (in waters outside the exclusive economic zones (EEZ)). Figure 1 shows the NAFO Regulatory Area.

BILLING CODE 3510–22–P

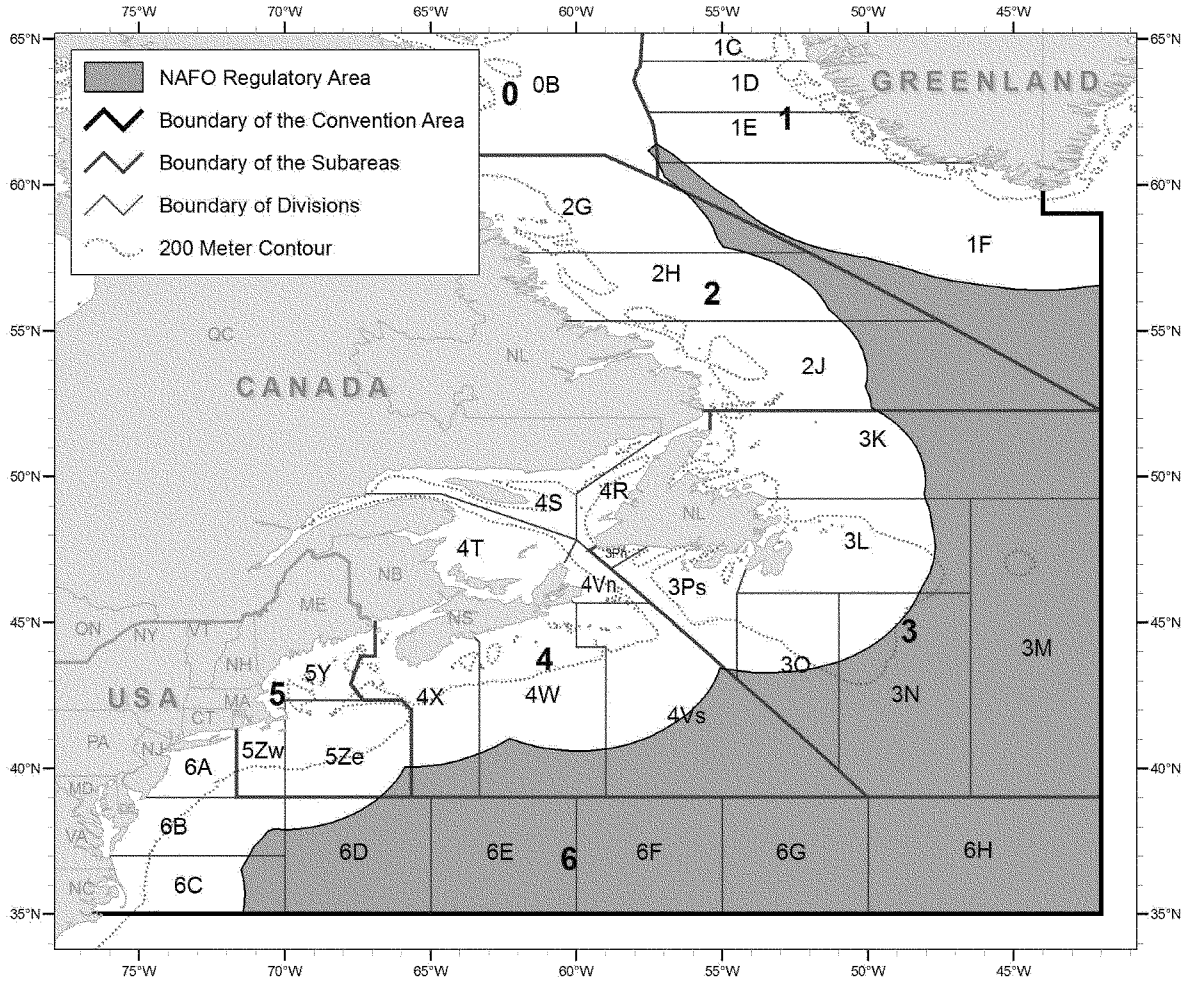

Figure 1 -- NAFO Convention Area Including Statistical Subareas, Divisions, and Subdivisions

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As a Contracting Party to NAFO, the United States may be allocated catch quotas or effort allocations for certain species in specific areas within the NAFO Regulatory Area and/or may participate in fisheries for other species for which we have not received a specific quota. For most stocks for which the United States does not receive a specific allocation, an open allocation, known as the ''Others'' allocation under the Convention, is shared access among all NAFO Contracting Parties.

Additional information on NAFO can be found online at *https://www.nafo.int/About-us.* The 2025 NAFO CEM—specifying the fishery regulations, Total Allowable Catches (TAC or ''quotas''), and other information about the fishery program—will be available online at: *https://www.nafo.int/Fisheries/Conservation* when completed. Information from the 2024 Annual Meeting of NAFO, at which changes to the TACs and other management measures occur, is available on the NAFO website.

This notice announces the fishing opportunities available to U.S. vessels in NAFO regulatory waters, including specific 2025 stocks for which the United States has an allocation under NAFO, and fishing opportunities under the ''Other'' NAFO allocations. This notice also outlines the application process and other requirements for U.S. vessels that wish to participate in the 2025 NAFO fisheries.

NAFO Fishing Opportunities Available to U.S. Fishing Vessels

The principal species managed by NAFO are Atlantic cod, yellowtail and witch flounders, Acadian redfish, American plaice, Greenland halibut, white hake, capelin, shrimp, skates, and *Illex* squid. NAFO specifies conservation measures for fisheries on these species occurring in its Regulatory Area, including TACs for these managed species that are allocated among NAFO Contracting Parties. The United States received quota allocations at the 2024 NAFO Annual Meeting for three stocks to be fished during 2025. The species, location by NAFO subarea, and allocation (in metric tons (mt)) of these 2025 U.S. fishing opportunities are as follows: Atlantic Cod in Division 3L (fishing year July 1, 2024–June 30, 2025), 19.14 mt; Redfish in Division 3M, 69 mt; and *Illex* Squid in Subareas 3 & 4, 453 mt. Atlantic cod in Division 3L was recently reopened to NAFO fisheries following the protocol described in the NAFO CEM and a decision by the Government of Canada. To better align with Canada's decision process, the NAFO Commission agreed to set the fishing year for this stock to

July 1 through June 30 of the following year. Canada will inform NAFO prior to July 1 of each year of its decision to open the directed fishery, at which point, the NAFO allocation would be implemented.

The TACs that may be available to U.S. vessels for stocks where the United States has not been specifically allocated quota (*i.e.,* the ''Others'' allocation in Annex I.A of the CEM) are as follows:

TABLE 1—2025 NAFO ''OTHERS'' ALLOCATIONS

Species	NAFO division	Others Quota (mt)
Cod	3M	50.45
Redfish	3LN	36
	3O	100
Yellowtail Flounder	3LNO	79
Witch Flounder	3NO	14
White Hake	3NO	59
Skates	3LNO	258

Note that the United States shares the ''Other'' allocations with other NAFO Contracting Parties, and access is on a first come, first served basis. Directed fishing is prohibited by NAFO when the ''Others'' quota for a particular stock has been fully harvested.

Additional directed quota for these and other stocks managed within the NAFO Regulatory Area could be made available to U.S. vessels through industry-initiated chartering arrangements or government-to-government transfers of quota from other NAFO Contracting Parties.

U.S. vessels participating in NAFO may also retain bycatch of NAFO managed species to the following maximum amounts as outlined in Article 6 of the CEM. The percentage, by weight, is calculated as a percent of each stock of the total catch of species listed in CEM Annex I.A (*i.e.,* the NAFO managed stocks listed in table 1) retained onboard from the applicable division at the time of inspection, based on logbook information:

1. Cod, Division 3M: 1,250 kilograms (kg) or 5 percent, whichever is greater;

2. Witch Flounder, Division 3NO: 1,250 kg or 5 percent, whichever is greater;

3. Redfish, Division 3LN: 1,250 kg or 5 percent, whichever is greater;

4. Cod, Division 3NO: 1,000 kg or 4 percent, whichever is greater;

5. American plaice: While conducting a directed fishery for yellowtail flounder in Divisions 3LNO—2,900 kg or 15 percent of American plaice in accordance with provisions in Article 6.3(g); otherwise, 1,250 kg or 5 percent, whichever is greater; and

6. For all other Annex I.A stocks where the U.S. has no specific quota, the bycatch limit is 2,500 kg or 10 percent, whichever is greater, unless a ban on fishing applies or the quota for the stock has been fully utilized. If the fishery for the stock is closed or a retention ban applies, the permitted bycatch limit is 1,250 kg or 5 percent, whichever is greater.

Opportunities to fish for species not listed above (*i.e.,* species listed in Annex I.A of the NAFO CEM and non-allocated on non-regulated species), but occurring within the NAFO Regulatory Area, such as Atlantic halibut, may also be available. U.S. fishermen interested in fishing for these other species should contact the NMFS Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office (see **ADDRESSES**) for additional information. Authorization to fish for such species will include permit-related conditions or restrictions, including but not limited to, minimum size requirements, bycatch-related measures, and catch limits. Any such conditions or restrictions will be designed to ensure the optimum utilization, long-term sustainability, and rational management and conservation of fishery resources in the NAFO Regulatory Area, consistent with the Convention on Cooperation in the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries, which has been adopted by all NAFO Contracting Parties.

Applying for These Fishing Opportunities

Expressions of interest to fish for any or all of the 2025 U.S. fishing opportunities in NAFO described above will be considered from all U.S. fishing interests (*e.g.,* vessel owners, processors, agents, others). Applicants are urged to carefully review and thoroughly address the application requirements and selection criteria as detailed below. Expressions of interest should be directed in writing to Regional Administrator Michael Pentony (see **ADDRESSES**).

Information Required in an Application Letter

Expressions of interest should include a detailed description of anticipated fishing operations in 2025. Descriptions should include, at a minimum:

- Intended target species;
- Proposed dates of fishing operations;
- Vessel(s) to be used to harvest fish, including the name, registration, and home port of the intended harvesting vessel(s);
- The number of fishing personnel and their nationality involved in vessel operations;
- Intended landing port or ports; including for ports outside of the United States, whether or not the product will be shipped to the United States for processing;
- Processing facilities to be used;
- Target market for harvested fish; and
- Evidence demonstrating the ability of the applicant to successfully conduct fishing operations in the NAFO Regulatory Area, in accordance with NAFO management measures. This may include descriptions of previously successful NAFO or domestic fisheries participation.

Note that applicant U.S. vessels must possess or be eligible to receive a valid HSFCA permit. HSFCA permits are available from the NMFS Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office. Information regarding other requirements for fishing in the NAFO Regulatory Area is detailed below and is also available from the NMFS Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office (see **ADDRESSES**).

U.S. applicants wishing to harvest U.S. allocations using a vessel from another NAFO Contracting Party, or hoping to enter a chartering arrangement with a vessel from another NAFO Contracting Party, should see below for details on U.S. and NAFO requirements for such activities. If you have further questions regarding what information is required in an expression of interest, please contact Patrick Moran (see **ADDRESSES**).

Criteria Used in Identifying Successful Applicants

Applicants demonstrating the greatest benefits to the United States through their intended operations will be most successful. Such benefits may include:

- The use of U.S. vessels and crew to harvest fish in the NAFO Regulatory Area;
- Positive impacts on U.S. employment as a result of the fishing, transport, or processing operations;
- Use of U.S. processing facilities;
- Transport, marketing, and sales of product within the U.S.; and
- Other ancillary demonstrable benefits to U.S. businesses as a result of the fishing operation.

Other factors we may consider include, but are not limited to: A documented history of successful fishing operations in NAFO or other similar fisheries; the history of compliance by the vessel with the NAFO CEM or other domestic and international regulatory requirements,

including potential disqualification of an applicant with repeated compliance issues; and for those applicants without NAFO or other international fishery history, a description of demonstrated harvest, processing, marketing, and regulatory compliance within domestic fisheries.

To ensure equitable access by U.S. fishing interests, we may provide additional guidance or procedures, or we may issue regulations designed to allocate fishing interests to one or more U.S. applicants from among qualified applicants. After reviewing all requests for allocations submitted, we may also decide not to grant any allocations if it is determined that no requests adequately meet the criteria described in this notice.

Notification of Selected Vessels in the 2025 NAFO Fisheries

We will provide written responses to all applicants notifying them of their application status and, as needed for successful applicants, allocation awards will be made as quickly as possible so that we may notify NAFO and take other necessary actions to facilitate operations in the Regulatory Area by U.S. fishing interests. Successful applicants will receive additional information from us on permit conditions and applicable regulations before starting 2025 fishing operations.

Mid-Season Allocation Adjustments

In the event that an approved U.S. entity does not, is not able to, or is not expected to fish an allocation, or part thereof, awarded to them, NMFS may reallocate to other approved U.S. entities. If requested, approved U.S. entities must provide updated fishing plans and/or schedules. A U.S. entity may not consolidate or transfer allocations without prior approval from NMFS.

Chartering a Vessel To Fish Available U.S. Allocations

For NAFO-regulated species listed in Annexes I.A and I.B, the United States may enter into a chartering arrangement with a vessel from any other NAFO Contracting Party. Additionally, any U.S. vessel or fishing operation may enter into a chartering arrangement with any other vessel or business from a NAFO Contracting Party. The United States and the other Contracting Party involved in a chartering arrangement must agree to the charter, and the NAFO Executive Secretary must be advised of the chartering arrangement before the commencement of any charter fishing operations. Any U.S. vessel or fishing operation interested in making use of the chartering provisions of NAFO must provide at least the following information: The name and registration number of the U.S. vessel; a copy of the charter agreement; a detailed fishing plan; a written letter of consent from the applicable NAFO Contracting Party; and the date from which the vessel is authorized to commence fishing; and the duration of the charter (not to exceed 6 months).

Expressions of interest using another NAFO Contracting Party vessel under charter should be accompanied by a detailed description of anticipated benefits to the United States, as described above. Additional detail on chartering arrangements can be found in Article 26 of the CEM (*https://www.nafo.int/Fisheries/Conservation*).

Any vessel from another Contracting Party wishing to enter into a chartering arrangement with the United States must be in full current compliance with the requirements outlined in the NAFO Convention and CEM. These requirements include, but are not limited to, submission of the following reports to the NAFO Executive Secretary:

- Notification that the vessel is authorized by its flag state to fish within the NAFO Regulatory Area during 2025;
- Provisional monthly catch reports for all vessels of that NAFO Contracting Party operating in the NAFO Regulatory Area;
- Daily catch reports for each day fished by the subject vessel within the Regulatory Area;
- Observer reports within 30 days following the completion of a fishing trip; and
- An annual statement of actions taken by its flag state to comply with the NAFO Convention.

The United States may also consider the vessel's previous compliance with NAFO bycatch, reporting, and other provisions, as outlined in the NAFO CEM, before authorizing the chartering arrangement.

Transfer of U.S. Quota Allocations to Another NAFO Party

Under NAFO rules in effect for 2025, the United States may transfer fishing opportunities by mutual agreement with another NAFO Contracting Party and with prior notification to the NAFO Executive Secretary. An applicant may request to arrange for any of the previously described U.S. opportunities to be transferred to another NAFO party, although such applications will likely be given lesser priority than those that involve more direct harvesting or processing by U.S. entities. Applications to arrange for a transfer of U.S. fishing opportunities should contain a letter of consent from the receiving NAFO Contracting Party, and should also be accompanied by a detailed description of anticipated benefits to the United States. As in the case of chartering operations, the United States may also consider a NAFO Contracting Party's previous compliance with NAFO bycatch, reporting, and other provisions, as outlined in the NAFO CEM, before entering agreeing to a transfer.

Receiving a Transfer of NAFO Quota Allocations From Another NAFO Party

Under NAFO rules in effect for 2025, the United States may receive transfers of additional fishing opportunities from other NAFO Contracting Parties. We are required to provide a letter consenting to such a transfer and must provide notice to the NAFO Executive Secretary. In the event that an applicant is able to arrange for the transfer of additional fishing opportunities from another NAFO Contracting Party to the United States, the United States may agree to facilitate such a transfer. However, there is no guarantee that if an applicant has facilitated the transfer of quota from another Contracting Party to the United States, such applicant will receive authorization to fish for such quota. If quota is transferred to the United States, we may need to solicit new applications for the use of such quota. All applicable NAFO requirements for transfers must be met. As in the case of chartering operations, the United States may also consider a NAFO Contracting Party's previous compliance with NAFO bycatch, reporting, and other provisions, as outlined in the NAFO CEM, before agreeing to accept a transfer. Any fishing quota or other harvesting opportunities received via this type of transfer are subject to all U.S and NAFO rules as detailed below.

For more details on NAFO requirements for chartering and transferring NAFO allocations, contact Patrick Moran (see **ADDRESSES**).

Fishing in the NAFO Regulatory Area

U.S. applicant vessels must be in possession of, or obtain, a valid HSFCA permit, which is available from the NMFS Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office. All permitted vessels must comply with any conditions of this permit and all applicable provisions of the Convention on Cooperation in the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries and the CEM. We reserve the right to impose additional permit conditions that ensure compliance with the NAFO Convention and the CEM, the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, and any other applicable law.

The CEM provisions include, but are not limited to:

- Maintaining a fishing logbook with NAFO-designated entries (Annex II.A and Article 28);
- Adhering to NAFO hail system requirements (Annexes II.D and II.F; Article 28);
- Carrying an approved onboard observer for each trip consistent with requirements of Article 30;
- Maintaining and using a functioning, autonomous vessel monitoring system authorized by issuance of the HSFCA permit as required by Articles 29 and 30; and
- Complying with all relevant NAFO CEM requirements, including minimum fish sizes, gear, bycatch retention, and per-tow move on provisions for exceeding bycatch limits in any one haul/set.

Further details regarding U.S. and NAFO requirements are available from the NMFS Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office, and can also be found in the NAFO CEM on the internet (*https://www.nafo.int/Fisheries/Conservation*).

Vessels issued valid HSFCA permits under 50 CFR part 300 are exempt from certain domestic fisheries regulations governing fisheries in the Northeast United States found in 50 CFR part 648. These exemptions are conditional on the following requirements: The vessel operator has a letter of authorization issued by the Regional Administrator on board the vessel; for the duration of the trip, the vessel fishes, except for transiting purposes, exclusively in the NAFO Regulatory Area and does not harvest fish in, or possess fish harvested in, or from, the U.S. EEZ; when transiting the U.S. EEZ, all gear is properly stowed and not available for immediate use as defined under § 648.2; and the vessel operator complies with the provisions, conditions, and restrictions specified on the HSFCA permit and all NAFO CEM while fishing in the NAFO Regulatory Area.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*

Dated: October 29, 2024.

Alexa Cole,

Director, Office of International Affairs, Trade, and Commerce, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 2024–25470 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–22–P

U.S. INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT FINANCE CORPORATION

[DFC–018]

Submission for OMB Review; Comments Request

AGENCY: U.S. International Development Finance Corporation (DFC).

ACTION: Notice of information collection; request for comment.

SUMMARY: Under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act, agencies are required to publish a Notice in the **Federal Register** notifying the public that the agency is creating a new information collection for OMB review and approval and requests public review and comment on the submission. The agencies received no comments in response to the sixty (60) day notice. The purpose of this notice is to allow an additional thirty (30) days for public comments to be submitted. Comments are being solicited on the need for the information; the accuracy of the burden estimate; the quality, practical utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and ways to minimize reporting the burden, including automated collected techniques and uses of other forms of technology.

DATES: Comments must be received by December 2, 2024.

ADDRESSES: Comments and requests for copies of the subject information collection may be sent by any of the following methods:

- *Mail:* Deborah Papadopoulos, Agency Submitting Officer, U.S. International Development Finance Corporation, 1100 New York Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20527.
- *Email: fedreg@dfc.gov.*

Instructions: All submissions received must include the agency name and agency form number or OMB form number for this information collection. Electronic submissions must include the agency form number in the subject line to ensure proper routing. Please note that all written comments received in response to this notice will be considered public records.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Agency Submitting Officer: Deborah Papadopoulos, (202) 357–3979.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The agency received no comments in response to the sixty (60) day notice published in **Federal Register** at 89 FR 67613 on August 21, 2024. Upon publication of this notice, DFC will submit to OMB a request for approval of the following information collection.

Summary Form Under Review

Title of Collection: Consultation Request Form.

Type of Review: New information collection.

Agency Form Number: DFC–018.

OMB Form Number: Not assigned, new information collection.

Frequency: Once per investor per project.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit; not-for-profit institutions; individuals.

Total Estimated Number of Annual Number of Respondents: 700–1000.

Estimated Time per Respondent: 0.25 hours.

Total Estimated Number of Annual Burden Hours: 175–250 hours.

Abstract: The Consultation Request Form will serve as the public's first point-of-contact with a DFC business development (BD) representative, replacing the current inefficient email-based system of processing inbound queries, and will:

- streamline communications, improving the agency's responsiveness and the customer service experience;
- equip BD representatives to more quickly screen ineligible/non-viable projects and educate the public on eligibility criteria, thereby sourcing more quality leads in less time;
- improve data tracking on cold inquiries and proposals, helping to inform market interest, anticipate pipeline gaps, and proactively shape BD strategy.

Lisa Wischkaemper,

Administrative Counsel, Office of the General Counsel.

[FR Doc. 2024–25454 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3210–02–P

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Submission of Data by State Educational Agencies; Submission Dates for State Revenue and Expenditure Reports for Fiscal Year 2024, Revisions to Those Reports, and Revisions to Prior Fiscal Year Reports

AGENCY: National Center for Education Statistics, Institute of Education Sciences, U.S. Department of Education.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Secretary announces dates for State educational agencies (SEAs) to submit expenditure and revenue data and average daily attendance statistics on ED Form 2447 (the National Public Education Financial Survey (NPEFS)) for fiscal year (FY) 2024, revisions to those

reports, and revisions to reports for previous fiscal years. The Secretary sets these dates to ensure that data are available to serve as the basis for timely distribution of Federal funds. The U.S. Census Bureau is the data collection agent for this request of the U.S. Department of Education's (Department) National Center for Education Statistics (NCES). The data will be published by NCES and will be used by the Secretary in the calculation of allocations for FY 2026 appropriated funds.

DATES: SEAs can begin submitting data for FY 2024 and revisions to previously submitted data for FY 2023 on Friday, January 31, 2025. SEAs are urged to submit accurate and complete data by Friday, March 28, 2025, to facilitate timely processing. The deadline for the final submission of all data, including any revisions to previously submitted data for FY 2023 and FY 2024, is Friday, August 15, 2025. Any resubmissions of FY 2023 or FY 2024 data by SEAs in response to requests for clarification, reconciliation, or other inquiries by NCES or the Census Bureau must be completed as soon as possible, but no later than Tuesday, September 2, 2025. All outstanding data issues must be reconciled or resolved by the SEAs, NCES, and the Census Bureau as soon as possible, but no later than September 2, 2025.

ADDRESSES: SEAs are encouraged to submit data online using the interactive survey form on the NPEFS data collection website at: *http://surveys.nces.ed.gov/ccdnpefs.* The NPEFS interactive survey includes a digital confirmation page where a personal identification number (PIN) may be entered. A successful entry of the PIN serves as a signature by the authorizing official. Alternatively, a certification form (ED Form 2447) also may be printed from the website, signed by the authorizing official, and mailed to the Economic Reimbursable Surveys Division of the Census Bureau at the address provided below, within five business days after submission of the NPEFS web interactive form.

SEAs may mail ED Form 2447 to:

U.S. Census Bureau, ATTENTION: Economic Reimbursable Surveys Division, 4600 Silver Hill Road, Suitland, MD 20746.

If an SEA's submission is received by the Census Bureau after August 15, 2025, the SEA must show one of the following as proof that the submission was mailed on or before that date:

1. A legibly dated U.S. Postal Service postmark.

2. A legible mail receipt with the date of mailing stamped by the U.S. Postal Service.

3. A dated shipping label, invoice, or receipt from a commercial carrier.

4. Any other proof of mailing acceptable to the Secretary.

If the SEA mails ED Form 2447 through the U.S. Postal Service, the Secretary does not accept either of the following as proof of mailing:

1. A private metered postmark.

2. A mail receipt that is not dated by the U.S. Postal Service.

Note: The U.S. Postal Service does not uniformly provide a dated postmark. Before relying on this method, an SEA should check with its local post office.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Stephen Q. Cornman, Senior Survey Director, Financial Surveys, National Center for Education Statistics, Institute of Education Sciences, U.S. Department of Education, 550 12th Street SW, Washington, DC 20202. Telephone: (202) 245–7753. Email: *stephen.cornman@ed.gov.* You may also contact an NPEFS team member at the Census Bureau. Telephone: 1–800–437–4196 or (301) 763–1571. Email: *erd.npefs.list@census.gov.*

If you are deaf, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability and wish to access telecommunications relay services, please dial 7–1–1.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under section 153(a)(1)(I) of the Education Sciences Reform Act of 2002, 20 U.S.C. 9543(a)(1)(I), which authorizes NCES to gather data on the financing and management of education, NCES collects data annually from SEAs through ED Form 2447. The report from SEAs includes attendance, revenue, and expenditure data from which NCES determines a State's ''average per-pupil expenditure'' (SPPE) for elementary and secondary education, as defined in section 8101(2) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended (ESEA) (20 U.S.C. 7801(2)).

In addition to using the SPPE data as general information on the financing of elementary and secondary education, the Secretary uses these data directly in calculating allocations for certain formula grant programs, including, but not limited to, title I, part A, of the ESEA; Impact Aid; and Indian Education programs. Other programs, such as the Education for Homeless Children and Youth program under title VII of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, and the Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grants under title IV, part A of the ESEA, make use of SPPE data indirectly because their formulas are based, in whole or in part, on State title I, part A, allocations.

In January 2025, the Census Bureau, acting as the data collection agent for NCES, will email ED Form 2447 to SEAs, with instructions, and will request that SEAs commence submitting FY 2024 data to the Census Bureau on Friday, January 31, 2025. SEAs are urged to submit accurate and complete data by Friday, March 28, 2025, to facilitate timely processing.

Submissions by SEAs to the Census Bureau will be analyzed for accuracy and returned to each SEA for verification. SEAs must submit all data, including any revisions to FY 2023 and FY 2024 data, to the Census Bureau no later than Friday, August 15, 2025. Any resubmissions of FY 2023 or FY 2024 data by SEAs in response to requests for clarification or reconciliation or other inquiries by NCES or the Census Bureau must be completed by Tuesday, September 2, 2025. Between August 15, 2025, and September 2, 2025, SEAs may also, on their own initiative, resubmit data to resolve issues not addressed in their NPEFS data submitted by August 15, 2025. All outstanding data issues must be reconciled or resolved by the SEAs, NCES, and the Census Bureau as soon as possible, but no later than September 2, 2025.

In order to facilitate timely submission of data, the Census Bureau will send reminder notices to SEAs in June and July of 2025.

Having accurate, consistent, and timely information is critical to an efficient and fair allocation process and to the NCES statistical process. The Department establishes Friday, August 15, 2025, as the date by which SEAs must submit data using either the interactive survey form on the NPEFS data collection website at *http://surveys.nces.ed.gov/ccdnpefs* or ED Form 2447. This date is established to ensure that the best, most accurate data will be available to support timely distribution of Federal education funds.

Any resubmissions of FY 2023 or FY 2024 data by SEAs in response to requests for clarification or reconciliation or other inquiries by NCES or the Census Bureau must be completed through the interactive survey form on the NPEFS data collection website or ED Form 2447 by Tuesday, September 2, 2025. If an SEA submits revised data after the September 2, 2025, deadline that result in a lower SPPE figure, the SEA's allocations may be adjusted downward, or the Department may direct the SEA to return funds.

Note: The following are important dates in the data collection process for FY 2024 data and revisions to reports for previous fiscal years:

Date	Activity
January 31, 2025	SEAs can begin to submit accurate and complete data for FY 2024 and revisions to previously submitted data for FY 2023.
March 28, 2025	Date by which SEAs are urged to submit accurate and complete data for FY 2024 and FY 2023.
August 15, 2025	Mandatory final submission date for FY 2023 and FY 2024 data to be used for program funding allocation purposes.
September 2, 2025	Mandatory final deadline for responses by SEAs to requests for clarification or reconciliation or other inquiries by NCES or the Census Bureau. Between August 15, 2025, and September 2, 2025, SEAs may also, on their own initiative, resubmit data to resolve issues not addressed in their final submission of NPEFS data by August 15, 2025. All data issues must be resolved.

Accessible Format: On request to the program contact person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**, individuals with disabilities can obtain this document in an accessible format. The Department will provide the requestor with an accessible format that may include Rich Text Format (RTF) or text format (txt), a thumb drive, an MP3 file, braille, large print, audiotape, compact disc, or other accessible format.

Electronic Access to This Document: The official version of this document is the document published in the **Federal Register**. You may access the official edition of the **Federal Register** and the Code of Federal Regulations at *www.govinfo.gov.* At this site you can view this document, as well as all other Department documents published in the **Federal Register**, in text or Portable Document Format (PDF). To use PDF you must have Adobe Acrobat Reader, which is available free at the site.

You may also access Department documents published in the **Federal Register** by using the article search feature at *www.federalregister.gov.* Specifically, through the advanced search feature at this site, you can limit your search to documents published by the Department.

Authority: 20 U.S.C. 9543.

Matthew Soldner,

Acting Director, Institute of Education Sciences.

[FR Doc. 2024–25467 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the Project Cypress Direct Air Capture (DAC) Hub; Notice of Potential Floodplain and Wetland Involvement, DOE/EIS–0567

AGENCY: Office of Clean Energy Demonstrations, U.S. Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare an environmental impact statement, notice of scoping meetings, request for comments and notice of potential floodplain and wetland involvement.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) announces its intent to prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) NEPA regulations, and the DOE NEPA implementing procedures, to assess the potential environmental impacts for the proposed action of providing financial assistance to Battelle Memorial Institute (Battelle) to facilitate the design, construction, operation, and maintenance of a portion of the Project Cypress Direct Air Capture Hub (Project Cypress). Project Cypress would demonstrate the processing, delivery, secure geologic storage, and/or conversion of, carbon dioxide (CO_2) captured from the atmosphere.

DATES: The public scoping period for the EIS starts with the publication of this NOI and ends on December 16, 2024. DOE will hold two in-person public scoping meetings at the following dates and times (eastern time):

- Wednesday, November 20, 2024, 5 p.m.–8 p.m., Caddo-Bossier Port, 6000 Doug Attaway Blvd., Shreveport, LA 71115.
- Thursday, November 21, 2024, 5 p.m.–8 p.m., Ward 7 Recreational Center, 1615 Horridge St, Vinton, LA 70668.

All meetings are open to the public and free to attend. Details on how to participate in the public scoping meetings are available on the DOE's web page for this EIS: *https://www.energy.gov/nepa/doeeis-0567-project-cypress-regional-direct-air-capture-dac-hub-calcasieu-parish-and-caddo.* In defining the scope of the EIS, DOE will consider all scoping comments received or postmarked by December 16, 2024. Comments received or postmarked after the scoping period end date will be considered to the extent practicable.

ADDRESSES: Oral or written comments may be provided at the public scoping meetings. Written comments can be submitted in any of the following ways:

- *Mail or Hand Delivery Service:* Send comments in an envelope labeled ''DOE/EIS–0567'' and addressed to Robyn Susemihl, Burns & McDonnell, 4004 Summit Blvd. NE, Suite 1200, Atlanta, GA 30319; or
- Through the *www.regulations.gov* web portal: Navigate to *www.regulations.gov* and search for Docket No. DOE–HQ–2024–0080 and follow the instructions for submitting comments.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Cassandra Forsyth, NEPA Document Manager, Office of Clean Energy Demonstration Projects, U.S. Department of Energy, U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Ave SW, Washington, DC 20585, email: *ocedprojectcypresseis@hq.doe.gov* or telephone: 240–246–4998.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The Infrastructure and Investment in Jobs Act, commonly known as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL), established the Regional Direct Air Capture Hubs (DAC Hubs) program to accelerate commercialization of, and demonstrate the processing, delivery, secure geologic storage, and/or conversion of, carbon dioxide (CO_2) captured from the atmosphere. DAC Hub infrastructure can provide economic value and environmental benefits for diverse applications across multiple sectors. However, if the nation is to achieve widespread DAC commercialization and realize these benefits, key challenges to the development and deployment of DAC must be overcome. These challenges include cost, durability, reliability, and performance, as well as the lack of existing DAC infrastructure capturing at least 50 kilotonnes per annum (KTA) carbon dioxide (CO_2) or a DAC Hub capacity build-out plan to eventually reach the goal of at least 1,000 KTA CO_2. Non-technical barriers also need to be addressed, such as fostering best practices for safety, and developing a robust supply chain and workforce. Accordingly, there is a need to reduce the cost of DAC infrastructure through

technology development to assure competitiveness and to reduce deployment timelines and uncertainties limiting U.S. DAC Hub infrastructure project development.

DOE will prepare an environmental impact statement (DOE/EIS–0567) to evaluate the potential impacts to the human environment associated with the proposed Project Cypress. The purpose of this notice of intent (NOI) is to invite public participation in the NEPA process and to encourage public input on the scope of analysis and alternatives that should be considered in the EIS.

Portions of Project Cypress may affect areas designated as floodplains or wetlands. This NOI, therefore, also serves as notice of a proposed floodplain or wetland action in accordance with DOE's floodplain and wetland environmental review requirements (10 CFR part 1022). The Project Cypress EIS will include a floodplain and wetland assessment.

Purpose and Need for the Proposed Action

The purpose and need for agency action is to comply with the DOE's statutory mandate in BIL to catalyze investment in the development of DAC Hub technology that demonstrates accelerated commercialization of, and demonstrates the processing, delivery, geologic storage, and conversion of, CO_2 captured from the atmosphere. The proposed action would fulfill DOE's goals of accelerating the deployment of these technologies and enabling infrastructure to attract greater investments from the private sector and promote substantial U.S. manufacturing of numerous DAC Hub related technologies.

DOE's purpose is to fund DAC Hub projects that meet the criteria for a regional DAC Hub, which state that each DAC Hub selected:

- Will facilitate the deployment of DAC projects.
- Has the potential to capture and sequester (or utilize) at least 1,000,000 metric tons of CO_2 from the atmosphere annually from a single unit or multiple interconnected units.
- Demonstrates the capture, processing, delivery, and sequestration or end-use of captured carbon.
- Could be developed into a regional or interregional carbon network to facilitate sequestration or carbon utilization.

DOE competitively selected Battelle under DE–FOA–0002735 to demonstrate the Regional DAC Hub technology with Project Cypress.

The need for agency action is to respond to Battelle's request for financial assistance through the cost-shared partnership to design, construct, and operate Project Cypress with the utilization of more than one DAC technology developed in different portions of western Louisiana.

Project Cypress would provide a scalable solution for the capture of CO_2 directly from the air for the permanent removal of CO_2 to combat climate change. Project Cypress is proposing to construct state-of-the-art facilities that would accomplish carbon dioxide removal from ambient air.

Proposed Action and Preliminary Alternatives

Proposed Action

DOE's Proposed Action is to authorize the expenditure of Federal funds to design, construct, operate, and maintain a Regional DAC Hub in western Louisiana. The proposed action would fund portions of Project Cypress, including the engineering, design, construction, and operation of certain DAC facilities in Calcasieu Parish (Ward 7), situated in southwest Louisiana (LA), and certain DAC facilities in Caddo Parish (Ward 4), located in northwest LA. The proposed Project Cypress would capture and sequester CO_2 through the utilization of contrasting DAC technologies developed independently by Climeworks Corporation (Climeworks) and Heirloom Carbon Technologies (Heirloom), the subrecipients of grant awardee, Battelle:

- *Cypress Southwest* would consist of an approximately 300–KTA Climeworks DAC facility (Stage 1) and an approximately 1000–KTA Climeworks DAC facility (Stage 2) located in Calcasieu Parish, LA.
- *Cypress Northwest* would consist of an approximately 100–KTA Heirloom DAC facility located in Caddo Parish, LA.

No Action Alternative

As required by NEPA, DOE will consider a no action alternative where DOE would not authorize the expenditure of Federal funds for development of Project Cypress. The no action alternative provides a benchmark for comparison with environmental effects of the other alternatives.

Preliminary Action Alternatives

The EIS may also evaluate other reasonable alternatives that are technically and economically feasible and meet the purpose and need for the proposed action. Other reasonable alternatives that may be evaluated in the EIS include: (1) providing funding for Cypress Southwest only (Climeworks DAC facility in Calcasieu Parish, LA); and (2) providing funding for Cypress Northwest only (Heirloom DAC facility in Caddo Parish, LA).

Summary of Potential Impacts

DOE's analysis and discussion in the EIS will focus on potentially significant environmental impacts. Accordingly, in the EIS, DOE anticipates evaluating potential impacts related to: (1) land use, (2) atmospheric conditions and air quality, (3) hydrologic conditions and water quality, (4) geology and soils, (5) vegetation and wildlife, (6) socioeconomic conditions, (7) environmental justice, (8) cultural resources, (9) visual resources, (10) health and safety, and (11) cumulative impacts. This list is not intended to be all-inclusive or to imply a predetermination of potential impacts. DOE invites interested stakeholders to suggest specific issues, including possible mitigation measures, within these general categories or others, to be considered in the EIS.

Anticipated Permits and Authorizations

A decision by DOE to authorize expenditure of Federal funds would not directly authorize construction or operation of Project Cypress by Battelle or project partners Climeworks and Heirloom. Other Federal authorizations will be required. These processes, as well as consultation under the Endangered Species Act and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, as appropriate, will occur concurrently with the NEPA process. Information and data on historic and cultural resources and threatened and endangered species within the area(s) potentially affected by the proposed action will assist in identifying and evaluating impacts to such resources.

In addition to consultation with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), DOE will also engage in government-to-government Tribal consultation, as appropriate.

Anticipated Federal, State, and local permits or authorizations required for construction and operation of Cypress Southwest (Climeworks) may include:

- Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 404 permit (Individual or Nationwide) from the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) for construction of wastewater and stormwater outfalls in waters of the United States,
- Air Permit from Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ) for construction and operation of emissions sources,
- Louisiana Pollution Discharge Elimination System (LPDES) Permit

from LDEQ for discharges of industrial wastewater and stormwater into waters of the State,

- LPDES General Permit No. LAR1000000 from LDEQ for discharges of stormwater from construction activities into waters of the State,
- LPDES General Permit No. LA670000 for hydrostatic test discharges during construction to waters of the State,
- Water Well Notification to the Louisiana Department of Energy and Natural Resources (LDENR) for groundwater well drilling and pumping, and
- Various permits from Calcasieu Parish including Floodplain Development Permit, Stormwater Permit, and Temporary Office Trailer Permit.

Anticipated Federal, State, and local permits or authorizations required for construction and operation of Cypress Northwest (Heirloom) may include:

- CWA Section 404 permit (Individual or Nationwide) from the USACE for construction of wastewater and stormwater outfalls in waters of the United States,
- Louisiana State 401 Water Quality Certification,
- LPDES Permit from LDEQ for discharges of industrial wastewater and stormwater into waters of the State,
- LPDES General Permit No. LAR1000000 from LDEQ for discharges of stormwater from construction activities into waters of the State,
- LPDES General Permit No. LA670000 for hydrostatic test discharges during construction to waters of the State.

Floodplain or Wetland Involvement

Floodplains and wetlands exist in the Project Cypress proposed project area. Therefore, this NOI also serves as a notice of proposed floodplain or wetland action. The EIS will include an assessment of impacts to floodplains and wetlands, and, if required, a floodplain statement of findings in accordance with DOE regulations for compliance with floodplain and wetlands environmental review (10 CFR part 1022).

Schedule for Decision-Making Process

After the draft EIS is completed, DOE will publish a notice of availability (NOA) and request public comments on the draft EIS. DOE currently expects to issue the NOA in June 2025. After the public comment period ends, DOE will review and respond to comments received and will develop the final EIS. DOE currently expects to make the final EIS available to the public in March 2026. A record of decision will be completed no sooner than 30 days after the final EIS is released, in accordance with 40 CFR 1506.10.

Scoping Process

This NOI commences the public scoping process to identify issues and potential alternatives for consideration in the EIS. Throughout the scoping process, Federal agencies, Tribes, State and local governments, and the public have the opportunity to help DOE identify significant resources and issues, reasonable alternatives, mitigation measures, and other pertinent information that DOE should consider in the EIS. DOE will hold public scoping meetings at the times and dates described above under the **DATES** section. The public will have the opportunity to present comments on the scope of the EIS. DOE representatives will be available to answer questions and provide additional information to meeting attendees. In addition to providing comments at the public scoping meetings, stakeholders may submit written comments as described in the **ADDRESSES** section.

Comments may be broad in nature or restricted to specific areas of concern, but they should be directly relevant to the NEPA process or potential environmental impacts. The scoping process allows the public and interested parties to shape the EIS impact analysis, focusing on the areas of greatest importance and identifying areas requiring less attention. DOE will consider the comments received on the scope of the EIS during the 45-day scoping period as it prepares the draft EIS.

OCED does not consider anonymous scoping comments. Please include your name and address as part of your scoping comment. All scoping comments, including the names, addresses, and other personally identifiable information included in the comment, will be part of the administrative record. DOE will protect privileged or confidential information that you submit when required by Exemption 4 of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), which applies to trade secrets and commercial or financial information that is privileged or confidential. Please label privileged or confidential information ''Contains Confidential Information'' and consider submitting such information as a separate attachment. Information that is not labeled as privileged or confidential may be regarded by DOE as suitable for public release.

NEPA Cooperating Agencies

The CEQ NEPA regulations specify that cooperating agencies and governments are those with ''jurisdiction by law or special expertise.'' DOE has invited the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers—Vicksburg District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers—New Orleans District, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture to participate in the NEPA process as cooperating agencies. The U.S. Department of Agriculture and the USACE—Vicksburg District (the lead Regulatory USACE district) have accepted DOE's invitation to become cooperating agencies.

DOE will provide cooperating agencies with a written summary of expectations for cooperating agencies, including schedules, milestones, responsibilities, scope and detail of cooperating agencies' expected contributions, and availability of pre-decisional information.

Governmental entities that are not cooperating agencies will have opportunities to provide information and comments to DOE during the public input stages of the NEPA process.

Request for Comment on Alternatives and Effects, as Well as on Relevant Information, Studies, or Analyses With Respect to the Proposed Action

DOE requests data, comments, views, information, analysis, alternatives, or suggestions relevant to the proposed action from the public; affected Federal, Tribal, State, and local governments, agencies, and offices; the scientific community; industry; or any other interested party. Specifically, DOE requests information on the following topics:

1. Potential effects that the proposed action could have on biological, physical, socioeconomic, cultural, or other resources.
2. Other potential reasonable alternatives to the proposed action that DOE should consider, including additional or alternative avoidance, minimization, and mitigation measures.
3. Information on other current or planned activities in, or in the vicinity of, the proposed action, that could impact one another or contribute to cumulative impacts.
4. Other information, studies, or analyses relevant to the proposed action and its impacts on the human environment.

To promote informed decision-making, comments should be as specific as possible and should provide as much detail as necessary to meaningfully and fully inform DOE of why the issues raised are important to the agency's review of the proposed action.

The draft EIS will include as an appendix, a summary of issues raised during public scoping that DOE considered in preparing the EIS and comments outside the scope of the analysis.

Signing Authority

This document of the Department of Energy was signed on October 24, 2024, by Kelly Cummins, Acting Director, Office of Clean Energy Demonstrations, pursuant to delegated authority from the Secretary of Energy. That document with the original signature and date is maintained by DOE. For administrative purposes only, and in compliance with requirements of the Office of the Federal Register, the undersigned DOE Federal Register Liaison Officer has been authorized to sign and submit the document in electronic format for publication, as an official document of the Department of Energy. This administrative process in no way alters the legal effect of this document upon publication in the **Federal Register**.

Signed in Washington, DC, on October 29, 2024.

Treena V. Garrett,

Federal Register Liaison Officer, U.S. Department of Energy.

[FR Doc. 2024–25499 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Record of Decision: Issuance of a Loan to Lithium Nevada Corp. for the Construction and Startup of the Thacker Pass Project

AGENCY: Loan Programs Office (LPO), U.S. Department of Energy.

ACTION: Record of decision (ROD).

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE or the Department) announces its decision to issue a loan under the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007, which established the Advanced Technology Vehicles Manufacturing Loan (ATVM) program, to Lithium Nevada Corp. (LNC), for the Thacker Pass Project (Project) located in Humboldt County, Nevada. The LPO loan covers Phase 1 of the Project, which entails the construction of lithium processing to include a sulfuric acid plant, lithium processing facility, and associated infrastructure. The Project is designed to produce battery-grade lithium carbonate, a critical component in the manufacturing of manufacture of eligible advanced technology vehicles and qualifying components.

ADDRESSES: Copies of this ROD and the Final EIS may be obtained by accessing these documents and additional information about DOE's Loan Programs website at *www.energy.gov/lpo/eis-0561-thacker-pass-lithium-mine-project-humboldt-county-nevada,* or LPO's NEPA Program website at *www.energy.gov/lpo/environmental-compliance-1.*

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Anna Eskridge, NEPA Document Manager, Technical and Environmental Division, Loan Programs Office (LP–30), U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20585; telephone (240) 743–1304; email *anna.eskridge@hq.doe.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The environmental impacts of the construction, operation, and decommissioning of this project were analyzed pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in the *DOE/EIS–0561: Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Thacker Pass Lithium Mine Project, Humboldt County, Nevada (Adopted)* (88 FR 67277, September 29, 2023).

DOE LPO's review and adoption of the BLM NEPA documents covers only Phase 1 of the project to include the ore and chemical processing facilities and associated infrastructure, and not the development and operation of the open pit mine or exploration.

NEPA Review: Prior to DOE LPO consideration of a loan for the Project, LNC submitted the Plan of Operations for the Thacker North-South Exploration Project (case file NVN–098582) and the Thacker Pass Project Plan of Operations and Reclamation Plan (case file NVN–098586) to the U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI), Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Winnemucca District Office in September 2019. The North-South Exploration Plan of Operations would continue exploration to the north and south of the mine and processing facilities proposed in the Thacker Pass Project Plan of Operations. The Thacker Pass Mine Plan of Operations, herein referred to as the Mine Plan, would include the proposed mine, necessary processing and ancillary support facilities, and a plan for reclamation and closure of the mine and mine facilities. These Plans constituted the Thacker Pass Project analyzed in the FEIS. The Project is entirely on public land administered by the BLM in Humboldt County, Nevada, approximately 17 miles west-northwest of Orovada. Both Plans include corrections from December 2020 identified by BLM and Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP), and mitigating measures refined during the development of the EIS.

In compliance with NEPA, BLM issued the Draft EIS on July 31, 2020, which was followed by the Final EIS on December 4, 2020. On January 15, 2021, BLM issued a Record of Decision (ROD) for the Project that approved the plan of operations. The ROD identified Alternative A as the preferred alternative.

DOE was not a cooperating agency in the development of the EIS but became a cooperating agency for the project on August 15, 2023. Based on its independent evaluation of the 2020 BLM Final EIS, DOE has determined that the documentation satisfies DOE's NEPA obligations. DOE's proposed action is to provide funding to be used to support the construction and start-up of the mine processing facilities and associated infrastructure, which are the same proposed project facilities analyzed in the BLM Final EIS. Accordingly, DOE adopted the 2020 BLM Final EIS as a DOE Final EIS (DOE/EIS–0561) on September 29, 2023.

There have been several updates to the Project since DOE's adoption of the EIS in September 2023:

- In December 2023, LNC submitted minor revisions on the approved Mine Plan to BLM. On June 25, 2024, BLM authorized a minor modification to Phase 1 of the Mine Plan, which included proposed project facility locations, configuration of some facilities, and improvement to processing operations.
- As an update to the discussions on the transloading facility in Sections 2.2.7 (Ancillary and Support Facilities) and 4.16.1 (Issues—Public Access and Transportation) of DOE/EIS–0561, a rail-to-truck transloading facility is under development by a third party in Winnemucca to deliver raw materials to the site. Trucking distances are approximately 45 miles from Winnemucca to Orovada on US Highway 95, and about 20 miles from Orovada to the site. The facility is not funded by the DOE financing and not located at the site of the Thacker Pass mine and processing facilities.
- DOE's review identified additional cumulative impacts, which are effects on the environment that result from the incremental effects of the action when added to the effects of other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable actions regardless of what agency (Federal or non-Federal) or person undertakes such other actions (40 CFR 1508.1(i)(3)). The review identified the following present and reasonably foreseeable future actions related to the Project:

○ *Workforce Housing Hub:* A workforce housing hub will be developed in Winnemucca on a 45-acre site to house up to 1,900 workers in 750 housing units. The hub is needed due to the limited rental housing and hotels available in the Winnemucca area. The hub is not funded by the DOE financing and not located at the site of the Thacker Pass mine and processing facilities. For cumulative effect study areas that the hub occurs within, the cumulative effects are not materially different from those analyzed by the BLM in chapter 5.11 (Social and Economic Conditions) of DOE/EIS–0561.

○ *Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions and Climate Change:* Section 5.9 (Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Emissions) and Appendix K of DOE/EIS–0561 discuss the Project's GHG emissions to include process sources and mobile mining equipment. However, the Project will also contribute to reductions in GHG emissions through annual fuel consumption savings. The magnitude of potential annual reductions in gallons of petroleum will depend on the number of EVs that can utilize the lithium carbonate produced by the Project. Lithium carbonate from Thacker Pass could support the production of batteries for up to 800,000 electric vehicles (EVs) annually, avoiding the consumption of 317 million gallons of gasoline per year. The annual avoided CO_2 is calculated from the Project's annual fuel consumption savings (317 million gallons) multiplied by the U.S. Energy Information Administration CO_2 emission coefficient of 19.37 pounds of CO_2/gallon for gasoline (*www.eia.gov/environment/emissions/co2_vol_mass.ph*p). Therefore, the Lithium carbonate produced by the Project and used in EVs would support a reduction of approximately 3.07 million tons of CO_2 per year.

Alternatives Considered: DOE's decision in this ROD is whether or not to issue a loan to LNC to support construction and start-up of the Project. Accordingly, DOE's alternatives are: (1) to issue a loan to LNC for the Proposed Action as authorized by BLM (Proposed Action), or (2) not issue a loan to LNC (No Action Alternative).

Environmentally Preferable Alternative: DOE reviewed both alternatives to identify the environmentally preferable alternative and considers the issuance of a loan to LNC for the Proposed Action as the environmentally preferable alternative. This alternative offers environmental benefits consistent with the statutory objectives of Section 136 of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007, which includes improving fuel economy for light-duty vehicles and thereby reducing emissions of ozone precursors, greenhouse gases (GHGs), and particulates associated with vehicle fuel combustion. As previously stated, the Lithium carbonate produced by the Project and used in EVs would support a reduction of approximately 3.07 million tons of CO_2 per year.

Wetland Statement of Findings: The adopted Final EIS (DOE/EIS–0561) provides the relevant information for a wetland assessment pursuant to 10 CFR part 1022. In the aquatic resources delineation for the Proposed Action as outlined in the BLM EIS, there were approximately 28.081 acres of wetlands and 128,411-linear feet of stream channel present within the survey area; however, aquatic resources in the Survey area did not meet the criteria of jurisdictional Waters of the United States. This was confirmed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), which issued an Approved Jurisdictional Determination (AJD) on February 8, 2019, providing that no aquatic resources within the Survey area are regulated by the USACE (Identification Number SPK–2011–01263). However, there are non-jurisdictional riparian areas as well as wetlands at the Project site and those impacts and the wetland assessment on those resources are discussed in sections 4.4 and 5.4 in the Final DOE/EIS–0561.

Consultations: DOE was not a cooperating agency with BLM during its NEPA process; therefore, DOE completed its own environmental compliance reviews and consultations. Specifically, DOE consulted with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), the Nevada State Historic Preservation Office (NV SHPO), and Tribes (collectively known as Tribes or individually by name: Burns Paiute Tribe; Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon; Fort McDermitt Paiute and Shoshone Tribe; Paiute-Shoshone Tribe of the Fallon Reservation and Colony, Nevada; Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe of the Pyramid Lake Reservation, Nevada; Reno-Sparks Indian Colony, Nevada; Shoshone-Bannock Tribes of the Fort Hall Reservation; Summit Lake Paiute Tribe; Te-Moak Tribe of Western Shoshone Indians of Nevada [Four constituent bands: Battle Mountain Band; Elko Band; South Fork Band and Wells Band]; Walker River Paiute Tribe of the Walker River Reservation, Nevada; Winnemucca Indian Colony; Yerington Paiute Tribe of the Yerington Colony and Campbell Ranch, Nevada). Additionally, the DOE reviewed the BLM's Final EIS and supporting documentation and related surveys, studies, and consultations.

DOE consulted with USFWS to meet its obligations under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act. By letter dated May 1, 2024, the USFWS concurred with DOE's determination that the proposed action may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect, Lahontan Cutthroat Trout.

DOE consulted with the NV SHPO and Tribes to meet its obligations under section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. DOE completed an assessment of adverse effects in accordance with 36 CFR 800.5 with the following determination:

- BLM and the NV SHPO executed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) that took into account and resolved the adverse effects to 57 Historic Properties within the APE in November 2020, before DOE was involved in the Project. Pursuant to section 106 of the NHPA and 36 CFR 800.5(b), DOE has determined that its undertaking would not result in an adverse effect on the 57 historic properties within the APE that was not already resolved or accounted for in the MOA or the associated Historic Properties Treatment Plan.
- Going forward, DOE recognizes that BLM is the lead federal agency responsible for the post-review discovery process for the two unevaluated and potentially eligible properties pursuant to 36 CFR 800.13, and DOE will continue to support BLM's efforts as lead agency in its active engagement in the ongoing post-review discovery process.
- In addition, DOE recognizes that BLM is the lead federal agency responsible for the post-review discovery process for any additional future resources identified as addressed in the MOA and HPTP, and DOE will continue to support BLM's efforts as lead agency in its post-review discovery process.

More information on Section 106 can be found here: *www.energy.gov/lpo/eis-0561-thacker-pass-lithium-mine-project-humboldt-county-nevada.*

Final DOE/EIS–0561 Review Period: The Notice of Availability of the Final DOE/EIS–0561 and the Adoption Notice were published in the **Federal Register** on September 29, 2023.

DOE received submittals containing views and information both during and after the review period. In total, DOE received 11 submittals from parties opposed to the project containing views and information. DOE reviewed all the views and information for any significant new circumstances or information relevant to environmental

concerns and bearing on the proposed action or its impacts. DOE's review focused on whether the views and information identified that the Project would affect the quality of the human environment in a significant manner or to a significant extent not already considered in the Final DOE/EIS–0561 and related environmental review processes. As discussed, the views and information did not identify new information that showed the Project would affect the quality of the human environment in a significant manner or to a significant extent not already encompassed by the analysis considered in the Final DOE/EIS–0561 or in the preparation of this Record of Decision.

DOE grouped the views and information received into the following 10 categories: (1) NEPA process (DOE's Record of Decision); (2) DOE's due diligence process for the loan (financial and technical viability of the project); (3) socioeconomics (viability of lithium batteries; lithium and sulfuric acid pricing); (4) safety (radioactive materials); (5) historic, cultural, and Tribal resources (Section 106, historic properties; Tribal input on federal agency decision making); (6) Electricity Use and GHG Emissions; (7) water resources (mining and the water table; impacts to springs, groundwater; data assumptions and groundwater models); (8) data gathering and monitoring (private land access; monitoring and work plans; work outside mine plan boundary) (9) air emissions, (10) chemical and waste management (sulfuric acid; clay tailings). With the exception of views and information on DOE's NEPA process, due diligence process, and socioeconomics, the views and information are addressed in the Final DOE/EIS–0561, specifically in appendix R (Comment Responses) and in consultations for the project (specifically, section 106).

The views and information received on DOE's NEPA process, DOE's due diligence process for the loan, and the socioeconomics (viability of lithium batteries; lithium and sulfuric acid pricing) were not addressed in the Final DOE/EIS–0561. DOE performs rigorous due diligence related to all aspects of a potential loan transaction under the ATVM Program. The ATVM Program is administered by the DOE LPO. LPO originates, underwrites, and services loans to eligible automotive manufacturers and components manufacturers. LPO has reviewed and determined that LNC's application is eligible for a potential loan (10 CFR 611.100, 611.101, and 611.102). The purpose and need for DOE's proposed action, the issuance of a Federal loan, is to implement DOE's authority under section 136 of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007, which is to finance projects that reequip, expand, or establish manufacturing facilities in the United States to produce qualified advanced technology vehicles or qualifying components, and also for engineering integration costs associated with such projects. (42 U.S.C. 17013, as amended). Before LPO issues the Federal loan, the due diligence process includes an analysis on technical, financial, and environmental aspects of the project to include completion of DOE's NEPA process (BLM EIS adoption, consultations, and Record of Decision), the financial and technical viability of the project, and the socioeconomics (viability of lithium batteries; lithium and sulfuric acid pricing) involved. The company must satisfy certain technical, legal, environmental, and financial conditions before the Department funds the loan.

DOE thoroughly reviewed and considered all the views and information received during and after the review period and has concluded that none of the comments provide new information or identify new circumstances that warrant preparation of a supplemental EIS. This conclusion is based on the following: (1) the majority of the views and information were addressed in the Final DOE/EIS–0561, specifically in Appendix R; (2) the additional review conducted by BLM in the June 25, 2024, approval letter for minor modification to Phase 1 of the Mine Plan; (3) review of required permits, approvals, and works plans for the project and any associated updates to those permits, approvals, and work plans; (4) the consultations, determinations, and coordination completed by DOE; and (5) the additional analysis described above that were considered in the preparation of this ROD.

Decision: DOE has decided to issue a loan to LNC, for construction and start-up of lithium processing to include a sulfuric acid plant, lithium processing facility, and supporting infrastructure and facilities in Humboldt County, Nevada. Approval of the loan for the Thacker Pass Project responds to the DOE purpose and need pursuant to section 136 of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007, which is to finance projects that reequip, expand, or establish manufacturing facilities in the United States to produce qualified advanced technology vehicles or qualifying components, and also for engineering integration costs associated with such projects. (42 U.S.C. 17013, as amended). DOE's Proposed Action evaluated in this ROD supports the Phase 1 activities at Thacker Pass analyzed within the Final DOE/EIS–0561.

Mitigation: All DOE loan agreements require that the borrower comply with all applicable environmental laws and related requirements, as well as required approvals and permits. To ensure that the recipient complies with the requirements of the loan agreement, the Loan Programs Office proactively monitors and administers all operative loan transactions. The loan agreement includes a condition requiring that LNC must notify DOE if formal or informal environmental notices, orders, decisions, directives, or determinations submitted by any Governmental Authority or if there are any changes to Required Approvals. These mitigation measures are practicable means to avoid or minimize environmental harm. A recipient's failure to comply with applicable laws, authorizations, and approvals may constitute a default, upon which DOE would have the right under the loan agreement to exercise usual and customary remedies.

Signing Authority

This document of the Department of Energy was signed on October 28, 2024, by Jigar Shah, Director, Loan Programs Office, pursuant to delegated authority from the Secretary of Energy. That document with the original signature and date is maintained by DOE. For administrative purposes only, and in compliance with requirements of the Office of the Federal Register, the undersigned DOE Federal Register Liaison Officer has been authorized to sign and submit the document in electronic format for publication, as an official document of the Department of Energy. This administrative process in no way alters the legal effect of this document upon publication in the **Federal Register**.

Signed in Washington, DC, on October 29, 2024.

Treena V. Garrett,

Federal Register Liaison Officer, U.S. Department of Energy.

[FR Doc. 2024–25481 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Proposed Emergency Information Collection

AGENCY: Grid Deployment Office, Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Department of Energy (DOE) Grid Deployment Office (GDO) invites the public to comment on a proposed emergency collection of information that DOE is developing for submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

DATES: Comments regarding this proposed information collection must be received on or before December 2, 2024. If you anticipate that you will be submitting comments but find it difficult to do so within the period allowed by this notice, please advise the OMB Desk Officer of your intention to make a submission as soon as possible. The Desk Officer may be telephoned at (202) 881–8585.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to *www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain.* Find this particular information collection by selecting ''Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments'' or by using the search function.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Aisha Miranda Rivera, Department of Energy, Grid Deployment Office, 1000 Independence Avenue SW, Suite 4H–065, Washington, DC 20585; (240) 429–5213; *aisha.miranda-rivera@hq.doe.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the extended collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

This information collection request contains:

(1) *OMB No.:* 1910–5200;

(2) *Information Collection Request Title:* Puerto Rico Energy Resilience Fund (PR–ERF), Household Intake Form;

(3) *Type of Request:* Emergency Clearance;

(4) *Purpose:* The PR–ERF will support the installation of rooftop solar and storage solutions for vulnerable Puerto Rican households. The purpose of this Information Collection Request (ICR) is to authorize the 'PR–ERF Household Intake Form' as the means to collect homeowner information necessary to qualify households as eligible to participate in the deployment phase of the PR–ERF. Eligibility is limited to very low-income single-family households [1] residing in Puerto Rico that (1) include an individual with an energy-dependent disability or (2) are located in a Last Mile Community.[2] On May 15, 2024, OMB approved form 1910–5200. GDO is seeking a revision of the current intake form, specifically the sections related to income eligibility and proof of an individual with an energy dependent disability. DOE has initiated installations of solar PV and battery storage systems to address the harm and risk represented by the fragility of the island's power system. However, DOE has received significant public input from program awardees and potential beneficiaries [3] to expand the types of information that may be submitted to verify eligibility under the program. Many awardees and potential beneficiaries of this program have requested DOE expand the definition ''very low-income single-family household'' to consider additional income qualifying programs, such as Plan de Salud Vital and USDA Sections 502 and 504 Programs and allow potential beneficiaries to submit this information as verification of eligibility to the program. Also, awardees expressed age verification as an appropriate modality for verifying energy-dependent disability status and including temperature control devices as eligible medical equipment for energy-dependent critical load purposes. As a result, it is necessary for DOE to modify the program information collection practices in response to this public feedback.

(5) *Annual Estimated Number of Respondents:* 40,140;

(6) *Annual Estimated Number of Total Responses:* 80,000;

(7) *Annual Estimated Number of Burden Hours:* 56,800;

(8) *Annual Estimated Reporting and Recordkeeping Cost Burden:* $845,520.

Statutory Authority: The Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2023, Public Law 117–328, directs the Department of Energy to improve the resilience of the Puerto Rican electric grid, including grants for low-and-moderate-income households and households that include individuals with disabilities for the purchase and installation of renewable energy, energy storage, and other grid technologies.

[1] A census block that (a) has a high percent of very low-income households, and (b) experiences frequent and prolonged power outages. Solar Ambassador organizations will perform outreach activities in Last Mile Communities to identify qualifying households.

[2] *https://clausa.app.carto.com/map/f63080c5-19c9-47c6-8ac8-74d96358e9ed.*

[3] This includes responses to a Request for Information on the program design issues February 21, 2023 as well through negotiations with program awardees.

Signing Authority

This document of the Department of Energy was signed on October 28, 2024, by Maria D. Robinson, Director, Grid Deployment Office, pursuant to delegated authority from the Secretary of Energy. That document with the original signature and date is maintained by DOE. For administrative purposes only, and in compliance with requirements of the Office of the Federal Register, the undersigned DOE Federal Register Liaison Officer has been authorized to sign and submit the document in electronic format for publication, as an official document of the Department of Energy. This administrative process in no way alters the legal effect of this document upon publication in the **Federal Register**.

Signed in Washington, DC, on October 28, 2024.

Jennifer Hartzell,

Alternate Federal Register Liaison Officer, U.S. Department of Energy.

[FR Doc. 2024–25416 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

National Nuclear Security Administration

Advisory Committee for Nuclear Security

AGENCY: Office of Defense Programs, National Nuclear Security Administration, Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of closed meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice announces a closed meeting of the Advisory Committee for Nuclear Security (ACNS). The Federal Advisory Committee Act requires that public notice of meetings be announced in the **Federal Register**. Due to national security considerations, the meeting will be closed to the public and matters to be discussed are exempt from public disclosure under the Executive order, ''Classified National Security Information,'' and the Atomic Energy Act of 1954.

DATES: December 3, 2024; 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

ADDRESSES: In-person meeting.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Watti Hill, Office of Policy for Strategic

Planning (NA–1.1) National Nuclear Security Administration, U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Ave. SW, Washington, DC 20585, (202) 586–8266 *watti.hill@nnsa.doe.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background: The ACNS provides advice and recommendations to the Under Secretary Nuclear Security & Administrator, NNSA areas and those of the National Nuclear Security Administration.

Purpose of the Meeting: The Quarterly meeting of the Advisory Committee for Nuclear Security (ACNS) will cover the current status of Committee activities as well as additional charges and is expected to contain discussions of a sensitive nature.

Type of Meeting: In the interest of national security, the meeting will be closed to the public. The Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. app. 2, section 10(d), and the Federal Advisory Committee Management Regulation, 41 CFR 102–3.155, incorporate by reference the Government in the Sunshine Act, 5 U.S.C. 552b, which, at 552b(c)(1) and (c)(3) permits closure of meetings where restricted data or other classified matters will be discussed.

Tentative Agenda: Welcome; Headquarters and ACNS Updates; discussion of reports and current actions; discussion of next charges; conclusion.

Public Participation: There will be no public participation in this closed meeting. Those wishing to provide written comments or statements to the Committee are invited to send them to Jason Portner at the address listed above.

Minutes: The minutes of the meeting will not be available.

Signing Authority: This document of the Department of Energy was signed on October 28, 2024, by David Borak, Committee Management Officer, pursuant to delegated authority from the Secretary of Energy. That document with the original signature and date is maintained by DOE. For administrative purposes only, and in compliance with requirements of the Office of the Federal Register, the undersigned DOE Federal Register Liaison Officer has been authorized to sign and submit the document in electronic format for publication, as an official document of the Department of Energy. This administrative process in no way alters the legal effect of this document upon publication in the **Federal Register**.

Signed in Washington, DC, on October 29, 2024.

Jennifer Hartzell,

Alternate Federal Register Liaison Officer, U.S. Department of Energy.

[FR Doc. 2024–25482 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Combined Notice of Filings

Take notice that the Commission has received the following Natural Gas Pipeline Rate and Refund Report filings:

Filings Instituting Proceedings

Docket Numbers: PR25–6–000.

Applicants: The East Ohio Gas Company.

Description: 284.123(g) Rate Filing: Operating Statement of The East Ohio Gas Company 10/1/2024 to be effective 10/1/2024.

Filed Date: 10/24/24.

Accession Number: 20241024–5143.

Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 11/14/24.

284.123(g) Protest: 5 p.m. ET 12/23/24.

Docket Numbers: PR25–7–000.

Applicants: Columbia Gas of Ohio, Inc.

Description: 284.123 Rate Filing: COH RATES effective 9–27–2024 to be effective N/A.

Filed Date: 10/25/24.

Accession Number: 20241025–5082.

Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 11/15/24.

Docket Numbers: RP25–92–000.

Applicants: Ruby Pipeline, L.L.C.

Description: 4(d) Rate Filing: RP 2024–10–24 Non-Conforming Agreement Amendment to be effective 10/24/2024.

Filed Date: 10/24/24.

Accession Number: 20241024–5155.

Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 11/5/24.

Any person desiring to intervene, to protest, or to answer a complaint in any of the above proceedings must file in accordance with Rules 211, 214, or 206 of the Commission's Regulations (18 CFR 385.211, 385.214, or 385.206) on or before 5:00 p.m. Eastern time on the specified comment date. Protests may be considered, but intervention is necessary to become a party to the proceeding.

The filings are accessible in the Commission's eLibrary system (*https://elibrary.ferc.gov/idmws/search/fercgensearch.asp*) by querying the docket number.

eFiling is encouraged. More detailed information relating to filing requirements, interventions, protests, service, and qualifying facilities filings can be found at: *http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/efiling/filing-req.pdf.* For other information, call (866) 208–3676 (toll free). For TTY, call (202) 502–8659.

The Commission's Office of Public Participation (OPP) supports meaningful public engagement and participation in Commission proceedings. OPP can help members of the public, including landowners, environmental justice communities, Tribal members and others, access publicly available information and navigate Commission processes. For public inquiries and assistance with making filings such as interventions, comments, or requests for rehearing, the public is encouraged to contact OPP at (202) 502–6595 or *OPP@ferc.gov.*

Dated: October 25, 2024.

Debbie-Anne A. Reese,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2024–25434 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 1175–025]

Appalachian Power Company; Notice of Application for Non-Capacity Amendment of License Accepted for Filing and Soliciting Comments, Motions To Intervene, and Protests

Take notice that the following hydroelectric application has been filed with the Commission and is available for public inspection:

a. *Application Type:* Non-capacity Amendment of License.

b. *Project No:* 1175–025.

c. *Date Filed:* November 13, 2023, and supplemented August 20, 2024.

d. *Applicant:* Appalachian Power Company.

e. *Name of Project:* London-Marmet Hydroelectric Project.

f. *Location:* The project is located on the Kanawha River, in Kanawha and Fayette counties, West Virginia, and occupies Federal land administered by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

g. *Filed Pursuant to:* Federal Power Act, 16 U.S.C. 791a–825r.

h. *Applicant Contact:* Jonathan Magalski, Environmental Manager, Renewables American Electric Power Service Corporation, 1 Riverside Plaza, Columbus, OH 43215, (614) 716–2240, *jmmagalski@aep.com* or Edward S. Brennan, Plant Environmental Coordinator Principal, American

Electric Power Service Corporation, P.O. Box 2021, Roanoke, VA 24022–2121, (540) 985–2984, *esbrennan@aep.com.*

i. *FERC Contact:* Jeremy Jessup, (202) 502–6779, *Jeremy.Jessup@ferc.gov.*

j. *Cooperating Agencies:* With this notice, the Commission is inviting Federal, State, local, and Tribal agencies with jurisdiction and/or special expertise with respect to environmental issues affected by the proposal, that wish to cooperate in the preparation of any environmental document, if applicable, to follow the instructions for filing such requests described in item l below. Cooperating agencies should note the Commission's policy that agencies that cooperate in the preparation of any environmental document cannot also intervene. *See* 94 FERC ¶ 61,076 (2001).

k. *Deadline for filing comments, motions to intervene, and protests:* November 25, 2024.

The Commission strongly encourages electronic filing. Please file comments, motions to intervene, and protests using the Commission's eFiling system at *http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/efiling.asp.* Commenters can submit brief comments up to 6,000 characters, without prior registration, using the eComment system at *http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/ecomment.asp.* For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support at *FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov,* (866) 208–3676 (toll free), or (202) 502–8659 (TTY). In lieu of electronic filing, you may submit a paper copy. Submissions sent via the U.S. Postal Service must be addressed to: Debbie-Anne A. Reese, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE, Room 1A, Washington, DC 20426. Submissions sent via any other carrier must be addressed to: Debbie-Anne A. Reese, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 12225 Wilkins Avenue, Rockville, Maryland 20852. The first page of any filing should include the docket number P–1175–025. Comments emailed to Commission staff are not considered part of the Commission record.

The Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure require all intervenors filing documents with the Commission to serve a copy of that document on each person whose name appears on the official service list for the project. Further, if an intervenor files comments or documents with the Commission relating to the merits of an issue that may affect the responsibilities of a particular resource agency, they must also serve a copy of the document on that resource agency.

l. *Description of Request:* The licensee proposes revising the project boundary associated with the Marmet Development's transmission line. The Marmet Development currently includes two, 46-kilovolt (kV) transmission lines (*i.e.,* circuits) within a single 0.78-mile-long transmission line corridor, which crosses the Kanawha River to its interconnection point at the Belle Substation. To accommodate revised U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' standards, the licensee is proposing to replace two existing tower structures and a portion of the existing transmission circuits, including the portion that crosses the Kanawha River, and to install a new tower structure and new transmission circuits. This proposed modification would change the length of the transmission line right-of-way portion of the corridor to 0.74 miles long. The proposal would add approximately 3.61 acres to the project boundary and remove approximately 1.64 acres, for a net increase of 1.97 acres. The licensee states that the relocation of the transmission line would not change licensed project operations or require in-stream work. The area for the two poles being replaced is disturbed and within the project boundary. The new pole is outside of the project boundary; however, the licensee states land immediately adjacent to the river where the new pole would be located has been substantially modified.

m. *Locations of the Application:* This filing may be viewed on the Commission's website at *http://www.ferc.gov* using the ''eLibrary'' link. Enter the docket number excluding the last three digits in the docket number field to access the document. You may also register online at *http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/esubscription.asp* to be notified via email of new filings and issuances related to this or other pending projects. For assistance, call 1–866–208–3676 or email *FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov,* for TTY, call (202) 502–8659. Agencies may obtain copies of the application directly from the applicant.

n. Individuals desiring to be included on the Commission's mailing list should so indicate by writing to the Secretary of the Commission.

o. *Comments, Protests, or Motions to Intervene:* Anyone may submit comments, a protest, or a motion to intervene in accordance with the requirements of Rules of Practice and Procedure, 18 CFR 385.210, .211, .214, respectively. In determining the appropriate action to take, the Commission will consider all protests or other comments filed, but only those who file a motion to intervene in accordance with the Commission's Rules may become a party to the proceeding. Any comments, protests, or motions to intervene must be received on or before the specified comment date for the particular application.

p. *Filing and Service of Documents:* Any filing must (1) bear in all capital letters the title ''COMMENTS'', ''PROTEST'', or ''MOTION TO INTERVENE'' as applicable; (2) set forth in the heading the name of the applicant and the project number of the application to which the filing responds; (3) furnish the name, address, and telephone number of the person commenting, protesting or intervening; and (4) otherwise comply with the requirements of 18 CFR 385.2001 through 385.2005. All comments, motions to intervene, or protests must set forth their evidentiary basis. Any filing made by an intervenor must be accompanied by proof of service on all persons listed in the service list prepared by the Commission in this proceeding, in accordance with 18 CFR 385.2010.

q. The Commission's Office of Public Participation (OPP) supports meaningful public engagement and participation in Commission proceedings. OPP can help members of the public, including landowners, environmental justice communities, Tribal members and others, access publicly available information and navigate Commission processes. For public inquiries and assistance with making filings such as interventions, comments, or requests for rehearing, the public is encouraged to contact OPP at (202) 502–6595 or *OPP@ferc.gov.*

Dated: October 25, 2024.

Debbie-Anne A. Reese,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2024–25432 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Combined Notice of Filings #1

Take notice that the Commission received the following electric rate filings:

Docket Numbers: ER24–2613–000.

Applicants: Monongahela Power Company, PJM Interconnection, L.L.C.

Description: Refund Report: Monongahela Power Company submits tariff filing per 35.19a(b): Mon Power submits Refund Report in Docket No. ER24–2613 to be effective N/A.

Filed Date: 10/25/24.
Accession Number: 20241025–5041.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 11/15/24.
Docket Numbers: ER24–2826–002.
Applicants: American Transmission Systems, Incorporated, PJM Interconnection, L.L.C.
Description: Tariff Amendment: American Transmission Systems, Incorporated submits tariff filing per 35.17(b): ATSI submits Amendment to Pending Filing of Service Agreement No. 2853 to be effective 10/31/2024.
Filed Date: 10/25/24.
Accession Number: 20241025–5029.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 11/1/24.
Docket Numbers: ER24–2897–000.
Applicants: Mordor ES1 LLC.
Description: Mordor ES1 LLC submits response to FERC's request for additional information re the Application for Market-Based Rate Authority et al. filed on 08/28/2024.
Filed Date: 10/22/24.
Accession Number: 20241022–5151.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 11/1/24.
Docket Numbers: ER24–2898–000.
Applicants: Mordor ES2 LLC.
Description: Mordor ES2 LLC submits response to FERC's request for additional information re the Application for Market-Based Rate Authority et al. filed on 08/28/2024.
Filed Date: 10/22/24.
Accession Number: 20241022–5154.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 11/1/24.
Docket Numbers: ER25–209–000.
Applicants: Pacific Gas and Electric Company.
Description: 205(d) Rate Filing: Wholesale Distribution Tariff Rate Case 2024 (WDT4) to be effective 12/25/2024.
Filed Date: 10/25/24.
Accession Number: 20241025–5000.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 11/15/24.
Docket Numbers: ER25–210–000.
Applicants: Midcontinent Independent System Operator, Inc., Michigan Electric Transmission Company, LLC.
Description: 205(d) Rate Filing: Midcontinent Independent System Operator, Inc. submits tariff filing per 35.13(a)(2)(iii: 2024–10–25_SA 4375 METC–DTE Electric Company E&P (J2877) to be effective 10/21/2024.
Filed Date: 10/25/24.
Accession Number: 20241025–5022.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 11/15/24.
Docket Numbers: ER25–211–000.
Applicants: AEP Texas Inc.
Description: 205(d) Rate Filing: AEPTX-Northington Solar Generation Interconnection Agreement to be effective 10/2/2024.
Filed Date: 10/25/24.
Accession Number: 20241025–5047.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 11/15/24.
Docket Numbers: ER25–212–000.
Applicants: Georgia Power Company.
Description: 205(d) Rate Filing: GPCo 2024 PBOP Filing to be effective 1/1/2024.
Filed Date: 10/25/24.
Accession Number: 20241025–5052.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 11/15/24.
Docket Numbers: ER25–213–000.
Applicants: Southern Electric Generating Company.
Description: 205(d) Rate Filing: SEGCo 2024 PBOP Filing to be effective 1/1/2024.
Filed Date: 10/25/24.
Accession Number: 20241025–5053.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 11/15/24.
Docket Numbers: ER25–214–000.
Applicants: Midcontinent Independent System Operator, Inc., Ameren Illinois Company.
Description: 205(d) Rate Filing: Midcontinent Independent System Operator, Inc. submits tariff filing per 35.13(a)(2)(iii: 2024–10–25_SA 3028 Ameren IL-Prairie Power Project #42 Atkinson to be effective 12/25/2024.
Filed Date: 10/25/24.
Accession Number: 20241025–5057.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 11/15/24.
Docket Numbers: ER25–215–000.
Applicants: Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC.
Description: 205(d) Rate Filing: NCMPA1 RS No. 318 Amendment (2025 Confirmation) to be effective 1/1/2025.
Filed Date: 10/25/24.
Accession Number: 20241025–5062.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 11/15/24.
Docket Numbers: ER25–216–000.
Applicants: Southwest Power Pool, Inc.
Description: 205(d) Rate Filing: Revisions to Clarify Language Regarding Market Storage Resources to be effective 12/31/9998.
Filed Date: 10/25/24.
Accession Number: 20241025–5086.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 11/15/24.
Docket Numbers: ER25–217–000.
Applicants: Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC.
Description: 205(d) Rate Filing: DEC–NCMPA1 Revised NITSA SA No. 212 (2024) to be effective 1/1/2025.
Filed Date: 10/25/24.
Accession Number: 20241025–5090.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 11/15/24.
Docket Numbers: ER25–218–000.
Applicants: San Diego Gas & Electric.
Description: 205(d) Rate Filing: 2025 TRBAA Update to be effective 1/1/2025.
Filed Date: 10/25/24.
Accession Number: 20241025–5099.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 11/15/24.
Docket Numbers: ER25–219–000.
Applicants: PJM Interconnection, L.L.C.
Description: Tariff Amendment: Notice of Cancellation—WMPA Service Agreement No. 6060; Queue No. AG1–142 to be effective 12/25/2024.
Filed Date: 10/25/24.
Accession Number: 20241025–5100.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 11/15/24.
Docket Numbers: ER25–220–000.
Applicants: Mid-Atlantic Interstate Transmission, LLC, Keystone Appalachian Transmission Company, PJM Interconnection, L.L.C.
Description: 205(d) Rate Filing: Mid-Atlantic Interstate Transmission, LLC submits tariff filing per 35.13(a)(2)(iii: MAIT and KATCO submits Construction Agmnts, SA No. 7211, 7169, 7174 to be effective 12/26/2024.
Filed Date: 10/25/24.
Accession Number: 20241025–5102.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 11/15/24.
Docket Numbers: ER25–221–000.
Applicants: Alabama Power Company, Georgia Power Company, Mississippi Power Company.
Description: 205(d) Rate Filing: Alabama Power Company submits tariff filing per 35.13(a)(2)(iii: Talladega Solar LGIA Filing to be effective 10/15/2024.
Filed Date: 10/25/24.
Accession Number: 20241025–5106.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 11/15/24.
Docket Numbers: ER25–222–000.
Applicants: Alabama Power Company, Georgia Power Company, Mississippi Power Company.
Description: Tariff Amendment: Alabama Power Company submits tariff filing per 35.15: Seminole Solar (Seminole I Solar) LGIA Termination Filing to be effective 10/25/2024.
Filed Date: 10/25/24.
Accession Number: 20241025–5107.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 11/15/24.
Docket Numbers: ER25–223–000.
Applicants: Alabama Power Company, Georgia Power Company, Mississippi Power Company.
Description: Tariff Amendment: Alabama Power Company submits tariff filing per 35.15: Seminole Solar (Seminole II Solar) LGIA Termination Filing to be effective 10/25/2024.
Filed Date: 10/25/24.
Accession Number: 20241025–5108.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 11/15/24.
Docket Numbers: ER25–224–000.
Applicants: Alabama Power Company, Georgia Power Company, Mississippi Power Company.
Description: Tariff Amendment: Alabama Power Company submits tariff filing per 35.15: Seminole Solar (Seminole III Solar) LGIA Termination Filing to be effective 10/25/2024.

