

tubular goods from Korea, covering the period August 1, 1997 through July 31, 1998.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Jonathan Lyons or Steve Bezirgianian, AD/CVD Enforcement Office 7, Import Administration, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230, telephone: (202) 482-0374 or (202) 482-0162, respectively.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Under section 751(a)(3)(A) of the Tariff Act, as amended (the Act), the Department may extend the deadline for completion of an administrative review if it determines that it is not practicable to complete the review within the statutory time limit of 245 days after the last day of the anniversary month for the relevant order. In the instant case, the Department has determined that it is not practicable to complete the review within the statutory time limit. See Memorandum from Joseph A. Spetrini to Robert S. LaRussa. Therefore, in accordance with section 751(a)(3)(A) of the Act, the Department is extending the time limit for the preliminary results until August 31, 1999. This extension fully extends the statutory deadline to 365 days after the last day of the anniversary month for the relevant order. The Department previously extended the time period for the preliminary results from May 3, 1999 to August 13, 1999. 64 FR 7855 (February 17, 1999).

Dated: July 14, 1999.

**Edward C. Yang,**

*Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary,  
Enforcement Group III.*

[FR Doc. 99-18465 Filed 7-19-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-DS-P

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[Docket No. 990709188-9188-01]

#### National Weather Service (NWS) Modernization and Associated Restructuring; Final Certification of No Degradation of Service for the Combined Consolidation and/or Automation and Closure of Seven Weather Service Offices (WSO)

**AGENCY:** NWS, NOAA, Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** On July 7, 1999, the Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere transmitted to Congress notice of approval for five WSO

consolidation, seven WSO automation, and seven WSO closure certifications. Pub. L. 102-567 requires the final certifications be published in the FR. This notice is intended to satisfy that requirement.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** July 20, 1999.

**ADDRESSES:** Requests for copies of the final certification packages should be sent to Tom Beaver, Room 11426, 1325 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910-3283.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Tom Beaver at 301-713-0300 ext. 136.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The WSO Fresno, CA, automation and closure certification was proposed in the July 14, 1997, **Federal Register**. The 60-day public comment period closed on September 12, 1997. No public comments were received. At its September 24, 1997, meeting, the Modernization Transition Committee (MTC) endorsed the WSO Fresno certifications as not resulting in a degradation of service.

The automation and closure certifications for WSO Huntington, WV; and consolidation, automation, and closure certifications for WSO Chattanooga, TN, and WSO Syracuse, NY, were proposed in the April 9, 1998, **Federal Register**. The 60-day public comment period closed on June 8, 1998.

Fourteen public comments were received pertaining to WSO Syracuse. No comments were received pertaining to WSOs Huntington and Chattanooga. A synopsis of the public comments on WSO Syracuse and NWS response are set forth here for reference.

*Comments on WSO Syracuse, New York:* Fourteen public comments were received raising two concerns: loss of the snowfall measurements at the Syracuse airport, and a degradation of radar coverage and forecasting accuracy for lake effect snow events. One comment came from Representative James T. Walsh who stated, "I write to you today to express my concerns regarding the removal of an accurate snow measuring system and on-site observation for Syracuse." One of the fourteen comments was in favor of closing the Syracuse office.

*NWS Response:* The NWS provided the following information to the Modernization Transition Committee (MTC) on June 18, 1998, in response to the concerns raised in the public comments. The NWS stated there will not be a loss of snowfall measurement because:

- Syracuse is a Service Level A airport, and there is a Federal Aviation Administration contractor in place to provide snow depth on the ground and

snow increasing rapidly remarks in the observations.

- The Binghamton forecast office has an agreement with the contractor at the Syracuse airport to provide hourly snowfall updates as needed.

- 2 Cooperative observers are located within 20 miles and 4 cooperative observers are within 30 miles of the Syracuse airport to provide additional snowfall measurements.

- 17 volunteer snow spotters are located in Onondaga County including 2 within the Syracuse city limits.

The NWS stated there has not been a degradation of radar coverage or forecast accuracy for lake effect snow events because:

- The center of the Binghamton WSR-88D beam is 6500 feet over Syracuse and the center of the Montague WSR-88D beam is 6,000 feet over Syracuse providing non-degraded radar coverage of lake effect snow events. WSO Syracuse did not have a local radar.

- The 1995-1997 NWS Lake Effect Snow Study demonstrated forecast accuracy for lake effect snow events in the Syracuse area has improved.

At its June 18, 1998, meeting, the MTC endorsed the WSO Huntington, Chattanooga, and Syracuse certifications as not resulting in a degradation of service.

The consolidation, automation, and closure certifications for WSOs Charlotte, NC, Fort Wayne, IN, and South Bend, IN, were proposed in the July 17, 1998, FR. The 60-day comment period closed on September 15, 1998.

One public comment was received pertaining to WSO Fort Wayne. No public comments were received pertaining to WSOs Charlotte and South Bend. The public comment on WSO Fort Wayne and the NWS response are set forth here for reference. *Comment on WSO Fort Wayne, Indiana:* On July 23, 1998, Mr. Ned A. Speiser, CEM, Director, Defiance County Emergency management wrote, "The service received has been poor to fair at best. Services I was use to receiving from the Cleveland Ohio NWS office are not offered by the North Webster Indian office. Services such as a paging system that warned of watches and warnings at no cost, a simple phone call from NWS to relay emergency information or to get information from me during bad weather. We do not receive the NOAA Radio transmission either.

