

expansion earlier in the year. The nominal deficit on U.S. trade in goods and services widened in the second quarter from its rate in the first quarter. Increases in labor compensation have been somewhat larger this year, but consumer price inflation, adjusted for food and energy prices, has remained on a fairly steady trend.

Most short-term market interest rates have declined slightly while intermediate- and long-term rates have fallen somewhat more since the Committee meeting on July 2-3, 1996. In foreign exchange markets, the trade-weighted value of the dollar in terms of the other G-10 currencies has depreciated slightly over the intermeeting period.

Growth of M2 and M3 moderated in July. For the year through July, both aggregates are estimated to have grown at rates somewhat below the upper bounds of their respective ranges for the year. Expansion in total domestic nonfinancial debt has been moderate on balance over recent months and has remained in the middle portion of its range.

The Federal Open Market Committee seeks monetary and financial conditions that will foster price stability and promote sustainable growth in output. In furtherance of these objectives, the Committee at its meeting in July reaffirmed the ranges it had established in January for growth of M2 and M3 of 1 to 5 percent and 2 to 6 percent respectively, measured from the fourth quarter of 1995 to the fourth quarter of 1996. The monitoring range for growth of total domestic nonfinancial debt was maintained at 3 to 7 percent for the year. For 1997 the Committee agreed on a tentative basis to set the same ranges as in 1996 for growth of the monetary aggregates and debt, measured from the fourth quarter of 1996 to the fourth quarter of 1997. The behavior of the monetary aggregates will continue to be evaluated in the light of progress toward price level stability, movements in their velocities, and developments in the economy and financial markets.

In the implementation of policy for the immediate future, the Committee seeks to maintain the existing degree of pressure on reserve positions. In the context of the Committee's long-run objectives for price stability and sustainable economic growth, and giving careful consideration to economic, financial, and monetary developments, somewhat greater reserve restraint would or slightly lesser reserve restraint might be acceptable in the intermeeting period. The contemplated reserve conditions are expected to be

consistent with moderate growth in M2 and M3 over coming months.

By order of the Federal Open Market Committee, September 30, 1996.

Donald L. Kohn,

Secretary, Federal Open Market Committee.

[FR Doc. 96-25581 Filed 10-4-96; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Food and Drug Administration

[Docket No. 96F-0348]

MacMillan Bloedel, Ltd.; Filing of Food Additive Petition

AGENCY: Food and Drug Administration, HHS.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is announcing that MacMillan Bloedel, Ltd., has filed a petition proposing that the food additive regulations be amended to provide for the safe use of ethylene glycol as a pulp bleaching agent for paper and paperboard intended for use in contact with food.

DATES: Written comments on the petitioner's environmental assessment by November 6, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Submit written comments to the Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305), Food and Drug Administration, 12420 Parklawn Dr., rm. 1-23, Rockville, MD 20857.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Andrew J. Zajac, Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition (HFS-216), Food and Drug Administration, 200 C St. SW., Washington, DC 20204, 202-418-3095.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (sec. 409(b)(5) (21 U.S.C. 348(b)(5))), notice is given that a food additive petition (FAP 6B4520) has been filed by MacMillan Bloedel, Ltd., c/o Camplong & Associates, Inc., P.O. Box 238, Schomberg, ON L0G 1T0, Canada. The petition proposes to amend the food additive regulations in § 176.170 *Components of paper and paperboard in contact with aqueous and fatty foods* (21 CFR 176.170) to provide for the safe use of ethylene glycol as a pulp bleaching agent for paper and paperboard intended for use in contact with food.

The potential environmental impact of this action is being reviewed. To encourage public participation consistent with regulations promulgated under the National Environmental Policy Act (40 CFR 1501.4(b)), the

agency is placing the environmental assessment submitted with the petition that is the subject of this notice on public display at the Dockets Management Branch (address above) for public review and comment. Interested persons may, on or before November 6, 1996, submit to the Dockets Management Branch (address above) written comments. Two copies of any comments are to be submitted, except that individuals may submit one copy. Comments are to be identified with the docket number found in brackets in the heading of this document. Received comments may be seen in the office above between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. FDA will also place on public display any amendments to, or comments on, the petitioner's environmental assessment without further announcement in the Federal Register. If, based on its review, the agency finds that an environmental impact statement is not required and this petition results in a regulation, the notice of availability of the agency's finding of no significant impact and the evidence supporting that finding will be published with the regulation in the Federal Register in accordance with 21 CFR 25.40(c).

Dated: September 18, 1996.

Alan M. Rulis,

Director, Office of Premarket Approval, Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition.

[FR Doc. 96-25548 Filed 10-04-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4160-01-F

Product and Establishment License Applications, Refusal to File; Meeting of Oversight Committee

AGENCY: Food and Drug Administration, HHS.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is announcing a meeting of its standing oversight committee in the Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research (CBER) that conducts a periodic review of CBER's use of its refusal to file (RTF) practices on product license applications (PLA's) and establishment license applications (ELA's). CBER's RTF oversight committee examines all RTF decisions which occurred during the previous quarter to assess consistency across CBER offices and divisions in RTF decisions.

DATES: The meeting will be held on October 8, 1996.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Joy A. Cavagnaro, Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research (HFM-5), Food

and Drug Administration, 1401 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852-1448, 301-827-0379.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In the Federal Register of May 15, 1995 (60 FR 25920), FDA announced the establishment and first meeting of CBER's standing oversight committee. As explained in the notice, the importance to the public health of getting new biological products on the market as efficiently as possible has made improving the biological product evaluation process an FDA priority. CBER's managed review process focuses on specific milestones or intermediate goals to ensure that a quality review is conducted within a specified time period. CBER's RTF oversight committee meetings continue CBER's effort to promote the timely, efficient, and consistent review of PLA's and ELA's.

