

Department of Labor issued a Certification Regarding Eligibility to Apply for Worker Adjustment Assistance on August 9, 1996, applicable to all workers of Orbit Industries, Incorporated located in Helen, Georgia. The notice was published in the Federal Register on September 13, 1996 (61 FR 48504).

At the request of the company, the Department reviewed the certification for workers of the subject firm. Based on new information received by the company, the Department is amending the certification to cover workers at the affiliate plant of the subject firm, Penline Garment Company, Toccoa, Georgia. The production facility closed September 27, 1996. The workers at Penline Garment were engaged in employment related to the production of apparel.

The intent of the Department's certification is to include all workers of the subject firm who were adversely affected by increased imports of apparel.

The amended notice applicable to TA-W-32,532 is hereby issued as follows:

"All workers of Orbit Industries, Incorporated, Helen, Georgia (TA-W-32,532) and Penline Garment Company, Toccoa, Georgia (TA-W-32,532D) who became totally or partially separated from employment on or after June 24, 1995 are eligible to apply for adjustment assistance under Section 223 of the Trade Act of 1974."

Signed at Washington, D.C. this 30th day of September 1996.

Russell T. Kile,

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

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[TA-W-32,388]

Snap-On, Incorporated; Mt. Carmel, IL; Notice of Negative Determination Regarding Application for Reconsideration

By an application dated August 26, 1996, the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers (IAM&AW) requested administrative reconsideration of the subject petition for trade adjustment assistance (TAA). The denial notice was signed on July 29, 1996 and published in the Federal Register on August 26, 1996 (61 FR 43791).

The initial investigation findings showed that the workers produced hand tools such as ratchets, pliers and miscellaneous wrenches. The Department's denial was based on the fact that the "contributed importantly"

test of the Group Eligibility Requirements of the Trade Act was not met. Company officials indicated that a significant portion of the layoffs were attributable to the shift of a torque wrench production line in early 1996, from the Mt. Carmel plant to an affiliated facility located in Industry, California. The corporate decision to shift production to another domestic location would not form the basis for a worker certification.

The IAM&AW request for reconsideration enclosed numerous statements from workers of the subject firm describing an all employee meeting where a company official stated that imports of some hand tools from abroad were increasing in quality and decreasing in price, and thus, impacting workers jobs in Mt. Carmel.

Another test of the "contributed importantly" criterion is generally demonstrated through a survey of the workers' firm's customers. However, in this case the hand tools produced by Snap-On are mass marketed through a dealer network and sold to independent automobile mechanics. Therefore, a customer survey was not feasible. The Department must rely on import statistics to determine import impact on workers of the subject firm.

Based on petitioners allegations, the Department reviewed and updated the trade statistics for wrenches and pliers. Aggregate U.S. imports of wrenches declined from 1994 to 1995 and in the twelve-month period of June through May 1995-1996 compared to the same twelve months of 1994-1995. Aggregate U.S. imports of pliers rose slightly from 1994 to 1995 but decreased in the twelve-month period of June through May 1995-1996 compared to the same twelve months of 1994-1995.

Conclusion

After reconsideration, I affirm the original notice of negative determination of eligibility to apply for adjustment assistance under Section 223 of the Trade Act to workers and former workers of Snap-On, Incorporated, Mt. Carmel, Illinois.

Signed at Washington, DC, this 1st day of October 1996.

Russell T. Kile,

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

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Proposed Information Collection Request Submitted for Public Comment and Recommendations; Unemployment Insurance Benefit Accuracy Measurement Program

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Labor, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, conducts a preclearance consultation program to provide the general public and Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing collections of information in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA95) (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). This program helps to ensure that requested data can be provided in the desired format, reporting burden (time and financial resources) is minimized, collection instruments are clearly understood, and the impact of collection requirements on respondents can be properly assessed. With this notice, the Employment and Training Administration is soliciting comments concerning a proposed pilot test of collecting information on the accuracy of denials of Unemployment Insurance (UI) benefit eligibility. A copy of the proposed information collection request can be obtained by contacting the employee named below in the contact section of this notice.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before December 16, 1996.

Written comments should:

- Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;
- Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
- Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
- Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

ADDRESSES: Burman H. Skrable, Unemployment Insurance Service, Employment and Training Administration, U.S. Department of