Filed Date: 10/25/24.
Accession Number: 20241025–5110.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 11/15/24.
Docket Numbers: ER25–225–000.
Applicants: Alabama Power Company, Georgia Power Company, Mississippi Power Company.
Description: Tariff Amendment: Alabama Power Company submits tariff filing per 35.15: Seminole Solar (Seminole IV Solar) LGIA Termination Filing to be effective 10/25/2024.
Filed Date: 10/25/24.
Accession Number: 20241025–5113.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 11/15/24.
Docket Numbers: ER25–226–000.
Applicants: Alabama Power Company, Georgia Power Company, Mississippi Power Company.
Description: Tariff Amendment: Alabama Power Company submits tariff filing per 35.15: Seminole Solar Projects (Seminole VI Solar + BESS) LGIA Termination Filing to be effective 10/25/2024.
Filed Date: 10/25/24.
Accession Number: 20241025–5114.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 11/15/24.
Docket Numbers: ER25–227–000.
Applicants: Mid-Atlantic Interstate Transmission, LLC, PJM Interconnection, L.L.C.
Description: 205(d) Rate Filing: Mid-Atlantic Interstate Transmission, LLC submits tariff filing per 35.13(a)(2)(iii: MAIT submits Construction Agmnt, SA No. 7220 to be effective 12/26/2024.
Filed Date: 10/25/24.
Accession Number: 20241025–5115.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 11/15/24.
Docket Numbers: ER25–228–000.
Applicants: Citizens Sycamore-Penasquitos Transmission LLC.
Description: 205(d) Rate Filing: Annual Operating Cost True-Up Adjustment Informational Filing to be effective 1/1/2025.
Filed Date: 10/25/24.
Accession Number: 20241025–5117.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 11/15/24.
Docket Numbers: ER25–229–000.
Applicants: Kuna BESS LLC.
Description: Baseline eTariff Filing: Kuna BESS LLC, MBR Tariff to be effective 12/24/2024.
Filed Date: 10/25/24.
Accession Number: 20241025–5123.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 11/15/24.
Docket Numbers: ER25–230–000.
Applicants: Midcontinent Independent System Operator, Inc., Northern States Power Company, a Minnesota corporation.
Description: 205(d) Rate Filing: Midcontinent Independent System Operator, Inc. submits tariff filing per 35.13(a)(2)(iii: 2024–10–25_SA 2420 NSPM-CapX Brookings Owners 1st Rev T–T to be effective 9/27/2024.
Filed Date: 10/25/24.
Accession Number: 20241025–5124.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 11/15/24.
Docket Numbers: ER25–231–000.
Applicants: Citizens Sunrise Transmission LLC.
Description: 205(d) Rate Filing: Annual Operating Cost True-Up Adjustment Informational Filing to be effective 1/1/2025.
Filed Date: 10/25/24.
Accession Number: 20241025–5131.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 11/15/24.
Docket Numbers: ER25–232–000.
Applicants: Otter Tail Power Company.
Description: 205(d) Rate Filing: Revisions to Operating Services Agreement with CPEC, Service Agreement No. 54 to be effective 1/1/2025.
Filed Date: 10/25/24.
Accession Number: 20241025–5146.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 11/15/24.
Docket Numbers: ER25–233–000.
Applicants: Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC.
Description: 205(d) Rate Filing: DEC–NCMPA1 DTAs RS Nos. 643, 644 and 645 to be effective 1/1/2025.
Filed Date: 10/25/24.
Accession Number: 20241025–5159.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 11/15/24.

The filings are accessible in the Commission's eLibrary system (*https://elibrary.ferc.gov/idmws/search/fercgensearch.asp*) by querying the docket number.

Any person desiring to intervene, to protest, or to answer a complaint in any of the above proceedings must file in accordance with Rules 211, 214, or 206 of the Commission's Regulations (18 CFR 385.211, 385.214, or 385.206) on or before 5:00 p.m. Eastern time on the specified comment date. Protests may be considered, but intervention is necessary to become a party to the proceeding.

eFiling is encouraged. More detailed information relating to filing requirements, interventions, protests, service, and qualifying facilities filings can be found at: *http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/efiling/filing-req.pdf.* For other information, call (866) 208–3676 (toll free). For TTY, call (202) 502–8659.

The Commission's Office of Public Participation (OPP) supports meaningful public engagement and participation in Commission proceedings. OPP can help members of the public, including landowners, environmental justice communities, Tribal members and others, access publicly available information and navigate Commission processes. For public inquiries and assistance with making filings such as interventions, comments, or requests for rehearing, the public is encouraged to contact OPP at (202) 502–6595 or *OPP@ferc.gov.*

Dated: October 25, 2024.

Debbie-Anne A. Reese,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2024–25435 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. AD24–11–000]

Large Loads Co-Located at Generating Facilities; Fourth Supplemental Notice of Commissioner-Led Technical Conference

As announced in the August 2, 2024 Notice in this proceeding, and August 16, 2024, September 10, 2024, and October 10, 2024 supplemental notices in this proceeding, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission) will convene a Commissioner-led technical conference in the above-referenced proceeding. The technical conference will take place on Friday, November 1, 2024, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Eastern Time. The technical conference will be held in-person at the Commission's headquarters at 888 First Street NE, Washington, DC 20426 in the Commission Meeting Room. The meeting will be available to view online.

The updated agenda for the technical conference is attached to this Supplemental Notice, which includes the program and expected panelists.

The purpose of this technical conference is to discuss generic issues related to the co-location of large loads at generating facilities. The Commission does not intend to discuss at this technical conference any specific proceeding before the Commission, including proceedings that involve similar issues. These proceedings include, but are not limited to:

PJM Interconnection, L.L.C	Docket Nos. ER24–2172–000, ER24–2172–001.
Atlantic City Electric Company	Docket No. ER24–2888–000.
Baltimore Gas and Electric Company	Docket No. ER24–2889–000.

Commonwealth Edison Company	Docket No. ER24–2890–000.
Delmarva Power & Light Company	Docket No. ER24–2891–000.
PECO Energy Company	Docket No. ER24–2893–000.
Potomac Electric Power Company	Docket No. ER24–2894–000.
PJM Interconnection, L.L.C	Docket Nos. ER24–2447–000, ER24–2447–001.
Baltimore Gas & Electric Company, PECO Energy Company	Docket No. EL24–149–000.

The technical conference will be open to the public. Advance registration is not required, and there is no fee for attendance. Information will also be posted on the Calendar of Events on the Commission's website, *www.ferc.gov,* prior to the event.

The technical conference will be transcribed and webcast. Transcripts will be available for a fee from Ace Reporting (202–347–3700). A link to the webcast of this event will be available in the Commission Calendar of Events at *www.ferc.gov.* The Commission provides technical support for the free webcasts. Please call 202–502–8680 or email *customer@ferc.gov* if you have any questions.

Commission technical conferences are accessible under section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. For accessibility accommodations, please send an email to *accessibility@ferc.gov* or call toll free 1–866–208–3372 (voice) or 202–208–8659 (TTY) or send a fax to 202–208–2106 with the required accommodations.

For more information about this technical conference, please contact Keatley Adams at *Keatley.Adams@ferc.gov* or 202–502–8678. For legal information, please contact Christopher Chaulk at *Christopher.Chaulk@ferc.gov* or 202–502–6720. For information related to logistics, please contact Sarah McKinley at *sarah.mckinley@ferc.gov* or 202–502–8368. For assistance with e-subscribing to this docket, accessing docket materials in e-Library, or other participation needs such as entering a comment into the docket, please contact the Commission's Office of Public Participation at *OPP@ferc.gov* or 202–502–6595.

Dated: October 25, 2024.

Debbie-Anne A. Reese,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2024–25436 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP21–496–000; Docket No. CP23–518–000]

NFEnergía LLC; Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the San Juan Micro-Fuel Handling Facility Project, Request for Comments on Environmental Issues, Notice of Public Scoping Session, and Schedule for Environmental Review

The staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) will prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) that will discuss the environmental impacts of the San Juan Micro-Fuel Handling Facility Project (Project) involving operation of facilities by NFEnergía LLC (NFEnergía) in San Juan, Puerto Rico.[1] The Commission will use this EIS in its decision-making process to determine whether the Project is in the public interest. The schedule for preparation of the EIS is discussed in the Schedule for Environmental Review section of this notice.

This notice announces the opening of the scoping process the Commission will use to gather input from the public and interested agencies regarding the Project. As part of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) review process, the Commission takes into account concerns the public may have about proposals and the environmental impacts that could result from its action whenever it considers the issuance of an authorization. This gathering of public input is referred to as ''scoping.'' The main goal of the scoping process is to focus the analysis in the environmental document on the important environmental issues. Additional information about the Commission's NEPA process is described below in the NEPA Process and the EIS section of this notice.

By this notice, the Commission requests public comments on the scope of issues to address in the environmental document, including comments on potential alternatives and impacts, and any relevant information, studies, or analyses of any kind concerning impacts affecting the quality of the human environment. To ensure that your comments are timely and properly recorded, please submit your comments so that the Commission receives them in Washington, DC, on or before 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on November 25, 2024. Comments may be submitted in written or oral form. Further details on how to submit comments are provided in the Public Participation section of this notice.

Public Participation

There are four methods you can use to submit your comments to the Commission. The Commission encourages electronic filing of comments and has staff available to assist you at (866) 208–3676 or *FercOnlineSupport@ferc.gov.* Please carefully follow these instructions so that your comments are properly recorded.

(1) You can file your comments electronically using the eComment feature, which is located on the Commission's website (*www.ferc.gov*) under the link to FERC Online. Using eComment is an easy method for submitting brief, text-only comments on a project;

(2) You can file your comments electronically by using the eFiling feature, which is also located on the Commission's website (*www.ferc.gov*) under the link to FERC Online. With eFiling, you can provide comments in a variety of formats by attaching them as a file with your submission. New eFiling users must first create an account by clicking on ''eRegister.'' You will be asked to select the type of filing you are making; a comment on a particular project is considered a ''Comment on a Filing'';

(3) You can file a paper copy of your comments by mailing them to the Commission. Be sure to reference the Project docket numbers (CP21–496–000 and/or CP23–518–000) on your letter. Submissions sent via the U.S. Postal Service must be addressed to: Debbie-Anne A. Reese, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE, Room 1A, Washington, DC 20426. Submissions sent via any other carrier must be addressed to:

[1] In accordance with the Council on Environmental Quality's regulations, the unique identification number for documents relating to this environmental review is EISX–019–20–000–1728388200. 40 CFR 1502.4(e)(10) (2024).

Debbie-Anne A. Reese, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 12225 Wilkins Avenue, Rockville, Maryland 20852; or

(4) In lieu of sending written comments, the Commission invites you to attend one of two public scoping sessions its staff will conduct in the Project area, scheduled as follows:

Date and time	Location
Monday, November 18, 2024; 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.	Hyatt Place San Juan, 580 Fernandez Juncos Avenue, San Juan, Puerto Rico 00907.

The primary goal of these scoping sessions is to have you identify the specific environmental issues and concerns that should be considered in the environmental document. *There will not be a formal presentation by Commission staff when the session opens.* Individual oral comments will be taken on a one-on-one basis with a court reporter. This format is designed to receive the maximum amount of oral comments in a convenient way during the timeframe allotted.

The scoping sessions are scheduled from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Eastern Standard Time. You may arrive at any time after 11:00 a.m. for the midday session and after 4:30 p.m. for the evening session. If you wish to provide a comment, the Commission staff will hand out numbers in the order of your arrival. Comments will be taken until 1:00 p.m. for the midday session and 7:30 p.m. for the evening session. Please see appendix 1 for additional information on the session format and conduct.[2]

Your oral comments will be recorded by a court reporter (with FERC staff or representative present) and become part of the public record for this proceeding. Transcripts will be publicly available on FERC's eLibrary system (see the last page of this notice for instructions on using eLibrary). If a significant number of people are interested in providing oral comments in the one-on-one settings, a time limit of 3 minutes may be implemented for each commentor. Although there will not be a formal presentation, Commission staff will be available throughout the scoping session to answer your questions about the environmental review process. FERC will have Spanish interpreters on site at the public scoping sessions. It is important to note that the Commission provides equal consideration to all comments received, whether filed in written form or provided orally at a scoping session.

Additionally, the Commission offers a free service called eSubscription. This service provides automatic notification of filings made to subscribed dockets, document summaries, and direct links to documents. Go to *https://www.ferc.gov/ferc-online/overview* to register for eSubscription.

The Commission's Office of Public Participation (OPP) supports meaningful public engagement and participation in Commission proceedings. OPP can help members of the public, including landowners, environmental justice communities, Tribal members and others, access publicly available information and navigate Commission processes. For public inquiries and assistance with making filings such as interventions, comments, or requests for rehearing, the public is encouraged to contact OPP at (202) 502–6595 or *OPP@ferc.gov.*

Summary of the Proposed Project, the Project Purpose and Need, and Expected Impacts

NFEnergía proposes to continue operation of its liquefied natural gas (LNG) import and regasification facility (*i.e.,* the Project). The Project is on approximately 6.1 paved and fenced acres of an industrial area at Wharves A and B of the Puerto de San Juan (''Port of San Juan''), Puerto Rico, which is within existing industrial uses in northern Puerto Rico where it can supply natural gas. To operate the Project, shuttle LNG vessels bring LNG into the San Juan Harbor where the LNG is transferred from these vessels to a non-jurisdictional floating storage unit vessel that is semi-permanently moored adjacent to the Project site. The floating storage unit vessel transfers LNG onshore where some LNG is loaded onto trucks for over-the-road delivery to end users and the remaining LNG is regasified and made available to Units 5 and 6 of the adjacent San Juan Power Plant using an existing 75-foot-long, 10-inch-diameter segment of power plant piping. The Project has a regasification capacity of 120 million standard cubic feet per day (MMscfd) of natural gas and a truck loading capacity of 87.52 MMscfd of natural gas (or approximately 1,060,000 gallons of LNG) per day. In addition, NFEnergía constructed and operates a 220-foot-long, 10-inch-diameter pipeline at its LNG facility. NFEnergía stated that the pipeline was necessary to supply natural gas to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' emergency temporary generation project.[3]

NFEnergía's stated purpose of the Project is to continue achieving the following:

- meeting existing demand for imported natural gas for delivery to Puerto Rico commercial and utility customers;
- supporting grid stability in Puerto Rico;
- meeting fuel supply obligations for natural gas-fired electric generation to maintain Puerto Rico's fuel diversity and energy supplies in Puerto Rico;
- enabling electric generation that supports improvements in air quality in the San Juan region, reduces sulfur dioxide emissions, and supports Puerto Rico Electric Power Authority's efforts to achieve regional emissions reductions; and
- reducing electricity rates and fuel costs for NFEnergía's customers.

NFEnergía proposes to continue operating its Project at Wharves A and B of the Port of San Juan, Puerto Rico. The general location of the Project facilities is shown in appendix 2. Commission staff have identified several expected impacts that deserve attention in the EIS. These resources include air quality, noise, and safety. The Project impact analysis is limited to operational impacts of the existing facility.

The NEPA Process and the EIS

The EIS issued by the Commission will discuss impacts that could occur as a result of the operation of the Project under the relevant general resource areas:

- geology and soils;
- water resources and wetlands;
- vegetation and wildlife;
- essential fish habitat;
- threatened and endangered species;
- cultural resources;
- socioeconomics and environmental justice;
- land use;
- air quality and noise; and
- reliability and safety.

Commission staff will also make recommendations on how to lessen or avoid impacts on the various resource areas. Your comments will help Commission staff focus its analysis on the issues that may have a significant effect on the human environment.

[2] The appendices referenced in this notice will not appear in the **Federal Register**. Copies of the appendices were sent to all those receiving this notice in the mail and are available at *www.ferc.gov* using the link called ''eLibrary''. For instructions on connecting to eLibrary, refer to the last page of this notice. For assistance, contact FERC at *FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov* or call toll free, (886) 208–3676 or TTY (202) 502–8659.

[3] The temporary generation project is part of the ongoing efforts of the Puerto Rico Grid Stabilization Task Force, a joint operation between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Energy, and Federal Emergency Management Agency that is charged with restoring Puerto Rico's power system reliability.

The EIS will present Commission staff's independent analysis of the issues. The U.S. Coast Guard, and the U.S. Department of Transportation's Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration are cooperating agencies in the preparation of the EIS.[4] Staff will prepare a draft EIS which will be issued for public comment. Commission staff will consider all timely comments received during the comment period on the draft EIS and revise the document, as necessary, before issuing a final EIS. Any draft and final EIS will be available in electronic format in the public record through eLibrary[5] and the Commission's natural gas environmental documents web page (*https://www.ferc.gov/industries-data/natural-gas/environment/environmental-documents*). If eSubscribed, you will receive instant email notification when the environmental document is issued.

Alternatives Under Consideration

The EIS will evaluate reasonable alternatives that are technically and economically feasible and meet the purpose and need for the proposed action.[6] With this notice, the Commission requests specific comments regarding any additional potential alternatives to the proposed action or segments of the proposed action. Please focus your comments on reasonable alternatives (including alternative facility sites) that meet the Project objectives, are technically and economically feasible, and avoid or lessen environmental impact.

Consultation Under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act

In accordance with the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's implementing regulations for section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, the Commission is using this notice to initiate consultation with the applicable State Historic Preservation Office(s), and other government agencies, interested Indian tribes, and the public to solicit their views and concerns regarding the Project's potential effects on historic properties.[7] The Project EIS will document findings on the impacts on historic properties and summarize the status of consultations under section 106.

Schedule for Environmental Review

On September 29, 2021, the Commission issued its Notice of Application for the Project. Among other things, that notice alerted other agencies issuing Federal authorizations of the requirement to complete all necessary reviews and to reach a final decision on the request for a Federal authorization within 90 days of the date of issuance of the Commission staff's final EIS for the Project. This notice identifies the Commission staff's planned schedule for completion of the final EIS for the Project, which is based on an issuance of the draft EIS in May 2025, opening a 45-day comment period.

Issuance of Notice of Availability of the final EIS—November 7, 2025

90-day Federal Authorization Decision Deadline[8]—February 5, 2026

In accordance with the Council on Environmental Quality's regulations, for EISs, agencies are to make schedules for completing the NEPA process publicly available.[9] This notice identifies the Commission's anticipated schedule for issuance of the final order for the Project, which serves as the Commission's record of decision. We currently anticipate issuing a final order for the Project no later than:

Issuance of Final Order—February 19, 2026

If a schedule change becomes necessary, an additional notice will be provided so that the relevant agencies are kept informed of the Project's progress.

Permits and Authorizations

The table below lists the issued and anticipated permits and authorizations for the Project required under Federal law. This list may not be all-inclusive and does not preclude any permit or authorization if it is not listed here. Agencies with jurisdiction by law and/or special expertise may formally cooperate in the preparation of the Commission's EIS and may adopt the EIS to satisfy its NEPA responsibilities related to this Project. Agencies that would like to request cooperating agency status should follow the instructions for filing comments provided under the Public Participation section of this notice.

Agency	Permit
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission	Natural Gas Act Section 3 Order of Authorization.
U.S. Department of Energy	Order to Import under Section 3 of the Natural Gas Act.
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency	Vessel General Permit under the Vessel Incidental Discharge Act.
United States Fish and Wildlife Service	Consultation under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, and the Bald and Gold Eagle Protection Act.
National Marine Fisheries Service	Consultation under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act.
National Marine Fisheries Service	Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act Consultation on Essential Fish Habitat.
Puerto Rico Planning Board	Coastal Zone Management Consistency Determination.
U.S. Coast Guard	Letter of Recommendation and Facility Security Plan Approval.
U.S. Department of Defense	Consultation for Effect on Military Installation.
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	Clean Water Act Section 404 Permit/Section 408 Permit/Rivers and Harbors Act Section 10 Permit/Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act, Section 103.
Department of Environmental Quality	Clean Water Act Section 401, Water Quality Certification/NPDES Stormwater Discharge Permits/Clean Air Act, Air Permit/40 CFR 52 Greenhouse Gas Tailoring Rule Permits.
Puerto Rico State Historic Preservation Officer	Consultation under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

[4] The Council on Environmental Quality regulations addressing cooperating agency responsibilities are at title 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), section 1501.8. (2024).

[5] For instructions on connecting to eLibrary, refer to the last page of this notice.

[6] 40 CFR 1508.1(hh) (2024).

[7] The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's regulations are at title 36, Code of Federal Regulations, part 800. Those regulations define historic properties as any prehistoric or historic district, site, building, structure, or object included in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.

[8] The Commission's deadline applies to the decisions of other Federal agencies, and State agencies acting under federally delegated authority, that are responsible for Federal authorizations, permits, and other approvals necessary for proposed projects under the Natural Gas Act. Per 18 CFR 157.22(a), the Commission's deadline for other agency's decisions applies unless a schedule is otherwise established by Federal law.

[9] 40 CFR 1501.10(h) (2024).

Environmental Mailing List

This notice is being sent to the Commission's current environmental mailing list for the Project which includes: Federal and local government representatives and agencies; elected officials; environmental and public interest groups; Native American tribes; other interested parties; and local libraries and newspapers. This list also includes all affected landowners (as defined in the Commission's regulations) who own homes within certain distances of aboveground facilities, and anyone who submits comments on the Project and includes a mailing address with their comments. Commission staff will update the environmental mailing list as the analysis proceeds to ensure that Commission notices related to this environmental review are sent to all individuals, organizations, and government entities interested in and/or potentially affected by the proposed Project. Puerto Rico and local government representatives should notify their constituents of this proposed Project and encourage them to comment on their areas of concern.

If you need to make changes to your name/address, or if you would like to remove your name from the mailing list, please complete one of the following steps:

(1) Send an email to *GasProjectAddressChange@ferc.gov* stating your request. You must include the docket number CP21–496–000 and/or CP23–518–000 in your request. If you are requesting a change to your address, please be sure to include your name and the correct address. If you are requesting to delete your address from the mailing list, please include your name and address as it appeared on this notice. This email address is unable to accept comments.

OR

(2) Return the attached ''Mailing List Update Form'' (appendix 3).

Additional Information

Additional information about the Project is available from the Commission's Office of External Affairs, at (866) 208–FERC, or on the FERC website at *www.ferc.gov* using the eLibrary link. Click on the eLibrary link, click on ''General Search'' and enter the docket number in the ''Docket Number'' field (*i.e.,* CP21–496–000 and/or CP23–518). Be sure you have selected an appropriate date range. For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support at *FercOnlineSupport@ferc.gov* or (866) 208–3676, or for TTY, contact (202) 502–8659. The eLibrary link also provides access to the texts of all formal documents issued by the Commission, such as orders, notices, and rulemakings.

Public sessions or site visits will be posted on the Commission's calendar located at *https://www.ferc.gov/news-events/events* along with other related information.

Dated: October 25, 2024.

Debbie-Anne A. Reese,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2024–25431 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Privacy Act of 1974; System of Records

AGENCY: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), DOE.

ACTION: Notice of a modified system of records.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974, all agencies are required to publish in the **Federal Register** a notice of their systems of records. Notice is hereby given that the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) is publishing a notice of modifications to an existing FERC system of records titled ''*Commission Training Records (FERC–21)*''.

DATES: Comments on this modified system of records must be received no later than 30 days after the date of publication in the **Federal Register**. If no public comment is received during this period or unless otherwise published in the **Federal Register** by FERC, the modified system of records will become effective a minimum of 30 days after date of publication in the **Federal Register**. If FERC receives public comments, FERC shall review the comments to determine whether any changes to the notice are necessary.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be submitted in writing to Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE, Washington, DC 20426 or electronically to *privacy@ferc.gov.* Comments should indicate that they are submitted in response to ''*Commission Training Records (FERC–21)*''.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mittal Desai, Chief Information Officer & Senior Agency Official for Privacy, Office of the Executive Director, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE, Washington, DC 20426, *privacy@ferc.gov,* (202) 502–6432.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974, and to comply with the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Memorandum M–17–12, *Preparing for and Responding to a Breach of Personally Identifiable Information,* January 3, 2017, this notice has twelve (12) new routine uses, including two routine uses that will permit FERC to disclose information as necessary in response to an actual or suspected breach that pertains to a breach of its own records or to assist another agency in its efforts to respond to a breach that was previously published separately at 87 FR 35543 (June 10, 2022).

The following sections have been updated to reflect changes made since the publication of the last notice in the **Federal Register**: dates; addresses; for further contact information; system location; system manager; purpose of the system; categories of individuals covered by the system; categories of records in the system; record source categories; routine uses of records maintained in the system, including categories of users and the purpose of such; policies and practices for storage of records; policies and practices for retrieval of records; policies and practices for retention and disposal of records; administrative, technical, physical safeguards; records access procedures; contesting records procedures; notification procedures; and history.

SYSTEM NAME AND NUMBER:

Commission Training Records (FERC–21).

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION:

Unclassified.

SYSTEM LOCATION:

Interior Business Center, U.S. Department of the Interior, One Denver Federal Center, Bldg. 48, Denver, CO 8022.

Human Resources Division, Employment Development, Office of the Executive Director, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE, Washington, DC 20426.

SYSTEM MANAGER(S):

Chief, Human Resources Division, Employment Development, Office of the Executive Director, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE, Washington, DC 20426, (202) 502–6852.

AUTHORITY FOR MAINTENANCE OF THE SYSTEM:

5 CFR 410.311.

PURPOSE(S) OF THE SYSTEM:

The purpose of this system of records is to maintain data on the internal

training and development of FERC employees and contractors and on the training FERC employees take outside of the agency when FERC covers the cost of the training or when the training occurs during an employee's official duty time.

CATEGORIES OF INDIVIDUALS COVERED BY THE SYSTEM:

The categories of individuals on whom records are maintained include Commission employees and contractors as well as former employees and former contractors.

CATEGORIES OF RECORDS IN THE SYSTEM:

The categories of records maintained in the system of records include full name, home address, home telephone number, organization mailing address, office telephone number, work email address, position title, type of appointment, education level, pay plan, series, grade, whether special accommodation is needed, program office, course name, vendor name and mailing address, location of training site, vendor telephone number, vendor email address, vendor website, vendor point-of-contact (POC), cost (such as tuition, fees, books, material, travel, etc.), type of course, course title, course number code, training start and end dates, training hours, purpose, training credit, student/membership ID, skill learning objective, supervisor's name and title, supervisor's email address, supervisor's telephone number, supervisor's signature and date, training officer's name and title, training officer's email address, training officer's telephone number, training officer's signature and date, authorizing official's name and title, authorizing official's email address, authorizing official's telephone number, authorizing official's signature and date.

RECORD SOURCE CATEGORIES:

Records are obtained from the Administrative Officer for individual Program Offices, Employment Development Branch staff, Commission employees, and vendors.

ROUTINE USES OF RECORDS MAINTAINED IN THE SYSTEM, INCLUDING CATEGORIES OF USERS AND THE PURPOSES OF SUCH USES:

In addition to those disclosures generally permitted under 5 U.S.C. 552a(b) of the Privacy Act, information maintained in this system may be disclosed to authorized entities outside FERC for purposes determined to be relevant and necessary as a routine use pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552a(b)(3) as follows:

1. To appropriate agencies, entities, and persons when (1) FERC suspects or has confirmed that there has been a breach of the system of records; (2) FERC has determined that as a result of the suspected or confirmed breach there is a risk of harm to individuals, the Commission (including its information systems, programs, and operations), the Federal Government, or national security; and (3) the disclosure made to such agencies, entities, and persons is reasonably necessary to assist in connection with the Commission's efforts to respond to the suspected or confirmed breach or to prevent, minimize, or remedy such harm.

2. To another Federal agency or Federal entity, when FERC determines that information from this system of records is reasonably necessary to assist the recipient agency or entity in (1) responding to a suspected or confirmed breach or (2) preventing, minimizing, or remedying the risk of harm to individuals, the recipient agency or entity (including its information systems, programs, and operations), the Federal Government, or national security, resulting from a suspected or confirmed breach.

3. To a congressional office from the record of an individual in response to an inquiry from that congressional office made at the request of that individual.

4. To the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) when requested in connection with investigations of alleged or possible discriminatory practices, examination of Federal affirmative employment programs, or other functions of the Commission as authorized by law or regulation.

5. To the Federal Labor Relations Authority or its General Counsel when requested in connection with investigations of allegations of unfair labor practices or matters before the Federal Service Impasses Panel.

6. To disclose information to another Federal agency, to a court, or a party in litigation before a court or in an administrative proceeding being conducted by a Federal agency, when the Government is a party to the judicial or administrative proceeding. In those cases where the Government is not a party to the proceeding, records may be disclosed if a subpoena has been signed by a judge.

7. To the Department of Justice (DOJ) for its use in providing legal advice to FERC or in representing FERC in a proceeding before a court, adjudicative body, or other administrative body, where the use of such information by the DOJ is deemed by FERC to be relevant and necessary to the advice or proceeding, and such proceeding names as a party in interest: (a) FERC; (b) any employee of FERC in his or her official capacity; (c) any employee of FERC in his or her individual capacity where DOJ has agreed to represent the employee; or (d) the United States, where FERC determines that litigation is likely to affect FERC or any of its components.

8. To non-Federal Personnel, such as contractors, agents, or other authorized individuals performing work on a contract, service, cooperative agreement, job, or other activity on behalf of FERC or Federal Government and who have a need to access the information in the performance of their duties or activities.

9. To the National Archives and Records Administration in records management inspections and its role as Archivist.

10. To the Merit Systems Protection Board or the Board's Office of the Special Counsel, when relevant information is requested in connection with appeals, special studies of the civil service and other merit systems, review of OPM rules and regulations, and investigations of alleged or possible prohibited personnel practices.

11. To appropriate Federal, State, or local agency responsible for investigating, prosecuting, enforcing, or implementing a statute, rule, regulation, or order, if the information may be relevant to a potential violation of civil or criminal law, rule, regulation, order.

12. To appropriate agencies, entities, and person(s) that are a party to a dispute, when FERC determines that information from this system of records is reasonably necessary for the recipient to assist with the resolution of the dispute; the name, address, telephone number, email address, and affiliation; of the agency, entity, and/or person(s) seeking and/or participating in dispute resolution services, where appropriate.

POLICIES AND PRACTICES FOR THE STORAGE OF RECORDS:

Records are stored electronically on a federal shared service provider and on a FedRAMP-authorized SharePoint site. Data access is restricted to agency personnel whose responsibilities require access. In addition, all FERC employees and contractors with authorized access have undergone a thorough background security investigation. Access to electronic records is controlled by the organization's Single Sign-On and Multi-Factor Authentication Solution. Role based access is used to restrict data access and the organization employs the principle of least privilege, allowing only authorized users with access necessary to accomplish assigned tasks in accordance with organizational missions and business functions.

POLICIES AND PRACTICES FOR RETRIEVAL OF RECORDS:

Records may be retrieved by trainee information such as name, address, telephone number, position title, grade level, and supervisory status; and training course information such as name and address of training vendor, location, contact information, course title, and course number code.

POLICIES AND PRACTICES FOR RETENTION AND DISPOSAL OF RECORDS:

Records are retained in accordance with the applicable National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) schedules, General Records Schedules (GRS) 2.6: Employee Training Records. Item 010: Disposition Authority: DAA–GRS–2016–0014–0001. Temporary. Destroy when 3 years old, or 3 years after superseded or obsolete, whichever is appropriate, but longer retention is authorized if required for business use.

ADMINISTRATIVE, TECHNICAL, AND PHYSICAL SAFEGUARDS:

See Policies and Practices for Storage of Records.

RECORD ACCESS PROCEDURES:

Individuals requesting access to the contents of records must submit a request through the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) office. The FOIA website is located at: *https://www.ferc.gov/foia.* Requests may be submitted through the following portal: *https://www.ferc.gov/enforcement-legal/foia/electronic-foia-privacy-act-request-form.* Written requests for access to records should be directed to: Director, Office of External Affair, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE, Washington, DC 20426.

CONTESTING RECORD PROCEDURES:

See Records Access procedures.

NOTIFICATION PROCEDURE:

Generalized notice is provided by the publication of this notice. For specific notice, see Records Access Procedure, above.

EXEMPTIONS PROMULGATED FOR THE SYSTEM:

None.

HISTORY:

65 FR 21753 (April 24, 2000).

Dated: October 25, 2024.

Debbie-Anne A. Reese,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2024–25433 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717–01–P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[EPA–HQ–OPP–2024–0058; FRL–11681–08–OCSPP]

Pesticide Product Registration; Receipt of Applications for New Active Ingredients (August 2024)

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: EPA has received applications to register pesticide products containing active ingredients not included in any currently registered pesticide products. Pursuant to the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA), EPA is hereby providing notice of receipt and opportunity to comment on these applications.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before December 2, 2024.

ADDRESSES: Submit your comments, identified by docket identification (ID) number EPA–HQ–OPP–2024–0058, through the *Federal eRulemaking Portal* at *https://www.regulations.gov.* Follow the online instructions for submitting comments. Do not submit electronically any information you consider to be Confidential Business Information (CBI) or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. Additional instructions on commenting and visiting the docket, along with more information about dockets generally, is available at *https://www.epa.gov/dockets.*

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Charles Smith, Registration Division (RD) (7505T), main telephone number: (202) 566–1030, email address: *RDFRNotices@epa.gov.* The mailing address is Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20460–0001. As part of the mailing address, include the contact person's name, division, and mail code.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. General Information

A. Does this action apply to me?

You may be potentially affected by this action if you are an agricultural producer, food manufacturer, or pesticide manufacturer. The following list of North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS) codes is not intended to be exhaustive, but rather provides a guide to help readers determine whether this document applies to them. Potentially affected entities may include:

- Crop production (NAICS code 111).
- Animal production (NAICS code 112).
- Food manufacturing (NAICS code 311).

B. What should I consider as I prepare my comments for EPA?

1. *Submitting CBI.* Do not submit this information to EPA through regulations.gov or email. Clearly mark the part or all of the information that you claim to be CBI. For CBI information in a disk or CD–ROM that you mail to EPA, mark the outside of the disk or CD–ROM as CBI and then identify electronically within the disk or CD–ROM the specific information that is claimed as CBI. In addition to one complete version of the comment that includes information claimed as CBI, a copy of the comment that does not contain the information claimed as CBI must be submitted for inclusion in the public docket. Information so marked will not be disclosed except in accordance with procedures set forth in 40 CFR part 2.

2. *Tips for preparing your comments.* When preparing and submitting your comments, see the commenting tips at *https://www.epa.gov/dockets/commenting-epa-dockets.*

II. Registration Applications

EPA has received applications to register pesticide products containing active ingredients not included in any currently registered pesticide products. Pursuant to the provisions of FIFRA section 3(c)(4) (7 U.S.C. 136a(c)(4)), EPA is hereby providing notice of receipt and opportunity to comment on these applications. Notice of receipt of these applications does not imply a decision by the Agency on these applications. For actions being evaluated under EPA's public participation process for registration actions, there will be an additional opportunity for public comment on the proposed decisions. Please see EPA's public participation website for additional information on this process (*https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/public-participation-process-registration-actions*).

Notice of Receipt—New Active Ingredients

1. *File Symbol:* 279–OAOA. *Docket ID number:* EPA–HQ–OPP–2024–0402. *Applicant:* FMC Corporation, 2929 Walnut Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104. *Product name:* FMC–DOD29 A Herbicide. *Active ingredient:* Herbicide–tetflupyrolimet at 35.0%. *Proposed use:* Rice. *Contact:* RD.

2. *File Symbol:* 279–OAOI. *Docket ID number:* EPA–HQ–OPP–2024–0402. *Applicant:* FMC Corporation, 2929 Walnut Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104.

Product name: TVE29–R 400SC Herbicide. *Active ingredient:* Herbicide–tetflupyrolimet at 35.0%. *Proposed use:* Rice. *Contact:* RD.

3. *File Symbol:* 279–OAOO. *Docket ID number:* EPA–HQ–OPP–2024–0402. *Applicant:* FMC Corporation, 2929 Walnut Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104. *Product name:* TVE29–R 1%G Herbicide. *Active ingredient:* Herbicide–tetflupyrolimet at 1.0%. *Proposed use:* Rice. *Contact:* RD.

4. *File Symbol:* 279–OAOT. *Docket ID number:* EPA–HQ–OPP–2024–0402. *Applicant:* FMC Corporation 2929 Walnut Street Philadelphia, PA 19104. *Product name:* Tetflupyrolimet Technical. *Active ingredient:* Herbicide–tetflupyrolimet at 97.0%. *Proposed use:* For formulation into end-use herbicides for use in rice and turf. *Contact:* RD.

5. *File Symbol:* 279–OTNE. *Docket ID number:* EPA–HQ–OPP–2024–0402. *Applicant:* FMC Corporation, 2929 Walnut Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104. *Product name:* TVE29–T 400SC Herbicide. *Active ingredient:* Herbicide–tetflupyrolimet at 35.0%. *Proposed use:* Turf. *Contact:* RD.

6. *File Symbol:* 279–OTNG. *Docket ID number:* EPA–HQ–OPP–2024–0402. *Applicant:* FMC Corporation, 2929 Walnut Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104. *Product name:* TVE29 400SC MUP. *Active ingredient:* Herbicide–tetflupyrolimet at 35.0%. *Proposed use:* For formulation into end-use herbicides for use in turf. *Contact:* RD.

7. *File Symbol:* 279–OTNL. *Docket ID number:* EPA–HQ–OPP–2024–0402. *Applicant:* FMC Corporation, 2929 Walnut Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104. *Product name:* TVE29–R 0.5%G Herbicide. *Active ingredient:* Herbicide–tetflupyrolimet at 0.5%. *Proposed use:* Rice. *Contact:* RD.

8. *File Symbol:* 279–OTNN. *Docket ID number:* EPA–HQ–OPP–2024–0402. *Applicant:* FMC Corporation, 2929 Walnut Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104. *Product name:* TVE29–T 0.119%G Herbicide. *Active ingredient:* Herbicide–tetflupyrolimet at 0.119%. *Proposed use:* Turf. *Contact:* RD.

9. *File Symbol:* 279–OTNR. *Docket ID number:* EPA–HQ–OPP–2024–0402. *Applicant:* FMC Corporation, 2929 Walnut Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104. *Product name:* TVE29–T 0.175%G Herbicide. *Active ingredient:* Herbicide–tetflupyrolimet at 0.175%. *Proposed use:* Turf. *Contact:* RD.

(Authority: 7 U.S.C. 136 *et seq.*)

Dated: October 11, 2024.

Kimberly Smith,

Acting Director, Information Technology and Resources Management Division, Office of Program Support.

[FR Doc. 2024–25487 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560–50–P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL OP–OFA–149]

Environmental Impact Statements; Notice of Availability

Responsible Agency: Office of Federal Activities, General Information 202–564–5632 or *https://www.epa.gov/nepa.*

Weekly receipt of Environmental Impact Statements (EIS)

Filed October 21, 2024 10 a.m. EST Through October 28, 2024 10 a.m. EST

Pursuant to 40 CFR 1506.9.

Notice

Section 309(a) of the Clean Air Act requires that EPA make public its comments on EISs issued by other Federal agencies. EPA's comment letters on EISs are available at: *https://cdxapps.epa.gov/cdx-enepa-II/public/action/eis/search.*

EIS No. 20240192, Draft, GSA, MN, Environmental Impact Statement for the Grand Portage Land Port of Entry Modernization and Expansion Project Grand Portage, MN, Comment Period Ends: 12/16/2024, Contact: Michael Gonczar 312–810–2326.

EIS No. 20240193, Draft, GSA, CT, Hartford Courthouse Draft EIS, Comment Period Ends: 12/16/2024, Contact: Robert Herman 413–244–9167.

EIS No. 20240194, Final, BLM, NV, Rough Hat Clark Solar Project, Review Period Ends: 12/02/2024, Contact: Jessica Headen 702–515–5206.

EIS No. 20240195, Draft, NRC, CA, Generic Environmental Impact Statement for License Renewal of Nuclear Plants, Supplement 62, Regarding License Renewal of Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant, Units 1 and 2, Draft Report, Comment Period Ends: 12/16/2024, Contact: Kim Conway 301–415–1335.

Amended Notice

EIS No. 20240173, Draft, TVA, TN, Integrated Resource Plan 2025, Comment Period Ends: 12/11/2024, Contact: Kelly Baxter 865–632–2444.

Revision to FR Notice Published 09/27/2024; Extending the Comment Period from 11/26/2024 to 12/11/2024.

Dated: October 29, 2024.

Timothy Witman,

Acting Director, NEPA Compliance Division, Office of Federal Activities.

[FR Doc. 2024–25478 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560–50–P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[EPA–HQ–OPP–2024–0061; FRL–11680–08–OCSPP]

Pesticide Product Registration; Receipt of Applications for New Uses (August 2024)

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: EPA has received applications to register new uses for pesticide products containing currently registered active ingredients. Pursuant to the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA), EPA is hereby providing notice of receipt and opportunity to comment on these applications.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before December 2, 2024.

ADDRESSES: Submit your comments, identified by docket identification (ID) number EPA–HQ–OPP–2024–0061, through the *Federal eRulemaking Portal* at *https://www.regulations.gov.* Follow the online instructions for submitting comments. Do not submit electronically any information you consider to be Confidential Business Information (CBI) or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. Additional instructions on commenting and visiting the docket, along with more information about dockets generally, is available at *https://www.epa.gov/dockets.*

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Charles Smith, Registration Division (RD) (7505T), main telephone number: (202) 566–1030, email address: *RDFRNotices@epa.gov.* The mailing address is Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20460–0001. As part of the mailing address, include the contact person's name, division, and mail code.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. General Information

A. Does this action apply to me?

You may be potentially affected by this action if you are an agricultural producer, food manufacturer, or pesticide manufacturer. The following list of North American Industrial

Classification System (NAICS) codes is not intended to be exhaustive, but rather provides a guide to help readers determine whether this document applies to them. Potentially affected entities may include:

- Crop production (NAICS code 111).
- Animal production (NAICS code 112).
- Food manufacturing (NAICS code 311).

B. What should I consider as I prepare my comments for EPA?

1. *Submitting CBI.* Do not submit this information to EPA through regulations.gov or email. Clearly mark the part or all of the information that you claim to be CBI. For CBI information in a disk or CD–ROM that you mail to EPA, mark the outside of the disk or CD–ROM as CBI and then identify electronically within the disk or CD–ROM the specific information that is claimed as CBI. In addition to one complete version of the comment that includes information claimed as CBI, a copy of the comment that does not contain the information claimed as CBI must be submitted for inclusion in the public docket. Information so marked will not be disclosed except in accordance with procedures set forth in 40 CFR part 2.

2. *Tips for preparing your comments.* When preparing and submitting your comments, see the commenting tips at *https://www.epa.gov/dockets/commenting-epa-dockets.*

II. Registration Applications

EPA has received applications to register new uses for pesticide products containing currently registered active ingredients. Pursuant to the provisions of FIFRA section 3(c)(4) (7 U.S.C. 136a(c)(4)), EPA is hereby providing notice of receipt and opportunity to comment on these applications. Notice of receipt of these applications does not imply a decision by the Agency on these applications.

Notice of Receipt—New Uses

1. *EPA Registration Numbers:* 91813–60; 70506–446. *Docket ID number:* EPA–HQ–OPP–2024–0203. *Applicant:* UPL NA Inc., P.O. Box 12219, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709. *Active ingredient:* Fenhexamid. *Product type:* Fungicide. *Proposed use:* Basil, dried leaves and basil, fresh leaves. *Contact:* RD.

2. *EPA Registration Numbers:* 100–1609; 100–1648. *Docket ID number:* EPA–HQ–OPP–2024–0229. *Applicant:* Syngenta Crop Protection, LLC, 410 S. Swing Rd., Greensboro, NC 27409. *Active ingredient:* Pydiflumetofen. *Product type:* Fungicide. *Proposed Use:* Potato Seed Treatment. *Contact:* RD.

(Authority: 7 U.S.C. 136 *et seq.*)

Dated: October 11, 2024.

Kimberly Smith,

Acting Director, Information Technology and Resources Management Division, Office of Program Support.

[FR Doc. 2024–25492 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560–50–P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[EPA–HQ–OLEM–2024–0489; 12346–01–OLEM]

Agency Information Collection Activities; Proposed Information Collection Request; Comment Request; Brownfields Competitive Grants and Noncompetitive Funding Programs

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is planning to submit an information collection request (ICR), Brownfields Competitive Grants and Noncompetitive Funding Programs (EPA ICR Number 7789.01, OMB Control Number 2050–NEW) to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act. Before doing so, EPA is soliciting public comments on specific aspects of the proposed information collection as described below. This is a request for approval of a new collection. This notice allows for 60 days for public comments.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before December 31, 2024.

ADDRESSES: Submit your comments, referencing Docket ID Number EPA–HQ–OLEM–2024–0489, to EPA online using *www.regulations.gov* (our preferred method), by email to *barnes.christina@epa.gov,* or by mail to: EPA Docket Center, Environmental Protection Agency, Mail Code 28221T, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20460. EPA's policy is that all comments received will be included in the public docket without change including any personal information provided, unless the comment includes profanity, threats, information claimed to be Confidential Business Information (CBI) or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Christina Barnes, Office of Brownfields and Land Revitalization, (5105T), Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20460; telephone number: (202) 566–0943; email address: *barnes.christina@epa.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This is a request for approval of a new collection. An agency may not conduct or sponsor and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

This notice allows 60 days for public comments. Supporting documents, which explain in detail the information that the EPA will be collecting, are available in the public docket for this ICR. The docket can be viewed online at *www.regulations.gov* or in person at the EPA Docket Center, WJC West, Room 3334, 1301 Constitution Ave. NW, Washington, DC. The telephone number for the Docket Center is 202–566–1744. For additional information about EPA's public docket, visit *http://www.epa.gov/dockets.*

Pursuant to section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the PRA, EPA is soliciting comments and information to enable it to: (i) Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (ii) evaluate the accuracy of the Agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (iii) enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (iv) minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate forms of information technology. EPA will consider the comments received and amend the ICR as appropriate. The final ICR package will then be submitted to OMB for review and approval. At that time, EPA will issue another **Federal Register** notice to announce the submission of the ICR to OMB and the opportunity to submit additional comments to OMB.

Abstract: This ICR describes the burden of activities for the collection of information from those organizations and entities that apply for cooperative agreements from EPA under the authority of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) as amended by the Brownfields Utilization, Investment, and Local Development (BUILD) Act (Pub. L. 115–141). Subtitle A of

CERCLA, as amended, authorizes EPA to award grants or cooperative agreements to states, Tribal Nations, local governments, and other eligible entities to support the assessment and cleanup of brownfields properties, and subtitle C authorizes a noncompetitive $50 million program to establish and enhance state and Tribal response programs. The authority for these financial assistance programs is codified at CERCLA 104(k) and CERCLA 128(a) respectively. Congress appropriates specific amounts of funding for both programs in EPA's State and Tribal Assistance Grant account.

With this ICR, EPA's Office of Brownfields and Land Revitalization (OBLR) seeks authorization to collect information from grant applicants and noncompetitive funding requesters using several standard instruments (templates) that will streamline the data collection effort and improve the quality, efficiency, and fairness of the competitions and allocations. EPA estimates that all respondents who voluntarily respond to this information collection by electing to participate in the Brownfields Program have determined that the expected benefits of participation outweigh any burden associated with preparing the response.

This new ICR provides the burden estimate for activities associated with optional applicant use instruments, and EPA review of the submissions; and seeks approval for seven standard application/request templates. EPA's goal in providing these templates is to provide an example for applicants and requesters of how the information in an application or funding request can be presented. Applicants and requesters who choose not to use the sample formats for providing information will not be punished. However, when the information in an application or funding request is presented using a standard format, EPA staff can review applications and funding requests more efficiently.

Form Numbers: OMB Control Number: 2050–NEW; EPA ICR Number: 7789.01.

Respondents/affected entities: State/local/tribal governments; Non-Profits.

Respondent's obligation to respond: required to obtain or retain a benefit (2 CFR part 1500).

Estimated number of respondents: 1,215 (total).

Frequency of response: Annually.

Total estimated burden: 7,865 hours (per year). Burden is defined at 5 CFR 1320.03(b).

Total estimated cost: $1,060,540.53 (per year), which includes $0 annualized capital or operation & maintenance costs.

Changes in the Estimates: There is no increase or decrease of hours in the total estimated respondent burden because this is a new ICR being submitted to OMB.

Dated: October 28, 2024.

Brian Thompson,

Acting Deputy Director, Office of Brownfields and Land Revitalization.

[FR Doc. 2024–25417 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560–50–P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[EPA–HQ–OGC–2024–0490; FRL–12343–01–OGC]

Proposed Consent Decree, Clean Air Act Citizen Suit

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of proposed consent decree; request for public comment.

SUMMARY: In accordance with section 113(g) of the Clean Air Act, as amended (CAA or the Act), the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA or the Agency) is providing notice of a proposed consent decree in *Center for Biological Diversity and Sierra Club* v. *Regan,* No. 4:24-cv-01900–HSG (N.D. Cal.). On May 11, 2024, Plaintiffs Center for Biological Diversity and Sierra Club (collectively Plaintiffs) filed an amended complaint in the United States District Court for the Northern District of California. Plaintiffs alleged that EPA failed to perform certain non-discretionary duties in accordance with the Act: to determine that certain nonattainment areas under the 2010 primary National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for sulfur dioxide (SO_2) had failed to submit required state implementation plans (SIPs); to promulgate federal implementation plans (FIPs) for certain SO_2 nonattainment areas; and to determine whether certain nonattainment areas had timely attained the NAAQS. The proposed consent decree would establish deadlines for EPA to take actions.

DATES: Written comments on the proposed consent decree must be received by December 2, 2024.

ADDRESSES: Submit your comments, identified by Docket ID No. EPA–HQ–OGC–2024–0490, online at *https://www.regulations.gov* (EPA's preferred method). Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.

Instructions: All submissions received must include the Docket ID number for this action. Comments received may be posted without change to *https://www.regulations.gov,* including any personal information provided. For detailed instructions on sending comments and additional information on the rulemaking process, see the ''Additional Information about Commenting on the Proposed Consent Decree'' heading under the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section of this document.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Michael Thrift, Air and Radiation Law Office, Office of General Counsel, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; telephone: (202) 564–8852; email address: *thrift.mike@epa.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Obtaining a Copy of the Proposed Consent Decree

The official public docket for this action (identified by Docket ID No. EPA–HQ–OGC–2024–0490 contains a copy of the proposed consent decree. The official public docket is available for public viewing at the Office of Environmental Information (OEI) Docket in the EPA Docket Center, EPA West, Room 3334, 1301 Constitution Ave. NW, Washington, DC. The EPA Docket Center Public Reading Room is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The telephone number for the Public Reading Room is (202) 566–1744, and the telephone number for the OEI Docket is (202) 566–1752.

The electronic version of the public docket for this action contains a copy of the proposed consent decree, and is available through *https://www.regulations.gov.* You may use *https://www.regulations.gov* to submit or view public comments, access the index listing of the contents of the official public docket, and access those documents in the public docket that are available electronically. Once in the system, key in the appropriate docket identification number then select ''search.''

II. Additional Information About the Proposed Consent Decree

Plaintiffs filed a complaint in the United States District Court for the Northern District of California alleging that EPA failed to perform certain non-discretionary duties in accordance with the Clean Air Act under sections 110 and 179 to (i) determine that certain nonattainment areas under the 2010 primary SO_2 NAAQS had failed to submit required SIPs; (ii) promulgate

FIPs for certain SO_2 nonattainment areas; and (iii) determine whether certain nonattainment areas had timely attained the NAAQS. Subsequently, EPA issued a notice determining that the areas alleged to have failed to submit SIPs in fact had so failed, thus mooting Plaintiffs' claim on those grounds.

The EPA solicits public comments on a proposed consent decree that would establish deadlines for EPA to take proposed and final actions pursuant to CAA sections 110(c) and 179(c) related to the 2010 primary SO_2 NAAQS. The consent decree would require that EPA no later than December 19, 2024, sign a final notice (or notices) determining under CAA section 179(c) whether the Anne-Arundel/Baltimore County, MD; Alton Township, IL; St. Clair, MI; Freestone-Anderson, TX; Rusk-Panola. TX; Titus, TX; Evangeline Parish, LA; and Piti-Cabras, Guam, nonattainment areas timely attained the 2010 primary SO_2 NAAQS; and by August 29, 2025, sign a final notice under CAA section 179(c) determining whether the Huntington, IN nonattainment area timely attained the NAAQS and sign a final notice promulgating a FIP for that area under the NAAQS. The consent decree would also require that EPA no later than September 30, 2025, sign a proposed notice (or notices) to promulgate FIPs under the NAAQS for the Piti-Cabras, Guam and Evangeline Parish, LA nonattainment areas and by March 31, 2026, sign a final notice (or notices) promulgating FIPs under the NAAQS for the Piti-Cabras, Guam and Evangeline Parish, LA nonattainment areas; and by August 28, 2026, sign a final notice promulgating a FIP under the NAAQS for the Hayden, AZ nonattainment area. In addition, the consent decree would require that EPA no later than January 14, 2027, sign a proposed notice (or notices) to promulgate FIPs under the NAAQS for the Guayama-Salinas and San Juan, Puerto Rico nonattainment areas and by June 1, 2027, sign a final notice (or notices) promulgating FIPs under the NAAQS for the Guayama-Salinas and San Juan, Puerto Rico nonattainment areas; and by November 1, 2027, sign a final notice (or notices) determining whether the Guayama-Salinas and San Juan, Puerto Rico nonattainment areas timely attained the NAAQS.

For a period of thirty (30) days following the date of publication of this notice, the Agency will accept written comments relating to the proposed consent decree. The EPA or the Department of Justice may withdraw or withhold consent to the proposed consent decree if the comments disclose facts or considerations that indicate that such consent is inappropriate, improper, inadequate, or inconsistent with the requirements of the Act.

III. Additional Information About Commenting on the Proposed Consent Decree

Submit your comments, identified by Docket ID No. EPA–HQ–OGC–2024–0490, via *https://www.regulations.gov.* Once submitted, comments cannot be edited or removed from this docket. The EPA may publish any comment received to its public docket. Do not submit to EPA's docket at *https://www.regulations.gov* any information you consider to be Confidential Business Information (CBI) or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. Multimedia submissions (audio, video, etc.) must be accompanied by a written comment. The written comment is considered the official comment and should include discussion of all points you wish to make. The EPA will generally not consider comments or comment contents located outside of the primary submission (*i.e.,* on the web, cloud, or other file sharing system). For additional submission methods, the full EPA public comment policy, information about CBI or multimedia submissions, and general guidance on making effective comments, please visit *https://www.epa.gov/dockets/commenting-epa-dockets.* For additional information about submitting information identified as CBI, please contact the person listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this document. Note that written comments containing CBI and submitted by mail may be delayed and deliveries or couriers will be received by scheduled appointment only.

If you submit an electronic comment, EPA recommends that you include your name, mailing address, and an email address or other contact information in the body of your comment. This ensures that you can be identified as the submitter of the comment and allows EPA to contact you in case EPA cannot read your comment due to technical difficulties or needs further information on the substance of your comment. Any identifying or contact information provided in the body of a comment will be included as part of the comment that is placed in the official public docket and made available in EPA's electronic public docket. If EPA cannot read your comment due to technical difficulties and cannot contact you for clarification, EPA may not be able to consider your comment.

Use of the *https://www.regulations.gov* website to submit comments to EPA electronically is EPA's preferred method for receiving comments. The electronic public docket system is an ''anonymous access'' system, which means EPA will not know your identity, email address, or other contact information unless you provide it in the body of your comment.

Please ensure that your comments are submitted within the specified comment period. Comments received after the close of the comment period will be marked ''late.'' The EPA is not required to consider these late comments.

Gautam Srinivasan,

Associate General Counsel.

[FR Doc. 2024–25483 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560–50–P

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

[GN Docket No. 19–329; FR ID 257926]

Federal Advisory Committee Act; Task Force for Reviewing the Connectivity and Technology Needs of Precision Agriculture in the United States

AGENCY: Federal Communications Commission.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act, this notice advises interested persons that the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC or Commission) Task Force for Reviewing the Connectivity and Technology Needs of Precision Agriculture in the United States (Task Force) will hold its next meeting via live internet link.

DATES: December 5, 2024. The meeting will come to order at 10 a.m. EST.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held via conference call and open viewing to the public via live feed from the FCC's web page at *www.fcc.gov/live.*

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Emily Caditz, Designated Federal Officer, at (202) 418–2268, or *Emily.Caditz@fcc.gov;* or Grant B. Lukas, Deputy Designated Federal Officer, at (202) 418–1057, or *Grant.Lukas@fcc.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The meeting will be held on December 5, 2024 at 10 a.m. EST and may be viewed live, by the public, at *http://www.fcc.gov/live.* Any questions that arise during the meeting should be sent to *PrecisionAgTF@fcc.gov* and will be answered at a later date. Members of the public may submit comments to the Task Force in the FCC's Electronic

Comment Filing System, ECFS, at *www.fcc.gov/ecfs.* Comments to the Task Force should be filed in GN Docket No. 19–329.

Open captioning will be provided for this event. Other reasonable accommodations for people with disabilities are available upon request. Requests for such accommodations should be submitted via email to *fcc504@fcc.gov* or by calling the Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau at (202) 418–0530 (voice). Such requests should include a detailed description of the accommodation needed. In addition, please include a way the FCC can contact you if it needs more information. Please allow at least five days' advance notice; last-minute requests will be accepted but may not be possible to fill.

Proposed Agenda: At this meeting, the Task Force will vote on reports and recommendations discussed during the Task Force's term. This agenda may be modified at the discretion of the Task Force Chair and the Designated Federal Officer.

(5 U.S.C. app 2, sec. 10(a)(2))

Federal Communications Commission.

Jodie May,

Division Chief, Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau.

[FR Doc. 2024–25409 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6712–01–P

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

[GN Docket No. 17–208; FR ID 258641]

Meeting of the Communications Equity and Diversity Council

AGENCY: Federal Communications Commission.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act, this notice announces the third meeting of the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC or Commission) re-chartered Communications Equity and Diversity Council (CEDC). The charter for the CEDC was renewed for a two-year period beginning June 22, 2023.

DATES: Friday, December 6, 2024, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The CEDC meeting will be held in a hybrid manner. The public may attend the meeting in person at FCC headquarters at 45 L Street NE, Washington, DC. The meeting also will be available to the public for viewing via the internet at *https://www.fcc.gov/live.*

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Rodney McDonald, Designated Federal Officer (DFO) of the CEDC, (202) 418–7513, *Rodney.McDonald@fcc.gov*; Diana Coho, Deputy DFO of the CEDC, (717) 338–2848, *Diana.Coho@fcc.gov*; Connor Ferraro, Deputy DFO of the CEDC, (202) 418–1322, *Connor.Ferraro@fcc.gov*; or Sima Nilsson, Deputy DFO of the CEDC, (202) 418–2708, *Sima.Nilsson@fcc.gov*. More information about the CEDC is available at *https://www.fcc.gov/communications-equity-and-diversity-council.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The CEDC meeting is accessible to the public on the internet via live feed from the FCC's web page at *https://www.fcc.gov/live.* Open captioning will be provided for this event. Other reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities are available upon request. Requests for such accommodations should be submitted via email to *fcc504@fcc.gov* or by calling the Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau at (202) 418–0530 (voice). Such requests should include a detailed description of the accommodation needed. In addition, please include a way for the Commission to contact the requester if more information is needed to fulfill the request. Please allow at least five days' advance notice for accommodation requests; last minute requests will be accepted but may not be possible to accommodate. Members of the public may submit any questions during the meeting to *livequestions@fcc.gov*. Oral statements at the meeting by parties or entities not represented on the CEDC will be permitted to the extent time permits and at the discretion of the CEDC Chair and the DFO. Members of the public also may submit comments to the CEDC using the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing System, ECFS, at *www.fcc.gov/ecfs.* Comments to the CEDC should be filed in GN Docket No. 17–208.

Proposed Agenda: The agenda for the meeting will include introducing a new Deputy DFO for the CEDC, introducing new CEDC working group co-chairs for the Innovation and Access Working Group, receiving updates from the working groups, and discussing working group plans going forward. The agenda may be modified at the discretion of the CEDC Chair and the DFO. It is anticipated that any significant agenda modifications will be posted in advance on the CEDC web page. The Council's continuing mission is to make recommendations to the Commission on advancing equity in the provision of and access to digital communication services and products for all people of the United States, without discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, or disability. It shall provide recommendations to the Commission on how to empower people of color and others who have been historically underserved, including persons who live in rural areas, and persons otherwise adversely affected by persistent poverty or inequality, to access, leverage, and benefit from the wide range of opportunities made possible by technology, communication services, and next-generation networks. The CEDC is organized under, and operates in accordance with, the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. app. 10).

Federal Communications Commission.

Jodie May,

Division Chief, Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau.

[FR Doc. 2024–25496 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6712–01–P

FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

Change in Bank Control Notices; Acquisitions of Shares of a Bank or Bank Holding Company

The notificants listed below have applied under the Change in Bank Control Act (Act) (12 U.S.C. 1817(j)) and § 225.41 of the Board's Regulation Y (12 CFR 225.41) to acquire shares of a bank or bank holding company. The factors that are considered in acting on the applications are set forth in paragraph 7 of the Act (12 U.S.C. 1817(j)(7)).

The public portions of the applications listed below, as well as other related filings required by the Board, if any, are available for immediate inspection at the Federal Reserve Bank(s) indicated below and at the offices of the Board of Governors. This information may also be obtained on an expedited basis, upon request, by contacting the appropriate Federal Reserve Bank and from the Board's Freedom of Information Office at *https://www.federalreserve.gov/foia/request.htm.* Interested persons may express their views in writing on the standards enumerated in paragraph 7 of the Act.

Comments received are subject to public disclosure. In general, comments received will be made available without change and will not be modified to remove personal or business information including confidential, contact, or other identifying information. Comments should not include any information such as

confidential information that would not be appropriate for public disclosure.

Comments regarding each of these applications must be received at the Reserve Bank indicated or the offices of the Board of Governors, Ann E. Misback, Secretary of the Board, 20th Street and Constitution Avenue NW, Washington DC 20551–0001, not later than November 18, 2024.

A. Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis (Holly A. Rieser, Senior Manager) P.O. Box 442, St. Louis, Missouri 63166–2034. Comments can also be sent electronically to *Comments.applications@stls.frb.org:*

1. *Jackie Doyle Drake Jr., The Drake Joint Bank Shares Revocable Trust, Sue Topp Drake and Jackie Doyle Drake, as co-trustees, all of Germantown, Tennessee, and Thomas Wooten Drake, Nashville, Tennessee;* to establish the Drake Family Control Group, a group acting in concert, to retain voting shares of Helena Bancshares, Inc., and thereby indirectly retain voting shares of Partners Bank, both of Helena, Arkansas.

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

Michele Taylor Fennell,

Associate Secretary of the Board.

[FR Doc. 2024–25488 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

[OMB Control No. 9000–0035; Docket No. 2024–0053; Sequence No. 14]

Submission for OMB Review; Claims and Appeals

AGENCY: Department of Defense (DOD), General Services Administration (GSA), and National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act, the Regulatory Secretariat Division has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) a request to review and approve an extension of a previously approved information collection requirement regarding claims and appeals.

DATES: Submit comments on or before December 2, 2024

ADDRESSES: Written comments and recommendations for this information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to *www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain.* Find this particular information collection by selecting ''Currently under Review—Open for Public Comments'' or by using the search function.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Zenaida Delgado, Procurement Analyst, at telephone 202–969–7207, or *zenaida.delgado@gsa.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

A. OMB Control Number, Title, and Any Associated Form(s)

9000–0035, Claims and Appeals.

B. Need and Uses

This clearance covers the information that contractors must submit to comply with the following Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) requirements:

FAR 52.233–1, Disputes. This clause requires contractors to submit a claim in writing to the contracting officer for a written decision. For any claim exceeding $100,000, contractors must provide a certification that (1) the claim is made in good faith; (2) supporting data are accurate and complete; and (3) the amount requested accurately reflects the contract adjustment for which the contractor believes the Government is liable. Contractors may appeal the contracting officer's decision by submitting written appeals to the appropriate officials.

If the contractor refuses the Government's offer to use alternative dispute resolution (ADR), the contractor must inform the contracting officer, in writing, of the contractor's specific reasons for rejecting the offer.

The contracting officer will use the information to decide the disposition of the claim.

C. Annual Burden

Respondents: 4,500.

Total Annual Responses: 13,500.

Total Burden Hours: 13,500.

D. Public Comment

A 60-day notice was published in the **Federal Register** at 89 FR 70189, on August 29, 2024. No comments were received.

Obtaining Copies: Requesters may obtain a copy of the information collection documents from the GSA Regulatory Secretariat Division by calling 202–501–4755 or emailing *GSARegSec@gsa.gov.* Please cite OMB Control No. 9000–0035, Claims and Appeals.

Janet Fry,

Director, Federal Acquisition Policy Division, Office of Governmentwide Acquisition Policy, Office of Acquisition Policy, Office of Governmentwide Policy.

[FR Doc. 2024–25491 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6820–EP–P

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

[Notice–PBS–2024–16; Docket No. 2024–0002; Sequence No. 50]

Notice of Availability of a Draft Environmental Impact Statement for a New Federal Courthouse in Hartford, Connecticut

AGENCY: New England Region, Public Buildings Service (PBS), U.S. General Services Administration (GSA).

ACTION: Notice of availability, announcement of public hearing.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), GSA has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to analyze the potential impacts from the proposed acquisition of a site in Hartford, CT, and the subsequent design, construction, and operation of a new Federal courthouse. The new courthouse would be owned and managed by GSA and occupied by the U.S. District Court for the District of Connecticut and related agencies. This notice announces the opportunity for public review and comment on the Draft EIS. The Draft EIS describes the purpose and need for the proposed project, the alternatives considered, the existing environment that could be affected, the potential impacts resulting from each of the alternatives, and proposed best management practices and mitigation measures.

DATES: Interested parties are encouraged to participate in the public hearing and provide comments on the Draft EIS. The public comment period begins with the publication of this Notice of Availability (NOA) in the **Federal Register** and will end on Monday, December 16, 2024. Comments must be postmarked or received by the last day of the public comment period (see **ADDRESSES** section of this NOA for how to submit comments).

Hearing Date—The public hearing will be held on Wednesday, November 13, 2024, at the Lyceum Center, Conference Center 1, 227 Lawrence Street, Hartford, CT 06106, and will take place from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., eastern

time. The public hearing will begin with a presentation that provides an overview of the NEPA process, the proposed project, and the findings of the Draft EIS. Following the presentation, there will be a moderated session during which members of the public will be able to provide comments verbally or in writing. An American Sign language interpreter and a Spanish language interpreter will be available. After the meeting, all presentation materials will be posted to GSA's project website.

ADDRESSES: The Draft EIS can be viewed or downloaded from the GSA project website at *www.gsa.gov/hartfordcourthouse.*

Hard copies are available for viewing at the following locations:

- Hartford Public Library, Albany Branch located at 1250 Albany Ave., Hartford, CT 06112
- Hartford Public Library, Park Street Branch located at 603 Park St., Hartford CT 06106
- Hartford City Hall located at 550 Main Street, Room 001, Hartford, CT 06103

Comments must be submitted to GSA by Monday, December 16, 2024, using one of the following methods:

- *In-Person:* Submit written comments at the public hearing via comment forms. There will be a stenographer to capture verbal comments at the hearing.
- *Email:* Send an email to *HartfordCourthouse@gsa.gov* and reference ''Hartford Courthouse EIS'' in the subject line.
- *Mail:* Written comments must be postmarked by Monday, December 16, 2024. Address all physical mail to: General Services Administration, Attention: Robert Herman, Project Manager, Abraham A. Ribicoff Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse, 450 Main Street, Suite 435, Hartford, CT 06103.
- *Drop Box:* Place written comments in the drop box at the main entrance of the Ribicoff Federal Building and Courthouse, which is located at 450 Main Street, Hartford, CT 06103.

Comments received or postmarked after the end of the comment period may not be considered by GSA. All comments received are part of the public record. All personal identifying information (*e.g.,* name, address, etc.), confidential business information, or otherwise sensitive information submitted voluntarily by the sender will be publicly accessible. GSA will accept anonymous comments.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Robert Herman, Project Manager, General Services Administration at 413–244–9167 or *HartfordCourthouse@gsa.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The U.S. District Court for the District of Connecticut (the Court) currently operates at three facilities: the Richard C. Lee U.S. Courthouse in New Haven (its headquarters location), the Brien McMahon Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse in Bridgeport, and the Abraham A. Ribicoff Federal Building and Courthouse in Hartford (Ribicoff Federal Building and Courthouse).

The Ribicoff Federal Building and Courthouse, constructed in 1963, does not have the capacity to accommodate the Court's functions and operations. The facility is inadequate in size and configuration for the Court's operations, including deficiencies in judicial, juror, and detainee circulation and overall facility security. The Court's long-term facilities planning and GSA's feasibility studies concluded that relocating the Court's headquarters to Hartford would provide efficiencies in judicial operations across the State. The results from these studies led to GSA's proposal to locate the Court and related agencies at a new courthouse in Hartford.

Alternatives Under Consideration

GSA identified two ''action'' alternatives that met the stated purpose and need of the proposed project and have been analyzed in detail in the Draft EIS. The two ''action'' alternatives correspond to two sites in Hartford for the location of the new courthouse. Each ''action'' alternative would involve the site acquisition, design, construction, and operation of a new courthouse in Hartford.

The new courthouse building would be up to 281,000 gross square feet and contain 11 courtrooms, 18 judges chambers, offices for the Court and related agencies, and 66 secure, indoor parking spaces. The new courthouse would incorporate a sustainable, climate-resilient, and operationally efficient design to meet or exceed the energy and sustainability goals established by Federal guidelines and policies, along with industry standards, building codes, and best practices. The project would meet the present and long-term requirements of the Court. GSA analyzed two locations for the project, each corresponding to an ''action'' alternative (listed west to east):

- *Alternative 1 (Woodland Site)*—located at 61 Woodland Street and is 10.19 acres. The Woodland Site is in Hartford's Asylum Hill neighborhood, a block south of Saint Francis Hospital, and includes a portion of the North Branch Park River along its western boundary. It is bounded by Asylum Ave. to the north, the North Branch Park River to the west, healthcare-related buildings along its southern perimeter, and Woodland St. to the east. It is currently utilized as a State of Connecticut office building and has an ancillary building and a surface parking lot. Under Alternative 1, the existing buildings at the Woodland Site may be demolished or reused as part of the construction of the new courthouse. Construction would be limited to areas outside the floodplains. Approximately 2 acres of the site would be excavated and graded in preparation for construction. The new courthouse may contain up to two levels of underground secure parking only, surface-level secure parking only, or a combination of the two. A new landscape plan would be developed for the site with native plantings.
- *Alternative 2 (Allyn Site)*—located at 154 Allyn Street and is 2.19 acres. The property lies downtown, one block north of Bushnell Park, one block east of Union Station, and one block west of the XL Center. It is bounded by Church St. to the north, High St. to the west, Allyn St. to the south, and mixed-use buildings along its eastern perimeter. It is currently utilized as a surface parking lot. Under Alternative 2, a new courthouse would be constructed on the Allyn Site. Approximately 2 acres of the site would be excavated and graded in preparation for construction. The new courthouse would contain up to two levels of underground secure parking. A landscape plan would be developed for the site with native plantings.

GSA analyzed a ''no action'' alternative, which evaluated the effects if site acquisition and the subsequent design, construction, and operation of a new courthouse would not occur (*i.e.,* the status quo). This alternative would not meet the purpose and need of the proposed project because the Ribicoff Federal Building and Courthouse does not have the capacity to accommodate the Court's functional, operational, and space requirements. Under the ''no action'' alternative, the Court would continue to operate across the State at its current facilities in Hartford, New Haven, and Bridgeport. The Court would not relocate its headquarters to Hartford.

Further information about the project can be viewed at: *http://gsa.gov/hartfordcourthouse.*

Jesse Lafreniere,

Director, Design and Construction Division, U.S. General Services Administration, PBS New England Region.

[FR Doc. 2024–25086 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6820–RB–P

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

[Notice—PBS–2024–14; Docket No. 2024–0002; Sequence No. 48]

Notice of Availability for a Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Grand Portage Land Port of Entry Modernization and Expansion Project in Grand Portage, Minnesota

AGENCY: Public Buildings Service (PBS), General Services Administration (GSA).

ACTION: Notice of availability (NOA); announcement of public hearing.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), which examines potential environmental impacts from the modernization and expansion of the Grand Portage Land Port of Entry (LPOE), which is located within the Grand Portage Reservation of the Grand Portage Band of Lake Superior Chippewa (herein referred to as the Grand Portage Band). The existing Grand Portage LPOE is owned and managed by GSA and is operated by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Customs and Border Protection (CBP). The Draft EIS describes the purpose and need for the project; alternatives considered; the existing environment that could be affected; the potential impacts resulting from each of the alternatives; and proposed best management practices and/or mitigation measures.

DATES:

Public Comment Period—Interested parties are invited to provide comments on the Draft EIS. The Public Comment Period begins with publication of this NOA in the **Federal Register** and will last for 45 days until December 16, 2024. Written comments must be received by the last day of the Public Comment Period (see **ADDRESSES** section of this NOA on how to submit comments). After the comment period, GSA will prepare the Final EIS.

Hearing Date—GSA will host a hybrid virtual and in-person public hearing on Tuesday, November 19, 2024, from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., Central Daylight Time (CDT), where interested parties are invited to join and provide verbal or written comments on the Draft EIS (see **ADDRESSES** section for location address). Refer to the PUBLIC HEARING INFORMATION section of this NOA for additional information and how to access the online public hearing.

ADDRESSES: *Hearing Location*—The public may attend the hearing in person at the Grand Portage State Park Welcome Center at 9393 E Highway 61, Grand Portage, MN 55605.

A copy of the Draft EIS can be found on the GSA website at: *https://www.gsa.gov/about-us/gsa-regions/region-5-great-lakes/buildings-and-facilities/minnesota/grand-portage-land-port-of-entry.* Hard copies are also available at the following locations: Grand Portage Tribal Council Office, 83 Stevens Rd., Grand Portage, MN 55605; Grand Portage Community Center,73 Upper Rd, Grand Portage, MN 55605; Grand Portage Trust Lands, 27 Store Rd., Grand Portage, MN 55605.

Public Comments

In addition to oral comments and written comments provided at the public hearing, members of the public may also submit comments by one of the following methods. All oral and written comments will be considered equally and will be made part of the public record.

- *Email: michael.gonczar@gsa.gov.* Please include *'Grand Portage LPOE EIS'* in the subject line of the message.
- *Mail: ATTN: Michael Gonczar, Grand Portage LPOE EIS;* U.S. General Services Administration, Region 5; 230 S Dearborn Street, Suite 3600, Chicago, IL 60604

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Michael Gonczar, NEPA Program Manager, GSA, 312–810–2326, *michael.gonczar@gsa.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Public Hearing Information

The in-person meeting will begin with an open house format from 5 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. CDT; this portion of the meeting will not be broadcast. The hybrid in-person and virtual meeting will start promptly at 5:30 p.m. CDT and will begin with presentations on the NEPA and National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) processes, which are being conducted concurrently for this project, as well as an overview of the proposed project, and then will continue with the findings of the Draft EIS. A copy of the presentation slideshow will be made available prior to the hearing at: *https://www.gsa.gov/real-estate/gsa-properties/land-ports-of-entry-and-the-bil/bipartisan-infrastructure-law-construction-project/minnesota.* Following the presentation, there will be a moderated session during which members of the public can provide oral comments. Members participating virtually or attending in-person will be able to comment. Comments will be recorded. Attendees can also provide written comments at the public hearing should they not wish to speak.

Members of the public may join the Draft EIS public hearing virtually by entering the Meeting ID: 832 5067 5793, using any of the below methods, or by using the following link *https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83250675793.* Note that the hearing is best viewed through the Zoom app. Attendees are encouraged to download the Zoom app at the Zoom website (*https://zoom.us*) on their personal computer or on their mobile device and test their connection prior to the hearing to ensure best results.

- By personal computer (via the Zoom app)—Install the Zoom app at the Zoom website (*https://zoom.us*) and launch the Zoom app. Click '*Join a Meeting'* and enter the above Meeting ID. Follow the prompts to enter your name and email address to access the hearing; or
- By personal computer (via the Zoom website)—Using your computer's browser, go to the Zoom website at *http://zoom.us/join* and enter the above Meeting ID. Click '*Join from your browser'* and follow the prompts to enter your name; or
- By mobile device (via the Zoom mobile app)—Install and launch the Zoom app. Enter the above Meeting ID.

Whether joining through the Zoom app or web browser, attendees should follow the prompts to connect their computer audio. Attendees are encouraged to connect through the '*Computer Audio*' tab and click '*Join Audio by Computer*' under the '*Join Audio*' button on the bottom of their screen. Users who do not have a computer microphone and wish to provide a comment during the hearing may connect by following the prompts under the '*Phone Call*' tab under the '*Join Audio*' button.

