

[TA-W-30,932; TA-W-30, 932A]

Thomas & Betts Company, Elizabeth, New Jersey, et al.; Amended Certification Regarding Eligibility to Apply for Worker Adjustment Assistance

In accordance with Section 223 of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2273) the Department of Labor issued a Notice of Certification Regarding Eligibility to Apply for Worker Adjustment Assistance on May 3, 1995, applicable to all workers of Thomas & Betts Company, located in Elizabeth, New Jersey. The notice was published in the Federal Register on May 17, 1995 (60 FR 26459).

Based on new information received from petitioners, the Department reviewed the subject certification. Findings show that worker separations have occurred at the distribution center of Thomas & Betts located in Cranbury, New Jersey. The intent of the Department's certification is to include all workers of the subject firm who were adversely affected by increased imports.

The amended notice applicable to TA-W-30,932 is hereby issued as follows:

All workers of Thomas & Betts Company, Elizabeth, New Jersey (TA-W-30,932) and Cranbury, New Jersey (TA-W-30,932A) who became totally or partially separated from employment on or after April 12, 1994 are eligible to apply for adjustment assistance under Section 223 of the Trade Act of 1974.

Signed at Washington, D.C. this 29th day of November 1995.

Russell T. Kile,

Acting Program Manager, Policy and Reemployment Services, Office of Trade Adjustment Assistance.

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[TA-W-30,329A; TA-W-30, 329D; TA-W-30, 329E]

United Technologies Corporation, Pratt & Whitney East Hartford, Connecticut, et al.; Amended Certification Regarding Eligibility to Apply for Worker Adjustment Assistance

In accordance with Section 223 of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2273) the Department of Labor issued an Amended Certification Regarding Eligibility to Apply for Worker Adjustment Assistance on February 22, 1995, applicable to all workers of Pratt & Whitney, East Hartford, Connecticut engaged in employment related to the production of jet engine parts. The notice was published in the Federal Register on March 1, 1995 (60 FR 11119).

At the request of two State Agencies, the Department reviewed the certification for workers of the subject firm. New findings show that state field representatives for the subject firm located in Florida and Michigan, were paid by the subject firm and should have been included in the certification. The intent of the Department's certification is to include all workers of Pratt & Whitney who were adversely affected by increased imports.

The amended notice applicable to TA-W-30,329 is hereby issued as follows:

All workers of United Technologies Corporation, Pratt & Whitney, East Hartford, Connecticut (TA-W-30,329A); and field representatives located in Florida (TA-W-30,329D) and Michigan (TA-W-30,329E) whose wages were paid by Pratt & Whitney, East Hartford Connecticut, engaged in employment related to the production of jet engine parts who became totally or partially separated from employment on or after September 7, 1993 are eligible to apply for adjustment assistance under Section 223 of the Trade Act of 1974.

Signed at Washington, D.C. this 28th day of November 1995.

Russell T. Kile,

Acting Program Manager, Policy and Reemployment Services, Office of Trade Adjustment Assistance.

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[TA-W-29,927, NAFTA-00120]

Walker Manufacturing Company, Hebron, OH; Notice of Negative Determination on Reconsideration

On December 14, 1994 the United States Court of International Trade (USCIT) granted the Secretary of Labor's motion for a voluntary remand for further investigation in *UAW Local 1927 and Employees and Former Employees of Walker Manufacturing v. Secretary of Labor* (94-10-00584).

The Department's initial denial for the Hebron workers, issued on August 15, 1994 and published in the Federal Register on September 2, 1994 (59 FR 45711), was based on the fact that the increased import criterion and the "contributed importantly" test of the Worker Group Eligibility Requirements of the Trade Act were not met. U.S. aggregate imports of mufflers and exhaust pipes declined absolutely in 1993 compared to 1992 and in the latest twelve month period from June 1993 through May 1994 compared with the same period one year earlier.

The Hebron plant had only one customer and that customer's import purchases were not important relative to

Hebron's sales during the relevant period.

The workers were also denied eligibility to apply for TAA on reconsideration. The reconsideration notice was issued on October 5, 1994 and published in the Federal Register on October 14, 1994 (59 FR 52194).

The reconsideration findings show that as a result of the Hebron closure, the company is making Hebron's machinery available to other corporate North American plants including some machinery to Mexico. However, the capital equipment used to make exhaust systems is not like or directly competitive with exhaust systems themselves and as such would not form a basis of a worker group certification. Other findings on reconsideration show that no production was shifted to Mexico and only a very small portion of Hebron's total production, the production of resonator bodies, was shifted to Canada; however, the workers who produced resonator bodies were not separately identifiable. (AR p. 23 and p. 28).

The workers were also denied under a NAFTA petition (NAFTA-00120) on June 30, 1994 (59 FR 37997) and on reconsideration on October 7, 1994 (59 FR 53213). The Department's denial was based on the fact that neither the increased import criterion nor the shift in production to Mexico or Canada criterion of the Worker Group Eligibility Requirements of the NAFTA provisions of the Trade Act was met.

The record states that the Ohio Bureau of Employment Security (OBES) made a preliminary finding that the firm met the increased import criterion. (See AR p. 30). This state finding is only a preliminary finding to get the investigatory process started. The state's investigation was not as extensive as the Department's investigation. Further, under the NAFTA-TAA provisions, the state, unlike the Department, does not make a finding on the "contributed importantly" test, which the workers failed to pass.

On further reconsideration, the Department has difficulty obtaining additional information from Walker Manufacturing especially as to a further breakout of Hebron's production and sales. On December 20, 1994, the Department, however, did contact the plaintiffs' counsel, and other union witnesses to request any information or documentation that would contradict the Department's negative determinations. Counsel for the plaintiffs alleged that about 50 resonator workers were laid off in February 1994 and that 40 percent of the plant's production was shipped to Mexico prior