

each state and territory coastal nonpoint program. The Proposed Findings Documents, Environmental Assessments, and Findings of No Significant Impact prepared for the coastal nonpoint programs submitted by Alabama, Alaska, California, Connecticut, Hawaii, Louisiana, and Washington were made available for public comment in the **Federal Register**. Public comments were received and responses prepared on the Alabama, Alaska, California, Connecticut, Hawaii, and Louisiana programs.

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) NOAA has also prepared a Record of Decision on each program. The requirements of 40 CFR Parts 1500-1508 (Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations to implement the National Environmental Policy Act) apply to the preparation of a Record of Decision. Specifically, 40 CFR section 1505.2 requires an agency to prepare a concise public record of decision at the time of its decision on the action proposed in an environmental impact statement. The Record of Decision shall: (1) state what the decision was; (2) identify all alternatives considered, specifying the alternative considered to be environmentally preferable; and (3) state whether all practicable means to avoid or minimize environmental harm from the alternative selected have been adopted.

In March 1996, NOAA published a programmatic environmental impact statement (PEIS) that assessed the environmental impacts associated with the approval of state and territory coastal nonpoint programs. The PEIS forms the basis for the environmental assessments NOAA has prepared for each state and territorial coastal nonpoint program submitted to NOAA and EPA for approval. In the PEIS, NOAA determined that the approval and conditional approval of coastal nonpoint in any significant adverse environmental impacts and that these programs will not result actions will have an overall beneficial effect on the environment. Because the PEIS served only as a "framework for decision" on individual state and territorial coastal nonpoint programs, and no actual decision was made following its publication, NOAA has prepared a NEPA Record of Decision on each individual state and territorial program submitted for review.

Copies of the Findings Documents, Responses to Comments, and Records of Decision may be obtained upon request from: Joseph A. Uravitch, Chief, Coastal Programs Division (N/ORM3), Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource

Management, NOS, NOAA, 1305 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, Maryland, 20910, tel. (301) 713-3155, x195.

(Federal Domestic Assistance Catalog 11.419 Coastal Zone Management Program Administration)

Dated: July 6, 1998.

Captain Evelyn J. Fields,

Acting Deputy Assistant Administrator for Ocean Services and Coastal Zone Management, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

Robert H. Wayland, III,

Director, Office of Wetlands, Oceans and Watersheds, Environmental Protection Agency.

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COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

Notice of Meeting

The next meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts is scheduled for 23 July 1998 at 10:00 AM in the Commission's offices at the National Building Museum (Pension Building), Suite 312, Judiciary Square, 441 F Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20001. The meeting will focus on a variety of projects affecting the appearance of the city.

Inquiries regarding the agenda and requests to submit written or oral statements should be addressed to Charles H. Atherton, Secretary, Commission of Fine Arts, at the above address or call 202-504-2200. Individuals requiring sign language interpretation for the hearing impaired should contact the Secretary at least 10 days before the meeting date.

Dated in Washington, D.C. 29 June 1998.

Charles H. Atherton,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98-18262 Filed 7-8-98; 8:45 am]

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COMMITTEE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TEXTILE AGREEMENTS

Amendment to Quota and Visa Requirements to Increase the Exemption for Properly Marked Commercial Sample Shipments From Various Countries

July 6, 1998.

AGENCY: Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements (CITA).

ACTION: Issuing a directive to the Commissioner of Customs increasing the exemption for properly marked commercial sample shipments.

EFFECTIVE DATE: September 1, 1998.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Brian F. Fennessy, International Trade Specialist, Office of Textiles and Apparel, U.S. Department of Commerce, (202) 482-3400.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Authority: Section 204 of the Agricultural Act of 1956, as amended (7 U.S.C. 1854); Executive Order 11651 of March 3, 1972, as amended.

Currently, shipments of properly marked commercial samples valued at U.S.\$250 or less do not require a visa for entry into the United States and are not charged to applicable quotas. The Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements has reviewed the dollar limitation and has decided to increase the exemption from U.S.\$250 to U.S.\$800 for properly marked commercial sample shipments exported on or after September 1, 1998.

In addition to other requirements, U.S. Customs guidelines require that each imported sample must be indelibly marked "SAMPLE" in large letters in specific locations depending on the imported article.

In the letter published below, the Chairman of CITA directs the Commissioner of Customs to amend existing visa requirements.

Troy H. Cribb,

Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.

Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements

July 6, 1998.

Commissioner of Customs,
Department of the Treasury, Washington, DC 20229.

Dear Commissioner: This directive amends, but does not cancel, all directives issued to you which establish textile and apparel export visa requirements.

The Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements has decided to increase the dollar limitation for properly marked commercial sample shipments from U.S.\$250 to U.S.\$800. Effective on September 1, 1998, for products exported on or after September 1, 1998, shipments of properly marked commercial samples valued at U.S.\$800 or less do not require a visa for entry into the United States and shall not be charged to applicable quotas.

Shipments entered or withdrawn from warehouse according to this directive which are not properly marked shall be subject to applicable quota and visa requirements.

The Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements has determined that this action falls within the foreign affairs exception to the rulemaking provisions of 5 U.S.C. 553(a)(1).