For members of the public who do not have access to a personal computer, they may join the hearing audio by dialing the following number: 507–473–4847. When prompted, enter the following information: Meeting ID—832 5067 5793, followed by the pound (#) key; then press pound (#) again when prompted for a participant ID. Note, dialing in to the hearing is only necessary if you are not accessing the hearing through a personal computer or mobile app, or if you would like to provide oral comments during the hearing but do not have a computer microphone.

GSA staff members will be available (in-person and virtually) to assist the public as they offer comments whether they are participating virtually or in person. In addition, a court reporter will be available after the presentation, should in-person attendees wish to provide a verbal comment in private. Following the presentation and public

comment session, the meeting will continue with an open house format until 7 p.m. CDT, which will not be broadcast. Interested parties are encouraged to attend and participate in this meeting.

The public hearing will be recorded, and all comments provided will become part of the formal record.

In the event of inclement weather, the meeting may only be held virtually or will be broadcast from the Grand Portage State Park Welcome Center. If the meeting is broadcast from the Grand Portage State Park Welcome Center, a staff member will be available (in-person and virtually) to assist the public in providing public comments via the virtual platform. Please check the GSA project website (*https://www.gsa.gov/about-us/gsa-regions/region-5-great-lakes/buildings-and-facilities/minnesota/grand-portage-land-port-of-entry*) for updates in the days leading up to the meeting to determine if the meeting will be held in-person, virtually, or will be broadcast from the Grand Portage State Park Welcome Center.

Public Comment Period

The views and comments of the public are necessary in helping GSA in its decision-making process with respect to environmental, cultural, and economic impacts. The public comment process will be accomplished through a hybrid virtual and in-person public hearing, direct mail correspondence to appropriate Tribal, federal, state, and local agencies, and to private organizations and citizens who have previously expressed, or are known to have, an interest in the project. The Draft EIS has considered previous input provided during the scoping period.

Background

The existing 5.7-acre LPOE serves as the port of entry for vehicles and pedestrians crossing the U.S.-Canada border between Grand Portage Reservation in the U.S. and Neebing, Ontario in Canada. The Feasibility Study performed in 2019 determined that the existing structures do not contain the necessary square footage as specified by CBP's space and facility requirements (also referred to as Program of Requirements [POR]). In addition, the facility lacks outbound inspection capabilities. Following preparation of the Feasibility Study, a Program Development Study (PDS) was initiated as the next step in the design process to further refine potential alternatives under consideration. From the PDS process, viable alternatives were further refined into the Proposed Action analyzed within this Draft EIS, in collaboration with the Grand Portage Band, who is serving as a Cooperating Agency for this EIS.

GSA has prepared this Draft EIS for the purpose of analyzing the potential environmental, cultural, and economic impacts resulting from the Proposed Action to modernize and expand the existing Grand Portage LPOE.

Alternatives Under Consideration

The Proposed Action would comprise of modernization and expansion of existing Grand Portage LPOE facilities as described in the PDS. The Proposed Action includes removal of all existing Grand Portage LPOE buildings and replacement with new facilities in a new site configuration. GSA would replace the Grand Portage LPOE with a modernized facility on an expanded footprint, expanding the existing 5.7-acre operational area to a total operational area of approximately 10.4 acres. The Proposed Action would also include upgrades to the electrical distribution system leading to the LPOE by installing a 7.3-mile buried three-phase power line within Arrowhead Cooperative's existing utility right-of-way along the western side of Highway 61. GSA also considered the No Action Alternative, which assumes that GSA would not expand or modernize the Grand Portage LPOE or install the three-phase power line.

The purpose of the Proposed Action is for GSA to support CBP's mission by modernizing and expanding the Grand Portage LPOE. The existing LPOE facilities and their configuration do not meet CBP's current needs and do not allow for expeditious and safe inspection of the traveling public. The deficiencies fall into two broad categories: deficiencies in the overall site layout and substandard building conditions. Therefore, in order to bring the Grand Portage LPOE operations in line with design standards and operational requirements, implementation of the Proposed Action is needed to (1) address space constraints and inefficient traffic flows; (2) shorten and expedite vehicle processing time, to include improving daily commutes across the U.S.-Canada border; (3) decrease congestion and long wait times during the peak travel season; (4) allow CBP to process a higher volume of vehicles traveling to and from Canada, to include further accommodation of potential future spikes in travelers crossing the U.S.-Canada border; and (5) provide a wider single lane for large semi-trucks hauling wind turbine components from Canada.

The Draft EIS addresses the potential environmental impacts of the proposed alternatives on environmental resources including geologic resources, water resources, biological resources, air quality and climate change, noise, traffic and transportation, land use and visual resources, infrastructure and utilities, socioeconomics, cultural resources, human health and safety, and environmental justice and protection of children. Based on the analysis presented in the Draft EIS, impacts to all resource areas would be less-than-significant (*i.e.,* negligible, minor, or moderate) adverse or beneficial. Impact reduction measures are presented in the Draft EIS to reduce potential adverse effects.

GSA is currently undergoing formal consultation with the Tribal Historic Preservation Officer (THPO) to follow coordination procedures as required under Section 106 of the NHPA to determine impacts to historic properties. Mitigation measures may be determined in consultation between GSA, the THPO, and applicable consulting parties.

Under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), GSA is coordinating with USFWS per Section 7 requirements to determine effects to federally protected species. GSA has determined there would be no adverse effects to federally threatened or endangered species with implementation of impact avoidance measures. GSA's findings and correspondence with USFWS to date are incorporated in the Draft EIS.

William Renner,

Director, Facilities Management and Services Programs Division, Great Lakes Region 5, U.S. General Services Administration.

[FR Doc. 2024–24782 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6820–CF–P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

[Document Identifiers: CMS–10520]

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, Health and Human Services (HHS).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is announcing an opportunity for the public to comment on CMS' intention to collect

information from the public. Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), Federal agencies are required to publish notice in the **Federal Register** concerning each proposed collection of information (including each proposed extension or reinstatement of an existing collection of information) and to allow 60 days for public comment on the proposed action. Interested persons are invited to send comments regarding our burden estimates or any other aspect of this collection of information, including the necessity and utility of the proposed information collection for the proper performance of the agency's functions, the accuracy of the estimated burden, ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected, and the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology to minimize the information collection burden.

DATES: Comments must be received by December 31, 2024.

ADDRESSES: When commenting, please reference the document identifier or OMB control number. To be assured consideration, comments and recommendations must be submitted in any one of the following ways:

1. *Electronically.* You may send your comments electronically to *http://www.regulations.gov.* Follow the instructions for ''Comment or Submission'' or ''More Search Options'' to find the information collection document(s) that are accepting comments.

2. *By regular mail.* You may mail written comments to the following address:

CMS, Office of Strategic Operations and Regulatory Affairs, Division of Regulations Development, Attention: Document Identifier/OMB Control Number: __, Room C4–26–05, 7500 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, Maryland 21244–1850.

To obtain copies of a supporting statement and any related forms for the proposed collection(s) summarized in this notice, please access the CMS PRA website by copying and pasting the following web address into your web browser: *https://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Legislation/PaperworkReductionActof1995/PRA-Listing.*

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: William N. Parham at (410) 786–4669.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Contents

This notice sets out a summary of the use and burden associated with the following information collections. More detailed information can be found in each collection's supporting statement and associated materials (see **ADDRESSES**).

CMS–10520 Marketplace Quality Standards

Under the PRA (44 U.S.C. 3501–3520), Federal agencies must obtain approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for each collection of information they conduct or sponsor. The term ''collection of information'' is defined in 44 U.S.C. 3502(3) and 5 CFR 1320.3(c) and includes agency requests or requirements that members of the public submit reports, keep records, or provide information to a third party. Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the PRA requires Federal agencies to publish a 60-day notice in the **Federal Register** concerning each proposed collection of information, including each proposed extension or reinstatement of an existing collection of information, before submitting the collection to OMB for approval. To comply with this requirement, CMS is publishing this notice.

Information Collections

1. *Type of Information Collection Request:* Revision of a currently approved collection; *Title of Information Collection:* Marketplace Quality Standards; *Use:* The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act establishes requirements to support the delivery of quality health care coverage for health insurance issuers offering QHPs in Exchanges. Section 1311(c)(3) of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act directs the Secretary to develop a system to rate QHPs on the basis of quality and price and requires Exchanges to display this quality rating information on their respective websites. Section 1311(c)(4) of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act requires the Secretary to develop an enrollee satisfaction survey system to assess enrollee experience with each QHP (with more than 500 enrollees in the previous year) offered through an Exchange. Section 1311(h) requires QHPs to contract with certain hospitals that meet specific patient safety and health care quality standards beginning January 1, 2015.

This collection of information is necessary to provide adequate and timely health care quality information for consumers, regulators, and Exchanges in the initial years of Exchange implementation. It is also necessary to collect information to appropriately monitor and provide a process for a survey vendor to appeal HHS' decision to not approve a QHP Enrollee Survey vendor application. *Form Number:* CMS–10114 (OMB control number: 0938–1249); *Frequency:* Annually; *Affected Public:* Public sector (Individuals and Households), Private sector (Business or other for-profits and Not-for-profit institutions); *Number of Respondents:* 380; *Total Annual Responses:* 380; *Total Annual Hours:* 138,112. (For policy questions regarding this collection contact Preeti Hands at 301–492–5144.)

William N. Parham III,

Director, Division of Information Collections and Regulatory Impacts, Office of Strategic Operations and Regulatory Affairs.

[FR Doc. 2024–25505 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4120–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

[Document Identifier: CMS–10398 #86]

Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) Generic Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, Health and Human Services (HHS).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: On May 28, 2010, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) issued Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) guidance related to the ''generic'' clearance process. Generally, this is an expedited process by which agencies may obtain OMB's approval of collection of information requests that are ''usually voluntary, low-burden, and uncontroversial collections,'' do not raise any substantive or policy issues, and do not require policy or methodological review. The process requires the submission of an overarching plan that defines the scope of the individual collections that would fall under its umbrella. This **Federal Register** notice seeks public comment on one or more of our collection of information requests that we believe are generic and fall within the scope of the umbrella. Interested persons are invited to submit comments regarding our burden estimates or any other aspect of this collection of information, including: the necessity and utility of the proposed information collection for the proper performance of the agency's functions, the accuracy of the estimated burden, ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected, and the use of automated

collection techniques or other forms of information technology to minimize the information collection burden.

DATES: Comments must be received by November 15, 2024.

ADDRESSES: When commenting, please reference the applicable form number (CMS–10398 #86) and the OMB control number (0938–1148). To be assured consideration, comments and recommendations must be submitted in any one of the following ways:

1. *Electronically.* You may send your comments electronically to *http://www.regulations.gov.* Follow the instructions for ''Comment or Submission'' or ''More Search Options'' to find the information collection document(s) that are accepting comments.

2. *By regular mail.* You may mail written comments to the following address:

CMS, Office of Strategic Operations and Regulatory Affairs, Division of Regulations Development, Attention: CMS–10398 #86/OMB control number: 0938–1148, Room C4–26–05, 7500 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, Maryland 21244–1850.

To obtain copies of a supporting statement and any related forms for the proposed collection(s) summarized in this notice, please access the CMS PRA website by copying and pasting the following web address into your web browser: *https://www.cms.gov/medicare/regulations-guidance/legislation/paperwork-reduction-act-1995/pra-listing.*

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: William N. Parham at 410–786–4669.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Following is a summary of the use and burden associated with the subject information collection(s). More detailed information can be found in the collection's supporting statement and associated materials (see **ADDRESSES**).

Generic Information Collection

1. Title of Information Collection: Section 1115 Reentry Demonstration Initiative; *Type of Information Collection Request:* New information collection request; *Use:* On April 17, 2023, CMS released a State Medicaid Directors Letter (SMDL #23–003) announcing a demonstration opportunity to support community reentry and improve care transitions for individuals who are incarcerated and who are otherwise eligible for Medicaid to receive medical assistance under title XIX. The Section 1115 Reentry Demonstration Opportunity (hereinafter, ''the Reentry Demonstration Initiative'') will allow states to offer coverage for certain pre-release services for up to 90 days prior to the individual's expected release date that could not otherwise be covered by Medicaid due to the Medicaid inmate exclusion policy. The provision is consistent with section 5032 of the Substance Use Disorder Prevention that Promotes Opioid Recovery and Treatment for Patients and Communities Act (SUPPORT Act) (Pub. L. 115–271), ''Promoting State Innovations to Ease Transitions Integration to the Community for Certain Individuals.''

States applying for the Reentry Demonstration Initiative must provide a minimum set of pre-release services called the ''pre-release benefit package.'' The benefit package aims to improve transitions for individuals being released from jails or prisons and returning to their communities. The benefit package must include: (1) case management to assess and address physical and behavioral health needs and health-related social needs; and (2) medication-assisted treatment services for all types of substance use disorders as clinically appropriate, with accompanying counseling. Also required in the minimum set of services is a 30-day supply of all prescription medications that have been prescribed for the beneficiary.

This collection of information request includes three templates that are intended to expedite CMS's review of reentry demonstration initiative applications and to support state implementation planning and related transparency by standardizing the presentation of key information necessary for approvals, thereby reducing rounds of clarifying questions with state applicants. The three templates include the: (1) reentry demonstration initiative preprint, (2) reentry implementation plan template, and (3) reentry budget neutrality formulation workbook. The templates are strongly encouraged but optional and described in the following section.

Form Number: CMS–10398 #86 (OMB control number: 0938–1148); *Frequency:* Annual and on occasion; *Affected Public:* State, Local, or Tribal Governments; *Number of Respondents:* 10; *Total Annual Responses:* 30; *Total Annual Hours:* 300. (For policy questions regarding this collection contact: Raven Smith at 410–786–3731.)

William N. Parham III,

Director, Division of Information Collections and Regulatory Impacts, Office of Strategic Operations and Regulatory Affairs.

[FR Doc. 2024–25503 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4120–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Food and Drug Administration

[Docket No. FDA–2023–N–3575]

Reauthorization of the Over-The-Counter Monograph Drug User Fee Program; Public Meeting; Request for Comments

AGENCY: Food and Drug Administration, HHS.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting; request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Food and Drug Administration (FDA, the Agency, or we) is hosting a public meeting to discuss proposed recommendations for the reauthorization of the Over-The-Counter [OTC] Monograph Drug User Fee Program (OMUFA) for fiscal years (FYs) 2026 through 2030. Under OMUFA, FDA collects user fees to support OTC monograph drug activities. The current legislative authority for OMUFA expires September 30, 2025. At that time, new legislation will be required to reauthorize OMUFA for future fiscal years. Following negotiations with the regulated industry and consultation with interested members of the public, the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FD&C Act) directs FDA to publish recommendations for the reauthorization of the OMUFA program in the **Federal Register**, provide for a period of 30 days for the public to provide written comments on such recommendations, and hold a meeting at which the public may present its views on such recommendations. FDA will then consider such public views and comments and revise such recommendations as necessary.

DATES: The public meeting will be held on November 20, 2024, from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Submit either electronic or written comments on this public meeting by December 20, 2024. See the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section for registration date and information.

ADDRESSES: The public meeting is scheduled to be held at the FDA White Oak Campus, 10903 New Hampshire Ave., Bldg. 31 Conference Center, Rm. 1503, Silver Spring, MD 20993. Entrance for the public meeting participants (non-FDA employees) is through Building 1 where routine security check procedures will be performed. For parking and security information, please refer to *https://www.fda.gov/AboutFDA/WorkingatFDA/BuildingsandFacilities/WhiteOakCampusInformation/*

ucm241740.htm. Any changes to the public meeting location and remote information, as appropriate, will be posted to *https://www.fda.gov/industry/fda-user-fee-programs/over-counter-monograph-drug-user-fee-program-omufa* in advance of the meeting.

You may submit comments as follows. Please note that late, untimely filed comments will not be considered. The *https://www.regulations.gov* electronic filing system will accept comments until 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time at the end of December 20, 2024. Comments received by mail/hand delivery/courier (for written/paper submissions) will be considered timely if they are postmarked or the delivery service acceptance receipt is on or before that date.

Electronic Submissions

Submit electronic comments in the following way:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal: https://www.regulations.gov.* Follow the instructions for submitting comments. Comments submitted electronically, including attachments, to *https://www.regulations.gov* will be posted to the docket unchanged. Because your comment will be made public, you are solely responsible for ensuring that your comment does not include any confidential information that you or a third party may not wish to be posted, such as medical information, your or anyone else's Social Security number, or confidential business information, such as a manufacturing process. Please note that if you include your name, contact information, or other information that identifies you in the body of your comments, that information will be posted on *https://www.regulations.gov.*
- If you want to submit a comment with confidential information that you do not wish to be made available to the public, submit the comment as a written/paper submission and in the manner detailed (see ''Written/Paper Submissions'' and ''Instructions'').

Written/Paper Submissions

Submit written/paper submissions as follows:

- *Mail/Hand delivery/Courier (for written/paper submissions):* Dockets Management Staff (HFA–305), Food and Drug Administration, 5630 Fishers Lane, Rm. 1061, Rockville, MD 20852.
- For written/paper comments submitted to the Dockets Management Staff, FDA will post your comment, as well as any attachments, except for information submitted, marked, and identified, as confidential, if submitted as detailed in ''Instructions.''

Instructions: All submissions received must include the Docket No. FDA–2023–N–3575 for ''Reauthorization of the Over-the-Counter Monograph Drug User Fee Program; Public Meeting; Request for Comments.'' Received comments, those filed in a timely manner (see **ADDRESSES**), will be placed in the docket and, except for those submitted as ''Confidential Submissions,'' publicly viewable at *https://www.regulations.gov* or at the Dockets Management Staff between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

- Confidential Submissions—To submit a comment with confidential information that you do not wish to be made publicly available, submit your comments only as a written/paper submission. You should submit two copies total. One copy will include the information you claim to be confidential with a heading or cover note that states ''THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION.'' The Agency will review this copy, including the claimed confidential information, in its consideration of comments. The second copy, which will have the claimed confidential information redacted/blacked out, will be available for public viewing and posted on *https://www.regulations.gov.* Submit both copies to the Dockets Management Staff. If you do not wish your name and contact information to be made publicly available, you can provide this information on the cover sheet and not in the body of your comments and you must identify this information as ''confidential.'' Any information marked as ''confidential'' will not be disclosed except in accordance with 21 CFR 10.20 and other applicable disclosure law. For more information about FDA's posting of comments to public dockets, see 80 FR 56469, or access the information at: *https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2015-09-18/pdf/2015-23389.pdf.*

Docket: For access to the docket to read background documents or the electronic and written/paper comments received, go to *https://www.regulations.gov* and insert the docket number, found in brackets in the heading of this document, into the ''Search'' box and follow the prompts and/or go to the Dockets Management Staff, 5630 Fishers Lane, Rm. 1061, Rockville, MD 20852.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kimberly Taylor, Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, Food and Drug Administration, 10903 New Hampshire Ave., Bldg. 32, Rm. 4150, Silver Spring, MD 20993–0002, 240–705–2316, *Kimberly.Taylor@fda.hhs.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

FDA is announcing a public meeting to discuss proposed recommendations for the reauthorization of OMUFA provisions of the FD&C Act, which authorize FDA to collect user fees to support OTC monograph drug activities. The current authorization of the program (OMUFA I) expires in September 2025. Without new legislation, FDA will no longer be able to collect user fees for future fiscal years to help fund OTC monograph drug activities. Section 744N(d) of the FD&C Act (21 U.S.C. 379j–73(d)) requires that after FDA holds negotiations with regulated industry and consults with interested members of the public, we do the following: (1) present the recommendations to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce and the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, (2) publish the recommendations in the **Federal Register**, (3) provide a period of 30 days for the public to provide written comments on the recommendations, (4) hold a meeting at which the public may present its views on the recommendations, and (5) after consideration of public views and comments, revise the recommendations as necessary.

This **Federal Register** notice, the 30-day comment period, and the public meeting will satisfy some of these requirements. After the public meeting, we will revise the recommendations as necessary and present our recommendations to the Congressional committees.

The purpose of the public meeting announced in this **Federal Register** notice is to obtain the public's views on the proposed recommendations for the reauthorization of the OMUFA program (OMUFA II). The following information is provided to help potential meeting participants better understand the history and evolution of the OMUFA program and the current status of the proposed OMUFA II recommendations.

II. What is OMUFA and what does it do?

On March 27, 2020, the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (or the CARES Act; available at: *https://www.congress.gov/116/bills/hr748/BILLS-116hr748enr.pdf*) was signed into law. The CARES Act included an important legislative initiative, detailed in amendments to the FD&C Act, that reformed and modernized the way

certain nonprescription, or OTC drugs are regulated in the United States. These drugs, commonly known as OTC monograph drugs, may be marketed without an approved drug application under section 505 of the FD&C Act (21 U.S.C. 355) if they meet the requirements of section 505G of the FD&C Act (21 U.S.C. 355g), as well as other applicable requirements. Accompanying this OTC monograph reform legislation were provisions added by the CARES Act to the FD&C Act authorizing FDA to assess and collect user fees dedicated to OTC monograph drug activities.

This user fee program with respect to OTC monograph drugs, which we refer to as OMUFA, is modeled after the successful Prescription Drug User Fee Act (PDUFA). For OMUFA purposes, industry-paid fees help support FDA's OTC monograph drug activities, and in the OMUFA I commitment letter negotiated with industry, FDA agreed to adhere to certain performance goals, including to review certain submissions within specific time frames. Similar to PDUFA, FDA anticipates that continuing this user fee program will provide additional resources to help the Agency conduct these important regulatory activities in a timely manner and ultimately help provide the public with access to innovative, safe, and effective OTC monograph drugs.

OMUFA is authorized under sections 744L and 744M of the FD&C Act (21 U.S.C. 379j–71 and 379j–72, as added by the CARES Act, under which FDA will assess and collect fees from submitters of OTC Monograph Order Requests (OMORs), other than OMORs for certain safety changes, as well as from qualifying manufacturers of OTC monograph drugs, to help support the Agency's OTC monograph drug activities.

OMUFA is intended to provide for additional funding so that FDA can hire additional staff, improve systems, and establish and better manage the Agency's OTC monograph drug activities, including making important safety-related changes to OTC monographs, as needed, and facilitating more timely availability of safe, effective, high-quality, and innovative OTC monograph drugs to the public. As part of FDA's negotiated agreement with industry regarding reauthorization, as reflected in the accompanying OMUFA commitment letter, the Agency agrees to certain performance and procedural goals and other commitments that apply to aspects of the Agency's OTC monograph drug activities. These goals apply, for example, to the review of OMORs, including safety-related OMORs.

A list of the deliverables to meet OMUFA I commitments is available on the FDA web page at *https://www.fda.gov/media/146283/download.*

III. Proposed OMUFA II Recommendations

To prepare the proposed recommendations to Congress for OMUFA reauthorization, FDA conducted discussions with the regulated industry and consulted with interested members of the public, as required by the law. We began the OMUFA reauthorization process by publishing a notice in the **Federal Register** requesting public input on reauthorization and announcing a public meeting that was held on September 28, 2023. The meeting included presentations by FDA and a series of panels with representatives of different interested parties. The materials from the meeting, including a transcript and webcast recording, can be found at *https://www.fda.gov/drugs/news-events-human-drugs/public-meeting-reauthorization-over-counter-monograph-drug-user-fee-program-omufa-09282023-09282023.*

Following the September 28, 2023, public meeting, FDA conducted negotiations with the regulated industry from November 2023 until June 2024. As directed by Congress, FDA posted minutes of these meetings on its website at *https://www.fda.gov/industry/fda-user-fee-programs/omufa-reauthorization-fiscal-years-2026-2030.*

The proposed recommendations for OMUFA II address many of the top priorities identified by interested members of the public, the regulated industry, and FDA. While some of the proposed recommendations are new, many either build on or refine elements from the existing program. Among the recommendations are specific proposed enhancements in the following areas: (1) OMOR review, (2) test methods, (3) meeting management, (4) education, (5) information transparency, (6) monograph product quality enhancement, and (7) financial transparency and management. The full text of the proposed OMUFA II commitment letter can be found here at *https://www.fda.gov/media/182750/download.* Each significant new or modified enhancement is described briefly below:

A. OMOR Review

The statute requires that the public have the opportunity to comment on proposed monograph orders, and thus to align with the statute, FDA is proposing in the OMUFA II commitment letter that no major amendments to an OMOR be accepted by the Agency after the public comment period for a proposed order has closed. This revision helps ensure that the public will have the opportunity to comment on any changes made to the proposed order as a result of a major amendment. The statute also gives flexibility for the public comment period on proposed orders to be extended. To acknowledge this flexibility and provide greater predictability on timing, FDA is proposing the final order goal date be extended by the same length of any public comment period extension, up to a certain amount. This is described in section I.A.2 of the proposed OMUFA II commitment letter.

The statute also specifies that filing eligibility determinations required for certain types of OMORs occur after submission of the OMOR to the Agency. In recognition that this activity takes time, FDA is proposing to extend the filing assessment period for these OMORs. This is described in section I.C.2 of the OMUFA II commitment letter. Additionally, to provide more clarity on the filing eligibility portion of the filing assessment process, FDA is proposing to draft guidance pertaining to the eligibility determination requirements and implementation. This enhancement is described in section I.I of the OMUFA II commitment letter.

B. Test Methods

Some of the test methods in OTC monographs were established decades ago and may not reflect the latest scientific methodology. To solicit general feedback from interested members of the public on issues of concern with test methods in existing monographs (final orders), FDA is proposing to issue a **Federal Register** notice followed by a crowdsourcing on FDA's crowdsourcing platform [1] to further refine the public input. This enhancement is described in section I.H.2 of the OMUFA II commitment letter.

Additionally, FDA is proposing that Congress amend the statute to add a new type of Tier Two OMOR for OMORs proposing the addition or modification of certain testing methods in OTC monographs. To qualify for this new type of Tier Two OMOR, these additional or modified testing methods would need to be reflected in a voluntary consensus standard for pharmaceutical quality established by a national or international standards

[1] See *https://www.fda.gov/about-fda/center-drug-evaluation-and-research-cder/fda-crowdsourcing.*

development organization and would also need to be recognized by FDA (via a process described in guidance [2]) prior to submission of the OMOR, with such recognition being made available on the FDA website. See also section I.B.1 of the OMUFA II commitment letter.

C. Meeting Management

To enhance overall meeting management, FDA is proposing a new mechanism to allow requestors to submit clarifying questions to the Agency within a certain time period following receipt of meeting minutes or a written response, in lieu of submitting a new meeting request. FDA is also proposing to expand the Type Y meeting to include requests for feedback on a protocol synopsis and to allow protocol synopsis feedback as a stand-alone topic at a Type Z meeting. Furthermore, FDA is proposing that for OMUFA performance goals to be applied to a meeting request, it must be submitted through the CDER NextGen portal (or any successor system). These enhancements are described in section I.E.1 of the proposed OMUFA II commitment letter.

Additionally, FDA recognizes that many OTC-related Advisory Committee (AdCom) meetings pertain to multiple OTC drug products and classes, rather than to products of a single requestor. The Agency also understands that impacted parties may need appropriate time to coordinate and prepare for the AdCom meeting. FDA is proposing that for this subset of OTC monograph-related AdCom meetings (where the existing policy on advance notice in FDA's 2008 Advisory Committee Meetings Guidance does not apply) that are not related to an emerging safety issue, FDA intends to announce the meeting on its website at least 100 business days in advance of the meeting. This enhancement is described in section I.E.10 of the OMUFA commitment letter.

D. Education

External parties often have questions regarding processes and procedures related to OTC-monograph related data. To better understand what questions industry and other parties have about the process FDA intends to use for obtaining data to be used in FDA-initiated generally recognized as safe (GRASE) finalizations and how industry might organize and submit data for both FDA-initiated and industry-initiated (GRASE) finalizations, FDA is proposing to run a crowdsourcing on FDA's crowdsourcing platform [3] to solicit questions about the process from interested members of the public, followed by a webinar to answer those questions for which established policy exists. This enhancement is described in section I.H.I of the proposed OMUFA II commitment letter.

FDA is also proposing hosting a webinar to detail steps about how to submit an OMOR using the NextGen Portal. This enhancement is described in section II.D of the OMUFA II commitment letter. Furthermore, FDA is proposing to issue draft guidance to provide additional information on confidentiality of information submitted to FDA in connection with proceedings under section 505G of the FD&C Act, including with respect to an OMOR. This enhancement is described in section I.1.2 of the OMUFA II commitment letter.

Furthermore, FDA is proposing to work to finalize the proposed order/draft guidance pair relating to minor changes in dosage form for solid oral OTC monograph drug products, which FDA committed to develop under the terms of the OMUFA I commitment letter. This enhancement is described in section I.J of the OMUFA II commitment letter.

E. Information Transparency

To ensure that historical information related to OTC monograph drug products is accessible to the public, FDA is proposing to post to a public docket the pre-OMUFA documents that were catalogued as part of OMUFA I. Additionally, FDA is proposing to maintain the historical status of the OTC Rulemaking website.

To help increase transparency around marketing exclusivity in the context of OTC monograph drugs, FDA is proposing to publish a web page detailing information regarding monograph-related exclusivity afforded by final orders. These enhancements are described in section II of the proposed OMUFA II commitment letter.

F. Monograph Product Quality Enhancement

To enhance monograph product quality surveillance, FDA is proposing several initiatives to help focus its efforts in this area, including vetting a certain percentage of new OTC monograph drug registrants within a certain number of months of registration to confirm whether they should be included in CDER's catalog of OTC monograph drugs and establishments. It is also proposing to update the risk-based Site Selection Model it uses to prioritize drug-related surveillance inspections and its associated manual of policy and procedure to include risk factors associated with OTC monograph drugs, as appropriate. FDA is also proposing to hold a workshop to assist industry in improving quality and compliance with current good manufacturing practice requirements.

To increase transparency around its surveillance efforts in general, FDA is proposing to report aggregate information about records requests issued to OTC monograph drug manufacturers on its website and enhance its warning letters web page.

These enhancements are described in section III of the proposed OMUFA II commitment letter.

G. Financial Transparency

To promote transparency and help focus user fee recovery efforts, FDA is proposing several mechanisms to highlight and enhance information about facilities in arrears. Proposed mechanisms include taking steps to increase the visibility of the arrears list, enhancing the list to include whether a firm is foreign or domestic and publishing on a quarterly basis a list of all facilities that have paid the OMUFA facility fee for the prior fiscal year. FDA is also proposing to publish summary registration and arrears information in the annual OMUFA financial reports and to use information from records requests issued to OTC monograph drug manufacturers to focus outstanding user fee recovery efforts. This enhancement is described in section IV of the proposed OMUFA II commitment letter.

H. Financial Management

The current overall OMUFA fee structure and the fee setting process were established by Congress for OMUFA I. There are two fee types: facility fees and OMOR fees. The process and adjustments for establishing annual target revenue for facility fees are defined in statute; the OMOR fee amounts were set in statute for the first year of OMUFA I and are adjusted for inflation each year thereafter. FDA is proposing that Congress amend the statute to make several targeted modifications to the process to enhance administrative efficiency and to ensure that FDA has adequate and timely user fee funding. Currently, the annual OMUFA facility fee due date is in June of the fiscal year, and thus not aligned with the October 1 due date for annual fees under other drug user fee programs.

[2] See FDA's guidance on ''CDER's Program for the Recognition of Voluntary Consensus Standards Related to Pharmaceutical Quality Guidance for Industry,'' available at *https://www.fda.gov/media/121305/download.*

[3] See *https://www.fda.gov/about-fda/center-drug-evaluation-and-research-cder/fda-crowdsourcing.*

This leads to administrative burdens and financial inefficiencies for the Agency and can be confusing for manufacturers that participate in other user fee programs. To address this issue, FDA is proposing that Congress shift the facility fee due date to October and change the liability period for annual facility fees to be the 12 months immediately preceding the start of the fiscal year for which the fees are due. The proposal also includes an option for the facility to be paid in two installments in the transition year to ease the burden on fee-paying companies.

To ensure that FDA is adequately resourced with OMUFA fees, FDA is also proposing that Congress authorize a one-time adjustment in calculating annual target revenue if the average number of fee-liable facilities exceeds a particular number in certain years of OMUFA II. This would help accommodate the additional work required to oversee these facilities. If this adjustment is made, FDA is proposing it would be part of the base revenue going forward. Additionally, FDA is proposing that Congress reset the starting base revenue for OMUFA II to include the additional direct cost adjustment from the final year of OMUFA I, which reflects funding to support information technology operations and maintenance activities.

H. Impact of OMUFA II Enhancements on User Fee Revenue

To implement the proposed enhancements for OMUFA II, user fee funding for a cumulative total of 11 full-time equivalent staff is proposed to be phased in by Congress over the course of OMUFA II. The proposed new funding will be phased in as follows, as an additional dollar amount in annual fee setting:

- $2,373,000 for FY 2026.
- $1,233,000 for FY 2027.
- $854,000 for FY 2028.

In addition, to support the other additional direct costs associated with the OMUFA II enhancements, the following amounts are proposed to be added as an additional direct cost adjustment:

- $135,000 for FY 2026.
- $300,000 for FY 2027.
- $55,000 for FY 2028.
- $30,000 for FY 2030.

IV. Public Meeting Information

A. Purpose and Scope of the Meeting

The public meeting will include a presentation by FDA and a series of invited panels representing different interested parties. For members of the public who would like to make verbal comments on the proposed enhancements and other recommendations (see instructions below), there will be a public comment period at the end of the meeting. Individuals can also submit written comments to the docket [LINK] before and after the meeting until December 20, 2024.

B. Participating in the Public Meeting

Registration: Persons interested in attending this public meeting must register online by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on November 19, 2024, at *https://fda.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_aW5YWtFfQiyOSzkABY3G4A#/registration.* Provide complete contact information for each attendee, including name, title, affiliation, address, email, and telephone.

Opportunity for Public Comment: Those who register online by November 13, 2024, will have the opportunity to participate in the public comment session of the meeting. If you wish to speak during the public comment session, respond ''yes'' to that question in the registration form. We will do our best to accommodate requests to make public comments. Individuals and organizations with common interests are urged to consolidate or coordinate their comments and request time jointly. All those who wish to make a public comment during the meeting must be registered by November 13, 2024, at 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time. We will determine the amount of time allotted to each commenter, the approximate time each comment is to begin, and will select and notify participants by November 18, 2024. No commercial or promotional material will be permitted to be presented at the public meeting.

Streaming Webcast of the Public Meeting: This public meeting will also be webcast. You will be asked to indicate in your registration if you plan to attend in person or via the webcast. The webcast for this public meeting is available at *https://fda.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_aW5YWtFfQiyOSzkABY3G4A#/registration.*

Transcripts: Please be advised that as soon as a transcript of the public meeting is available, it will be accessible at *https://www.regulations.gov.* It may be viewed at the Dockets Management Staff (see **ADDRESSES**). A link to the transcript will also be available on the internet at *https://www.fda.gov/drugs/news-events-human-drugs/public-meeting-recommendations-over-counter-monograph-drug-user-fee-program-omufa-reauthorization.*

Dated: October 28, 2024.

Kimberlee Trzeciak,

Deputy Commissioner for Policy, Legislation, and International Affairs.

[FR Doc. 2024–25458 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4164–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Health Resources and Services Administration

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection: Public Comment Request; Information Collection Request Title: Data System for Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network

AGENCY: Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), Department of Health and Human Services.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the requirement for opportunity for public comment on proposed data collection projects of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, HRSA announces plans to submit an Information Collection Request (ICR), described below, to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). Prior to submitting the ICR to OMB, HRSA seeks comments from the public regarding the burden estimate, below, or any other aspect of the ICR.

DATES: Comments on this ICR should be received no later than December 31, 2024.

ADDRESSES: Submit your comments to *paperwork@hrsa.gov* or mail the HRSA Information Collection Clearance Officer, Room 14NWH04, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, Maryland, 20857.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: To request more information on the proposed project or to obtain a copy of the data collection plans and draft instruments, email *paperwork@hrsa.gov* or call Joella Roland, the HRSA Information Collection Clearance Officer, at (301) 443–3983.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: When submitting comments or requesting information, please include the ICR title for reference.

Information Collection Request Title: Data System for Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network, OMB No. 0915–0157—Revision.

Abstract: Section 372 of the Public Health Service Act requires that the Secretary of Health and Human Services, by awards, provide for the establishment and operation of the Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network (OPTN), which, under HRSA's

oversight, operates the U.S. organ procurement and transplantation system. HRSA, in alignment with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, submits OPTN Board of Directors (BOD)-approved data elements for collection to OMB for official Federal approval.

Need and Proposed Use of the Information: HRSA and the OPTN BOD use data to develop transplant, procurement, and allocation policies; to determine whether institutional members are complying with policy; to determine member-specific performance; to ensure patient safety; and to fulfill the requirements of the OPTN Final Rule. In addition, the regulatory authority in 42 CFR 121.11 of the OPTN Final Rule requires the OPTN data to be made available, consistent with applicable laws, for use by OPTN members, the Scientific Registry of Transplant Recipients, the Department of Health and Human Services, and members of the public for evaluation, research, patient information, and other important purposes.

This is a request to revise the current OPTN data collection which includes time-sensitive, life-critical data on transplant candidates and potential organ donors, the organ matching process, histocompatibility results, organ labeling and packaging, and pre- and post-transplantation data on recipients and donors. This revision includes OPTN BOD-approved changes to the existing OMB data collection forms. The OPTN collects these specific data elements from transplant hospitals, organ procurement organizations, and histocompatibility laboratories.

HRSA and the OPTN use this information to (1) facilitate organ placement and match donor organs with recipients; (2) monitor compliance of member organizations with Federal laws and regulations and with OPTN requirements; (3) review and report periodically to the public on the status of organ donation, procurement, and transplantation in the United States; (4) provide data to researchers and government agencies to study the scientific and clinical status of organ transplantation; and (5) perform transplantation-related public health surveillance, including the possible transmission of donor disease.

HRSA is requesting to make the following changes to improve the OPTN organ matching and allocation process and improve OPTN member compliance with OPTN requirements:

(1) Adding data collection forms for candidates listed in the OPTN organ transplant waiting list to the existing OMB-approved information collection. These forms allow a transplant center to add, change, or remove candidates from the OPTN waiting list after a transplant center completes the patient evaluation. These forms contain information which the OPTN electronic organ matching system uses to match potential organ recipients with available deceased donor organs. There are 83 new data collection forms: candidate listing registration forms of all organs, candidate status justification forms of all applicable organs, Model for End-Stage Liver Disease or Pediatric End-Stage Liver Disease (MELD/PELD) score exception and extension forms, and other forms.

(2) OPTN BOD-approved revisions to existing data collection forms to improve organ matching, allocation, and OPTN policy compliance.

Likely Respondents: Transplant Centers, Organ Procurement Organizations (OPOs), and Histocompatibility Laboratories.

Burden Statement: Burden in this context means the time expended by persons to generate, maintain, retain, disclose, or provide the information requested. This includes the time needed to review instructions; to develop, acquire, install, and utilize technology and systems for the purpose of collecting, validating, and verifying information, processing and maintaining information, and disclosing and providing information; to train personnel and to be able to respond to a collection of information; to search data sources; to complete and review the collection of information; and to transmit or otherwise disclose the information. The total annual burden hours estimated for this ICR are summarized in the table below.

The estimated burden hours for this collection increased by 203,937.21 hours from the currently approved ICR package. This increase included 96,148.84 hours due to the addition of 83 new data collection forms for the OPTN waiting list and 107,788.37 hours due to OPTN BOD-approved data collection changes to existing forms and changes in the number of respondents.

TOTAL ESTIMATED ANNUALIZED BURDEN HOURS

Form #	Form name	Number of respondents	Number of responses per respondent****	Total responses	Average burden per response (in hours)	Total burden hours
1	Deceased Donor Registration	56	414.71	23,224	0.48	11,147.40
2	Living Donor Registration	207	33.42	6,918	2.19	15,150.29
3	Living Donor Follow-up	207	94.86	19,636	1.52	29,846.75
4	Donor Histocompatibility	138	173.31	23,917	0.20	4,783.36
5	Recipient Histocompatibility	138	307.09	42,378	0.40	16,951.37
6	Heart Transplant Candidate Registration	149	38.50	5,737	0.90	5,162.85
7	Heart Transplant Recipient Registration	149	30.50	4,545	1.96	8,907.22
8	Heart Transplant Recipient Follow Up (6 Month)	149	27.79	4,141	0.40	1,656.28
9	Heart Transplant Recipient Follow Up (1–5 Year)	149	109.21	16,272	0.90	14,645.06
10	Heart Transplant Recipient Follow Up (Post 5 Year)	149	183.73	27,376	0.50	13,687.89
11	Heart Post-Transplant Malignancy Form	149	12.21	1,819	0.90	1,637.36
12	Lung Transplant Candidate Registration	74	45.36	3,357	0.95	3,188.81
13	Lung Transplant Recipient Registration	74	40.85	3,023	1.14	3,446.11
14	Lung Transplant Recipient Follow Up (6 Month)	74	35.96	2,661	0.50	1,330.52
15	Lung Transplant Recipient Follow Up (1–5 Year)	74	135.61	10,035	1.10	11,038.65
16	Lung Transplant Recipient Follow Up (Post 5 Year)	74	148.09	10,959	0.60	6,575.20
17	Lung Post-Transplant Malignancy Form	74	18.39	1,361	0.40	544.34
18	Heart/Lung Transplant Candidate Registration	72	1.03	74	1.16	86.03
19	Heart/Lung Transplant Recipient Registration	72	0.75	54	2.09	112.86
20	Heart/Lung Transplant Recipient Follow Up (6 Month)	72	0.64	46	0.80	36.86
21	Heart/Lung Transplant Recipient Follow Up (1–5 Year)	72	2.46	177	1.10	194.83
22	Heart/Lung Transplant Recipient Follow Up (Post 5 Year)	72	3.35	241	0.60	144.72
23	Heart/Lung Post-Transplant Malignancy Form	72	0.22	16	0.40	6.34
24	Liver Transplant Candidate Registration	142	103.39	14,681	0.80	11,745.10
25	Liver Transplant Recipient Registration	142	75.08	10,661	1.20	12,793.63

TOTAL ESTIMATED ANNUALIZED BURDEN HOURS—Continued

Form #	Form name	Number of respondents	Number of responses per respondent****	Total responses	Average burden per response (in hours)	Total burden hours
26	Liver Transplant Recipient Follow Up (6 Month–5 Year)	142	344.55	48,926	1.00	48,926.10
27	Liver Transplant Recipient Follow Up (Post 5 Year)	142	427.56	60,714	0.50	30,356.76
28	Liver Recipient Explant Pathology Form	142	7.17	1,018	0.60	610.88
29	Liver Post-Transplant Malignancy Form	142	21.21	3,012	0.80	2,409.46
30	Intestine Transplant Candidate Registration	18	7.50	135	1.30	175.50
31	Intestine Transplant Recipient Registration	18	5.28	95	1.80	171.07
32	Intestine Transplant Recipient Follow Up (6 Month–5 Year)	18	21.50	387	1.50	580.50
33	Intestine Transplant Recipient Follow Up (Post 5 Year)	18	49.61	893	0.40	357.19
34	Intestine Post-Transplant Malignancy Form	18	0.94	17	1.00	16.92
35	Kidney Transplant Candidate Registration	228	203.12	46,311	0.80	37,049.09
36	Kidney Transplant Recipient Registration	228	119.89	27,335	1.20	32,801.90
37	Kidney Transplant Recipient Follow Up (6 Month–5 Year)	228	571.22	130,238	0.90	117,214.34
38	Kidney Transplant Recipient Follow Up (Post 5 Year)	228	565.59	128,955	0.50	64,477.26
39	Kidney Post-Transplant Malignancy Form	228	25.60	5,837	0.80	4,669.44
40	Pancreas Transplant Candidate Registration	123	2.63	323	0.60	194.09
41	Pancreas Transplant Recipient Registration	123	0.84	103	1.20	123.98
42	Pancreas Transplant Recipient Follow Up (6 Month–5 Year)	123	5.05	621	0.50	310.58
43	Pancreas Transplant Recipient Follow Up (Post 5 Year)	123	17.11	2,105	0.50	1,052.27
44	Pancreas Post-Transplant Malignancy Form	123	0.76	93	0.60	56.09
45	Kidney/Pancreas Transplant Candidate Registration	123	12.94	1,592	0.60	954.97
46	Kidney/Pancreas Transplant Recipient Registration	123	6.59	811	1.20	972.68
47	Kidney/Pancreas Transplant Recipient Follow Up (6 Month–5 Year).	123	38.12	4,689	0.50	2,344.38
48	Kidney/Pancreas Transplant Recipient Follow Up (Post 5 Year)	123	66.63	8,195	0.60	4,917.29
49	Kidney/Pancreas Post-Transplant Malignancy Form	123	2.24	276	0.40	110.21
50	VCA Transplant Candidate Registration	23	1.00	23	0.40	9.20
51	VCA Transplant Recipient Registration	23	0.39	9	1.36	12.20
52	VCA Transplant Recipient Follow Up	23	2.30	53	1.31	69.30
53	Organ Labeling and Packaging	56	298.27	16,703	0.18	3,006.56
54	Organ Tracking and Validating	304	20.36	6,189	0.08	495.16
55	Kidney Paired Donation Candidate Registration	156	0.34	53	0.26	13.79
56	Kidney Paired Donation Donor Registration	156	0.99	154	1.08	166.80
57	Kidney Paired Donation Match Offer Management	156	0.59	92	0.67	61.67
58	Disease Transmission Event	304	2.33	708	0.60	424.99
59	Living Donor Event	207	0.15	31	0.56	17.39
60	Safety Situation	442	0.93	411	0.24	98.65
61	Potential Disease Transmission Report	56	11.09	621	1.27	788.72
62	Request to Unlock Form	442	174.67	77,204	0.02	1,544.08
63	Initial Donor Registration	56	414.71	23,224	4.61	107,061.53
64	OPO Notification Limit Administration	56	9.52	533	0.17	90.63
65	Potential Transplant Recipient	304	6,017.74	1,829,393	0.05	91,469.65
66	Death Notification Registration**	56	289.70	16,223	0.42	6,813.74
67	Deceased Donor Death Referral**	56	58.11	3,254	0.50	1,627.08
68	Donor Hospital Registration	56	0.04	2	0.08	0.18
69	Donor Organ Disposition	56	414.71	23,224	0.17	3,948.04
70	Transplant Center Contact Management	248	808.10	200,409	0.06	12,024.53
71	Adult Kidney Candidate Listing Registration***	228	204.93	46,724	0.52	24,296.50
72	Pediatric Kidney Candidate Listing Registration***	101	11.66	1,178	0.47	553.50
73	Adult Kidney Pancreas Candidate Listing Registration***	123	12.93	1,590	0.37	588.44
74	Pediatric Kidney Pancreas Candidate Listing Registration***	29	0.07	2	0.30	0.61
75	Adult Pancreas Candidate Listing Registration***	123	15.29	1,881	0.38	714.65
76	Pediatric Pancreas Candidate Listing Registration***	30	1.13	34	0.38	12.88
77	Adult Pancreas Islet Listing Registration	16	2.06	33	0.38	12.52
78	Pediatric Pancreas Islet Listing Registration***	16	0.00	0	0.33	0.00
79	Adult Liver Candidate Listing Registration***	142	98.43	13,977	0.32	4,472.66
80	Pediatric Liver Candidate Listing Registration***	57	12.37	705	0.40	282.04
81	Adult Intestine Candidate Listing Registration***	18	4.94	89	0.38	33.79
82	Pediatric Intestine Candidate Listing Registration***	18	2.56	46	0.43	19.81
83	Adult Heart Candidate Listing Registration***	149	33.58	5,003	0.83	4,152.84
84	Pediatric Heart Candidate Listing Registration***	64	11.47	734	0.58	425.77
85	Adult HeartLung Candidate Listing Registration***	72	0.97	70	0.85	59.36
86	Pediatric HeartLung Candidate Listing Registration***	27	0.15	4	0.93	3.77
87	Adult Lung Candidate Listing Registration***	74	44.85	3,319	1.00	3,318.90
88	Pediatric Lung Candidate Listing Registration***	45	0.84	38	0.83	31.37
89	Candidate Registration Listing Removal***	248	289.27	71,739	0.18	12,913.01
90	VCA Abdominal Wall Candidate Listing Registration***	8	0.38	3	0.33	1.00
91	VCA External Male Genitalia Candidate Listing Registration***	2	0.00	0	0.33	0.00
92	VCA Head and Neck Candidate Listing Registration***	10	0.50	5	0.33	1.65
93	VCA Lower Limb Candidate Listing Registration***	4	0.00	0	0.33	0.00
94	VCA Musculoskeletal Composite Graft Segment Candidate Listing Registration***.	2	0.00	0	0.33	0.00
95	VCA Other Genitourinary Organ Candidate Listing Registration***	3	0.00	0	0.33	0.00
96	VCA Spleen Candidate Listing Registration***	0	0.00	0	0.33	0.00
97	VCA Upper Limb Candidate Listing Registration***	11	0.27	3	0.33	0.98
98	VCA Uterus Candidate Listing Registration***	6	2.00	12	0.33	3.96
99	VCA Vascularized Gland Candidate Listing Registration***	8	0.00	0	0.33	0.00
100	Organ Export Verification Form***	56	0.46	26	0.03	0.77
101	OPTN Waiting Time Transfer Form***	248	5.54	1,374	0.23	316.00

TOTAL ESTIMATED ANNUALIZED BURDEN HOURS—Continued

Form #	Form name	Number of respondents	Number of responses per respondent****	Total responses	Average burden per response (in hours)	Total burden hours
102	OPTN Waiting Time Modification Form***	248	59.40	14,731	0.22	3,240.86
103	OPTN Renal Waiting Time Reinstatement Form***	228	1.21	276	0.27	74.49
104	OPTN Pancreas Waiting Time Reinstatement Form***	123	0.03	4	0.20	0.74
105	Intestinal Waiting Time Reinstatement Form***	18	0.00	0	0.25	0.00
106	Prior Living Donor Priority***	228	0.25	57	0.27	15.39
107	Kidney Minimum Acceptance Criteria***	228	0.47	107	0.30	32.15
108	Adult Liver Status 1A Initial Justification and Extension Form***	142	2.31	328	0.57	186.97
109	Pediatric Liver Status 1A Initial Justification and Extension Form***.	57	2.30	131	0.57	74.73
110	Pediatric Liver Status 1B Initial Justification and Extension Form***.	57	5.61	320	0.47	150.29
111	Liver Cholangiocarcinoma (CCA) Initial MELD/PELD Score Exception Form***.	142	0.42	60	0.43	25.65
112	Liver Cholangiocarcinoma (CCA) MELD/PELD Score Exception Extension Form***.	142	0.34	48	0.32	15.45
113	Liver Cystic Fibrosis (CF) Initial MELD/PELD Score Exception and Extension Form***.	142	0.10	14	0.33	4.69
114	Liver Familial Amyloid Polyneuropathy (FAP) Initial MELD/PELD Score Exception Form***.	142	0.04	6	0.40	2.27
115	Liver Familial Amyloid Polyneuropathy (FAP) MELD/PELD Score Exception Extension Form***.	142	0.05	7	0.30	2.13
116	Liver Hepatic Artery Thrombosis (HAT) Initial MELD/PELD Score Exception and Extension Form***.	142	0.69	98	0.35	34.29
117	Liver Hepatocellular Carcinoma (HCC) Initial MELD/PELD Score Exception Form***.	142	23.30	3,309	0.47	1,555.04
118	Liver Hepatocellular Carcinoma (HCC) MELD/PELD Score Exception Extension Form***.	142	33.21	4,716	0.35	1,650.54
119	Liver Hepatopulmonary Syndrome (HPS) Initial MELD/PELD Score Exception Form***.	142	1.39	197	0.32	63.16
120	Liver Hepatopulmonary Syndrome (HPS) MELD/PELD Score Exception Extension Form***.	142	0.99	141	0.25	35.15
121	Liver Metabolic Disease Initial MELD/PELD Score Exception and Extension Form***.	142	0.77	109	0.28	30.62
122	Liver Portopulmonary Hypertension Initial MELD/PELD Score Exception Form***.	142	0.51	72	0.42	30.42
123	Liver Portopulmonary Hypertension MELD/PELD Score Exception Extension Form***.	142	0.36	51	0.33	16.87
124	Liver Primary Hyperoxaluria Initial MELD/PELD Score Exception and Extension Form***.	142	0.13	18	0.35	6.46
125	Liver Other Diagnosis Initial MELD/PELD Score Exception and Extension Form***.	142	12.03	1,708	0.35	597.89
126	Pediatric Heart and HeartLung Status 1A Initial Justification Form***.	64	16.06	1,028	0.52	534.48
127	Pediatric Heart and HeartLung Status 1A Extension and Appeal Justification Forms***.	64	54.61	3,495	0.47	1,642.67
128	Pediatric Heart and HeartLung Status 1B Initial Justification Form***.	64	7.31	468	0.42	196.49
129	Adult Heart and HeartLung Status 1–6 Justification Form Demographic Data***.	149	135.78	20,231	0.32	6,473.99
130	Adult Heart and HeartLung Status 1–6 Justification Form Risk Stratification Data***.	149	135.78	20,231	0.72	14,566.48
131	Adult Heart and HeartLung Status 1 Initial Justification Form Medical Urgency Data***.	149	5.69	848	0.58	491.73
132	Adult Heart and HeartLung Status 1 Exception Extension Justification Form Medical Urgency Data***.	149	0.46	69	0.33	22.62
133	Adult Heart and HeartLung Status 1 Criteria 1 Extension Justification Form Medical Urgency Data***.	149	0.43	64	0.53	33.96
134	Adult Heart and HeartLung Status 2 Initial Justification Form Medical Urgency Data***.	149	25.91	3,861	0.80	3,088.47
135	Adult Heart and HeartLung Status 2 Exception Extension Justification Form Medical Urgency Data***.	149	9.87	1,471	0.33	485.31
136	Adult Heart and HeartLung Status 2 Criteria 1 Extension Justification Form Medical Urgency Data***.	149	0.03	4	0.42	1.88
137	Adult Heart and HeartLung Status 2 Criteria 4 Extension Justification Form Medical Urgency Data***.	149	3.05	454	0.63	286.30
138	Adult Heart and HeartLung Status 2 Criteria 5 Extension Justification Form Medical Urgency Data***.	149	1.70	253	0.60	151.98
139	Adult Heart and HeartLung Status 3 Initial Justification Form Medical Urgency Data***.	149	11.91	1,775	0.63	1,117.99
140	Adult Heart and HeartLung Status 3 Exception Extension Justification Form Medical Urgency Data***.	149	6.88	1,025	0.33	338.29
141	Adult Heart and HeartLung Status 3 Criteria 2 Extension Justification Form Medical Urgency Data***.	149	0.64	95	0.32	30.52
142	Adult Heart and HeartLung Status 3 Criteria 5 Extension Justification Form Medical Urgency Data***.	149	0.11	16	0.48	7.87
143	Adult Heart and HeartLung Status 4 Initial Justification Form Medical Urgency Data***.	149	23.51	3,503	0.50	1,751.50

TOTAL ESTIMATED ANNUALIZED BURDEN HOURS—Continued

Form #	Form name	Number of respondents	Number of responses per respondent****	Total responses	Average burden per response (in hours)	Total burden hours
144	Adult Heart and HeartLung Status 4 Exception Extension Justification Form Medical Urgency Data***.	149	1.73	258	0.25	64.44
145	Adult Heart and HeartLung Status 4 Criteria 2 Extension Justification Form Medical Urgency Data***.	149	0.56	83	0.40	33.38
146	Adult and Pediatric Lung and HeartLung Goal Exception Form***	149	3.72	554	0.75	415.71
147	Pediatric Lung Priority 1 Status Justification Form***	45	1.16	52	0.33	17.23
148	Review Board Voter Form***	248	22.46	5,570	0.23	1,281.12
149	Living Donor Feedback Form***	207	37.73	7,810	0.13	1,015.31
150	Extra Vessels Reporting Form***	248	53.71	13,320	0.03	399.60
151	Non-US Transplants Reporting Form***	228	0.00	0	0.03	0.00
152	Discrepant HLA Typings Reporting Form***	138	0.78	108	5.17	556.50
153	Interim Event Reporting Form***	248	72.58	18,000	0.06	1,079.99
	Total	18,697		3,184,246		851,565.51

*The numbers of respondents and the numbers of total responses in the burden table were updated with 2023 OPTN data and reflect increases in the number of organ transplants and changes in the number of respondents (Transplant Centers, OPOs, and Histocompatibility Labs).

**These two forms will not be used once the OPTN Process Data OMB package is approved and implemented. The OPTN Process Data OMB package is new and will be considered separate from this package. We are including these forms in this collection to avoid any lapse in approval of these forms while the OPTN Process Data package is being approved.

***These are new forms.

****If a form has 0.00 under average number of responses, this is an indicator that there were no submissions in calendar year 2023.

HRSA specifically requests comments on (1) the necessity and utility of the proposed information collection for the proper performance of the agency's functions; (2) the accuracy of the estimated burden; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology to minimize the information collection burden.

Amy P. McNulty,

Deputy Director, Executive Secretariat.

[FR Doc. 2024–25506 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4165–15–P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health & Human Development; Notice of Meeting

Pursuant to section 1009 of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended, notice is hereby given of a meeting of the National Advisory Child Health and Human Development Council. The meeting will be held as a virtual meeting and will be open to the public as indicated below. Individuals who plan to view the virtual meeting and need special assistance or other reasonable accommodations to view the meeting, should notify the Contact Person listed below in advance of the meeting. The meeting can be accessed from the NIH Videocast at the following link: *https://videocast.nih.gov/.*

The meeting will be closed to the public in accordance with the provisions set forth in sections 552b(c)(4) and 552b(c)(6), title 5 U.S.C., as amended. The grant applications and the discussions could disclose confidential trade secrets or commercial property such as patentable material, and personal information concerning individuals associated with the grant applications, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

Name of Committee: National Advisory Child Health and Human Development Council.

Date: January 13–14, 2025.

Open: January 13, 2025, 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Agenda: NICHD Director's Report and other Council Business.

Address: Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, National Institutes of Health, 6710B Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892 (Virtual Meeting).

Closed: January 14, 2025, 9:00 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Address: Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, National Institutes of Health, 6710B Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892 (Virtual Meeting).

Contact Person: Rebekah S. Rasooly, Ph.D., Director, Division of Extramural Activities, *Eunice Kennedy Shriver* National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, National Institute of Health, 6710B Rockledge Drive, Room: 2316, Bethesda, MD 20817.

Any interested person may file written comments with the committee by forwarding the statement to the Contact Persons listed on this notice. The statement should include the name, address, telephone number and when applicable, the business or professional affiliation of the interested person.

Information is also available on the Institute's/Center's home page: *https://www.nichd.nih.gov/about/advisory/council,* where an agenda and any additional information for the meeting will be posted when available.

(Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.864, Population Research; 93.865, Research for Mothers and Children; 93.929, Center for Medical Rehabilitation Research; 93.209, Contraception and Infertility Loan Repayment Program, National Institutes of Health, HHS)

Dated: October 28, 2024.

Lauren A. Fleck,

Program Analyst, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.

[FR Doc. 2024–25420 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases; Notice of Meeting

Pursuant to section 1009 of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended, notice is hereby given of a meeting of the Board of Scientific Counselors, NIDDK.

The meeting will be open to the public as indicated below, with attendance limited to space available. Individuals who plan to attend and need special assistance, such as sign language interpretation or other reasonable accommodations, should

notify the Contact Person listed below in advance of the meeting.

The meeting will be closed to the public as indicated below in accordance with the provisions set forth in section 552b(c)(6), title 5 U.S.C., as amended for the review, discussion, and evaluation of individual grant applications conducted by the National Institute Of Diabetes And Digestive And Kidney Diseases, including consideration of personnel qualifications and performance, and the competence of individual investigators, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

Name of Committee: Board of Scientific Counselors, NIDDK.

Date: April 3–4, 2025.

Open: April 03, 2025, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Agenda: Introductions and Overview.

Address: National Institutes of Health, Building 10, 10 Center Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892 (Virtual Meeting).

Closed: April 04, 2025, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate personal qualifications and performance, and competence of individual Investigators.

Address: National Institutes of Health, Building 10, 10 Center Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892 (Virtual Meeting).

Contact Person: Michael W. Krause, Ph.D., Scientific Director, NIDDK, National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases, National Institute of Health, Building 5, Room B104, Bethesda, MD 20892–1818, (301) 402–4633, *mwkrause@helix.nih.gov*.

(Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.847, Diabetes, Endocrinology and Metabolic Research; 93.848, Digestive Diseases and Nutrition Research; 93.849, Kidney Diseases, Urology and Hematology Research, National Institutes of Health, HHS)

Dated: October 28, 2024.

Miguelina Perez,

Program Analyst, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.

[FR Doc. 2024–25418 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

Center for Scientific Review; Amended Notice of Meeting

Notice is hereby given of a change in the meeting of the Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel, PAR Panel: Transformative Research Award for the Include Project, November 21, 2024, 09:00 a.m. to November 21, 2024, 08:00 p.m., National Institutes of Health, Rockledge II, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892, which was published in the **Federal Register** on October 25, 2024, FR Doc. No. 2024–24882, 89 FR 85222.

This notice is being amended to change the Panel Name of the meeting from Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel; PAR Panel: Transformative Research Award for the Include Project to Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel; RFA–OD–22–009: Transformative Research Award. The meeting is closed to the public.

Dated: October 28, 2024.

Lauren A. Fleck,

Program Analyst, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.

[FR Doc. 2024–25413 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute; Notice of Closed Meetings

Pursuant to section 1009 of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended, notice is hereby given of the following meetings.

The meetings will be closed to the public in accordance with the provisions set forth in sections 552b(c)(4) and 552b(c)(6), title 5 U.S.C., as amended. The grant applications and the discussions could disclose confidential trade secrets or commercial property such as patentable material, and personal information concerning individuals associated with the grant applications, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

Name of Committee: National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute Special Emphasis Panel; Catalyze: Enabling Technologies.

Date: December 4, 2024.

Time: 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Address: National Institutes of Health, Rockledge I, 6705 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892.

Meeting Format: Virtual Meeting.

Contact Person: Kristin Goltry, Ph.D., Scientific Review Officer, Office of Scientific Review/DERA, National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, National Institutes of Health, 6705 Rockledge Drive, Room 209–B, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 435–0297, email: *goltrykl@mail.nih.gov*.

Name of Committee: National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute Special Emphasis Panel; Catalyze: Product Definition.

Date: December 5, 2024.

Time: 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Address: National Institutes of Health, Rockledge I, 6705 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892.

Meeting Format: Virtual Meeting.

Contact Person: Kristin Goltry, Ph.D., Scientific Review Officer, Office of Scientific Review/DERA, National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, National Institutes of Health, 6705 Rockledge Drive, Room 209–B, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 435–0297, email: *goltrykl@mail.nih.gov*.

Name of Committee: National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute Special Emphasis Panel; T32 Diversity Training Grant Applications Review Meeting.

Date: December 6, 2024.

Time: 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Address: National Institutes of Health, Rockledge I, 6705 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892.

Meeting Format: Virtual Meeting.

Contact Person: Nawazish Ali Naqvi, Scientific Review Officer, Office of Scientific Review/DERA, National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute, National Institutes of Health, 6705 Rockledge Drive, Room 208–Y, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 827–7911, *email: nawazish.naqvi@nih.gov*.

Name of Committee: National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute Special Emphasis Panel; NHLBI Institutional Training T32 Member Conflict SEP.

Date: December 9, 2024.

Time: 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Address: National Institutes of Health, Rockledge I, 6705 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892.

Meeting Format: Virtual Meeting.

Contact Person: Cynthia D. Anderson, Ph.D., Scientific Review Officer, Office of Scientific Review/DERA, National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, National Institutes Health, 6705 Rockledge Drive, Room 207–E, Bethesda, MD 20892, email: *cynthia.anderson@nih.gov*.

(Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.233, National Center for Sleep Disorders Research; 93.837, Heart and Vascular Diseases Research; 93.838, Lung Diseases Research; 93.839, Blood Diseases and Resources Research, National Institutes of Health, HHS)

Dated: October 29, 2024.

Bruce A. George,

Program Analyst, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.

[FR Doc. 2024–25463 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

Current List of HHS-Certified Laboratories and Instrumented Initial Testing Facilities Which Meet Minimum Standards To Engage in Urine and Oral Fluid Drug Testing for Federal Agencies

AGENCY: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Department of Health and Human Services.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) notifies Federal agencies of the laboratories and Instrumented Initial Testing Facilities (IITFs) currently certified to meet the standards of the Mandatory Guidelines for Federal Workplace Drug Testing Programs (Mandatory Guidelines) using Urine and the laboratories currently certified to meet the standards of the Mandatory Guidelines using Oral Fluid.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Anastasia Flanagan, Division of Workplace Programs, SAMHSA/CSAP, 5600 Fishers Lane, Room 16N06B, Rockville, Maryland 20857; 240–276–2600 (voice); *Anastasia.Flanagan@samhsa.hhs.gov* (email).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) publishes a notice listing all HHS-certified laboratories and Instrumented Initial Testing Facilities (IITFs) in the **Federal Register** during the first week of each month, in accordance with section 9.19 of the Mandatory Guidelines for Federal Workplace Drug Testing Programs (Mandatory Guidelines) using Urine and section 9.17 of the Mandatory Guidelines using Oral Fluid. If any laboratory or IITF certification is suspended or revoked, the laboratory or IITF will be omitted from subsequent lists until such time as it is restored to full certification under the Mandatory Guidelines.

If any laboratory or IITF has withdrawn from the HHS National Laboratory Certification Program (NLCP) during the past month, it will be listed at the end and will be omitted from the monthly listing thereafter.

This notice is also available on the internet at *https://www.samhsa.gov/workplace/drug-testing-resources/certified-lab-list.*

HHS separately notifies Federal agencies of the laboratories and IITFs currently certified to meet the standards of the Mandatory Guidelines using Urine and of the laboratories currently certified to meet the standards of the Mandatory Guidelines using Oral Fluid.

The Mandatory Guidelines using Urine were first published in the **Federal Register** on April 11, 1988 (53 FR 11970), and subsequently revised in the **Federal Register** on June 9, 1994 (59 FR 29908); September 30, 1997 (62 FR 51118); April 13, 2004 (69 FR 19644); November 25, 2008 (73 FR 71858); December 10, 2008 (73 FR 75122); April 30, 2010 (75 FR 22809); January 23, 2017 (82 FR 7920); and on October 12, 2023 (88 FR 70768).

The Mandatory Guidelines using Oral Fluid were first published in the **Federal Register** on October 25, 2019 (84 FR 57554) with an effective date of January 1, 2020, and subsequently revised in the **Federal Register** on October 12, 2023 (88 FR 70814).

The Mandatory Guidelines were initially developed in accordance with Executive Order 12564 and section 503 of Public Law 100–71 and allowed urine drug testing only. The Mandatory Guidelines using Urine have since been revised, and new Mandatory Guidelines allowing for oral fluid drug testing have been published. The Mandatory Guidelines require strict standards that laboratories and IITFs must meet in order to conduct drug and specimen validity tests on specimens for Federal agencies. HHS does not allow IITFs to conduct oral fluid testing.

To become certified, an applicant laboratory or IITF must undergo three rounds of performance testing plus an on-site inspection. To maintain that certification, a laboratory or IITF must participate in a quarterly performance testing program plus undergo periodic, on-site inspections.

Laboratories and IITFs in the applicant stage of certification are not to be considered as meeting the minimum requirements described in the HHS Mandatory Guidelines using Urine and/or Oral Fluid. An HHS-certified laboratory or IITF must have its letter of certification from HHS/SAMHSA (formerly: HHS/NIDA), which attests that the test facility has met minimum standards. HHS does not allow IITFs to conduct oral fluid testing.

HHS-Certified Laboratories Approved To Conduct Oral Fluid Drug Testing

In accordance with the Mandatory Guidelines using Oral Fluid effective October 10, 2023 (88 FR 70814), the following HHS-certified laboratories meet the minimum standards to conduct drug and specimen validity tests on oral fluid specimens:

At this time, there are no laboratories certified to conduct drug and specimen validity tests on oral fluid specimens.

HHS-Certified Instrumented Initial Testing Facilities Approved To Conduct Urine Drug Testing

In accordance with the Mandatory Guidelines using Urine effective February 1, 2024 (88 FR 70768), the following HHS-certified IITFs meet the minimum standards to conduct drug and specimen validity tests on urine specimens:

Dynacare*, 6628 50th Street NW, Edmonton, AB Canada T6B 2N7, 780–784–1190 (Formerly: Gamma-Dynacare Medical Laboratories)

HHS-Certified Laboratories Approved To Conduct Urine Drug Testing

In accordance with the Mandatory Guidelines using Urine effective February 1, 2024 (88 FR 70768), the following HHS-certified laboratories meet the minimum standards to conduct drug and specimen validity tests on urine specimens:

Alere Toxicology Services, 1111 Newton St., Gretna, LA 70053, 504–361–8989/800–433–3823 (Formerly: Kroll Laboratory Specialists, Inc., Laboratory Specialists, Inc.)

Alere Toxicology Services, 450 Southlake Blvd., Richmond, VA 23236, 804–378–9130 (Formerly: Kroll Laboratory Specialists, Inc., Scientific Testing Laboratories, Inc.; Kroll Scientific Testing Laboratories, Inc.)

Clinical Reference Laboratory, Inc., 8433 Quivira Road, Lenexa, KS 66215–2802, 800–445–6917

Desert Tox, LLC, 5425 E Bell Rd., Suite 125, Scottsdale, AZ 85254, 602–457–5411/623–748–5045

DrugScan, Inc., 200 Precision Road, Suite 200, Horsham, PA 19044, 800–235–4890

Dynacare*, 245 Pall Mall Street, London, ONT, Canada N6A 1P4, 519–679–1630 (Formerly: Gamma-Dynacare Medical Laboratories)

ElSohly Laboratories, Inc., 5 Industrial Park Drive, Oxford, MS 38655, 662–236–2609

LabOne, Inc. d/b/a Quest Diagnostics, 10101 Renner Blvd., Lenexa, KS 66219, 913–888–3927/800–873–8845 (Formerly: Quest Diagnostics Incorporated; LabOne, Inc.; Center for Laboratory Services, a Division of LabOne, Inc.)

Laboratory Corporation of America, 1225 NE 2nd Ave., Portland, OR 97232, 503–413–5295/800–950–5295 (Formerly: Legacy Laboratory Services Toxicology MetroLab)

Laboratory Corporation of America Holdings, 7207 N. Gessner Road, Houston, TX 77040, 713–856–8288/800–800–2387

Laboratory Corporation of America Holdings, 69 First Ave., Raritan, NJ 08869, 908–526–2400/800–437–4986 (Formerly: Roche Biomedical Laboratories, Inc.)

Laboratory Corporation of America Holdings, 1904 TW Alexander Drive, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709, 919–572–6900/800–833–3984 (Formerly: LabCorp Occupational Testing Services, Inc., CompuChem Laboratories, Inc.; CompuChem Laboratories, Inc., A Subsidiary of Roche Biomedical Laboratory; Roche CompuChem Laboratories, Inc., A Member of the Roche Group)

Laboratory Corporation of America Holdings, 1120 Main Street, Southaven, MS 38671, 866–827–8042/800–233–6339 (Formerly: LabCorp Occupational Testing Services, Inc.; MedExpress/National Laboratory Center)

MedTox Laboratories, Inc., 402 W County Road D, St. Paul, MN 55112, 651–636–7466/800–832–3244

Minneapolis Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Forensic Toxicology Laboratory, 1 Veterans Drive, Minneapolis, MN 55417, 612–725–2088. Testing for Veterans Affairs (VA) Employees Only

Omega Laboratories, Inc.*, 2150 Dunwin Drive, Unit 1 & 2, Mississauga, ON, Canada L5L 5M8, 289–919–3188

Pacific Toxicology Laboratories, 9348 DeSoto Ave., Chatsworth, CA 91311, 800–328–6942 (Formerly: Centinela Hospital Airport Toxicology Laboratory)

Phamatech, Inc., 15175 Innovation Drive, San Diego, CA 92128, 888–635–5840

US Army Forensic Toxicology Drug Testing Laboratory, 2490 Wilson St., Fort George G. Meade, MD 20755–5235, 301–677–7085, Testing for Department of Defense (DoD) Employees Only

* The Standards Council of Canada (SCC) voted to end its Laboratory Accreditation Program for Substance Abuse (LAPSA) effective May 12, 1998. Laboratories certified through that program were accredited to conduct forensic urine drug testing as required by U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) regulations. As of that date, the certification of those accredited Canadian laboratories continued under DOT authority. The responsibility for conducting quarterly performance testing plus periodic on-site inspections of those LAPSA-accredited laboratories was transferred to the U.S. HHS, with the HHS' NLCP contractor continuing to have an active role in the performance testing and laboratory inspection processes. Other Canadian laboratories wishing to be considered for the NLCP may apply directly to the NLCP contractor just as U.S. laboratories do.

Upon finding a Canadian laboratory to be qualified, HHS will recommend that DOT certify the laboratory as meeting the minimum standards of the current Mandatory Guidelines published in the **Federal Register**. After receiving DOT certification, the laboratory will be included in the monthly list of HHS-certified laboratories and participate in the NLCP certification maintenance program. DOT established this process in July 1996 (61 FR 37015) to allow foreign laboratories to participate in the DOT drug testing program.

Anastasia D. Flanagan,

Public Health Advisor, Division of Workplace Programs.

[FR Doc. 2024–25450 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4160–20–P

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

U.S. Customs and Border Protection

Continuing Education Requirement for Licensed Customs Brokers

AGENCY: U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security.

ACTION: General notice.

SUMMARY: This document announces that individual customs broker license holders may begin completing qualified continuing broker education courses on January 1, 2025 (compliance date) and, accordingly, 20 credits as the prorated number of required credit hours for the triennial period beginning on February 1, 2024, and ending on January 31, 2027. Further, this notice announces the criteria that U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) used to select qualified accreditors, the list of CBP-selected qualified accreditors, and the period of award for these accreditors.

DATES: Individual brokers may begin completing qualified continuing broker education courses on January 1, 2025. The initial three-year period of award for CBP-selected qualified accreditors will be from June 2, 2024, through June 1, 2027.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Elena D. Ryan, Special Advisor, Broker Continuing Education, Trade Policy and Programs, Office of Trade, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, at (202) 302–2426 or *CONTINUINGEDUCATION@cbp.dhs.gov*.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

Section 641 of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (19 U.S.C. 1641), provides that individuals and business entities must hold a valid customs broker's license and permit to transact customs business on behalf of others. The statute also sets forth standards for the issuance of broker licenses and permits, provides for disciplinary action against customs brokers in the form of suspension or revocation of such licenses and permits, and provides for the assessment of monetary penalties against customs brokers. The statute also provides for the assessment of monetary penalties against persons for conducting customs business without the required broker's license.

Based upon 19 U.S.C. 1641, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) has promulgated regulations setting forth additional obligations of customs brokers pertinent to the conduct of their customs business, in part 111 of title 19 of the Code of Federal Regulations (19 CFR part 111). Part 111 provides the regulations regarding the licensing and granting of permits to persons desiring to transact customs business as customs brokers. These regulations also include the qualifications required of applicants, the procedures for applying for licenses and permits, the duties and responsibilities of individual brokers, the grounds and procedures for disciplining individual brokers, including the assessment of monetary penalties, and the revocation or suspension of licenses and permits. CBP has also updated part 111 to require individual brokers to satisfy a continuing education requirement.

CBP believes that maintaining current knowledge of customs laws and procedures is essential for customs brokers to meet their legal duties. Requiring a customs broker to fulfill a continuing education requirement is the most effective means to ensure that the customs broker keeps up with an ever-changing customs practice after passing the broker exam and subsequently receiving the license. Therefore, on October 28, 2020, CBP published an advance notice of proposed rulemaking (ANPRM) in the **Federal Register** (85 FR 68260), soliciting comments on a potential framework of continuing education requirements for licensed customs brokers. On September 10, 2021, CBP published a notice of

proposed rulemaking (NPRM) in the **Federal Register** (86 FR 50794), in which CBP responded to the 29 comments it received in response to the ANPRM, and adopted some of the suggestions proposed by the commenters. CBP thus drafted the NPRM accordingly and announced proposed regulatory amendments to include a proposed framework for individual customs broker license holders (individual brokers) to administratively maintain their license through completion of qualified continuing broker education.

On June 23, 2023, CBP published a final rule in the **Federal Register** (88 FR 41224). In the final rule, CBP responded to the 70 comments it received in response to the NPRM, and adopted as final, with changes, the proposed amendments. The final rule added a new subpart F in part 111, requiring continuing education for individual brokers and setting forth the framework for administering the requirement. In addition, CBP stated that it would announce, in a **Federal Register** notice following publication of the final rule, the date on which individual brokers may begin completing qualified continuing broker education courses and the prorated number of required continuing broker education credit hours for the triennial period beginning on February 1, 2024, and ending on January 31, 2027 (the 2024–2027 triennial period). The final rule also noted that CBP will announce the date on which qualified continuing broker education courses will be available to individual brokers to begin meeting the requirement and will publish an initial list of available qualified continuing broker education opportunities on *CBP.gov.* Lastly, CBP will periodically publish notices in the **Federal Register** announcing the criteria that CBP will use to select an accreditor, the period during which CBP will accept applications by potential accreditors, and the period of award for CBP-selected accreditors.

II. CBP Implementation of the Continuing Education Requirement for Licensed Customs Brokers

A. Compliance Date and Prorated Number of Required Continuing Broker Education Credit Hours for the 2024–2027 Triennial Period

CBP has now completed full implementation of the framework for administering the new continuing broker education requirement. Thus, CBP is ready to announce that individual brokers may begin completing qualified continuing broker education courses on January 1, 2025 (compliance date). On this same date, qualified continuing broker education courses will be made available to individual brokers to begin meeting the requirement. The initial list of available qualified continuing broker education opportunities, as well as free qualified continuing broker education activities available to individual brokers through CBP and other U.S. government agency offerings, may be found at *CBP.gov.* CBP believes that individual brokers will be able to fulfill the continuing broker education requirement through the free, online-based trainings that CBP and other U.S. government agencies offer, alone.

The CBP regulations in section 111.102(b) require individual brokers to complete at least 36 continuing education credits of qualifying continuing broker education per triennial period, with limited exceptions. In the final rule, CBP announced that, to allow for full implementation of the continuing education requirement, CBP would reduce the 36 continuing education credits required to be completed for the 2024–2027 triennial period by six (6) credit hours for approximately every six (6) months that elapse between February 1, 2024, and the compliance date on which individual brokers may begin completing qualified continuing broker education courses. To give individual brokers additional time to prepare for the new continuing education requirement, CBP is reducing the number of required credit hours that individual brokers must earn to 20 credit hours for the 2024–2027 triennial period (with certification of completion of the credits by February 1, 2027). This reduced number of credits applies to the 2024–2027 triennial period only. Individual brokers are required to earn the full 36 credit hours for all triennial periods following the 2024–2027 triennial period.

B. CBP-Selected Accreditors

In order to supplement the available trainings offered by CBP and other U.S. government agencies, CBP selected accreditors to administer the accreditation of additional broker training and educational activities offered by providers other than by a U.S. government agency.

