employers to offer their alien and U.S. workers in their applications for temporary logging and H–2A agricultural labor certification is the provision of three meals per day or free and convenient cooking and kitchen facilities. 20 CFR 655.102(b)(4) and 655.202(b)(4). Where the employer provides meals, the job offer must state the charge, if any, to the worker for meals.

DOL has published at 20 CFR 655.102(b)(4) and 655.111(a) the methodology for determining the maximum amounts covered H–2A agricultural employers may charge their U.S. and foreign workers for meals. The same methodology is applied at 20 CFR 655.202(b)(4) and 655.211(a) to covered H–2B logging employers. These rules provide for annual adjustments of the previous year's allowable charges based upon Consumer Price Index (CPI) data.

Each year the maximum charges allowed by 20 CFR 655.102(b)(4) and 655.202(b)(4) are changed in the CPI for all Urban Consumers for Food (CPI–U for Food) between December of the year just past and December of the year prior to that. Those regulations and 20 CFR 655.111(a) and 655.211(a) provided that the appropriate Regional Administrator (RA), Employment and Training Administration, may permit an employer to charge workers no more than a higher maximum amount for providing them with three meals a day, if justified and sufficiently document. Each year, the higher maximum amounts permitted by 20 CFR 655.111(a) and 655.211(a) are changed by the same percentage as the twelve-month percent change in the CPI–U for Food between December of the year just past and December of the year prior to that. The regulations require the director, U.S. Employment Service, to make the annual adjustments and to cause a notice to be published in the **Federal Register** each calendar year, announcing annual adjustments in allowable charges that may be made by covered agricultural and logging employers for providing three meals daily to their U.S. and alien workers. The 1997 rates were published in a notice on February 7, 1997 at 62 FR 5853.

DOL has determined the percentage change between December of 1996 and December of 1997 for the CIP–U for Food was 2.6 percent.

Accordingly, the maximum allowable charges under 20 CFR 655.102(b)(4), 655.202(b)(4), 655.111, and 655.211 were adjusted using this percentage change, and the new permissible charges for 1998 are as follows: (1) for 20 CFR 655.102(b)(4) and 655.202(b)(4), the charge, if any, shall be no more than $7.60 per day, unless the RA has approved a higher charge pursuant to 20 CFR 655.111 or 655.211(b); for 20 CFR 655.111 and 655.211, the RA may permit an employer to charge workers up to $9.49 per day for providing them with three meals per day, if the employer justifies the charge and submits to the RA the documentation required to support higher charge.

C. Maximum Travel Subsistence Expense

The regulations at 20 CFR 655.102(b)(5) establish that the minimum daily subsistence expense related to travel expenses, for which a worker is entitle to reimbursement, is the employer's daily charge for three meals or, if the employer makes no charge, the amount permitted under 20 CFR 655.104(b)(4). The regulation is silent about the maximum amount to which a qualifying worker is entitled.

The Department, in Field Memorandum 42–94, established that the maximum is the meals component of the standard CONUS (continental United States) per diem rate established by the General Services Administration (GSA) and published at 41 CFR Ch. 301. The CONUS meal component is now $30.00 per day.

Workers who qualify for travel reimbursement are entitled to reimbursement up to the CONUS meal rate for related subsistence when they provide receipts. In determining the appropriate amount of subsistence reimbursement, the employer may use the GSA system under which a traveler qualifies for meal expense reimbursement per quarter of a day. Thus, a worker whose travel occurred during two quarters of a day is entitled, with receipts, to a maximum reimbursement of $15.00.

If a worker has no receipts, the employer is not obligated to reimburse above the minimum stated at 20 CFR 655.102(b)(4) as specified above.

Signed at Washington, DC, this 11th day of February, 1998.

John R. Beverly, III,

Director, U.S. Employment Service.

[FR Doc. 98–4051 Filed 2–17–98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employment and Training Administration

[NAFTA–02048; NAFTA–02048A; NAFTA–02048B]

Oxford Industries, Incorporated; Oxford Women's Catalog and Special Markets Division, Alma, GA; Oxford of Giles, Pearisburg, VA; Oxford of Gaffney, Gaffney, SC; Amended Certification Regarding Eligibility To Apply for NAFTA-Transitional Adjustment Assistance

In accordance with Section 250(a), Subchapter D, Chapter 2, Title II, of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended (19 USC 2273), the Department of Labor issued a Certification of Eligibility to Apply for NAFTA Transitional Adjustment Assistance on December 21, 1997, applicable to workers of Oxford Women's Catalog and Special Markets Division of Oxford Industries, Incorporated located in Alma, Georgia. The notice was published in the **Federal Register** on January 22, 1998 (63 FR 3352).

At the request of the company, the Department reviewed the certification for workers of the subject firm. The company reports that layoffs will occur at Oxford Industries, Incorporated locations in Pearisburg, Virginia where the workers produce ladies knit apparel, and in Gaffney, South Carolina where the workers produce jackets and outerwear.

The intent of the Department's certification is to include all workers of Oxford Industries, Incorporated adversely affected by increased imports from Mexico. Accordingly, the Department is amending the certification to include workers of Oxford Industries, Incorporated locations in Pearisburg, Virginia and Gaffney, South Carolina.

