

7. Alternative Contract Terms

In the current pilot, the contract with the gas marketer is for one year. However, the one year contract may not be ideal for all marketing firms. There may be a net advantage to be gained from contracts of either longer or shorter duration. None the less, there are trade-offs associated with different contract lengths. Since the bid price (expressed in terms of monthly index price, plus or minus adjustment) is binding for the entire term of the contract, prospective contractors may perceive greater risk in being committed for a longer term. Possible changes in transportation tariffs during the contract term have been noted as one source of uncertainty. But one trade-off arises in the possibility that a contractor may derive some benefit from a longer term sales commitment and thus be able to market in-kind royalty gas for a higher price. This trade-off may affect different marketers in different ways. The workshops will provide an opportunity to discuss issues surrounding contracts of different durations.

In addition, MMS would be interested in views on whether to explore contracts other than simply selling wet gas at the lease. For example, certain types of processing contracts (e.g., keep-whole contracts) could be considered.

8. Audit Rights in Contracts With Gas Marketers, Agreements With Lessees

In the current pilot, MMS retained the right to audit gas marketers' records and imposed various data reporting and record retention requirements on the marketers. Since the only elements required for calculating the payments due by the marketers are the bid price and the quantity and quality of gas sold, it is anticipated that MMS' audit needs will be substantially less than those required for ensuring that lessees paying royalties in value have paid the proper amount. The MMS is interested in additional views on the proper amount of data reporting, record retention, and audit rights to incorporate in future royalty-in-kind pilot programs.

With regard to the lessees, MMS will verify that the volumes delivered satisfy the royalty obligation. In addition, the lessees in the pilot agreed to provide raw data on the sales of their shares of production. The MMS requested this information to use in the evaluation of the pilot.

9. Gas Sales Contract and Volunteer Agreement (VA) as the Basis for RIK Regulations

If MMS is to move ahead with more extensive application of in-kind

collection procedures, regulations may need to be drafted. In the current pilot, the two documents which define procedural compliance for gas marketers and volunteer lessees are the gas sales contract and the VA. These documents would need to be the basis for the drafting of regulatory language. Clearly some changes would need to be made as some of the above issues are addressed and as the current pilot is evaluated. However, some of these considerations can be addressed now in the context of a workshop. Participants in the workshops can suggest which requirements should or should not be codified in regulations. They also can provide input on any requirements that they found either helpful or overly restrictive.

10. Conditions on Auction Participation and Structure

Some type of procedure must be used in future pilots to establish or determine bidder qualification. The IFB issued for the current pilot employed a self-certification for bidders. This self-certification was a signed statement that the prospective bidder had marketed a certain volume of gas over a specified period of time. Another procedure which MMS will consider is the use of performance bonds. The respective merits and disadvantages of these approaches should be addressed in one of the workshop sessions.

Also, in designing future pilots, MMS must consider the needs of firms which may encounter some competitive disadvantage in the marketing of gas. A future pilot could address means for encouraging participation of such firms while at the same time ensuring that the Government receives fair market value for the royalty oil or gas. A workshop can address these needs.

Information on Participation and Panels

The workshops are open to the public. The one-day workshops will include an introduction followed by four panel presentations and discussions. Each of the panels will be composed of representatives from industry and MMS. A draft agenda follows:

- Introduction, overview of the current pilot, goals and format for workshops;
- Requirements placed on lessees (e.g., marketable condition, data submitted to MMS, coordination with purchasers, possible requirement to deliver gas at a point away from the lease);
- Requirements placed on purchasers (e.g., transportation of product away from the lease, data required by MMS,

coordination with lessees, balancing, contract provisions concerning breach, payment terms, flexibility);

- Auction procedures and other contract terms (e.g., aggregation of leases, use of price indices, contract length, participation by small and disadvantaged firms); and
- Suggestions for future pilots (e.g., location, products, format, timing).

Addressees

The workshops will be held at the following locations:

Minerals Management Service, Gulf of Mexico Regional Office, Elmwood Towers Building, Conference Rooms 111-115, 1201 Elmwood Park Boulevard, Jefferson, Louisiana 70123
Minerals Management Service, Houston Area Audit Office, 4141 N. Sam Houston Parkway, Houston, TX 77032-3843

Denver Federal Center, 6th & Kipling, U.S.G.S., Building 25, Lecture Halls A and B, (Rooms 1252 and 1254), Lakewood, Colorado 80215

Registration

Since seating will be limited, those wishing to attend any of the workshops should register in advance, no later than August 4, 1995. Registration should be made by phone (202) 208-3398, (202) 208-3822, facsimile (202) 208-3118 or mail to Ms. Ruby Minor or Ms. LaVerne Gailliard, Minerals Management Service, Mail Stop 4013, 1849 C St. NW, Washington, DC 20240. Copies of the Invitation for Bids and the Volunteer Agreement will be available to registrants on request.

Comments

Written comments on the workshops or the panels should be addressed to Mr. Hugh Hilliard at the address given above or sent by facsimile c/o Mr. Hilliard to the number given.

Dated: July 13, 1995.

Lucy Querques,

Associate Director, Policy and Management Improvement.

[FR Doc. 95-17673 Filed 7-18-95; 8:45 am]

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National Park Service

Cane River National Heritage Area Commission; Meeting

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior. Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve.

ACTION: Notice of Meeting.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given in accordance with the Federal Advisory

Committee Act that a meeting of the Cane River National Heritage Area Commission will be held at 1 p.m. at the following location and date.