Section 111.103(c) sets forth the process used by CBP for selection of accreditors, based on a Request for Information (RFI) and a Request for Proposal (RFP) announced through the System for Award Management (SAM) or any other electronic system for award management approved by the U.S. General Services Administration, in accordance with the Federal Acquisition Regulation (48 CFR 1.000 *et seq.*), for a specific period of award, subject to renewal. On August 29, 2023, CBP announced through SAM an RFI (Notice ID 201400XX) seeking information from organizations interested in establishing a relationship with CBP to review and accredit commercial training, programs, course materials, and other activities relating to the new continuing education requirement for licensed customs brokers. CBP received replies from 11 organizations expressing such interest. In response to the replies CBP received, on February 6, 2024, CBP announced through SAM a non-traditional RFP (Notice ID 70B06C24R00000030) to solicit applications to become approved accreditors of qualifying continuing customs broker education. The RFP set forth the following criteria to be used for the selection of accreditors:

- Identification of at least one key official in the applicant's organization that holds an individual customs broker license.
- Demonstration of knowledge of international trade laws, customs laws and regulations, and general customs practices for imported goods and goods subject to drawback.
- Demonstration of knowledge of other U.S. Government agencies that are involved in transactions of international trade.
- A description of the applicant's process for handling accreditation requests, beginning with how an individual submits a training or educational activity proposed for credit to the applicant, including detail on electronic and online methods for submitting materials for consideration.
- Confirmation that the applicant's process for handling accreditation requests uses a secure online (web-based) repository and an overview of the basic functionality of the envisioned online repository, and confirmation that the applicant can protect any business sensitive or proprietary information collected in the requests.
- Identification of up to five (5) professional references with contact information, who should be familiar with the applicant's relevant professional history, job performance, and have the knowledge to determine if the applicant is capable of conducting the kind of complex work described in this RFP. Additionally, the applicant was required to provide contact information that included an individual's full name, entity employing the individual (if applicable), email address, and telephone number.

• Disclosure of any known potential organizational or personal conflicts of interest, any applicant personnel who have previously been employed by CBP, and any applicant personnel who perform critical functions for one or more other applicants applying to be approved accreditors under this RFP.

• Demonstration of the applicant's ability and commitment to complete the accreditation process, resulting in transmission of an approval or denial of credit to the requestor, within four (4) business days of request submission.

CBP evaluated the applications received in response to the RFP based on the above-mentioned criteria and selected the following accreditors:

- E-Merchants Trade Council Inc. (EMTC)–Global Trade Professionals Alliance (GTPA)–Practera
- International Compliance Professionals Association (ICPA)
- National Customs Brokers and Forwarders Association of America (NCBFAA)
- Sandler Travis & Rosenberg, P.A.
- TrüTrade Solutions, Inc.

The initial three-year period of award for CBP-selected accreditors will be from June 2, 2024, through June 1, 2027. The list of CBP-selected accreditors may be found at *CBP.gov.*

Dated: October 11, 2024.

AnnMarie R. Highsmith,

Executive Assistant Commissioner, Office of Trade.

[FR Doc. 2024–24464 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 9111–14–P

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

U.S. Customs and Border Protection

[OMB Control Number 1651–0003]

Agency Information Collection Activities; Extension; Transportation Entry and Manifest of Goods Subject to U.S. Customs and Border Protection Inspection and Permit (CBP Form 7512, 7512A)

AGENCY: U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), Department of Homeland Security.

ACTION: 30-Day notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) will be submitting the following information collection request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA). The information collection is published in the **Federal Register** to obtain comments from the public and affected agencies.

DATES: Comments are encouraged and must be submitted (no later than December 2, 2024) to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and/or suggestions regarding the item(s) contained in this notice should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to *www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain.* Please submit written comments and/or suggestions in English. Find this particular information collection by selecting ''Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments'' or by using the search function.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional PRA information should be directed to Seth Renkema, Chief, Economic Impact Analysis Branch, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Office of Trade, Regulations and Rulings, 90 K Street NE, 10th Floor, Washington, DC 20229–1177, Telephone number 202–325–0056 or via email *CBP_PRA@cbp.dhs.gov.* Please note that the contact information provided here is solely for questions regarding this notice. Individuals seeking information about other CBP programs should contact the CBP National Customer Service Center at 877–227–5511, (TTY) 1–800–877–8339, or CBP website at *https://www.cbp.gov/.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: CBP invites the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on the proposed and/or continuing information collections pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*). This proposed information collection was previously published in the **Federal Register** (89 FR 65640) on August 12, 2024, allowing for a 60-day comment period. This notice allows for an additional 30 days for public comments. This process is conducted in accordance with 5 CFR 1320.8. Written comments and suggestions from the public and affected agencies should address one or more of the following four points: (1) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (3) suggestions to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) suggestions to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, *e.g.,* permitting electronic submission of responses. The comments that are submitted will be summarized and included in the request for approval. All comments will become a matter of public record.

Overview of This Information Collection

Title: Transportation Entry and Manifest of Goods Subject to CBP Inspection and Permit.

OMB Number: 1651–0003.

Form Number: 7512, 7512A.

Current Actions: This submission is being made to extend the expiration date with an increase to the estimated annual burden hours. No change to the information collected or method of collection.

Type of Review: Extension (with change).

Affected Public: Businesses.

Abstract: Title 19 U.S.C. 1552–1554 authorizes the movement of imported merchandise from the port of importation to another Customs and Border Protection (CBP) port prior to release of the merchandise from CBP custody. Forms 7512, ''Transportation Entry and Manifest of Goods Subject to CBP Inspection and Permit,'' and 7512A, ''Continuation Sheet,'' allow CBP to exercise control over merchandise moving in-bond (merchandise that has not entered the commerce of the United States). Forms 7512 and 7512A are filed by importers, brokers, or carriers, and they collect information such as the names of the importer and consignee, a description of the imported merchandise, and the ports of lading and unlading. Use of these forms is provided for by various provisions in 19 CFR to include 19 CFR 10.60, 19 CFR 10.61, 19 CFR 123.41, 19 CFR 123.42, 19 CFR 122.92, and 19 CFR part 18. These forms are accessible at: *http://www.cbp.gov/xp/cgov/toolbox/forms/.*

Type of Information Collection: Forms 7512 and 7512A.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 6,200.

Estimated Number of Annual Responses per Respondent: 871.

Estimated Number of Total Annual Responses: 5,400,200.

Estimated Time per Response: 10 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 900,033.

Dated: October 29, 2024.

Seth D. Renkema,

Branch Chief, Economic Impact Analysis Branch, U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

[FR Doc. 2024–25500 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 9111–14–P

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Federal Emergency Management Agency

[Docket ID: FEMA–2024–0017; OMB No. 1660–NW173]

Agency Information Collection Activities: Submission for OMB Review, Comment Request; Generic Clearance for United States Fire Administration Training, Research, Data, and Prevention Collection

AGENCY: Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security.

ACTION: 30-Day notice of new collection and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) will submit the information collection abstracted below to the Office of Management and Budget for review and clearance in accordance with the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. FEMA invites the general public to take this opportunity to comment on a new generic information collection. In accordance with the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice seeks comments concerning the creation of a new generic collection to allow faster implementation of feedback from our respondents into the instruments used by the United States Fire Administration (USFA) every day.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before December 2, 2024.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to *www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain.* Find this particular information collection by selecting ''Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments'' or by using the search function.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection should be made to Director, Information Management Division, 500 C St. SW, Washington, DC 20472, *FEMA-Information-Collections-Management@fema.dhs.gov* or Ashlee Vandewater, Program Specialist, United States Fire Administration, *ashlee.vandewater@fema.dhs.gov* or 301–447–1483.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Federal Fire Prevention and Control Act of 1974 (Pub. L. 93–498, as amended) (15 U.S.C. 2201 *et seq.*) originates from an exhaustive and comprehensive examination of the Nation's fire problem, which made detailed findings as to the extent of this problem in terms of human suffering and loss of life and property, and it made ninety thoughtful recommendations. Many of these recommendations relate directly to the instruments which are a part of this information collection such as the National Fire Data Center, the National Fire Academy, and the Fire & Emergency Management Services (EMS) information requests for safety and educational materials.

Executive Order 12862 directs Federal Agencies to provide service to the public that matches or exceeds the best service available in the private sector. To work continuously to ensure that our programs are effective and meet our customers' needs, FEMA seeks to obtain Office of Management and Budget approval of a generic clearance to collect qualitative and quantitative data feedback on our service delivery. By qualitative feedback, we mean information that provides useful insights on perceptions and opinions and numerical data on fire and EMS incidents that yield quantitative results that can be generalized to the population of study.

USFA maintains several information technology systems which assist USFA in delivering information, products, and services to the fire service, affiliated organizations, and the public. Collecting information for these instruments aids in the administration of USFA programs in support of State, local, Tribal, and territorial assistance as well as individuals, Federal Government, and members of the private sector.

This information collection is necessary to enable the USFA to garner customer and stakeholder feedback in an efficient, timely manner in accordance with our commitment to improving service delivery. The information collected from our customers and stakeholders will help ensure that users have an effective, efficient, and satisfying experience with the USFA's programs. This feedback will provide insights into customer or stakeholder perceptions, experiences, and expectations; provide an early warning of issues with service; or focus attention on areas where communication, training, or changes in operations might improve delivery of products or services. These collections will allow for ongoing, collaborative, and actionable communications between the USFA and its customers and stakeholders. It will also allow feedback to contribute directly to the improvement of program management.

This proposed information collection previously published in the **Federal Register** on May 21, 2024, at 89 FR 44693 with a 60-day public comment period. No comments were received. The purpose of this notice is to notify the public that FEMA will submit the information collection abstracted below to the Office of Management and Budget for review and clearance.

Collection of Information

Title: Generic Clearance for United States Fire Administration Training, Research, Data, and Prevention Collection.

Type of Information Collection: New information collection.

OMB Number: 1660–NW173.

FEMA Forms: Not Applicable.

Abstract: The United States Fire Administration (USFA) provides these forms to support State, local, Tribal, and territorial organizations as well as individuals of the public, Federal Government, and private sector members through the information, products, and services relevant to the fire service, affiliated organizations, and the public. Collecting of information for these forms aid in the administration of USFA programs, such as the National Fire Data Center, several fire data repositories, the National Fire Academy, and fire and emergency management services information requests for safety and educational materials, just to name a few.

Affected Public: State, Local, or Tribal Governments; Private Sector, For profit; Private Sector; Not for profit.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 291,537.

Estimated Number of Responses: 28,324,337.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 6,670,972.

Estimated Total Annual Respondent Cost: $351,426,805.

Estimated Respondents' Operation and Maintenance Costs: $0.00.

Estimated Respondents' Capital and Start-Up Costs: $0.00.

Estimated Total Annual Cost to the Federal Government: $5,143,602.

Comments

Comments may be submitted as indicated in the **ADDRESSES** caption above. Comments are solicited to (a) evaluate whether the proposed data

collection is necessary for the proper performance of the Agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) evaluate the accuracy of the Agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, *e.g.,* permitting electronic submission of responses.

Millicent Brown Wilson,

Records Management Branch Chief, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer, Mission Support, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security.

[FR Doc. 2024–25448 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 9111–45–P

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Notice Regarding the Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act Entity List

AGENCY: Department of Homeland Security.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS), as the Chair of the Forced Labor Enforcement Task Force (FLETF), announces the publication and availability of the updated Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act (UFLPA) Entity List, a consolidated register of the four lists required to be developed and maintained pursuant to the UFLPA, on the DHS UFLPA website. The updated UFLPA Entity List is also published as an appendix to this notice. This update adds four entities to the section 2(d)(2)(B)(v) list of the UFLPA. Further, this update removes one entity from the section 2(d)(2)(B)(i) list of the UFLPA. Details related to the process for revising the UFLPA Entity List are included in this **Federal Register** notice.

DATES: This notice announces the publication and availability of the UFLPA Entity List updated as of November 1, 2024, included as an appendix to this notice.

ADDRESSES: Persons seeking additional information on the UFLPA Entity List should email the FLETF at *FLETF.UFLPA.EntityList@hq.dhs.gov.*

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: LeRoy Potts, Director, Entity List Office, Trade and Economic Security, Office of Strategy, Policy, and Plans, DHS. Phone: (202) 891–2331, Email: *FLETF.UFLPA.EntityList@hq.dhs.gov*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS), on behalf of the Forced Labor Enforcement Task Force (FLETF), is announcing the publication of the updated UFLPA Entity List, a consolidated register of the four lists required to be developed and maintained pursuant to section 2(d)(2)(B) of the Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act (Pub. L. 117–78) (UFLPA), to *https://www.dhs.gov/uflpa-entity-list.* The UFLPA Entity List is available as an appendix to this notice. This update adds four entities to the section 2(d)(2)(B)(v) list of the UFLPA, which identifies facilities and entities that source material from the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region or from persons working with the government of Xinjiang or the Xinjiang Production and Construction Corps for purposes of the ''poverty alleviation'' program or the ''pairing-assistance'' program or any other government labor scheme that uses forced labor. This update also removes one entity from the section 2(d)(2)(B)(i) list of the UFLPA, which identifies entities in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region that mine, produce, or manufacture wholly or in part any goods, wares, articles, and merchandise with forced labor. Future revisions to the UFLPA Entity List, which may include additions, removals or technical corrections, will be published to *https://www.dhs.gov/uflpa-entitylist* and in the appendices of future **Federal Register** notices. *See* appendix 1.

Beginning on June 21, 2022, the UFLPA requires the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection to apply a rebuttable presumption that goods mined, produced, or manufactured by entities on the UFLPA Entity List are made with forced labor, and therefore, prohibited from importation into the United States under 19 U.S.C. 1307. *See* section 3(a) of the UFLPA. As the FLETF revises the UFLPA Entity List, including by making additions, removals, or technical corrections, DHS, on its behalf, will post such revisions to the DHS UFLPA website (*https://www.dhs.gov/uflpa-entity-list*) and also publish the revised UFLPA Entity List as an appendix to a **Federal Register** notice.

Background

A. The Forced Labor Enforcement Task Force

Section 741 of the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement Implementation Act established the FLETF to monitor United States enforcement of the prohibition under section 307 of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (19 U.S.C. 1307). *See* 19 U.S.C. 4681. Pursuant to DHS Delegation Order No. 23034, the DHS Under Secretary for Strategy, Policy, and Plans serves as Chair of the FLETF, an interagency task force that includes the Department of Homeland Security, the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative, and the Departments of Labor, State, Justice, the Treasury, and Commerce (member agencies).[1] *See* 19 U.S.C. 4681; Executive Order 13923 (May 15, 2020). In addition, the FLETF includes six observer agencies: the Departments of Energy and Agriculture, the U.S. Agency for International Development, the National Security Council, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Homeland Security Investigations.

B. The Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act: Preventing Goods Made With Forced Labor in the People's Republic of China From Being Imported Into the United States

The UFLPA requires, among other things, that the FLETF, in consultation with the Secretary of Commerce and the Director of National Intelligence, develop a strategy (UFLPA section 2(c)) for supporting enforcement of section 307 of the Tariff Act of 1930, to prevent the importation into the United States of goods, wares, articles, and merchandise mined, produced, or manufactured wholly or in part with forced labor in the People's Republic of China. As required by the UFLPA, the *Strategy to Prevent the Importation of Goods Mined, Produced, or Manufactured with Forced Labor in the People's Republic of China,* which was published on the DHS website on June 17, 2022 (*see https://www.dhs.gov/uflpa-strategy*), includes the initial UFLPA Entity List, a consolidated register of the four lists required to be developed and maintained pursuant to the UFLPA. *See* UFLPA section 2(d)(2)(B).

[1] The U.S. Department of Homeland Security, as the FLETF Chair, has the authority to invite representatives from other executive departments and agencies, as appropriate. *See* Executive Order 13923 (May 15, 2020). The U.S. Department of Commerce is a member of the FLETF as invited by the Chair.

C. UFLPA Entity List

The UFLPA Entity List addresses distinct requirements set forth in clauses (i), (ii), (iv), and (v) of section 2(d)(2)(B) of the UFLPA that the FLETF identify and publish the following four lists:

(1) a list of entities in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region that mine, produce, or manufacture wholly or in part any goods, wares, articles, and merchandise with forced labor;

(2) a list of entities working with the government of the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region to recruit, transport, transfer, harbor or receive forced labor or Uyghurs, Kazakhs, Kyrgyz, or members of other persecuted groups out of the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region;

(3) a list of entities that exported products made by entities in lists 1 and 2 from the People's Republic of China into the United States; and

(4) a list of facilities and entities, including the Xinjiang Production and Construction Corps, that source material from the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region or from persons working with the government of Xinjiang or the Xinjiang Production and Construction Corps for purposes of the ''poverty alleviation'' program or the ''pairing-assistance'' program or any other government-labor scheme that uses forced labor.

The UFLPA Entity List is a consolidated register of the above four lists. In accordance with section 3(e) of the UFLPA, effective June 21, 2022, entities on the UFLPA Entity List (listed entities) are subject to the UFLPA's rebuttable presumption that products they produce, wholly or in part, are prohibited from entry into the United States under 19 U.S.C. 1307. The UFLPA Entity List is described in appendix 1 to this notice. The UFLPA Entity List should not be interpreted as an exhaustive list of entities engaged in the practices described in clauses (i), (ii), (iv), or (v) of section 2(d)(2)(B) of the UFLPA.

Revisions to the UFLPA Entity List, including all additions, removals, and technical corrections, will be published on the DHS UFLPA website (*https://www.dhs.gov/uflpa-entity-list*) and as an appendix to a notice that will be published in the **Federal Register.** *See* appendix 1. The FLETF will consider future additions to, or removals from, the UFLPA Entity List based on criteria described in clauses (i), (ii), (iv), or (v) of section 2(d)(2)(B) of the UFLPA. Any FLETF member agency may submit a recommendation(s) to add, remove or make technical corrections to an entry on the UFLPA Entity List. FLETF member agencies will review and vote on revisions to the UFLPA Entity List accordingly.

Additions to the Entity List

The FLETF will consider future additions to the UFLPA Entity List based on the criteria described in clauses (i), (ii), (iv), or (v) of section 2(d)(2)(B) of the UFLPA. Any FLETF member agency may submit a recommendation to the FLETF Chair to add an entity to the UFLPA Entity List. Following review of the recommendation by the FLETF member agencies, the decision to add an entity to the UFLPA Entity List will be made by majority vote of the FLETF member agencies.

Requests for Removal From the Entity List

Any listed entity may submit a request for removal (removal request) from the UFLPA Entity List along with supporting information to the FLETF Chair at *FLETF.UFLPA.EntityList@hq.dhs.gov.* In the removal request, the entity (or its designated representative) should provide information that demonstrates that the entity no longer meets or does not meet the criteria described in the applicable clause ((i), (ii), (iv), or (v)) of section 2(d)(2)(B) of the UFLPA. The FLETF Chair will refer all such removal requests and supporting information to FLETF member agencies. Upon receipt of the removal request, the FLETF Chair or the Chair's designated representative may contact the entity on behalf of the FLETF regarding questions on the removal request and may request additional information. Following review of the removal request by the FLETF member agencies, the decision to remove an entity from the UFLPA Entity List will be made by majority vote of the FLETF member agencies.

Listed entities may request a meeting with the FLETF after submitting a removal request in writing to the FLETF Chair at *FLETF.UFLPA.EntityList@hq.dhs.gov.* Following its review of a removal request, the FLETF may accept the meeting request at the conclusion of the review period and, if accepted, will hold the meeting prior to voting on the entity's removal request. The FLETF Chair will advise the entity in writing of the FLETF's decision on its removal request. While the FLETF's decision on a removal request is not appealable, the FLETF will consider new removal requests if accompanied by new information.

Robert Silvers,

Under Secretary, Office of Strategy, Policy, and Plans, U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

Appendix 1

This notice supersedes the UFLPA Entity List published in the **Federal Register** on October 3, 2024 (89 FR 80586). The UFLPA Entity List as of November 1, 2024 is available in this appendix and is published on *https://www.dhs.gov/uflpa-entity-list.* This update adds four entities to the section 2(d)(2)(B)(v) list of the UFLPA, which identifies facilities and entities that source material from the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region or from persons working with the government of Xinjiang or the Xinjiang Production and Construction Corps for purposes of the ''poverty alleviation'' program or the ''pairing-assistance'' program or any other government labor scheme that uses forced labor:

- Changji Esquel Textile Co., Ltd. (also known as Changji Yida Textile Co., Ltd.)
- Esquel Group (also known as Esquel China Holdings Limited)
- Guangdong Esquel Textile Co., Ltd.
- Turpan Esquel Textile Co., Ltd.

This update also removes one entity from the section 2(d)(2)(B)(i) list of the UFLPA, which identifies entities in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region that mine, produce, or manufacture wholly or in part any goods, wares, articles, and merchandise with forced labor:

- Changji Esquel Textile Co. Ltd. (and one alias: Changji Yida Textile)

Changji Esquel Textile Co., Ltd. (also known as Changji Yida Textile Co., Ltd.) is a company based in Changji Prefecture, Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region that is engaged in cotton yarn production and sales. The United States Government has reasonable cause to believe, based on specific and articulable information, that Changji Esquel Textile Co., Ltd. sources material from the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region. The FLETF therefore determined that the activities of Changji Esquel Textile Co., Ltd. satisfy the criteria for addition to the UFLPA Entity List described in section 2(d)(2)(B)(v).

Esquel Group (also known as Esquel China Holdings Limited) is a company based in Hong Kong that is engaged in cotton and garment manufacturing and retail. The United States Government has reasonable cause to believe, based on specific and articulable information,

that Esquel Group sources material from the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region. The FLETF therefore determined that the activities of Esquel Group satisfy the criteria for addition to the UFLPA Entity List described in section 2(d)(2)(B)(v).

Guangdong Esquel Textile Co., Ltd. is a company based in Forshan City, Guangdong Province that is engaged in textiles, clothing, and apparel processing and manufacturing. The United States Government has reasonable cause to believe, based on specific and articulable information, that Guangdong Esquel Textile Co., Ltd. sources material from the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region. The FLETF therefore determined that the activities of Guangdong Esquel Textile Co., Ltd. satisfy the criteria for addition to the UFLPA Entity List described in section 2(d)(2)(B)(v).

Turpan Esquel Textile Co., Ltd. is a company based in Turpan City, Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region that is engaged cotton, cotton yarn, and cloth production and sales. The United States Government has reasonable cause to believe, based on specific and articulable information, that Turpan Esquel Textile Co., Ltd. sources material from the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region. The FLETF therefore determined that the activities of Turpan Esquel Textile Co., Ltd. satisfy the criteria for addition to the UFLPA Entity List described in section 2(d)(2)(B)(v).

Changji Esquel Textile Co. Ltd. is a company based in Changji Prefecture, Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region that is engaged in cotton yarn production and sales. The FLETF has determined that there is no longer reasonable cause to believe that Changji Esquel Textile Co. Ltd. meets the criteria described in section 2(d)(2)(B)(i) of the UFLPA and that Changji Esquel Textile Co. Ltd.'s removal from Section 2(d)(2)(B)(i) of the UFLPA Entity List is warranted.

No technical corrections are being made to the UFLPA Entity List at this time.

The UFLPA Entity List is a consolidated register of the four lists that are required to be developed and maintained pursuant to section 2(d)(2)(B) of the UFLPA. Seventy-eight entities that meet the criteria set forth in the four required lists (*see* sections 2(d)(2)(B)(i), (ii), (iv), and (v) of the UFLPA) are specified on the UFLPA Entity List.

UFLPA Entity List November 1, 2024

UFLPA Section 2 (d)(2)(B)(i) A List of Entities in Xinjiang That Mine, Produce, or Manufacture Wholly or in Part Any Goods, Wares, Articles, and Merchandise With Forced Labor

Baoding LYSZD Trade and Business Co., Ltd.
Hetian Haolin Hair Accessories Co. Ltd. (and two aliases: Hotan Haolin Hair Accessories; and Hollin Hair Accessories)
Hetian Taida Apparel Co., Ltd (and one alias: Hetian TEDA Garment)
Hoshine Silicon Industry (Shanshan) Co., Ltd (including one alias: Hesheng Silicon Industry (Shanshan) Co.) and subsidiaries
Xinjiang Daqo New Energy, Co. Ltd (including three aliases: Xinjiang Great New Energy Co., Ltd.; Xinjiang Daxin Energy Co., Ltd.; and Xinjiang Daqin Energy Co., Ltd.)
Xinjiang East Hope Nonferrous Metals Co. Ltd. (including one alias: Xinjiang Nonferrous)
Xinjiang GCL New Energy Material Technology, Co. Ltd (including one alias: Xinjiang GCL New Energy Materials Technology Co.)
Xinjiang Junggar Cotton and Linen Co., Ltd.
Xinjiang Production and Construction Corps (including three aliases: XPCC; Xinjiang Corps; and Bingtuan) and its subordinate and affiliated entities

UFLPA Section 2 (d)(2)(B)(ii) A List of Entities Working With the Government of Xinjiang To Recruit, Transport, Transfer, Harbor or Receive Forced Labor or Uyghurs, Kazakhs, Kyrgyz, or Members of Other Persecuted Groups Out of Xinjiang

Aksu Huafu Textiles Co. (including two aliases: Akesu Huafu and Aksu Huafu Dyed Melange Yarn)
Anhui Xinya New Materials Co., Ltd. (formerly known as Chaohu Youngor Color Spinning Technology Co., Ltd.; and Chaohu Xinya Color Spinning Technology Co., Ltd.)
Baowu Group Xinjiang Bayi Iron and Steel Co., Ltd. (also known as Xinjiang Bayi Iron and Steel Co. Ltd.; Baosteel Group Xinjiang Bayi Iron and Steel Co., Ltd.; and Bayi Iron and Steel)
Camel Group Co., Ltd.
Changhong Meiling Co., Ltd. (formerly known as Hefei Meiling Co., Ltd.; and Hefei Meiling Group Holdings Limited)
COFCO Sugar Holdings Co., Ltd.
Dongguan Oasis Shoes Co., Ltd. (also known as Dongguan Oasis Shoe Industry Co. Ltd.; Dongguan Luzhou Shoes Co., Ltd.; and Dongguan Lvzhou Shoes Co., Ltd.)
Geehy Semiconductor Co., Ltd.
Hefei Bitland Information Technology Co., Ltd. (including three aliases: Anhui Hefei Baolongda Information Technology; Hefei Baolongda Information Technology Co., Ltd.; and Hefei Bitland Optoelectronic Technology Co., Ltd.)
Kashgar Construction Engineering (Group) Co., Ltd.
KTK Group (including three aliases: Jiangsu Jinchuang Group; Jiangsu Jinchuang Holding Group; and KTK Holding)
Lop County Hair Product Industrial Park
Lop County Meixin Hair Products Co., Ltd.
Nanjing Synergy Textiles Co., Ltd. (including two aliases: Nanjing Xinyi Cotton Textile Printing and Dyeing; and Nanjing Xinyi Cotton Textile).
Ninestar Corporation
No. 4 Vocation Skills Education Training Center (VSETC)
Shandong Meijia Group Co., Ltd. (also known as Rizhao Meijia Group)
Sichuan Jingweida Technology Group Co., Ltd. (also known as Sichuan Mianyang Jingweida Technology Co., Ltd. and JWD Technology; and formerly known as Mianyang High-tech Zone Jingweida Technology Co., Ltd.)
Tanyuan Technology Co. Ltd. (including five aliases: Carbon Yuan Technology; Changzhou Carbon Yuan Technology Development; Carbon Element Technology; Jiangsu Carbon Element Technology; and Tanyuan Technology Development).
Xinjiang Habahe Ashele Copper Co., Ltd. (also known as Ashele Copper)
Xinjiang Production and Construction Corps (XPCC) and its subordinate and affiliated entities
Xinjiang Shenhuo Coal and Electricity Co., Ltd.
Xinjiang Tengxiang Magnesium Products Co., Ltd.
Xinjiang Tianmian Foundation Textile Co., Ltd.
Xinjiang Tianshan Wool Textile Co. Ltd.
Xinjiang Zhongtai Chemical Co. Ltd.
Xinjiang Zhongtai Group Co. Ltd
Zhuhai Apex Microelectronics Co., Ltd.
Zhuhai G&G Digital Technology Co., Ltd.
Zhuhai Ninestar Information Technology Co. Ltd.
Zhuhai Ninestar Management Co., Ltd.
Zhuhai Pantum Electronics Co. Ltd.
Zhuhai Pu-Tech Industrial Co., Ltd.
Zhuhai Seine Printing Technology Co., Ltd.

UFLPA Section 2 (d)(2)(B)(iv) A List of Entities That Exported Products Described in Clause (iii) From the People's Republic of China Into the United States

Entities identified in sections (i) and (ii) above may serve as both manufacturers and exporters. The FLETF has not identified additional exporters at this time but will continue to investigate and gather information about additional entities that meet the specified criteria.

UFLPA Section 2 (d)(2)(B)(v) A List of Facilities and Entities, Including the Xinjiang Production and Construction Corps, That Source Material From Xinjiang or From Persons Working With the Government of Xinjiang or the Xinjiang Production and Construction Corps for Purposes of the ''Poverty Alleviation'' Program or the ''Pairing-Assistance'' Program or Any Other Government Labor Scheme That Uses Forced Labor

Baoding LYSZD Trade and Business Co., Ltd.
Binzhou Chinatex Yintai Industrial Co., Ltd.
Century Sunshine Group Holdings, Ltd.
Changji Esquel Textile Co., Ltd. (also known as Changji Yida Textile Co., Ltd.)
Changzhou Guanghui Food Ingredients Co., Ltd. (also known as GSweet; Changzhou Guanghui Food Additive Co., Ltd.; and Changzhou Guanghui Food Technology Co., Ltd.; and formerly known as Changzhou Guanghui Biotechnology Co., Ltd.)
Chenguang Biotech Group Co., Ltd.
Chenguang Biotechnology Group Yanqi Co. Ltd.
China Cotton Group Henan Logistics Park Co., Ltd., Xinye Branch
China Cotton Group Nangong Hongtai Cotton Co., Ltd.
China Cotton Group Shandong Logistics Park Co., Ltd.
China Cotton Group Xinjiang Cotton Co.
Esquel Group (also known as Esquel China Holdings Limited)
Fujian Minlong Warehousing Co., Ltd.
Guangdong Esquel Textile Co., Ltd.
Hefei Bitland Information Technology Co. Ltd.
Henan Yumian Group Industrial Co., Ltd.
Henan Yumian Logistics Co., Ltd. (formerly known as 841 Cotton Transfer Warehouse)
Hengshui Cotton and Linen Corporation Reserve Library
Hetian Haolin Hair Accessories Co. Ltd.
Hetian Taida Apparel Co., Ltd.
Heze Cotton and Linen Co., Ltd.
Heze Cotton and Linen Economic and Trade Development Corporation (also known as Heze Cotton and Linen Trading Development General Company)
Hoshine Silicon Industry (Shanshan) Co., Ltd., and Subsidiaries
Huangmei Xiaochi Yinfeng Cotton (formerly known as Hubei Provincial Cotton Corporation's Xiaochi Transfer Reserve)
Hubei Jingtian Cotton Industry Group Co., Ltd.
Hubei Qirun Investment Development Co., Ltd.
Hubei Yinfeng Cotton Co., Ltd.
Hubei Yinfeng Warehousing and Logistics Co., Ltd.
Jiangsu Yinhai Nongjiale Storage Co., Ltd.
Jiangsu Yinlong Warehousing and Logistics Co., Ltd.
Jiangyin Lianyun Co. Ltd. (also known as Jiangyin Intermodal Transport Co. and Jiangyin United Transport Co.)
Jiangyin Xiefeng Cotton and Linen Co., Ltd.
Juye Cotton and Linen Station of the Heze Cotton and Linen Corporation
Lanxi Huachu Logistics Co., Ltd.
Linxi County Fangpei Cotton Buying and Selling Co., Ltd.
Lop County Hair Product Industrial Park
Lop County Meixin Hair Products Co., Ltd.
Nanyang Hongmian Logistics Co., Ltd. (also known as Nanyang Red Cotton Logistics Co., Ltd.)
No. 4 Vocation Skills Education Training Center (VSETC)
Rare Earth Magnesium Technology Group Holdings, Ltd.
Turpan Esquel Textile Co., Ltd.
Wugang Zhongchang Logistics Co., Ltd.
Xinjiang Junggar Cotton and Linen Co., Ltd.
Xinjiang Production and Construction Corps (XPCC) and its subordinate and affiliated entities
Xinjiang Tengxiang Magnesium Products Co., Ltd.
Xinjiang Yinlong Agricultural International Cooperation Co.
Yili Zhuowan Garment Manufacturing Co., Ltd.

[FR Doc. 2024–25423 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 9110–9M–P

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

[Docket No. FR–7086–N–29]

60-Day Notice of Proposed Information Collection: Performing Loans Servicing for the Home Equity Conversion Mortgage (HECM); OMB Control No.: 2502–0611

AGENCY: Office of the Assistant Secretary for Housing-Federal Housing Commissioner, HUD.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: HUD is seeking approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for the information collection described below. In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act, HUD is requesting comment from all interested parties on the proposed collection of information. The purpose of this notice is to allow for 60 days of public comment.

DATES: *Comments Due Date:* December 31, 2024.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments regarding this proposal.

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection can be sent within 60 days of publication of this notice to *www.regulations.gov.*

Interested persons are also invited to submit comments regarding this proposal by name and/or OMB Control Number and can be sent to: Colette Pollard, Reports Management Officer, REE, Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 7th Street SW, Room 8210, Washington, DC 20410–5000; telephone (202) 402–3400. (this is not a toll-free number) or email at *Colette.Pollard@hud.gov* for a copy of the proposed forms or other available information.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Colette Pollard Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 7th Street SW, Room 4186, Washington, DC 20410; telephone (202) 402–3577, (this is not a toll-free number). HUD welcomes and is prepared to receive calls from individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing, as well as individuals with speech or communication disabilities. To learn more about how to make an accessible telephone call, please visit *https://www.fcc.gov/consumers/guides/telecommunications-relay-service-trs.*

Copies of available documents submitted to OMB may be obtained from Ms. Pollard.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This notice informs the public that HUD is seeking approval from OMB for the information collection described in Section A.

A. Overview of Information Collection

Title of Information Collection: Performing Loans Servicing for the Home Equity Conversion Mortgage (HECM).

OMB Approval Number: 2502–0611.

Type of Request: Revision of currently approved collection.

Form Number: HUD–50002, HUD–50012.

Description of the need for the information and proposed use: This information request is a comprehensive collection of requirements for mortgagees that service HECMs and HECM borrowers, who are involved with servicing-related activities that includes collection and payment of mortgage insurance premiums, escrow account administration, providing loan information and customer service.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 185.

Frequency of Response: Monthly.

Estimated Number of Responses: 8,843,450.

Average Hours per Response: 0.14.

Total Estimated Burdens: 1,205,638.75.

Information collection	Number of respondents	Frequency of response	Responses per annum	Burden hour per response	Annual burden hours	Hourly cost per response	Annual cost
Performing Loan Servicing for the Home Equity Conversion Mortgage (HECM).	185	Monthly	8,843,450	0.14	1,205,638.75	$34.16	$41,184,620

B. Solicitation of Public Comment

This notice is soliciting comments from members of the public and affected parties concerning the collection of information described in Section A on the following:

(1) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;

(2) The accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information;

(3) Ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(4) Ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond; including through the use of appropriate automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology, *e.g.,* permitting electronic submission of responses.

HUD encourages interested parties to submit comment in response to these questions.

C. Authority

Section 3507 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, 44 U.S.C. chapter 35.

Jeffrey D. Little,

General Deputy Assistant Secretary for Housing.

[FR Doc. 2024–25485 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4210–67–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

[Docket No. FWS–R4–ES–2024–0149; FXES11140400000–245–FF04EF4000]

Receipt of Application for Renewal of an Incidental Take Permit for the Sand Skink; Lake County, FL; Categorical Exclusion

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability; request for comments.

SUMMARY: We, the Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), announce receipt of an application from Sunterra Communities, LLC (applicant) for renewal of an incidental take permit (ITP) under the Endangered Species Act. If granted, the renewed ITP would authorize take of the federally listed as threatened sand skink (*Neoseps reynoldsi*) incidental to the construction of a residential and commercial development in Lake County, Florida. The applicant requests the renewal of the ITP to extend the expiration date for 5 additional years. There is no request for additional take or increases in development levels. The proposed renewal maintains the existing levels of take and renews the permit through June 14, 2029. We request public comment on the application, which includes the applicant's original unchanged habitat conservation plan (HCP), and the Service's determination that the proposed renewal remains eligible for a categorical exclusion pursuant to the Council on Environmental Quality's National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) regulations, the Department of the Interior's (DOI) NEPA regulations, and the DOI Departmental Manual. To make this preliminary determination, we used our existing environmental action statement and low-effect screening form, both of which are also available for public review. We invite comment from the public and local, State, Tribal, and Federal agencies.

DATES: We must receive your written comments on or before December 2, 2024.

ADDRESSES:

Obtaining Documents: The documents this notice announces, as well as any comments and other materials that we receive, will be available for public inspection online in Docket No. FWS–R4–ES–2024–0149 at *https://www.regulations.gov.*

Submitting Comments: If you wish to submit comments on any of the documents, you may do so in writing by one of the following methods:

- *Online: https://www.regulations.gov.* Follow the instructions for submitting comments on Docket No. FWS–R4–ES–2024–0149;
- *U.S. mail:* Public Comments Processing, Attn: Docket No. FWS–R4–ES–2024–0149; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, MS: PRB/3W, 5275 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, VA 22041–3803.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Erin Gawera, via email at *erin_gawera@fws.gov* or by telephone at 904–404–2464. Individuals in the United States who are deaf, deafblind, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability may dial 711 (TTY, TDD, or TeleBraille) to access telecommunications relay services. Individuals outside the United States should use the relay services offered within their country to make international calls to the point-of-contact in the United States.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: We, the Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), announce receipt of an application from Sunterra Communities, LLC for renewal of incidental take permit (ITP) number TE13200D–0 under the Endangered Species Act (ESA; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*). The applicant requests the renewal of the ITP for 5 additional years. The proposed ITP renewal would

grant the applicant additional time to complete the residential and commercial development. The amendment to renew does not include any changes in the covered area, activity, amount or type of take, or species to be covered by the permit. The applicant's existing habitat conservation plan (HCP) provides measures to mitigate for the incidental take of the species.

We request public comment on the renewal application, which includes the applicant's HCP, and on the Service's preliminary determination that this proposed ITP renewal qualifies as low effect, and qualifies for a categorical exclusion pursuant to the Council on Environmental Quality's National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) regulations (40 CFR 1501.4), the Department of the Interior's (DOI) NEPA regulations (43 CFR 46), and the DOI's Departmental Manual (516 DM 8.5(C)(2)). To make this preliminary determination, we used our environmental action statement and low-effect screening form, both of which are also available for public review.

Proposed Project Renewal

The applicant requests to extend the ITP expiration date for 5 additional years and does not propose any other changes that alter the original review analyses by the Service. There is no request for additional take or increases in development levels; the proposed time extension maintains the existing levels of take, and would merely extend the covered activities out to June 14, 2029, instead of June 14, 2024.

Our Preliminary Determination

The Service has made a preliminary determination that the applicant's proposed permit renewal, extending the expiration date of the original ITP for 5 additional years, would individually and cumulatively have a minor effect on the covered species and the human environment. Therefore, we have preliminarily determined that renewal of the ITP for this project would be a low-effect ITP that individually or cumulatively would have a minor effect on the species and qualifies for application of a categorical exclusion pursuant to the Council on Environmental Quality's NEPA regulations, DOI's NEPA regulations, and the DOI Departmental Manual. A low-effect ITP is one that would result in (1) minor or nonsignificant effects on species covered in the HCP; (2) nonsignificant effects on the human environment; and (3) impacts that, when added together with the impacts of other past, present, and reasonable foreseeable actions, would not result in significant cumulative effects to the human environment.

Next Steps

The Service will evaluate the application and any comments received to determine whether to renew the current permit. We will also conduct an intra-Service consultation pursuant to section 7 of the ESA to evaluate the effects of the proposed take. After considering the preceding and other matters, we will determine whether the permit issuance criteria of section 10(a)(1)(B) of the ESA have been met. If met, the Service will issue a renewal of this ITP (TE13200D–0) under number PER11067884 to Sunterra Communities, LLC.

Public Availability of Comments

Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, be aware that your entire comment, including your personal identifying information, may be made available to the public. If you submit a comment at *https://www.regulations.gov,* your entire comment, including any personal identifying information, will be posted on the website. If you submit a hardcopy comment that includes personal identifying information, such as your address, phone number, or email address, you may request at the top of your document that we withhold this information from public review. However, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so. Moreover, all submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be made available for public disclosure in their entirety.

Authority

The Service provides this notice under section 10(c) of the ESA (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) and its implementing regulations (50 CFR 17.32), and the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*) and its implementing regulations (40 CFR 1500–1508 and 43 CFR 46).

Robert L. Carey,

Division Manager, Environmental Review, Florida Ecological Services Office.

[FR Doc. 2024–25455 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4333–15–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Office of Natural Resources Revenue

[Docket No. ONRR–2011–0025; DS63644000 DR2000000.CH7000 234D1113RT, OMB Control Number 1012–0003]

Agency Information Collection Activities: Delegated and Cooperative Activities With States and Indian Tribes

AGENCY: Office of Natural Resources Revenue (''ONRR''), Interior.

ACTION: Notice of information collection; request for comment.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (''PRA''), ONRR is proposing to renew an information collection. ONRR uses the information collected in this Information Collection Request (''ICR'') to review and approve delegation proposals from States seeking to perform royalty management functions and prepare a cooperative agreement with a State or Indian tribe seeking to perform royalty audits.

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before December 2, 2024.

ADDRESSES: All comment submissions must (1) reference ''OMB Control Number 1012–0003'' in the subject line; (2) be sent to ONRR before the close of the comment period listed under **DATES**; and (3) be sent through the following method:

Electronically via the Federal eRulemaking Portal: Please visit https://www.regulations.gov. In the Search Box, enter the Docket ID Number for this ICR renewal (''ONRR–2011–0025'') and click ''search'' to view the publications associated with the docket folder. Locate the document with an open comment period and click the ''Comment Now!'' button. Follow the prompts to submit your comment prior to the close of the comment period.

Docket: To access the docket folder to view the ICR **Federal Register** publications, go to *https://www.regulations.gov* and search ''ONRR–2011–0025'' to view renewal notices recently published in the **Federal Register**, publications associated with prior renewals, and applicable public comments received for this ICR. ONRR will make the comments submitted in response to this notice available for public viewing at *https://www.regulations.gov.*

OMB ICR Data: You may also view information collection review data for this ICR, including past OMB approvals, at *https://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRASearch.* Under the ''OMB Control

Number'' heading enter ''1012–0003'' and click the ''Search'' button located at the bottom of the page. To view the ICR renewal or OMB approval status, click on the latest entry (based on the most recent date). On the ''View ICR—OIRA Conclusion'' page, check the box next to ''All'' to display all available ICR information provided by OMB.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: To request additional information about this ICR, please contact Mr. Peter Hanley, Outreach, Coordination and Verification, ONRR, by email to *Peter.Hanley@onrr.gov* or by telephone at (303) 231–3721.

Individuals in the United States who are deaf, deafblind, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability may dial 711 (TTY, TDD, or TeleBraille) to access telecommunications relay services. Individuals outside the United States should use the relay services offered within their country to make international calls to the point-of-contact in the United States.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to the PRA, 44 U.S.C. 3501, *et seq.,* and 5 CFR 1320.5, all information collections, as defined in 5 CFR 1320.3, require approval by OMB. ONRR may not conduct or sponsor, and you are not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

As part of ONRR's continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burdens, ONRR is inviting the public and other Federal agencies to comment on new, proposed, revised, and continuing collections of information in accordance with the PRA and 5 CFR 1320.8(d)(1). This helps ONRR to assess the impact of its information collection requirements and minimize the public's reporting burden. It also helps the public understand ONRR's information collection requirements and provide the requested data in the desired format.

ONRR is especially interested in public comments addressing the following:

(1) Whether or not the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether or not the information will have practical utility;

(2) The accuracy of ONRR's estimate of the burden for this collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

(3) Ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(4) How might the agency minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, *e.g.,* permitting electronic submission of response.

ONRR published a notice, with a 60-day public comment period soliciting comment of this collection of information, in the **Federal Register** on April 30, 2024 (89 FR 34266). ONRR received 1 comment from the Navajo Nation regarding the published 60-day **Federal Register** notice. The Navajo Nation encourages ONRR to apply President Biden's December 6, 2023, Executive Order 14112 ''Reforming Federal Funding and Support for Tribal Nations To Better Embrace Our Trust Responsibilities and Promote the Next Era of Tribal Self-Determination'' [''Executive Order'']. The Nation encourages ONRR to apply this Executive Order when issuing any requests for information or comment to Tribes. The Navajo Nation also suggested ONRR to coordinate with its Federal partners to establish a Federal clearing house portal to which Tribes can submit all Federal reports or requests for information.

ONRR's response is that to the greatest extent possible ONRR works to minimize the amount of information and documentation that States and Tribes must submit to maintain a cooperative agreement. The documents that the Nation is required to submit to ONRR are included in the terms of the cooperative agreement. ONRR's authority to enter and administer cooperative agreements with States and Tribes on behalf of the Secretary of the Interior arises under 30 U.S.C. 1732. ONRR strives to limit the documents and information it requires for cooperative agreements to only those that are necessary for it to carry out its responsibilities. For the clearing house portal, ONRR does not have the authority to establish a clearinghouse portal for all its Federal partners but is open to working with those partners to find ways to reduce burden.

Comments that you submit in response to this notice are a matter of public record. ONRR will include or summarize each comment in its request to OMB to approve this ICR. 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, ONRR cannot guarantee that it will be able to do so.

Abstract: (a) General Information: The Secretary of the United States Department of the Interior (''Secretary'') is responsible for mineral resource development on Federal and Indian lands and the Outer Continental Shelf. Laws pertaining to Federal and Indian mineral leases are posted at *https://onrr.gov/references/statutes.* Pursuant to the Federal Oil and Gas Royalty Management Act of 1982 (''FOGRMA'') and other laws, the Secretary's responsibilities include maintaining a comprehensive inspection, collection, and fiscal and production accounting and auditing system that: (1) accurately determines mineral royalties, interest, and other payments owed, (2) collects and accounts for such amounts in a timely manner, and (3) disburses the funds collected. *See* 30 U.S.C. 1701 and 1711. ONRR performs these royalty and revenue management responsibilities for the Secretary. *See* Secretarial Order No. 3306.

Congress enacted FOGRMA, in part, ''to effectively utilize the capabilities of the States and Indian Tribes in developing and maintaining an efficient and effective Federal royalty management system.'' 30 U.S.C. 1701(b)(5). Relevant to this ICR, FOGRMA provides the Secretary with authority to: (1) review and approve delegation proposals from States seeking to perform royalty management functions, and (2) prepare a cooperative agreement with a State or Indian tribe seeking to perform royalty audits. 30 U.S.C. 1732 and 1735. Under 30 U.S.C. 1735, the Secretary can delegate all or part of the authority and responsibility to: ''(1) conduct inspections, audits, and investigations; (2) receive and process production and financial reports; (3) correct erroneous reporting data; (4) perform automated verification; and (5) issue demands, subpoenas, and orders to perform restructured accounting, for royalty management enforcement purposes . . . to any State with respect to all Federal land within the State.'' 30 U.S.C. 1735(a)(1)–(5).

Through cooperative agreements, pursuant to 30 U.S.C. 1732, oil or gas royalty management information is shared, allowing a State or Indian tribe to carry out certain inspection, auditing, investigation, and limited enforcement activities in cooperation with the Secretary. Several States and Indian tribes are working partners with ONRR and are an integral part of the overall onshore and offshore compliance effort. Through the Appropriations Act of 1992 (Pub. L. 102–154), codified at 30 U.S.C. 196, the Secretary's authority for oil and

gas leases was extended to other energy and mineral leases, including coal, geothermal steam, and leases subject to 43 U.S.C. 1337(g) of the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (''OCSLA'') as discussed further below.

(b) Information Collections: This ICR covers the paperwork requirements under 30 CFR parts 1227, 1228, and 1229. This collection of information is necessary for States and Indian Tribes to conduct audits and related investigations of Federal and Indian oil, gas, coal, other solid minerals, and geothermal royalty revenues from Federal and Tribal leased lands. ONRR uses the information collected to: (1) review and approve delegation proposals from States seeking to perform royalty management functions, and (2) prepare a cooperative agreement with a State or Indian tribe seeking to perform royalty audits. The requirements of 30 CFR parts 1227, 1228, and 1229 are:

(1) 30 CFR part 1227—Delegation to States. Part 1227 governs the delegation of certain Federal royalty management functions to a State under 30 U.S.C. 1735, for Federal oil and gas leases covering Federal lands within the State. This part also governs the delegation of audit and investigative functions to a State for Federal geothermal leases or solid mineral leases covering Federal lands within the State (30 U.S.C. 196), or leases covering lands offshore of the State subject to section 8(g) of the OCSLA (43 U.S.C. 1337(g)). To be considered for such delegation, a State must submit a written proposal to ONRR, which ONRR must approve. Following the delegation process, 30 CFR part 1227 outlines State responsibilities, compensation, performance reviews, and the process for terminating a delegation.

(2) 30 CFR part 1228—Cooperative Activities with States and Indian Tribes. FOGRMA (30 U.S.C. 1732) authorizes the Secretary to enter into a cooperative agreement with a State or Indian tribe to share oil and gas royalty management information, and to carry out inspection, audit, investigation, and enforcement activities on Federal and Indian lands. The regulations at 30 CFR part 1228 implement this provision and set forth the requirements and procedures for entering into a cooperative agreement, the terms of such agreements, and subsequent responsibilities that must be carried out under the cooperative agreement. Through the Secretary's delegation of the authority contained in 30 CFR 1228.5(a), a State or Indian tribe may enter into a cooperative agreement with ONRR's Director to carry out audits and related investigations of their respective leased lands. To enter into a cooperative agreement, a State or Indian tribe must submit a written proposal to ONRR. The proposal must outline the activities that the State or Indian tribe will undertake and must present evidence that the State or Indian tribe can meet the standards of the Secretary to conduct these activities. The State or Indian tribe also must submit an annual work plan and budget, as well as quarterly reimbursement vouchers.

(3) 30 CFR part 1229—Delegation to States. Part 1229 governs delegations to a State to conduct audits and related investigations for Federal lands within the State, and for Indian lands for which the State has received permission from the respective Indian tribes or allottees to carry out audit activities delegated to the State under 30 U.S.C. 1735. 30 CFR 1229.4. Under 30 CFR part 1229 the State must receive the Secretary's delegation of authority and submit annual audit work plans detailing its audits and related investigations, annual budgets, and quarterly reimbursement vouchers. The State also must maintain records.

Title of Collection: 30 CFR parts 1227, 1228, and 1229, Delegated and Cooperative Activities with States and Indian Tribes.

OMB Control Number: 1012–0003.

Bureau Form Number: None.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Respondents/Affected Public: States and Indian tribes.

Total Estimated Number of Annual Respondents: 9 States and 6 Indian Tribal respondents.

Total Estimated Number of Annual Responses: 210.

Estimated Completion Time per Response: 79.51 hours.

Total Estimated Number of Annual Burden Hours: 16,697 hours.

The average completion time is 79.51 hours per response. The average completion time is calculated by dividing the estimated annual burden hours (16,697) by the annual responses (210) to obtain the total annual burden hours (79.51).

Respondent's Obligation: Required to obtain or retain a benefit.

Frequency of Collection: Annual.

Total Estimated Annual Non-Hour Burden Cost: ONRR identified no ''non-hour cost'' burden associated with this collection of information.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

The authority for this action is the PRA (44 U.S.C. 3501, *et seq.*).

Howard M. Cantor,

Director, Office of Natural Resources Revenue.

[FR Doc. 2024–25421 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4335–30–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management

Notice on Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Lease Sales

AGENCY: Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Interior.

ACTION: List of restricted joint bidders.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the Energy Policy and Conservation Act of 1975 and the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management's (BOEM) regulatory restrictions on joint bidding, BOEM is publishing this list of restricted joint bidders. Each entity within one of the following groups is restricted from bidding with any entity in any of the other groups listed below at Outer Continental Shelf oil and gas lease sales held during the bidding period of November 1, 2024, through April 30, 2025.

DATES: This list of restricted joint bidders covers the bidding period of November 1, 2024, through April 30, 2025, and succeeds all prior published lists.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Group I

BP America Production Company
BP Exploration & Production Inc.

Group II

Chevron Corporation
Chevron U.S.A. Inc.
Chevron Midcontinent, L.P.
Unocal Corporation
Union Oil Company of California
Pure Partners, L.P.

Group III

Eni Petroleum Co. Inc.
Eni Petroleum US LLC
Eni Oil US LLC
Eni Marketing Inc.
Eni BB Petroleum Inc.
Eni US Operating Co. Inc.
Eni BB Pipeline LLC

Group IV

Equinor ASA
Equinor Gulf of Mexico LLC
Equinor USA E&P Inc.

Group V

Exxon Mobil Corporation
ExxonMobil Exploration Company

Group VI

Shell Oil Company
Shell Offshore Inc.
SWEPI LP
Shell Frontier Oil & Gas Inc.
SOI Finance Inc.
Shell Gulf of Mexico Inc.

Group VII

Total E&P USA, Inc.

Even if an entity does not appear on the above list, BOEM may disqualify and reject certain joint or single bids submitted by an entity if that entity is chargeable for the prior production period with an average daily production in excess of 1.6 million barrels of crude oil, its equivalent in natural gas, and natural gas liquids. *See* 30 CFR 556.512.

Authority: 42 U.S.C. 6213; and 30 CFR 556.511–556.515.

Elizabeth Klein,

Director, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management.

[FR Doc. 2024–25447 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4340–98–P

INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

[Investigation Nos. 731–TA–1435, 1436, and 1438–1440 (Review)]

Acetone From Belgium, Singapore, South Africa, South Korea, and Spain; Institution of Five-Year Reviews

AGENCY: United States International Trade Commission.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Commission hereby gives notice that it has instituted reviews pursuant to the Tariff Act of 1930 (''the Act''), as amended, to determine whether revocation of the antidumping duty orders on acetone from Belgium, Singapore, South Africa, South Korea, and Spain would be likely to lead to continuation or recurrence of material injury. Pursuant to the Act, interested parties are requested to respond to this notice by submitting the information specified below to the Commission.

DATES: Instituted November 1, 2024. To be assured of consideration, the deadline for responses is December 2, 2024. Comments on the adequacy of responses may be filed with the Commission by January 2, 2025.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Peter Stebbins (202–205–2039), Office of Investigations, U.S. International Trade Commission, 500 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20436. Hearing-impaired persons can obtain information on this matter by contacting the Commission's TDD terminal on 202–205–1810. Persons with mobility impairments who will need special assistance in gaining access to the Commission should contact the Office of the Secretary at 202–205–2000. General information concerning the Commission may also be obtained by accessing its internet server (*https://www.usitc.gov*). The public record for this proceeding may be viewed on the Commission's electronic docket (EDIS) at *https://edis.usitc.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background.—On December 20, 2019, the Department of Commerce (''Commerce'') issued antidumping duty orders on imports of acetone from Singapore and Spain (84 FR 70146). On March 31, 2020, Commerce issued antidumping duty orders on imports of acetone from Belgium, South Africa, and South Korea (85 FR 17866). The Commission is conducting reviews pursuant to section 751(c) of the Act, as amended (19 U.S.C. 1675(c)), to determine whether revocation of the orders would be likely to lead to continuation or recurrence of material injury to the domestic industry within a reasonably foreseeable time. Provisions concerning the conduct of this proceeding may be found in the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure at 19 CFR part 201, subparts A and B, and 19 CFR part 207, subparts A and F. The Commission will assess the adequacy of interested party responses to this notice of institution to determine whether to conduct full or expedited reviews. The Commission's determinations in any expedited reviews will be based on the facts available, which may include information provided in response to this notice.

Definitions.—The following definitions apply to these reviews:

(1) *Subject Merchandise* is the class or kind of merchandise that is within the scope of the five-year reviews, as defined by Commerce.

(2) The *Subject Countries* in these reviews are Belgium, Singapore, South Africa, South Korea, and Spain.

(3) The *Domestic Like Product* is the domestically produced product or products which are like, or in the absence of like, most similar in characteristics and uses with, the *Subject Merchandise.* In its original determinations, the Commission defined a single *Domestic Like Product* including all acetone within Commerce's scope.

(4) The *Domestic Industry* is the U.S. producers as a whole of the *Domestic Like Product,* or those producers whose collective output of the *Domestic Like Product* constitutes a major proportion of the total domestic production of the product. In its original determinations, the Commission defined the *Domestic Industry* to include all domestic producers of the *Domestic Like Product.*

(5) The *Order Dates* are the dates that the antidumping duty orders under review became effective. In these reviews, the *Order Date* concerning Singapore and Spain is December 20, 2019 and the *Order Date* concerning Belgium, South Africa, and South Korea is March 31, 2020.

(6) An *Importer* is any person or firm engaged, either directly or through a parent company or subsidiary, in importing the *Subject Merchandise* into the United States from a foreign manufacturer or through its selling agent.

Participation in the proceeding and public service list.—Persons, including industrial users of the *Subject Merchandise* and, if the merchandise is sold at the retail level, representative consumer organizations, wishing to participate in the proceeding as parties must file an entry of appearance with the Secretary to the Commission, as provided in § 201.11(b)(4) of the Commission's rules, no later than 21 days after publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**. The Secretary will maintain a public service list containing the names and addresses of all persons, or their representatives, who are parties to the proceeding.

Former Commission employees who are seeking to appear in Commission five-year reviews are advised that they may appear in a review even if they participated personally and substantially in the corresponding underlying original investigation or an earlier review of the same underlying investigation. The Commission's designated agency ethics official has advised that a five-year review is not the same particular matter as the underlying original investigation, and a five-year review is not the same particular matter as an earlier review of the same underlying investigation for purposes of 18 U.S.C. 207, the post-employment statute for Federal employees, and Commission rule 201.15(b) (19 CFR 201.15(b)), 79 FR 3246 (Jan. 17, 2014), 73 FR 24609 (May 5, 2008). Consequently, former employees are not required to seek Commission approval to appear in a review under Commission rule 19 CFR 201.15, even if the corresponding underlying original investigation or an earlier review of the same underlying investigation was pending when they were Commission employees. For further ethics advice on

this matter, contact Charles Smith, Office of the General Counsel, at 202–205–3408.

Limited disclosure of business proprietary information (BPI) under an administrative protective order (APO) and APO service list.—Pursuant to § 207.7(a) of the Commission's rules, the Secretary will make BPI submitted in this proceeding available to authorized applicants under the APO issued in the proceeding, provided that the application is made no later than 21 days after publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**. Authorized applicants must represent interested parties, as defined in 19 U.S.C. 1677(9), who are parties to the proceeding. A separate service list will be maintained by the Secretary for those parties authorized to receive BPI under the APO.

Certification.—Pursuant to § 207.3 of the Commission's rules, any person submitting information to the Commission in connection with this proceeding must certify that the information is accurate and complete to the best of the submitter's knowledge. In making the certification, the submitter will acknowledge that information submitted in response to this request for information and throughout this proceeding or other proceeding may be disclosed to and used: (i) by the Commission, its employees and Offices, and contract personnel (a) for developing or maintaining the records of this or a related proceeding, or (b) in internal investigations, audits, reviews, and evaluations relating to the programs, personnel, and operations of the Commission including under 5 U.S.C. appendix 3; or (ii) by U.S. Government employees and contract personnel, solely for cybersecurity purposes. All contract personnel will sign appropriate nondisclosure agreements.

Written submissions.—Pursuant to § 207.61 of the Commission's rules, each interested party response to this notice must provide the information specified below. The deadline for filing such responses is on or before 5:15 p.m. on December 2, 2024. Pursuant to § 207.62(b) of the Commission's rules, eligible parties (as specified in Commission rule 207.62(b)(1)) may also file comments concerning the adequacy of responses to the notice of institution and whether the Commission should conduct expedited or full reviews. The deadline for filing such comments is on or before 5:15 p.m. on January 2, 2025. All written submissions must conform with the provisions of § 201.8 of the Commission's rules; any submissions that contain BPI must also conform with the requirements of §§ 201.6, 207.3, and 207.7 of the Commission's rules. The Commission's *Handbook on Filing Procedures,* available on the Commission's website at *https://www.usitc.gov/documents/handbook_on_filing_procedures.pdf,* elaborates upon the Commission's procedures with respect to filings. Also, in accordance with §§ 201.16(c) and 207.3 of the Commission's rules, each document filed by a party to the proceeding must be served on all other parties to the proceeding (as identified by either the public or APO service list as appropriate), and a certificate of service must accompany the document (if you are not a party to the proceeding you do not need to serve your response).

Please note the Secretary's Office will accept only electronic filings at this time. Filings must be made through the Commission's Electronic Document Information System (EDIS, *https://edis.usitc.gov*). No in-person paper-based filings or paper copies of any electronic filings will be accepted until further notice.

No response to this request for information is required if a currently valid Office of Management and Budget (''OMB'') number is not displayed; the OMB number is 3117 0016/USITC No. 24–5–619, expiration date June 30, 2026. Public reporting burden for the request is estimated to average 15 hours per response. Please send comments regarding the accuracy of this burden estimate to the Office of Investigations, U.S. International Trade Commission, 500 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20436.

Inability to provide requested information.—Pursuant to § 207.61(c) of the Commission's rules, any interested party that cannot furnish the information requested by this notice in the requested form and manner shall notify the Commission at the earliest possible time, provide a full explanation of why it cannot provide the requested information, and indicate alternative forms in which it can provide equivalent information. If an interested party does not provide this notification (or the Commission finds the explanation provided in the notification inadequate) and fails to provide a complete response to this notice, the Commission may take an adverse inference against the party pursuant to § 776(b) of the Act (19 U.S.C. 1677e(b)) in making its determinations in the reviews.

Information to be Provided in Response to this Notice of Institution: If you are a domestic producer, union/worker group, or trade/business association; import/export *Subject Merchandise* from more than one *Subject Country;* or produce *Subject Merchandise* in more than one *Subject Country,* you may file a single response. If you do so, please ensure that your response to each question includes the information requested for each pertinent *Subject Country.* As used below, the term ''firm'' includes any related firms.

Those responding to this notice of institution are encouraged, but not required, to visit the USITC's website at *https://usitc.gov/reports/response_noi_worksheet,* where one can download and complete the ''NOI worksheet'' Excel form for the subject proceeding, to be included as attachment/exhibit 1 of your overall response.

(1) The name and address of your firm or entity (including World Wide Web address) and name, telephone number, fax number, and Email address of the certifying official.

(2) A statement indicating whether your firm/entity is an interested party under 19 U.S.C. 1677(9) and if so, how, including whether your firm/entity is a U.S. producer of the *Domestic Like Product,* a U.S. union or worker group, a U.S. importer of the *Subject Merchandi*se, a foreign producer or exporter of the *Subject Merchandise,* a U.S. or foreign trade or business association (a majority of whose members are interested parties under the statute), or another interested party (including an explanation). If you are a union/worker group or trade/business association, identify the firms in which your workers are employed or which are members of your association.

(3) A statement indicating whether your firm/entity is willing to participate in this proceeding by providing information requested by the Commission.

(4) A statement of the likely effects of the revocation of the antidumping duty orders on the *Domestic Industry* in general and/or your firm/entity specifically. In your response, please discuss the various factors specified in § 752(a) of the Act (19 U.S.C. 1675a(a)) including the likely volume of subject imports, likely price effects of subject imports, and likely impact of imports of *Subject Merchandise* on the *Domestic Industry.*

(5) A list of all known and currently operating U.S. producers of the *Domestic Like Product.* Identify any known related parties and the nature of the relationship as defined in § 771(4)(B) of the Act (19 U.S.C. 1677(4)(B)).

(6) A list of all known and currently operating U.S. importers of the *Subject Merchandise* and producers of the *Subject Merchandise* in each *Subject*

Country that currently export or have exported *Subject Merchandise* to the United States or other countries since the *Order Dates.*

(7) A list of 3–5 leading purchasers in the U.S. market for the *Domestic Like Product* and the *Subject Merchandise* (including street address, World Wide Web address, and the name, telephone number, fax number, and Email address of a responsible official at each firm).

(8) A list of known sources of information on national or regional prices for the *Domestic Like Product* or the *Subject Merchandise* in the U.S. or other markets.

(9) If you are a U.S. producer of the *Domestic Like Product,* provide the following information on your firm's operations on that product during calendar year 2023, except as noted (report quantity data in short tons and value data in U.S. dollars, f.o.b. plant). If you are a union/worker group or trade/business association, provide the information, on an aggregate basis, for the firms in which your workers are employed/which are members of your association.

(a) Production (quantity) and, if known, an estimate of the percentage of total U.S. production of the *Domestic Like Product* accounted for by your firm's(s') production;

(b) Capacity (quantity) of your firm to produce the *Domestic Like Product* (that is, the level of production that your establishment(s) could reasonably have expected to attain during the year, assuming normal operating conditions (using equipment and machinery in place and ready to operate), normal operating levels (hours per week/weeks per year), time for downtime, maintenance, repair, and cleanup, and a typical or representative product mix);

(c) the quantity and value of U.S. commercial shipments of the *Domestic Like Product* produced in your U.S. plant(s);

(d) the quantity and value of U.S. internal consumption/company transfers of the *Domestic Like Product* produced in your U.S. plant(s); and

(e) the value of (i) net sales, (ii) cost of goods sold (COGS), (iii) gross profit, (iv) selling, general and administrative (SG&A) expenses, and (v) operating income of the *Domestic Like Product* produced in your U.S. plant(s) (include both U.S. and export commercial sales, internal consumption, and company transfers) for your most recently completed fiscal year (identify the date on which your fiscal year ends).

(10) If you are a U.S. importer or a trade/business association of U.S. importers of the *Subject Merchandise* from any *Subject Country,* provide the following information on your firm's(s') operations on that product during calendar year 2023 (report quantity data in short tons and value data in U.S. dollars). If you are a trade/business association, provide the information, on an aggregate basis, for the firms which are members of your association.

(a) The quantity and value (landed, duty-paid but not including antidumping duties) of U.S. imports and, if known, an estimate of the percentage of total U.S. imports of *Subject Merchandise* from each *Subject Country* accounted for by your firm's(s') imports;

(b) the quantity and value (f.o.b. U.S. port, including antidumping duties) of U.S. commercial shipments of *Subject Merchandise* imported from each *Subject Country;* and

(c) the quantity and value (f.o.b. U.S. port, including antidumping duties) of U.S. internal consumption/company transfers of *Subject Merchandise* imported from each *Subject Country.*

(11) If you are a producer, an exporter, or a trade/business association of producers or exporters of the *Subject Merchandise* in any *Subject Country,* provide the following information on your firm's(s') operations on that product during calendar year 2023 (report quantity data in short tons and value data in U.S. dollars, landed and duty-paid at the U.S. port but not including antidumping duties). If you are a trade/business association, provide the information, on an aggregate basis, for the firms which are members of your association.

(a) Production (quantity) and, if known, an estimate of the percentage of total production of *Subject Merchandise* in each *Subject Country* accounted for by your firm's(s') production;

(b) Capacity (quantity) of your firm(s) to produce the *Subject Merchandise* in each *Subject Country* (that is, the level of production that your establishment(s) could reasonably have expected to attain during the year, assuming normal operating conditions (using equipment and machinery in place and ready to operate), normal operating levels (hours per week/weeks per year), time for downtime, maintenance, repair, and cleanup, and a typical or representative product mix); and

(c) the quantity and value of your firm's(s') exports to the United States of *Subject Merchandise* and, if known, an estimate of the percentage of total exports to the United States of *Subject Merchandise* from each *Subject Country* accounted for by your firm's(s') exports.

(12) Identify significant changes, if any, in the supply and demand conditions or business cycle for the *Domestic Like Product* that have occurred in the United States or in the market for the *Subject Merchandise* in each *Subject Country* since each *Order Date,* and significant changes, if any, that are likely to occur within a reasonably foreseeable time. Supply conditions to consider include technology; production methods; development efforts; ability to increase production (including the shift of production facilities used for other products and the use, cost, or availability of major inputs into production); and factors related to the ability to shift supply among different national markets (including barriers to importation in foreign markets or changes in market demand abroad). Demand conditions to consider include end uses and applications; the existence and availability of substitute products; and the level of competition among the *Domestic Like Product* produced in the United States, *Subject Merchandise* produced in each *Subject Country,* and such merchandise from other countries.

(13) (OPTIONAL) A statement of whether you agree with the above definitions of the *Domestic Like Product* and *Domestic Industry;* if you disagree with either or both of these definitions, please explain why and provide alternative definitions.

Authority: This proceeding is being conducted under authority of Title VII of the Tariff Act of 1930; this notice is published pursuant to § 207.61 of the Commission's rules.

By order of the Commission.

Issued: October 24, 2024.

Lisa Barton,

Secretary to the Commission.

[FR Doc. 2024–25098 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7020–02–P

INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

[Investigation Nos. 701–TA–611 and 731–TA–1428 (Review)]

Aluminum Wire and Cable From China; Institution of Five-Year Reviews

AGENCY: United States International Trade Commission.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Commission hereby gives notice that it has instituted reviews pursuant to the Tariff Act of 1930 (''the Act''), as amended, to determine whether revocation of the antidumping and countervailing duty orders on aluminum wire and cable from China would be likely to lead to continuation or recurrence of material injury.

Pursuant to the Act, interested parties are requested to respond to this notice by submitting the information specified below to the Commission.

DATES: Instituted November 1, 2024. To be assured of consideration, the deadline for responses is December 2, 2024. Comments on the adequacy of responses may be filed with the Commission by January 2, 2025.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Laurel Schwartz (202–205–2398), Office of Investigations, U.S. International Trade Commission, 500 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20436. Hearing-impaired persons can obtain information on this matter by contacting the Commission's TDD terminal on 202–205–1810. Persons with mobility impairments who will need special assistance in gaining access to the Commission should contact the Office of the Secretary at 202–205–2000. General information concerning the Commission may also be obtained by accessing its internet server (*https://www.usitc.gov*). The public record for this proceeding may be viewed on the Commission's electronic docket (EDIS) at *https://edis.usitc.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background.—On December 23, 2019, the Department of Commerce (''Commerce'') issued antidumping and countervailing duty orders on imports of aluminum wire and cable from China (84 FR 70496). The Commission is conducting reviews pursuant to section 751(c) of the Act, as amended (19 U.S.C. 1675(c)), to determine whether revocation of the orders would be likely to lead to continuation or recurrence of material injury to the domestic industry within a reasonably foreseeable time. Provisions concerning the conduct of this proceeding may be found in the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure at 19 CFR part 201, subparts A and B, and 19 CFR part 207, subparts A and F. The Commission will assess the adequacy of interested party responses to this notice of institution to determine whether to conduct full or expedited reviews. The Commission's determinations in any expedited reviews will be based on the facts available, which may include information provided in response to this notice.

Definitions.—The following definitions apply to these reviews:

(1) *Subject Merchandise* is the class or kind of merchandise that is within the scope of the five-year reviews, as defined by Commerce.

(2) The *Subject Country* in these reviews is China.

(3) The *Domestic Like Product* is the domestically produced product or products which are like, or in the absence of like, most similar in characteristics and uses with, the *Subject Merchandise.* In its original determinations, the Commission defined a single *Domestic Like Product* consisting of aluminum wire and cable, coextensive with Commerce's scope.

(4) The *Domestic Industry* is the U.S. producers as a whole of the *Domestic Like Product,* or those producers whose collective output of the *Domestic Like Product* constitutes a major proportion of the total domestic production of the product. In its original determinations, the Commission defined the *Domestic Industry* to include all U.S. producers of aluminum wire and cable.

(5) The *Order Date* is the date that the antidumping and countervailing duty orders under review became effective. In these reviews, the *Order Date* is December 23, 2019.

(6) An *Importer* is any person or firm engaged, either directly or through a parent company or subsidiary, in importing the *Subject Merchandise* into the United States from a foreign manufacturer or through its selling agent.

Participation in the proceeding and public service list.—Persons, including industrial users of the *Subject Merchandise* and, if the merchandise is sold at the retail level, representative consumer organizations, wishing to participate in the proceeding as parties must file an entry of appearance with the Secretary to the Commission, as provided in § 201.11(b)(4) of the Commission's rules, no later than 21 days after publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**. The Secretary will maintain a public service list containing the names and addresses of all persons, or their representatives, who are parties to the proceeding.

Former Commission employees who are seeking to appear in Commission five-year reviews are advised that they may appear in a review even if they participated personally and substantially in the corresponding underlying original investigation or an earlier review of the same underlying investigation. The Commission's designated agency ethics official has advised that a five-year review is not the same particular matter as the underlying original investigation, and a five-year review is not the same particular matter as an earlier review of the same underlying investigation for purposes of 18 U.S.C. 207, the post-employment statute for Federal employees, and Commission rule 201.15(b) (19 CFR 201.15(b)), 79 FR 3246 (Jan. 17, 2014), 73 FR 24609 (May 5, 2008). Consequently, former employees are not required to seek Commission approval to appear in a review under Commission rule 19 CFR 201.15, even if the corresponding underlying original investigation or an earlier review of the same underlying investigation was pending when they were Commission employees. For further ethics advice on this matter, contact Charles Smith, Office of the General Counsel, at 202–205–3408.

Limited disclosure of business proprietary information (BPI) under an administrative protective order (APO) and APO service list.—Pursuant to § 207.7(a) of the Commission's rules, the Secretary will make BPI submitted in this proceeding available to authorized applicants under the APO issued in the proceeding, provided that the application is made no later than 21 days after publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**. Authorized applicants must represent interested parties, as defined in 19 U.S.C. 1677(9), who are parties to the proceeding. A separate service list will be maintained by the Secretary for those parties authorized to receive BPI under the APO.

Certification.—Pursuant to § 207.3 of the Commission's rules, any person submitting information to the Commission in connection with this proceeding must certify that the information is accurate and complete to the best of the submitter's knowledge. In making the certification, the submitter will acknowledge that information submitted in response to this request for information and throughout this proceeding or other proceeding may be disclosed to and used: (i) by the Commission, its employees and Offices, and contract personnel (a) for developing or maintaining the records of this or a related proceeding, or (b) in internal investigations, audits, reviews, and evaluations relating to the programs, personnel, and operations of the Commission including under 5 U.S.C. appendix 3; or (ii) by U.S. Government employees and contract personnel, solely for cybersecurity purposes. All contract personnel will sign appropriate nondisclosure agreements.

Written submissions.—Pursuant to § 207.61 of the Commission's rules, each interested party response to this notice must provide the information specified below. The deadline for filing such responses is on or before 5:15 p.m. on December 2, 2024. Pursuant to § 207.62(b) of the Commission's rules, eligible parties (as specified in Commission rule 207.62(b)(1)) may also

file comments concerning the adequacy of responses to the notice of institution and whether the Commission should conduct expedited or full reviews. The deadline for filing such comments is on or before 5:15 p.m. on January 2, 2025. All written submissions must conform with the provisions of § 201.8 of the Commission's rules; any submissions that contain BPI must also conform with the requirements of §§ 201.6, 207.3, and 207.7 of the Commission's rules. The Commission's *Handbook on Filing Procedures,* available on the Commission's website at *https://www.usitc.gov/documents/handbook_on_filing_procedures.pdf,* elaborates upon the Commission's procedures with respect to filings. Also, in accordance with §§ 201.16(c) and 207.3 of the Commission's rules, each document filed by a party to the proceeding must be served on all other parties to the proceeding (as identified by either the public or APO service list as appropriate), and a certificate of service must accompany the document (if you are not a party to the proceeding you do not need to serve your response).

Please note the Secretary's Office will accept only electronic filings at this time. Filings must be made through the Commission's Electronic Document Information System (EDIS, *https://edis.usitc.gov*). No in-person paper-based filings or paper copies of any electronic filings will be accepted until further notice.

No response to this request for information is required if a currently valid Office of Management and Budget (''OMB'') number is not displayed; the OMB number is 3117 0016/USITC No. 24–5–620, expiration date June 30, 2026. Public reporting burden for the request is estimated to average 15 hours per response. Please send comments regarding the accuracy of this burden estimate to the Office of Investigations, U.S. International Trade Commission, 500 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20436.

Inability to provide requested information.—Pursuant to § 207.61(c) of the Commission's rules, any interested party that cannot furnish the information requested by this notice in the requested form and manner shall notify the Commission at the earliest possible time, provide a full explanation of why it cannot provide the requested information, and indicate alternative forms in which it can provide equivalent information. If an interested party does not provide this notification (or the Commission finds the explanation provided in the notification inadequate) and fails to provide a complete response to this notice, the Commission may take an adverse inference against the party pursuant to § 776(b) of the Act (19 U.S.C. 1677e(b)) in making its determinations in the reviews.

Information to be Provided in Response to This Notice of Institution: As used below, the term ''firm'' includes any related firms.

Those responding to this notice of institution are encouraged, but not required, to visit the USITC's website at *https://usitc.gov/reports/response_noi_worksheet,* where one can download and complete the ''NOI worksheet'' Excel form for the subject proceeding, to be included as attachment/exhibit 1 of your overall response.

(1) The name and address of your firm or entity (including World Wide Web address) and name, telephone number, fax number, and Email address of the certifying official.

(2) A statement indicating whether your firm/entity is an interested party under 19 U.S.C. 1677(9) and if so, how, including whether your firm/entity is a U.S. producer of the *Domestic Like Product,* a U.S. union or worker group, a U.S. importer of the *Subject Merchandi*se, a foreign producer or exporter of the *Subject Merchandise,* a U.S. or foreign trade or business association (a majority of whose members are interested parties under the statute), or another interested party (including an explanation). If you are a union/worker group or trade/business association, identify the firms in which your workers are employed or which are members of your association.

(3) A statement indicating whether your firm/entity is willing to participate in this proceeding by providing information requested by the Commission.

(4) A statement of the likely effects of the revocation of the orders on the *Domestic Industry* in general and/or your firm/entity specifically. In your response, please discuss the various factors specified in § 752(a) of the Act (19 U.S.C. 1675a(a)) including the likely volume of subject imports, likely price effects of subject imports, and likely impact of imports of *Subject Merchandise* on the *Domestic Industry.*

(5) A list of all known and currently operating U.S. producers of the *Domestic Like Product.* Identify any known related parties and the nature of the relationship as defined in § 771(4)(B) of the Act (19 U.S.C. 1677(4)(B)).

(6) A list of all known and currently operating U.S. importers of the *Subject Merchandise* and producers of the *Subject Merchandise* in the *Subject Country* that currently export or have exported *Subject Merchandise* to the United States or other countries since the *Order Date.*

(7) A list of 3–5 leading purchasers in the U.S. market for the *Domestic Like Product* and the *Subject Merchandise* (including street address, World Wide Web address, and the name, telephone number, fax number, and Email address of a responsible official at each firm).

(8) A list of known sources of information on national or regional prices for the *Domestic Like Product* or the *Subject Merchandise* in the U.S. or other markets.

(9) If you are a U.S. producer of the *Domestic Like Product,* provide the following information on your firm's operations on that product during calendar year 2023, except as noted (report quantity data in pounds and value data in U.S. dollars, f.o.b. plant). If you are a union/worker group or trade/business association, provide the information, on an aggregate basis, for the firms in which your workers are employed/which are members of your association.