There have been several bad storm cells that have moved through the area that warranted at least a watch, but none were received. Warnings have also not been received when NWS says there was one issued. They said it was due to

computer and technical communication problems. This is not acceptable.

The North Webster Indiana NWS informed me that they had put a cut off date on providing severe weather classes when I called to schedule a class. There was never a cut off date before. The Cleveland Office was always willing to work around my schedule as well as the people taking the class.

Last, but most important, is the attitude of the employees at the North Webster Office. We, other NW OHIO EMA Directors, and myself have had to call not one, but two emergency meetings in the past four months to discuss the above mentioned problems. Our complaints have fallen on deaf ears. It seems that they do not want to assist us in receiving the quality of service that we deserve and need to protect the citizens in our counties.

I would be happy to discuss this in further detail if you wish by contacting me at 419-782-1130. Thank you and I appreciate any help you may be able to offer." *NWS Response:* Mr. Michael Sabones, Meteorologist in Charge, Northern Indiana office worked with Mr. Speiser to satisfy his concerns. First, NWS has agreed to continue the pager service for Mr. Speiser. Second, there are areas of the country not covered by NOAA Weather Radio (NWR). The NWS is working with state and local governments and private entities in a public/private partnership to increase the NWR coverage. Third, outdated communications software has been updated with more reliable software which alleviated the technical and communications problems referred to by Mr. Speiser. Fourth, due to the upcoming severe weather season, the North Webster Indiana forecast office set a goal to complete spotter training by April 15. This did not fit with Mr. Speiser's schedule, and after clearing up the misunderstanding, a second training session was scheduled after April 15 for Defiance county spotters. On April 21, 1998, Mr. Speiser wrote, "Thank you for providing the great informational Severe Weather Spotter classes in the month of April." Finally, the perceived attitude of the employees at the North Webster Indiana forecast office, related to the pager problem, was resolved to Mr. Speiser's satisfaction. Mr. Sabones met with Mr. Speiser on September 15, 1998, at the Ohio Emergency Management Association meeting and again on September 29, 1998, during a meeting to review flooding concerns in Defiance county. Mr. Speiser is satisfied with the efforts of the North Webster Indian forecast office to resolve his concerns.

At its September 20, 1998, meeting, the MTC endorsed the WSO Charlotte, WSO Fort Wayne, and WSO South Bend certifications as not resulting in a degradation of service.

After consideration of public comments received and the MTC endorsements, the Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere approved these seven combined consolidation and/or automation and closure certifications and transmitted notice of approval to Congress on July 7, 1999. Certification approval authority was delegated from the Secretary of Commerce to the Under Secretary in June 1996. The NWS is now completing the certification requirements of Pub. L. 102-567 by publishing the final consolidation and/or automation and closure certification notice in the **Federal Register**.

Dated: July 14, 1999.

**John E. Jones, Jr.**

*Deputy Assistant Administrator for Weather Services.*

[FR Doc. 99-18455 Filed 7-19-99; 8:45 am]

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#### COMMITTEE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TEXTILE AGREEMENTS

##### **Adjustment of an Import Limit for Certain Silk Blend and Other Vegetable Fiber Textiles and Textile Products Produced or Manufactured in the People's Republic of China**

July 15, 1999.

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

**ACTION:** Issuing a directive to the Commissioner of Customs adjusting a limit.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** July 21, 1999.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Janet Heinzen, International Trade Specialist, Office of Textiles and Apparel, U.S. Department of Commerce, (202) 482-4212. For information on the quota status of this limit, refer to the Quota Status Reports posted on the bulletin boards of each Customs port, call (202) 927-5850, or refer to the U.S. Customs website at <http://www.customs.ustreas.gov>. For information on embargoes and quota re-openings, call (202) 482-3715.

**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.

The current limit for Category 870 is being increased for swing.

A description of the textile and apparel categories in terms of HTS numbers is available in the CORRELATION: Textile and Apparel Categories with the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (see **Federal Register** notice 63 FR 71096, published on December 23, 1998). Also see 63 FR 67046, published on December 4, 1998.

**Troy H. Cribb,**

*Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.*

#### **Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements**

July 15, 1999.

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

Dear Commissioner: This directive amends, but does not cancel, the directive issued to you on November 30, 1998, by the Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements. That directive concerns imports of certain cotton, wool, man-made fiber, silk blend and other vegetable fiber textiles and textile products, produced or manufactured in China and exported during the twelve-month period which began on January 1, 1999 and extends through December 31, 1999.

Effective on July 21, 1999, you are directed to increase the limit for Category 870 to 34,928,462<sup>1</sup> kilograms, as provided for under the terms of the current bilateral textile agreement between the Governments of the United States and the People's Republic of China.

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).

Sincerely,

Troy H. Cribb,

*Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.*

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#### COMMITTEE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TEXTILE AGREEMENTS

##### **Adjustment of Import Limits for Certain Cotton and Man-Made Fiber Textile Products Produced or Manufactured in Nepal**

July 15, 1999.

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

<sup>1</sup> The limit has not been adjusted to account for any imports exported after December 31, 1998.