

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.
Michael F. Weber,
*Chief, Low-Level Waste and Decommissioning
Projects Branch, Division of Waste
Management, Office of Nuclear Material
Safety and Safeguards.*

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OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

[Docket No. 301-102]

Initiation of Section 302 Investigation and Request for Public Comment: Canadian Practices Affecting Periodicals

AGENCY: Office of the United States
Trade Representative.

ACTION: Notice of initiation of
investigation; request for written
comments.

SUMMARY: The United States Trade
Representative (USTR) has initiated an
investigation under section 302(b)(1) of
the Trade Act of 1974, as amended (the
Trade Act) (19 U.S.C. 2412(b)(1)), with
respect to certain acts, policies and
practices of the Government of Canada
that restrict or prohibit imports of
certain periodicals into Canada and
apply discriminatory treatment to
certain imported periodicals. USTR
invites written comments from the
public on the matters being investigated.

DATES: This investigation was initiated
on March 11, 1996. Written comments
from the public are due on or before
noon on April 12, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Office of the United States
Trade Representative, 600 17th Street
NW., Washington, DC 20508.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Claude Burcky, Director for Canadian
Affairs, (202) 395-3412, or James
Southwick, Assistant General Counsel,
(202) 395-7203.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section
302(b)(1) of the Trade Act authorizes
the USTR to initiate an investigation
under chapter 1 of Title III of the Trade
Act (commonly referred to as "section
301"), with respect to any matter in
order to determine whether the matter is
actionable under section 301. Matters
actionable under section 301 include,
inter alia, the denial of rights of the
United States under a trade agreement,
or acts, policies, and practices of a
foreign country that violate or are
inconsistent with the provisions of, or
otherwise deny benefits to the United
States under, any trade agreement.

On March 11, 1996, having consulted
with the appropriate private sector

advisory committees, the USTR
determined that an investigation should
be initiated to determine whether
certain laws and regulations of Canada
affecting periodicals are actionable
under section 301(a). The measures in
question prohibit or restrict the
importation into Canada of so-called
"split-run" periodicals, provide for
discriminatory tax treatment of split-run
periodicals and apply favorable postage
rates to Canadian periodicals.

Investigation and Consultations

As required in section 303(a) of the
Trade Act, the USTR has requested
consultations with the Government of
Canada regarding the issues under
investigation. The request is pursuant to
Article XXIII of the General Agreement
on Tariffs and Trade 1994 (GATT 1994)
and Article 4 of the Understanding on
Rules and Procedures Governing the
Settlement of Disputes (DSU) (which
applies to dispute settlement under
GATT 1994 and other agreements under
the World Trade Organization (WTO)).
If the consultations do not result in a
satisfactory resolution of the matter, the
USTR will request the establishment of
a panel pursuant to Article 6 of the
DSU.

Under section 304 of the Trade Act,
the USTR must determine within 18
months after the date on which this
investigation was initiated, or within 30
days after the conclusion of WTO
dispute settlement procedures,
whichever is earlier, whether any act,
policy, or practice or denial of trade
agreement rights described in section
301 of the Trade Act exists and, if that
determination is affirmative, the USTR
must determine what action, if any, to
take under section 301 of the Trade Act.

Public Comment: Requirements for Submissions

Interested persons are invited to
submit written comments concerning
the acts, policies and practices of
Canada which are the subject of this
investigation, the amount of burden or
restriction on U.S. commerce caused by
these acts, policies and practices, and
the determinations required under
section 304 of the Trade Act. Comments
must be filed in accordance with the
requirements set forth in 15 CFR
2006.8(b) (55 FR 20593) and must be
filed on or before noon on April 12,
1996. Comments must be in English and
provided in twenty copies to: Sybia
Harrison, Staff Assistant to the Section
301 Committee, Room 223, Office of the
U.S. Trade Representative, 600 17th
Street NW., Washington, DC 20508.

Comments will be placed in a file
(Docket 301-102) open to public

inspection pursuant to 15 CFR 2006.13,
except confidential business
information exempt from public
inspection in accordance with 15 CFR
2006.15. Confidential business
information submitted in accordance
with 15 CFR 2006.15 must be clearly
marked "BUSINESS CONFIDENTIAL"
in contrasting color ink at the top of
each page on each of 20 copies, and
must be accompanied by a
nonconfidential summary of the
confidential information. The
nonconfidential summary shall be
placed in the file that is open to public
inspection. An appointment to review
the docket (Docket No. 301-102) may be
made by calling Brenda Webb (202)
395-6186. The USTR Reading Room is
open to the public from 10:00 a.m. to 12
noon and 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.,
Monday through Friday, and is located
in Room 101.

Irving A. Williamson,

Chairman, Section 301 Committee.

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OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

Federal Prevailing Rate Advisory Committee Open Committee Meeting

According to the provisions of section
10 of the Federal Advisory Committee
Act (Pub. L. 92-463), notice is hereby
given that meetings of the Federal
Prevailing Rate Advisory Committee
will be held on—

Thursday, April 11, 1996

Thursday, May 2, 1996

Thursday, May 16, 1996

The meetings will start at 10:45 a.m.
and will be held in Room 5A06A, Office
of Personnel Management Building,
1900 E Street, NW., Washington, DC.

The Federal Prevailing Rate Advisory
Committee is composed of a Chairman,
five representatives from labor unions
holding exclusive bargaining rights for
Federal blue-collar employees, and five
representatives from Federal agencies.
Entitlement to membership on the
Committee is provided for in 5 U.S.C.
5347.

The Committee's primary
responsibility is to review the Prevailing
Rate System and other matters pertinent
to establishing prevailing rates under
subchapter IV, chapter 53, 5 U.S.C., as
amended, and from time to time advise
the Office of Personnel Management.

These scheduled meetings will start
in open session with both labor and
management representatives attending.
During the meeting either the labor