(a) Production (quantity) and, if known, an estimate of the percentage of total U.S. production of the *Domestic Like Product* accounted for by your firm's(s') production;

(b) Capacity (quantity) of your firm to produce the *Domestic Like Product* (that is, the level of production that your establishment(s) could reasonably have expected to attain during the year, assuming normal operating conditions (using equipment and machinery in place and ready to operate), normal operating levels (hours per week/weeks per year), time for downtime, maintenance, repair, and cleanup, and a typical or representative product mix);

(c) the quantity and value of U.S. commercial shipments of the *Domestic Like Product* produced in your U.S. plant(s);

(d) the quantity and value of U.S. internal consumption/company transfers of the *Domestic Like Product* produced in your U.S. plant(s); and

(e) the value of (i) net sales, (ii) cost of goods sold (COGS), (iii) gross profit, (iv) selling, general and administrative (SG&A) expenses, and (v) operating income of the *Domestic Like Product* produced in your U.S. plant(s) (include both U.S. and export commercial sales, internal consumption, and company transfers) for your most recently completed fiscal year (identify the date on which your fiscal year ends).

(10) If you are a U.S. importer or a trade/business association of U.S. importers of the *Subject Merchandise* from the *Subject Country,* provide the following information on your firm's(s')

operations on that product during calendar year 2023 (report quantity data in pounds and value data in U.S. dollars). If you are a trade/business association, provide the information, on an aggregate basis, for the firms which are members of your association.

(a) The quantity and value (landed, duty-paid but not including antidumping or countervailing duties) of U.S. imports and, if known, an estimate of the percentage of total U.S. imports of *Subject Merchandise* from the *Subject Country* accounted for by your firm's(s') imports;

(b) the quantity and value (f.o.b. U.S. port, including antidumping and/or countervailing duties) of U.S. commercial shipments of *Subject Merchandise* imported from the *Subject Country;* and

(c) the quantity and value (f.o.b. U.S. port, including antidumping and/or countervailing duties) of U.S. internal consumption/company transfers of *Subject Merchandise* imported from the *Subject Country.*

(11) If you are a producer, an exporter, or a trade/business association of producers or exporters of the *Subject Merchandise* in the *Subject Country,* provide the following information on your firm's(s') operations on that product during calendar year 2023 (report quantity data in pounds and value data in U.S. dollars, landed and duty-paid at the U.S. port but not including antidumping or countervailing duties). If you are a trade/business association, provide the information, on an aggregate basis, for the firms which are members of your association.

(a) Production (quantity) and, if known, an estimate of the percentage of total production of *Subject Merchandise* in the *Subject Country* accounted for by your firm's(s') production;

(b) Capacity (quantity) of your firm(s) to produce the *Subject Merchandise* in the *Subject Country* (that is, the level of production that your establishment(s) could reasonably have expected to attain during the year, assuming normal operating conditions (using equipment and machinery in place and ready to operate), normal operating levels (hours per week/weeks per year), time for downtime, maintenance, repair, and cleanup, and a typical or representative product mix); and

(c) the quantity and value of your firm's(s') exports to the United States of *Subject Merchandise* and, if known, an estimate of the percentage of total exports to the United States of *Subject Merchandise* from the *Subject Country* accounted for by your firm's(s') exports.

(12) Identify significant changes, if any, in the supply and demand conditions or business cycle for the *Domestic Like Product* that have occurred in the United States or in the market for the *Subject Merchandise* in the *Subject Country* since the *Order Date,* and significant changes, if any, that are likely to occur within a reasonably foreseeable time. Supply conditions to consider include technology; production methods; development efforts; ability to increase production (including the shift of production facilities used for other products and the use, cost, or availability of major inputs into production); and factors related to the ability to shift supply among different national markets (including barriers to importation in foreign markets or changes in market demand abroad). Demand conditions to consider include end uses and applications; the existence and availability of substitute products; and the level of competition among the *Domestic Like Product* produced in the United States, *Subject Merchandise* produced in the *Subject Country,* and such merchandise from other countries.

(13) (OPTIONAL) A statement of whether you agree with the above definitions of the *Domestic Like Product* and *Domestic Industry;* if you disagree with either or both of these definitions, please explain why and provide alternative definitions.

Authority: This proceeding is being conducted under authority of title VII of the Tariff Act of 1930; this notice is published pursuant to § 207.61 of the Commission's rules.

By order of the Commission.

Issued: October 24, 2024.

Lisa Barton,

Secretary to the Commission.

[FR Doc. 2024–25101 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7020–02–P

INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

[Investigation No. 731–TA–1424 (Review)]

Mattresses From China; Institution of a Five-Year Review

AGENCY: United States International Trade Commission.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Commission hereby gives notice that it has instituted a review pursuant to the Tariff Act of 1930 (''the Act''), as amended, to determine whether revocation of the antidumping duty order on mattresses from China would be likely to lead to continuation or recurrence of material injury. Pursuant to the Act, interested parties are requested to respond to this notice by submitting the information specified below to the Commission.

DATES: Instituted November 1, 2024. To be assured of consideration, the deadline for responses is December 2, 2024. Comments on the adequacy of responses may be filed with the Commission by January 2, 2025.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Rachel Devenney (202–205–3172), Office of Investigations, U.S. International Trade Commission, 500 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20436. Hearing-impaired persons can obtain information on this matter by contacting the Commission's TDD terminal on 202–205–1810. Persons with mobility impairments who will need special assistance in gaining access to the Commission should contact the Office of the Secretary at 202–205–2000. General information concerning the Commission may also be obtained by accessing its internet server (*https://www.usitc.gov*). The public record for this proceeding may be viewed on the Commission's electronic docket (EDIS) at *https://edis.usitc.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background.—On December 16, 2019, the Department of Commerce (''Commerce'') issued an antidumping duty order on imports of mattresses from China (84 FR 68395). The Commission is conducting a review pursuant to section 751(c) of the Act, as amended (19 U.S.C. 1675(c)), to determine whether revocation of the order would be likely to lead to continuation or recurrence of material injury to the domestic industry within a reasonably foreseeable time. Provisions concerning the conduct of this proceeding may be found in the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure at 19 CFR part 201, subparts A and B, and 19 CFR part 207, subparts A and F. The Commission will assess the adequacy of interested party responses to this notice of institution to determine whether to conduct a full review or an expedited review. The Commission's determination in any expedited review will be based on the facts available, which may include information provided in response to this notice.

Definitions.—The following definitions apply to this review:

(1) *Subject Merchandise* is the class or kind of merchandise that is within the scope of the five-year review, as defined by Commerce.

(2) The *Subject Country* in this review is China.

(3) The *Domestic Like Product* is the domestically produced product or products which are like, or in the absence of like, most similar in characteristics and uses with, the *Subject Merchandise.* In its original determination, the Commission defined a single *Domestic Like Product* consisting of all mattresses coextensive with Commerce's scope.

(4) The *Domestic Industry* is the U.S. producers as a whole of the *Domestic Like Product,* or those producers whose collective output of the *Domestic Like Product* constitutes a major proportion of the total domestic production of the product. In its original determination, the Commission defined the *Domestic Industry* to include all domestic producers of mattresses, with the exception of one producer that was excluded from the *Domestic Industry* as a related party.

(5) The *Order Date* is the date that the antidumping duty order under review became effective. In this review, the *Order Date* is December 16, 2019.

(6) An *Importer* is any person or firm engaged, either directly or through a parent company or subsidiary, in importing the *Subject Merchandise* into the United States from a foreign manufacturer or through its selling agent.

Participation in the proceeding and public service list.—Persons, including industrial users of the *Subject Merchandise* and, if the merchandise is sold at the retail level, representative consumer organizations, wishing to participate in the proceeding as parties must file an entry of appearance with the Secretary to the Commission, as provided in § 201.11(b)(4) of the Commission's rules, no later than 21 days after publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**. The Secretary will maintain a public service list containing the names and addresses of all persons, or their representatives, who are parties to the proceeding.

Former Commission employees who are seeking to appear in Commission five-year reviews are advised that they may appear in a review even if they participated personally and substantially in the corresponding underlying original investigation or an earlier review of the same underlying investigation. The Commission's designated agency ethics official has advised that a five-year review is not the same particular matter as the underlying original investigation, and a five-year review is not the same particular matter as an earlier review of the same underlying investigation for purposes of 18 U.S.C. 207, the post-employment statute for Federal employees, and Commission rule 201.15(b) (19 CFR 201.15(b)), 79 FR 3246 (Jan. 17, 2014), 73 FR 24609 (May 5, 2008). Consequently, former employees are not required to seek Commission approval to appear in a review under Commission rule 19 CFR 201.15, even if the corresponding underlying original investigation or an earlier review of the same underlying investigation was pending when they were Commission employees. For further ethics advice on this matter, contact Charles Smith, Office of the General Counsel, at 202–205–3408.

Limited disclosure of business proprietary information (BPI) under an administrative protective order (APO) and APO service list.—Pursuant to § 207.7(a) of the Commission's rules, the Secretary will make BPI submitted in this proceeding available to authorized applicants under the APO issued in the proceeding, provided that the application is made no later than 21 days after publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**. Authorized applicants must represent interested parties, as defined in 19 U.S.C. 1677(9), who are parties to the proceeding. A separate service list will be maintained by the Secretary for those parties authorized to receive BPI under the APO.

Certification.—Pursuant to § 207.3 of the Commission's rules, any person submitting information to the Commission in connection with this proceeding must certify that the information is accurate and complete to the best of the submitter's knowledge. In making the certification, the submitter will acknowledge that information submitted in response to this request for information and throughout this proceeding or other proceeding may be disclosed to and used: (i) by the Commission, its employees and Offices, and contract personnel (a) for developing or maintaining the records of this or a related proceeding, or (b) in internal investigations, audits, reviews, and evaluations relating to the programs, personnel, and operations of the Commission including under 5 U.S.C. appendix 3; or (ii) by U.S. Government employees and contract personnel, solely for cybersecurity purposes. All contract personnel will sign appropriate nondisclosure agreements.

Written submissions.—Pursuant to § 207.61 of the Commission's rules, each interested party response to this notice must provide the information specified below. The deadline for filing such responses is on or before 5:15 p.m. on December 2, 2024. Pursuant to § 207.62(b) of the Commission's rules, eligible parties (as specified in Commission rule 207.62(b)(1)) may also file comments concerning the adequacy of responses to the notice of institution and whether the Commission should conduct an expedited or full review. The deadline for filing such comments is on or before 5:15 p.m. on January 2, 2025. All written submissions must conform with the provisions of § 201.8 of the Commission's rules; any submissions that contain BPI must also conform with the requirements of §§ 201.6, 207.3, and 207.7 of the Commission's rules. The Commission's *Handbook on Filing Procedures,* available on the Commission's website at *https://www.usitc.gov/documents/handbook_on_filing_procedures.pdf,* elaborates upon the Commission's procedures with respect to filings. Also, in accordance with §§ 201.16(c) and 207.3 of the Commission's rules, each document filed by a party to the proceeding must be served on all other parties to the proceeding (as identified by either the public or APO service list as appropriate), and a certificate of service must accompany the document (if you are not a party to the proceeding you do not need to serve your response).

Please note the Secretary's Office will accept only electronic filings at this time. Filings must be made through the Commission's Electronic Document Information System (EDIS, *https://edis.usitc.gov*). No in-person paper-based filings or paper copies of any electronic filings will be accepted until further notice.

No response to this request for information is required if a currently valid Office of Management and Budget (''OMB'') number is not displayed; the OMB number is 3117 0016/USITC No. 24–5–622, expiration date June 30, 2026. Public reporting burden for the request is estimated to average 15 hours per response. Please send comments regarding the accuracy of this burden estimate to the Office of Investigations, U.S. International Trade Commission, 500 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20436.

Inability to provide requested information.—Pursuant to § 207.61(c) of the Commission's rules, any interested party that cannot furnish the information requested by this notice in the requested form and manner shall notify the Commission at the earliest possible time, provide a full explanation of why it cannot provide the requested information, and indicate alternative forms in which it can provide equivalent information. If an interested party does not provide this notification (or the Commission finds the explanation provided in the notification

inadequate) and fails to provide a complete response to this notice, the Commission may take an adverse inference against the party pursuant to § 776(b) of the Act (19 U.S.C. 1677e(b)) in making its determination in the review.

Information to be Provided in Response to this Notice of Institution: As used below, the term ''firm'' includes any related firms.

Those responding to this notice of institution are encouraged, but not required, to visit the USITC's website at *https://usitc.gov/reports/response_noi_worksheet,* where one can download and complete the ''NOI worksheet'' Excel form for the subject proceeding, to be included as attachment/exhibit 1 of your overall response.

(1) The name and address of your firm or entity (including World Wide Web address) and name, telephone number, fax number, and Email address of the certifying official.

(2) A statement indicating whether your firm/entity is an interested party under 19 U.S.C. 1677(9) and if so, how, including whether your firm/entity is a U.S. producer of the *Domestic Like Product,* a U.S. union or worker group, a U.S. importer of the *Subject Merchandise,* a foreign producer or exporter of the *Subject Merchandise,* a U.S. or foreign trade or business association (a majority of whose members are interested parties under the statute), or another interested party (including an explanation). If you are a union/worker group or trade/business association, identify the firms in which your workers are employed or which are members of your association.

(3) A statement indicating whether your firm/entity is willing to participate in this proceeding by providing information requested by the Commission.

(4) A statement of the likely effects of the revocation of the antidumping duty order on the *Domestic Industry* in general and/or your firm/entity specifically. In your response, please discuss the various factors specified in § 752(a) of the Act (19 U.S.C. 1675a(a)) including the likely volume of subject imports, likely price effects of subject imports, and likely impact of imports of *Subject Merchandise* on the *Domestic Industry.*

(5) A list of all known and currently operating U.S. producers of the *Domestic Like Product.* Identify any known related parties and the nature of the relationship as defined in § 771(4)(B) of the Act (19 U.S.C. 1677(4)(B)).

(6) A list of all known and currently operating U.S. importers of the *Subject Merchandise* and producers of the *Subject Merchandise* in the *Subject Country* that currently export or have exported *Subject Merchandise* to the United States or other countries since the *Order Date.*

(7) A list of 3–5 leading purchasers in the U.S. market for the *Domestic Like Product* and the *Subject Merchandise* (including street address, World Wide Web address, and the name, telephone number, fax number, and Email address of a responsible official at each firm).

(8) A list of known sources of information on national or regional prices for the *Domestic Like Product* or the *Subject Merchandise* in the U.S. or other markets.

(9) If you are a U.S. producer of the *Domestic Like Product,* provide the following information on your firm's operations on that product during calendar year 2023, except as noted (report quantity data in units and value data in U.S. dollars, f.o.b. plant). If you are a union/worker group or trade/business association, provide the information, on an aggregate basis, for the firms in which your workers are employed/which are members of your association.

(a) Production (quantity) and, if known, an estimate of the percentage of total U.S. production of the *Domestic Like Product* accounted for by your firm's(s') production;

(b) Capacity (quantity) of your firm to produce the *Domestic Like Product* (that is, the level of production that your establishment(s) could reasonably have expected to attain during the year, assuming normal operating conditions (using equipment and machinery in place and ready to operate), normal operating levels (hours per week/weeks per year), time for downtime, maintenance, repair, and cleanup, and a typical or representative product mix);

(c) the quantity and value of U.S. commercial shipments of the *Domestic Like Product* produced in your U.S. plant(s);

(d) the quantity and value of U.S. internal consumption/company transfers of the *Domestic Like Product* produced in your U.S. plant(s); and

(e) the value of (i) net sales, (ii) cost of goods sold (COGS), (iii) gross profit, (iv) selling, general and administrative (SG&A) expenses, and (v) operating income of the *Domestic Like Product* produced in your U.S. plant(s) (include both U.S. and export commercial sales, internal consumption, and company transfers) for your most recently completed fiscal year (identify the date on which your fiscal year ends).

(10) If you are a U.S. importer or a trade/business association of U.S. importers of the *Subject Merchandise* from the *Subject Country,* provide the following information on your firm's(s') operations on that product during calendar year 2023 (report quantity data in units and value data in U.S. dollars). If you are a trade/business association, provide the information, on an aggregate basis, for the firms which are members of your association.

(a) The quantity and value (landed, duty-paid but not including antidumping duties) of U.S. imports and, if known, an estimate of the percentage of total U.S. imports of *Subject Merchandise* from the *Subject Country* accounted for by your firm's(s') imports;

(b) the quantity and value (f.o.b. U.S. port, including antidumping duties) of U.S. commercial shipments of *Subject Merchandise* imported from the *Subject Country;* and

(c) the quantity and value (f.o.b. U.S. port, including antidumping duties) of U.S. internal consumption/company transfers of *Subject Merchandise* imported from the *Subject Country.*

(11) If you are a producer, an exporter, or a trade/business association of producers or exporters of the *Subject Merchandise* in the *Subject Country,* provide the following information on your firm's(s') operations on that product during calendar year 2023 (report quantity data in units and value data in U.S. dollars, landed and duty-paid at the U.S. port but not including antidumping duties). If you are a trade/business association, provide the information, on an aggregate basis, for the firms which are members of your association.

(a) Production (quantity) and, if known, an estimate of the percentage of total production of *Subject Merchandise* in the *Subject Country* accounted for by your firm's(s') production;

(b) Capacity (quantity) of your firm(s) to produce the *Subject Merchandise* in the *Subject Country* (that is, the level of production that your establishment(s) could reasonably have expected to attain during the year, assuming normal operating conditions (using equipment and machinery in place and ready to operate), normal operating levels (hours per week/weeks per year), time for downtime, maintenance, repair, and cleanup, and a typical or representative product mix); and

(c) the quantity and value of your firm's(s') exports to the United States of *Subject Merchandise* and, if known, an estimate of the percentage of total exports to the United States of *Subject Merchandise* from the *Subject Country* accounted for by your firm's(s') exports.

(12) Identify significant changes, if any, in the supply and demand conditions or business cycle for the *Domestic Like Product* that have occurred in the United States or in the market for the *Subject Merchandise* in the *Subject Country* since the *Order Date,* and significant changes, if any, that are likely to occur within a reasonably foreseeable time. Supply conditions to consider include technology; production methods; development efforts; ability to increase production (including the shift of production facilities used for other products and the use, cost, or availability of major inputs into production); and factors related to the ability to shift supply among different national markets (including barriers to importation in foreign markets or changes in market demand abroad). Demand conditions to consider include end uses and applications; the existence and availability of substitute products; and the level of competition among the *Domestic Like Product* produced in the United States, *Subject Merchandise* produced in the *Subject Country,* and such merchandise from other countries.

(13) (OPTIONAL) A statement of whether you agree with the above definitions of the *Domestic Like Product* and *Domestic Industry;* if you disagree with either or both of these definitions, please explain why and provide alternative definitions.

Authority: This proceeding is being conducted under authority of title VII of the Tariff Act of 1930; this notice is published pursuant to § 207.61 of the Commission's rules.

By order of the Commission.

Issued: October 24, 2024.

Lisa Barton,

Secretary to the Commission.

[FR Doc. 2024–25107 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7020–02–P

INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

[Investigation Nos. 701–TA–623 and 731–TA–1449 (Review)]

Vertical Metal File Cabinets From China; Institution of Five-Year Reviews

AGENCY: United States International Trade Commission.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Commission hereby gives notice that it has instituted reviews pursuant to the Tariff Act of 1930 (''the Act''), as amended, to determine whether revocation of the antidumping and countervailing duty orders on vertical metal file cabinets from China would be likely to lead to continuation or recurrence of material injury. Pursuant to the Act, interested parties are requested to respond to this notice by submitting the information specified below to the Commission.

DATES: Instituted November 1, 2024. To be assured of consideration, the deadline for responses is December 2, 2024. Comments on the adequacy of responses may be filed with the Commission by January 2, 2025.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Alec Resch (202–708–1448), Office of Investigations, U.S. International Trade Commission, 500 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20436. Hearing-impaired persons can obtain information on this matter by contacting the Commission's TDD terminal on 202–205–1810. Persons with mobility impairments who will need special assistance in gaining access to the Commission should contact the Office of the Secretary at 202–205–2000. General information concerning the Commission may also be obtained by accessing its internet server (*https://www.usitc.gov*). The public record for this proceeding may be viewed on the Commission's electronic docket (EDIS) at *https://edis.usitc.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background.—On December 13, 2019, the Department of Commerce (''Commerce'') issued antidumping and countervailing duty orders on imports of vertical metal file cabinets from China (84 FR 68121). The Commission is conducting reviews pursuant to section 751(c) of the Act, as amended (19 U.S.C. 1675(c)), to determine whether revocation of the orders would be likely to lead to continuation or recurrence of material injury to the domestic industry within a reasonably foreseeable time. Provisions concerning the conduct of this proceeding may be found in the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure at 19 CFR part 201, subparts A and B, and 19 CFR part 207, subparts A and F. The Commission will assess the adequacy of interested party responses to this notice of institution to determine whether to conduct full or expedited reviews. The Commission's determinations in any expedited reviews will be based on the facts available, which may include information provided in response to this notice.

Definitions.—The following definitions apply to these reviews:

(1) *Subject Merchandise* is the class or kind of merchandise that is within the scope of the five-year reviews, as defined by Commerce.

(2) The *Subject Country* in these reviews is China.

(3) The *Domestic Like Product* is the domestically produced product or products which are like, or in the absence of like, most similar in characteristics and uses with, the *Subject Merchandise.* In its original determinations, the Commission defined a single *Domestic Like Product* consisting of all vertical metal file cabinets coextensive with Commerce's scope.

(4) The *Domestic Industry* is the U.S. producers as a whole of the *Domestic Like Product,* or those producers whose collective output of the *Domestic Like Product* constitutes a major proportion of the total domestic production of the product. In its original determinations, the Commission defined the *Domestic Industry* to include all domestic producers of vertical metal file cabinets.

(5) The *Order Date* is the date that the antidumping and countervailing duty orders under review became effective. In these reviews, the *Order Date* is December 13, 2019.

(6) An *Importer* is any person or firm engaged, either directly or through a parent company or subsidiary, in importing the *Subject Merchandise* into the United States from a foreign manufacturer or through its selling agent.

Participation in the proceeding and public service list.—Persons, including industrial users of the *Subject Merchandise* and, if the merchandise is sold at the retail level, representative consumer organizations, wishing to participate in the proceeding as parties must file an entry of appearance with the Secretary to the Commission, as provided in § 201.11(b)(4) of the Commission's rules, no later than 21 days after publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**. The Secretary will maintain a public service list containing the names and addresses of all persons, or their representatives, who are parties to the proceeding.

Former Commission employees who are seeking to appear in Commission five-year reviews are advised that they may appear in a review even if they participated personally and substantially in the corresponding underlying original investigation or an earlier review of the same underlying investigation. The Commission's designated agency ethics official has advised that a five-year review is not the same particular matter as the underlying original investigation, and a five-year review is not the same particular matter as an earlier review of the same underlying investigation for purposes of 18 U.S.C. 207, the post-employment

statute for Federal employees, and Commission rule 201.15(b) (19 CFR 201.15(b)), 79 FR 3246 (Jan. 17, 2014), 73 FR 24609 (May 5, 2008). Consequently, former employees are not required to seek Commission approval to appear in a review under Commission rule 19 CFR 201.15, even if the corresponding underlying original investigation or an earlier review of the same underlying investigation was pending when they were Commission employees. For further ethics advice on this matter, contact Charles Smith, Office of the General Counsel, at 202–205–3408.

Limited disclosure of business proprietary information (BPI) under an administrative protective order (APO) and APO service list.—Pursuant to § 207.7(a) of the Commission's rules, the Secretary will make BPI submitted in this proceeding available to authorized applicants under the APO issued in the proceeding, provided that the application is made no later than 21 days after publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**. Authorized applicants must represent interested parties, as defined in 19 U.S.C. 1677(9), who are parties to the proceeding. A separate service list will be maintained by the Secretary for those parties authorized to receive BPI under the APO.

Certification.—Pursuant to § 207.3 of the Commission's rules, any person submitting information to the Commission in connection with this proceeding must certify that the information is accurate and complete to the best of the submitter's knowledge. In making the certification, the submitter will acknowledge that information submitted in response to this request for information and throughout this proceeding or other proceeding may be disclosed to and used: (i) by the Commission, its employees and Offices, and contract personnel (a) for developing or maintaining the records of this or a related proceeding, or (b) in internal investigations, audits, reviews, and evaluations relating to the programs, personnel, and operations of the Commission including under 5 U.S.C. Appendix 3; or (ii) by U.S. government employees and contract personnel, solely for cybersecurity purposes. All contract personnel will sign appropriate nondisclosure agreements.

Written submissions.—Pursuant to § 207.61 of the Commission's rules, each interested party response to this notice must provide the information specified below. The deadline for filing such responses is on or before 5:15 p.m. on December 2, 2024. Pursuant to § 207.62(b) of the Commission's rules, eligible parties (as specified in Commission rule 207.62(b)(1)) may also file comments concerning the adequacy of responses to the notice of institution and whether the Commission should conduct expedited or full reviews. The deadline for filing such comments is on or before 5:15 p.m. on January 2, 2025. All written submissions must conform with the provisions of § 201.8 of the Commission's rules; any submissions that contain BPI must also conform with the requirements of §§ 201.6, 207.3, and 207.7 of the Commission's rules. The Commission's *Handbook on Filing Procedures,* available on the Commission's website at *https://www.usitc.gov/documents/handbook_on_filing_procedures.pdf,* elaborates upon the Commission's procedures with respect to filings. Also, in accordance with §§ 201.16(c) and 207.3 of the Commission's rules, each document filed by a party to the proceeding must be served on all other parties to the proceeding (as identified by either the public or APO service list as appropriate), and a certificate of service must accompany the document (if you are not a party to the proceeding you do not need to serve your response).

Please note the Secretary's Office will accept only electronic filings at this time. Filings must be made through the Commission's Electronic Document Information System (EDIS, *https://edis.usitc.gov*). No in-person paper-based filings or paper copies of any electronic filings will be accepted until further notice.

No response to this request for information is required if a currently valid Office of Management and Budget (''OMB'') number is not displayed; the OMB number is 3117 0016/USITC No. 24–5–623, expiration date June 30, 2026. Public reporting burden for the request is estimated to average 15 hours per response. Please send comments regarding the accuracy of this burden estimate to the Office of Investigations, U.S. International Trade Commission, 500 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20436.

Inability to provide requested information.—Pursuant to § 207.61(c) of the Commission's rules, any interested party that cannot furnish the information requested by this notice in the requested form and manner shall notify the Commission at the earliest possible time, provide a full explanation of why it cannot provide the requested information, and indicate alternative forms in which it can provide equivalent information. If an interested party does not provide this notification (or the Commission finds the explanation provided in the notification inadequate) and fails to provide a complete response to this notice, the Commission may take an adverse inference against the party pursuant to § 776(b) of the Act (19 U.S.C. 1677e(b)) in making its determinations in the reviews.

Information To Be Provided in Response to This Notice of Institution: As used below, the term ''firm'' includes any related firms.

Those responding to this notice of institution are encouraged, but not required, to visit the USITC's website at *https://usitc.gov/reports/response_noi_worksheet,* where one can download and complete the ''NOI worksheet'' Excel form for the subject proceeding, to be included as attachment/exhibit 1 of your overall response.

(1) The name and address of your firm or entity (including World Wide Web address) and name, telephone number, fax number, and Email address of the certifying official.

(2) A statement indicating whether your firm/entity is an interested party under 19 U.S.C. 1677(9) and if so, how, including whether your firm/entity is a U.S. producer of the *Domestic Like Product,* a U.S. union or worker group, a U.S. importer of the *Subject Merchandi*se, a foreign producer or exporter of the *Subject Merchandise,* a U.S. or foreign trade or business association (a majority of whose members are interested parties under the statute), or another interested party (including an explanation). If you are a union/worker group or trade/business association, identify the firms in which your workers are employed or which are members of your association.

(3) A statement indicating whether your firm/entity is willing to participate in this proceeding by providing information requested by the Commission.

(4) A statement of the likely effects of the revocation of the orders on the *Domestic Industry* in general and/or your firm/entity specifically. In your response, please discuss the various factors specified in § 752(a) of the Act (19 U.S.C. 1675a(a)) including the likely volume of subject imports, likely price effects of subject imports, and likely impact of imports of *Subject Merchandise* on the *Domestic Industry.*

(5) A list of all known and currently operating U.S. producers of the *Domestic Like Product.* Identify any known related parties and the nature of the relationship as defined in § 771(4)(B) of the Act (19 U.S.C. 1677(4)(B)).

(6) A list of all known and currently operating U.S. importers of the *Subject*

Merchandise and producers of the *Subject Merchandise* in the *Subject Country* that currently export or have exported *Subject Merchandise* to the United States or other countries since the *Order Date.*

(7) A list of 3–5 leading purchasers in the U.S. market for the *Domestic Like Product* and the *Subject Merchandise* (including street address, World Wide Web address, and the name, telephone number, fax number, and Email address of a responsible official at each firm).

(8) A list of known sources of information on national or regional prices for the *Domestic Like Product* or the *Subject Merchandise* in the U.S. or other markets.

(9) If you are a U.S. producer of the *Domestic Like Product,* provide the following information on your firm's operations on that product during calendar year 2023, except as noted (report quantity data in units and value data in U.S. dollars, f.o.b. plant). If you are a union/worker group or trade/business association, provide the information, on an aggregate basis, for the firms in which your workers are employed/which are members of your association.

(a) Production (quantity) and, if known, an estimate of the percentage of total U.S. production of the *Domestic Like Product* accounted for by your firm's(s') production;

(b) Capacity (quantity) of your firm to produce the *Domestic Like Product* (that is, the level of production that your establishment(s) could reasonably have expected to attain during the year, assuming normal operating conditions (using equipment and machinery in place and ready to operate), normal operating levels (hours per week/weeks per year), time for downtime, maintenance, repair, and cleanup, and a typical or representative product mix);

(c) the quantity and value of U.S. commercial shipments of the *Domestic Like Product* produced in your U.S. plant(s);

(d) the quantity and value of U.S. internal consumption/company transfers of the *Domestic Like Product* produced in your U.S. plant(s); and

(e) the value of (i) net sales, (ii) cost of goods sold (COGS), (iii) gross profit, (iv) selling, general and administrative (SG&A) expenses, and (v) operating income of the *Domestic Like Product* produced in your U.S. plant(s) (include both U.S. and export commercial sales, internal consumption, and company transfers) for your most recently completed fiscal year (identify the date on which your fiscal year ends).

(10) If you are a U.S. importer or a trade/business association of U.S. importers of the *Subject Merchandise* from the *Subject Country,* provide the following information on your firm's(s') operations on that product during calendar year 2023 (report quantity data in units and value data in U.S. dollars). If you are a trade/business association, provide the information, on an aggregate basis, for the firms which are members of your association.

(a) The quantity and value (landed, duty-paid but not including antidumping or countervailing duties) of U.S. imports and, if known, an estimate of the percentage of total U.S. imports of *Subject Merchandise* from the *Subject Country* accounted for by your firm's(s') imports;

(b) the quantity and value (f.o.b. U.S. port, including antidumping and/or countervailing duties) of U.S. commercial shipments of *Subject Merchandise* imported from the *Subject Country;* and

(c) the quantity and value (f.o.b. U.S. port, including antidumping and/or countervailing duties) of U.S. internal consumption/company transfers of *Subject Merchandise* imported from the *Subject Country.*

(11) If you are a producer, an exporter, or a trade/business association of producers or exporters of the *Subject Merchandise* in the *Subject Country,* provide the following information on your firm's(s') operations on that product during calendar year 2023 (report quantity data in units and value data in U.S. dollars, landed and duty-paid at the U.S. port but not including antidumping or countervailing duties). If you are a trade/business association, provide the information, on an aggregate basis, for the firms which are members of your association.

(a) Production (quantity) and, if known, an estimate of the percentage of total production of *Subject Merchandise* in the *Subject Country* accounted for by your firm's(s') production;

(b) Capacity (quantity) of your firm(s) to produce the *Subject Merchandise* in the *Subject Country* (that is, the level of production that your establishment(s) could reasonably have expected to attain during the year, assuming normal operating conditions (using equipment and machinery in place and ready to operate), normal operating levels (hours per week/weeks per year), time for downtime, maintenance, repair, and cleanup, and a typical or representative product mix); and

(c) the quantity and value of your firm's(s') exports to the United States of *Subject Merchandise* and, if known, an estimate of the percentage of total exports to the United States of *Subject Merchandise* from the *Subject Country* accounted for by your firm's(s') exports.

(12) Identify significant changes, if any, in the supply and demand conditions or business cycle for the *Domestic Like Product* that have occurred in the United States or in the market for the *Subject Merchandise* in the *Subject Country* since the *Order Date,* and significant changes, if any, that are likely to occur within a reasonably foreseeable time. Supply conditions to consider include technology; production methods; development efforts; ability to increase production (including the shift of production facilities used for other products and the use, cost, or availability of major inputs into production); and factors related to the ability to shift supply among different national markets (including barriers to importation in foreign markets or changes in market demand abroad). Demand conditions to consider include end uses and applications; the existence and availability of substitute products; and the level of competition among the *Domestic Like Product* produced in the United States, *Subject Merchandise* produced in the *Subject Country,* and such merchandise from other countries.

(13) (OPTIONAL) A statement of whether you agree with the above definitions of the *Domestic Like Product* and *Domestic Industry;* if you disagree with either or both of these definitions, please explain why and provide alternative definitions.

Authority: This proceeding is being conducted under authority of Title VII of the Tariff Act of 1930; this notice is published pursuant to § 207.61 of the Commission's rules.

By order of the Commission.

Issued: October 24, 2024.

Lisa Barton,

Secretary to the Commission.

[FR Doc. 2024–25109 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7020–02–P

INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

[Investigation Nos. 701–TA–618–619 and 731–TA–1441–1444 (Review)]

Carbon and Alloy Steel Threaded Rod From China, India, Taiwan, and Thailand; Institution of Five-Year Reviews

AGENCY: United States International Trade Commission.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Commission hereby gives notice that it has instituted reviews

pursuant to the Tariff Act of 1930 (''the Act''), as amended, to determine whether revocation of the countervailing duty orders on carbon and alloy steel threaded rod from China and India, and the antidumping duty orders on carbon and alloy steel threaded rod from China, India, Taiwan, and Thailand would be likely to lead to continuation or recurrence of material injury. Pursuant to the Act, interested parties are requested to respond to this notice by submitting the information specified below to the Commission.

DATES: Instituted November 1, 2024. To be assured of consideration, the deadline for responses is December 2, 2024. Comments on the adequacy of responses may be filed with the Commission by January 2, 2025.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jesse Sanchez (202–205–2402), Office of Investigations, U.S. International Trade Commission, 500 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20436. Hearing-impaired persons can obtain information on this matter by contacting the Commission's TDD terminal on 202–205–1810. Persons with mobility impairments who will need special assistance in gaining access to the Commission should contact the Office of the Secretary at 202–205–2000. General information concerning the Commission may also be obtained by accessing its internet server (*https://www.usitc.gov*). The public record for this proceeding may be viewed on the Commission's electronic docket (EDIS) at *https://edis.usitc.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background.—On December 13, 2019, the Department of Commerce (''Commerce'') issued an antidumping duty order on imports of carbon and alloy steel threaded rod from Thailand (84 FR 68108). On February 5, 2020, Commerce issued an antidumping duty order on imports of carbon and alloy steel threaded rod from Taiwan (85 FR 6511). On April 9, 2020, Commerce issued antidumping and countervailing duty orders on imports of carbon and alloy steel threaded rod from China and India (85 FR 19925, 19927, and 19929). The Commission is conducting reviews pursuant to section 751(c) of the Act, as amended (19 U.S.C. 1675(c)), to determine whether revocation of the orders would be likely to lead to continuation or recurrence of material injury to the domestic industry within a reasonably foreseeable time. Provisions concerning the conduct of this proceeding may be found in the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure at 19 CFR part 201, subparts A and B, and 19 CFR part 207, subparts A and F. The Commission will assess the adequacy of interested party responses to this notice of institution to determine whether to conduct full or expedited reviews. The Commission's determinations in any expedited reviews will be based on the facts available, which may include information provided in response to this notice.

Definitions.—The following definitions apply to these reviews:

(1) *Subject Merchandise* is the class or kind of merchandise that is within the scope of the five-year reviews, as defined by Commerce.

(2) The *Subject Countries* in these reviews are China, India, Taiwan, and Thailand.

(3) The *Domestic Like Product* is the domestically produced product or products which are like, or in the absence of like, most similar in characteristics and uses with, the *Subject Merchandise.* In its original determinations, the Commission defined a single *Domestic Like Product* consisting of carbon and alloy steel threaded rod, coextensive with Commerce's scope.

(4) The *Domestic Industry* is the U.S. producers as a whole of the *Domestic Like Product,* or those producers whose collective output of the *Domestic Like Product* constitutes a major proportion of the total domestic production of the product. In its original determinations, the Commission defined the *Domestic Industry* to include all U.S. producers of carbon and alloy steel threaded rod, with the exceptions of certain U.S. producers that were excluded from the *Domestic Industry* as related parties. One Commissioner defined the *Domestic Industry* differently.

(5) The *Order Dates* are the dates that the orders under review became effective. In the review concerning Thailand, the *Order Date* is December 13, 2019. In the review concerning Taiwan, the *Order Date* is February 5, 2020. In the reviews concerning China and India, the *Order Date* is April 9, 2020.

(6) An *Importer* is any person or firm engaged, either directly or through a parent company or subsidiary, in importing the *Subject Merchandise* into the United States from a foreign manufacturer or through its selling agent.

Participation in the proceeding and public service list.—Persons, including industrial users of the *Subject Merchandise* and, if the merchandise is sold at the retail level, representative consumer organizations, wishing to participate in the proceeding as parties must file an entry of appearance with the Secretary to the Commission, as provided in § 201.11(b)(4) of the Commission's rules, no later than 21 days after publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**. The Secretary will maintain a public service list containing the names and addresses of all persons, or their representatives, who are parties to the proceeding.

Former Commission employees who are seeking to appear in Commission five-year reviews are advised that they may appear in a review even if they participated personally and substantially in the corresponding underlying original investigation or an earlier review of the same underlying investigation. The Commission's designated agency ethics official has advised that a five-year review is not the same particular matter as the underlying original investigation, and a five-year review is not the same particular matter as an earlier review of the same underlying investigation for purposes of 18 U.S.C. 207, the post-employment statute for Federal employees, and Commission rule 201.15(b) (19 CFR 201.15(b)), 79 FR 3246 (Jan. 17, 2014), 73 FR 24609 (May 5, 2008). Consequently, former employees are not required to seek Commission approval to appear in a review under Commission rule 19 CFR 201.15, even if the corresponding underlying original investigation or an earlier review of the same underlying investigation was pending when they were Commission employees. For further ethics advice on this matter, contact Charles Smith, Office of the General Counsel, at 202–205–3408.

Limited disclosure of business proprietary information (BPI) under an administrative protective order (APO) and APO service list.—Pursuant to § 207.7(a) of the Commission's rules, the Secretary will make BPI submitted in this proceeding available to authorized applicants under the APO issued in the proceeding, provided that the application is made no later than 21 days after publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**. Authorized applicants must represent interested parties, as defined in 19 U.S.C. 1677(9), who are parties to the proceeding. A separate service list will be maintained by the Secretary for those parties authorized to receive BPI under the APO.

Certification.—Pursuant to § 207.3 of the Commission's rules, any person submitting information to the Commission in connection with this proceeding must certify that the information is accurate and complete to the best of the submitter's knowledge. In making the certification, the submitter

will acknowledge that information submitted in response to this request for information and throughout this proceeding or other proceeding may be disclosed to and used: (i) by the Commission, its employees and Offices, and contract personnel (a) for developing or maintaining the records of this or a related proceeding, or (b) in internal investigations, audits, reviews, and evaluations relating to the programs, personnel, and operations of the Commission including under 5 U.S.C. Appendix 3; or (ii) by U.S. government employees and contract personnel, solely for cybersecurity purposes. All contract personnel will sign appropriate nondisclosure agreements.

Written submissions.—Pursuant to § 207.61 of the Commission's rules, each interested party response to this notice must provide the information specified below. The deadline for filing such responses is on or before 5:15 p.m. on December 2, 2024. Pursuant to § 207.62(b) of the Commission's rules, eligible parties (as specified in Commission rule 207.62(b)(1)) may also file comments concerning the adequacy of responses to the notice of institution and whether the Commission should conduct expedited or full reviews. The deadline for filing such comments is on or before 5:15 p.m. on January 2, 2025. All written submissions must conform with the provisions of § 201.8 of the Commission's rules; any submissions that contain BPI must also conform with the requirements of §§ 201.6, 207.3, and 207.7 of the Commission's rules. The Commission's *Handbook on Filing Procedures,* available on the Commission's website at *https://www.usitc.gov/documents/handbook_on_filing_procedures.pdf,* elaborates upon the Commission's procedures with respect to filings. Also, in accordance with §§ 201.16(c) and 207.3 of the Commission's rules, each document filed by a party to the proceeding must be served on all other parties to the proceeding (as identified by either the public or APO service list as appropriate), and a certificate of service must accompany the document (if you are not a party to the proceeding you do not need to serve your response).

Please note the Secretary's Office will accept only electronic filings at this time. Filings must be made through the Commission's Electronic Document Information System (EDIS, *https://edis.usitc.gov*). No in-person paper-based filings or paper copies of any electronic filings will be accepted until further notice.

No response to this request for information is required if a currently valid Office of Management and Budget (''OMB'') number is not displayed; the OMB number is 3117 0016/USITC No. 24–5–621, expiration date June 30, 2026. Public reporting burden for the request is estimated to average 15 hours per response. Please send comments regarding the accuracy of this burden estimate to the Office of Investigations, U.S. International Trade Commission, 500 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20436.

Inability to provide requested information.—Pursuant to § 207.61(c) of the Commission's rules, any interested party that cannot furnish the information requested by this notice in the requested form and manner shall notify the Commission at the earliest possible time, provide a full explanation of why it cannot provide the requested information, and indicate alternative forms in which it can provide equivalent information. If an interested party does not provide this notification (or the Commission finds the explanation provided in the notification inadequate) and fails to provide a complete response to this notice, the Commission may take an adverse inference against the party pursuant to § 776(b) of the Act (19 U.S.C. 1677e(b)) in making its determinations in the reviews.

Information To Be Provided in Response to This Notice of Institution: If you are a domestic producer, union/worker group, or trade/business association; import/export *Subject Merchandise* from more than one *Subject Country;* or produce *Subject Merchandise* in more than one *Subject Country,* you may file a single response. If you do so, please ensure that your response to each question includes the information requested for each pertinent *Subject Country.* As used below, the term ''firm'' includes any related firms.

Those responding to this notice of institution are encouraged, but not required, to visit the USITC's website at *https://usitc.gov/reports/response_noi_worksheet,* where one can download and complete the ''NOI worksheet'' Excel form for the subject proceeding, to be included as attachment/exhibit 1 of your overall response.

(1) The name and address of your firm or entity (including World Wide Web address) and name, telephone number, fax number, and Email address of the certifying official.

(2) A statement indicating whether your firm/entity is an interested party under 19 U.S.C. 1677(9) and if so, how, including whether your firm/entity is a U.S. producer of the *Domestic Like Product,* a U.S. union or worker group, a U.S. importer of the *Subject Merchandi*se, a foreign producer or exporter of the *Subject Merchandise,* a U.S. or foreign trade or business association (a majority of whose members are interested parties under the statute), or another interested party (including an explanation). If you are a union/worker group or trade/business association, identify the firms in which your workers are employed or which are members of your association.

(3) A statement indicating whether your firm/entity is willing to participate in this proceeding by providing information requested by the Commission.

(4) A statement of the likely effects of the revocation of the orders on the *Domestic Industry* in general and/or your firm/entity specifically. In your response, please discuss the various factors specified in § 752(a) of the Act (19 U.S.C. 1675a(a)) including the likely volume of subject imports, likely price effects of subject imports, and likely impact of imports of *Subject Merchandise* on the *Domestic Industry.*

(5) A list of all known and currently operating U.S. producers of the *Domestic Like Product.* Identify any known related parties and the nature of the relationship as defined in § 771(4)(B) of the Act (19 U.S.C. 1677(4)(B)).

(6) A list of all known and currently operating U.S. importers of the *Subject Merchandise* and producers of the *Subject Merchandise* in each *Subject Country* that currently export or have exported *Subject Merchandise* to the United States or other countries since each *Order Date.*

(7) A list of 3–5 leading purchasers in the U.S. market for the *Domestic Like Product* and the *Subject Merchandise* (including street address, World Wide Web address, and the name, telephone number, fax number, and Email address of a responsible official at each firm).

(8) A list of known sources of information on national or regional prices for the *Domestic Like Product* or the *Subject Merchandise* in the U.S. or other markets.

(9) If you are a U.S. producer of the *Domestic Like Product,* provide the following information on your firm's operations on that product during calendar year 2023, except as noted (report quantity data in pounds and value data in U.S. dollars, f.o.b. plant). If you are a union/worker group or trade/business association, provide the information, on an aggregate basis, for the firms in which your workers are employed/which are members of your association.

(a) Production (quantity) and, if known, an estimate of the percentage of

total U.S. production of the *Domestic Like Product* accounted for by your firm's(s') production;

(b) Capacity (quantity) of your firm to produce the *Domestic Like Product* (that is, the level of production that your establishment(s) could reasonably have expected to attain during the year, assuming normal operating conditions (using equipment and machinery in place and ready to operate), normal operating levels (hours per week/weeks per year), time for downtime, maintenance, repair, and cleanup, and a typical or representative product mix);

(c) the quantity and value of U.S. commercial shipments of the *Domestic Like Product* produced in your U.S. plant(s);

(d) the quantity and value of U.S. internal consumption/company transfers of the *Domestic Like Product* produced in your U.S. plant(s); and

(e) the value of (i) net sales, (ii) cost of goods sold (COGS), (iii) gross profit, (iv) selling, general and administrative (SG&A) expenses, and (v) operating income of the *Domestic Like Product* produced in your U.S. plant(s) (include both U.S. and export commercial sales, internal consumption, and company transfers) for your most recently completed fiscal year (identify the date on which your fiscal year ends).

(10) If you are a U.S. importer or a trade/business association of U.S. importers of the *Subject Merchandise* from any *Subject Country,* provide the following information on your firm's(s') operations on that product during calendar year 2023 (report quantity data in pounds and value data in U.S. dollars). If you are a trade/business association, provide the information, on an aggregate basis, for the firms which are members of your association.

(a) The quantity and value (landed, duty-paid but not including antidumping or countervailing duties) of U.S. imports and, if known, an estimate of the percentage of total U.S. imports of *Subject Merchandise* from each *Subject Country* accounted for by your firm's(s') imports;

(b) the quantity and value (f.o.b. U.S. port, including antidumping and/or countervailing duties) of U.S. commercial shipments of *Subject Merchandise* imported from each *Subject Country;* and

(c) the quantity and value (f.o.b. U.S. port, including antidumping and/or countervailing duties) of U.S. internal consumption/company transfers of *Subject Merchandise* imported from each *Subject Country.*

(11) If you are a producer, an exporter, or a trade/business association of producers or exporters of the *Subject Merchandise* in any *Subject Country,* provide the following information on your firm's(s') operations on that product during calendar year 2023 (report quantity data in pounds and value data in U.S. dollars, landed and duty-paid at the U.S. port but not including antidumping or countervailing duties). If you are a trade/business association, provide the information, on an aggregate basis, for the firms which are members of your association.

(a) Production (quantity) and, if known, an estimate of the percentage of total production of *Subject Merchandise* in each *Subject Country* accounted for by your firm's(s') production;

(b) Capacity (quantity) of your firm(s) to produce the *Subject Merchandise* in each *Subject Country* (that is, the level of production that your establishment(s) could reasonably have expected to attain during the year, assuming normal operating conditions (using equipment and machinery in place and ready to operate), normal operating levels (hours per week/weeks per year), time for downtime, maintenance, repair, and cleanup, and a typical or representative product mix); and

(c) the quantity and value of your firm's(s') exports to the United States of *Subject Merchandise* and, if known, an estimate of the percentage of total exports to the United States of *Subject Merchandise* from each *Subject Country* accounted for by your firm's(s') exports.

(12) Identify significant changes, if any, in the supply and demand conditions or business cycle for the *Domestic Like Product* that have occurred in the United States or in the market for the *Subject Merchandise* in each *Subject Country* since each *Order Date,* and significant changes, if any, that are likely to occur within a reasonably foreseeable time. Supply conditions to consider include technology; production methods; development efforts; ability to increase production (including the shift of production facilities used for other products and the use, cost, or availability of major inputs into production); and factors related to the ability to shift supply among different national markets (including barriers to importation in foreign markets or changes in market demand abroad). Demand conditions to consider include end uses and applications; the existence and availability of substitute products; and the level of competition among the *Domestic Like Product* produced in the United States, *Subject Merchandise* produced in each *Subject Country,* and such merchandise from other countries.

(13) (OPTIONAL) A statement of whether you agree with the above definitions of the *Domestic Like Product* and *Domestic Industry;* if you disagree with either or both of these definitions, please explain why and provide alternative definitions.

Authority: This proceeding is being conducted under authority of Title VII of the Tariff Act of 1930; this notice is published pursuant to § 207.61 of the Commission's rules.

By order of the Commission.

Issued: October 24, 2024.

Lisa Barton,

Secretary to the Commission.

[FR Doc. 2024–25100 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7020–02–P

INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

[Investigation Nos. 731–TA–672–673 (Fifth Review)]

Silicomanganese From China and Ukraine

Determinations

On the basis of the record [1] developed in the subject five-year reviews, the United States International Trade Commission (''Commission'') determines, pursuant to the Tariff Act of 1930 (''the Act''), that revocation of the antidumping duty orders on silicomanganese from China and Ukraine would be likely to lead to continuation or recurrence of material injury to an industry in the United States within a reasonably foreseeable time.[2]

Background

The Commission instituted these reviews on November 1, 2023 (88 FR 75029) and determined on February 5, 2024, that it would conduct full reviews (89 FR 13375, February 22, 2024). Notice of the scheduling of the Commission's reviews and of a public hearing to be held in connection therewith was given by posting copies of the notice in the Office of the Secretary, U.S. International Trade Commission, Washington, DC, and by publishing the notice in the **Federal Register** on May 1, 2024 (89 FR 35240). The Commission conducted its hearing on September 5, 2024. All persons who requested the opportunity were permitted to participate.

[1] The record is defined in § 207.2(f) of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (19 CFR 207.2(f)).

[2] Commissioner David S. Johanson dissenting with respect to the order on silicomanganese from Ukraine.

The Commission made these determinations pursuant to section 751(c) of the Act (19 U.S.C. 1675(c)). It completed and filed its determinations in these reviews on October 28, 2024. The views of the Commission are contained in USITC Publication 5554 (October 2024), entitled *Silicomanganese from China and Ukraine: Investigation Nos. 731–TA–672–673 (Fifth Review).*

By order of the Commission.

Issued: October 28, 2024.

Lisa Barton,

Secretary to the Commission.

[FR Doc. 2024–25415 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7020–02–P

INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

[Investigation No. 731–TA–1114 (Third Review)]

Steel Nails From China; Institution of a Five-Year Review

AGENCY: United States International Trade Commission.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Commission hereby gives notice that it has instituted a review pursuant to the Tariff Act of 1930 (''the Act''), as amended, to determine whether revocation of the antidumping duty order on steel nails from China would be likely to lead to continuation or recurrence of material injury. Pursuant to the Act, interested parties are requested to respond to this notice by submitting the information specified below to the Commission.

DATES: Instituted November 1, 2024. To be assured of consideration, the deadline for responses is December 2, 2024. Comments on the adequacy of responses may be filed with the Commission by January 2, 2025.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Juan Carlos Pena Flores (202–205–3169), Office of Investigations, U.S. International Trade Commission, 500 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20436. Hearing-impaired persons can obtain information on this matter by contacting the Commission's TDD terminal on 202–205–1810. Persons with mobility impairments who will need special assistance in gaining access to the Commission should contact the Office of the Secretary at 202–205–2000. General information concerning the Commission may also be obtained by accessing its internet server (*https://www.usitc.gov*). The public record for this proceeding may be viewed on the Commission's electronic docket (EDIS) at *https://edis.usitc.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background.—On August 1, 2008, the Department of Commerce (''Commerce'') issued an antidumping duty order on imports of steel nails from China (73 FR 44961). Commerce issued a continuation of the antidumping duty order on imports of steel nails from China following Commerce's and the Commission's first five-year reviews, effective January 10, 2014 (79 FR 1830) and second five-year reviews, effective December 3, 2019 (84 FR 66151). The Commission is now conducting a third five-year review pursuant to section 751(c) of the Act, as amended (19 U.S.C. 1675(c)), to determine whether revocation of the order would be likely to lead to continuation or recurrence of material injury to the domestic industry within a reasonably foreseeable time. Provisions concerning the conduct of this proceeding may be found in the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure at 19 CFR part 201, subparts A and B, and 19 CFR part 207, subparts A and F. The Commission will assess the adequacy of interested party responses to this notice of institution to determine whether to conduct a full or expedited review. The Commission's determination in any expedited review will be based on the facts available, which may include information provided in response to this notice.

Definitions.—The following definitions apply to this review:

(1) *Subject Merchandise* is the class or kind of merchandise that is within the scope of the five-year review, as defined by Commerce.

(2) The *Subject Country* in this review is China.

(3) The *Domestic Like Product* is the domestically produced product or products which are like, or in the absence of like, most similar in characteristics and uses with, the *Subject Merchandise.* In its original determination and its expedited first and second five-year review determinations, the Commission defined a single *Domestic Like Product* consisting of steel nails, coextensive with Commerce's scope.

(4) The *Domestic Industry* is the U.S. producers as a whole of the *Domestic Like Product,* or those producers whose collective output of the *Domestic Like Product* constitutes a major proportion of the total domestic production of the product. In its original determination, the Commission defined the *Domestic Industry* as producers of the *Domestic Like Product,* and it found appropriate circumstances to exclude three firms from the *Domestic Industry* as related parties (Senco, Specialty Fastening, and Stanley Fastening Systems, LP). In its expedited first and second five-year review determinations, the Commission defined the *Domestic Industry* to include all domestic producers of steel nails.

(5) An *Importer* is any person or firm engaged, either directly or through a parent company or subsidiary, in importing the *Subject Merchandise* into the United States from a foreign manufacturer or through its selling agent.

Participation in the proceeding and public service list.—Persons, including industrial users of the *Subject Merchandise* and, if the merchandise is sold at the retail level, representative consumer organizations, wishing to participate in the proceeding as parties must file an entry of appearance with the Secretary to the Commission, as provided in § 201.11(b)(4) of the Commission's rules, no later than 21 days after publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**. The Secretary will maintain a public service list containing the names and addresses of all persons, or their representatives, who are parties to the proceeding.

Former Commission employees who are seeking to appear in Commission five-year reviews are advised that they may appear in a review even if they participated personally and substantially in the corresponding underlying original investigation or an earlier review of the same underlying investigation. The Commission's designated agency ethics official has advised that a five-year review is not the same particular matter as the underlying original investigation, and a five-year review is not the same particular matter as an earlier review of the same underlying investigation for purposes of 18 U.S.C. 207, the post-employment statute for Federal employees, and Commission rule 201.15(b) (19 CFR 201.15(b)), 79 FR 3246 (Jan. 17, 2014), 73 FR 24609 (May 5, 2008). Consequently, former employees are not required to seek Commission approval to appear in a review under Commission rule 19 CFR 201.15, even if the corresponding underlying original investigation or an earlier review of the same underlying investigation was pending when they were Commission employees. For further ethics advice on this matter, contact Charles Smith, Office of the General Counsel, at 202–205–3408.

Limited disclosure of business proprietary information (BPI) under an administrative protective order (APO) and APO service list.—Pursuant to

§ 207.7(a) of the Commission's rules, the Secretary will make BPI submitted in this proceeding available to authorized applicants under the APO issued in the proceeding, provided that the application is made no later than 21 days after publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**. Authorized applicants must represent interested parties, as defined in 19 U.S.C. 1677(9), who are parties to the proceeding. A separate service list will be maintained by the Secretary for those parties authorized to receive BPI under the APO.

Certification.—Pursuant to § 207.3 of the Commission's rules, any person submitting information to the Commission in connection with this proceeding must certify that the information is accurate and complete to the best of the submitter's knowledge. In making the certification, the submitter will acknowledge that information submitted in response to this request for information and throughout this proceeding or other proceeding may be disclosed to and used: (i) by the Commission, its employees and Offices, and contract personnel (a) for developing or maintaining the records of this or a related proceeding, or (b) in internal investigations, audits, reviews, and evaluations relating to the programs, personnel, and operations of the Commission including under 5 U.S.C. Appendix 3; or (ii) by U.S. government employees and contract personnel, solely for cybersecurity purposes. All contract personnel will sign appropriate nondisclosure agreements.

Written submissions.—Pursuant to § 207.61 of the Commission's rules, each interested party response to this notice must provide the information specified below. The deadline for filing such responses is 5:15 p.m. on December 2, 2024. Pursuant to § 207.62(b) of the Commission's rules, eligible parties (as specified in Commission rule 207.62(b)(1)) may also file comments concerning the adequacy of responses to the notice of institution and whether the Commission should conduct an expedited or full review. The deadline for filing such comments is 5:15 p.m. on January 2, 2025. All written submissions must conform with the provisions of § 201.8 of the Commission's rules; any submissions that contain BPI must also conform with the requirements of §§ 201.6, 207.3, and 207.7 of the Commission's rules. The Commission's *Handbook on Filing Procedures,* available on the Commission's website at *https://www.usitc.gov/documents/handbook_on_filing_procedures.pdf,* elaborates upon the Commission's procedures with respect to filings. Also, in accordance with §§ 201.16(c) and 207.3 of the Commission's rules, each document filed by a party to the proceeding must be served on all other parties to the proceeding (as identified by either the public or APO service list as appropriate), and a certificate of service must accompany the document (if you are not a party to the proceeding you do not need to serve your response).

Please note the Secretary's Office will accept only electronic filings at this time. Filings must be made through the Commission's Electronic Document Information System (EDIS, *https://edis.usitc.gov*). No in-person paper-based filings or paper copies of any electronic filings will be accepted until further notice.

No response to this request for information is required if a currently valid Office of Management and Budget (''OMB'') number is not displayed; the OMB number is 3117 0016/USITC No. 24–5–625, expiration date June 30, 2026. Public reporting burden for the request is estimated to average 15 hours per response. Please send comments regarding the accuracy of this burden estimate to the Office of Investigations, U.S. International Trade Commission, 500 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20436.

Inability to provide requested information.—Pursuant to § 207.61(c) of the Commission's rules, any interested party that cannot furnish the information requested by this notice in the requested form and manner shall notify the Commission at the earliest possible time, provide a full explanation of why it cannot provide the requested information, and indicate alternative forms in which it can provide equivalent information. If an interested party does not provide this notification (or the Commission finds the explanation provided in the notification inadequate) and fails to provide a complete response to this notice, the Commission may take an adverse inference against the party pursuant to § 776(b) of the Act (19 U.S.C. 1677e(b)) in making its determination in the review.

Information to be provided in response to this notice of institution: As used below, the term ''firm'' includes any related firms.

Those responding to this notice of institution are encouraged, but not required, to visit the USITC's website at *https://usitc.gov/reports/response_noi_worksheet,* where one can download and complete the ''NOI worksheet'' Excel form for the subject proceeding, to be included as attachment/exhibit 1 of your overall response.

(1) The name and address of your firm or entity (including World Wide Web address) and name, telephone number, fax number, and Email address of the certifying official.

(2) A statement indicating whether your firm/entity is an interested party under 19 U.S.C. 1677(9) and if so, how, including whether your firm/entity is a U.S. producer of the *Domestic Like Product,* a U.S. union or worker group, a U.S. importer of the *Subject Merchandi*se, a foreign producer or exporter of the *Subject Merchandise,* a U.S. or foreign trade or business association (a majority of whose members are interested parties under the statute), or another interested party (including an explanation). If you are a union/worker group or trade/business association, identify the firms in which your workers are employed or which are members of your association.

(3) A statement indicating whether your firm/entity is willing to participate in this proceeding by providing information requested by the Commission.

(4) A statement of the likely effects of the revocation of the antidumping duty order on the *Domestic Industry* in general and/or your firm/entity specifically. In your response, please discuss the various factors specified in section 752(a) of the Act (19 U.S.C. 1675a(a)) including the likely volume of subject imports, likely price effects of subject imports, and likely impact of imports of *Subject Merchandise* on the *Domestic Industry.*

(5) A list of all known and currently operating U.S. producers of the *Domestic Like Product.* Identify any known related parties and the nature of the relationship as defined in section 771(4)(B) of the Act (19 U.S.C. 1677(4)(B)).

(6) A list of all known and currently operating U.S. importers of the *Subject Merchandise* and producers of the *Subject Merchandise* in the *Subject Country* that currently export or have exported *Subject Merchandise* to the United States or other countries after 2017.

(7) A list of 3–5 leading purchasers in the U.S. market for the *Domestic Like Product* and the *Subject Merchandise* (including street address, World Wide Web address, and the name, telephone number, fax number, and Email address of a responsible official at each firm).

(8) A list of known sources of information on national or regional prices for the *Domestic Like Product* or the *Subject Merchandise* in the U.S. or other markets.

(9) If you are a U.S. producer of the *Domestic Like Product,* provide the

following information on your firm's operations on that product during calendar year 2023, except as noted (report quantity data in short tons and value data in U.S. dollars, f.o.b. plant). If you are a union/worker group or trade/business association, provide the information, on an aggregate basis, for the firms in which your workers are employed/which are members of your association.

(a) Production (quantity) and, if known, an estimate of the percentage of total U.S. production of the *Domestic Like Product* accounted for by your firm's(s') production;

(b) Capacity (quantity) of your firm to produce the *Domestic Like Product* (that is, the level of production that your establishment(s) could reasonably have expected to attain during the year, assuming normal operating conditions (using equipment and machinery in place and ready to operate), normal operating levels (hours per week/weeks per year), time for downtime, maintenance, repair, and cleanup, and a typical or representative product mix);

(c) the quantity and value of U.S. commercial shipments of the *Domestic Like Product* produced in your U.S. plant(s);

(d) the quantity and value of U.S. internal consumption/company transfers of the *Domestic Like Product* produced in your U.S. plant(s); and

(e) the value of (i) net sales, (ii) cost of goods sold (COGS), (iii) gross profit, (iv) selling, general and administrative (SG&A) expenses, and (v) operating income of the *Domestic Like Product* produced in your U.S. plant(s) (include both U.S. and export commercial sales, internal consumption, and company transfers) for your most recently completed fiscal year (identify the date on which your fiscal year ends).

(10) If you are a U.S. importer or a trade/business association of U.S. importers of the *Subject Merchandise* from the *Subject Country,* provide the following information on your firm's(s') operations on that product during calendar year 2023 (report quantity data in short tons and value data in U.S. dollars). If you are a trade/business association, provide the information, on an aggregate basis, for the firms which are members of your association.

(a) The quantity and value (landed, duty-paid but not including antidumping duties) of U.S. imports and, if known, an estimate of the percentage of total U.S. imports of *Subject Merchandise* from the *Subject Country* accounted for by your firm's(s') imports;

(b) the quantity and value (f.o.b. U.S. port, including antidumping duties) of U.S. commercial shipments of *Subject Merchandise* imported from the *Subject Country;* and

(c) the quantity and value (f.o.b. U.S. port, including antidumping duties) of U.S. internal consumption/company transfers of *Subject Merchandise* imported from the *Subject Country.*

(11) If you are a producer, an exporter, or a trade/business association of producers or exporters of the *Subject Merchandise* in the *Subject Country,* provide the following information on your firm's(s') operations on that product during calendar year 2023 (report quantity data in short tons and value data in U.S. dollars, landed and duty-paid at the U.S. port but not including antidumping duties). If you are a trade/business association, provide the information, on an aggregate basis, for the firms which are members of your association.

(a) Production (quantity) and, if known, an estimate of the percentage of total production of *Subject Merchandise* in the *Subject Country* accounted for by your firm's(s') production;

(b) Capacity (quantity) of your firm(s) to produce the *Subject Merchandise* in the *Subject Country* (that is, the level of production that your establishment(s) could reasonably have expected to attain during the year, assuming normal operating conditions (using equipment and machinery in place and ready to operate), normal operating levels (hours per week/weeks per year), time for downtime, maintenance, repair, and cleanup, and a typical or representative product mix); and

(c) the quantity and value of your firm's(s') exports to the United States of *Subject Merchandise* and, if known, an estimate of the percentage of total exports to the United States of *Subject Merchandise* from the *Subject Country* accounted for by your firm's(s') exports.

(12) Identify significant changes, if any, in the supply and demand conditions or business cycle for the *Domestic Like Product* that have occurred in the United States or in the market for the *Subject Merchandise* in the *Subject Country* after 2017, and significant changes, if any, that are likely to occur within a reasonably foreseeable time. Supply conditions to consider include technology; production methods; development efforts; ability to increase production (including the shift of production facilities used for other products and the use, cost, or availability of major inputs into production); and factors related to the ability to shift supply among different national markets (including barriers to importation in foreign markets or changes in market demand abroad). Demand conditions to consider include end uses and applications; the existence and availability of substitute products; and the level of competition among the *Domestic Like Product* produced in the United States, *Subject Merchandise* produced in the *Subject Country,* and such merchandise from other countries.

(13) (OPTIONAL) A statement of whether you agree with the above definitions of the *Domestic Like Product* and *Domestic Industry;* if you disagree with either or both of these definitions, please explain why and provide alternative definitions.

Authority: This proceeding is being conducted under authority of title VII of the Tariff Act of 1930; this notice is published pursuant to § 207.61 of the Commission's rules.

By order of the Commission.

Issued: October 24, 2024.

Lisa Barton,

Secretary to the Commission.

[FR Doc. 2024–25105 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7020–02–P

INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

[Investigation No. 337–TA–1405]

Certain Wi-Fi Access Points, Routers, Range Extenders, Controllers and Components Thereof; Notice of a Commission Determination Not To Review an Initial Determination Terminating the Investigation in Its Entirety Based on Settlement; Termination of Investigation

AGENCY: U.S. International Trade Commission.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the U.S. International Trade Commission (''Commission'') has determined not to review an initial determination (''ID'') (Order No. 14) of the presiding administrative law judge (''ALJ''), terminating the investigation in its entirety based on settlement. The investigation is terminated.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Benjamin S. Richards, Esq., Office of the General Counsel, U.S. International Trade Commission, 500 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20436, telephone (202) 708–5453. Copies of non-confidential documents filed in connection with this investigation may be viewed on the Commission's electronic docket (EDIS) at *https://edis.usitc.gov.* For help accessing EDIS, please email *EDIS3Help@usitc.gov.* General information concerning the Commission

may also be obtained by accessing its internet server at *https://www.usitc.gov.* Hearing-impaired persons are advised that information on this matter can be obtained by contacting the Commission's TDD terminal on (202) 205–1810.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Commission instituted this investigation on June 20, 2024, based on a complaint filed by TP-Link USA Corporation of Irvine, California, and TP-Link Corporation PTE Ltd. of Singapore. 89 FR 51899 (June 20, 2024). The complaint, as supplemented, alleges violations of section 337 of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended, 19 U.S.C. 1337, in the importation into the United States, the sale for importation, or the sale within the United States after importation of certain wi-fi access points, routers, range extenders, controllers and components thereof by reason of infringement of certain claims of U.S. Patent No. 7,636,550; U.S. Patent No. 8,176,148; U.S. Patent No. 8,229,357; U.S. Patent No. 7,672,268; and U.S. Patent No. 8,774,008. *Id.* The complaint further alleges that a domestic industry exists. *Id.* The Commission's notice of investigation named as respondent Netgear Inc. of San Jose, CA. *Id.* The Office of Unfair Import Investigations is not participating in the investigation. *Id.*

On September 26, 2024, the ALJ issued Order No. 14, the subject ID, which granted the parties' joint motion to terminate the investigation in its entirety based on settlement. The ID found that the motion complied with the requirements of Commission Rule 210.21(b) and that termination of the investigation will not adversely affect the public interest. No petitions for review of the ID were filed.

The Commission has determined not to review the subject ID.

The investigation is hereby terminated in its entirety.

The Commission vote for this determination took place on October 25, 2024.

The authority for the Commission's determination is contained in section 337 of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (19 U.S.C. 1337), and in part 210 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (19 CFR part 210).

By order of the Commission.

Issued: October 28, 2024.

Lisa Barton,

Secretary to the Commission.

[FR Doc. 2024–25414 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7020–02–P

INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

[Investigation Nos. 731–TA–1210–1212 (Second Review) and 701–TA–454 and 731–TA–1144 (Third Review)]

Welded Stainless Steel Pressure Pipe From China, Malaysia, Thailand, and Vietnam; Institution of Five-Year Reviews

AGENCY: United States International Trade Commission.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Commission hereby gives notice that it has instituted reviews pursuant to the Tariff Act of 1930 (''the Act''), as amended, to determine whether revocation of the antidumping and countervailing duty orders on welded stainless steel pressure pipe from China and the antidumping duty orders on welded stainless steel pressure pipe from Malaysia, Thailand, and Vietnam would be likely to lead to continuation or recurrence of material injury. Pursuant to the Act, interested parties are requested to respond to this notice by submitting the information specified below to the Commission.

DATES: Instituted November 1, 2024. To be assured of consideration, the deadline for responses is December 2, 2024. Comments on the adequacy of responses may be filed with the Commission by January 2, 2025.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Alexis Yim (202–708–1446), Office of Investigations, U.S. International Trade Commission, 500 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20436. Hearing-impaired persons can obtain information on this matter by contacting the Commission's TDD terminal on 202–205–1810. Persons with mobility impairments who will need special assistance in gaining access to the Commission should contact the Office of the Secretary at 202–205–2000. General information concerning the Commission may also be obtained by accessing its internet server (*https://www.usitc.gov*). The public record for this proceeding may be viewed on the Commission's electronic docket (EDIS) at *https://edis.usitc.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background.—The Department of Commerce (''Commerce'') issued antidumping and countervailing duty orders on imports of welded stainless steel pressure pipe from China on March 17, 2009 (74 FR 11351) and March 19, 2009 (74 FR 11712), respectively. Following Commerce's and the Commission's first five-year reviews, Commerce issued a continuation of the antidumping and countervailing duty orders on imports of welded stainless steel pressure pipe from China effective July 23, 2014 (79 FR 42760) and August 12, 2014 (79 FR 47089), respectively. Following Commerce's and the Commission's second five-year reviews of the antidumping and countervailing duty orders concerning welded stainless steel pressure pipe from China, Commerce issued continuation orders effective December 6, 2019 (84 FR 66883).

On July 21, 2014, Commerce issued antidumping duty orders on imports of welded stainless steel pressure pipe from Malaysia, Thailand, and Vietnam (79 FR 42289). Following Commerce's and the Commission's first five-year reviews of the antidumping duty orders concerning welded stainless steel pressure pipe from Malaysia, Thailand, and Vietnam, Commerce issued continuation orders effective December 3, 2019 (84 FR 66154).

The Commission is now conducting third five-year reviews of the antidumping and countervailing duty orders concerning welded stainless steel pressure pipe from China and second five-year reviews of the antidumping duty orders concerning welded stainless steel pressure pipe from Malaysia, Thailand, and Vietnam pursuant to section 751(c) of the Act, as amended (19 U.S.C. 1675(c)), to determine whether revocation of the orders would be likely to lead to continuation or recurrence of material injury to the domestic industry within a reasonably foreseeable time. Provisions concerning the conduct of this proceeding may be found in the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure at 19 CFR part 201, subparts A and B, and 19 CFR part 207, subparts A and F. The Commission will assess the adequacy of interested party responses to this notice of institution to determine whether to conduct full or expedited reviews. The Commission's determinations in any expedited reviews will be based on the facts available, which may include information provided in response to this notice.

Definitions.—The following definitions apply to these reviews:

(1) *Subject Merchandise* is the class or kind of merchandise that is within the scope of the five-year reviews, as defined by Commerce.

(2) The *Subject Countries* in these reviews are China, Malaysia, Thailand, and Vietnam.

(3) The *Domestic Like Product* is the domestically produced product or products which are like, or in the absence of like, most similar in characteristics and uses with, the

Subject Merchandise. In its original determinations and its previous expedited five-year review determinations concerning China, Malaysia, Thailand, and Vietnam, the Commission defined a single *Domestic Like Product* consisting of welded stainless steel pressure pipe, coextensive with Commerce's scope.

(4) The *Domestic Industry* is the U.S. producers as a whole of the *Domestic Like Product,* or those producers whose collective output of the *Domestic Like Product* constitutes a major proportion of the total domestic production of the product. In its original determinations and its previous expedited five-year review determinations concerning China, Malaysia, Thailand, and Vietnam, the Commission defined the *Domestic Industry* as all U.S. producers of welded stainless steel pressure pipe.

(5) An *Importer* is any person or firm engaged, either directly or through a parent company or subsidiary, in importing the *Subject Merchandise* into the United States from a foreign manufacturer or through its selling agent.

Participation in the proceeding and public service list.—Persons, including industrial users of the *Subject Merchandise* and, if the merchandise is sold at the retail level, representative consumer organizations, wishing to participate in the proceeding as parties must file an entry of appearance with the Secretary to the Commission, as provided in § 201.11(b)(4) of the Commission's rules, no later than 21 days after publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**. The Secretary will maintain a public service list containing the names and addresses of all persons, or their representatives, who are parties to the proceeding.

Former Commission employees who are seeking to appear in Commission five-year reviews are advised that they may appear in a review even if they participated personally and substantially in the corresponding underlying original investigation or an earlier review of the same underlying investigation. The Commission's designated agency ethics official has advised that a five-year review is not the same particular matter as the underlying original investigation, and a five-year review is not the same particular matter as an earlier review of the same underlying investigation for purposes of 18 U.S.C. 207, the post-employment statute for Federal employees, and Commission rule 201.15(b) (19 CFR 201.15(b)), 79 FR 3246 (Jan. 17, 2014), 73 FR 24609 (May 5, 2008). Consequently, former employees are not required to seek Commission approval to appear in a review under Commission rule 19 CFR 201.15, even if the corresponding underlying original investigation or an earlier review of the same underlying investigation was pending when they were Commission employees. For further ethics advice on this matter, contact Charles Smith, Office of the General Counsel, at 202–205–3408.

Limited disclosure of business proprietary information (BPI) under an administrative protective order (APO) and APO service list.—Pursuant to § 207.7(a) of the Commission's rules, the Secretary will make BPI submitted in this proceeding available to authorized applicants under the APO issued in the proceeding, provided that the application is made no later than 21 days after publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**. Authorized applicants must represent interested parties, as defined in 19 U.S.C. 1677(9), who are parties to the proceeding. A separate service list will be maintained by the Secretary for those parties authorized to receive BPI under the APO.

Certification.—Pursuant to § 207.3 of the Commission's rules, any person submitting information to the Commission in connection with this proceeding must certify that the information is accurate and complete to the best of the submitter's knowledge. In making the certification, the submitter will acknowledge that information submitted in response to this request for information and throughout this proceeding or other proceeding may be disclosed to and used: (i) by the Commission, its employees and Offices, and contract personnel (a) for developing or maintaining the records of this or a related proceeding, or (b) in internal investigations, audits, reviews, and evaluations relating to the programs, personnel, and operations of the Commission including under 5 U.S.C. appendix 3; or (ii) by U.S. Government employees and contract personnel, solely for cybersecurity purposes. All contract personnel will sign appropriate nondisclosure agreements.

Written submissions.—Pursuant to § 207.61 of the Commission's rules, each interested party response to this notice must provide the information specified below. The deadline for filing such responses is 5:15 p.m. on December 2, 2024. Pursuant to § 207.62(b) of the Commission's rules, eligible parties (as specified in Commission rule 207.62(b)(1)) may also file comments concerning the adequacy of responses to the notice of institution and whether the Commission should conduct expedited or full reviews. The deadline for filing such comments is 5:15 p.m. on January 2, 2025. All written submissions must conform with the provisions of § 201.8 of the Commission's rules; any submissions that contain BPI must also conform with the requirements of §§ 201.6, 207.3, and 207.7 of the Commission's rules. The Commission's *Handbook on Filing Procedures,* available on the Commission's website at *https://www.usitc.gov/documents/handbook_on_filing_procedures.pdf,* elaborates upon the Commission's procedures with respect to filings. Also, in accordance with §§ 201.16(c) and 207.3 of the Commission's rules, each document filed by a party to the proceeding must be served on all other parties to the proceeding (as identified by either the public or APO service list as appropriate), and a certificate of service must accompany the document (if you are not a party to the proceeding you do not need to serve your response).

Please note the Secretary's Office will accept only electronic filings at this time. Filings must be made through the Commission's Electronic Document Information System (EDIS, *https://edis.usitc.gov*). No in-person paper-based filings or paper copies of any electronic filings will be accepted until further notice.

No response to this request for information is required if a currently valid Office of Management and Budget (''OMB'') number is not displayed; the OMB number is 3117 0016/USITC No. 24–5–626, expiration date June 30, 2026. Public reporting burden for the request is estimated to average 15 hours per response. Please send comments regarding the accuracy of this burden estimate to the Office of Investigations, U.S. International Trade Commission, 500 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20436.

Inability to provide requested information.—Pursuant to § 207.61(c) of the Commission's rules, any interested party that cannot furnish the information requested by this notice in the requested form and manner shall notify the Commission at the earliest possible time, provide a full explanation of why it cannot provide the requested information, and indicate alternative forms in which it can provide equivalent information. If an interested party does not provide this notification (or the Commission finds the explanation provided in the notification inadequate) and fails to provide a complete response to this notice, the Commission may take an adverse inference against the party pursuant to § 776(b) of the Act (19 U.S.C. 1677e(b))

in making its determinations in the reviews.

Information To Be Provided in Response to This Notice of Institution: If you are a domestic producer, union/worker group, or trade/business association; import/export *Subject Merchandise* from more than one *Subject Country;* or produce *Subject Merchandise* in more than one *Subject Country,* you may file a single response. If you do so, please ensure that your response to each question includes the information requested for each pertinent *Subject Country.* As used below, the term ''firm'' includes any related firms.

Those responding to this notice of institution are encouraged, but not required, to visit the USITC's website at *https://usitc.gov/reports/response_noi_worksheet,* where one can download and complete the ''NOI worksheet'' Excel form for the subject proceeding, to be included as attachment/exhibit 1 of your overall response.

(1) The name and address of your firm or entity (including World Wide Web address) and name, telephone number, fax number, and Email address of the certifying official.

(2) A statement indicating whether your firm/entity is an interested party under 19 U.S.C. 1677(9) and if so, how, including whether your firm/entity is a U.S. producer of the *Domestic Like Product,* a U.S. union or worker group, a U.S. importer of the *Subject Merchandise,* a foreign producer or exporter of the *Subject Merchandise,* a U.S. or foreign trade or business association (a majority of whose members are interested parties under the statute), or another interested party (including an explanation). If you are a union/worker group or trade/business association, identify the firms in which your workers are employed or which are members of your association.