FDA regulations on filing PLA's and ELA's are found in 21 CFR 601.2 and 601.3. A sponsor who receives an RTF notification may request an informal conference with CBER, and thereafter may ask that the application be filed over protest, similar to the procedure for drugs described under 21 CFR 314.101(a)(3).

CBER's standing RTF oversight committee consists of senior CBER officials, a senior official from the FDA's Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, and FDA's Chief Mediator and Ombudsman. Meetings will ordinarily be held once a quarter to review all of the RTF decisions. The purpose of such a review is to assess the consistency within CBER in rendering RTF decisions.

Because the committee's deliberations will deal with confidential commercial information, all meetings will be closed to the public. The committee's deliberations will be reported in the minutes of the meeting. Although those minutes will not be publicly available because they will contain confidential commercial information, summaries of the committee's deliberations, with all confidential commercial information omitted, may be requested in writing from the Freedom of Information Office (HFI-35), Food and Drug Administration, 5600 Fishers Lane, rm. 12A-16, Rockville, MD 20857, approximately 15 working days after the meeting, at a cost of 10 cents per page. If, following the committee's review, an RTF decision changes, the appropriate division within CBER will notify the sponsor.

Dated: September 26, 1996.

William K. Hubbard,
*Associate Commissioner for Policy
Coordination.*

[FR Doc. 96-25600 Filed 10-04-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4160-01-F

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

Current List of Laboratories Which Meet Minimum Standards To Engage in Urine Drug Testing for Federal Agencies, and Laboratories That Have Withdrawn From the Program

AGENCY: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, HHS (Formerly: National Institute on Drug Abuse, ADAMHA, HHS).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Health and Human Services notifies Federal agencies of the laboratories currently certified to meet standards of Subpart C of Mandatory Guidelines for Federal Workplace Drug Testing Programs (59 FR 29916, 29925). A similar notice listing all currently certified laboratories will be published during the first week of each month, and updated to include laboratories which subsequently apply for and complete the certification process. If any listed laboratory's certification is totally suspended or revoked, the laboratory will be omitted from updated lists until such time as it is restored to full certification under the Guidelines.

If any laboratory has withdrawn from the National Laboratory Certification Program during the past month, it will be identified as such at the end of the current list of certified laboratories, and will be omitted from the monthly listing thereafter.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mrs. Giselle Hersh, Division of Workplace Programs, Room 13A-54, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, Maryland 20857; Tel.: (301) 443-6014.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Mandatory Guidelines for Federal Workplace Drug Testing were developed in accordance with Executive Order 12564 and section 503 of Pub. L. 100-71. Subpart C of the Guidelines, "Certification of Laboratories Engaged in Urine Drug Testing for Federal Agencies," sets strict standards which laboratories must meet in order to conduct urine drug testing for Federal agencies. To become certified an applicant laboratory must undergo three rounds of performance testing plus an on-site inspection. To maintain that certification a laboratory must

participate in a quarterly performance testing program plus periodic, on-site inspections.

Laboratories which claim to be in the applicant stage of certification are not to be considered as meeting the minimum requirements expressed in the HHS Guidelines. A laboratory must have its letter of certification from SAMHSA, HHS (formerly: HHS/NIDA) which attests that it has met minimum standards.

In accordance with Subpart C of the Guidelines, the following laboratories meet the minimum standards set forth in the Guidelines:

- Aegis Analytical Laboratories, Inc., 624 Grassmere Park Rd., Suite 21, Nashville, TN 37211, 615-331-5300.
- Alabama Reference Laboratories, Inc., 543 South Hull St., Montgomery, AL 36103, 800-541-4931/205-263-5745.
- American Medical Laboratories, Inc., 14225 Newbrook Dr., Chantilly, VA 22021, 703-802-6900.
- Associated Pathologists Laboratories, Inc., 4230 South Burnham Ave., Suite 250, Las Vegas, NV 89119-5412, 702-733-7866.
- Associated Regional and University Pathologists, Inc. (ARUP), 500 Chipeta Way, Salt Lake City, UT 84108, 801-583-2787.
- Baptist Medical Center—Toxicology Laboratory, 9601 I-630, Exit 7, Little Rock, AR 72205-7299, 501-227-2783 (formerly: Forensic Toxicology Laboratory Baptist Medical Center).
- Bayshore Clinical Laboratory, 4555 W. Schroeder Dr., Brown Deer, WI 53223, 414-355-4444/800-877-7016.
- Cedars Medical Center, Department of Pathology, 1400 Northwest 12th Ave., Miami, FL 33136, 305-325-5810.
- Centinela Hospital Airport Toxicology Laboratory, 9601 S. Sepulveda Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90045, 310-215-6020.
- Clinical Reference Lab, 8433 Quivira Rd., Lenexa, KS 66215-2802, 800-445-6917.
- CompuChem Laboratories, Inc., 1904 Alexander Drive, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709, 919-549-8263/800-833-3984 (Formerly: CompuChem Laboratories, Inc., A Subsidiary of Roche Biomedical Laboratory, Roche CompuChem Laboratories, Inc., A Member of the Roche Group).
- CORNING Clinical Laboratories, 4771 Regent Blvd., Irving, TX 75063, 800-526-0947 (formerly: Damon Clinical Laboratories, Damon/MetPath).
- CORNING Clinical Laboratories, 875 Greentree Rd., 4 Parkway Ctr., Pittsburgh, PA 15220-3610, 800-284-