

SUMMARY: The Secretary of Commerce issued an export trade certificate of review to J.J. Wheeling (d/b/a Aidex). Because this certificate holder has failed to file an annual report as required by law, the Department is initiating proceedings to revoke the certificate. This notice summarizes the notification letter sent to J.J. Wheeling (d/b/a Aidex).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Morton Schnabel, Director, Office of Export Trading Company Affairs, International Trade Administration, (202) 482-5131. This is not a toll-free number.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Title III of the Export Trading Company Act of 1982 ("the Act") [15 U.S.C. 4011-21] authorizes the Secretary of Commerce to issue export trade certificates of review. The regulations implementing Title III ("the Regulations") are found at 15 CFR part 325. Pursuant to this authority, a certificate of review was issued on May 13, 1992 to J.J. Wheeling (d/b/a Aidex).

A certificate holder is required by law (Section 308 of the Act, 15 U.S.C. 4018) to submit to the Department of Commerce annual reports that update financial and other information relating to business activities covered by its certificate. The annual report is due within 45 days after the anniversary date of the issuance of the certificate of review (Sections 325.14(a) and (b) of the Regulations). Failure to submit a complete annual report may be the basis for revocation. (Sections 325.10(a) and 325.14(c) of the Regulations).

The Department of Commerce sent to J.J. Wheeling (d/b/a Aidex), on May 3, 1998, a letter containing annual report questions with a reminder that its annual report was due on June 27, 1998. Additional reminders were sent on July 1, 1998, and on July 27, 1998. The Department has received no written response to any of these letters.

On August 27, 1998, and in accordance with Section 325.10 (c)[1] of the Regulations, a letter was sent by certified mail to notify J.J. Wheeling (d/b/a Aidex) that the Department was formally initiating the process to revoke its certificate. The letter stated that this action is being taken because of the certificate holder's failure to file an annual report.

In accordance with Section 325.10(c)[2] of the Regulations, each certificate holder has thirty days from the day after its receipt of the notification letter in which to respond. The certificate holder is deemed to have received this letter as of the date on which this notice is published in the **Federal Register**. For good cause shown, the Department of Commerce can, at its

discretion, grant a thirty-day extension for a response.

If the certificate holder decides to respond, it must specifically address the Department's statement in the notification letter that it has failed to file an annual report. It should state in detail why the facts, conduct, or circumstances described in the notification letter are not true, or if they are, why they do not warrant revoking the certificate. If the certificate holder does not respond within the specified period, it will be considered an admission of the statements contained in the notification letter (Section 325.10(c)[2] of the Regulations).

If the answer demonstrates that the material facts are in dispute, the Department of Commerce and the Department of Justice will, upon request, meet informally with the certificate holder. Either Department may require the certificate holder to provide the documents or information that are necessary to support its contentions (Section 325.10(c)[3] of the Regulations).

The Department will publish a notice in the **Federal Register** of the revocation or modification or a decision not to revoke or modify (Section 325.10(c)[4] of the Regulations). If there is a determination to revoke a certificate, any person aggrieved by such final decision may appeal to an appropriate U.S. district court within 30 days from the date on which the Department's final determination is published in the **Federal Register** (Sections 325.10(c)(4) and 325.11 of the Regulations).

Dated: September 3, 1998.

Morton Schnabel,

Director, Office of Export Trading Company Affairs.

[FR Doc. 98-24559 Filed 9-11-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-DR-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

Environmental Technologies Trade Advisory Committee (ETTAC)

AGENCY: International Trade Administration, US Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of open meeting.

SUMMARY: The Environmental Technologies Trade Advisory Committee will hold a plenary meeting from 8:30 AM until 11:30 PM on September 17, 1998. The ETTAC was created on May 31, 1994, to advise the U.S. government on policies and

programs to expand U.S. exports of environmental products and services.

DATE AND PLACE: September 17, 1998; Room 3407 of the Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230.

The plenary meeting will review the objectives and agendas of its five subcommittee working groups: Market Access, Trade Impediments, Government Resources, Finance, and Outreach. There will also be an update on the APEC trade liberalization process, and updates from Environmental Trade Working Group members.

This meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Sage Chandler, Department of Commerce, Office of Environmental Technologies Exports. Phone: 202-482-1500

Dated: September 4, 1998.

Carlos Montoulieu,

Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary, Office of Environmental Technologies Exports.

[FR Doc. 98-24620 Filed 9-11-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-DR-M

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Institute of Standards and Technology

[Docket No. 970725180-8168-02]

RIN 0693-ZA16

Request for Comments on Candidate Algorithms for the Advanced Encryption Standard (AES)

AGENCY: National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice; Request for comments.

SUMMARY: A process to develop a Federal Information Processing Standard (FIPS) for Advanced Encryption Standard (AES) specifying an Advanced Encryption Algorithm (AEA) has been initiated by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). Earlier this year, candidate algorithms were nominated to NIST for consideration for inclusion in the AES. Those candidate algorithms meeting the minimum acceptability criteria have been announced by NIST and are available electronically at the address listed below.

This notice solicits comments on the candidate algorithms from the public, and academic and research communities, manufacturers, voluntary standards organizations, and Federal, state, and local government organizations. These comments will