

Notices

Federal Register

Vol. 64, No. 231

Thursday, December 2, 1999

This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains documents other than rules or proposed rules that are applicable to the public. Notices of hearings and investigations, committee meetings, agency decisions and rulings, delegations of authority, filing of petitions and applications and agency statements of organization and functions are examples of documents appearing in this section.

COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

Sunshine Act Meeting

AGENCY: U.S. Commission on Civil Rights.

DATE AND TIME: Friday, December 10, 1999, 9:30 a.m.

PLACE: U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, 624 Ninth Street, NW., Room 540, Washington, DC 20425.

STATUS:

Agenda

- I. Approval of Agenda
- II. Approval of Minutes of November 5, 1999 Meeting
- III. Announcements
- IV. Staff Director's Report
- V. Racial and Ethnic Tensions in American Communities: Poverty, Inequality, and Discrimination, Volume VII: The Mississippi Delta Report
- VI. Equal Educational Opportunity and Nondiscrimination for Girls in Advanced Mathematics, Science, and Technology Education: Federal Enforcement of Title IX Report
- VII. State Advisory Committee Report
 - Employment Rehabilitation Services in Michigan (Michigan)
 - The Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996: An Examination of Its Impact on Legal Immigrants and Refugees in Rhode Island (Rhode Island)
- VIII. Future Agenda Items

CONTACT PERSON FOR FURTHER

INFORMATION: David Aronson, Press and Communications (202) 376-8312.

Stephanie Y. Moore,

General Counsel.

[FR Doc. 99-31380 Filed 11-30-99; 1:19 pm]

BILLING CODE 6335-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[C-427-810]

Certain Steel Products from France; Notice of Final Court Decision and Amended Final Determination of Countervailing Duty Investigation

AGENCY: Import Administration, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of final court decision and amended final determination of countervailing duty investigation.

SUMMARY: On August 24, 1999, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit affirmed the U.S. Court of International Trade's decisions sustaining the Department of Commerce's final determination in the countervailing duty investigation of certain steel products from France, as modified by two remand determinations. As there is now a final and conclusive court decision in this action, we are amending our final determination.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Rosa Jeong or Blanche Ziv, Office of Antidumping/Countervailing Duty Enforcement, Group I, Import Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 3099, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230; telephone (202) 482-3853 and 482-4207, respectively.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On July 9, 1993, the Department of Commerce (the Department) published notice of its final affirmative countervailing duty determination of certain steel products from France. The Department's final determination is set forth in *Final Affirmative Countervailing Duty Determinations; Certain Steel Products from France*, 58 FR 37304 (July 9, 1993), and in relevant parts of the General Issues Appendix to *Final Affirmative Countervailing Duty Determination; Certain Steel Products from Austria*, 58 FR 37217, 37231-36 (July 9, 1993). Subsequent to the publication of the Department's countervailing duty order, the petitioners and the respondents challenged the Department's final determination before the U.S. Court of International Trade (CIT).

Thereafter, the CIT issued its decision in *British Steel plc v. United States*, 879 F. Supp. 1254 (CIT 1995), which addressed general issues common to various countervailing duty investigations of certain steel products which, including the French investigation, had been before the Department concurrently. While affirming the Department's final determination on other general issues, the CIT rejected the Department's reliance on IRS tables showing industry-specific average useful life of assets in determining an allocation period of 15 years. In a subsequent remand determination dated June 30, 1995, the Department calculated a company-specific allocation period for Usinor Sacilor based on the average useful life of non-renewable physical assets, and the CIT affirmed it. *British Steel plc v. United States*, 929 F. Supp. 426 (CIT 1996).

Meanwhile, the CIT addressed issues specific to the French investigation in three decisions, which affirmed the Department's final determination on all but one issue. With regard to that issue, in *Inland Steel Industries, Inc. v. United States*, 967 F. Supp. 1338 (1997), the CIT accepted the Department's request for a voluntary remand. Specifically, during the verification of Usinor Sacilor's questionnaire responses, the Department had discovered that six Credit National loans included in the 1991 consolidation of outstanding Credit National loans were export promotion loans. Although in its final concurrence memorandum the Department stated that it would determine these loans to be specific, it inadvertently overlooked these loans in its final determination and calculations. On July 7, 1997, the Department filed its required remand results with the CIT, which were affirmed on December 5, 1997. *Inland Steel Industries, Inc. v. United States*, 985 F. Supp. 132 (CIT 1997).

Consistent with the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit's (CAFC) decision in *Timken Co. v. United States*, 893 F.2d 337 (Fed. Cir. 1990), once the CIT litigation was concluded, the Department published a "Notice of Court Decision" in the **Federal Register** on January 12, 1998 (63 FR 1827). In that notice, we stated that we would continue to suspend liquidation of any subject merchandise entered, or