refinery complex (220,000 BPD capacity) located at the intersection of Interstate Hwy 64 and US Hwy 23 on the Big Sandy River, Boyd County, Kentucky, south of Catlettsburg, including a refined product storage and terminal facility located north of the refinery, across the river in Kenova (Wayne County), West Virginia; *Site 2* (30 acres)—Ashland Pipe Line Co. crude oil terminal (4 tanks/771,000 barrel capacity) located at 1046 Pleasant Valley Road, Daviess County, east of Owensboro, Kentucky. The refinery, terminals and pipelines operate as an integrated refinery complex.

The refinery complex is used to produce fuels and petrochemical feedstocks. Fuel products produced include gasoline, jet fuel, distillates, diesel fuel, fuel oil, naphtha and MTBE. Petrochemical feedstocks and refinery by-products include methane, ethane, propane, benzene, toluene, xylene, cumene, propylene, ethylene, butylene, butadiene, isobutene-isoprene, naphthalene, carbon black oil, paraffin waxes, sulfur and asphalt. Some 70 percent of the crude oil (97 percent of inputs), and some feedstocks and motor fuel blendstocks used in producing fuel products may be sourced abroad.

Zone procedures would exempt the operations involved from Customs duty payments on the foreign products used in its exports. On domestic sales, the company would be able to choose the finished product duty rate (nonprivileged foreign status—NPF) on certain petrochemical feedstocks and refinery by-products (duty-free) instead of the duty rates that would otherwise apply to the foreign-sourced inputs (e.g., crude oil, natural gas condensate). The duty rates on inputs ranges from 5.25¢/barrel to 10.5¢/barrel. Foreign merchandise would also be exempt from state and local ad valorem taxes. The application indicates that the savings from zone procedures would help improve the refinery's international competitiveness.

In accordance with the Board's regulations, a member of the FTZ Staff has been designated examiner to investigate the application and report to the Board.

Public comment is invited from interested parties. Submissions (original and 3 copies) shall be addressed to the Board's Executive Secretary at the address below. The closing period for their receipt is August 26, 1996. Rebuttal comments in response to material submitted during the foregoing period may be submitted during the subsequent 15-day period (to September 9, 1996).

A copy of the application and accompanying exhibits will be available for public inspection at each of the following locations:

U.S. Department of Commerce, Export Assistance Center, Suite 807, 405 Capitol Street, Charleston, West Virginia 25301

Office of the Executive Secretary, Foreign-Trade Zones Board, Room 3716, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th & Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20230.

Dated: June 18, 1996.

John J. Da Ponte, Jr.,

Executive Secretary.

[FR Doc. 96–16190 Filed 6–25–96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–DS–P

[Order No. 828]

Approval of Manufacturing Activity Within Foreign-Trade Zone 21, Charleston, South Carolina; Hubner Manufacturing Corporation (Industrial Bellows/Molded Parts)

Pursuant to its authority under the Foreign-Trade Zones Act of June 18, 1934, as amended (19 U.S.C. 81a–81u), the Foreign-Trade Zones Board (the Board) adopts the following Order:

Whereas, § 400.28(a)(2) of the Board's regulations, requires approval of the Board prior to commencement of new manufacturing/processing activity within existing zone facilities;

Whereas, the South Carolina State Ports Authority, grantee of FTZ 21, has requested authority under § 400.32(b)(1) of the Board's regulations on behalf of the Hubner Manufacturing Corporation, to manufacture industrial bellows and plastic/rubber molded parts under zone procedures within FTZ 21, Charleston, South Carolina (filed 11–30–95, FTZ Docket A(32b1)–20–95; Doc. 43–96, assigned 5–23–96);

Whereas, pursuant to § 400.32(b)(1), the Commerce Department's Assistant Secretary for Import Administration has the authority to act for the Board in making such decisions on new manufacturing/processing activity under certain circumstances, including situations where the proposed zone benefits do not involve the election of nonprivileged foreign status on items involving inverted tariff benefits (§ 400.32(b)(1)(iii)); and,

Whereas, the request, as amended, states that Hubner Manufacturing Corporation will destroy all foreign status scrap merchandise within FTZ 21;

Whereas, the Assistant Secretary for Import Administration, acting for the Board, pursuant to § 400.32(b)(1), concurring in the findings and recommendations of the FTZ Staff and Executive Secretary, approves the request;

Now, therefore, the application for manufacturing authority is approved, subject to the Act and the Board's regulations, including § 400.28, and subject to the following restrictions:

1. Privileged foreign status (19 CFR § 146.41) shall be elected on all foreign-origin merchandise admitted to the zone for the Hubner Manufacturing Corporation operation; and,

2. Initial approval is for a period of three (3) years from the date of activation of zone procedures at the plant, subject to extension upon review.

Signed at Washington, DC, this 17th day of June 1996.

Robert S. LaRussa,

Acting Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Import Administration, Alternate Chairman, Foreign-Trade Zones Board.

Attest:

John J. Da Ponte, Jr.,

Executive Secretary.

[FR Doc. 96–16189 Filed 6–25–96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–DS–P

[Docket 52–96]

Foreign-Trade Zone 116—Port Arthur, TX Application for Subzone Status U.S. Department of Energy Strategic Petroleum Reserve (Crude Oil Storage) Jefferson County, TX

An application has been submitted to the Foreign-Trade Zones Board (the Board) by the Foreign-Trade Zone of Southeast Texas, Inc., grantee of FTZ 116, Port Arthur, Texas, requesting special-purpose subzone status for the crude oil storage facilities of the U.S. Department of Energy Strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR) located in Jefferson County, Texas. The application was submitted pursuant to the provisions of the Foreign-Trade Zones Act, as amended (19 U.S.C. 81a-81u), and the regulations of the Board (15 CFR part 400). It was formally filed on June 18, 1996.

The SPR involves an emergency stockpile of crude oil (over 590 million barrels) stored in underground caverns at five sites in Louisiana and Texas. Currently, all crude oil is owned by the U.S. Government. However, in 1995, the U.S. Department of Energy commenced plans to conduct commercial crude oil storage and terminal activities at SPR facilities for foreign governments.

This application involves SPR's ''Big Hill'' facility (274 acres, 149 employees), located in Jefferson County, Texas, some 25 miles west of Port