

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**Bureau of Export Administration****Chemical Weapons Convention, Amendment to the Export Administration Regulations (End-Use Certificates and Advanced Notifications and Annual Reports)**

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 continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)).

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before August 13, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Linda Engelmeier, Departmental Clearance Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 5327, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington DC 20230 (or via the Internet at LEngelme@doc.gov).

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

SUPPLEMENTARY 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 in Paris on January 13, 1993, and was submitted by President Clinton to the United States Senate on November 23, 1993, for its advice and consent to ratification. The CWC prohibits, *inter alia*, the use, development, production, acquisition, stockpiling, retention, and direct or indirect transfer of chemical weapons.

Schedule 1 Notification and Report

Under part VI of the CWC Verification Annex, the United States is required to notify the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), the international organization created to implement the CWC, at least 30 days before any transfer (export/

import) of Schedule 1 chemicals to another State Party. The United States is also required to submit annual reports to the OPCW on all transfers of Schedule 1 Chemicals.

End-Use Certificates

Under parts VII and VIII of the CWC Verification Annex, the United States is required to obtain End-Use Certificates for transfers of Schedule 2 and 3 chemicals to Non-States Parties to ensure the transferred chemicals are only used for the purposes not prohibited under the Convention.

II. Method of Collection

Written Reports.

III. Data

OMB Number: 0694-0117.

Form Number: N/A.

Type of Review: Renewal of collection.

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

Estimated Number of Respondents: 134.

Estimated Time Per Response: 60 to 90 minutes per response.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 178 hours.

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: June 7, 1999.

Linda Engelmeier,

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

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**Foreign-Trade Zones Board**

[Docket 28-99]

Foreign-Trade Zone 219—Yuma, AZ, Application for Subzone, Gowan Company, Yuma, AZ

An application has been submitted to the Foreign-Trade Zones Board (the Board) by the Yuma County Airport Authority, Inc., grantee of FTZ 219, requesting special-purpose subzone status for the manufacturing and warehousing facilities of Gowan Company (Gowan), located in Yuma, Arizona. The application was submitted pursuant to the provisions of the Foreign-Trade Zones Act, as amended (19 U.S.C. 81a-81u), and the regulations of the Board (15 CFR part 400). It was formally filed on May 27, 1999.

The Gowan Company has two sites with 450 employees in Yuma County, Arizona. The manufacturing facility (45.25 acres) is located at 12300 E. County 8th Street in Yuma, Arizona. The warehouse facility (26.96 acres) is located at 10760 South Avenue 7E in Yuma, Arizona. The Gowan plant is used for the manufacturing, processing and packaging of agrichemicals for crop protection in commercial agriculture, including insecticides, fungicides and insect growth regulators (primarily HTS 3808, duty rate ranges from duty-free to 6.5%). Components and materials sourced from abroad (representing about 80% of all parts consumed in manufacturing) include: esters of inorganic acids and organo-sulfur compounds (HTS 2920, 2930, 2940, duty rate ranges from duty-free to 10.7%). Some 25 percent of the plant's shipments are exported. FTZ procedures would exempt Gowan from Customs duty payments on the foreign components used in export production. On its domestic sales, Gowan would be able to choose the duty rates during Customs entry procedures that apply to finished agrichemicals (duty free to 6.5%) for the foreign inputs noted above. The request indicates that the savings from FTZ procedures would help improve the plant's international competitiveness.

In accordance with the Board's regulations, a member of the FTZ staff has been appointed examiner to investigate the application and report to the Board.

Public comment on the application is invited from interested parties. Submissions (original and 3 copies) shall be addressed to the Board's Executive Secretary at the address below. The closing period for their