(3) A statement indicating whether your firm/entity is willing to participate in this proceeding by providing information requested by the Commission.

(4) A statement of the likely effects of the revocation of the orders on the *Domestic Industry* in general and/or your firm/entity specifically. In your response, please discuss the various factors specified in section 752(a) of the Act (19 U.S.C. 1675a(a)) including the likely volume of subject imports, likely price effects of subject imports, and likely impact of imports of *Subject Merchandise* on the *Domestic Industry.*

(5) A list of all known and currently operating U.S. producers of the *Domestic Like Product.* Identify any known related parties and the nature of the relationship as defined in section 771(4)(B) of the Act (19 U.S.C. 1677(4)(B)).

(6) A list of all known and currently operating U.S. importers of the *Subject Merchandise* and producers of the *Subject Merchandise* in each *Subject Country* that currently export or have exported *Subject Merchandise* to the United States or other countries after 2018.

(7) A list of 3–5 leading purchasers in the U.S. market for the *Domestic Like Product* and the *Subject Merchandise* (including street address, World Wide Web address, and the name, telephone number, fax number, and Email address of a responsible official at each firm).

(8) A list of known sources of information on national or regional prices for the *Domestic Like Product* or the *Subject Merchandise* in the U.S. or other markets.

(9) If you are a U.S. producer of the *Domestic Like Product,* provide the following information on your firm's operations on that product during calendar year 2023, except as noted (report quantity data in short tons and value data in U.S. dollars, f.o.b. plant). If you are a union/worker group or trade/business association, provide the information, on an aggregate basis, for the firms in which your workers are employed/which are members of your association.

(a) Production (quantity) and, if known, an estimate of the percentage of total U.S. production of the *Domestic Like Product* accounted for by your firm's(s') production;

(b) Capacity (quantity) of your firm to produce the *Domestic Like Product* (that is, the level of production that your establishment(s) could reasonably have expected to attain during the year, assuming normal operating conditions (using equipment and machinery in place and ready to operate), normal operating levels (hours per week/weeks per year), time for downtime, maintenance, repair, and cleanup, and a typical or representative product mix);

(c) the quantity and value of U.S. commercial shipments of the *Domestic Like Product* produced in your U.S. plant(s);

(d) the quantity and value of U.S. internal consumption/company transfers of the *Domestic Like Product* produced in your U.S. plant(s); and

(e) the value of (i) net sales, (ii) cost of goods sold (COGS), (iii) gross profit, (iv) selling, general and administrative (SG&A) expenses, and (v) operating income of the *Domestic Like Product* produced in your U.S. plant(s) (include both U.S. and export commercial sales, internal consumption, and company transfers) for your most recently completed fiscal year (identify the date on which your fiscal year ends).

(10) If you are a U.S. importer or a trade/business association of U.S. importers of the *Subject Merchandise* from any *Subject Country,* provide the following information on your firm's(s') operations on that product during calendar year 2023 (report quantity data in short tons and value data in U.S. dollars). If you are a trade/business association, provide the information, on an aggregate basis, for the firms which are members of your association.

(a) The quantity and value (landed, duty-paid but not including antidumping or countervailing duties) of U.S. imports and, if known, an estimate of the percentage of total U.S. imports of *Subject Merchandise* from each *Subject Country* accounted for by your firm's(s') imports;

(b) the quantity and value (f.o.b. U.S. port, including antidumping and/or countervailing duties) of U.S. commercial shipments of *Subject Merchandise* imported from each *Subject Country;* and

(c) the quantity and value (f.o.b. U.S. port, including antidumping and/or countervailing duties) of U.S. internal consumption/company transfers of *Subject Merchandise* imported from each *Subject Country.*

(11) If you are a producer, an exporter, or a trade/business association of producers or exporters of the *Subject Merchandise* in any *Subject Country,* provide the following information on your firm's(s') operations on that product during calendar year 2023 (report quantity data in short tons and value data in U.S. dollars, landed and duty-paid at the U.S. port but not including antidumping or countervailing duties). If you are a trade/business association, provide the information, on an aggregate basis, for the firms which are members of your association.

(a) Production (quantity) and, if known, an estimate of the percentage of total production of *Subject Merchandise* in each *Subject Country* accounted for by your firm's(s') production;

(b) Capacity (quantity) of your firm(s) to produce the *Subject Merchandise* in each *Subject Country* (that is, the level of production that your establishment(s) could reasonably have expected to attain during the year, assuming normal operating conditions (using equipment and machinery in place and ready to operate), normal operating levels (hours per week/weeks per year), time for downtime, maintenance, repair, and cleanup, and a typical or representative product mix); and

(c) the quantity and value of your firm's(s') exports to the United States of *Subject Merchandise* and, if known, an estimate of the percentage of total exports to the United States of *Subject Merchandise* from each *Subject Country* accounted for by your firm's(s') exports.

(12) Identify significant changes, if any, in the supply and demand conditions or business cycle for the *Domestic Like Product* that have occurred in the United States or in the market for the *Subject Merchandise* in each *Subject Country* after 2018, and significant changes, if any, that are likely to occur within a reasonably foreseeable time. Supply conditions to consider include technology; production methods; development efforts; ability to increase production (including the shift of production facilities used for other products and the use, cost, or availability of major inputs into production); and factors related to the ability to shift supply among different national markets (including barriers to importation in foreign markets or changes in market demand abroad). Demand conditions to consider include end uses and applications; the existence and availability of substitute products; and the level of competition among the *Domestic Like Product* produced in the United States, *Subject Merchandise* produced in each *Subject Country,* and such merchandise from other countries.

(13) (OPTIONAL) A statement of whether you agree with the above definitions of the *Domestic Like Product* and *Domestic Industry;* if you disagree with either or both of these definitions, please explain why and provide alternative definitions.

Authority: This proceeding is being conducted under authority of title VII of the Tariff Act of 1930; this notice is published pursuant to § 207.61 of the Commission's rules.

By order of the Commission.

Issued: October 24, 2024.

Lisa Barton,

Secretary to the Commission.

[FR Doc. 2024–25124 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7020–02–P

INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

[Investigation No. 731–TA–1021 (Fourth Review)]

Malleable Iron Pipe Fittings From China; Institution of a Five-Year Review

AGENCY: United States International Trade Commission.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Commission hereby gives notice that it has instituted a review pursuant to the Tariff Act of 1930 (''the Act''), as amended, to determine whether revocation of the antidumping duty order on malleable iron pipe fittings from China would be likely to lead to continuation or recurrence of material injury. Pursuant to the Act, interested parties are requested to respond to this notice by submitting the information specified below to the Commission.

DATES: Instituted November 1, 2024. To be assured of consideration, the deadline for responses is December 2, 2024. Comments on the adequacy of responses may be filed with the Commission by January 2, 2025.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kenneth Gatten (202–708–1447), Office of Investigations, U.S. International Trade Commission, 500 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20436. Hearing-impaired persons can obtain information on this matter by contacting the Commission's TDD terminal on 202–205–1810. Persons with mobility impairments who will need special assistance in gaining access to the Commission should contact the Office of the Secretary at 202–205–2000. General information concerning the Commission may also be obtained by accessing its internet server (*https://www.usitc.gov*). The public record for this proceeding may be viewed on the Commission's electronic docket (EDIS) at *https://edis.usitc.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background.—On December 12, 2003, the Department of Commerce (''Commerce'') issued an antidumping duty order on imports of malleable iron pipe fittings from China (68 FR 69376). Commerce issued a continuation of the antidumping duty order on imports of malleable iron pipe fittings from China following Commerce's and the Commission's first five-year reviews, effective April 22, 2009 (74 FR 18349), second five-year reviews, effective August 12, 2014 (79 FR 47089), and third five-year reviews, effective December 4, 2019 (84 FR 66375). The Commission is now conducting a fourth review pursuant to section 751(c) of the Act, as amended (19 U.S.C. 1675(c)), to determine whether revocation of the order would be likely to lead to continuation or recurrence of material injury to the domestic industry within a reasonably foreseeable time. Provisions concerning the conduct of this proceeding may be found in the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure at 19 CFR part 201, subparts A and B, and 19 CFR part 207, subparts A and F. The Commission will assess the adequacy of interested party responses to this notice of institution to determine whether to conduct a full or expedited review. The Commission's determination in any expedited review will be based on the facts available, which may include information provided in response to this notice.

Definitions.—The following definitions apply to this review:

(1) *Subject Merchandise* is the class or kind of merchandise that is within the scope of the five-year review, as defined by Commerce.

(2) The *Subject Country* in this review is China.

(3) The *Domestic Like Product* is the domestically produced product or products which are like, or in the absence of like, most similar in characteristics and uses with, the *Subject Merchandise.* In its original determination and its expedited first, second, and third five-year review determinations, the Commission defined a single *Domestic Like Product* as malleable iron pipe fittings, other than grooved fittings, coextensive with Commerce's scope.

(4) The *Domestic Industry* is the U.S. producers as a whole of the *Domestic Like Product,* or those producers whose collective output of the *Domestic Like Product* constitutes a major proportion of the total domestic production of the product. In its original determination and its expedited first, second, and third five-year review determinations, the Commission defined the *Domestic Industry* as all producers of malleable iron pipe fittings.

(5) An *Importer* is any person or firm engaged, either directly or through a parent company or subsidiary, in importing the *Subject Merchandise* into the United States from a foreign manufacturer or through its selling agent.

Participation in the proceeding and public service list.—Persons, including industrial users of the *Subject Merchandise* and, if the merchandise is sold at the retail level, representative consumer organizations, wishing to participate in the proceeding as parties must file an entry of appearance with the Secretary to the Commission, as provided in § 201.11(b)(4) of the Commission's rules, no later than 21 days after publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**. The Secretary will maintain a public service list containing the names and addresses of all persons, or their representatives, who are parties to the proceeding.

Former Commission employees who are seeking to appear in Commission five-year reviews are advised that they may appear in a review even if they participated personally and substantially in the corresponding underlying original investigation or an earlier review of the same underlying investigation. The Commission's designated agency ethics official has advised that a five-year review is not the same particular matter as the underlying original investigation, and a five-year review is not the same particular matter as an earlier review of the same underlying investigation for purposes of 18 U.S.C. 207, the post-employment statute for Federal employees, and Commission rule 201.15(b) (19 CFR 201.15(b)), 79 FR 3246 (Jan. 17, 2014), 73 FR 24609 (May 5, 2008). Consequently, former employees are not required to seek Commission approval to appear in a review under Commission rule 19 CFR 201.15, even if the corresponding underlying original investigation or an earlier review of the same underlying investigation was pending when they were Commission employees. For further ethics advice on this matter, contact Charles Smith, Office of the General Counsel, at 202–205–3408.

Limited disclosure of business proprietary information (BPI) under an administrative protective order (APO) and APO service list.—Pursuant to § 207.7(a) of the Commission's rules, the Secretary will make BPI submitted in this proceeding available to authorized applicants under the APO issued in the proceeding, provided that the application is made no later than 21 days after publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**. Authorized applicants must represent interested parties, as defined in 19 U.S.C. 1677(9), who are parties to the proceeding. A separate service list will be maintained by the Secretary for those parties authorized to receive BPI under the APO.

Certification.—Pursuant to § 207.3 of the Commission's rules, any person submitting information to the Commission in connection with this proceeding must certify that the information is accurate and complete to the best of the submitter's knowledge. In making the certification, the submitter will acknowledge that information submitted in response to this request for information and throughout this proceeding or other proceeding may be disclosed to and used: (i) by the Commission, its employees and Offices, and contract personnel (a) for developing or maintaining the records of this or a related proceeding, or (b) in internal investigations, audits, reviews, and evaluations relating to the programs, personnel, and operations of the Commission including under 5 U.S.C. appendix 3; or (ii) by U.S. Government employees and contract personnel, solely for cybersecurity purposes. All contract personnel will sign appropriate nondisclosure agreements.

Written submissions.—Pursuant to § 207.61 of the Commission's rules, each interested party response to this notice must provide the information specified below. The deadline for filing such responses is 5:15 p.m. on December 2, 2024. Pursuant to § 207.62(b) of the Commission's rules, eligible parties (as specified in Commission rule 207.62(b)(1)) may also file comments concerning the adequacy of responses to the notice of institution and whether the Commission should conduct an expedited or full review. The deadline for filing such comments is 5:15 p.m. on January 2, 2025. All written submissions must conform with the provisions of § 201.8 of the Commission's rules; any submissions that contain BPI must also conform with the requirements of §§ 201.6, 207.3, and 207.7 of the Commission's rules. The Commission's *Handbook on Filing Procedures,* available on the Commission's website at *https://www.usitc.gov/documents/handbook_on_filing_procedures.pdf,* elaborates upon the Commission's procedures with respect to filings. Also, in accordance with §§ 201.16(c) and 207.3 of the Commission's rules, each document filed by a party to the proceeding must be served on all other parties to the proceeding (as identified by either the public or APO service list as appropriate), and a certificate of service must accompany the document (if you are not a party to the proceeding you do not need to serve your response).

Please note the Secretary's Office will accept only electronic filings at this time. Filings must be made through the Commission's Electronic Document Information System (EDIS, *https://edis.usitc.gov*). No in-person paper-based filings or paper copies of any electronic filings will be accepted until further notice.

No response to this request for information is required if a currently valid Office of Management and Budget (''OMB'') number is not displayed; the OMB number is 3117 0016/USITC No. 24–5–624, expiration date June 30, 2026. Public reporting burden for the request is estimated to average 15 hours per response. Please send comments regarding the accuracy of this burden estimate to the Office of Investigations, U.S. International Trade Commission, 500 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20436.

Inability to provide requested information.—Pursuant to § 207.61(c) of the Commission's rules, any interested party that cannot furnish the information requested by this notice in the requested form and manner shall notify the Commission at the earliest possible time, provide a full explanation of why it cannot provide the requested information, and indicate alternative forms in which it can provide equivalent information. If an interested party does not provide this notification (or the Commission finds the explanation provided in the notification inadequate) and fails to provide a complete response to this notice, the Commission may take an adverse inference against the party pursuant to § 776(b) of the Act (19 U.S.C. 1677e(b)) in making its determination in the review.

Information to be Provided in Response to this Notice of Institution: As used below, the term ''firm'' includes any related firms.

Those responding to this notice of institution are encouraged, but not required, to visit the USITC's website at *https://usitc.gov/reports/response_noi_worksheet,* where one can download and complete the ''NOI worksheet'' Excel form for the subject proceeding, to be included as attachment/exhibit 1 of your overall response.

(1) The name and address of your firm or entity (including World Wide Web address) and name, telephone number, fax number, and Email address of the certifying official.

(2) A statement indicating whether your firm/entity is an interested party under 19 U.S.C. 1677(9) and if so, how, including whether your firm/entity is a U.S. producer of the *Domestic Like Product,* a U.S. union or worker group, a U.S. importer of the *Subject Merchandise,* a foreign producer or exporter of the *Subject Merchandise,* a U.S. or foreign trade or business association (a majority of whose members are interested parties under the statute), or another interested party (including an explanation). If you are a union/worker group or trade/business association, identify the firms in which your workers are employed or which are members of your association.

(3) A statement indicating whether your firm/entity is willing to participate in this proceeding by providing information requested by the Commission.

(4) A statement of the likely effects of the revocation of the antidumping duty order on the *Domestic Industry* in general and/or your firm/entity

specifically. In your response, please discuss the various factors specified in section 752(a) of the Act (19 U.S.C. 1675a(a)) including the likely volume of subject imports, likely price effects of subject imports, and likely impact of imports of *Subject Merchandise* on the *Domestic Industry.*

(5) A list of all known and currently operating U.S. producers of the *Domestic Like Product.* Identify any known related parties and the nature of the relationship as defined in § 771(4)(B) of the Act (19 U.S.C. 1677(4)(B)).

(6) A list of all known and currently operating U.S. importers of the *Subject Merchandise* and producers of the *Subject Merchandise* in the *Subject Country* that currently export or have exported *Subject Merchandise* to the United States or other countries after 2018.

(7) A list of 3–5 leading purchasers in the U.S. market for the *Domestic Like Product* and the *Subject Merchandise* (including street address, World Wide Web address, and the name, telephone number, fax number, and Email address of a responsible official at each firm).

(8) A list of known sources of information on national or regional prices for the *Domestic Like Product* or the *Subject Merchandise* in the U.S. or other markets.

(9) If you are a U.S. producer of the *Domestic Like Product,* provide the following information on your firm's operations on that product during calendar year 2023, except as noted (report quantity data in short tons and value data in U.S. dollars, f.o.b. plant). If you are a union/worker group or trade/business association, provide the information, on an aggregate basis, for the firms in which your workers are employed/which are members of your association.

(a) Production (quantity) and, if known, an estimate of the percentage of total U.S. production of the *Domestic Like Product* accounted for by your firm's(s') production;

(b) Capacity (quantity) of your firm to produce the *Domestic Like Product* (that is, the level of production that your establishment(s) could reasonably have expected to attain during the year, assuming normal operating conditions (using equipment and machinery in place and ready to operate), normal operating levels (hours per week/weeks per year), time for downtime, maintenance, repair, and cleanup, and a typical or representative product mix);

(c) the quantity and value of U.S. commercial shipments of the *Domestic Like Product* produced in your U.S. plant(s);

(d) the quantity and value of U.S. internal consumption/company transfers of the *Domestic Like Product* produced in your U.S. plant(s); and

(e) the value of (i) net sales, (ii) cost of goods sold (COGS), (iii) gross profit, (iv) selling, general and administrative (SG&A) expenses, and (v) operating income of the *Domestic Like Product* produced in your U.S. plant(s) (include both U.S. and export commercial sales, internal consumption, and company transfers) for your most recently completed fiscal year (identify the date on which your fiscal year ends).

(10) If you are a U.S. importer or a trade/business association of U.S. importers of the *Subject Merchandise* from the *Subject Country,* provide the following information on your firm's(s') operations on that product during calendar year 2023 (report quantity data in short tons and value data in U.S. dollars). If you are a trade/business association, provide the information, on an aggregate basis, for the firms which are members of your association.

(a) The quantity and value (landed, duty-paid but not including antidumping duties) of U.S. imports and, if known, an estimate of the percentage of total U.S. imports of *Subject Merchandise* from the *Subject Country* accounted for by your firm's(s') imports;

(b) the quantity and value (f.o.b. U.S. port, including antidumping duties) of U.S. commercial shipments of *Subject Merchandise* imported from the *Subject Country;* and

(c) the quantity and value (f.o.b. U.S. port, including antidumping duties) of U.S. internal consumption/company transfers of *Subject Merchandise* imported from the *Subject Country.*

(11) If you are a producer, an exporter, or a trade/business association of producers or exporters of the *Subject Merchandise* in the *Subject Country,* provide the following information on your firm's(s') operations on that product during calendar year 2023 (report quantity data in short tons and value data in U.S. dollars, landed and duty-paid at the U.S. port but not including antidumping duties). If you are a trade/business association, provide the information, on an aggregate basis, for the firms which are members of your association.

(a) Production (quantity) and, if known, an estimate of the percentage of total production of *Subject Merchandise* in the *Subject Country* accounted for by your firm's(s') production;

(b) Capacity (quantity) of your firm(s) to produce the *Subject Merchandise* in the *Subject Country* (that is, the level of production that your establishment(s) could reasonably have expected to attain during the year, assuming normal operating conditions (using equipment and machinery in place and ready to operate), normal operating levels (hours per week/weeks per year), time for downtime, maintenance, repair, and cleanup, and a typical or representative product mix); and

(c) the quantity and value of your firm's(s') exports to the United States of *Subject Merchandise* and, if known, an estimate of the percentage of total exports to the United States of *Subject Merchandise* from the *Subject Country* accounted for by your firm's(s') exports.

(12) Identify significant changes, if any, in the supply and demand conditions or business cycle for the *Domestic Like Product* that have occurred in the United States or in the market for the *Subject Merchandise* in the *Subject Country* after 2018, and significant changes, if any, that are likely to occur within a reasonably foreseeable time. Supply conditions to consider include technology; production methods; development efforts; ability to increase production (including the shift of production facilities used for other products and the use, cost, or availability of major inputs into production); and factors related to the ability to shift supply among different national markets (including barriers to importation in foreign markets or changes in market demand abroad). Demand conditions to consider include end uses and applications; the existence and availability of substitute products; and the level of competition among the *Domestic Like Product* produced in the United States, *Subject Merchandise* produced in the *Subject Country,* and such merchandise from other countries.

(13) (OPTIONAL) A statement of whether you agree with the above definitions of the *Domestic Like Product* and *Domestic Industry;* if you disagree with either or both of these definitions, please explain why and provide alternative definitions.

Authority: This proceeding is being conducted under authority of title VII of the Tariff Act of 1930; this notice is published pursuant to § 207.61 of the Commission's rules.

Issued: October 24, 2024.

Lisa Barton,

Secretary to the Commission.

[FR Doc. 2024–25104 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7020–02–P

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request; Employment Information Form

ACTION: Notice of availability; request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Department of Labor (DOL) is submitting this Wage and Hour Division (WHD)-sponsored information collection request (ICR) to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA). Public comments on the ICR are invited.

DATES: The OMB will consider all written comments that the agency receives on or before December 2, 2024.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to *www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain.* Find this particular information collection by selecting ''Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments'' or by using the search function.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Nora Hernandez by telephone at 202–693–8633, or by email at *DOL_PRA_PUBLIC@dol.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Department of Labor's (Department) Wage and Hour Division (WHD) is authorized to administer and enforce a variety of laws that establish the minimum standards for wages and working conditions in the United States. Collectively, these labor standards cover most private, State, and local government employment. These labor laws range from some of the earliest labor protections passed by Congress to some of the most recent. Although they differ in scope, all of the statutes enforced by WHD are intended to protect and to promote the welfare of the nation's workforce; to provide opportunities for advancement; to ensure fair compensation for work performed; and to level the playing field for responsible employers. The Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) minimum wage provisions and the government contract prevailing wage laws provide a floor for the payment of fair wages, while the FLSA overtime provisions are intended to broaden work opportunities and promote employment. The Migrant and Seasonal Agricultural Worker Protection Act (MSPA) and the immigration programs establish working conditions intended to protect the wages and the safety and health of vulnerable workers; to ensure that the local labor force is not displaced by lower paid foreign or migrant labor; and ensure employers that obey the law are not disadvantaged. The McNamara-O'Hara Service Contract Act (SCA) requires contractors and subcontractors performing services on prime contracts in excess of $2,500 to pay service employees in various classes no less than the wage rates and fringe benefits found prevailing in the locality, or the rates (including prospective increases) contained in a predecessor contractor's collective bargaining agreement. The Davis-Bacon and Related Acts (DBRA) require payment of prevailing wages on federal funded or assisted construction projects. The Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) was enacted to help workers balance family and work responsibilities and help keep middle class families in the middle class by providing job protection, and the child labor provisions of the FLSA ensure the safe employment of young workers; encourage their educational endeavors; and provide a path to future employment. The Department also administers portions of the Consumer Credit Protection Act, various Executive orders (E.O.) such as E.O. 13658, E.O. 14026, and E.O. 14055.

In fiscal year 2023, WHD concluded 955 investigations that found child labor violations, a 14% increase from the previous year. WHD found nearly 5,800 children employed in violation of the law, an 88% increase since 2019, and assessed more than $8 million in penalties, an 83% increase from the previous year. At WHD, safeguarding children at work has always been our top priority. WHD investigations found a significant increase in children being employed illegally and in 2023 launched a National Strategic Enforcement Initiative on Child Labor to put additional emphasis on addressing this critical issue. As part of this initiative, the Department has designed a WHD contact form to better respond to potential child labor issues and potential complaints. This revision proposes to implement the contact form to better streamline Department responsiveness to child labor issues. For additional substantive information about this ICR, see the related notice published in the **Federal Register** on June 27, 2024 (89 FR 53656).

Comments are invited on: (1) whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Department, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) if the information will be processed and used in a timely manner; (3) the accuracy of the agency's estimates of the burden and cost of the collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (4) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information collection; and (5) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology. To help ensure appropriate consideration, comments should reference OMB Control Number 1235–0021.

This information collection is subject to the PRA. A Federal agency generally cannot conduct or sponsor a collection of information, and the public is generally not required to respond to an information collection, unless the OMB approves it and displays a currently valid OMB Control Number. In addition, notwithstanding any other provisions of law, no person shall generally be subject to penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information that does not display a valid OMB Control Number. See 5 CFR 1320.5(a) and 1320.6.

DOL seeks PRA authorization for this information collection for three (3) years. OMB authorization for an ICR cannot be for more than three (3) years without renewal. The DOL notes that information collection requirements submitted to the OMB for existing ICRs receive a month-to-month extension while they undergo review. The Department of Labor seeks an approval for the revision of this information collection to ensure effective administration of the laws administered by the WHD.

Agency: DOL–WHD.

Title of Collection: Employment Information Form.

OMB Control Number: 1235–0021.

Affected Public: Businesses or other for-profits, Farms.

Total Estimated Number of Respondents: 133,803.

Total Estimated Number of Responses: 133,803.

Total Estimated Annual Time Burden: 26,802 hours.

Total Estimated Annual Other Costs Burden: $0.

(Authority: 44 U.S.C. 3507(a)(1)(D))

Nora Hernandez,

PRA Department Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 2024–25504 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510–27–P

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Privacy Act of 1974; System of Records

AGENCY: Office of Workers Compensation Programs, Department of Labor.

ACTION: Notice of a new system of records.

SUMMARY: The Privacy Act of 1974 and Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular No. A–108 require that each agency publish notice of a new or modified system of records that it maintains. The Office of Workers Compensation proposes to add a new system of records for its Ombuds Office. The system consists of an online form for Ombud's Office inquiries and a database to store the information from the form so the Ombud's office can track the inquiry and the actions it is taking to resolve the issue.

DATES: Comments must be received no later than December 2, 2024. This modification is effective upon publication of this Notice. If no public comments are received, the routine uses will be effective beginning December 2, 2024. If DOL receives public comments, DOL will review the comments to determine whether any changes to the notice are necessary.

ADDRESSES: We invite you to submit comments on this notice. You may submit comments by any of the following methods:

- *Mail, hand delivery, or courier:* 200 Constitution Avenue NW, Room S–3524, Washington, DC 20210. In your comment, specify ''OWCP Ombuds File System, DOL/OWCP–14.''
- *The OWCP Ombud's Office at OWCP.Ombuds@dol.gov.*

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: To submit general questions about the system, contact Shalonda Cawthon by email at *OWCP.Ombuds@dol.gov* or (202) 343–5580 (this is not a toll-free number).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This notice is for a new system of records operated by the OWCP Ombuds Office for the Division of Federal Employees' Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation (DFELHWC) and Division of Coal Mine Workers' Compensation (DCMWC).

SYSTEM NAME AND NUMBER:

OWCP Ombuds File System, DOL/OWCP–14.

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION:

Unclassified.

SYSTEM LOCATION:

U.S. Department of Labor, OWCP, Ombuds Office—DFELHWC and DCMWC, Frances Perkins Building, 200 Constitution Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20210 and on the DOL Microsoft Azure Cloud.

SYSTEM MANAGER(S):

OWCP Ombudsperson for Division of Federal Employees' Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation (DFELHWC) and Division of Coal Mine Workers' Compensation (DCMWC), 200 Constitution Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20210.

AUTHORITY FOR MAINTENANCE OF THE SYSTEM:

a. 30 U.S.C. 901 *et seq.,* 20 CFR 725.1 *et seq.*

b. 33 U.S.C. 901 *et seq.* (20 CFR parts 701 *et seq.*); 36 DC Code 501 *et seq.;* 42 U.S.C. 1651 *et seq.;* 43 U.S.C. 1331 *et seq.;* 5 U.S.C. 8171 *et seq.*

c. 5 U.S.C. 8101 *et seq.,* 20 CFR 1.1 *et seq.*

PURPOSE(S) OF THE SYSTEM:

The OWCP Ombuds Office serves claimants and external interested parties who seek assistance with inquiries, individual concerns and achieving resolution to complaints related to the Division of Federal Employees', Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation (DFELHWC), and the Division of Coal Mine Workers' Compensation (DCMWC) programs. The Ombuds Office System will provide a mechanism for interested parties to submit inquiries and concerns. The system will also provide a method for the OWCP Ombuds Office to track inquiries and identify systemic issues impacting the customer experience.

CATEGORIES OF INDIVIDUALS COVERED BY THE SYSTEM:

Individual claimants or their survivors who are seeking benefits from the Division of Federal Employees', Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation (DFELHWC) or the Division of Coal Mine Workers' Compensation (DCMWC) programs as well as their authorized representatives, such as attorneys, family members or advocates who have been chosen by claimants to represent them in regard to their claims with OWCP.

CATEGORIES OF RECORDS IN THE SYSTEM:

This system may contain the following information gathered from the Ombuds Inquiry Form:

1. Date Inquiry Form Submitted.
2. Claimant First and Last Name.
3. Claimant Date of Birth.
4. OWCP Program.
5. Claim Number/Case I.D./OWCP Number.
6. Claimant Phone Number.
7. Claimant Email Address.
8. Claimant Home Address (street, city, state, zip code).
9. Authorized Representative First and Last Name (if applicable).
10. Authorized Representative Email Address (if applicable).
11. Inquiry/Concern Narrative.

In addition, the system will track information on the status of the inquiry and its resolution.

RECORD SOURCE CATEGORIES:

The source of the records is the Ombuds Inquiry Form, which is submitted by individual claimants (current federal employees, past federal employees, members of the public) or their survivors who are seeking the assistance of the Ombuds office in connection with benefits from the OWCP's DFELHWC and DCMWC programs as well as the authorized representatives of those individuals.

ROUTINE USES OF RECORDS MAINTAINED IN THE SYSTEM, INCLUDING CATEGORIES OF USERS AND THE PURPOSE OF SUCH USES:

The Ombuds Office may disclose relevant and necessary information for purpose of resolving an inquiry or concern, if consent is given by the claimant or authorized representative to share the information, as indicated on through the online Ombuds Inquiry Form. In addition to the disclosures contained in the DOL's Universal Routine Uses of Records,[1] a record from this system of records may be disclosed as follows:

a. To appropriate agencies, entities, and persons when (a) DOL suspects or has confirmed that there has been a breach of the system of records; (b) DOL has determined that as a result of the suspected or confirmed breach there is a risk of harm to individuals, DOL (including its information systems, programs, and operations), the Federal Government, or national security; and (c) the disclosure made to such agencies, entities, and persons is reasonably necessary to assist in connection with DOL's efforts to respond to the suspected or confirmed breach or to prevent, minimize, or remedy such harm.

b. To another Federal agency or Federal entity, when DOL determines that information from this system of records is reasonably necessary to assist the recipient agency or entity in (a) responding to a suspected or confirmed breach or (b) preventing, minimizing, or remedying the risk of harm to individuals, the recipient agency or

[1] *See https://www.dol.gov/general/privacy* under the heading ''System of Records Notices (SORNs).''

entity (including its information systems, programs, and operations), the Federal Government, or national security, resulting from a suspected or confirmed breach.

POLICIES AND PRACTICES FOR STORAGE OF RECORDS:

Files are stored electronically. Users will fill out an online Inquiry Form, which is saved to a dedicated SharePoint repository where information is analyzed by the OWCP Ombuds Office staff. It is a one-way transaction and after submitting the form, the submitter no longer has access to the information in the form that was submitted. The SharePoint repository is stored on the DOL Azure Cloud with periodic backup of the data to protect against system failure or loss. Other than backups there are no copies of the data stored outside the DOL Azure Cloud.

POLICIES AND PRACTICES FOR RETRIEVAL OF RECORDS:

Records are retrieved by claimant's name, claim number/ID number, program, and/or date of birth.

POLICIES AND PRACTICES FOR RETENTION AND DISPOSAL OF RECORDS:

The system maintains only PII that is necessary and relevant to accomplish the purpose for which it is being collected. It will be destroyed when 5 years old or when no longer needed for reference based on NARA approved Record Control Schedules DAA–0271–2017–0002–0002.

ADMINISTRATIVE, TECHNICAL, AND PHYSICAL SAFEGUARDS:

DOL uses a role-based access for the system's SharePoint files where only those expressly granted access by the system administrator can see the folder where the information is stored. Users can be granted read only or read/write access and access will be granted only to authorized personnel from the Ombud's Office. DOL works with Microsoft to ensure the security of the cloud environment. Controls include but are not limited to, firewalls, least privilege, role-based access, and two factor authentication. DOL assigns NIST 800–53 control requirements to the system.

RECORD ACCESS PROCEDURES:

If an individual wishes to access their own records in the system, the individual should contact OWCP directly and follow the instructions for making a Privacy Act Request on the DOL's web page at: *https://www.dol.gov/general/privacy/instructions.* The DOL also describes its process for requesting records under the Privacy Act in regulations at 29 CFR 71.2. Individuals who need additional assistance may also reach out to the DOL's Privacy Office by email at *privacy@dol.gov.*

CONTESTING RECORD PROCEDURES:

If an individual wishes to request a correction or amendment of a record, the individual should direct their request to OWCP directly. The request must be in writing and must identify:

- The name of the individual making the request,
- The particular record in question,
- The correction or amendment sought,
- The justification for the change, and
- Any other pertinent information to help identify the file.

Additional information can be found on the DOL's web page at: *https://www.dol.gov/general/privacy/instructions.* The DOL also describes its process for requesting a correction or amendment at 29 CFR 71.9. Individuals who need additional assistance may also reach out to the DOL's Privacy Office by email at *privacy@dol.gov.*

NOTIFICATION PROCEDURES:

If an individual wishes to know if a system contains information about the individual, the individual should contact OWCP directly and follow the instructions for making a Privacy Act Request on the DOL's web page at: *https://www.dol.gov/general/privacy/instructions.* The DOL also describes its process for requesting records under the Privacy Act in regulations at 29 CFR 71.2. Individuals who need additional assistance may also reach out to the DOL's Privacy Office by email at *privacy@dol.gov.*

EXEMPTIONS PROMULGATED FOR THE SYSTEM:

None.

HISTORY:

None. This is a new System of Records.

Signed at Washington, DC.

Carolyn Angus-Hornbuckle,

Assistant Secretary for Administration and Management.

[FR Doc. 2024–25410 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510–CK–P

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Privacy Act of 1974; System of Records

AGENCY: Employee Benefit Security Administration (EBSA), Department of Labor.

ACTION: Notice of a new system of records.

SUMMARY: The Privacy Act of 1974 and Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular No. A–108 requires that each agency publish notice of a new or modified system of records that it maintains. Section 523 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA), as added by the SECURE 2.0 Act of 2022, requires the Department of Labor (DOL) to create an online searchable database called the ''Retirement Savings Lost and Found.'' This notice proposes a new system of records for the Retirement Savings Lost and Found that contains information about individuals who are or were participants in certain workplace-sponsored retirement plans. The system is designed to help individuals who may have lost track of their retirement plan search for the contact information of the appropriate plan administrator and make a claim for benefits owed to them.

DATES: Comments must be received no later than December 2, 2024. This new SORN is effective upon publication of this Notice. If no public comments are received, the routine uses will be effective beginning December 2, 2024. If the DOL receives public comments, the DOL will review the comments to determine whether any changes to the notice are necessary.

ADDRESSES: We invite you to submit comments on this notice. You may submit comments by any of the following methods:

- *Email: ebsa.opr@dol.gov.*
- *Mail, hand delivery, or courier:* U.S. Department of Labor, Employee Benefits Security Administration, Office of Research and Analysis, Attention: PRA Officer, 200 Constitution Avenue NW, Room N–5718. In your comment, specify RSLF SORN.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: To submit general questions about the system of records, contact Stephen Sklenar by email at *sklenar.stephen.m@dol.gov* or by phone at (202) 693–8500.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 523 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA), as added by the SECURE 2.0 Act of 2022,[1] requires the Department of Labor (DOL) to create an online searchable database called the ''Retirement Savings Lost and Found'' (RSLF). The RSLF is designed to help individuals who may have lost track of a retirement plan to search for the

[1] *See* Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023, Public Law 117–328, division T, title III—Simplification and Clarification of Retirement Plan Rules, section 303; 136 Stat. 4459.

contact information of the plan administrator in order to make a claim with the plan administrator for benefits owed to them.

The RSLF is a secure online database that contains information about individuals who are, or were, participants in certain workplace-sponsored retirement plans. It has two portals: a public portal and an intake portal. The public portal allows individuals to search for information that enables them to locate the administrator of any plan with respect to which they are or were a participant. The intake portal allows plan administrators or authorized plan record keepers, to upload data into the database. Plan administrators or authorized plan record keepers are not required to submit this information to DOL. Uploading any such data is strictly voluntary.

Both portals use *Login.gov* to grant and manage user access. The public portal requires users to enter their Social Security number (SSN) as the search parameter. If positive results are found in plan administrator-provided data, the name and contact information of the plan administrator holding the benefits is displayed to authenticated users. No other information will be displayed. If no results are found, a negative results message is displayed.

In addition to data received directly from plan administrators, DOL will also receive benefit data on plan participants from the Social Security Administration (SSA) that is reported to SSA annually via the 8955–SSA Form. The SSA data will be extracted by SSA from its 8955–SSA database and securely delivered to EBSA as structured/tabular data in a common (*e.g.,* CSV) file format. If positive results are found in SSA-provided data, the name and contact information of the plan administrator holding the benefits and benefit information (*e.g.,* year reported, amount, type of annuity (if applicable), payment frequency, units/shares and account value(s)) is displayed to authenticated users. If no results are found, a negative results message is displayed.

Individuals will also be able to opt-out of having their data searchable. Limited information (*e.g.,* name, last 4 digits of SSN) used to match the opt-out request to any data in the RSLF, will be collected from individuals and stored in a separate opt-out table.

SYSTEM NAME AND NUMBER:

Retirement Savings Lost and Found, DOL/EBSA–16.

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION:

Unclassified.

SYSTEM LOCATION:

The address of the agency component responsible for the system of records is Employee Benefits Security Administration, 200 Constitution Ave. NW, Washington, DC. The system resides on DOL's secure cloud and data center computing infrastructure.

SYSTEM MANAGER(S):

Director, Office of Program Planning and Performance Evaluation (OPPEM), Employee Benefits Security Administration, 200 Constitution Ave. NW, Washington, DC, 20210.

AUTHORITY FOR MAINTENANCE OF THE SYSTEM:

Section 523 of ERISA (29 U.S.C. 1153).

PURPOSE(S) OF THE SYSTEM:

The RSLF is an online searchable database designed to help individuals who may have lost track of retirement plan assets to search for the contact information of the associated plan administrator and make a claim with the plan administrator for benefits owed to them.

CATEGORIES OF INDIVIDUALS COVERED BY THE SYSTEM:

Individuals who are or were a participant or beneficiary who may have vested, unclaimed retirement benefits with a plan to which the vesting standards of section 203 of ERISA (29 U.S.C. 1053) apply.

CATEGORIES OF RECORDS IN THE SYSTEM:

The system contains information about individuals who have vested retirement benefits with a plan to which the vesting standards of section 203 of ERISA (29 U.S.C. 1053) apply. The records include the participant's first name, middle initial, last name, Social Security number, the name of the plan, plan number, plan sponsor name, plan sponsor Employer Identification Number (EIN), plan sponsor phone number, plan administrator name, plan administrator EIN, plan administrator phone number, plan administrator address, participant Social Security Number (SSN), and participant name. The records also include benefit data on plan participants from the Social Security Administration (SSA) that is reported to SSA annually via the 8955–SSA Form including: benefit information—*e.g.,* year reported, amount, type of annuity (if applicable), payment frequency, units/shares and account value(s).

Individual who opt-out of the RSLF will have their first name, last name, and last 4 digits of SSN stored by DOL in an opt-out table.

RECORD SOURCE CATEGORIES:

The Social Security Administration (SSA) will provide DOL with information from IRS Form 8955–SSA filings, which plans are required to file each year.

The administrator of a plan described in 29 U.S.C. 1053 may voluntarily provide information about individuals who are 65 or older directly to DOL through the intake portal.

Individuals will provide information to DOL if they elect to opt-out of the RSLF.

ROUTINE USES OF RECORDS MAINTAINED IN THE SYSTEM, INCLUDING CATEGORIES OF USERS AND PURPOSES OF SUCH USES:

These routine uses specify circumstances, in addition to those provided by statute in the Privacy Act of 1974 at 5 U.S.C. 552a(b) and the uses described in section 523 of ERISA (29 U.S.C. 1153), under which DOL may disclose information from this system of records without the consent of the individual.

1. To appropriate agencies, entities, and persons when (a) DOL suspects or has confirmed that there has been a breach of the system of records; (b) DOL has determined that as a result of the suspected or confirmed breach there is a risk of harm to individuals, DOL (including its information systems, programs, and operations), the Federal Government, or national security; and (c) the disclosure made to such agencies, entities, and persons is reasonably necessary to assist in connection with DOL's efforts to respond to the suspected or confirmed breach or to prevent, minimize, or remedy such harm.

2. To another Federal agency or Federal entity, when DOL determines that information from this system of records is reasonably necessary to assist the recipient agency or entity in (a) responding to a suspected or confirmed breach or (b) preventing, minimizing, or remedying the risk of harm to individuals, the recipient agency or entity (including its information systems, programs, and operations), the Federal Government, or national security, resulting from a suspected or confirmed breach.

3. To contractors and employees of contractors who have been engaged to assist the agency in the performance of or working on a contract or other activity or service for the RSLF. However, no disclosure of data provided to DOL by SSA (from IRS Form 8955–SSA filings) will be made to contractors or employees of contractors. Disclosure will be limited to plan administrator-provided data.

Note: Recipients will be required to comply with the requirements of the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended, 5 U.S.C. 552a; see also 5 U.S.C. 552a(m).

POLICIES AND PRACTICES FOR STORAGE OF RECORDS:

The records are stored within secure databases that reside within the U.S. Department of Labor's secure cloud and data center computing infrastructure.

POLICIES AND PRACTICES FOR RETRIEVAL OF RECORDS:

Individuals searching for lost retirement benefits retrieve data from the system through the uses of a web-based search form which queries the databases, but must use Login.gov to obtain a credential that verifies that the individual is properly identity-proofed. EBSA Benefit Advisors will have access to RSLF data through searching on transaction number that public users will receive in (1) search of RSLF search (both successful and unsuccessful searches) and (2) opting-out from data being included in Lost & Found Search through the Ask EBSA webform. Members of the application support team will have the ability to retrieve information from the databases in order to perform data validation and integrity checks.

POLICIES AND PRACTICES FOR RETENTION AND DISPOSAL OF RECORDS:

Records received from SSA will be retained in accordance with statutory requirements and consistent with SSA's own records schedules associated with this data. These SSA retention policies include:

1. *Master Files of Social Security Number (SSN) Holders and SSN Applications, 60–0058* which classifies the records as ''TEMPORARY, [to] destroy 300 years after date of enumeration, or when no longer needed for Agency business, whichever is later.''

2. *Earnings Recording and Self-Employment Income System, 60–0059* which classifies the records as ''Temporary [to] delete/destroy the Earnings Recording and Self-Employment Income System record on an individual's SSN 300 years after the number holder's date of birth.''

If required, DOL will establish its own NARA Records Schedule apart from the above SSA schedules to remain consistent with their requirements. Plan administrator-provided data will adhere to the same retention timeframes.

All records will be disposed of in accordance with the DOL guidelines, NARA records retention schedule(s), and IRS Publication 1075, as applicable. For the 1075-covered data (*i.e.,* data received from SSA), DOL will dispose of data according to guidance in IRS Publication 1075.

ADMINISTRATIVE, TECHNICAL, AND PHYSICAL SAFEGUARDS:

Records in this system are safeguarded in accordance with applicable rules and policies, including all applicable DOL systems security and privacy policies. All DOL users are subject to a Code of Conduct that includes the requirement for confidentiality. DOL Personnel (employees, contractors, interns, volunteers) receive annual training on privacy and confidentiality policies and practices. Access to the PII is restricted to authorized personnel only. Appropriate NIST security and privacy controls for protecting PII are imposed. DOL users access the portal using government furnished computers which require a Personal Identity Verification card to login. Public users (IAL2-level identity authenticated) and Plan Administrator users rely upon *Login.gov* credentials for access. All data is encrypted at rest and in transit.

RECORD ACCESS PROCEDURES:

If an individual wishes to access their own data in the system, the individual should contact EBSA directly and follow the instructions for making a Privacy Act Request on the DOL's web page at: *https://www.dol.gov/general/privacy/instructions.* The DOL also describes its process for requesting records under the Privacy Act in regulations at 29 CFR 71.2. Individuals who need additional assistance may also reach out to the DOL's Privacy Office by email at *privacy@dol.gov.*

CONTESTING RECORD PROCEDURES:

If an individual wishes to request a correction or amendment of a record, the individual should send their request to EBSA directly. The request must be in writing and must identify:

- The name of the individual making the request,
- The particular record in question,
- The correction or amendment sought,
- The justification for the change, and
- Any other pertinent information to help identify the file.

Additional information can be found on the DOL's web page at: *https://www.dol.gov/general/privacy/instructions.* The DOL also describes its process for requesting a correction or amendment at 29 CFR 71.9. Individuals who need additional assistance may also reach out to the DOL's Privacy Office by email at *privacy@dol.gov.*

NOTIFICATION PROCEDURES:

If an individual wishes to know if a system contains information about the individual, the individual should contact EBSA directly and follow the instructions for making a Privacy Act Request on the DOL's web page at: *https://www.dol.gov/general/privacy/instructions.* The DOL also describes its process for requesting records under the Privacy Act in regulations at 29 CFR 71.2. Individuals who need additional assistance may also reach out to the DOL's Privacy Office by email at *privacy@dol.gov.*

EXEMPTIONS PROMULGATED FOR THE SYSTEM:

None.

HISTORY:

None.

Carolyn Angus-Hornbuckle,

Assistant Secretary for Administration and Management.

[FR Doc. 2024–25405 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510–29–P

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

[NASA Document No: NASA–24–076]

Astrophysics Advisory Committee; Correction

AGENCY: National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

ACTION: Notice of meeting, correction.

SUMMARY: NASA published a document in the **Federal Register** on October 29, 2024 concerning an Astrophysics Advisory Committee Meeting. The document needs to be updated to add language regarding the need to publish this notice less than 15 calendar days before meeting date.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jamie Krauk, 202–358–5210.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Correction

In the **Federal Register** of October 29, 2024, in FR Doc. 2024–25082, on page 85989, in the second column, add a final paragraph to the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section to read:

''Per § 102–3.150(b) of the FACA Final Rule, this notification is published with fewer than 15 calendar days notice as a result of exceptional circumstances that required substantive changes due to recent cybersecurity incidents.''

Emily Pellegrino,

Program Analyst, NASA Directives and Regulations.

[FR Doc. 2024–25459 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE P

NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION

[NARA–2025–005]

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: National Archives and Records Administration (NARA).

ACTION: Notice of proposed extension request.

SUMMARY: We are proposing to request an extension from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) of three currently approved information collections. People use the first information collection to request permission to film, photograph, or videotape at a NARA facility for news purposes. People use the second information collection to request permission to use NARA facilities for events in the Washington, DC, area, at a federal records center, or at a Presidential library. The third information collection, Independent Researcher Listing Application, NA Form 14115, is used by independent researchers to provide their contact information. We invite you to comment on these proposed information collections pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

DATES: We must receive written comments on or before December 31, 2024.

ADDRESSES: Send comments to Paperwork Reduction Act Comments (MP), Room 4100; National Archives and Records Administration; 8601 Adelphi Road; College Park, MD 20740–6001, or email them to *kellie.shipley@nara.gov.*

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kellie Shipley, Paperwork Reduction Act Officer, by email at *kellie.shipley@nara.gov* or by telephone at 301.837.0685 with requests for additional information or copies of the proposed information collection and supporting statement.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104–13), we invite the public and other Federal agencies to comment on proposed information collections. If you have comments or suggestions, they should address one or more of the following points: (a) whether the proposed information collection is necessary for NARA to properly perform its functions; (b) our estimate of the burden of the proposed information collection and its accuracy; (c) ways we could enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information we collect; (d) ways we could minimize the burden on respondents of collecting the information, including through information technology; and (e) whether the collection affects small businesses. We will summarize any comments you submit and include the summary in our request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record. In this notice, we solicit comments concerning the following information collections:

1. *Title:* Request to film, photograph, or videotape at a NARA facility for news purposes.

OMB number: 3095–0040.

Agency form number: NA Form 11010 (Use of Equipment Consent Waiver and Release).

Type of review: Regular.

Affected public: Business or other for-profit, not-for-profit institutions.

Estimated number of respondents: 350.

Estimated time per response: 10 minutes.

Frequency of response: On occasion.

Estimated total annual burden hours: 58.

Abstract: The information collection is prescribed by 36 CFR 1280.48. The collection is prepared by organizations that wish to film, photograph, or videotape on NARA property for news purposes. We need the information to determine if the request complies with NARA regulations, to ensure protection of archival holdings, and to schedule the filming appointment.

2. *Title:* Request to use NARA facilities in the Washington, DC, area, public spaces at Federal records centers, or Presidential library and grounds, for events.

OMB number: 3095–0043.

Agency form number: NA Form 16011 (Application and permit for use of space in Presidential library and grounds).

Type of review: Regular.

Affected public: Not-for-profit institutions, individuals or households, business or other for-profit, private organizations, Federal Government.

Estimated number of respondents: 300 for facilities in the Washington, DC, area and Federal records centers; 500 for Presidential library facilities and grounds.

Estimated time per response: 30 minutes for facilities in the Washington, DC, area and Federal records centers; 20 minutes for Presidential library facilities and grounds.

Frequency of response: On occasion.

Estimated total annual burden hours: 150 hours for facilities in the Washington, DC., area and Federal records centers; 165 hours for Presidential library facilities and grounds.

Abstract: The information collection is prescribed by 36 CFR 1280.64. Requesters submit the information when they wish to use NARA public areas in the Washington, DC, area or public spaces at Federal records centers for an event, or they submit the application to request the use of space in a Presidential library for a privately sponsored activity. We use the information to determine whether or not we can accommodate the request and date, whether the requested use meets the criteria in 36 CFR part 1280, and to ensure that the proposed event complies with NARA regulations.

3. *Title:* Independent Researcher Listing Application.

OMB number: 3095–0054.

Agency form numbers: NA Form 14115 (Independent Researcher Listing Application).

Type of review: Regular.

Affected public: Individuals or households.

Estimated number of respondents: 300.

Estimated time per response: 10 minutes.

Frequency of response: On occasion.

Estimated total annual burden hours: 50.

Abstract: In the past, the National Archives has made use of various lists of independent researchers who perform freelance research for hire in the Washington, DC, area. We have sent these lists upon request to researchers who could not travel to the metropolitan area to conduct their own research. To better accommodate both the public and NARA staff, the Archival Operations division of the National Archives maintains a listing of independent researchers for the public. All interested independent researchers provide their contact information via this form. Collecting contact and other key information from each independent researcher and providing such information to the public when deemed appropriate will only increase business. This form is not a burden in any way to any independent researcher who voluntarily submits a completed form. Inclusion on the list will not be viewed or advertised as an endorsement by the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). The listing is compiled and disseminated as a service to the public.

Sheena Burrell,

Executive for Information Services/CIO.

[FR Doc. 2024–25495 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7515–01–P

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Agency Information Collection Activities: Comment Request; National Science Foundation's Evaluation of the Robert Noyce Teacher Scholarship Program

AGENCY: National Science Foundation (NSF).

ACTION: Submission for OMB review; comment request.

SUMMARY: The National Science Foundation (NSF) has submitted the following information collection requirement to OMB for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. This is the second notice for public comment; the first was published in the **Federal Register**, and no comments were received. NSF is forwarding the proposed submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance simultaneously with the publication of this second notice.

DATES: Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to *www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAmain.* Find this particular information collection by selecting ''Currently Under 30-Day Review—Open for Public Comments'' or by using the search function.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Suzanne H. Plimpton, Reports Clearance Officer, National Science Foundation, 2415 Eisenhower Avenue, Alexandria, Virginia 22314; telephone (703) 292–7556; or send email to *splimpto@nsf.gov.* Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1–800–877–8339, which is accessible 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year (including Federal holidays).

Comments: Comments regarding (a) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the NSF, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the NSF's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, use, and clarity of the information on respondents; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology should be addressed to the points of contact in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section.

Copies of the submission may be obtained by calling 703–292–7556. NSF may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a currently valid OMB control number, and the agency informs potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information that such persons are not required to respond to the collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title of Collection: The Evaluation of the National Science Foundation's (NSF) Robert Noyce Teacher Scholarship Program.

OMB Number: 3145–NEW.

Abstract: The National Science Foundation (NSF) has been committed to broadening participation of underrepresented groups and diverse institutions in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) through an array of means. One way that NSF supports this is through its Robert Noyce Teacher Scholarship Program (Noyce Program; *https://www.nsfnoyce.org/*), which was authorized in 2002 under the National Science Foundation Authorization Act of 2002 (Pub. L. 107–368) and reauthorized in 2007 under the American COMPETES Act (Pub. L. 110–69; *https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/PLAW-110publ69/pdf/PLAW-110publ69.pdf*). The program provides funding to higher education institutions via (a) scholarships, (b) stipends, and (c) other means of programmatic support to recruit and prepare science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) majors and other professionals to become K–12 STEM teachers.

The overall goal of the Noyce Program is to ''increase the number of K–12 teachers with strong STEM content knowledge who teach in high-need school districts'' (The Robert Noyce Teacher Scholarship Program [*nsfnoyce.org*]). Specifically, the Noyce Program's goals include aiding in establishing and facilitating the awarding of scholarships, fellowships, funding, and programming that help to recruit, train, and retain K–12 STEM teachers for high-need school districts. Additional Noyce Program goals include supporting research on K–12 STEM teachers in high-need school districts to understand patterns of teacher retention and effectiveness in these settings. Program objectives for the Noyce Teacher Scholarship Program include increasing the (a) number and (b) diversity of students from groups underrepresented in STEM fields who pursue careers in K–12 STEM teaching, especially in high-need school districts.

The NSF STEM Education (EDU) Directorate requests the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval of this clearance to initiate new data collections to be conducted as part of an external evaluation of the Robert Noyce Teacher Scholarship Program. These collections, to be conducted by the evaluation contractor, include:

Demographic Questionnaire. A one-time, web-based survey of selected individuals who have been involved in various aspects of NSF's Robert Noyce Teacher Scholarship Program from FY2014 to FY2024 (*i.e.,* PIs, program coordinators, faculty, current and former scholars/fellows, K–12 school leaders, external evaluators) as well as representative individuals who are eligible for Noyce funding but have not received it. The purpose of this questionnaire is to (a) ensure that the participants recruited are diverse, and (b) support the qualitative data analytic approaches. Information about the respondents that will be captured within the questionnaire will include demographic data (*e.g.,* race/ethnicity, gender identity), length of time with the institution, and experience with the Noyce Program (as applicable). The survey data will enable NSF to supplement the information gleaned from the interviews and focus groups, encouraging further understanding of what is working well and growth opportunities for the Noyce Program.

Interviews with Principal Investigators. Interviews with a purposive sample of up to 50 PIs or Co-PIs who had NSF's Robert Noyce Teacher Scholarship Program funded between FY2014 and FY2024. The interviews will be conducted either in-person during the annual Noyce Summit (2025), in-person during regional Noyce conferences (Fall 2024–Summer 2025), or using a virtual meeting platform at a time convenient for the respondents. The interviews will elicit information about how the Noyce Program can support the STEM teacher preparation field, the impact of the award, barriers and facilitators to applying for Noyce funding, and how changes to the solicitation over the past 10 years have impacted the perception of the Noyce award, as well as perceptions of the merit review process. This information will be triangulated with the other data collected as well as with information from the review of documents to provide a holistic understanding of the context of the

Noyce Program, what is working well, and growth opportunities.

Interviews with Eligible Individuals Who Have Not Received NSF's Robert Noyce Teacher Scholarship Program Funding. Interviews with a purposive sample of up to 20 representatives who are eligible for Noyce funding but have not received it. This sample includes individuals who have never applied for Noyce funding and those who have applied for but not received Noyce funding. The interviews will be conducted either in-person during the annual Noyce Summit (2025), in-person during regional Noyce conferences (Fall 2024–Summer 2025), or using a virtual meeting platform at a time convenient for the respondents. These interviews will elicit information about how the Noyce Program can support the STEM teacher preparation field, the impact of the award, barriers and facilitators to applying for Noyce funding, and how changes to the solicitation over the past 10 years have impacted the perception of the Noyce award (as applicable to the representatives' roles).

Focus groups. A series of up to 115 focus groups are also planned, including program coordinators/program staff, faculty, current scholars/fellows, former scholars/fellows, high-need K–12 school and district leaders, external evaluators, American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) staff, and current and former NSF staff. This may include a total of up to 469 respondents. The focus groups will be conducted either in-person during the annual Noyce Summit (in 2025), in-person during regional Noyce events (Fall 2024–Summer 2025), or using a virtual meeting platform at a time convenient for the respondents, and will elicit information about how the Noyce Program can support the STEM teacher preparation field, the impact of the award, barriers and facilitators to applying for Noyce funding, and how changes to the solicitation over the past 10 years has impacted the perception of the Noyce award, as well as perceptions of the merit review process as applicable to the representatives' roles.

This data collection is necessary to provide NSF with actionable information about the overall context of the Robert Noyce Teacher Scholarship Program, as well as to (a) understand overall perceptions of the Program from both Noyce and non-Noyce recipients, and (b) identify what is working well and opportunities for growth. This information will help support the overall goal of increasing the number and diversity of qualified teachers within the STEM education field. Further, the need is grounded in the importance and value of producing a diverse pool of STEM professionals who choose to pursue a career as a K–12 STEM teacher in a high-need school/school district.

Use of the Information: Aggregate results from the demographic questionnaire, interviews, and focus groups will be synthesized and summarized in reports developed by the evaluation contractor that will be provided to NSF. Although questionnaire, interview, and focus group responses will be identifiable to the contractor, the reports provided to NSF will only include overall findings. No individual-level responses will be attributable to an individual respondent. Additionally, no information about individuals participating in the data collection activities will be released to anyone outside the contractor's organization. The data collected and reported on will be used for planning, management, and evaluation purposes only. These data are needed for effective administration, program monitoring, evaluation, and for strategic reviews and measuring attainment of NSF's program and strategic goals, as identified by the President's Accountable Government Initiative, the Government Performance and Results Act Modernization Act of 2010, Evidence-Based Policymaking Act of 2018, and NSF's Strategic Plan.

Expected Respondents: The respondents are Principal Investigators (PIs), representatives who are eligible for NSF's Robert Noyce Teacher Scholarship Program funding but have not received it (Potential PIs), program coordinators/program staff, faculty, current and former scholars/fellows, high-need K–12 school and district leaders, external evaluators, American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) staff, and current and former NSF staff.

The demographic questionnaire respondents will include up to 78 PIs with Noyce awards between FY2014 to FY2024, up to 56 representatives who are eligible for NSF's Robert Noyce Teacher Scholarship Program funding but have not received it, up to 94 program coordinators/program staff, up to 188 faculty, up to 125 current scholars/fellows, up to 100 former scholars/fellows, up to 125 high-need K–12 school and district leaders, and up to 63 external evaluators (approximately 827 total respondents).

The interviews will include up to 50 PIs with NSF's Robert Noyce Teacher Scholarship Program awards between FY2014 to FY2024 and up to 20 representatives who are eligible for funding but have not received it (Potential PIs), all of whom will also have completed the questionnaire (approximately 70 total). The focus groups will include up to 60 program coordinators/program staff, up to 120 faculty, up to 80 current scholars/fellows, up to 64 former scholars/fellows, up to 80 high-need K–12 school and district leaders, and up to 40 external evaluators, all of whom will have also completed the questionnaire. Additionally, up to 3 AAAS staff, up to 6 current NSF staff, and up to 16 former NSF staff are expected to participate in focus groups (approximately 469 total respondents).

Estimate of Burden

Estimates of Annualized Cost to Respondents for the Hour Burdens

The overall annualized cost to the respondents is estimated to be $50,455.69. The hourly wage estimates for completing the interviews mentioned in the burden hours table are based on information from the Bureau of Labor Statistics website (*http://www.bls.gov*) and average GS-15-Step 5 for the current POs (*https://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/pay-leave/salaries-wages/salary-tables/24Tables/html/GS_h.aspx*). Specifically, the ''May 2023 National Occupational Employment and Wage Estimates'' were used. For Principal Investigators, faculty, external evaluators, and former NSF staff, 25–1000 ''Postsecondary Teachers'' was used; for this, the average hourly rate was calculated for a 9-month contract because an hourly rate was unavailable. For program coordinators, 25–9031 ''Instructional Coordinators'' was used; for representatives who are eligible for NSF's Robert Noyce Teacher Scholarship Program funding but have not received it, 11–9033 ''Education Administrators, Postsecondary'' was used; for Current and Former Scholars/Fellows, 25–2000 ''Preschool, Elementary, Middle, Secondary, and Special Education Teachers'' was used (for this, the average hourly rate was calculated for a 9-month contract because an hourly rate was unavailable); for K–12 School Leaders, 11–9032 ''Education Administrators, Kindergarten through Secondary'' was used (for this, the average hourly rate was calculated for a 9-month contract because an hourly rate was unavailable); and for AAAS staff, 19–0000 ''Life, Physical and Social Science Occupations'' was used.

Respondent type	Collection title	Total number of respondents in category	Burden hours per respondent	Total hours burden	Average hourly rate estimate	Estimated annual cost
Pretest:						
PIs	Pretest Demographic Questionnaire	1	0.33	0.33	70.66	23.32
Potential PIs		1	0.33	0.33	58.66	19.36
External Evaluators		1	0.33	0.33	70.66	23.32
PIs	Pretest Principal Investigator Interview Protocol.	5	1	5	70.66	353.30
Potential PIs	Pretest Potential Principal Investigator Interview Protocol.	3	1	3	58.66	175.98
Current Scholars/Fellows	Pretest Scholars and Fellows Focus Group Protocol.	4	1	4	47.84	191.36
Program Coordinators	Pretest Program Coordinator Focus Group Protocol.	1	1	1	37.12	37.12
External Evaluators	Pretest External Evaluators Focus Group Protocol.	1	1	1	70.66	70.66
Demographic Questionnaire:						
PIs	Demographic Questionnaire	78	0.33	25.74	70.66	1,818.79
Potential PIs		56	0.33	18.48	58.66	1,084.01
Program Coordinators		94	0.33	31.02	37.12	1,151.46
Faculty		188	0.33	62.04	70.66	4,383.75
External Evaluators		63	0.33	20.79	70.66	1,469.02
Current Scholars/Fellows		125	0.33	41.25	47.84	1,973.40
Former Scholars/Fellows		100	0.33	33	47.84	1,578.72
High Need K–12 School Leaders.		125	0.33	41.25	77.10	3,180.38
Interviews:						
PIs	Principal Investigator Interview Protocol.	50	1	50	70.66	3,532.99
Potential PIs	Potential Principal Investigator Interview Protocol.	20	1	20	58.66	1,173.20
Focus Groups:						
Program Coordinators	Program Coordinator Focus Group Protocol.	60	1	60	37.12	2,227.20
Faculty	Faculty Focus Group Protocol	120	1	120	70.66	8,479.17
External Evaluators	External Evaluators Focus Group Protocol.	40	1	40	70.66	2,826.39
Current Scholars/Fellows	Current Scholars/Fellows Focus Group Protocol.	80	1	80	47.84	3,827.22
Former Scholars/Fellows	Former Scholars/Fellows Focus Group Protocol.	64	1	64	47.84	3,061.78
High Need K–12 School Leaders.	High Need K–12 School/District Leaders Focus Group Protocol.	80	1	80	77.10	6,167.78
AAAS Staff	AAAS Staff Focus Group Protocol	3	1	3	42.24	126.72
Current NSF Staff	Current and Former NSF Staff Focus Group Protocol.	6	1	6	66.82	400.92
Former NSF Staff	Current and Former NSF Staff Focus Group Protocol.	16	1	16	70.66	1,130.56
Total		556		827.04		50,455.69

Estimated Number of Responses per Report

It is estimated that there will be up to 1,366 responses (which does not include the 17 pretest responses). Up to 827 of these responses will be from the demographic questionnaire (excluding the 3 from the pretest), up to 70 from the interviews (excluding the 8 from the pretest), and up to 469 for the focus groups from those directly or indirectly affiliated with institutions eligible to receive Noyce funding (excluding the 6 from the pretest).

Dated: October 28, 2024.

Suzanne H. Plimpton,

Reports Clearance Officer, National Science Foundation.

[FR Doc. 2024–25439 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE P

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Agency Information Collection Activities: Comment Request; National Science Foundation (NSF) Innovation Corps (I-Corps™) Program Pre-Submission Executive Summary Form

AGENCY: National Science Foundation.

ACTION: Submission for OMB review; comment request.

SUMMARY: The National Science Foundation (NSF) has submitted the following information collection requirement to OMB for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. This is the second notice for public comment; the first was published in the **Federal Register**, and no comments were received. NSF is forwarding the proposed submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance simultaneously with the publication of this second notice.

DATES: Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to *www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAmain.* Find this particular information collection by selecting ''Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments'' or by using the search function.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Suzanne H. Plimpton, Reports Clearance Officer, National Science Foundation, 2415 Eisenhower Avenue, Alexandria, Virginia 22314; telephone (703) 292–7556; or send email to *splimpto@nsf.gov.* Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1–800–877–8339, which is accessible 24 hours a

day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year (including Federal holidays).

Comments: Comments regarding (a) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the NSF, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the NSF's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, use, and clarity of the information on respondents; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology should be addressed to the points of contact in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section.

Copies of the submission may be obtained by calling 703–292–7556. NSF may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a currently valid OMB control number, and the agency informs potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information that such persons are not required to respond to the collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title of Collection: National Science Foundation (NSF) Innovation Corps (I-Corps™) Program Pre-submission Executive Summary Form.

OMB Control No.: 3145–NEW.

Abstract: The NSF Innovation Corps (I-Corps) Teams Program Pre-Submission Executive Summary is an important component of the NSF I-Corps Teams pre-submission process and conveys information needed to direct the proposed team project to the appropriate NSF Program Director (PD) for review and possible proposal submission invitation. This Executive Summary (ES) is to be submitted by the applying team to the cognizant I-Corps Team's PD outlining solicitation-specific aspects of the project (such as proposed team members, technology, commercial application and NSF lineage). In the past, this ES was submitted via email as an attached two-page (maximum) document and was often in varying formats or missing some parts of the required ES elements. The NSF I-Corps Teams Executive Summary Form captures the same requested information, as outlined in NSF I-Corps Teams Program solicitation, but all within one secure, web-based form. In specific, the form collects submitting team member information (composition, roles and a brief description of each member's qualifications), Principal Investigator (PI) information (and a brief description of their connection to the team), NSF lineage (relevant current or previous NSF awards), brief descriptions of the core technology, the potential commercial application, and the current commercialization plan for the proposed technology. If the proposed I-Corps Team is applying based on participation in a local or regional NSF I-Corps Hub, Node or Site training session, the form will provide fields for the applying team to complete regarding the associated I-Corps Hub, Node or Site senior member's contact information (as a reference), the date of participation, and location of the associated Hub, Node or Site program.

Respondents: Investigators who submit proposals to NSF's I-Corps Teams Program.

Estimated Number of Annual Respondents: 1,500.

Burden on the Public: 1 hour (per response) for an annual total of 1,500 hours.

Dated: October 28, 2024.

Suzanne H. Plimpton,

Reports Clearance Officer, National Science Foundation.

[FR Doc. 2024–25437 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555–01–P

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Sunshine Act Meetings

The National Science Board hereby gives notice of the scheduling of a teleconference of the National Science Board/National Science Foundation Commission on Merit Review (MRX) for the transaction of National Science Board business pursuant to the NSF Act and the Government in the Sunshine Act.

TIME AND DATE: The MRX meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 4, 2024, from 4:00 p.m.–6:00 p.m. Eastern.

PLACE: This meeting will be via videoconference through the National Science Foundation, 2415 Eisenhower Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22314.

STATUS: Closed

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED: The agenda is: Commission Chair's remarks about the agenda; Discussion of Revised Recommendations and Guidance and Draft Policy Language; and Commission Chair's closing remarks.

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION: Point of contact for this meeting is: Chris Blair, *cblair@nsf.gov,* 703/292–7000. Meeting information and updates may be found at *www.nsf.gov/nsb.*

Ann E Bushmiller,

Senior Counsel to the National Science Board.

[FR Doc. 2024–25599 Filed 10–30–24; 4:15 pm]

BILLING CODE 7555–01–P

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Agency Information Collection Activities: Comment Request; Office of Integrative Activities

AGENCY: National Science Foundation.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The National Science Foundation (NSF) is announcing plans to establish this collection. In accordance with the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, we are providing opportunity for public comment on this action. After obtaining and considering public comment, NSF will prepare the submission requesting Office of Management and Budget (OMB) clearance of this collection for no longer than 3 years.

DATES: Written comments on this notice must be received by December 31, 2024 to be assured consideration. Comments received after that date will be considered to the extent practicable. Send comments to address below.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Suzanne H. Plimpton, Reports Clearance Officer, National Science Foundation, 2415 Eisenhower Avenue, Alexandria, Virginia 22314; telephone (703) 292–7556; or send email to *splimpto@nsf.gov.* Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1–800–877–8339, which is accessible 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year (including Federal holidays).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title of Collection: Public Engagement with Science Initiative.

OMB Control No.: 3145–New.

Expiration Date of Approval: Not applicable.

Abstract: The Public Engagement with Science Initiative aims to engage the U.S. public in a national conversation on the value of science and engineering. We seek input from a broad cross section of the U.S. public on the questions and issues they would like researchers to address. Data collection, via an open format question, will gather insights from a diverse array of voices across the nation. This Initiative will meaningfully engage a broad cross-section of the U.S. public through external partners, trusted messengers,

and a broad array of communication channels. The Initiative will help NSF learn which science and engineering questions resonate most with the public.

Promoting interactions between scientists and non-scientists about what scientists and engineers do and how this affects people's everyday lives will increase public understanding of and interest in science. This will enhance interest in STEM education, workforce development and careers in STEM, and support for science and engineering research, all of which enhance NSF's ability to fulfill its mission to promote the progress of science. This Initiative supports a core value of NSF, promoting inclusion. It is focused on reaching a broad cross-section of the U.S. population, including people and places who have historically been underrepresented in STEM. This Initiative also supports NSF's FY25 budget priorities of inspiring the missing millions and creating opportunities everywhere.

Additionally, several Executive orders (E.O.s) underscore the importance of diversity and inclusion in science and engineering. E.O.s 13583 and 14035 highlight the need for equity in the federal workforce, while E.O. 13985 promotes racial equity across government programs. By aligning with these policies, this initiative aims to ensure diverse representation in STEM fields and incorporate the perspectives of all Americans. Furthermore, the Evidence Act further emphasizes the use of data-driven decision-making and evidence-based practices in federal programs. Data collected from this public engagement initiative can inform NSF's strategies and actions, ensuring they are responsive to the U.S. public needs and perspectives. The Public Engagement with Science Initiative not only advances NSF's mission but also supports the broader federal agenda for equity, inclusion, and representation in science and engineering.

Respondents: Individuals.

Estimated Number of Annual Respondents: Approximately 1–2.5 million.

Burden on the Public: Estimated less than 5 minutes to submit a question. The estimated burden time is approximately 83,000 hours or less.

Dated: October 28, 2024.

Suzanne H. Plimpton,

Reports Clearance Officer, National Science Foundation.

[FR Doc. 2024–25438 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555–01–P

NEIGHBORHOOD REINVESTMENT CORPORATION

Sunshine Act Meetings

TIME AND DATE: 3:30 p.m., Thursday, November 7, 2024

PLACE: via ZOOM

STATUS: Parts of this meeting will be open to the public. The rest of the meeting will be closed to the public.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED: Audit Committee of the Board of Directors meeting.

The General Counsel of the Corporation has certified that in her opinion, one or more of the exemptions set forth in the Government in the Sunshine Act, 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(2) permit closure of the following portion(s) of this meeting:

- Executive (Closed) Session

Agenda

I. Call to Order

II. Sunshine Act Approval of Executive (Closed) Session

III. Executive Session: Quality Assurance Review (QAR) Report and Presentation by Cohn Reznick

IV. Executive Session: GAO Workplan Update

V. Executive Session: FY2024 External Audit Update

VI. Executive Session: Executive Session With Chief Audit Executive

VII. Action Item: Approval of Quality Assurance Review (QAR) by Cohn Reznick

VIII. Action Item: FY2025/26 Internal Audit Plan and Risk Assessment

IX. Action Item: Audit Review of Cyber-Attack Identification and Response

X. Discussion Item: Internal Audit Status Reports

XI. Discussion Item: Management Reports

PORTIONS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: Everything except the Executive (Closed) Session.

PORTIONS CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC: Executive (Closed) Session.

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION: Jenna Sylvester, Paralegal, (202) 568–2560; *jsylvester@nw.org.*

Jenna Sylvester,

Paralegal.

[FR Doc. 2024–25607 Filed 10–30–24; 4:15 pm]

BILLING CODE 7570–01–P

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[NRC–2024–0001]

Sunshine Act Meetings

TIME AND DATE: Weeks of November 4, 11, 18, 25, and December 2, 9, 2024. The schedule for Commission meetings is subject to change on short notice. The NRC Commission Meeting Schedule can be found on the internet at: *https://www.nrc.gov/public-involve/public-meetings/schedule.html.*

PLACE: The NRC provides reasonable accommodation to individuals with disabilities where appropriate. If you need a reasonable accommodation to participate in these public meetings or need this meeting notice or the transcript or other information from the public meetings in another format (*e.g.,* braille, large print), please notify Anne Silk, NRC Disability Program Specialist, at 301–287–0745, by videophone at 240–428–3217, or by email at *Anne.Silk@nrc.gov.* Determinations on requests for reasonable accommodation will be made on a case-by-case basis.

STATUS: Public.

Members of the public may request to receive the information in these notices electronically. If you would like to be added to the distribution, please contact the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Office of the Secretary, Washington, DC 20555, at 301–415–1969, or by email at *Betty.Thweatt@nrc.gov* or *Samantha.Miklaszewski@nrc.gov.*

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:

Week of November 4, 2024

There are no meetings scheduled for the week of November 4, 2024.

Week of November 11, 2024—Tentative

Thursday, November 14, 2024

9:00 a.m. Strategic Programmatic Overview of the Operating Reactors and New Reactors Business Lines (Public Meeting) (Contact: Annie Ramirez: 301–415–6780)

Additional Information: The meeting will be held in the Commissioners' Hearing Room, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland. The public is invited to attend the Commission's meeting in person or watch live via webcast at the Web address—*https://video.nrc.gov/.*

Week of November 18, 2024—Tentative

There are no meetings scheduled for the week of November 18, 2024.

Week of November 25, 2024—Tentative

There are no meetings scheduled for the week of November 25, 2024.

Week of December 2, 2024—Tentative

Thursday, December 5, 2024

10:00 a.m. Briefing on Equal Employment Opportunity, Affirmative Employment, and Small Business (Public Meeting) (Contact: Erin Deeds: 301–415–2887)

Additional Information: The meeting will be held in the Commissioners' Hearing Room, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland. The public is invited to attend the Commission's meeting in person or watch live via webcast at the Web address—*https://video.nrc.gov/.*

Week of December 9, 2024—Tentative

There are no meetings scheduled for the week of December 9, 2024.

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION: For more information or to verify the status of meetings, contact Wesley Held at 301–287–3591 or via email at *Wesley.Held@nrc.gov.*

The NRC is holding the meetings under the authority of the Government in the Sunshine Act, 5 U.S.C. 552b.

Dated: October 30, 2024.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Wesley W. Held,

Policy Coordinator, Office of the Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2024–25574 Filed 10–30–24; 11:15 am]

BILLING CODE 7590–01–P

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket Nos. 50–275 and 50–323; NRC–2023–0192]

Pacific Gas and Electric Company; Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant, Units 1 and 2; Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement

AGENCY: Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Public meetings and request for comment.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is issuing for public comment draft Supplement 62 to the Generic Environmental Impact Statement (GEIS) for License Renewal of Nuclear Plants, NUREG–1437, regarding the proposed renewal of Facility Operating License Nos. DPR–80 and DPR–82 for an additional 20 years for Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant, Units 1 and 2 (Diablo Canyon). Diablo Canyon is located in San Luis Obispo County, California, approximately 12 miles west-southwest of San Luis Obispo. Possible alternatives to the proposed action of license renewal for Diablo Canyon include the no-action alternative and replacement power alternatives.

DATES: The NRC will hold a virtual public meeting on November 14, 2024, at 10 a.m. pacific time (PT) and an in-person public meeting on November 20, 2024, at 6 p.m. PT. The public meeting details can be found on the NRC's Public Meeting Schedule at *https://www.nrc.gov/pmns/mtg.* Members of the public are invited to submit comments by December 16, 2024. Comments received after that date will be considered if it is practical to do so, but the NRC is able to ensure consideration only for comments received on or before that date.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments by any of the following methods; however, the NRC encourages electronic comment submission through the Federal rulemaking website:

- *Federal Rulemaking Website:* Go to *https://www.regulations.gov* and search for Docket ID NRC–2023–0192. Address questions about Docket IDs in *Regulations.gov* to Stacy Schumann; telephone: 301–415–0624; email: *Stacy.Schumann@nrc.gov.* For technical questions, contact the individual listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this document.
- *Email:* Comments may be submitted to the NRC electronically using the email address *DiabloCanyonEnvironmental@nrc.gov.*
- *Mail comments to:* Office of Administration, Mail Stop: TWFN–7–A60M, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555–0001, ATTN: Program Management, Announcements and Editing Staff.

For additional direction on obtaining information and submitting comments, see ''Obtaining Information and Submitting Comments'' in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section of this document.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kim Conway, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555–0001; telephone: 301–415–1335; email: *Kimberly.Conway@nrc.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Obtaining Information and Submitting Comments

A. Obtaining Information

Please refer to Docket ID NRC–2023–0192 when contacting the NRC about the availability of information for this action. You may obtain publicly available information related to this action using any of the following methods:

- *Federal Rulemaking Website:* Go to *https://www.regulations.gov* and search for Docket ID NRC–2023–0192.
- *NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS):* You may obtain publicly available documents online in the ADAMS Public Documents collection at *https://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html.* To begin the search, select ''Begin Web-based ADAMS Search.'' For problems with ADAMS, please contact the NRC's Public Document Room (PDR) reference staff at 1–800–397–4209, at 301–415–4737, or by email to *PDR.Resource@nrc.gov.* Draft Supplement 62 to the GEIS for License Renewal of Nuclear Plants, NUREG–1437, is available in ADAMS under Accession No. ML24299A167.
- *NRC's PDR:* The PDR, where you may examine and order copies of publicly available documents, is open by appointment. To make an appointment to visit the PDR, please send an email to *PDR.Resource@nrc.gov* or call 1–800–397–4209 or 301–415–4737, between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. eastern time, Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.
- *Public Library:* A copy of draft Supplement 62 to the GEIS for License Renewal of Nuclear Plants, NUREG–1437, regarding the proposed renewal of Facility Operating License Nos. DPR–80 and DPR–82 for an additional 20 years for Diablo Canyon will be available for public review at the San Luis Obispo Library, 995 Palm St., San Luis Obispo, CA 93403.

