

construction and operation of a 230 kV transmission line and associated facilities proposed by Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, Inc. (Tri-State), of Westminster, Colorado. The project will extend from Walsenburg, Colorado, to an area near Gladstone, New Mexico. RUS may provide financing assistance for the project.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

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SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The project will extend from Tri-State's existing Walsenburg Substation located at Walsenburg, Colorado, to a proposed substation to be located near Gladstone, New Mexico. The proposed project will be located in Huerfano and Las Animas Counties, Colorado, and Colfax and Union Counties, New Mexico. The project will interconnect with an existing transmission line which is presently owned by Plains Electric Generation and Transmission Cooperative, Inc. (Plains). Tri-State and Plains are pursuing a merger. Alternatives to the proposed project include local generation, transmission system alternatives, alternative routes and no action.

Greystone, an environmental consultant, prepared an environmental assessment (EA) which describes the project further and discusses the environmental impacts of the proposed project for RUS. RUS has conducted an independent evaluation of the EA and believes that it accurately assesses the impacts of the proposed project. No adverse impacts are expected with the construction of the project. RUS has accepted the document as its Environmental Assessment and is making it available for public review.

Copies of the EA have been sent to Federal, State and local agencies and the public who have previously requested a copy. The EA also can be reviewed at libraries located in communities within the project area and at offices of electric cooperatives that provide service to the project area.

Questions and comments should be sent to RUS at the address provided. RUS should receive comments on the Environmental Assessment in writing by October 6, 1999, to ensure that the comments are taken into consideration prior to RUS making its environmental determination.

Any final action by RUS related to the proposed project will be subject to, and contingent upon, compliance with all relevant Federal environmental laws and regulations and completion of environmental review procedures as prescribed by the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations and RUS environmental policies and procedures.

Dated: August 31, 1999.

Glendon D. Deal,

Acting Director, Engineering and Environmental Staff.

[FR Doc. 99-23161 Filed 9-3-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-15-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Foreign-Trade Zones Board

[Order No. 1051]

Approval for Expanded Manufacturing Authority (Pharmaceutical Products) Within Foreign-Trade Subzone 22F, Abbott Laboratories, Inc., Chicago, Illinois, Area

Pursuant to its authority under the Foreign-Trade Zones Act of June 18, 1934, as amended (19 U.S.C. 81a-81u), the Foreign-Trade Zones Board (the Board) adopts the following Order:

Whereas, the Illinois International Port District, grantee of FTZ 22, has requested authority on behalf of Abbott Laboratories, Inc., operator of FTZ Subzone 22F, located in the Chicago, Illinois, area, to expand the scope of manufacturing activity conducted under FTZ procedures at the Abbott plant (FTZ Doc. 58-98, filed 12-17-98); and,

Whereas, notice inviting public comment was given in the **Federal Register** (63 FR 71617, 12/28/98); and,

Whereas, the Board adopts the findings and recommendations of the examiner's report, and finds that the requirements of the FTZ Act and Board's regulations are satisfied, and that approval of the application is in the public interest;

Now, therefore, the Board hereby approves the request subject to the FTZ Act and the Board's regulations, including § 400.28.

Signed at Washington, DC, this 30th day of August, 1999.

Robert S. LaRussa,

Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Import Administration, Alternate Chairman, Foreign-Trade Zones Board.

Dennis Puccinelli,

Acting Executive Secretary.

[FR Doc. 99-23211 Filed 9-3-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-DS-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Foreign-Trade Zones Board

[Docket 42-99]

Foreign-Trade Zone 49—Newark/Elizabeth, New Jersey; Application for Subzone, Clariant Corp., Somerville, New Jersey

An application has been submitted to the Foreign-Trade Zones Board (the Board) by the Port Authority of New York & New Jersey, grantee of FTZ 49, requesting special-purpose subzone status for the manufacturing and warehousing facilities of Clariant Corporation (Clariant), located in Somerville, New Jersey. 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 August 25, 1999.

The Clariant Corporation has two sites with 150 employees in Somerset County, New Jersey. Site 1 (64.06 acres) is located at 70 Meister Avenue in Somerville, New Jersey. Site 2 (2 acres) is located at 55 Veronica Avenue in Somerset, New Jersey. The Clariant facilities are used for the manufacturing, testing, packaging and warehousing of specialized electronic chemicals used in the production of microelectronic devices. Initially, zone savings are expected to come from the manufacture of photoresists, strippers, anti-reflective coatings, and edge bead removers/thinners (HTS 3707 and 3814, duty rate ranges from 6.0% to 6.5%). Components and materials sourced from abroad (representing about 70% of all parts consumed in manufacturing) include: sulfonic esters, resins, dyes, organic surface active agents, and chemical preparations for photographic uses (HTS 2927, 3402, 3707, and 3909, duty rate ranges from 4.0% to 9.5%). The application also indicates that the company may in the future import under FTZ procedures a wide variety of other chemical materials, as well as other products used in the production of electronic chemicals.