

**Background**

On July 30, 1997, a petition was filed with the Commission and the Department of Commerce by counsel on behalf of Al Tech Specialty Steel Corp., Dunkirk, NY; Carpenter Technology Corp., Reading, PA; Republic Engineered Steels, Massillon, OH; Talley Metals Technology, Inc., Hartsville, SC; and the United Steelworkers of America, AFL-CIO/CLC, alleging that an industry in the United States is materially injured and threatened with material injury by reason of subsidized imports of stainless steel wire rod from Italy, and by reason of LTFV imports of such merchandise from Germany, Italy, Japan, Korea, Spain, Sweden, and Taiwan. Accordingly, effective July 30, 1997, the Commission instituted preliminary countervailing duty investigation No. 701-TA-373 (Preliminary) and preliminary antidumping investigations Nos. 731-TA-769 through 775 (Preliminary).

Notice of the institution of the Commission's investigations and of a public conference to be held in connection therewith was given by posting copies of the notice in the Office of the Secretary, U.S. International Trade Commission, Washington, DC, and by publishing the notice in the **Federal Register** of August 6, 1997 (62 FR 42263). The conference was held in Washington, DC, on August 21, 1997, and all persons who requested the opportunity were permitted to appear in person or by counsel.

The Commission transmitted its determinations in these investigations to the Secretary of Commerce on September 15, 1997. The views of the Commission are contained in USITC Publication 3060 (September 1997), entitled "Stainless Steel Wire Rod from Germany, Italy, Japan, Korea, Spain, Sweden, and Taiwan: Investigation No. 701-TA-373 and Nos. 731-TA-769 through 775 (Preliminary)."

Issued: September 19, 1997.

By order of the Commission.

**Donna R. Koehnke,**

Secretary.

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**DEPARTMENT OF LABOR****Office of the Secretary****Advisory Council on Employee Welfare and Pension Benefit Plans; Extending the Time for Receipt of Nominations for Vacancies Until October 15, 1997**

Section 512 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), 88 Stat. 895, 29 U.S.C. 1142, provides for the establishment of an "Advisory Council on Employee Welfare and Pension Benefit Plans" (the Council), which is to consist of 15 members to be appointed by the Secretary of Labor (the Secretary) as follows: Three representatives of employee organizations (at least one of whom shall be representative of an organization whose members are participants in a multiemployer plan); three representatives of employers (at least one of whom shall be representative of employers maintaining or contributing to multiemployer plans); one representative each from the fields of insurance, corporate trust, actuarial counseling, investment counseling, investment management and accounting; and three representatives from the general public (one of whom shall be a person representing those receiving benefits from a pension plan). No more than eight members of the Council shall be members of the same political party.

Members shall be persons qualified to appraise the programs instituted under ERISA. Appointments are for terms of three years. The prescribed duties of the Council are to advise the Secretary with respect to the carrying out of his or her functions under ERISA, and to submit to Secretary with respect to the carrying out of his or her functions under ERISA, and to submit to the Secretary, or his or her designee, recommendations with respect thereto. The Council will meet at least four times each year, and recommendations of the Council to the Secretary will be included in the Secretary's annual report to the Congress on ERISA.

The terms of five members of the Council expire Friday, November 14, 1997. The groups or fields represented are as follows: employee organizations (multiemployer plans), investment counseling, actuarial counseling, employers and the general public (pensioners). In addition, this year nominations also are being sought for individuals interested in an appointment to fill one year of a unexpired three-year term of a Council member who died while serving on the Council. That unexpired term calls for

naming an employee organization (multiemployer) representative.

Accordingly, notice is hereby given that any person or organization desiring to recommend one or more individuals for appointment to the ERISA Advisory Council on Employee Welfare and Pension Benefit Plans to represent any of the groups or fields specified in the preceding paragraph, may submit recommendations to Sharon Morrissey, Executive Secretary, ERISA Advisory Council, Frances Perkins Building, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW., suite N-5677, Washington, DC 20210. This notice is being issued to extend the period in which recommendations can be delivered or mailed. The new date for receipt of recommendations is on or before October 15, 1997. Nominations for a particular category of membership should come from organizations or individuals within that category. A summary of the candidate's qualifications should be included with the nomination.

Signed at Washington, DC, this 19th day of September, 1997.

**Olena Berg,**

Assistant Secretary of Labor, Pension and Welfare Benefits Administration.

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**DEPARTMENT OF LABOR****Employment Standards Administration****Wage and Hour Division; Minimum Wages for Federal and Federally Assisted Construction; General Wage Determination Decisions**

General wage determination decisions of the Secretary of Labor are issued in accordance with applicable law and are based on the information obtained by the Department of Labor from its study of local wage conditions and data made available from other sources. They specify the basic hourly wage rates and fringe benefits which are determined to be prevailing for the described classes of laborers and mechanics employed on construction projects of a similar character and in the localities specified therein.

The determinations in these decisions of prevailing rates and fringe benefits have been made in accordance with 29 CFR Part 1, by authority of the Secretary of Labor pursuant to the provisions of the Davis-Bacon Act of March 3, 1931, as amended (46 Stat. 1494, as amended, 40 U.S.C. 276a) and of other Federal statutes referred to in 29 CFR part 1, Appendix, as well as such additional