

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument(s) and instructions should be directed to Dawnielle Battle, Department of Commerce, Room 6881, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230.

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION:**

**I. Abstract**

The Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) is a multilateral arms control treaty that seeks to achieve an international ban on chemical weapons (CW). The CWC was signed by the United States on January 13, 1993, and ratified by the U.S. Senate on April 24, 1997. The CWC prohibits, *inter alia*, the use, development, production, acquisition, stockpiling, retention, and direct or indirect transfer of chemical weapons.

The proposed new information collection by BXA will attempt to survey, by telephone, private companies either known to be or are suspected to be engaged in activities involving Schedule 2 chemicals. The survey will help BXA identify and determine which U.S. commercial facilities have a Schedule 2 reporting requirement and will thereby assist the U.S. Government in its efforts to be fully compliant with CWC reporting obligations.

**II. Method of Collection**

Telephone survey.

**III. Data**

*OMB Number:* 0694-new.

*Form Number:* N/A.

*Type of Review:* Submission for new collection.

*Affected Public:* Individuals, businesses or other for-profit and not-for-profit institutions.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 100.

*Estimated Time Per Response:* 1 hour per response.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden*

*Hours:* 100.

*Estimated Total Annual Cost:* \$0 (no capital expenditures are required).

**IV. Request for Comments**

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the

burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection; they will also become a matter of public record.

Dated: February 22, 1999.

**Linda Engelmeier,**

*Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Office of Chief Information Officer.*

[FR Doc. 99-5267 Filed 3-2-99; 8:45 am]

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**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

**International Trade Administration**

**North American Free-Trade Agreement, Article 1904 NAFTA Panel Reviews; Request for Panel Review**

**AGENCY:** NAFTA Secretariat, United States Section, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice of First Request for Panel Review

**SUMMARY:** On February 9, 1999, Stelco, Inc. filed two First Requests for Panel Review with the U.S. Section of the NAFTA Secretariat pursuant to Article 1904 of the North American Free Trade Agreement. Panel reviews were requested of the final determination involving Certain Corrosion-Resistant Carbon Steel Flat Products from Canada and Certain Cut-to-Length Carbon Steel Plate from Canada. The determination affecting both products was published in the **Federal Register** on January 13, 1999 (64 Fed. Reg. 2173). The NAFTA Secretariat has assigned Case Number USA-CDA-99-1904-01 to the panel request involving Certain Corrosion-Resistant Carbon Steel Flat Products from Canada and USA-CDA-99-1904-02 to the panel request involving Certain Cut-to-Length Carbon Steel Plate from Canada.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

James R. Holbein, United States Secretary, NAFTA Secretariat, Suite 2061, 14th and Constitution Avenue, Washington, D.C. 20230, (202) 482-5438.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Chapter 19 of the North American Free-Trade Agreement ("Agreement") establishes a mechanism to replace domestic judicial review of final determinations in antidumping and countervailing duty cases involving imports from a NAFTA country with review by independent

binational panels. When a Request for Panel Review is filed, a panel is established to act in place of national courts to review expeditiously the final determination to determine whether it conforms with the antidumping or countervailing duty law of the country that made the determination.

Under Article 1904 of the Agreement, which came into force on January 1, 1994, the Government of the United States, the Government of Canada and the Government of Mexico established *Rules of Procedure for Article 1904 Binational Panel Reviews* ("Rules"). These Rules were published in the **Federal Register** on February 23, 1994 (59 FR 8686).

Two first Requests for Panel Review were filed with the Canadian Section of the NAFTA Secretariat, pursuant to Article 1904 of the Agreement, on February 9, 1999, requesting panel review of the final determination described above.

The Rules provide that:

(a) a Party or interested person may challenge the final determination in whole or in part by filing a Complaint in accordance with Rule 39 within 30 days after the filing of the first Request for Panel Review (the deadline for filing a Complaint is March 11, 1999);

(b) a Party, investigating authority or interested person that does not file a Complaint but that intends to appear in support of any reviewable portion of the final determination may participate in the panel review by filing a Notice of Appearance in accordance with Rule 40 within 45 days after the filing of the first Request for Panel Review (the deadline for filing a Notice of Appearance is March 26, 1999); and

(c) the panel review shall be limited to the allegations of error of fact or law, including the jurisdiction of the investigating authority, that are set out in the Complaints filed in the panel review and the procedural and substantive defenses raised in the panel review.

Dated: February 16, 1999.