B. Submitting Comments

The NRC encourages electronic comment submission through the Federal rulemaking website (*https://www.regulations.gov*). Please include Docket ID NRC–2023–0192 in your comment submission.

The NRC cautions you not to include identifying or contact information that you do not want to be publicly disclosed in your comment submission. The NRC will post all comment submissions at *https://www.regulations.gov* as well as enter the comment submissions into ADAMS. The NRC does not routinely edit comment submissions to remove identifying or contact information.

If you are requesting or aggregating comments from other persons for submission to the NRC, then you should inform those persons not to include identifying or contact information that they do not want to be publicly disclosed in their comment submission. Your request should state that the NRC does not routinely edit comment submissions to remove such information

before making the comment submissions available to the public or entering the comment into ADAMS.

II. Discussion

The NRC is issuing for public comment draft Supplement 62 to the GEIS for License Renewal of Nuclear Plants, NUREG–1437, regarding the proposed renewal of Facility Operating License Nos. DPR–80 and DPR–82 for an additional 20 years for Diablo Canyon. Draft Supplement 62 to the GEIS includes the NRC staff's evaluation of the environmental impacts of the proposed action and alternatives to the proposed action. The NRC staff's preliminary recommendation is that the adverse environmental impacts of license renewal for Diablo Canyon are not so great that preserving the option of license renewal for energy-planning decisionmakers would be unreasonable.

Dated: October 28, 2024.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Theodore Smith,

Acting Deputy Director, Division of Rulemaking, Environmental, and Financial Support, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards.

[FR Doc. 2024–25444 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590–01–P

POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket Nos. CP2024–313; MC2025–159; K2025–157; MC2025–160; K2025–158; MC2025–161; K2025–159; MC2025–163; K2025–161; MC2025–164; K2025–162; MC2025–165; K2025–163; MC2025–166; K2025–164; MC2025–167; K2025–165; MC2025–168; K2025–166; MC2025–169; K2025–167; MC2025–170; K2025–168; MC2025–171; K2025–169; MC2025–172; K2025–170; MC2025–173; K2025–171]

New Postal Products

AGENCY: Postal Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Commission is noticing a recent Postal Service filing for the Commission's consideration concerning a negotiated service agreement. This notice informs the public of the filing, invites public comment, and takes other administrative steps.

DATES: *Comments are due:* November 4, 2024.

ADDRESSES: Submit comments electronically via the Commission's Filing Online system at *http://www.prc.gov.* Those who cannot submit comments electronically should contact the person identified in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section by telephone for advice on filing alternatives.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: David A. Trissell, General Counsel, at 202–789–6820.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Table of Contents

I. Introduction
II. Public Proceeding(s)
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I. Introduction

Pursuant to 39 CFR 3041.405, the Commission gives notice that the Postal Service filed request(s) for the Commission to consider matters related to Competitive negotiated service agreement(s). The request(s) may propose the addition of a negotiated service agreement from the Competitive product list or the modification of an existing product currently appearing on the Competitive product list.

The public portions of the Postal Service's request(s) can be accessed via the Commission's website (*http://www.prc.gov*). Non-public portions of the Postal Service's request(s), if any, can be accessed through compliance with the requirements of 39 CFR 3011.301.[1]

Section II identifies the docket number(s) associated with each Postal Service request, if any, that will be reviewed in a public proceeding as defined by 39 CFR 3010.101(p), the title of each such request, the request's acceptance date, and the authority cited by the Postal Service for each request. For each such request, the Commission appoints an officer of the Commission to represent the interests of the general public in the proceeding, pursuant to 39 U.S.C. 505 and 39 CFR 3000.114 (Public Representative). Section II also establishes comment deadline(s) pertaining to each such request.

The Commission invites comments on whether the Postal Service's request(s) identified in section II, if any, are consistent with the policies of title 39. Applicable statutory and regulatory requirements include 39 U.S.C. 3632, 39 U.S.C. 3633, 39 U.S.C. 3642, 39 CFR part 3035, and 39 CFR part 3041. Comment deadline(s) for each such request, if any, appear in section II.

Section III identifies the docket number(s) associated with each Postal Service request, if any, to add a standardized distinct product to the Competitive product list or to amend a standardized distinct product, the title of each such request, the request's acceptance date, and the authority cited by the Postal Service for each request. Standardized distinct products are negotiated service agreements that are variations of one or more Competitive products, and for which financial models, minimum rates, and classification criteria have undergone advance Commission review. *See* 39 CFR 3041.110(n); 39 CFR 3041.205(a). Such requests are reviewed in summary proceedings pursuant to 39 CFR 3041.325(c)(2) and 39 CFR 3041.505(f)(1). Pursuant to 39 CFR 3041.405(c)–(d), the Commission does not appoint a Public Representative or request public comment in proceedings to review such requests.

II. Public Proceeding(s)

1. *Docket No(s).:* CP2024–313; *Filing Title:* USPS Request Concerning Amendment One to Priority Mail & USPS Ground Advantage Contract 263,Filed Under Seal; *Filing Acceptance Date:* October 25, 2024; *Filing Authority:* 39 CFR 3041.505; *Public Representative:* Jennaca Upperman; *Comments Due:* November 4, 2024.

2. *Docket No(s).:* MC2025–159 and K2025–157; *Filing Title:* USPS Request to Add Priority Mail Express, Priority Mail & USPS Ground Advantage Contract 536 to the Competitive Product List and Notice of Filing Materials Under Seal; *Filing Acceptance Date:* October 24, 2024; *Filing Authority:* 39 U.S.C. 3642, 39 CFR 3035.105, and 39 CFR 3041.310; *Public Representative:* Elsie Lee-Robbins; *Comments Due:* November 4, 2024

3. *Docket No(s).:* MC2025–160 and K2025–158; *Filing Title:* USPS Request to Add Priority Mail Express, Priority Mail & USPS Ground Advantage Contract 537 to the Competitive Product List and Notice of Filing Materials Under Seal; *Filing Acceptance Date:* October 25, 2024; *Filing Authority:* 39 U.S.C. 3642, 39 CFR 3035.105, and 39 CFR 3041.310; *Public Representative:* Katalin Clendenin; *Comments Due:* November 4, 2024.

4. *Docket No(s).:* MC2025–161 and K2025–159; *Filing Title:* USPS Request to Add Priority Mail Express, Priority Mail & USPS Ground Advantage Contract 538 to the Competitive Product List and Notice of Filing Materials Under Seal; *Filing Acceptance Date:* October 25, 2024; *Filing Authority:* 39 U.S.C. 3642, 39 CFR 3035.105, and 39 CFR 3041.310; *Public Representative:* Katalin Clendenin; *Comments Due:* November 4, 2024.

5. *Docket No(s).:* MC2025–163 and K2025–161; *Filing Title:* USPS Request to Add Priority Mail Express, Priority Mail & USPS Ground Advantage Contract 540 to the Competitive Product List and Notice of Filing Materials

[1] *See* Docket No. RM2018–3, Order Adopting Final Rules Relating to Non-Public Information, June 27, 2018, Attachment A at 19–22 (Order No. 4679).

Under Seal; *Filing Acceptance Date:* October 25, 2024; *Filing Authority:* 39 U.S.C. 3642, 39 CFR 3035.105, and 39 CFR 3041.310; *Public Representative:* Jennaca Upperman; *Comments Due:* November 4, 2024.

6. *Docket No(s).:* MC2025–164 and K2025–162; *Filing Title:* USPS Request to Add Priority Mail Express, Priority Mail & USPS Ground Advantage Contract 541 to the Competitive Product List and Notice of Filing Materials Under Seal; *Filing Acceptance Date:* October 25, 2024; *Filing Authority:* 39 U.S.C. 3642, 39 CFR 3035.105, and 39 CFR 3041.310; *Public Representative:* Jennaca Upperman; *Comments Due:* November 4, 2024.

7. *Docket No(s).:* MC2025–165 and K2025–163; *Filing Title:* USPS Request to Add Priority Mail Express, Priority Mail & USPS Ground Advantage Contract 542 to the Competitive Product List and Notice of Filing Materials Under Seal; *Filing Acceptance Date:* October 25, 2024; *Filing Authority:* 39 U.S.C. 3642, 39 CFR 3035.105, and 39 CFR 3041.310; *Public Representative:* Katalin Clendenin; *Comments Due:* November 4, 2024.

8. *Docket No(s).:* MC2025–166 and K2025–164; *Filing Title:* USPS Request to Add Priority Mail & USPS Ground Advantage Contract 409 to the Competitive Product List and Notice of Filing Materials Under Seal; *Filing Acceptance Date:* October 25, 2024; *Filing Authority:* 39 U.S.C. 3642, 39 CFR 3035.105, and 39 CFR 3041.310; *Public Representative:* Christopher Mohr; *Comments Due:* November 4, 2024.

9. *Docket No(s).:* MC2025–167 and K2025–165; *Filing Title:* USPS Request to Add Priority Mail & USPS Ground Advantage Contract 410 to the Competitive Product List and Notice of Filing Materials Under Seal; *Filing Acceptance Date:* October 25, 2024; *Filing Authority:* 39 U.S.C. 3642, 39 CFR 3035.105, and 39 CFR 3041.310; *Public Representative:* Samuel Robinson; *Comments Due:* November 4, 2024.

10. *Docket No(s).:* MC2025–168 and K2025–166; *Filing Title:* USPS Request to Add Priority Mail Express, Priority Mail & USPS Ground Advantage Contract 543 to the Competitive Product List and Notice of Filing Materials Under Seal; *Filing Acceptance Date:* October 25, 2024; *Filing Authority:* 39 U.S.C. 3642, 39 CFR 3035.105, and 39 CFR 3041.310; *Public Representative:* Katalin Clendenin; *Comments Due:* November 4, 2024.

11. *Docket No(s).:* MC2025–169 and K2025–167; *Filing Title:* USPS Request to Add Priority Mail Express, Priority Mail & USPS Ground Advantage Contract 544 to the Competitive Product List and Notice of Filing Materials Under Seal; *Filing Acceptance Date:* October 25, 2024; *Filing Authority:* 39 U.S.C. 3642, 39 CFR 3035.105, and 39 CFR 3041.310; *Public Representative:* Jana Slovinska; *Comments Due:* November 4, 2024.

12. *Docket No(s).:* MC2025–170 and K2025–168; *Filing Title:* USPS Request to Add Priority Mail Express, Priority Mail & USPS Ground Advantage Contract 545 to the Competitive Product List and Notice of Filing Materials Under Seal; *Filing Acceptance Date:* October 25, 2024; *Filing Authority:* 39 U.S.C. 3642, 39 CFR 3035.105, and 39 CFR 3041.310; *Public Representative:* Kenneth Moeller; *Comments Due:* November 4, 2024.

13. *Docket No(s).:* MC2025–171 and K2025–169; *Filing Title:* USPS Request to Add Priority Mail Express, Priority Mail & USPS Ground Advantage Contract 546 to the Competitive Product List and Notice of Filing Materials Under Seal; *Filing Acceptance Date:* October 25, 2024; *Filing Authority:* 39 U.S.C. 3642, 39 CFR 3035.105, and 39 CFR 3041.310; *Public Representative:* Anaswar Jayakumar; *Comments Due:* November 4, 2024.

14. *Docket No(s).:* MC2025–172 and K2025–170; *Filing Title:* USPS Request to Add Priority Mail Express, Priority Mail & USPS Ground Advantage Contract 547 to the Competitive Product List and Notice of Filing Materials Under Seal; *Filing Acceptance Date:* October 25, 2024; *Filing Authority:* 39 U.S.C. 3642, 39 CFR 3035.105, and 39 CFR 3041.310; *Public Representative:* Anaswar Jayakumar; *Comments Due:* November 4, 2024.

15. *Docket No(s).:* MC2025–173 and K2025–171; *Filing Title:* USPS Request to Add Priority Mail Express, Priority Mail & USPS Ground Advantage Contract 548 to the Competitive Product List and Notice of Filing Materials Under Seal; *Filing Acceptance Date:* October 25, 2024; *Filing Authority:* 39 U.S.C. 3642, 39 CFR 3035.105, and 39 CFR 3041.310; *Public Representative:* Maxine Bradley; *Comments Due:* November 4, 2024.

III. Summary Proceeding(s)

None. *See* section II for public proceedings.

This Notice will be published in the **Federal Register**.

Erica A. Barker,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2024–25424 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7710–FW–P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34–101449; File No. SR–FINRA–2024–008]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc.; Order Approving a Proposed Rule Change, as Modified by Partial Amendment No. 1, To Amend FINRA Rule 12800 (Simplified Arbitration) To Clarify and Amend the Applicability of the Document Production Lists

October 28, 2024.

I. Introduction

On May 13, 2024, the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc. (''FINRA'') filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (''SEC'' or ''Commission''), pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (''Exchange Act'') [1] and Rule 19b–4 thereunder,[2] a proposed rule change (SR–FINRA–2024–008) to amend FINRA Rule 12800 (Simplified Arbitration) of the FINRA Code of Arbitration Procedure for Customer Disputes (''Customer Code''). The proposed rule change, as subsequently modified by a partial amendment (''Partial Amendment No. 1''), would address the applicability of the lists of documents that are presumed to be discoverable in regular arbitrations between a customer and a member or associated person (''Document Production Lists'') [3] to simplified customer arbitrations administered under FINRA Rule 12800.[4]

The proposed rule change was published for public comment in the **Federal Register** on May 28, 2024.[5] The public comment period closed on June 18, 2024. The Commission received comment letters related to this filing.[6] On July 8, 2024, FINRA consented to an extension of the time period in which the Commission must approve the proposed rule change, disapprove the proposed rule change, or institute proceedings to determine whether to

[1] 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

[2] 17 CFR 240.19b–4.

[3] FINRA Rule 12506 (Document Production Lists) describes the documents that are presumed to be discoverable in all arbitrations between a customer and a member firm or associated person.

[4] Simplified customer arbitrations are arbitrations in which the dispute between a customer and member firm or associated person involves $50,000 or less, exclusive of interest and expenses. *See* FINRA Rule 12800(a).

[5] *See* Exchange Act Release No. 100204 (May 21, 2024), 89 FR 46210 (May 28, 2024) (File No. SR–FINRA2024–008) (''Notice'').

[6] The comment letters are available at *https://www.sec.gov/comments/sr-finra-2024-008/srfinra2024008.htm.*

approve or disapprove the proposed rule change to August 26, 2024.[7] On August 7, 2024, FINRA responded to the comment letters received in response to the Notice and filed Partial Amendment No. 1 to modify the proposed rule change.[8]

On August 27, 2024, the Commission published a notice of filing of Partial Amendment No. 1 and an order instituting proceedings to determine whether to approve or disapprove the proposed rule change, as modified by Partial Amendment No. 1.[9] The Commission received additional comment letters in response to the OIP.[10] This order approves the proposed rule change, as modified by Partial Amendment No. 1 (hereinafter referred to as the ''proposed rule change'' unless otherwise specified).

II. Description of the Proposed Rule Change

A. Background

FINRA Dispute Resolution Services (''DRS'') provides a Discovery Guide [11] to help guide the parties and arbitrators through the discovery process in customer arbitrations.[12] The Document Production Lists, which are included in the Discovery Guide, outline presumptively discoverable documents that the parties should exchange, without arbitrator or DRS staff intervention.[13]

Document Production Lists 1 and 2 describe the documents that are presumed to be discoverable in all arbitrations between a customer and a member firm or associated person, except in simplified customer arbitrations as explained below.[14] List 1 outlines the documents that member firms and associated persons shall produce; List 2 outlines the documents that customers shall produce.[15] The proposed rule change would affect the applicability of the Document Production Lists in simplified customer arbitrations.

There are three types of simplified customer arbitrations. If the customer does not request a hearing, the arbitrator will render an award based on the pleadings and other materials submitted by the parties (''paper cases'').[16] If the customer requests a hearing, the customer must select between one of two hearing options, known as an Option One hearing and an Option Two hearing.[17] If the customer requests an Option One hearing, the regular provisions of the Customer Code relating to prehearings and hearings apply (''regular hearing''), including the Document Production Lists.[18] Alternatively, the customer may request an Option Two special proceeding, which is an abbreviated hearing (''special proceeding'').[19]

Currently, the Document Production Lists do not apply in paper cases and special proceedings.[20] Accordingly, the parties in such proceedings must request documents and other information from each other, pursuant to FINRA Rule 12800(g)(2). However, an arbitrator may exercise discretion to use relevant portions of the Document Production Lists in paper cases and special proceedings ''in a manner consistent with the expedited nature of simplified proceedings.'' [21] Absent such an exercise of discretion by the arbitrator, in order to obtain discovery in these proceedings, the parties must request documents and other information from each other without the benefit of the Document Production Lists.[22] As a result, no documents or information are presumptively discoverable in paper cases and special proceedings, but they are presumptively discoverable in simplified customer arbitrations in which the customer requests a regular hearing as noted above.[23]

B. Proposed Rule Change

The proposed rule change would amend FINRA Rule 12800(g)(1) to give customers in paper cases and special proceedings the option to elect whether they want the Document Production Lists to apply to all parties.[24]

Proposed Rule 12800(g)(1)(B) states that the Document Production Lists described in FINRA Rule 12506 would not apply in paper cases or special proceedings unless: (1) the customer requests that they apply at the time he or she initiates an arbitration pursuant to Rule 12302 (Filing and Serving an Initial Statement of Claim) or, (2) if the customer is a respondent, he or she requests that they apply no later than the answer due date pursuant to Rule 12303 (Answering the Statement of Claim), regardless of the parties'

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[7] *See* letter from Carissa Laughlin, Principal Counsel, Office of General Counsel, FINRA, to Lourdes Gonzalez, Assistant Chief Counsel, Division of Trading and Markets, Commission, dated July 8, 2024, *https://www.finra.org/sites/default/files/2024-07/SR-FINRA-2024-008-extension1.pdf.*

[8] *See* letter from Carissa Laughlin, Principal Counsel, Office of General Counsel, FINRA, to Vanessa Countryman, Secretary, Commission, dated August 7, 2024, *https://www.sec.gov/comments/sr-finra-2024-008/srfinra2024008-503775-1470022.pdf* (''FINRA Response Letter''); *see also* Partial Amendment No. 1, *https://www.finra.org/sites/default/files/2024-08/SR-FINRA-2024-008-Partial-A-1.pdf.*

[9] *See* Exchange Act Release No. 34–100787 (Aug. 21, 2024), 89 FR 68686, (Aug. 27, 2024), File No. SR–FINRA–2024–008 (''OIP'').

[10] The comment letters received in response to the OIP are available at *https://www.sec.gov/comments/sr-finra-2024-008/srfinra2024008.htm.*

[11] *https://www.finra.org/sites/default/files/ArbMed/p394527.pdf.*

[12] *See* Notice at 46210. In addition to describing the Document Production Lists, the Discovery Guide includes information about the circumstances under which the parties may object to the production of documents on the Document Production Lists, the parties' ability to request additional documents other than those included on the Document Production Lists, the process for obtaining the production of documents from non-parties, the forms that the production of documents should take, and the parties' right to object to the production of documents based on confidentiality and privilege concerns. *See* Notice at 46211. The FINRA Discovery Guide and Document Production Lists do not apply to arbitrations administered under the Code of Arbitration Procedure for Industry Disputes. *See* Notice at 46210 n.3.

[13] *See* Notice at 46210; *see also* FINRA Rule 12506.

[14] *Id.; see also* FINRA Rule 12506(a).

[15] *See* Notice at 46210; *see also https://www.finra.org/sites/default/files/ArbMed/p394527.pdf.*

[16] *See* Notice at 46210; *see also* FINRA Rule 12800(c)(2).

[17] *See* Notice at 46210; *see also* FINRA Rule 12800(c)(3).

[18] *See* Notice at 46210; *see also* FINRA Rule 12800(c)(3)(A); *see also* FINRA DRS Party's Reference Guide, p. 31, *https://www.finra.org/sites/default/files/Partys-Reference-Guide.pdf* (explaining that ''[t]he Document Production Lists in the Discovery Guide as described in FINRA Rule 12506 do not apply to simplified [customer] arbitrations decided on the papers or decided by special proceeding. However, the Discovery Guide does apply to simplified cases in which a customer requests a regular hearing.''); *see also https://www.finra.org/arbitration-mediation/simplified-arbitrations. See* Notice at 46210 n.11 and accompanying text; *see also infra* note 24.

[19] *See* Notice at 46210; *see also* FINRA Rule 12800(c)(3)(B).

[20] *See* Notice at 46210. FINRA Rule 12800(g)(1) provides that the Document Production Lists ''do not apply to arbitrations subject to this rule'' (*i.e.,* paper cases and special proceedings). Notice at 46210.

[21] Notice at 46210; *see* FINRA Rule 12800(g)(1).

[22] *See* Notice at 46210; *see also* FINRA Rule 12800(g)(2) (providing that all production requests must be served on all other parties and filed with the Director within 30 days from the date that the last answer is due; any response or objection to a production request must be served on all other parties and filed with the Director within 10 days of the receipt of the request).

[23] *See* Notice at 46210.

[24] *See id.* at 46211. The proposed rule change also would make technical changes to Rule 12800. Currently, FINRA Rule 12800(c)(3)(A) states that, when a customer requests a regular hearing, the ''regular provisions'' of the Customer Code relating to prehearings and hearings apply. As noted above, DRS has issued guidance clarifying this language to mean that the Document Production Lists apply in simplified customer arbitrations in which the customer requests a regular hearing. *See* Notice at 46212; *see also* supra note 18. The proposed rule change would codify this guidance. *See* Notice at 46212. Specifically, proposed Rule 12800(g)(1)(A) would provide that ''[t]he Document Production Lists, described in Rule 12506, apply to arbitrations in which the customer requests an Option One hearing.''

agreement to extend any answer due date.[25]

If the customer does not timely elect to apply the Document Production Lists to all parties as provided, proposed Rule 12800(g)(1)(B) would continue to permit an arbitrator to exercise discretion to use relevant portions of the Document Production Lists in a manner consistent with the expedited nature of simplified customer arbitrations. Additionally, proposed Rule 12800(g)(2) would continue to permit the parties to request documents and information from each other.[26]

III. Discussion of Commission Findings

After careful review of the proposed rule change, the comment letters, and FINRA's response to the comments, the Commission finds that the proposed rule change is consistent with the requirements of the Exchange Act and the rules and regulations thereunder that are applicable to a national securities association.[27] Specifically, as explained in more detail below, the Commission finds that the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 15A(b)(6) of the Exchange Act, which requires, among other things, that FINRA rules be designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest.[28] The Commission addresses the proposed rule change's specific provisions, and any related comments, in turn.

Currently, the Document Production Lists do not apply in paper cases or in special proceedings. Accordingly, the parties in such proceedings must request documents and other information from each other, pursuant to FINRA Rule 12800(g)(2).[29] The proposed rule change would amend FINRA Rule 12800(g)(1) to give customers in paper cases and special proceedings the option to elect at the time that they initiate an arbitration or, if they are a respondent, no later than the answer due date, whether they want the Document Production Lists to apply to all parties.[30] If such an election is made, all parties would be required to produce the documents on the Document Production Lists, explain why the documents cannot be produced, or object to the production of the documents within the timeframes set forth in FINRA Rule 12506.[31]

Commenters supported the proposed rule change.[32] For example, commenters stated that applying the Document Production Lists to paper cases and special proceedings would generally protect investors,[33] enhance the fairness of the proceedings and arbitration process,[34] balance the need for efficiency and fairness,[35] and enhance fairness without unduly raising costs.[36] In addition, multiple commenters stated that the proposed changes would enhance *pro se* customers' awareness and understanding of the discovery process and support them in seeking material evidence necessary to their claims.[37] Some commenters also suggested additional changes.

One commenter suggested changes to proposed Rule 12800(g)(1)(B) to give a customer who is a respondent more time to request application of the Document Productions Lists. As proposed, if the customer is a respondent, he or she must request that the Document Production Lists apply no later than the date he or she must answer a statement of claim pursuant to Rule 12303, regardless of the parties' agreement to extend any answer due date. The commenter suggested that when a customer respondent obtains an extension of time to answer, the customer should be allowed to opt in to the Document Production Lists when the customer files the answer pursuant to an agreed deadline extension, rather than on the original due date for the answer.[38]

In response, FINRA stated that the proposed rule change ''balances the expedited nature of simplified customer arbitrations and the ability of customer respondents to make an informed decision regarding whether to use the Document Production Lists.'' [39] For example, if a customer could request that the Document Production Lists apply when the customer respondent files the answer and the answer is not filed until just before the special proceeding hearing date, then ''this would require the arbitrator and parties to reschedule the hearing date to a date

[25] *Id.* FINRA Rule 12303 provides that ''respondent(s) must serve each other party with an answer to the statement of claim within 45 days of receipt of the statement of claim. FINRA Rule 12207(a) provides that the parties may agree in writing to extend or modify the deadline for serving an answer.'' *See* Notice at 46211 n.13.

[26] Nothing in the Discovery Guide precludes the parties from voluntarily agreeing to an exchange of documents in a manner different from that set forth in the Discovery Guide. FINRA stated that it encourages parties to agree to the voluntary exchange of documents and to stipulate to various matters. *See* Notice at 46211 n.19; *see also https://www.finra.org/sites/default/files/ArbMed/p394527.pdf.*

[27] In approving this rule change, the Commission has considered the rule's impact on efficiency, competition, and capital formation. *See* 15 U.S.C. 78c(f).

[28] 15 U.S.C. 78o–3(b)(6).

[29] *See supra* note 22.

[30] A commenter suggested a technical amendment to proposed Rule 12800(g)(1)(B) to make clear that the Document Production Lists are found in Rule 12506 so that a *pro se* investor is not confused about the applicability of the Document Production Lists when pursuing a paper case or special proceeding. *See* letter from Nikki Junda, Student Intern, Elissa Germaine, Supervising Attorney, and Christine Lazaro, Supervising Attorney, Securities Arbitration Clinic of St. John's University School of Law, dated June 17, 2024, *https://www.sec.gov/comments/sr-finra-2024-008/srfinra2024008-477251-1366154.html* (''St. John's Letter I'') at 2. FINRA agreed by filing Partial Amendment No. 1 to modify proposed Rule 12800(g)(1)(B) to mirror the language in proposed Rule 12800(g)(1)(A) such that both provisions begin with ''The Document Production Lists, described in Rule 12506 . . .''. *See* Partial Amendment No. 1 and FINRA Response Letter at 2–3.

[31] *See* FINRA Rule 12506(b)(1).

[32] *See* letter from Elissa Germaine, Supervising Attorney, and Christine Lazaro, Supervising Attorney, Securities Arbitration Clinic of St. John's University School of Law, dated September 17, 2024, *https://www.sec.gov/comments/sr-finra-2024-008/srfinra2024008-521575-1498402.pdf* (''St. John's Letter II''); letter from Jenice Malecki, Jacqueline Candella, Adam G. Schreck, and Claire Sterin, Intern, Malecki Law, dated September 17, 2024, *https://www.sec.gov/comments/sr-finra-2024-008/srfinra2024008-521595-1498462.pdf* (''Malecki Letter''); letter from Joseph C. Peiffer, President, Public Investor Advocate Bar Association, dated September 17, 2024, *https://www.sec.gov/comments/sr-finra-2024-008/srfinra2024008-521555-1498322.pdf (''PIABA Letter II'');* letter from William A. Jacobson, Clinical Professor of Law, Director of the Cornell Securities Law Clinic, Noah Moreano, Cornell Law Student, Cornell Securities Law Clinic, Cornell Law School, dated September 16, 2024, *https://www.sec.gov/comments/sr-finra-2024-008/srfinra2024008-520935-1497242.pdf* (''Cornell Letter''); letter from Nicole G. Iannarone, Associate Professor of Law, Drexel University School of Law, dated June 18, 2024, *https://www.sec.gov/comments/sr-finra-2024-008/srfinra2024008-483631-1383094.pdf* (''Iannarone Letter''); letter from Clare M. Farrelly, MBA, Student Intern, Fairbridge Investor Rights Clinic, Elisabeth Haub School of Law, Pace University, dated June 18, 2024, *https://www.sec.gov/comments/sr-finra-2024-008/srfinra2024008-483651-1383114.pdf* (''Pace Letter''); letter from Jill I. Gross, Vice Dean for Academic Affairs and Professor of Law, Elisabeth Haub School of Law, Pace University, dated June 18, 2024, *https://www.sec.gov/comments/sr-finra-2024-008/srfinra2024008-1382774.htm* (''Gross Letter''); letter from Scott Eichhorn, Director, and Melanie S. Cherdack, Associate Director, Investor Rights Clinic, University of Miami School of Law, dated June 18, 2024, *https://www.sec.gov/comments/sr-finra-2024-008/srfinra2024008-483571-1382814.pdf* (''Miami Letter''); letter from Joseph C. Peiffer, President, Public Investor Advocate Bar Association, dated June 18, 2024, *https://www.sec.gov/comments/sr-finra-2024-008/srfinra2024008-483331-1382594.pdf* (''PIABA Letter I''); St. John's Letter I; and letter from Steven B. Caruso, dated May 24, 2024, *https://www.sec.gov/comments/sr-finra-2024-008/srfinra2024008-477251-1366154.html* (''Caruso Letter'').

[33] *See* PIABA Letter I at 1.

[34] *See* Gross Letter at 1.

[35] *See* Pace Letter at 1.

[36] *Id.* at 2.

[37] *See* Caruso Letter at 1; PIABA Letter I at 1–2; Pace Letter at 3; St. John's Letter I at 1–2; Cornell Letter at 2, St. John's Letter II at 1; and Malecki Letter at 2–3.

[38] *See* Pace Letter at 3–4.

[39] FINRA Response Letter at 3.

at least two months later than originally scheduled to allow parties adequate time to respond to the Document Production Lists.'' [40] Similarly, allowing customer respondents to request that the Document Production Lists apply when filing the answer in a papers case rather than by the answer due date could significantly delay the conclusion of such cases, which are generally the most expedited form of arbitration case.[41] Furthermore, FINRA stated that to the extent a customer respondent does not timely elect to apply the Document Production Lists to all parties, proposed Rule 12800(g)(1)(B) continues to allow the arbitrator discretion to use relevant portions of the Document Production Lists in a manner consistent with the expedited nature of simplified customer arbitrations.[42] In addition, the parties can still request documents and information from each other pursuant to FINRA Rule 12800(g)(2).[43] For these reasons, FINRA did not accept the suggested change.

Another commenter suggested that FINRA add a hyperlink or cross reference to the Discovery Guide within the rules whenever the Document Production Lists are mentioned to help investors locate and use FINRA guidance.[44] This commenter also suggested that FINRA make guidance on its website easier to locate for parties in simplified arbitrations.[45] Another commenter recommended that FINRA provide parties a ''plain language explanation of the discovery process and how it will differ with use of the Discovery Guide.'' [46]

In response to the commenters' suggestions, FINRA: (1) updated the ''Related Links'' section of the web pages for FINRA Rules 12506, 12507, 12508, and 12800 to include a hyperlink to the Discovery Guide web page; [47] (2) updated the FINRA Rule 12800 web page by adding hyperlinks to any cross-referenced FINRA Rules; [48] and (3) updated its ''Overview of Arbitration & Mediation'' web page by adding a hyperlink to cross-reference its ''Simplified Arbitrations'' web page.[49] In addition, FINRA stated that it would develop and publish guidance about discovery that will be available to all parties in simplified arbitration and would, among other things, direct parties to the Discovery Guide.[50]

Finally, one commenter recommended providing and requiring more arbitrator training, including providing arbitrators greater discretion to award sanctions for discovery violations.[51] Specifically, this commenter stated that enhanced training should provide arbitrators with sufficient detail on: (1) the requirements of parties when asserting objections; (2) the adequate bases for objections to overcome the presumption of discoverability; (3) how objections may lead to the risk that arbitrators do not have relevant documents and information to decide the case; and (4) the circumstances under which an arbitrator may award sanctions against parties who assert boilerplate objection.[52]

In response, FINRA stated that it currently provides mandatory training and various other resources to arbitrators regarding the discovery process.[53] For example, arbitrators must pass FINRA's Basic Arbitrator Training Program in order to serve on FINRA arbitration cases.[54] The Basic Arbitrator Training Program includes a module dedicated to the discovery process.[55] FINRA stated that this module also reminds arbitrators that *pro se* parties ''may need more procedural direction and specific deadlines for discovery requests and responses.'' [56] Moreover, in order to qualify as a chairperson, arbitrators must complete training containing three modules with information about the discovery process and issues, including motions to compel discovery.[57] In addition, DRS also offers voluntary, subject-specific training modules, including an online course titled ''Discovery, Abuses and Sanctions'' that focuses on the respective duties of arbitrators and parties in the discovery process.[58] Further, FINRA stated that it also provides updates and reminders to arbitrators regarding discovery procedures via its Neutral Workshops and a quarterly newsletter,[59] as well as the DRS Arbitrator's Guide, which dedicates two sections to discovery and motions.[60] FINRA stated that in light of these available resources, it ''does not anticipate providing additional arbitrator training on the discovery process at this time.'' [61]

Giving customers in paper cases and special proceedings the option to elect whether they want the Document Production Lists to apply to all parties at the time that they initiate an arbitration or, if they are a respondent, no later than the answer due date, should increase the efficiency of simplified arbitration proceedings while maintaining their expedited nature. By opting to use the Document Production Lists, parties should receive those documents and information that are relevant to the dispute without the need to make production requests or engage in motion practice, which should help expedite the discovery process. Furthermore, increased access to relevant documents and other information should result in outcomes (*i.e.,* awards and settlements) in paper cases or special proceedings that are more consistent with the merits of the case.

In addition, the proposed rule change should help facilitate the discovery process in arbitration cases. Because many of the customers who appear in simplified arbitration cases are *pro se,* they are more likely than customers in regular arbitration cases to lack familiarity with the discovery process. Giving customers in paper cases and special proceedings the option to elect whether they want the Document Production Lists to apply to all parties is, therefore, a reasonable approach to facilitating the discovery process for customers. FINRA also reasonably determined to decline giving customer respondents more time to request

[40] *Id.* at 3–4.

[41] *See* FINRA Response Letter at 4.

[42] *Id.; see also* Notice at 46211.

[43] *See* FINRA Response Letter at 4; *see also* Notice at 46211.

[44] *See* St. John's Letter I at 2.

[45] *Id.*

[46] Miami Letter at 3.

[47] *See* FINRA Response Letter at 5–6.

[48] *Id.* at 6.

[49] *See* FINRA Response Letter at 5.

[50] *Id.; see also* Notice at 46211.

[51] *See* Miami Letter at 3–4.

[52] *Id.*

[53] *See* FINRA Response Letter at 6.

[54] *Id.* (citing Arbitrator Training, *https://www.finra.org/arbitration-mediation/rules-case-resources/arbitrator-training* (discussing how an arbitrator candidate must complete the comprehensive Basic Arbitrator Training Program to become eligible to serve on arbitration cases)).

[55] *Id.* (citing FINRA DRS Basic Arbitrator Training Program Transcript, p. 21, *https://www.finra.org/sites/default/files/2024-05/FINRA-Basic-Arbitrator-and-Expungement-Training-Full-Course-Transcript.pdf*). The training includes, among other things: (1) understanding the discovery process and timelines; (2) ruling on discovery requests based on the papers; and (3) imposing discovery sanctions when a party fails to provide sufficient information or documents. *See id.*

[56] *Id.* at 6.

[57] *See id.* (citing FINRA DRS Chairperson Training Transcript, pp. 4–6, 9–15, 17–21, *https://www.finra.org/sites/default/files/2024-05/FINRA_Chair-Training-Full-Transcript.pdf*).

[58] *See id.* at 6–7 (citing Arbitrator Training, *https://www.finra.org/arbitration-mediation/rules-case-resources/arbitrator-training* (discussing the Discovery, Abuses and Sanctions advanced training course for arbitrators)). FINRA stated that this course: (1) explains the Discovery Guide; (2) discusses the need for orders of confidentiality; (3) helps arbitrators recognize and address discovery abuses; and (4) reviews possible sanctions if they become necessary. *See id.* at 7.

[59] *See id.* at 7.

[60] *See id.* at 7–8 (citing FINRA DRS Arbitrator's Guide, *https://www.finra.org/sites/default/files/arbitrators-ref-guide.pdf*).

[61] FINRA Response Letter at 8.

application of the Document Productions Lists. By requiring that a customer respondent request that the Document Production Lists apply no later than the answer due date pursuant to Rule 12303, rather than any extended answer due date agreed to by the parties, the proposed rule change reasonably balances providing respondent customers with time to determine whether to apply the Document Production Lists with the expeditious nature of simplified proceedings.

Further, in addition to the proposed rule change, FINRA has taken, and has stated that it will continue to take, measures that should further enhance awareness and transparency of the discovery process, as well as help customers evaluate whether to request application of the Document Production Lists. Specifically, FINRA updated its website to provide more direct access to FINRA guidance and rules related to simplified arbitration and the discovery process, including the Document Production Lists. In addition, FINRA stated that it will publish guidance about discovery that would assist customers in making informed decisions regarding whether to elect to use the Document Production Lists in their case. Moreover, the educational resources currently available to arbitrators should help ensure that arbitrators are well trained on the discovery process, including use of the Discovery Production Lists, so that they can foster simplified arbitration proceedings that are less susceptible to unsupported procedural objections regarding document production and that operate in a fair and expeditious manner. For these reasons, the proposed rule change is reasonably designed to protect investors and the public interest.

IV. Conclusion

The proposed rule change would provide customers in paper cases and special proceedings the option to elect whether they want the Document Production Lists to apply to all parties. In this way, the proposed rule change would facilitate discovery of the documents and information that are relevant to a customer's arbitration, and thereby enhance the arbitration process. The proposed rule change would also codify existing guidance stating that the Document Production Lists are applicable in simplified customer arbitrations in which the customer requests a regular hearing. Codifying this guidance would enhance parties' awareness and understanding of the discovery process in certain simplified customer arbitrations.

For the reasons set forth above, the Commission finds that the proposed rule change, as modified by Partial Amendment No. 1, is consistent with Section 15A(b)(6) of the Exchange Act, which requires, among other things, that FINRA rules be designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, promote just and equitable principles of trade, and, in general, protect investors and the public interest.[62]

It is therefore ordered pursuant to Section 19(b)(2) of the Exchange Act[63] that the proposed rule change (SR–FINRA–2024–008), as modified by Partial Amendment No. 1, be, and hereby is, approved.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.[64]

Sherry R. Haywood,

Assistant Secretary.

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34–101453; File No. SR–CboeBZX–2024–103]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Cboe BZX Exchange, Inc.; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of a Proposed Rule Change To Amend Its Fee Schedule

October 28, 2024.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the ''Act''),[1] and Rule 19b–4 thereunder,[2] notice is hereby given that on October 18, 2024, Cboe BZX Exchange, Inc. (the ''Exchange'' or ''BZX'') filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the ''Commission'') the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II, and III below, which Items have been prepared by the Exchange. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

I. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule Change

Cboe BZX Exchange, Inc. (the ''Exchange'' or ''BZX'') proposes to amend its Fee Schedule. The text of the proposed rule change is provided in Exhibit 5.

The text of the proposed rule change is also available on the Exchange's website (*http://markets.cboe.com/us/equities/regulation/rule_filings/BZX/*), at the Exchange's Office of the Secretary, and at the Commission's Public Reference Room.

II. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

In its filing with the Commission, the Exchange included statements concerning the purpose of and basis for the proposed rule change and discussed any comments it received on the proposed rule change. The text of these statements may be examined at the places specified in Item IV below. The Exchange has prepared summaries, set forth in sections A, B, and C below, of the most significant aspects of such statements.

A. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

1. Purpose

The Exchange proposes to update its Fee Schedule to provide a temporary discount on fees assessed to BZX Members (''Members'')[3] and non-Members that purchase $20,000 or more of ad hoc purchases of BZX Historical Depth Data (''Historical Depth Reports''), effective October 18, 2024 through December 31, 2024.

By way of background, the Exchange currently makes available for purchase Depth Data, which is a daily archive of the Exchange's depth of book real-time feed, which provides depth-of-book quotations and execution information based on equity orders entered into the System. The Exchange also offers Historical Depth Data, which offers such data on a historical basis, *i.e.,* T+1 or later. The Historical Depth Report is a completely voluntary product, in that the Exchange is not required by any rule or regulation to make this data available and that potential customers may purchase it on an ad-hoc basis only if they voluntarily choose to do so.

Cboe LiveVol, LLC (''LiveVol''), a wholly owned subsidiary of the

[62] 15 U.S.C. 78*o*–3(b)(6).

[63] 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2).

[64] 17 CFR 200.30–3(a)(12).

[1] 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

[2] 17 CFR 240.19b–4.

[3] *See* Rule 1.5(n) (''Member''). The term ''Member'' shall mean any registered broker or dealer that has been admitted to membership in the Exchange. A Member will have the status of a ''member'' of the Exchange as that term is defined in Section 3(a)(3) of the Act. Membership may be granted to a sole proprietor, partnership, corporation, limited liability company or other organization which is a registered broker or dealer pursuant to Section 15 of the Act, and which has been approved by the Exchange.

Exchange's parent company, Cboe Global Markets, Inc., makes the Historical Depth Report available for purchase to Users on the LiveVol DataShop website (*datashop.cboe.com*). The Historical Depth Data is available for purchase to Members and Non-Members; the Exchange charges a fee per month of historical data of $1,000. The Historical Depth Report provided on a historical basis is only provided to data recipients for internal use only, and thus, no redistribution will be permitted. The Exchange notes that the Historical Depth Report is subject to direct competition from other exchanges, as other exchanges offer similar products for a fee.[4]

The Exchange's options platform (''BZX Options'') and affiliated equities and options exchanges (*i.e.,* Cboe Exchange, Inc. (''Cboe Options''), Cboe C2 Exchange, Inc. (''C2 Options''), Cboe EDGX Exchange, Inc. (''EDGX''), Cboe BYX Exchange, Inc. (''BYX''), and Cboe EDGA Exchange, Inc. (''EDGA'') (collectively, ''Affiliates'') also offer similar data products.[5] Particularly, each of the Exchange's Affiliates offer a daily and historical archive of their depth of book real-time feed with execution information based on their trading activity that is substantially similar to the information provided by the Exchange through its Depth Data products.

The Exchange proposes to provide a temporary pricing incentive program in which Members or Non-Members that purchase Historical Depth Reports will receive a percentage fee discount where specific purchase thresholds are met. Specifically, the Exchange proposes to provide a 20% discount for ad-hoc purchases of Historical Depth Data of $20,000 or more.[6] The proposed program will apply to all market participants irrespective of whether the market participant is a new or current purchaser; however, the discount cannot be combined with any other discounts offered by the Exchange. The Exchange intends to introduce the discount program beginning October 18, 2024, with the program remaining in effect through December 31, 2024. The Exchange also notes that it previously adopted similar discount programs for other historical data products offered by the Exchange.[7]

2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the ''Act'') and the rules and regulations thereunder applicable to the Exchange and, in particular, the requirements of Section 6(b) of the Act.[8] Specifically, the Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with the Section 6(b)(5)[9] requirements that the rules of an exchange be designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to foster cooperation and coordination with persons engaged in regulating, clearing, settling, processing information with respect to, and facilitating transactions in securities, to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system, and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest. Additionally, the Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with the Section 6(b)(5)[10] requirement that the rules of an exchange not be designed to permit unfair discrimination between customers, issuers, brokers, or dealers. The Exchange also believes the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b)(4) of the Act,[11] which requires that Exchange rules provide for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees, and other charges among its Members and other persons using its facilities.

In adopting Regulation NMS, the Commission granted self-regulatory organizations (''SROs'') and broker-dealers increased authority and flexibility to offer new and unique market data to the public. It was believed that this authority would expand the amount of data available to consumers, and also spur innovation and competition for the provision of market data. The Exchange believes that the proposed fee changes will further broaden the availability of U.S. equity market data to investors consistent with the principles of Regulation NMS. The Exchange believes the dissemination of historical depth of book data via Historical Depth Reports benefits investors through increased transparency and may promote better informed trading, as well as research and studies of the equities industry. Nevertheless, the Exchange notes that such data is not necessary for trading and as noted above, is entirely optional. Moreover, several other exchanges offer a similar data product which offer the same type of data content through similar reports.[12]

The Exchange operates in a highly competitive environment. Indeed, there are currently 16 registered equities exchanges that trade equities. Based on publicly available information, no single equities exchange has more than 13% of the equity market share.[13] The Commission has repeatedly expressed its preference for competition over regulatory intervention in determining prices, products, and services in the securities markets. Particularly, in Regulation NMS, the Commission highlighted the importance of market forces in determining prices and SRO revenues and, also, recognized that current regulation of the market system ''has been remarkably successful in promoting market competition in its broader forms that are most important to investors and listed companies.'' [14] Making similar data products available to market participants fosters competition in the marketplace, and constrains the ability of exchanges to charge supercompetitive fees. In the event that a market participant views one exchange's data product as more attractive than the competition, that market participant can, and often does, switch between similar products. The proposed fees are a result of the competitive environment of the U.S. equities industry as the Exchange seeks to adopt fees to attract purchasers of Historical Depth Reports.

The Exchange believes that the proposed incentive program for any Member or non-Member who purchases Historical Depth Reports is reasonable because such purchasers would receive a 20% discount for purchasing $20,000 or more worth of Historical Depth Reports. The Exchange believes the proposed discount is reasonable as it will give purchasers the ability to use and test the Historical Depth Reports at a discounted rate, prior to purchasing additional months or a monthly subscription, and will therefore encourage users to purchase Historical

[4] *See, e.g., https://www.nasdaqtrader.com/Trader.aspx?id=DPPriceListOptions#nom*; and *https://www.nyse.com/publicdocs/nyse/data/NYSE_Market_Data_Fee_Schedule.pdf.*

[5] *See,* for example, EDGX Fee Schedule, BYX Fee Schedule, EDGA Fee Schedule.

[6] The discount will apply on an order-by-order basis. The discount will apply to the total purchase price, once the $20,000 minimum purchase is satisfied (for example, a qualifying order of $25,000 would be discounted to $20,000, *i.e.* receive a 20% discount of $5,000).

[7] *See* Securities Exchange Act Release No. 99182 (December 14, 2023), 88 FR 88173 (December 20, 2023) (SR–CboeBZX–2023–093) and Securities Exchange Act Release No. 100330 June13, 2024), 89 FR 51931 (June 20, 2024) (SR–CboeBZX–2024–048).

[8] 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

[9] 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

[10] *Id.*

[11] 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(4).

[12] *See supra* note 4.

[13] *See* Cboe Global Markets, U.S. Equities Market Volume Summary, Month-to-Date (October 3, 2024), available at *https://www.cboe.com/us/equities/market_statistics/.*

[14] *See* Securities Exchange Act Release No. 51808 (June 9, 2005), 70 FR 37496, 37499 (June 29, 2005) (''Regulation NMS Adopting Release'').

Depth Reports. Further, the proposed discount is intended to promote increased use of the Exchange's Historical Depth Reports by defraying some of the costs a purchaser would ordinarily have to expend before using the data product. The Exchange believes that the proposed discount is equitable and not unfairly discriminatory because it will apply equally to all Members and non-Members who purchase Historical Depth Reports. Lastly, the purchase of this data product is discretionary and not compulsory. Indeed, no market participant is required to purchase the Historical Depth Reports, and the Exchange is not required to make Historical Depth Reports available to all investors. Potential purchasers may request the data at any time if they believe it to be valuable or may decline to purchase such data. As noted above, the Exchange previously adopted similar discount programs for other historical data products offered by the Exchange.[15]

B. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. The Exchange operates in a highly competitive environment in which the Exchange must continually adjust its fees to remain competitive. Because competitors are free to modify their own fees in response, including the adoption of similar discounts to those fees, the Exchange believes that the degree to which fee changes (including discounts and rebates) in this market may impose any burden on competition is extremely limited. As discussed above, the Exchange's Historical Depth Reports offering is subject to direct competition from several other options exchanges that offer similar data products. Moreover, purchase of Historical Depth Reports is optional. It is designed to help investors understand underlying market trends to improve the quality of investment decisions, but is not necessary to execute a trade.

The proposed rule changes are grounded in the Exchange's efforts to compete more effectively. In this competitive environment, potential purchasers are free to choose which, if any, similar product to purchase to satisfy their need for market information. As a result, the Exchange believes this proposed rule change permits fair competition among national securities exchanges. Further, the Exchange believes that these changes will not cause any unnecessary or inappropriate burden on intermarket competition, as the proposed incentive program applies uniformly to any purchaser of Historical Depth Reports.

C. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule Change Received From Members, Participants, or Others

The Exchange neither solicited nor received comments on the proposed rule change.

III. Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action

The foregoing rule change has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act [16] and paragraph (f) of Rule 19b–4 [17] thereunder. At any time within 60 days of the filing of the proposed rule change, the Commission summarily may temporarily suspend such rule change if it appears to the Commission that such action is necessary or appropriate in the public interest, for the protection of investors, or otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. If the Commission takes such action, the Commission will institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule change should be approved or disapproved.

IV. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act. Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

Electronic Comments

- Use the Commission's internet comment form (*https://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml*); or
- Send an email to *rule-comments@sec.gov*. Please include file number SR–CboeBZX–2024–103 on the subject line.

Paper Comments

- Send paper comments in triplicate to Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549–1090.

All submissions should refer to file number SR–CboeBZX–2024–103. This file number should be included on the subject line if email is used. To help the Commission process and review your comments more efficiently, please use only one method. The Commission will post all comments on the Commission's internet website (*https://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml*). Copies of the submission, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the proposed rule change between the Commission and any person, other than those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be available for website viewing and printing in the Commission's Public Reference Room, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549, on official business days between the hours of 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. Copies of the filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the Exchange. Do not include personal identifiable information in submissions; you should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. We may redact in part or withhold entirely from publication submitted material that is obscene or subject to copyright protection. All submissions should refer to file number SR–CboeBZX–2024–103 and should be submitted on or before November 22, 2024.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.[18]

Sherry R. Haywood,

Assistant Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2024–25428 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8011–01–P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34–101454; File No. SR–FICC–2024–007]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Fixed Income Clearing Corporation; Notice of Filing of Partial Amendment No. 1 to Proposed Rule Change To Modify the GSD Rules (i) Regarding the Separate Calculation, Collection and Holding of Margin for Proprietary Transactions and That for Indirect Participant Transactions, and (ii) To Address the Conditions of Note H to Rule 15c3–3a

October 28, 2024.

On March 14, 2024, Fixed Income Clearing Corporation (''FICC'') filed with the Securities and Exchange

[15] *See* Securities Exchange Act Release No. 99182 (December 14, 2023), 88 FR 88173 (December 20, 2023) (SR–CboeBZX–2023–093) and Securities Exchange Act Release No. 100330 June 13, 2024), 89 FR 51931 (June 20, 2024) (SR–CboeBZX–2024–048).

[16] 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

[17] 17 CFR 240.19b–4(f).

[18] 17 CFR 200.30–3(a)(12).

Commission (''Commission'') the proposed rule change SR–FICC–2024–007 pursuant to Section 19(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (''Exchange Act'') [1] and Rule 19b–4 [2] thereunder to modify FICC's Government Securities Division (''GSD'') Rulebook (''GSD Rules'') to calculate, collect, and hold margin for proprietary transactions of a direct participant separately from margin submitted to FICC by a direct participant on behalf of indirect participants and to address conditions of Note H to Rule 15c3–3a under the Exchange Act (the ''Proposed Rule Change'').[3] The Proposed Rule Change was published for public comment in the **Federal Register** on March 28, 2024.[4] The Commission has received comments regarding the substance of the Proposed Rule Change.[5] The Commission also received a letter from FICC responding to the comments.[6]

On April 24, 2024, pursuant to Section 19(b)(2) of the Exchange Act,[7] the Commission designated a longer period within which to approve, disapprove, or institute proceedings to determine whether to approve or disapprove the Proposed Rule Change.[8] On June 21, 2024, pursuant to Section 19(b)(2)(B) of the Exchange Act,[9] the Commission instituted proceedings to determine whether to approve or disapprove the Proposed Rule Change.[10] On September 18, 2024, the Commission extended the time period for Commission action on the proceedings to determine whether to disapprove the Proposed Rule Change.[11]

On October 25, 2024, FICC filed Partial Amendment No. 1 to the Proposed Rule Change.[12] Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Act [13] and Rule 19b–4 thereunder,[14] the Commission is publishing notice of this Partial Amendment No.1 to the Proposed Rule Change as described in Item I below. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on Partial Amendment No. 1 from interested persons.

I. Summary of the Terms of Substance of Partial Amendment No. 1 to the Proposed Rule Change

FICC filed Partial Amendment No. 1 to its previously submitted Proposed Rule Change, which would make several changes to FICC's GSD Rules to (1) provide for FICC to calculate, collect, and hold margin for the proprietary transactions of a Netting Member separately and independently from the margin for transactions that the Netting Member submits to FICC on behalf of indirect participants; (2) simplify and revise the account types through which Members may record transactions at FICC and adopt a new Rule 2B to provide clearer public disclosures through the Rules regarding the GSD account structure; (3) allow Netting Members to elect for margin for indirect participant transactions to be calculated on a gross basis (*i.e.,* an indirect participant-by-indirect participant basis) and legally segregated from the margin for the Netting Member's proprietary transactions (as well as those of other indirect participants); (4) align FICC's margin calculation methodology with the expanded account types and enhance public disclosure through the Rules of that calculation methodology; and (5) simplify the requirements for brokered transactions so that they only apply to transactions executed by an Inter-Dealer Broker Netting Member on the trading platform offered by that Inter-Dealer Broker Netting Member.

Regarding the changes described in (3) above, Partial Amendment No. 1 makes several changes to the requirements regarding Segregated Customer Margin. First, as originally proposed, the Proposed Rule Change requires FICC to establish and maintain on its books and records a Segregated Customer Margin Custody Account corresponding to each Segregated Indirect Participants Account.[15] Partial Amendment No. 1 deletes and replaces language in Rule 4, Section 1a, requiring Segregated Customer Margin credited to a Segregated Customer Margin Custody Account to be used exclusively to settle and margin Transactions in U.S. Treasury securities recorded in the corresponding Segregated Indirect Participants Account, with language requiring Segregated Customer Margin credited to a Segregated Customer Margin Custody Account to secure Transactions recorded in the corresponding Segregated Indirect Participants Account and satisfy payment and delivery obligations owning to the Corporation (including liquidating or otherwise using such Segregated Customer Margin to obtain relevant cash or securities) in connection with a default in respect of such Transactions.

Similarly, Partial Amendment No. 1 deletes and replaces language in Rule 4, Section 5 regarding the use of Clearing Fund and Segregated Customer Margin requiring FICC to only use the portion of Segregated Customer Margin that supports each Segregated Indirect Participant's Transactions. The Proposed Rule Change stated that FICC could use that portion to secure or settle the obligations of that Segregated Indirect Participant, and of the Sponsoring Member or Agent Clearing Member with respect to the obligations of that Segregated Indirect Participant, whereas Partial Amendment No. 1 replaces this language to state that FICC may only use that portion of Segregated Customer Margin to secure the Transactions of that Segregated Indirect Participant recorded in the corresponding Segregated Indirect Participants Account and satisfy payment and delivery obligations owing to FICC (including liquidating or otherwise using such Segregated Customer Margin to obtain relevant cash or securities) in connection with a default in respect of such Transactions.

[1] 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

[2] 17 CFR 240.19b–4.

[3] *See* Securities Exchange Act Release No. 99149 (Dec. 13, 2023), 89 FR 2714 (Jan. 16, 2024) (S7–23–22) (''Adopting Release,'' and the rules adopted therein as ''Treasury Clearing Rules''). *See also* 17 CFR 240.15c3–3a.

[4] Securities Exchange Act Release No. 99844 (March 22, 2024), 89 FR 21603 (Mar. 28, 2024) (File No. SR–FICC–2024–007) (''Notice of Filing''). FICC also filed a related Advance Notice with the Commission pursuant to Section 806(e)(1) of Title VIII of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act, entitled the Payment, Clearing, and Settlement Supervision Act of 2010 and Rule 19b–4(n)(1)(i) under the Exchange Act. 12 U.S.C. 5465(e)(1). 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1) and 17 CFR 240.19b–4, respectively. The Advance Notice was published in the **Federal Register** on March 28, 2024. Securities Exchange Act Release No. 99845 (Mar. 22, 2024), 89 FR 21586 (Mar. 28, 2024) (File No. SR–FICC–2024–802).

[5] Comments on the Proposed Rule Change are *available at https://www.sec.gov/comments/sr-ficc-2024-007/srficc2024007.htm*. Comments on the Advance Notice are *available at https://www.sec.gov/comments/sr-ficc-2024-802/srficc2024802.htm*. Because the proposals contained in the Proposed Rule Change and the Advance Notice are the same, the Commission considers all comments received on the proposal, regardless of whether the comments are submitted with respect to the Advance Notice or the Proposed Rule Change.

[6] *See* Letter from Laura Klimpel, Managing Director, Head of Fixed Income and Financing Solutions, Depository Trust & Clearing Corporation, (Aug. 1, 2024) (''FICC Letter'').

[7] 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2).

[8] Securities Exchange Act Release No. 100022 (Apr. 24, 2024), 89 FR 34289 (Apr. 30, 2024) (File No. SR–FICC–2024–007).

[9] 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2)(B).

[10] Securities Exchange Act Release No. 100401 (Jun. 21, 2024), 89 FR 53690 (Jun. 27, 2024) (File No. SR–FICC–2024–007).

[11] Securities Exchange Act Release No. 101082 (Sep. 18, 2024), 89 FR 77949 (Sep. 24, 2024) (File No. SR–FICC–2024–007).

[12] Text of the proposed changes made by the Partial Amendment No. 1 to the Proposed Rule Change is *available at https://www.sec.gov/rules-regulations/self-regulatory-organization-rulemaking.* The GSD Rules are *available at https://www.dtcc.com/~/media/Files/Downloads/legal/rules/ficc_gov_rules.pdf.* Terms not otherwise defined herein are defined in the GSD Rules or in the Proposed Rule Change.

[13] 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

[14] 17 CFR 240.19b–4.

[15] Notice of Filing *supra* note 4.

Additionally, Partial Amendment No 1. clarifies language in that portion of Rule 4 regarding FICC's prohibition on using Segregated Customer Margin from one Segregated Indirect Participant's Transactions to secure or settle another Segregated Indirect Participant's Transaction by deleting reference to the term ''settle'' and replacing with satisfying payment or delivery obligations in connection with another Segregated Indirect Participant's Transaction.

Second, as originally proposed, the Proposed Rule Change requires FICC to hold all Segregated Customer Margin in an account at a bank within the meaning of the Exchange Act that is insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or at the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, which account shall be segregated from any other account of the Corporation and used exclusively to hold Segregated Customer Margin.[16] Additionally, the Proposed Rule Change requires Segregated Customer Margin to be subject to a written notice of the bank or Federal Reserve Bank provided to and retained by the Corporation that the Segregated Customer Margin in the account is being held by the bank or Federal Reserve Bank pursuant to SEC Rule 15c3–3 and is being kept separate from any other accounts maintained by the Corporation or any other person at the bank or Federal Reserve Bank.[17] Partial Amendment No. 1 revises the Proposed Rule Change to insert text that clarifies that FICC shall not only hold Segregated Customer Margin in an account of FICC at a bank within the meaning of the Exchange Act that is insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, but shall also hold Segregated Customer Margin in an account at a bank that is also a qualified custodian under the Investment Company Act of 1940,[18] as amended.[19] Additionally, the Proposed Rule Change inserts text that clarifies that not only is each account holding Segregated Customer Margin being held by a bank or Federal Reserve Bank pursuant to SEC Rule 15c3–3 is being kept separate from any other accounts maintained by FICC or any other person at the bank or Federal Reserve Bank, but also requires these accounts to not be commingled with any other accounts maintained by FICC or any other persona at the bank or Federal Reserve Bank.

Third, as originally proposed, the Proposed Rule Change requires any interest earned on Segregated Customer Margin to be paid by FICC to the Netting Member.[20] Partial Amendment No. 1 inserts language to clarify that any interest earned on Segregated Customer Margin consisting of cash shall be paid to the Netting Member for the benefit of, and as agent for, its Segregated Indirect Participants.

Fourth, as originally proposed, the Proposed Rule Change would apply three requirements to each Segregated Customer Margin Requirement for a particular Segregated Indirect Participants Account: (1) A minimum of 40 percent of the Segregated Customer Margin Requirement for such Account shall be satisfied with cash and/or Eligible Clearing Fund Treasury Securities; (2) the lesser of $5,000,000 or 10 percent of the Segregated Customer Margin Requirement for the Account must be made and maintained in cash; and (3) a minimum of the product of $1 million and the number of Segregated Indirect Participants whose Transactions are recorded in such Segregated Indirect Participants Account must be made and maintained in cash.[21] Partial Amendment No. 1 would revise the Proposed Rule Change by deleting the second requirement regarding the lesser of $5,000,000 or 10 percent of the Segregated Customer Margin Requirement for the Account must be made and maintained in cash.

Fifth, as originally proposed, FICC had the discretion to retain some or all of the Excess Segregated Customer Margin if the Member had an outstanding payment or margin obligation to FICC with respect to the Transactions of any Segregated Indirect Participant.[22] Partial Amendment No. 1 would revise the Proposed Rule Change by adding text that clarifies the FICC shall not retain the Excess Segregated Customer Margin with respect to the Transactions of a Segregated Indirect Participant when they have determined, in their sole discretion, that such outstanding payment or margin obligation is unrelated to the Transactions of that Segregated Indirect Participant.

Sixth, Partial Amendment No. 1 would make the following change to the Margin Component Schedule in the Proposed Rule Change regarding Segregated Customer Margin Requirement Calculations.[23] As originally proposed, each Segregated Indirect Participant would be required to deposit in the Segregated Indirect Participants Account Required Fund Deposit the greater of the (i) the sum of the Unadjusted GSD Margin Portfolio Amount and all applicable additional charges; and (ii) a minimum charge of $1 million. Partial Amendment No. 1 would revise the Proposed Rule Change by inserting text to clarify that FICC may, in its sole discretion, adjust the minimum charge of $1 million in the Segregated Indirect Participants Account Required Fund Deposit if FICC determines that a different minimum charge would be appropriate and consistent with achieving its backtesting coverage target and that Members would be notified of any such adjustment by an Important Notice.

Seventh, Partial Amendment No. 1 would add text to Rule 3A, Section 3, as proposed to be amended by SR–FICC–2024–005,[24] to state that a Sponsored Member may be a series of a limited liability company, statutory trust, or other legal entity.

Regarding the changes described in (4) above, Partial Amendment No. 1 would add language to clarify how the definition of Current Net Settlement Position relates to Sponsored GC Trades and that the definition does not refer to calculating the Net Settlement Position under Rule 11. As originally proposed, the definition stated that, if a Current Net Settlement Position recorded in a Sponsoring Member Omnibus Account or Segregated Indirect Participants Account is not clearly allocable to an individual Sponsored Member or Segregated Indirect Participant, including because one or more transactions recorded in the Account did not settle on its original Scheduled Settlement Date, then, for purposes of calculating the relevant Netting Member's Sponsoring Member Omnibus Account Required Fund Deposit or Segregated Customer Margin Requirement for such Account, FICC shall allocate the positions in the manner specified. In Partial Amendment No. 1, the definition states if a Current Net Settlement Position recorded in a Sponsoring Member Omnibus Account or Segregated Indirect Participants Account is not clearly allocable to an individual Sponsored Member or Segregated Indirect Participant, including because one or more transactions (other than Sponsored GC Trades) recorded in the Account did not settle on its original Scheduled Settlement Date (such failure to settle would not occur with respect to Sponsored GC Trades), then, for purposes of calculating the relevant

[16] *Id.*

[17] *Id.*

[18] 15 U.S.C. 80a–1 *et seq.*

[19] Notice of Filing, *supra* note 4.

[20] *Id.*

[21] *Id.*

[22] *Id.*

[23] *Id.*

[24] Securities Exchange Act Release No. 99817 (March 21, 2024), 89 FR 21362 (March 27, 2024) (File No. SR–FICC–2024–005).

Netting Member's Sponsoring Member Omnibus Account Required Fund Deposit or Segregated Customer Margin Requirement for such Account and not for purposes of calculating the Net Settlement Position under Rule 11, FICC shall allocate the positions in the manner specified.[25]

Regarding the changes described in (5) above, Partial Amendment No. 1 makes several changes to the Proposed Rule Change and existing rules regarding the use of the term Brokered Transactions, including changes to its definition. Specifically, Partial Amendment No. 1 would delete and add text to the definition of Brokered Transaction to clarify that a Brokered Transaction means the side of a transaction, including a Repo Transaction, that is submitted to the Corporation for Novation by an Inter-Dealer Broker Netting Member calling for the delivery of an Eligible Netting Security, or the posting of cash or an Eligible Netting Security as collateral, that such Inter-Dealer Broker Netting Member enters into with another Netting Member or a Sponsored Member or Executing Firm Customer through the Inter-Dealer Broker Netting Member's own trading platform. As initially proposed, the definition of Brokered Transaction referred only to any transaction, including a Repo Transaction, calling for the delivery of an Eligible Netting Security, or the posting of cash or an Eligible Netting Security as collateral.

Partial Amendment No. 1 also revises text proposed in SR–FICC–2024–005 regarding the treatment of Agent Clearing Transactions and deletes reference to the term Brokered Transactions, such that Brokered Transactions would not be excluded from being an Agent Clearing Transaction.

Additionally, Partial Amendment No. 1 makes the following changes to delete references to the term Brokered Transactions: (i) amends text from the Proposed Rule Change regarding Rule 1, to remove the term Brokered Transactions from the definition of Dealer Account; (ii) revises Rule 4, Section 7 regarding loss allocation for Inter-Dealer Broker Netting Members, to replace a reference to a Segregated Repo Account, with a reference to a Broker Account, and to remove a reference to a Non-IDB Repo Broker, as the Proposed Rule Change deletes the use of that term from the Rules; and (iii) amends existing Rule 3A Section 5 regarding Sponsored Member Trades and deletes reference to the term Brokered Transactions, such that the text now states that Sponsored Member Trades (other than Sponsored GC Trades) may be any type of transaction eligible for submission to FICC for netting with the exception of Netting Eligible Auction Purchases and GCF Repo Transactions.

Finally, Partial Amendment No. 1 makes several technical and conforming changes throughout the Proposed Rule Change, such as renumbering section numbers to reflect the addition of new sections.

Partial Amendment No. 1 would not change the purpose of, or statutory basis for the proposed rule change. All other representations in the Proposed Rule Change remain as stated therein and no other changes are being made.

II. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act. Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

Electronic Comments

- Use the Commission's internet comment form (*https://www.sec.gov/rules-regulations/self-regulatory-organization-rulemaking*); or
- Send an email to *rule-comments@sec.gov.* Please include file number SR–FICC–2024–007 on the subject line.

Paper Comments

- Send paper comments in triplicate to Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR–FICC–2024–007. This file number should be included on the subject line if email is used. To help the Commission process and review your comments more efficiently, please use only one method. The Commission will post all comments on the Commission's internet website (*https://www.sec.gov/rules-regulations/self-regulatory-organization-rulemaking*). Copies of the submission, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the proposed rule change between the Commission and any person, other than those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be available for website viewing and printing in the Commission's Public Reference Room, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549, on official business days between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Copies of such filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of FICC and on DTCC's website at (*https://dtcc.com/legal/sec-rule-filings.aspx*). Do not include personal identifiable information in submissions; you should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. We may redact in part or withhold entirely from publication submitted material that is obscene or subject to copyright protection. All submissions should refer to File Number SR–FICC–2024–007 and should be submitted on or before November 18, 2024.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.[26]

Sherry R. Haywood,

Assistant Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2024–25429 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

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[25] Partial Amendment No. 1 would also amend the definition of Netting Member Capital to use the defined terms Net Assets and Equity Capital.

[26] 17 CFR 200.30–3(a)(31).

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34–101452; File No. SR–NYSEAMER–2024–62]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; NYSE American LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Change To Modify Rule 971.2NYP

October 28, 2024.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1)[1] of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (''Act''),[2] and Rule 19b–4 thereunder,[3] notice is hereby given that, on October 22, 2024, NYSE American LLC (''NYSE American'' or the ''Exchange'') filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the ''Commission'') the proposed rule change as described in Items I and II below, which Items have been prepared by the self-regulatory organization. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

I. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule Change

The Exchange proposes to modify Rule 971.2NYP regarding the Customer Best Execution Auction for Complex Orders. The proposed rule change is available on the Exchange's website at

[1] 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

[2] 15 U.S.C. 78a.

[3] 17 CFR 240.19b–4.

www.nyse.com, at the principal office of the Exchange, and at the Commission's Public Reference Room.

II. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

In its filing with the Commission, the self-regulatory organization included statements concerning the purpose of, and basis for, the proposed rule change and discussed any comments it received on the proposed rule change. The text of those statements may be examined at the places specified in Item IV below. The Exchange has prepared summaries, set forth in sections A, B, and C below, of the most significant parts of such statements.

A. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and the Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

1. Purpose

The Exchange proposes to modify Rule 971.2NYP regarding the Customer Best Execution Auction for Complex Orders (''Complex CUBE Auction'' or ''Auction''), which is a paired auction with a price improvement mechanism. The Exchange proposes to modify Rule 971.2NYP (the ''Rule'') to permit Complex CUBE Auctions in nonconforming ratios (as defined below). This filing is a competitive filing as it will align Complex CUBE Auctions with auction functionality already available on competing options exchanges.[4]

Conforming and Nonconforming Complex Orders

Rule 900.3NYP(f) provides that a Complex Order is any order involving the simultaneous purchase and/or sale of two or more option series in the same underlying security (the ''legs'' or ''components'' of the Complex Order), for the same account, in a ratio that is equal to or greater than one-to-three (.333) and less than or equal to three-to-one (3.00) (referred to herein as the ''conforming ratio'' or ''conforming ratio requirement'').[5] The Exchange recently amended its rules to permit Complex Qualified Contingent Cross (''QCC'') Orders with ratios greater than three-to-one or less than one-to-three (''nonconforming ratios'') to trade electronically.[6] A Complex CUBE Order is subject to the conforming ratio requirement as it is defined, in part, as a ''Complex Order'' pursuant to Rule 900.3NYP(f).[7] The Exchange proposes to modify the Rule to permit Auctions of Complex CUBE Orders with nonconforming ratios as described herein.

Overview of Complex CUBE Auctions

The Complex CUBE Auction is a paired auction, with a price improvement mechanism, for Complex CUBE Orders.[8] A Complex CUBE Order is a Complex Order, per Rule 900.3NYP(f) (as described above), that is submitted to the Complex CUBE Auction by an Initiating Participant.[9] The Initiating Participant represents the Complex CUBE Order as agent and guarantees the execution of such order by submitting a Contra Order.[10] The time at which the Auction is initiated will also be considered the time of execution for the Complex CUBE Order.[11] To initiate a Complex CUBE Auction, the net price of a Complex CUBE Order to buy (sell) must be equal to or higher (lower) than the CUBE BB (BO).[12] ATP Holders that respond to an Auction have the option of submitting a Complex GTX Order, which order is designed to interact with the Complex CUBE Order (if at all), then cancel.[13] A Complex CUBE Auction will end early (*i.e.,* before the Exchange-established minimum duration) based on certain market updates.[14] At the conclusion of the Auction, the entire Complex CUBE Order will execute within a range of permissible executions with the best-priced available interest during the Auction, or the Complex Contra Order, as applicable.[15]

Proposed Rule

The Exchange proposes to modify the Rule to allow the execution of Complex

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[4] In June 2022, Cboe Exchange, Inc. (''Cboe'') began supporting the electronic processing of certain stock-option orders in nonconforming ratios, including orders submitted to Cboe's Complex Automated Improvement Mechanism (''c–AIM''). *See* Cboe Exchange Alert, ''Schedule Update—Cboe Options Introduces New Net, Leg Price Increments and Enhanced Electronic, Open Outcry Handling for Complex Orders with Non-Conforming Ratios, Reference ID: C2022060301 available online at *https://cdn.cboe.com/resources/release_notes/2022/Schedule-Update-Cboe-Options-Introduces-New-Net-Leg-Price-Increments-and-Enhanced-Electronic-Open-Outcry-Handling-for-Complex-Orders-with-Non-Conforming-Ratios.pdf* (providing, in relevant part, that beginning June 12, 2022, ''automated handling via COA, COB, AIM, and QCC will be available for applicable non-conforming orders, except in SPX/SPXW'') (referred to herein as the ''Cboe Trader Update''). *See also* Securities Exchange Act Release Nos. 94204 (February 9, 2022), 87 FR 8625 (February 15, 2022) (SR–CBOE–2021–046) (order approving Cboe's proposal, as amended, to permit complex orders with ratios less than one-to-three and greater than three-to-one to be eligible for electronic processing and to trade in penny increments); 95006 (May 31, 2022), 87 FR 34334 (June 6, 2022) (SR–CBOE–2022–024) (allowing Cboe to retain discretion to determine on a class-by-class basis eligibility for electronic processing of complex orders with ratios less than one-to-three and greater than three-to-one (*i.e.,* ratios other than the conforming ratio requirement). In 2023, Miami International Securities Exchange, LLC (''MIAX'') amended its rules to permit complex orders to trade in nonconforming ratios, including orders submitted to ''cPRIME,'' its price improvement auction for complex orders. *See* Securities Exchange Act Release Nos. 94204 (February 9, 2022), 87 FR 8625 (February 15, 2022) (SR–MIAX–2023–01) (immediately effective filing adopting pricing for nonconforming complex orders (per MIAX Rule 518), including as it relates to orders executed in cPRIME (per Rule 515A, Interpretations and Policies .12)). Like the Complex CUBE, both c–AIM and cPRIME are ''CUBE-like'' paired auctions with price improvement mechanisms. While these CUBE-like auction mechanisms are not identical, the Exchange believes that, for purposes of this proposal, they provide valid bases for comparison.

[5] The Exchange notes that Complex Orders in conforming ratios may qualify for the ''Complex Trade'' exception to trade through the NBBO. *See* Rules 990NY(4) (defining Complex Trade as it relates to order protection) and 991NY(b)(7) (exempting from trade-through liability transactions effected as a portion of a Complex Trade).

[6] *See* Securities Exchange Act Release No. 98279 (September 22, 2023), 88 FR 62115 (September 28, 2023) (SR–NYSEAMER–2023–44) (immediately effective rule change to modify Rule 900.3NYP(g)(1) to allow Complex QCC Orders in nonconforming ratios). *See also* Rule 900.3NYP(g)(1)(G) (''Complex QCC Orders are eligible for electronic processing regardless of the ratio in the component legs''). The Exchange currently permits the execution of certain nonconforming Complex Orders on the Trading Floor. *See, e.g.,* Rule 900.3NYP(h)(6)(B) (regarding Stock/Complex Orders that are only available for trading in Open Outcry and are not subject to the conforming ratio requirement).

[7] *See* Rule 971.2NYP(a).

[8] *See generally* Rule 971.2NYP (Complex Electronic Cross Transactions). The capitalized terms related to the Complex CUBE as used herein have the same meaning as set forth in the Rule. The definitions relevant to the Auction are set forth in Rule 971.2NYP(a)(1)(A).

[9] *See* Rule 971.2NYP(a).

[10] The Complex CUBE Order may be submitted on behalf of a public customer, broker dealer, or any other entity whereas the Complex Contra Order represents principal interest or non-Customer interest solicited to trade solely with the Complex CUBE Order. *See* Rule 971.2NYP(a) and (a)(1), respectively.

[11] *See* Rule 971.2NYP(a)(2).

[12] *See id. See* Rule 971.2NYP(a)(1)(A)(ii) regarding the definition of the CUBE BBO.

[13] *See* Rule 971.2NYP(c)(1)(C)(i). The Exchange notes that, like Complex QCC Orders, Complex GTX Orders are never placed in the Consolidated Book and instead execute or cancel. *Compare* Rule 900.3NYP(g) *with* Rule 971.2NYP(c)(1)(C)(i)(b). Unrelated Complex Orders received during the Auction will be treated as responses to the Complex CUBE and will trade with the Complex CUBE Order, if eligible. *See* Rule 971.2NYP(c)(1)(C)(ii). The Exchange notes that, unlike Complex GTX Orders, ''unrelated Complex Orders'' are not designated to trade solely in the Complex CUBE Auction (*i.e.,* such orders may execute outside of the Auction).

[14] *See* Rule 971.2NYP(c)(3)(A)–(B).

[15] *See* Rule 971.2NYP(a)(1)(A)(v) (defining the ''range of permissible executions''). *See also* Rule 971.2NYP(c)(4) (regarding the allocation of the Complex CUBE Order). The Exchange notes that, like Complex QCC Orders, Complex CUBE Orders are never placed in the Consolidated Book. Complex QCC Orders execute immediately or cancel and Complex CUBE Orders are guaranteed to execute in full. *Compare* Rule 900.3NYP(g) *with* Rule 971.2NYP(a)(1).

CUBE Orders in nonconforming ratios as follows.[16]

First, the Exchange proposes to adopt a definition of a ''nonconforming Complex CUBE Order.'' As proposed, a nonconforming Complex CUBE Order ''may have a leg ratio that is greater than three-to-one (3.00) or less than one-to three (.333),'' [17] which mirrors the leg ratio description utilized by other options exchanges that permit complex orders in nonconforming ratios to trade in their CUBE-like mechanisms.[18] While other options exchanges have authority to trade nonconforming complex orders outside of their CUBE-like auction mechanisms, this proposal is focused solely on allowing nonconforming Complex CUBE Orders to trade in the Auction.[19]

Next, the Exchange proposes to specify the pricing requirements applicable to an Auction of a nonconforming Complex CUBE Order, including that it must be priced within the Complex NBBO.[20] The Complex NBBO, as defined in Rule 980NYP(a)(2), refers to ''the derived national best net bid and derived national best net offer for a complex strategy calculated using the NBB and NBO for each component leg of a complex strategy.'' [21] Thus, as proposed:

> The ''CUBE BB (BO)'' for a nonconforming Complex CUBE Order to buy (sell) is the Complex NBB (NBO), provided that for each component leg of the Complex NBB (NBO) that represents displayed Customer interest on the Exchange, the CUBE BB (BO) will improve the price of such displayed Customer interest by at least one cent ($0.01).[22]

This proposed requirement would ensure that every component leg of a nonconforming Complex CUBE Order trades at a price that is equal to or better than the NBBO and better than displayed Customer interest on the Exchange.