The amended notice applicable to NAFTA–02048 is hereby issued as follows:

All workers of Oxford Industries, Incorporated, Oxford Women's Catalog and Special Markets Division, Alma, Georgia (NAFTA–02048), Oxford of Giles, Pearisburg, Virginia (NAFTA–02048A), Oxford of Gaffney, Gaffney, South Carolina (NAFTA–02048B) who became totally or partially separated from employment on or after November 24, 1996 through December 21, 1999, are eligible to apply for NAFTA–TAA under Section 250 of the Trade Act of 1974.

Signed in Washington, D.C. this 6th day of February 1998.

Grant D. Beale,

Acting Director, Office of Trade Adjustment Assistance.

[FR Doc. 98–4058 Filed 2–17–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510–30–M

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employment and Training Administration

[NAFTA–02159]

Oxford Industries, Incorporated Oxford of Giles, Pearisburg, VA; Notice of Termination of Investigation

Pursuant to Title V of the North American Free Trade Agreement Implementation Act (Pub. L. 103–182) concerning transitional adjustment assistance, hereinafter called (NAFTA–TAA), and in accordance with Section 250(a), Subchapter D, Chapter 2, Title II, of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended (19 USC 2273), an investigation was initiated on January 27, 1998, in response to a petition filed on behalf of workers at Oxford Industries, Incorporated, Oxford of Giles located in Pearisburg, Virginia.

The petitioning group of workers are covered under an existing NAFTA certification (NAFTA–02048A). Consequently, further investigation in this case would serve no purpose, and the investigation has been terminated.

Signed at Washington, D.C., this 6th day of February 1998.

Grant D. Beale,

Acting Director, Office of Trade Adjustment Assistance.

[FR Doc. 98–4059 Filed 2–17–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510–30–M

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employment and Training Administration

[NAFTA–02096]

Romla Ventilator Company, Gardena, California; Notice of Termination of Investigation

Pursuant to Title V of the North American Free Trade Agreement Implementation Act (P.L. 103–182) concerning transitional adjustment assistance, hereinafter called NAFTA–TAA and in accordance with Section 250(a), Subchapter D, Chapter 2, Title II, of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended (19 U.S.C. 2331), an investigation was initiated on December 23, 1997, on behalf of workers at Romla Ventilator Company, Gardena, California.

This case is being terminated because the workers were separated from the subject firm more than one year prior to the date of the petition. The NAFTA Implementation Act specifies that no certification may apply to any worker whose last separation occurred more than one year before the date of the petition. Consequently, further investigation in this case would serve no purpose, and the investigation has been terminated.

Signed at Washington, D.C., this 6th day of February, 1998.

Grant D. Beale,

Acting Director, Office of Trade Adjustment Assistance.

[FR Doc. 98–4060 Filed 2–17–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510–30–M

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employment and Training Administration

Investigations Regarding Certifications of Eligibility To Apply for NAFTA Transitional Adjustment Assistance

Petitions for transitional adjustment assistance under the North American Free Trade Agreement-Transitional Adjustment Assistance Implementation Act (Pub. L. 103–182), hereinafter called (NAFTA–TAA), have been filed with State Governors under Section 250(b)(1) of Subchapter D, Chapter 2, Title II, of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended, are identified in the Appendix to this Notice. Upon notice from a Governor that a NAFTA–TAA petition has been received, the Acting Director of the Office Trade Adjustment Assistance (OTAA), Employment and Training Administration (ETA), Department of Labor (DOL), announces the filing of the petition and takes actions pursuant to paragraphs (c) and (e) of Section 250 of the Trade Act.

The purpose of the Governor's actions and the Labor Department's investigations are to determine whether the workers separated from employment of after December 8, 1993 (date of enactment of Pub. L. 103–182) are eligible to apply for NAFTA–TAA under Subchapter D of the Trade Act because of increased imports from or the shift in production to Mexico or Canada.

The petitioners or any other persons showing a substantial interest in the subject matter of the investigations may request a public hearing with the Acting Director of OTAA at the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) Washington, D.C. provided such request is filed in writing with the Acting Director of OTAA not later than March 2, 1998.

Also, interested persons are invited to submit written comments regarding the subject matter of the petitions to the Acting Director of OTAA at the address shown below not later than March 2, 1998.

Petitions filed with the Governors are available for inspection at the Office of the Acting Director, OTAA, ETA, DOL, Room C–4318, 200 Constitution Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20210.

Signed at Washington, D.C. this 6th day of February, 1998.

Grant D. Beale,

Acting Director, Office of Trade Adjustment Assistance.

APPENDIX

Subject firm	Location	Date received at Governor's office	Petition No.	Articles produced
Tultex Corporation (Co.)	Chilhowie, VA	01/09/1998	NAFTA–2,113	Fleece tops, shirts and blouse parts.
Allied Signal (IUE)	Eatentown, NJ	12/21/1997	NAFTA–2,114	Power generators.
Chester Clothes (UNITE)	Philipsburg, PA	01/09/1998	NAFTA–2,115	Men's and boys' suits.
Viti Fashion (Wkrs)	Hialeah, FL	12/12/1997	NAFTA–2,116	Children's apparel.
Shelby Die Casting (Co.)	Fayette, AL	01/12/1998	NAFTA–2,117	Aluminum castings.
Sara Lee Hosiery (Co.)	Marion, SC	01/13/1998	NAFTA–2,118	Sewing of hosiery.
L.V. Myles—Paul Bruce (Wkrs)	Scotland Neck, NC	01/12/1998	NAFTA–2,119	Womens and childrens clothes.
Mitsubishi Consumer Electronics America (Co.).	Costa Mesa, CA	01/12/1998	NAFTA–2,120	Televisions.