**James R. Holbein,**

*United States Secretary, NAFTA Secretariat.*

[FR Doc. 99-5143 Filed 3-2-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-GT-P

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

**National Institute of Standards and Technology**

**Manufacturing Extension Partnership Program Evaluation Survey**

**ACTION:** Proposed collection; comment request.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Commerce, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or existing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1996, Public Law 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)).

**DATES:** Written comments must be submitted on or before May 3, 1999.

**ADDRESSES:** Direct all written comments to Linda Engelmeier, Departmental Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 5327, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20230. The Internet address is LEngel@doc.gov.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument and instructions should be directed to: Elizabeth Bury, Manufacturing Extension Partnership, Building 301, Room C-100, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Stop 4800, Gaithersburg, Maryland 20899; phone: (301) 975-3944, and fax: (301) 926-3787.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Abstract**

This submission under the Paperwork Reduction Act represents a request for a revision to an existing collection by the Department of Commerce's National Institute of Standards and Technology. The revision being proposed is a pilot test of modifications to an existing, ongoing collection effort, the National Institute of Standards & Technology, Manufacturing Extension Partnership Program Evaluation Survey, OMB number 0693-0021.

The Manufacturing Extension Partnership is a nationwide system of services and support for smaller manufacturers giving them unprecedented access to new technologies, resources, and expertise. Sponsored by the National Institute of Standards and Technology, the MEP is comprised of a network of locally based manufacturing extension centers working with small manufacturers to help them improve their manufacturing competitiveness.

Obtaining specific information from clients about the impact of MEP services is essential for National Institute of Standards and Technology officials to evaluate program strengths and weaknesses and plan improvements in program effectiveness and efficiency. Recently, program managers completed a new strategic plan focusing greater

attention on a more focused set of program goals and objectives. The new strategic plan has resulted in program managers desire to revisit the current data collection effort. The purpose of the revised collection will be to make it more compatible with the new strategic plan goals and to further examine areas for overall improvement in methodology.

The program wishes to pilot a new, revised data collection effort.

**Method of Collection**

The Survey will be administered using Computer Assisted Telephone Interviewing (CATI) technology.

**Data**

*OMB Number:* 0693-0021.

*Form Number:* N/A.

*Type of Review:* Regular submission.

*Affected Public:* Businesses or other for-profit organizations.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 600.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:* 100 hours.

*Estimated Time Per Response:* 10 minutes.

*Estimated Annual Cost:* There is no cost to respondents other than their time to respond to the survey.

**IV. Requests for Comments**

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection; they will also be come a matter of public record.

Dated: February 22, 1999.

**Linda Engelmeier,**

*Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Office of Chief Information Officer.*

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**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

[I.D. 012099D]

**Marine Mammals; File No. 259-1481-00 and File No. 633-1483-00**

**AGENCY:** National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

**ACTION:** Issuance of permits.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that Dr. Ronald J. Schusterman, Long Marine Laboratory, University of California Santa Cruz, 100 Shaffer Road, Santa Cruz, CA 95060, has been issued a permit to take two California sea lions (*Zalophus californianus*), one Pacific harbor seal (*Phoca vitulina*), and one northern elephant seal (*Mirounga angustirostris*) for purposes of scientific research.

Notice is also hereby given that the Center for Coastal Studies, P.O. Box 1036, Provincetown, MA 02657, has been issued a permit to take right whales (*Eubalaena glacialis*) for purposes of scientific research.

**ADDRESSES:** The permits and related documents are available for review upon written request or by appointment in the following office(s) for both 259-1481-00 and 633-1483-00:

Permits and Documentation Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13705, Silver Spring, MD 20910 (301/713-2289);

For 259-1481-00 only: Regional Administrator, Southwest Region, National Marine Fisheries Service, NOAA, 501 West Ocean Boulevard, Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802-4213 (562/980-4001); and

For 633-1483-00 only: Regional Administrator, Northeast Region, National Marine Fisheries Service, NOAA, One Blackburn Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930-2298 (978/281-9250).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Sara Shapiro or Ruth Johnson, 301/713-2289.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On December 17, 1998, notice was published in the **Federal Register** (63 FR 69615) that a request for a scientific research permit to take two California sea lions (*Zalophus californianus*), one Pacific harbor seal (*Phoca vitulina*), and one northern elephant seal (*Mirounga angustirostris*) had been submitted by Dr. Schusterman. On December 21, 1998, notice was published in the **Federal Register** (63 FR 70395) that a