Consistent with the proposed definition of CUBE BBO for nonconforming Complex CUBE Orders, the Exchange proposes to define the ''initiating price'' for such orders. As proposed, ''[t]he 'initiating price' for a nonconforming Complex CUBE Order to buy (sell) is the lower (higher) of the Complex CUBE Order's net price or the price that locks the CUBE BO (BB).'' [23] The proposed pricing requirements are identical to the requirements for Complex QCC Orders, which also trade in nonconforming ratios.[24] Moreover, the proposed pricing requirements mirror those imposed by competing options exchanges that permit complex orders in nonconforming ratios to be submitted to price improvement auctions like the Complex CUBE.[25]

In addition, the Exchange proposes to modify the Rule to account for leg market updates that would result in the early end of an Auction of a nonconforming Complex CUBE Order. Currently, a Complex CUBE Auction will end early based on certain updates to the contra-side CUBE BBO but only when the CUBE BBO is based on the DBBO (*i.e.,* the leg markets).[26] Because nonconforming Complex CUBE Orders are based on the Complex NBBO and not the DBBO, the Exchange proposes to remove reference to the DBBO. As proposed, the Rule would specify that a Complex CUBE Auction will end early upon the arrival of ''[a]ny opposite-side interest in the leg markets that adjusts the CUBE BO (BB) to be lower (higher) than the initiating price,'' [27] which includes updates to the DBBO or Complex NBBO, as applicable. This proposed modification is consistent with early end scenarios on other options exchanges that permit complex orders in nonconforming ratios to be submitted to CUBE-like price improvement auctions.[28]

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[16] This proposal does not impact existing Complex CUBE Orders, the definitions related thereto, or the processing of such orders in the CUBE Auction. Rather, it specifies only the requirements for and handling of the proposed nonconforming Complex CUBE Orders.

[17] *See* proposed Rule 971.2NYP(a)(1)(A)(vii).

[18] *See, e.g.,* Cboe Rule 1.1 (providing that a ''Nonconforming Complex Order'' means ''a complex order with a ratio on the options legs less than one-to-three (.333) or greater than three-to-one (3.00)'') and MIAX Rule 518(a)(16) (providing that a ''non-conforming ratio'' is ''where the ratio between the sizes of the components of a complex order comprised solely of options is greater than three-to-one (3.00)''). As noted herein, both Cboe and MIAX permit nonconforming complex orders to trade in their auction mechanisms. *See supra* note 4 (citing Cboe Trader Update permitting c–AIM Auction of Nonconforming Complex Orders and MIAX Rule 515A, Interpretations and Policies .12 permitting cPRIME Auction of Nonconforming Complex Orders).

[19] For example, in its definition of ''Complex Order,'' Cboe has retained discretion to determine ''on a class-by-class basis whether non-conforming complex orders are eligible for electronic processing (*see* Cboe Rule 1.1) and specifies in the Cboe Trader Update that nonconforming complex orders may participate in its c-AIM) (*see supra* note 4). If the Exchange opts to allow Complex Orders in nonconforming ratios (that are not Complex QCC Orders) to trade outside the of Complex CUBE Auction, the Exchange will submit a separate rule filing.

[20] The CUBE BBO for conforming Complex CUBE Orders is comprised of better of the Complex BBO or DBBO. *See* Rule 971.2NYP(a)(1)(A)(ii)(a)–(b). The Complex BBO is ''the best-priced complex order(s) in the same complex strategy to buy (sell).'' *See* Rule 971.2NYP(a)(1)(A)(i). The DBBO has the meaning set forth in Rule 980NYP(a)(5). *See* Rule 971.2NYP(a)(1)(A)(iii). Rule 980NYP describes the trading of Electronic Complex Orders on the Exchange.

[21] *See* proposed Rule 971.2NYP(a)(1)(A)(ii) (adding definition of ''Complex NBBO'' as having the meaning set forth in Rule 980NYP(a)(2)''). To accommodate this change, the Exchange proposes to re-number the balance of Rule(a)(1)(A). *See* proposed Rule 971.2NYP(a)(1)(A)(iii)–(vi). The Complex NBBO is an aggregation of NBBO prices, which aggregation is designed to ensure that the component legs of a nonconforming Complex CUBE Order do not trade through the NBBO. Relying on the Complex NBBO is akin to the reliance on the DBBO as the DBBO is an aggregation of BBO prices, which aggregation ensures that conforming Complex CUBE Orders do not trade through the BBO).

[22] *See* proposed Rule 971.2NYP(a)(1)(A)(vii)(a).

[23] *See* proposed Rule 971.2NYP(a)(1)(A)(vii)(b) (including cross-reference to—and specifying that—for purposes of the determining the proposed ''initiating price,'' the applicable ''CUBE BO (BB)'' for nonconforming Complex CUBE Orders is as defined in proposed Rule 971.2NYP(a)(1)(A)(vii)(a)).

[24] *See* Rule 900.3NYP(g)(1)(D)(i)–(iii) (providing, in relevant part, that each option leg of a Complex QCC Order must meet the pricing requirements for a single-leg QCC Order and must also trade at a price that: is equal to or better than the Exchange BBO; is equal to or better than the best-priced Complex Orders on the Exchange; and, if the best-price Complex Order on the Exchange includes displayed Customer interest, improves the price of such displayed Customer interest by at least one cent ($0.01). The pricing requirements for the proposed nonconforming CUBE Orders are the same as for Complex QCC Orders even though the latter does not rely on the (shorthand) reference ''Complex NBBO,'' which definition the Exchange adopted *after* it had adopted the Complex QCC Order type (*i.e.,* it is a distinction without a difference).

[25] *See, e.g.,* Cboe Trader Update, *supra* note 4 (proving that, for nonconforming Complex Orders, execution prices for each option leg must be at or inside the NBBO and must improve the local BBO by at least $0.01 when there is a Priority Customer Order resting at the BBO on that leg. Cboe notes that, ''by contrast, conforming complex orders may potentially trade at the same price as a Priority Customer Order resting at the BBO on a given leg (but not all legs) if certain conditions are satisfied,'' and cites to Cboe Rules 5.33(f)(2) and 5.85(b)). The same distinction likewise applies for nonconforming versus conforming Complex CUBE Orders, respectively. *Compare* proposed Rule 971.2NYP(a)(1)(A)(vii)(a)–(b) *with* Rule 971.2NYP(a)(1)(A)(ii)(a)–(b). *See also* MIAX Rule 518(c)(1)(v) (providing, in relevant part, that a complex order with a nonconforming ratio, will not be executed at a net price that would cause any option component of the complex strategy to be executed ''ahead of a Priority Customer Order at the MBBO [MIAX BBO] on the Simple Order Book'' or ''at a price that is through the NBBO'').

[26] *See* Rule 971.2NYP(c)(3)(B). The Exchange notes that there is no need to modify the early-end scenario set forth in Rule 971.2NYP(c)(3)(A) because this scenario is based on same-side updates to the CUBE BBO that improve the initiating price and applies equally to Auctions of the nonconforming Complex CUBE Orders.

[27] *See* proposed Rule 971.2NYP(c)(3)(B). The Exchange believes that removing reference to the DBBO rather than adding reference to the Complex NBBO results in a proposed Rule provision that is more concise and easier to comprehend.

[28] *See, e.g.,* MIAX Rule 515A, Interpretations and Policies .12(d)(viii) (providing that a cPRIME of an Agency Order with a nonconforming ratio will end early upon the arrival of a Priority Customer Order in MIAX's Simple Order Book (*i.e.,* the leg markets) that ''causes any component of the cPRIME Agency Order to lock or cross a Priority Customer Order at (A) the best price opposite the cPRIME Agency Order; or (B) the initiating price''; or (ix) ''the NBBO for a component of a cPRIME Agency Order with

Finally, the Exchange proposes to modify the Rule to specify that ''Complex GTX Orders are eligible for processing regardless of ratio, including against nonconforming Complex CUBE Orders.'' [29] As noted here, competing options exchanges already allow complex orders in nonconforming ratios to execute in CUBE-like auctions.[30]

Implementation

Because of the technology changes associated with this proposed rule change, the Exchange will announce the implementation date by Trader Update, which, subject to effectiveness of this proposed rule change, will be no later than in the first quarter of 2025.

2. Statutory Basis

For the reasons set forth above, the Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(5) of the Act, in that it is designed to promote just and equitable principles of trade,remove impediments to and perfect the mechanisms of a free and open market and a national market system and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest.

In particular, the proposed rule change will remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system because it will enable the Exchange to compete on equal footing with other exchanges that conduct price improvement auctions (like the Complex CUBE) of nonconforming complex orders. First, the proposed definition for the leg ratio of a ''nonconforming Complex CUBE Order'' is identical to the definitions utilized on other options exchanges that accommodate the trading of complex orders in nonconforming ratios.[31] Second, as noted herein, the proposed pricing requirements for a nonconforming Complex CUBE Order, including that the CUBE BBO be based on the Complex NBBO, are substantially the same as the requirements imposed on competing options exchanges.[32] Similarly, also consistent with the rules of other options exchanges, is the proposed Rule change to account for leg market updates (*i.e.,* to the Complex NBBO) that result in the early end of an Auction of the nonconforming Complex CUBE Order.[33] Finally, the proposal to permit the execution of Complex GTX Orders in any ratio, including against nonconforming Complex CUBE Orders, is likewise consistent with rules already in place on competing options exchanges.[34]

Finally, the proposed rule change will also promote internal consistency as the Exchange already permits the trading of Complex QCC Orders in nonconforming ratios and the proposed nonconforming Complex CUBE Orders must adhere to the same pricing requirements as such Complex QCC Orders.[35] As such, the proposal would ensure that each nonconforming Complex CUBE Order is priced equal to or better than the Complex NBBO and will improve the price of any displayed Customer interest on the Exchange at the NBBO.

In addition, the proposed change would promote just and equitable principles of trade, remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system, and, in general to protect investors and the public interest because it would provide another venue for nonconforming Complex Orders to execute in a price improvement auction such as the Complex CUBE. The Exchange also believes that the proposed rule change would not permit unfair discrimination among market participants, as all market participants may opt to trade Complex CUBE Orders with nonconforming ratios.

B. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. The Exchange does not believe that its proposed rule change will impose any burden on intra-market competition as it would apply equally to all market participants that opt to submit nonconforming Complex CUBE Orders, which orders the Exchange will process in a uniform manner.

The Exchange does not believe that its proposed rule change will impose any burden on inter-market competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act, rather the Exchange believes that its proposal will promote inter-market competition. As noted herein, the proposed change is competitive as other options exchanges currently conduct CUBE-like price improvement auctions of complex orders in nonconforming ratios based on similar pricing requirements and early end scenarios.[36] As such, the Exchange's proposal will enhance inter-market competition by providing investors with an additional venue on which to submit for auction Complex Orders in nonconforming ratios. Market participants may find it more convenient to access one exchange over another or may choose to concentrate volume at a particular exchange to maximize the impact of volume-based incentive programs or may prefer the trade execution services of one exchange over another.

C. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule Change Received From Members, Participants, or Others

No written comments were solicited or received with respect to the proposed rule change.

III. Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action

The Exchange has filed the proposed rule change pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(iii) of the Act [37] and Rule 19b–4(f)(6) thereunder.[38] Because the proposed rule change does not: (i) significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest; (ii) impose any significant burden on competition; and (iii) become operative prior to 30 days from the date on which it was filed, or such shorter time as the Commission may designate, if consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest, the proposed rule change has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)

a non-conforming ratio updates to a price that would cause any option component of the cPRIME Agency Order to be executed at a price through the NBBO'').

[29] *See* proposed Rule 971.2NYP(c)(1)(C)(i)(e). The Exchanges notes that unrelated Complex Orders that trade in a Complex CUBE Auction (*i.e.,* not designated as Complex GTX Orders) are not eligible to trade in nonconforming ratios. As noted herein, if the Exchange opts to allow Complex Orders in nonconforming ratios to trade on the Exchange—in addition to those designated to trade in an Auction or as Complex QCC Orders, the Exchange will submit a separate rule filing.

[30] *See, e.g., supra* notes 4, 18, and 25.

[31] *See supra* note 18 (regarding Cboe and MIAX definitions of nonconforming complex orders).

[32] *See supra* notes 4 (regarding the trading of nonconforming complex orders in Cboe's c-AIM and in MIAX's cPRIME auction and associated) and 24 (regarding pricing Cboe's and MIAX's pricing requirements for nonconforming complex orders).

[33] *See supra* note 28 (regarding leg marker updates that result in the early-end of a cPRIME on MIAX).

[34] *See supra* notes 4 and 18 (regarding ability of Cboe and MIAX to trade nonconforming complex orders, including in their CUBE-like auction mechanisms).

[35] *See supra* note 24 (regarding pricing requirements for Complex QCC Orders).

[36] *See, e.g., supra* notes 4 and 18 (regarding ability of Cboe and MIAX to trade nonconforming complex orders, including in their CUBE-like auction mechanisms) and 27 (regarding MIAX leg market updates that cause the early end of cPRIME of nonconforming complex order).

[37] 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(iii).

[38] 17 CFR 240.19b–4(f)(6).

of the Act and Rule 19b–4(f)(6)(iii) thereunder.[39]

A proposed rule change filed under Rule 19b–4(f)(6)[40] normally does not become operative prior to 30 days after the date of the filing. However, pursuant to Rule 19b4(f)(6)(iii),[41] the Commission may designate a shorter time if such action is consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest.

At any time within 60 days of the filing of such proposed rule change, the Commission summarily may temporarily suspend such rule change if it appears to the Commission that such action is necessary or appropriate in the public interest, for the protection of investors, or otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. If the Commission takes such action, the Commission shall institute proceedings under Section 19(b)(2)(B)[42] of the Act to determine whether the proposed rule change should be approved or disapproved.

IV. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act. Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

Electronic Comments

- Use the Commission's internet comment form (*https://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml*); or
- Send an email to *rule-comments@sec.gov.* Please include file number SR–NYSEAMER–2024–62 on the subject line.

Paper Comments

- Send paper comments in triplicate to Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549–1090.

All submissions should refer to file number SR–NYSEAMER–2024–62. This file number should be included on the subject line if email is used. To help the Commission process and review your comments more efficiently, please use only one method. The Commission will post all comments on the Commission's internet website (*https://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml*). Copies of the submission, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the proposed rule change between the Commission and any person, other than those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be available for website viewing and printing in the Commission's Public Reference Room, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549, on official business days between the hours of 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. Copies of the filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the Exchange. Do not include personal identifiable information in submissions; you should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. We may redact in part or withhold entirely from publication submitted material that is obscene or subject to copyright protection. All submissions should refer to file number SR–NYSEAMER–2024–62 and should be submitted on or before November 22, 2024.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.[43]

Sherry R. Haywood,

Assistant Secretary.

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[39] 17 CFR 240.19b–4(f)(6)(iii). In addition, Rule19b–4(f)(6)(iii) requires a self-regulatory organization to give the Commission written notice of its intent to file the proposed rule change, along with a brief description and text of the proposed rule change, at least five business days prior to the date of filing of the proposed rule change, or such shorter time as designated by the Commission. The Exchange has satisfied this requirement.

[40] 17 CFR 240.19b–4(f)(6).

[41] 17 CFR 240.19b–4(f)(6)(iii).

[42] 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2)(B).

[43] 17 CFR 200.30–3(a)(12).

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34–101450; File No. SR–FINRA–2024–007]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc.; Notice of Designation of Longer Period for Commission Action on Proceedings To Determine Whether To Approve or Disapprove Proposed Rule Change To Adopt the FINRA Rule 6500 Series (Securities Lending and Transparency Engine (SLATE™))

October 28, 2024.

On May 1, 2024, the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc. (''FINRA'') filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (''Commission''), pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (''Act''),[1] and Rule 19b–4 thereunder,[2] a proposed rule change to adopt the new FINRA Rule 6500 Series (Securities Lending and Transparency Engine (SLATE™)) to (1) require reporting of securities loans; and (2) provide for the public dissemination of loan information. The proposed rule change was published for comment in the **Federal Register** on May 7, 2024.[3] On June 10, 2024, the Commission extended, until August 5, 2024, the time period within which to approve the proposed rule change, disapprove the proposed rule change, or institute proceedings to determine whether to disapprove the proposed rule change.[4] On August 5, 2024, the Commission instituted proceedings under Section 19(b)(2)(B) of the Act[5] to determine whether to approve or disapprove the proposed rule change, and allow for additional analysis of, and input from commenters with respect to, the scope and implementation of the proposed rules.[6]

Section 19(b)(2) of the Act[7] provides that, after initiating proceedings, the Commission shall issue an order approving or disapproving the proposed rule change not later than 180 days after the date of publication of notice of filing of the proposed rule change. The Commission may extend the period for issuing an order approving or disapproving the proposed rule change, however, by not more than 60 days if the Commission determines that a longer period is appropriate and publishes the reasons for such determination. The proposed rule change was published for notice and comment in the **Federal Register** on May 7, 2024.[8] November 3, 2024 is 180 days from that date, and January 2, 2025 is 240 days from that date.

The Commission finds it is appropriate to designate a longer period within which to issue an order approving or disapproving the proposed rule change so that it has sufficient time to consider the proposed rule change and its comments. Accordingly, the Commission, pursuant to Section 19(b)(2) of the Act,[9] designates January 2, 2025 as the date by which the Commission shall either approve or

[1] 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

[2] 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

[3] *See* Securities Exchange Act Release No. 100046 (May 1, 2024), 89 FR 38203 (May 7, 2024) (''Notice''). Comments received on the proposed rule change are available at: *https://www.sec.gov/comments/sr-finra-2024-007/srfinra2024007.htm.*

[4] *See* Securities Exchange Act Release No. 100305 (June 10, 2024), 89 FR 50644 (June 14, 2024).

[5] 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2)(B).

[6] *See* Securities Exchange Act Release No. 100655 (August 5, 2024), 89 FR 65441 (August 9, 2024) (''Order Instituting Proceedings'').

[7] 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2).

[8] *See* Notice, *supra* note 3.

[9] 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2).

disapprove the proposed rule change (File No. SR–FINRA–2024–007).

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.[10]

Sherry R. Haywood,

Assistant Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2024–25426 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34–101455; File No. SR–FICC–2024–802]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Fixed Income Clearing Corporation; Notice of Filing of Partial Amendment No. 1 to Advance Notice To Modify the GSD Rules (i) Regarding the Separate Calculation, Collection and Holding of Margin for Proprietary Transactions and That for Indirect Participant Transactions, and (ii) To Address the Conditions of Note H to Rule 15c3–3a

October 28, 2024.

On March 14, 2024, Fixed Income Clearing Corporation (''FICC'') filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (''Commission'') advance notice SR–FICC–2024–802 pursuant to Section 806(e)(1) of Title VIII of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act entitled the Payment, Clearing, and Settlement Supervision Act of 2010 (''Clearing Supervision Act'') [1] and Rule 19b–4(n)(1)(i) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (''Exchange Act'').[2] In the advance notice, FICC proposes to modify its Government Securities Division (''GSD'') Rulebook (''GSD Rules'') to calculate, collect, and hold margin for proprietary transactions of a direct participant separately from margin submitted to FICC by a direct participant on behalf of indirect participants and to address conditions of Note H to Rule 15c3–3a under the Exchange Act (the ''Advance Notice'').[3] The Advance Notice was published for public comment in the **Federal Register** on March 28, 2024.[4] Upon publication of notice of filing of the Advance Notice, the Commission extended the review period of the Advance Notice for an additional 60 days because the Commission determined that the Advance Notice raised novel and complex issues.[5]

On April 24, 2024, the Commission requested additional information from FICC pursuant to Section 806(e)(1)(D) of the Clearing Supervision Act, which tolled the Commission's period of review of the Advance Notice until 120 days from the date the information requested by the Commission was received by the Commission.[6] On June 25, 2024, the Commission received FICC's response to the Commission's request for additional information.[7] On September 24, 2024, the Commission requested additional information from FICC pursuant to Section 806(e)(1)(D) of the Clearing Supervision Act, which tolled the Commission's period of review of the Advance Notice until 120 days from the date the information requested by the Commission was received by the Commission.[8]

The Commission has received comments regarding the substance of the Advance Notice.[9] The Commission also received a letter from FICC responding to the comments.[10]

Pursuant to Section 806(e)(1) of the Clearing Supervision Act and Rule 19b–4(n)(1)(i) under the Exchange Act, notice is hereby given that on October 25, 2024, FICC filed with the Commission Partial Amendment No. 1 as described in Item I below.[11] The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on Partial Amendment No. 1 from interested persons.

I. Summary of the Terms of Substance of Partial Amendment No. 1 to the Advance Notice

FICC filed Partial Amendment No. 1 to its previously submitted Advance Notice, which would make several changes to FICC's GSD Rules to (1) provide for FICC to calculate, collect, and hold margin for the proprietary transactions of a Netting Member separately and independently from the margin for transactions that the Netting Member submits to FICC on behalf of indirect participants; (2) simplify and revise the account types through which Members may record transactions at FICC and adopt a new Rule 2B to provide clearer public disclosures through the Rules regarding the GSD account structure; (3) allow Netting Members to elect for margin for indirect participant transactions to be calculated on a gross basis (*i.e.,* an indirect participant-by-indirect participant basis) and legally segregated from the margin for the Netting Member's proprietary

[10] 17 CFR 200.30–3(a)(57).

[1] 12 U.S.C. 5465(e)(1).

[2] 17 CFR 240.19b–4(n)(1)(i).

[3] *See* Securities Exchange Act Release No. 99149 (Dec. 13, 2023), 89 FR 2714 (Jan. 16, 2024) (S7–23–22) (''Adopting Release,'' and the rules adopted therein as ''Treasury Clearing Rules''). *See also* 17 CFR 240.15c3–3a.

[4] Securities Exchange Act Release No. 99845 (Mar. 22, 2024), 89 FR 21586 (Mar. 28, 2024) (File No. SR–FICC–2024–802) (''Notice of Filing''). On March 14, 2024, FICC filed the Advance Notice as a proposed rule change with the Commission pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Exchange Act, 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1), and Rule 19b–4 thereunder, 17 CFR 240.19b–4. Securities Exchange Act Release No. 99844 (March 22, 2024), 89 FR 21603 (Mar. 28, 2024) (File No. SR–FICC–2024–007) (''Proposed Rule Change''). On April 24, 2024, the Commission designated a longer period within which to approve, disapprove, or institute proceedings to determine whether to approve or disapprove the proposed rule change, pursuant to section 19(b)(2) of the Exchange Act, 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2)(ii). Securities Exchange Act Release No. 100022 (Apr. 24, 2024), 89 FR 34289 (Apr. 30, 2024) (File No. SR–FICC–2024–007). On June 21, 2024, the Commission published in the **Federal Register** an Order Instituting Proceedings to determine whether to approve or disapprove the proposed rule change. Securities Exchange Act Release No. 100401 (Jun. 21, 2024), 89 FR 53690 (Jun. 27, 2024) (File No. SR–FICC–2024–007). On September 18, 2024, the Commission designated a longer period for Commission action on the proceedings to determine whether to disapprove the proposed rule change, until November 10, 2024. Securities Exchange Act Release No. 101082 (Sep. 18, 2024), 89 FR 77949 (Sep. 24, 2024) (File No. SR–FICC–2024–007).

[5] Pursuant to Section 806(e)(1)(H) of the Clearing Supervision Act, the Commission may extend the review period of an advance notice for an additional 60 days, if the changes proposed in the advance notice raise novel or complex issues, subject to the Commission providing the financial market utility (''FMU'') with prompt written notice of the extension.12 U.S.C. 5465(e)(1)(H); *see supra* note 4, 89 FR at 21602 (explaining the Commission's rationale for determining that the proposed changes in the Advance Notice raise novel and complex issues).

[6] *See* 12 U.S.C. 5465(e)(1)(D). A memo regarding the Request for Additional Information and the tolled period of review is *available at https://www.sec.gov/comments/sr-ficc-2024-802/srficc2024802-462751-1210414.pdf.*

[7] *See* 12 U.S.C. 5465(e)(1)(E)(ii) and (G)(ii); A memo regarding its receipt of FICC's response to the Request for Additional Information is *available at https://www.sec.gov/comments/sr-ficc-2024-802/srficc2024802-494123-1433426.pdf.*

[8] *See* 12 U.S.C. 5465(e)(1)(D). A memo regarding the Request for Additional Information and the tolled period of review is *available at https://www.sec.gov/comments/sr-ficc-2024-802/srficc2024802-524215-1504462.pdf.*

[9] Comments on the Advance Notice are *available at https://www.sec.gov/comments/sr-ficc-2024-802/srficc2024802.htm.* Comments on the Proposed Rule Change are *available at https://www.sec.gov/comments/sr-ficc-2024-007/srficc2024007.htm.* Because the proposals contained in the Proposed Rule Change and the Advance Notice are the same, the Commission considers all comments received on the proposal, regardless of whether the comments are submitted with respect to the Advance Notice or the Proposed Rule Change. The comment letters to the Proposed Rule Change and Advance Notice also contained comments on the substance of another FICC proposed rule change, FICC–2024–005. The Commission will only be considering comments relevant to this proposal and will address the comments on the other proposed rule change in a separate order.

[10] *See* Letter from Laura Klimpel, Managing Director, Head of Fixed Income and Financing Solutions, Depository Trust & Clearing Corporation, (Aug. 1, 2024) (''FICC Letter'').

[11] Text of the proposed changes made by the Partial Amendment No. 1 to the Advance Notice is *available at https://www.sec.gov/rules-regulations/self-regulatory-organization-rulemaking.* The GSD Rules are *available at https://www.dtcc.com/~/media/Files/Downloads/legal/rules/ficc_gov_rules.pdf.* Terms not otherwise defined herein are defined in the GSD Rules or in the Advance Notice.

transactions (as well as those of other indirect participants); (4) align FICC's margin calculation methodology with the expanded account types and enhance public disclosure through the Rules of that calculation methodology; and (5) simplify the requirements for brokered transactions so that they only apply to transactions executed by an Inter-Dealer Broker Netting Member on the trading platform offered by that Inter-Dealer Broker Netting Member.

Regarding the changes described in (3) above, Partial Amendment No. 1 makes several changes to the requirements regarding Segregated Customer Margin. First, as originally proposed, the Advance Notice requires FICC to establish and maintain on its books and records a Segregated Customer Margin Custody Account corresponding to each Segregated Indirect Participants Account.[12] Partial Amendment No. 1 deletes and replaces language in Rule 4, Section 1a, requiring Segregated Customer Margin credited to a Segregated Customer Margin Custody Account to be used exclusively to settle and margin Transactions in U.S. Treasury securities recorded in the corresponding Segregated Indirect Participants Account, with language requiring Segregated Customer Margin credited to a Segregated Customer Margin Custody Account to secure Transactions recorded in the corresponding Segregated Indirect Participants Account and satisfy payment and delivery obligations owning to the Corporation (including liquidating or otherwise using such Segregated Customer Margin to obtain relevant cash or securities) in connection with a default in respect of such Transactions.

Similarly, Partial Amendment No. 1 deletes and replaces language in Rule 4, Section 5 regarding the use of Clearing Fund and Segregated Customer Margin requiring FICC to only use the portion of Segregated Customer Margin that supports each Segregated Indirect Participant's Transactions. The Advance Notice stated that FICC could use that portion to secure or settle the obligations of that Segregated Indirect Participant, and of the Sponsoring Member or Agent Clearing Member with respect to the obligations of that Segregated Indirect Participant, whereas Partial Amendment No. 1 replaces this language to state that FICC may only use that portion of Segregated Customer Margin to secure the Transactions of that Segregated Indirect Participant recorded in the corresponding Segregated Indirect Participants Account and satisfy payment and delivery obligations owing to FICC (including liquidating or otherwise using such Segregated Customer Margin to obtain relevant cash or securities) in connection with a default in respect of such Transactions. Additionally, Partial Amendment No 1. clarifies language in that portion of Rule 4 regarding FICC's prohibition on using Segregated Customer Margin from one Segregated Indirect Participant's Transactions to secure or settle another Segregated Indirect Participant's Transaction by deleting reference to the term ''settle'' and replacing with satisfying payment or delivery obligations in connection with another Segregated Indirect Participant's Transaction.

Second, as originally proposed, the Advance Notice requires FICC to hold all Segregated Customer Margin in an account at a bank within the meaning of the Exchange Act that is insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or at the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, which account shall be segregated from any other account of the Corporation and used exclusively to hold Segregated Customer Margin.[13] Additionally, the Advance Notice requires Segregated Customer Margin to be subject to a written notice of the bank or Federal Reserve Bank provided to and retained by the Corporation that the Segregated Customer Margin in the account is being held by the bank or Federal Reserve Bank pursuant to SEC Rule 15c3–3 and is being kept separate from any other accounts maintained by the Corporation or any other person at the bank or Federal Reserve Bank.[14] Partial Amendment No. 1 revises the Advance Notice to insert text that clarifies that FICC shall not only hold Segregated Customer Margin in an account of FICC at a bank within the meaning of the Exchange Act that is insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, but shall also hold Segregated Customer Margin in an account at a bank that is also a qualified custodian under the Investment Company Act of 1940,[15] as amended.[16] Additionally, the Advance Notice inserts text that clarifies that not only is each account holding Segregated Customer Margin being held by a bank or Federal Reserve Bank pursuant to SEC Rule 15c3–3 is being kept separate from any other accounts maintained by FICC or any other person at the bank or Federal Reserve Bank, but also requires these accounts to not be commingled with any other accounts maintained by FICC or any other persona at the bank or Federal Reserve Bank.

Third, as originally proposed, the Advance Notice requires any interest earned on Segregated Customer Margin to be paid by FICC to the Netting Member.[17] Partial Amendment No. 1 inserts language to clarify that any interest earned on Segregated Customer Margin consisting of cash shall be paid to the Netting Member for the benefit of, and as agent for, its Segregated Indirect Participants.

Fourth, as originally proposed, the Advance Notice would apply three requirements to each Segregated Customer Margin Requirement for a particular Segregated Indirect Participants Account: (1) A minimum of 40 percent of the Segregated Customer Margin Requirement for such Account shall be satisfied with cash and/or Eligible Clearing Fund Treasury Securities; (2) the lesser of $5,000,000 or 10 percent of the Segregated Customer Margin Requirement for the Account must be made and maintained in cash; and (3) a minimum of the product of $1 million and the number of Segregated Indirect Participants whose Transactions are recorded in such Segregated Indirect Participants Account must be made and maintained in cash.[18] Partial Amendment No. 1 would revise the Advance Notice by deleting the second requirement regarding the lesser of $5,000,000 or 10 percent of the Segregated Customer Margin Requirement for the Account must be made and maintained in cash.

Fifth, as originally proposed, FICC had the discretion to retain some or all of the Excess Segregated Customer Margin if the Member had an outstanding payment or margin obligation to FICC with respect to the Transactions of any Segregated Indirect Participant.[19] Partial Amendment No. 1 would revise the Advance Notice by adding text that clarifies the FICC shall not retain the Excess Segregated Customer Margin with respect to the Transactions of a Segregated Indirect Participant when they have determined, in their sole discretion, that such outstanding payment or margin obligation is unrelated to the Transactions of that Segregated Indirect Participant.

Sixth, Partial Amendment No. 1 would make the following change to the Margin Component Schedule in the Advance Notice regarding Segregated Customer Margin Requirement

[12] Notice of Filing *supra* note 4.

[13] *Id.*

[14] *Id.*

[15] 15 U.S.C. 80a–1 *et seq.*

[16] Notice of Filing *supra* note 4.

[17] *Id.*

[18] *Id.*

[19] *Id.*

Calculations.[20] As originally proposed, each Segregated Indirect Participant would be required to deposit in the Segregated Indirect Participants Account Required Fund Deposit the greater of the (i) the sum of the Unadjusted GSD Margin Portfolio Amount and all applicable additional charges; and (ii) a minimum charge of $1 million. Partial Amendment No. 1 would revise the Advance Notice by inserting text to clarify that FICC may, in its sole discretion, adjust the minimum charge of $1 million in the Segregated Indirect Participants Account Required Fund Deposit if FICC determines that a different minimum charge would be appropriate and consistent with achieving its backtesting coverage target and that Members would be notified of any such adjustment by an Important Notice.

Seventh, Partial Amendment No. 1 would add text to Rule 3A, Section 3, as proposed to be amended by SR–FICC–2024–005,[21] to state that a Sponsored Member may be a series of a limited liability company, statutory trust, or other legal entity.

Regarding the changes described in (4) above, Partial Amendment No. 1 would add language to clarify how the definition of Current Net Settlement Position relates to Sponsored GC Trades and that the definition does not refer to calculating the Net Settlement Position under Rule 11. As originally proposed, the definition stated that, if a Current Net Settlement Position recorded in a Sponsoring Member Omnibus Account or Segregated Indirect Participants Account is not clearly allocable to an individual Sponsored Member or Segregated Indirect Participant, including because one or more transactions recorded in the Account did not settle on its original Scheduled Settlement Date, then, for purposes of calculating the relevant Netting Member's Sponsoring Member Omnibus Account Required Fund Deposit or Segregated Customer Margin Requirement for such Account, FICC shall allocate the positions in the manner specified. In Partial Amendment No. 1, the definition states if a Current Net Settlement Position recorded in a Sponsoring Member Omnibus Account or Segregated Indirect Participants Account is not clearly allocable to an individual Sponsored Member or Segregated Indirect Participant, including because one or more transactions (other than Sponsored GC Trades) recorded in the Account did not settle on its original Scheduled Settlement Date (such failure to settle would not occur with respect to Sponsored GC Trades), then, for purposes of calculating the relevant Netting Member's Sponsoring Member Omnibus Account Required Fund Deposit or Segregated Customer Margin Requirement for such Account and not for purposes of calculating the Net Settlement Position under Rule 11, FICC shall allocate the positions in the manner specified.[22]

Regarding the changes described in (5) above, Partial Amendment No. 1 makes several changes to the Advance Notice and existing rules regarding the use of the term Brokered Transactions, including changes to its definition. Specifically, Partial Amendment No. 1 would delete and add text to the definition of Brokered Transaction to clarify that a Brokered Transaction means the side of a transaction, including a Repo Transaction, that is submitted to the Corporation for Novation by an Inter-Dealer Broker Netting Member calling for the delivery of an Eligible Netting Security, or the posting of cash or an Eligible Netting Security as collateral, that such Inter-Dealer Broker Netting Member enters into with another Netting Member or a Sponsored Member or Executing Firm Customer through the Inter-Dealer Broker Netting Member's own trading platform. As initially proposed, the definition of Brokered Transaction referred only to any transaction, including a Repo Transaction, calling for the delivery of an Eligible Netting Security, or the posting of cash or an Eligible Netting Security as collateral.

Partial Amendment No. 1 also revises text proposed in SR–FICC–2024–005 regarding the treatment of Agent Clearing Transactions and deletes reference to the term Brokered Transactions, such that Brokered Transactions would not be excluded from being an Agent Clearing Transaction.

Additionally, Partial Amendment No. 1 makes the following changes to delete references to the term Brokered Transactions: (i) amends text from the Advance Notice regarding Rule 1, to remove the term Brokered Transactions from the definition of Dealer Account; (ii) revises Rule 4, Section 7 regarding loss allocation for Inter-Dealer Broker Netting Members, to replace a reference to a Segregated Repo Account, with a reference to a Broker Account, and to remove a reference to a Non-IDB Repo Broker, as the Advance Notice deletes the use of that term from the Rules; and (iii) amends existing Rule 3A Section 5 regarding Sponsored Member Trades and deletes reference to the term Brokered Transactions, such that the text now states that Sponsored Member Trades (other than Sponsored GC Trades) may be any type of transaction eligible for submission to FICC for netting with the exception of Netting Eligible Auction Purchases and GCF Repo Transactions.

Finally, Partial Amendment No. 1 makes several technical and conforming changes throughout the Advance Notice, such as renumbering section numbers to reflect the addition of new sections.

Partial Amendment No. 1 would not change the purpose of, or statutory basis for the Advance Notice. All other representations in the Advance Notice remain as stated therein and no other changes are being made.

II. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the Advance Notice is consistent with the Clearing Supervision Act. Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

Electronic Comments

- Use the Commission's internet comment form (*https://www.sec.gov/rules-regulations/self-regulatory-organization-rulemaking*); or
- Send an email to *rule-comments@sec.gov.* Please include file number SR–FICC–2024–802 on the subject line.

Paper Comments

- Send paper comments in triplicate to Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR–FICC–2024–802. This file number should be included on the subject line if email is used. To help the Commission process and review your comments more efficiently, please use only one method. The Commission will post all comments on the Commission's internet website (*https://www.sec.gov/rules-regulations/self-regulatory-organization-rulemaking*). Copies of the submission, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the advance notice that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the advance notice between the Commission and any person, other than those that may be withheld from the

[20] *Id.*

[21] Securities Exchange Act Release No. 99817 (March 21, 2024), 89 FR 21362 (March 27, 2024) (File No. SR–FICC–2024–005).

[22] Partial Amendment No. 1 would also amend the definition of Netting Member Capital to use the defined terms Net Assets and Equity Capital.

public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be available for website viewing and printing in the Commission's Public Reference Room, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549, on official business days between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Copies of such filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of FICC and on DTCC's website at (*https://dtcc.com/legal/sec-rule-filings.aspx*). Do not include personal identifiable information in submissions; you should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. We may redact in part or withhold entirely from publication submitted material that is obscene or subject to copyright protection. All submissions should refer to File Number SR–FICC–2024–802 and should be submitted on or before November 18, 2024.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.[23]

Sherry R. Haywood,

Assistant Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2024–25430 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8011–01–P

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

SBA Investment Capital Advisory Committee Meeting

AGENCY: U.S. Small Business Administration.

ACTION: Notice of Federal advisory committee meeting: SBA Investment Capital Advisory Committee.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) will hold an Investment Capital Advisory Committee (ICAC) meeting on Wednesday, November 13, 2024. Members will convene as an independent source of advice and recommendation to SBA on matters relating to institutional investment market trends, innovation, and policy impacting small businesses and their ability to access patient capital. The meeting will be held virtually for members and the public.

DATES: Wednesday, November 13, 2024, from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. eastern time (ET).

ADDRESSES: The Investment Capital Advisory Committee Meeting will be held virtually on Zoom for Government. Register at *https://bit.ly/ICAC-Nov2024*

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Brittany Sickler, Designated Federal Officer, Office of Investment and Innovation, SBA, 409 3rd Street SW, Washington, DC 20416, (202) 369–8862 or *ICAC@sba.gov.* The meeting will be broadcast to the public, and anyone wishing to submit questions to the SBA Investment Capital Advisory Committee can do so by submitting them via email to *ICAC@sba.gov.* Individuals who require an alternative aid or service to communicate effectively with SBA should email the point of contact listed above and provide a brief description of their preferred method of communication.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. appendix 2), SBA announces a meeting of the SBA Investment Capital Advisory Committee (the ''ICAC''). The ICAC is tasked with providing advice, insights, and recommendations to SBA on matters broadly related to facilitating greater access and availability of patient investment capital for small business; promoting greater awareness of SBA Investment and Innovation division programs and services; cultivating greater public-private engagement, cooperation, and collaboration; developing and/or evolving SBA programs and services to address long-term capital access gaps faced by small businesses and the investment managers that seek to support them. The final agenda for the meeting will be posted on the registration page at *https://bit.ly/ICAC-Nov2024* or the ICAC website at *https://www.sba.gov/icac* prior to the meeting. Copies of the meeting minutes will be available by request within 90 days of the meeting date.

Public Comment

Any member of the public may submit pertinent questions and comments concerning ICAC affairs at any time before or after the meeting and participate in the livestreamed meeting of the SBA Investment Capital Advisory Committee on Wednesday, November 13, 2024. Comments may be submitted to Brittany Sickler at *ICAC@sba.gov.* Those wishing to participate live are encouraged to register by or before Monday, November 11, 2024, using the registration link provided above. Advance registration is strongly encouraged.

Dated: October 29, 2024.

Andrienne Johnson,

Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 2024–25489 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8026–09–P

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Reporting and Recordkeeping Requirements Under OMB Review

AGENCY: Small Business Administration.

ACTION: 30-Day notice.

SUMMARY: The Small Business Administration (SBA) is seeking approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for a new information collection described below. In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act and OMB procedures, SBA is publishing this notice to allow all interested member of the public an additional 30 days to provide comments on the proposed collection of information.

DATES: Submit comments on or before December 2, 2024.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and recommendations for this information collection request should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to *www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain.* Find this particular information collection request by selecting ''Small Business Administration''; ''Currently Under Review,'' then select the ''Only Show ICR for Public Comment'' checkbox. This information collection can be identified by title and/or OMB Control Number.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: You may obtain a copy of the information collection and supporting documents from the Agency Clearance Office at Curtis Rich, *Curtis.Rich@sba.gov,* (202) 205–7030, or from *www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: SBA is required by statute to administer the 8(a) Business Development (15 U.S.C. 637(a); 13 CFR 124); Historically Underutilized Business Zone (HUBZone) (15 U.S.C. 657a; 13 CFR 126); Veteran-Owned/Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned (VOSB/SDVOSB) (15 U.S.C. 657f and 657f–1; 13 CFR 128); and Women-Owned/Economically Disadvantaged Women-Owned (WOSB/EDWOSB) (15 U.S.C. 636(m); 13 CFR 127) certification programs. The Small Business Act requires small businesses submit 8(a), HUBZone, VOSB/SDVOSB, and WOSB/EDWOSB certification renewals and annual reviews. SBA's regulations require the submissions for certification renewal/annual review to be submitted electronically. All of the collections are overseen by Government Contracting and Business Development staff. The HUBZone and 8(a) programs require certification renewal of their eligibility annually, while WOSB/EDWOSB and VOSB/SDVOSB require

[23] 17 CFR 200.30–3(a)(31).

certification renewal every three years. All certification renewals and annual reviews are done electronically. This new information collection will allow for certification compliance in the 8(a), HUBZone, WOSB/EDWOSB, and VOSB/SDVOSB programs through one system. By having one system, the process is streamlined and easier for small businesses submitting for recertification.

Failing to collect the information described above would impede SBA's ability to fulfill its statutory mandates to recertify 8(a), HUBZone, VOSB/SDVOSB, and WOSB/EDWOSB certification compliance in the programs, and maintain and update the list of certified small business concerns.

This PRA submission is a new information collection for SBA Form 2539 and will combine certification renewals and annual reviews into one unified information collection.

Solicitation of Public Comments

Comments may be submitted on (a) whether the collection of information is necessary for the agency to properly perform its functions; (b) whether the burden estimates are accurate; (c) whether there are ways to minimize the burden, including through the use of automated techniques or other forms of information technology; and (d) whether there are ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information.

OMB Control Number: 3245–XXXX.

Title: Business Development and Unified Certification Renewal.

Description of Respondents: Small Business concerns applying for SBA certification renewal and annual review in the 8(a), HUBZone, WOSB/EDWOSB, and VOSB/SDVOSB programs.

SBA Form Number: SBA Form 2539.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 21,712.

Estimated Annual Responses: 21,712.

Estimated Annual Hour Burden: 28,949.

Curtis Rich,

Agency Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 2024–25461 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8026–09–P

SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Administration for Children and Families

[DOCKET NO. SSA–2024–0038]

Request for Information: Use and Conservation of Social Security Benefits and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Payments That Representative Payees Receive for Beneficiaries Residing in Foster Care

AGENCY: Social Security Administration and Children's Bureau, Administration for Children and Families, Department of Health and Human Services.

ACTION: Request for information.

SUMMARY: The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Administration for Children and Families (ACF), Administration for Children, Youth, and Families (ACYF), Children's Bureau (CB) oversees the child welfare system, which is administered by State, local, and Tribal child welfare agencies nationwide. The Social Security Administration (SSA) administers the Social Security and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) programs. This request for information (RFI) seeks public input to inform how Federal agencies can support broader State and local efforts to improve the outcomes of children in the child welfare system who are eligible for Federal benefits. The input we receive will inform our deliberations about potential policy changes.

DATES: To ensure that your comments are considered, we must receive them no later than December 2, 2024.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments by any one of three methods—internet, fax, or mail. Do not submit the same comments multiple times or by more than one method. Regardless of which method you choose, please state that your comments refer to Docket No. SSA–2024–0038 so that we may associate your comments with the correct docket.

Caution: You should be careful to include in your comments only information that you wish to make publicly available. We strongly urge you not to include in your comments any personal information, such as Social Security numbers or medical information.

1. *Internet:* We strongly recommend that you submit your comments via the internet. Please visit the Federal eRulemaking portal at *http://www.regulations.gov.* Use the Search function to find docket number SSA–2024–0038. The system will issue a tracking number to confirm your submission. You will not be able to view your comment immediately because we must post each comment manually. It may take up to a week for your comment to be viewable.

2. *Fax:* Fax comments to 1–833–410–1631.

3. *Mail:* Mail your comments to the Office of Legislation and Congressional Affairs, Regulations and Reports Clearance Staff, Social Security Administration, Mail Stop 3253 Altmeyer, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, Maryland 21235–6401.

Comments are available for public viewing on the Federal eRulemaking portal at *http://www.regulations.gov* or in person, during regular business hours, by arranging with the contact person identified below.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Peter Smith, Social Security Administration, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235–6401, (410) 966–3235 for information about this notice. For information on eligibility or filing for benefits, call our national toll-free number, 1–800–772–1213 or TTY 1–800–325–0778, or visit our internet site, Social Security Online, at *http://www.socialsecurity.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Some children in foster care are eligible for various types of Federal benefit payments. Among the Federal payments that may be available to children in foster care are Social Security benefits and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) payments. Because of the importance of these Federal benefits received by members of this vulnerable population, we address these benefits and their operation specifically in this RFI. While the scope of this RFI is limited to Social Security benefits and SSI payments, we recognize that this issue is broader than just those Federal benefits paid by SSA.

Children can become eligible for Social Security benefits because of the disability, retirement, or death of a parent, and can become eligible for SSI because of their own disability. Whether these children receive benefits during their stay in foster care, and how benefits are managed on their behalf if they do receive them, have emerged as complex policy and operational issues in recent years. This RFI seeks to better understand relevant policy issues to inform HHS's and SSA's joint consideration of how to meet the goals of the respective foster care and Social Security programs to promote positive

outcomes for children. This notice first describes what we understand about this population of children and the policy and operational issues related to their Federal benefits, and it then invites the public to answer specific questions to help inform our next steps. To achieve our goals, we seek to receive responses from a host of interested partners, including States, Tribes, grantees, and community providers, and we also strongly encourage responses from respondents with lived experience of SSA benefits, youth, parents, relatives, caregivers, foster and adoptive parents, advocacy and philanthropic organizations, and anyone else with an interest in this issue area.

Profile of SSA Beneficiary Children in Foster Care

SSA provides benefits to about 27,000 children in foster care (5.3% of all children in foster care).[1] These children receive benefits from one or both of the following programs:

1. SSI, for which children may qualify if their medical conditions meet the statutory definition of disability, as well as certain financial requirements,[2] or,

2. Social Security, for which children may qualify based on the disability, retirement, or death of an insured parent.[3]

Among children in foster care who receive SSA benefits,[4] about half receive Social Security (typically after the death of a parent) and about half receive SSI.[5] A small percentage of children in foster care receive both Social Security and SSI concurrently.

Some children enter foster care already receiving SSA benefits. Others begin receiving benefits after their foster care placement. A typical child in foster care spends less than two years in care. About one-third of children exiting foster care in FY 2022 spent less than a year in care, and about 63 percent spent less than two years in care.[6]

About nine percent of youth who exited foster care in FY 2022 did so by aging out, meaning the youth reached an age where they are no longer eligible for foster care services. Youth typically age out of foster care between the ages of 18 and 21 years, depending on the State. Many of these youth exit foster care with limited resources to support themselves during this significant transition. Former foster youth are at increased risk of homelessness, early parenthood, and substance abuse.[7] Extended foster care is available in most States to help meet housing, education, medical, and other needs of youth up to age 21 at State discretion, who would otherwise have aged out of foster care.[8] Children who received SSA benefits are about as likely as other children to have emancipation (*i.e.* aging out) or extended foster care as their case plan goal.[9]

Aging out of foster care poses additional challenges for receipt of SSA benefits. All children receiving SSI face an eligibility redetermination at age 18. If they are in foster care, child welfare agencies can assist with completing the redetermination process. Children who do not receive SSI, particularly those who are ineligible because of receipt of Federal foster care payments that end at age 18, may apply for SSI under a special application procedure for transition-age foster youth. When the child meets certain requirements, SSA will accept an SSI application up to 180 days before foster care payments are to end. Many SSI recipient children have their SSI payments ceased at age 18 because they have not established that they continue to meet the SSI eligibility criteria (either the adult disability criteria or the SSI financial criteria). Like children who age out of foster care, children whose SSI payments cease at age 18 face many significant challenges. These challenges can include unstable housing, homelessness, and difficulty with employment and educational attainment. Often as a result of such instability,[10] they are twice as likely to be charged with income-generating crimes than they are to maintain steady employment.[11]

The demographics of children in foster care differ somewhat between SSA beneficiary and nonbeneficiary children. The median age of a child entering foster care in FY 2022 was six years old.[12] However, children in foster care receiving Social Security benefits and SSI payments are older, on average, than those not receiving benefits.[13] Nearly half of SSA beneficiary children in foster care have a disability, compared to about a quarter of children in foster care not receiving benefits—likely due to the fact that SSI eligibility is based on having a qualifying disability.[14] Finally, children in foster care are disproportionately non-White.[15] However, those receiving Social Security or SSI are more likely than average to be White and less likely to be Hispanic than other foster youth.[16]

Importance of SSA Benefits for Children in Foster Care

Receiving SSA benefits is very important and a critical resource to all eligible children and their families. The death of a parent can have lasting effects on family stability, financial standing, and children's well-being.[17] Families

[1] Congressional Research Service, *Children in Foster Care and Social Security Administration Benefits: Frequently Asked Questions,* S. Rep. No. R46975 (Nov 23, 2021).

[2] *See* 42 U.S.C. 1382(a) and 1382c(a).

[3] *See* 42 U.S.C. 402(d).

[4] For brevity, this notice occasionally uses the term ''SSA benefits'' to refer to Social Security benefits and SSI payments collectively when the statement applies to both and a distinction is not necessary. Similarly, the notice occasionally uses the term ''SSA beneficiary'' to refer collectively to individuals receiving Social Security benefits, SSI payments, or both when a distinction is not necessary.

[5] Social Security Administration, *Study on the Conservation of Funds by Child Welfare Agency Representative Payees,* June 2024.

[6] Department of Health and Human Services, Administration of Children and Families, Children's Bureau, *The AFCARS (Adoptions and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System) Report, FY 2022 Data, https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/documents/cb/afcars-report-30.pdf.*

[7] The Annie E. Casey Foundation, *Child Welfare and Foster Care Statistics (blog),* Entry posted May 16, 2022. Accessed July 29, 2024, *https://www.aecf.org/blog/child-welfare-and-foster-carestatistics#:~:text=Youth%20Aging%20Out%20of%20Foster%20Care&text=Not%20surprisingly%2C%20these%20youth%20and,and%20other%20potentially%20lifelong%20adversities.*

[8] The Annie E. Casey Foundation, *Extended Foster Care Explained (blog),* Entry posted May 24, 2021. Updated May 20, 2023. Accessed July 29, 2024. *https://www.aecf.org/blog/extended-foster-care-explained.*

[9] Congressional Research Service, *Children in Foster Care and Social Security Administration Benefits: Frequently Asked Questions,* S. Rep. No. R46975 (Nov 23, 2021).

[10] *Young Adults Formerly in Foster Care: Challenges and Solutions.* Accessed on October 11, 2024, available at: *https://youth.gov/youth-briefs/foster-care-youth-brief/challenges.*

[11] Manasi Deshpande, Michael Mueller-Smith, ''Does Welfare Prevent Crime? the Criminal Justice Outcomes of Youth Removed from SSI,'' *The Quarterly Journal of Economics,* Volume 137, Issue 4, November 2022, Pages 2263–2307, *https://doi.org/10.1093/qje/qjac017.*

[12] Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Children's Bureau, *The AFCARS (Adoptions and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System) Report, FY 2022 Data, https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/documents/cb/afcars-report-30.pdf.*

[13] Congressional Research Service, *Children in Foster Care and Social Security Administration Benefits: Frequently Asked Questions,* S. Rep. No. R46975 (Nov 23, 2021).

[14] Congressional Research Service, *Children in Foster Care and Social Security Administration Benefits: Frequently Asked Questions,* S. Rep. No. R46975 (Nov 23, 2021).

[15] The Annie E. Casey Foundation, *Foster Care Race Statistics (blog),* Entry posted on April 13, 2020, Updated on May 14, 2023. Accessed on August 7, 2024, available at: *https://www.aecf.org/blog/us-foster-care-population-by-race-and-ethnicity.*

[16] Congressional Research Service, *Children in Foster Care and Social Security Administration Benefits: Frequently Asked Questions,* S. Rep. No. R46975 (Nov 23, 2021).

[17] Weaver, David, ''Parental Mortality and Outcomes among Minor and Adult Children'' (September 5, 2019). *Population Review,* Volume 58, Number 2, 2019, Available at SSRN: *https://ssrn.com/abstract=3471209;* Evermore, America's

raising children with disabilities face higher costs, more demands on their time, and more insecurity than families not caring for a child with a disability.[18] SSA benefits are valuable, averaging $1,104 per month for Social Security child survivors and $821 for child SSI recipients in August 2024.[19] The income that SSA benefits provide can stabilize family finances and help meet children's material needs.

Potential eligibility among children in foster care appears to be higher than average, according to research that estimated more than 20% of children in foster care have health conditions that likely make them eligible for SSI.[20] Children whose parents die are also more likely to be placed in foster care and may be eligible for SSA benefits. Despite higher-than-average potential eligibility, the rate of children in foster care receiving SSA benefits is only a little higher than the overall rate. In addition, the rate of SSA benefit receipt among children in foster care varies dramatically by State, with five States reporting that between 13% and 24% receive benefits while nine States reported that less than two percent receive SSA benefits.[21]

Child welfare agencies can play an important role in ensuring that eligible children receive SSA benefits. By law, agencies must provide reasonable efforts to prevent foster care placements and facilitate reunification or permanency—but they have significant flexibility in how to meet this requirement for families.[22] We know that access to economic and concrete supports—for example, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance (SNAP) benefits, child care, and SSA benefits, when applicable—can help keep families together.

If children are placed in foster care, many child welfare agencies screen children for potential eligibility for Social Security benefits and SSI payments as part of their case planning activities.[23] States also consider eligibility for and use of other funding sources to meet children's needs, including Title IV–E funds for children from low-income families and State funds. The decision whether to seek SSI payments on behalf of a child who also qualifies for Title IV–E foster care payments is complicated by the fact the Social Security Act requires that the SSI payment amount be reduced and receiving Title IV–E foster care payments could even affect a child's SSI eligibility.

The presence of economic and concrete supports, such as monthly SSA benefits, can also speed children's reunification with their families.[24] Income from SSA benefits can also enhance economic stability for children who achieve permanency with other caregivers. Children receiving Social Security survivors benefits who are adopted may also continue to receive benefits.[25] [26]

Representative Payees for Children in Foster Care

SSA generally appoints a representative payee (payee) to manage the benefits of a minor child.[27] A payee is a person or organization appointed by SSA to receive and manage the Social Security benefits or SSI payments on behalf of a beneficiary or recipient. When SSA selects a payee, the agency's primary concern is to choose someone who will best serve the child's interest.[28] For most child beneficiaries, their parents serve as payees. However, when parents are not willing, able, or suitable to serve as payees—as is more often the case for children in foster care—SSA must turn to alternatives.[29]

SSA regulations establish a preferred order of selection for payees.[30] For child beneficiaries, the preferred order is:

(1) A natural or adoptive parent with custody or a legal guardian;

(2) A natural or adoptive parent who does not have custody of the beneficiary, but is contributing toward the beneficiary's support and is demonstrating strong concern for the beneficiary's well being;

(3) A natural or adoptive parent who does not have custody of the beneficiary and is not contributing toward his or her support but is demonstrating strong concern for the beneficiary's well being;

(4) A relative or stepparent who has custody of the beneficiary;

(5) A relative who does not have custody of the beneficiary but is contributing toward the beneficiary's support and is demonstrating concern for the beneficiary's well being;

(6) A relative or close friend who does not have custody of the beneficiary but is demonstrating concern for the beneficiary's well being; and

(7) An authorized social agency or custodial institution.

This order is flexible, and SSA rules allow for selecting a payee lower on the preference list when it would be in the beneficiary's best interest. SSA policy is to not automatically select the child welfare agency as the payee for a child in foster care. Appointment of a payee is an individualized determination to identify and select the person or organization who will serve the best interest of the child. A child welfare agency is sometimes the legal guardian of a child in foster care—making the agency the first choice as payee. However, we will appoint a willing and able relative or friend who will serve the child better if one is available. SSA is not always able to identify a suitable alternative to the child welfare agency. Currently, nearly three-quarters of SSA beneficiary children in foster care have a child welfare agency as their payee.[31]

Children's payees must use SSA benefits for the use and benefit of the children, in ways that the payee determines, under SSA's rules, to be in the child's best interests.[32] Payees must first use the benefits for the child's current maintenance, which includes food, shelter, clothing, medical care, and personal comfort items.[33] For children in foster care, the rules permit child welfare agencies or other payees to

Forgotten Orphans: An Urgent Call for the White House and Congress to Address Childhood Bereavement (December 2022). Available at: *https://evermore.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/Evermore-Americas-Forgotten-Orphans.pdf.*

[18] Romig, Kathleen. ''SSI: A Lifeline for Children with Disabilities.'' *Center on Budget and Policy Priorities* (blog). Entry posted May 11, 2017. Accessed July 30, 2024. *https://www.cbpp.org/research/social-security/ssi-a-lifeline-for-children-with-disabilities.*

[19] Social Security Administration, *Monthly Statistical Snapshot,* August 2024 (ssa.gov).

[20] Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, *National Survey of Child and Adolescent Well-Being, Estimates of Supplemental Security Income Eligibility for Children in Out of Home Placements,* Research Brief No. 12.

[21] Congressional Research Service, *Children in Foster Care and Social Security Administration Benefits: Frequently Asked Questions,* S. Rep. No. R46975 (Nov 23, 2021).

[22] 42 U.S.C. 671, 672.

[23] American Public Health Services Association, *Study on Title II and Title XVI Benefits for Children in Out-of-Home Placements,* 2012.

[24] ''Child and Family Well Being System: Economic & Concrete Supports as a Core Component.'' *Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago.* Last modified March 2023. *https://www.chapinhall.org/wp-content/uploads/Economic-Supports-deck.pdf.*

[25] Social Security Administration, *Program Operations Manual System RS 00203.035—Child's Benefits Termination of Entitlement,* available at: *https://secure.ssa.gov/apps10/poms.nsf/lnx/0300203035.*

[26] For children receiving SSI payments, a change in living arrangement can affect continued SSI eligibility.

[27] In certain situations, we will make direct payments to a beneficiary under age 18 who shows the ability to manage the benefits. See 20 CFR 404.2010(b), 416.610(b).

[28] 20 CFR 404.2020, 404.2021, 416.620, 416.621.

[29] Social Security Administration, *Program Operations Manual System GN 00502.159—Additional Considerations When Foster Care Agency is Involved,* available at: *https://secure.ssa.gov/apps10/poms.nsf/lnx/0200502159.*

[30] See 20 CFR 404.2021 and 416.621.

[31] Social Security Administration, analysis of electronic Representative Payee System data (February 2023).

[32] See 42 U.S.C. 205(j) and 1631(a)(2); 20 CFR 404.2035(a) and 416.635(a).

[33] 20 CFR 404.2040(a), 416.640(a).

use children's SSA benefits to pay for monthly foster care maintenance payments. Child welfare agencies also use SSA benefits to meet children's other needs, such as education, medical, or discretionary expenses.[34] After meeting the child's immediate or foreseeable needs, all payees are required to conserve any benefits for their future use, such as by saving or investing those funds.[35] When a child beneficiary in foster care has a payee who is someone other than the child welfare agency, it is that payee who must use the benefits for the child's current and foreseeable needs, and conserve any remainder.

In 2023, SSA paid approximately $190 million in Social Security benefits and SSI payments to children in foster care who have a child welfare agency as their payee. In this same year, all 50 States and the District of Columbia conserved some portion of the SSA benefits that they received, with the percentage by State ranging from less than one percent to 31 percent. On average, child welfare agencies conserved 12 percent of SSA benefits paid to children in foster care. The percentage of child beneficiaries in foster care who had some funds conserved on their behalf ranged by State between one percent and 81 percent. On average, child welfare agencies conserved SSA benefits for 36 percent of child beneficiaries in foster care.[36]

Conserving SSI payments for children in foster care can pose challenges. SSI has a resource limit of $2,000, which could include funds in a child's savings account or investments. SSI recipients who exceed the resource limit are suspended and eventually terminated from program participation if their savings remain above the limit for over a year. They (or their payees on their behalf) must repay any benefits paid while they were over the limit. The Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) Act of 2014 allows States to create programs with tax-advantaged savings accounts for eligible people with disabilities; funds held in ABLE accounts up to and including $100,000 do not count toward the SSI resource limits. Account owners may receive tax advantages when funds from an ABLE account are used to pay for a broad set of ''qualified disability expenses,'' including housing, transportation, health, and basic living expenses. Additionally, special needs trusts may also contain funds that do not count toward the SSI resource limit.

Generally, if there is a change in payee, the former payee must return any conserved funds to SSA to be reissued to the successor payee.[37] If the child stops receiving benefits or no longer needs a payee (typically when they turn 18), the payee must return any conserved funds, including any earned interest, to SSA to be reissued to the beneficiary or recipient. On a case-by-case basis, SSA may permit the former payee to transfer any conserved funds directly to the successor payee or the beneficiary or recipient.

All payees have reporting responsibilities. They must report any changes that could affect the beneficiary's eligibility or benefit amount and any change that would affect the payee's suitability to serve (such as a change in custody).[38] SSA requires certain payees, including child welfare agencies, to report annually on who made the decisions on how benefits were spent or saved, how the payee used the benefits, how much of the benefits were saved, and how those savings were invested.[39] A payee's answers may cause SSA to further investigate the payee or initiate a site review. Protection and Advocacy agencies in each State conduct payee site reviews, which include a face-to-face meeting with the payee, an examination of the payee's financial records and supporting documentation.[40]

State Policy and Federal Technical Assistance

Some State legislatures and child welfare agencies have recently changed their policies for SSA beneficiary children in foster care, such as requiring child welfare agencies to screen and apply for Social Security and SSI benefits on behalf of children placed in foster care and requirements to conserve some or all benefits for the children's later use. SSA and the Children's Bureau have worked together to provide guidance and technical assistance to child welfare agencies as they consider and make these changes.[41] However, advocates and policymakers continue to consider whether and how additional changes and clarifications to the policies and practices regarding Social Security benefits and SSI payments when child welfare agencies are payees could improve service to and outcomes for children in foster care.

Request for Information

This request is to gather information for our internal planning purposes only and should not be construed as a solicitation or as an obligation on our part or on the part of any participating Federal agencies. We seek to learn more from people with experience with foster care, such as current and former foster youth, foster parents, adoptive parents, and parents whose children were referred to child welfare. We also invite comments and suggestions from State and local child welfare agencies, Tribal Nations, community-based and other non-profit organizations, researchers, and other interested members of the public. Responses to this request will inform our decisions about possible future policy changes or additional guidance.

We ask respondents to address the following questions, where possible, considering the context discussed in this document. You do not need to address every question and should focus on those that relate to your lived experience, expertise or perspectives. To the extent possible, please clearly indicate which question(s) you address in your response.

Application

- For children who have contact with the child welfare system but who are not in foster care, what opportunities or challenges exist for child welfare agencies to assist with screening children for SSA benefit eligibility and applying for benefits?
- What opportunities or challenges exist for child welfare agencies to apply for SSA benefits on behalf of children in foster care or living away from their parents with other caregivers? Are there differences depending on whether the child or their family are eligible for other public benefits, such as preventative child welfare services, TANF, SNAP, or title IV–E foster care payments?

SSA Benefit Use and Conservation

- Current SSA rules allow payees, including child welfare agencies, who serve children in foster care to use SSA

[34] Government Accountability Office, *Social Security Administration: New Data Exchanges with Some States Provide Limited Information on Foster Care Beneficiaries,* Report GAO–21–441R (June 3, 2021).

[35] See 20 CFR 404.2045 and 416.645.

[36] Social Security Administration, *Study on the Conservation of Funds by Child Welfare Agency Representative Payees,* June 2024.

[37] 20 CFR 404.2060 and 416.660.

[38] 20 CFR 404.2035 and 416.635.

[39] 20 CFR 404.2065 and 416.665.

[40] 42 U.S.C. 205(j)(6)(C).

[41] Social Security Administration and Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, *Letter Regarding Reminders to State and Tribal Title IV–E Agencies about the Social Security Representative Payee Program and the Title IV–E Federal Foster Care Program,* Published August 17, 2023, available at: *https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/policy-guidance/reminders-social-security-representative-payee-program.*

benefits to pay for the child's current needs, including the cost of monthly foster care maintenance payments. Payees must conserve SSA benefits for future use only after meeting all of the child's current and foreseeable needs. How effectively do these rules contribute to the ability of child welfare agencies to serve children in foster care? Are there differences depending on whether the child receives Social Security benefits or SSI payments?

- Please describe if it would be beneficial to offer additional guidance or clarification related to when Social Security benefits or SSI payments must be conserved by payees, including, as applicable, child welfare agencies, or expand on what kinds of factors should be considered in a conservation decision.
- For child welfare agencies that serve as payees for children in foster care, how do you make decisions about the use and conservation of the children's SSA benefits? What do you do with SSA benefits that are not used as part of the monthly foster care maintenance payment?
- For child welfare agencies that serve as payees for children in foster care, a child may be eligible to receive benefits from various sources, including Federal, State, and local. What are the benefits in using SSA benefits before or after other sources of funding to cover the costs of the child's foster care maintenance?
- For child welfare agencies, if you were required to conserve SSA benefits on behalf of eligible children in foster care, would that affect the agency's decision about whether to screen or apply for SSA benefits on behalf of a child?
- What would be the implications or challenges if child welfare agencies are restricted from using SSA benefits for foster care maintenance and required to conserve SSA benefits?
- For child welfare agencies that serve as payees for children in foster care, do you conserve any amount of the children's SSA benefits for future use? If not, why not? If you do, how do you determine how much to conserve? Do you hold the funds, such as in a savings account or a trust account? Do you use Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) accounts or special needs trusts to conserve funds? What are the benefits of and impediments to using ABLE accounts or special needs trusts? Does the decision on whether to conserve benefits depend on the type of benefit provided to the child (*e.g.,* Social Security, SSI, foster care maintenance payments, etc.)?
- For current and former foster youth, what current needs would be met if you had access to your conserved SSA benefits? Are there examples of current needs that are not commonly met by the monthly foster care maintenance payments? If so, which needs?

General

- Are there other aspects of HHS's or SSA's programs where guidance, technical assistance, or information can be offered or improved to better support children in foster care or otherwise in contact with the child welfare system?

Guidance for Submitting Documents

We ask that each respondent include the name and address of his or her institution or affiliation, if any, and the name, title, mailing and email addresses, and telephone number of a contact person for his or her institution or affiliation, if any.

Martin O'Malley,

Commissioner, Social Security Administration.

Rebecca Jones Gaston,

Commissioner, Administration for Children, Youth, and Families Administration for Children and Families, Department of Health and Human Services.

[FR Doc. 2024–25462 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4191–02–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Office of Foreign Assets Control

Notice of OFAC Sanctions Action

AGENCY: Office of Foreign Assets Control, Treasury.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) is publishing the names of one or more persons that have been placed on OFAC's Specially Designated Nationals and Blocked Persons List (SDN List) based on OFAC's determination that one or more applicable legal criteria were satisfied. All property and interests in property subject to U.S. jurisdiction of these persons are blocked, and U.S. persons are generally prohibited from engaging in transactions with them.

DATES: This action was issued on October 17, 2024. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for relevant dates.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: OFAC: Associate Director for Global Targeting, 202–622–2420; or Assistant Director for Sanctions Compliance, 202–622–2490 or *https://ofac.treasury.gov/contact-ofac.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Electronic Availability

The SDN List and additional information concerning OFAC sanctions programs are available on OFAC's website: *https://ofac.treasury.gov.*

Notice of OFAC Action

On October 17, 2024, OFAC determined that the property and interests in property subject to U.S. jurisdiction of the following persons are blocked under the relevant sanctions authority listed below.

Individual

1. YAMSHCHIKOV, Artem Mikhailovich (a.k.a. IAMSHCHIKOV, Artem; a.k.a. YAMSHCHIKOV, Artem Mikhaylovich), Russia; DOB 11 Oct 1979; nationality Russia; Gender Male; Secondary sanctions risk: See Section 11 of Executive Order 14024.; Tax ID No. 381000781179 (Russia) (individual) [RUSSIA-EO14024].

   Designated pursuant to section 1(a)(i) of Executive Order 14024 of April 15, 2021, ''Blocking Property With Respect To Specified Harmful Foreign Activities of the Government of the Russian Federation,'' 86 FR 20249, 3 CFR, 2021 Comp., p. 542 (E.O. 14024) as amended by Executive Order 14114 of December 22, 2023, "Taking Additional Steps With Respect to the Russian Federation's Harmful Activities," 88 FR 89271, 3 CFR, 2023 Comp., p. 721 , for operating or having operated in the defense and related materiel sector of the Russian Federation economy.

Entities

1. XIAMEN LIMBACH AIRCRAFT ENGINE CO., LTD., Unit E, Unit 431, 4th Floor, Building C, Xiamen International Shipping Center, No. 93 Xiangyu Road, Xiamen Area, China (Fujian) Pilot Free Trade Zone, Fujian, China; Secondary sanctions risk: See Section 11 of Executive Order 14024.; Organization Established Date 20 Nov 2012; Registration Number 350200200075990 (China); Unified Social Credit Code (USCC) 91350200051193084R (China) [RUSSIA-EO14024].

   Designated pursuant to section 1(a)(i) of E.O. 14024 for operating or having operated in the defense and related materiel sector of the Russian Federation economy.

2. LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY TRADING HOUSE VECTOR (Cyrillic: ОБЩЕСТВО С ОГРАНИЧЕННОЙ ОТВЕТСТВЕННОСТЬЮ ТОРГОВЫЙ ДОМ ВЕКТОР) (a.k.a. LLC TRADING HOUSE VECTOR (Cyrillic: ООО ТОРГОВЫЙ ДОМ ВЕКТОР)), Ul. Rossiiskaya, D. 2A, KV. 10, Irkutsk, Irkutsk Oblast 664025, Russia; Secondary sanctions risk: See Section 11 of Executive Order 14024.; Organization Established Date 10 Oct 2008; Tax ID No. 3808184570 (Russia); Government Gazette Number 87059789 (Russia); Business Registration Number 1083808013178 (Russia) [RUSSIA-EO14024] (Linked To: YAMSHCHIKOV, Artem Mikhailovich).

   Designated pursuant to section 1(a)(vii) of E.O. 14024 for being owned or controlled by, or having acted or purported to act for or on behalf of, directly or indirectly, YAMSHCHIKOV, Artem Mikhailovich, a person whose property and interests in property are blocked pursuant to E.O. 14024.

3. REDLEPUS VECTOR INDUSTRY SHENZHEN CO LTD (Chinese Simplified: 红兔矢量实业深圳有限公司) (a.k.a. REDLEPUS TSK VECTOR INDUSTRIAL SHENZHEN CO LTD; a.k.a. REDLEPUS VECTOR), 101-19 Xinghua Building, No. 1007 Banxuelan Ave, Maantang Neighborhood, Bantian Subdistrict, Longlan District, Shenzhen, Guangdong Province 518000, China; Secondary sanctions risk: See Section 11 of Executive Order 14024.; Organization Established Date 30 May 2023; Organization Code MA5HX80Y1 (China); Registration Number 440300219590772 (China); Unified Social Credit Code (USCC) 91440300MA5HX80Y1Q (China) [RUSSIA-EO14024].

   Designated pursuant to section 1(a)(i) of E.O. 14024 for operating or having operated in the defense and related materiel sector of the Russian Federation economy.

Lisa M. Palluconi,

Acting Director, Office of Foreign Assets Control.

[FR Doc. 2024–25502 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4810–AL–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Internal Revenue Service

Proposed Collection; Requesting Comments on Form 8849

AGENCY: Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Internal Revenue Service, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. The IRS is soliciting comments concerning Form 8849, Claim for Refund of Excise Taxes.

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before December 31, 2024 to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Andres Garcia, Internal Revenue Service, Room 6526, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20224, or by email to *pra.comments@irs.gov.* Include OMB Control No. 1545–1420 in the subject line of the message.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the form and instructions should be directed to LaNita Van Dyke, at (202)–317–6009, Internal Revenue Service, Room 6526, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20224, or through the internet at *lanita.vandyke@irs.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The IRS is currently seeking comments concerning the following information collection tools, reporting, and record-keeping requirements:

Title: Claim for Refund of Excise Taxes.

OMB Number: 1545–1420.

Form Number: Form 8849 and Schedules 1, 2. 3, 5, 6, and 8.

Abstract: IRC sections 6402, 6404, 6511 and sections 301.6402–2, 301.6404–1, and 301.6404–3 of the regulations allow for refunds of taxes (except income taxes) or refund, abatement, or credit of interest, penalties, and additions to tax in the event of errors or certain actions by IRS. Taxpayers use Form 8849 to claim refunds of excise taxes.

Current Actions: There is no change to the existing collection.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit organizations, individuals or households, and not-for-profit institutions, farms, and Federal, State, local or tribal governments.

Estimated Number of Responses: 111,147.

Estimated Time per Respondent: 8 hours, 31 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 946,827.

The following paragraph applies to all of the collections of information covered by this notice:

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a valid OMB control number. Books or records relating to a collection of information must be retained as long as their contents may become material in the administration of any internal revenue law. Generally, tax returns and tax return information are confidential, as required by 26 U.S.C. 6103.

Request for Comments: Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record. Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology; and (e) estimates of capital or start-up costs and costs of operation, maintenance, and purchase of services to provide information.

Approved: October 28, 2024.

Molly J. Stasko,

Senior Tax Analyst.

[FR Doc. 2024–25443 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4830–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900–0208]

Agency Information Collection Activity: Architect-Engineer Fee Proposal and Contractor Production Report

AGENCY: Procurement Policy and Warrant Management Service (PPS), Office of Procurement Policy, Systems and Oversight, Office of Acquisition and Logistics, Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Procurement Policy and Warrant Management Service, Office of Procurement Policy, Systems and Oversight, Office of Acquisition and Logistics, Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), is announcing an opportunity for public comment on the proposed collection of certain information by the agency. Under the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, Federal agencies are required to publish notice in the **Federal Register** concerning each proposed collection of information, including each proposed extension of a currently approved collection, and allow 60 days for public comment in response to the notice.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before December 31, 2024.

ADDRESSES: Comments must be submitted through *www.regulations.gov.*

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: *Program-Specific information: VA PRA information:* Forrest Browne, 202–632–9677, *forrest.browne@va.gov;* Maribel Aponte, 202–461–8900, *vacopaperworkreduact@va.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the PRA of 1995, Federal agencies must obtain approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for each collection of information they conduct or sponsor. This request for comment is being made pursuant to Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the PRA.

With respect to the following collection of information, PPS invites comments on: (1) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of PPS's functions, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of PPS's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or

the use of other forms of information technology.

Title: VA Form 6298, Architect-Engineer Fee Proposal, and VA Form 10101, Contractor Production Report.

OMB Control Number: 2900–0208. *https://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRASearch* (Once at this link, you can enter the OMB Control Number to find the historical versions of this Information Collection).

Type of Review: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: VA Form 6298, Architect-Engineer Fee Proposal. The use of this form is mandatory for obtaining the proposal and supporting cost or pricing data from the contractor and its subcontractor(s) for all architect-engineer (A–E) contracts and orders for design services when the total contract value is estimated to be $50,000 or more. It is also used in obtaining proposals and supporting cost or pricing data for architect engineer services for research study, seismic study, master planning study, construction management, and other related services contracts. VA Form 10101, Contractor Production Report. VA Resident Engineers monitor contractors' work and verify the work progress reported before payment can be made. The requirement for this information is contained in VA Acquisition Regulation Clause 852.236–79.

Affected Public: Individuals and households.

Estimated Annual Burden: 11,810 hours.

Estimated Average Burden per Respondent: 264 minutes.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 644.

Authority: 44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*

Maribel Aponte,

VA PRA Clearance Officer, Office of Enterprise and Integration/Data Governance Analytics, Department of Veterans Affairs.

[FR Doc. 2024–25402 Filed 10–31–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320–01–P

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Friday, November 1, 2024

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ELECTRONIC RESEARCH

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CFR PARTS AFFECTED DURING NOVEMBER

At the end of each month the Office of the Federal Register publishes separately a List of CFR Sections Affected (LSA), which lists parts and sections affected by documents published since the revision date of each title.

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LIST OF PUBLIC LAWS

Note: No public bills which have become law were received by the Office of the Federal Register for inclusion in today's **List of Public Laws**.

Last List October 8, 2024

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This table is used by the Office of the Federal Register to compute certain dates, such as effective dates and comment deadlines, which appear in agency documents. In computing these dates, the day after publication is counted as the first day.

When a date falls on a weekend or holiday, the next Federal business day is used. (See 1 CFR 18.17)

A new table will be published in the first issue of each month.

DATE OF FR PUBLICATION	15 DAYS AFTER PUBLICATION	21 DAYS AFTER PUBLICATION	30 DAYS AFTER PUBLICATION	35 DAYS AFTER PUBLICATION	45 DAYS AFTER PUBLICATION	60 DAYS AFTER PUBLICATION	90 DAYS AFTER PUBLICATION
November 1	Nov 18	Nov 22	Dec 2	Dec 6	Dec 16	Dec 31	Jan 30
November 4	Nov 19	Nov 25	Dec 4	Dec 9	Dec 19	Jan 3	Feb 3
November 5	Nov 20	Nov 26	Dec 5	Dec 10	Dec 20	Jan 6	Feb 3
November 6	Nov 21	Nov 27	Dec 6	Dec 11	Dec 23	Jan 6	Feb 4
November 7	Nov 22	Nov 29	Dec 9	Dec 12	Dec 23	Jan 6	Feb 5
November 8	Nov 25	Nov 29	Dec 9	Dec 13	Dec 23	Jan 7	Feb 6
November 12	Nov 27	Dec 3	Dec 12	Dec 17	Dec 27	Jan 13	Feb 10
November 13	Nov 29	Dec 4	Dec 13	Dec 18	Dec 30	Jan 13	Feb 11
November 14	Nov 29	Dec 5	Dec 16	Dec 19	Dec 30	Jan 13	Feb 12
November 15	Dec 2	Dec 6	Dec 16	Dec 20	Dec 30	Jan 14	Feb 13
November 18	Dec 3	Dec 9	Dec 18	Dec 23	Jan 2	Jan 17	Feb 18
November 19	Dec 4	Dec 10	Dec 19	Dec 24	Jan 3	Jan 21	Feb 18
November 20	Dec 5	Dec 11	Dec 20	Dec 26	Jan 6	Jan 21	Feb 18
November 21	Dec 6	Dec 12	Dec 23	Dec 26	Jan 6	Jan 21	Feb 19
November 22	Dec 9	Dec 13	Dec 23	Dec 27	Jan 6	Jan 21	Feb 20
November 25	Dec 10	Dec 16	Dec 26	Dec 30	Jan 9	Jan 24	Feb 24
November 26	Dec 11	Dec 17	Dec 26	Dec 31	Jan 10	Jan 27	Feb 24
November 27	Dec 12	Dec 18	Dec 27	Jan 2	Jan 13	Jan 27	Feb 25
November 29	Dec 16	Dec 20	Dec 30	Jan 3	Jan 13	Jan 28	Feb 27