DATES: August 5, 1995.

LOCATION: Student Union Ballroom, Northwestern State University, Natchitoches, Louisiana 71497.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Henry Law, Acting Superintendent, Cane River Creole National Historical Park and National Heritage Area, c/o Superintendent, National Park Service, 365 Canal Street, Suite 3080, New Orleans, Louisiana 70130-1142, (504) 589-3882, extension 108.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Cane River National Heritage Area Commission was established pursuant to Section 402 of Public Law 103-449, to assist in the implementation of the Cane River Creole National Historical Park and the Cane River National Heritage Area and to provide guidance for the management of the heritage area.

The matters to be discussed at this meeting include:

- Impanelment of the Commission
- Election of Commission Officers
- National Park Service Presentations on Heritage Areas and Commission Operations
- General Management Plan
- Budget
- Activation Status of Cane River Creole National Historical Park and National Heritage Area

The meeting will be open to the public. However, facilities and space for accommodating members of the public are limited, and persons will be accommodated on a first-come-first-served basis. Any member of the public may file a written statement concerning the matters to be discussed with the Acting Superintendent, Cane River Creole National Historical Park and National Heritage Area.

Minutes of the meeting will be available for public inspection four weeks after the meeting at the offices of Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve.

Dated: June 29, 1995.

Frank Catroppa,

Field Director, Southeast Area.

[FR Doc. 95-17668 Filed 7-18-95; 8:45 am]

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INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

[Investigation No. 731-TA-706 (Final)]

Canned Pineapple Fruit From Thailand

Determination

On the basis of the record¹ developed in the subject investigation, the Commission unanimously determines, pursuant to section 735(b) of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1673d(b)) (the Act), that an industry in the United States is materially injured by reason of imports from Thailand of canned pineapple fruit,² provided for in subheading 2008.20.00 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States, that have been found by the Department of Commerce to be sold in the United States at less than fair value (LTFV).

Background

The Commission instituted this investigation effective January 9, 1995, following a preliminary determination by the Department of Commerce that imports of canned pineapple from Thailand were being sold at LTFV within the meaning of section 733(b) of the Act (19 U.S.C. 1673b(b)).³ Notice of the institution of the Commission's investigation and of a public hearing to be held in connection therewith was given by posting copies of the notice in the Office of Secretary, U.S. International Trade Commission, Washington, DC, and by publishing the notice in the **Federal Register** of February 1, 1995 (60 FR 6290). The hearing was held in Washington, DC, on June 1, 1995, and all persons who requested the opportunity were permitted to appear in person or by counsel.

The Commission transmitted its determination in this investigation to the Secretary of Commerce on July 10, 1995. The views of the Commission are contained in USITC Publication 2907 (July 1995), entitled "Canned Pineapple Fruit from Thailand: Investigation No. 731-TA-706 (Final)."

¹ The record is defined in sec. 207.2(f) of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (19 CFR 207.2(f)).

² For purposes of this investigation, canned pineapple fruit is defined as pineapple prepared into various product forms, including rings, pieces, chunks, tidbits, and crushed pineapple, that is packed and cooked in metal cans with either pineapple juice or sugar (heavy) syrup added.

³ The petition in this investigation was filed prior to the effective date of the Uruguay Round Agreements Act ("URAA"). This investigation, thus, remains subject to the substantive and procedural rules of the pre-existing law. See Pub. L. 103-465, approved Dec. 8, 1994, 108 Stat. 4809, at § 291.

Issued: July 12, 1995.

By order of the Commission.

Donna R. Koehnke,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 95-17739 Filed 7-18-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7020-02-M

INTERSTATE COMMERCE COMMISSION

Availability of Environmental Assessments

Pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 4332, the Commission has prepared and made available environmental assessments for the proceedings listed below. Dates environmental assessments are available are listed below for each individual proceeding.

To obtain copies of these environmental assessments contact Ms. Tawanna Glover-Sanders, Interstate Commerce Commission, Section of Environmental Analysis, Room 3219, Washington, DC 20423, (202) 927-6203.

Comments on the following assessment are due 15 days after the date of availability:

- AB-55 (SUB-NO. 508X), CSX Transportation, Inc.—Abandonment in Dickenson County, Virginia. EA available 7/7/95.
 - AB-3 (SUB-NO. 124X), Missouri Pacific Railroad Company—Abandonment Exemption—in Johnson, Pulaski and Massac Counties, Illinois (Joppa Branch). EA available 7/7/95.
 - AB-254 (SUB-NO. 6X), Providence and Worcester Railroad Company—Abandonment—in the City of New Haven, Connecticut. EA available 7/7/95.
 - AB-55 (SUB-NO. 509X), CSX Transportation, Inc., Abandonment in Belmont County, Ohio. EA available 7/11/95.
 - AB-55 (SUB-NO. 510X), CSX Transportation, Inc.—Abandonment in St. Clair County, Michigan and the Province of Ontario, Canada. EA available 7/14/95.
- Comments on the following assessment are due 30 days after the date of availability:
- AB-167 (SUB-NO. 1148), Consolidated Rail Corporation—Abandonment—in Allegheny and Washington Counties, PA. EA available 7/3/95.
 - AB-446 (SUB-NO. 1), Application of the Western Stock Show Association for Discontinuance of Service on and Abandonment of Certain Lines of the Denver Terminal Railroad Company. EA available 7/5/95.
 - AB-447X, Muncie and Western Railroad Company—Abandonment