

a manner that would reveal the individual operations of a firm.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR COMMENT:

Copies of the forms and supporting documents may be obtained from Sylvia McDonough, Office of Industries, USITC (202-205-3393). Comments about the proposals should be directed to the Office of Management and Budget, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Room 10102 (Docket Library), Washington, DC 20503, ATTENTION: Docket Librarian. All comments should be specific, indicating which part of the survey is objectionable, describing the concern in detail, and including specific suggested revisions or language changes. Copies of any comments should be provided to Robert Rogowsky, Director, Office of Operations, U.S. International Trade Commission, 500 E Street S.W., Washington, D.C. 20436, who is the Commission's designated Senior Official under the Paperwork Reduction Act.

Hearing impaired individuals are advised that information on this matter can be obtained by contacting our TDD terminal (telephone no. 202-205-1810). General information concerning the Commission may also be obtained by accessing its Internet server (<http://www.usitc.gov>).

Issued: February 29, 2000.

By order of the Commission.

Donna R. Koehnke,

Secretary.

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INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

[Investigations Nos. 731-TA-406 & 408 (Review)]

Electrolytic Manganese Dioxide From Greece and Japan; Notice of Commission Determination To Conduct a Portion of the Hearing in Camera

AGENCY: U.S. International Trade Commission.

ACTION: Closure of a portion of a Commission hearing.

SUMMARY: Upon request of domestic producers Kerr-McGee Chemical LLC and Chemetals, Inc., ("Petitioners") and domestic importer Eveready Battery Co., ("Eveready") the Commission has determined to conduct a portion of its hearing in the above-captioned investigations scheduled for March 2, 2000, in camera. See Commission rules 207.24(d), 201.13(m) and 201.36(b)(4) (19 CFR 207.24(d), 201.13(m) and 201.36(b)(4)). The remainder of the

hearing will be open to the public. The Commission has determined that the seven-day advance notice of the change to a meeting was not possible. See Commission rule 201.35(a), (c)(1) (19 C.F.R. 201.35(a), (c)(1)).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Willis S. Martyn, Office of General Counsel, U.S. International Trade Commission, telephone 202-205-2784, e-mail wmartyn@usitc.gov. Hearing-impaired individuals are advised that information on this matter may be obtained by contacting the Commission's TDD terminal on 202-205-1810.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Commission believes that Petitioners and Eveready have justified the need for a closed session. Petitioners and Eveready seek a closed session to allow for a discussion of their business operations. In this investigation, the aggregate data of the domestic industry and information on purchasers' operations are business proprietary information (BPI). Because discussion by Petitioner and Eveready of their own operations and of the domestic industry's data will necessitate disclosure of business proprietary information (BPI), it can only occur if a portion of the hearing is held in camera. In making this decision, the Commission nevertheless reaffirms its belief that whenever possible its business should be conducted in public.

The hearing will begin with a public presentation by the parties opposing revocation of the antidumping duty order (the Petitioners), with questions from the Commission. In addition, the hearing will include a 40-minute in camera session for a confidential presentation by Petitioners, a rebuttal presentation by foreign producers Tosoh Hellas, A.I.C., and Tosoh Corp. (collectively, "Tosoh"), a confidential presentation by Eveready, a rebuttal presentation by Petitioners, and for questions from the Commission relating to the BPI. Petitioners will receive a total of 20 minutes, with Eveready and Tosoh receiving the remainder. For any in camera session the room will be cleared of all persons except those who have been granted access to BPI under a Commission administrative protective order (APO) and are included on the Commission's APO service list in this investigation. See 19 C.F.R. 201.35(b)(1), (2). The time for the parties' presentations and rebuttals in the in camera session will be taken from their respective overall allotments for the hearing. All persons planning to attend the in camera portions of the hearing

should be prepared to present proper identification.

Authority: The General Counsel has certified, pursuant to Commission Rule 201.39 (19 C.F.R. 201.39) that, in her opinion, a portion of the Commission's hearing in Electrolytic Manganese Dioxide from Greece and Japan, Invs. Nos. 731-TA-406 & 408 (Review) may be closed to the public to prevent the disclosure of BPI.

Issued: March 2, 2000.

By order of the Commission.

Donna R. Koehnke,

Secretary.

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INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

[Investigations Nos. 731-TA-868-871 (Preliminary)]

Steel Wire Rope From China, India, Malaysia, and Thailand

AGENCY: United States International Trade Commission.

ACTION: Institution of antidumping investigations and scheduling of preliminary phase investigations.

SUMMARY: The Commission hereby gives notice of the institution of investigations and commencement of preliminary phase antidumping investigations Nos. 731-TA-868-871 (Preliminary) under section 733(a) of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1673b(a)) (the Act) to determine whether there is a reasonable indication that an industry in the United States is materially injured or threatened with material injury, or the establishment of an industry in the United States is materially retarded, by reason of imports from China, India, Malaysia, and Thailand of steel wire rope, other than of stranded wire and other than brass plated wire, not fitted with fittings or made up into articles, provided for in subheadings 7312.10.60 and 7312.10.90 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States, that are alleged to be sold in the United States at less than fair value. Unless the Department of Commerce extends the time for initiation pursuant to section 732(c)(1)(B) of the Act (19 U.S.C. 1673a(c)(1)(B)), the Commission must reach preliminary determinations in antidumping investigations in 45 days, or in this case by April 17, 2000. The Commission's views are due at the Department of Commerce within five business days thereafter, or by April 24, 2000.

For further information concerning the conduct of these investigations and rules of general application, consult the

Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, part 201, subparts A through E (19 CFR part 201), and part 207, subparts A and B (19 CFR part 207).

EFFECTIVE DATE: March 1, 2000.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Karen Taylor (202-708-4101), Office of Investigations, U.S. International Trade Commission, 500 E Street SW., Washington, DC 20436. Hearing-impaired persons can obtain information on this matter by contacting the Commission's TDD terminal on 202-205-1810. Persons with mobility impairments who will need special assistance in gaining access to the Commission should contact the Office of the Secretary at 202-205-2000. General information concerning the Commission may also be obtained by accessing its internet server (<http://www.usitc.gov>).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background.—These investigations are being instituted in response to a petition filed on March 1, 2000, by the Committee of Domestic Steel Wire Rope and Specialty Cable Manufacturers.

Participation in the investigations and public service list.—Persons (other than petitioners) wishing to participate in the investigations as parties must file an entry of appearance with the Secretary to the Commission, as provided in sections 201.11 and 207.10 of the Commission's rules, not later than seven days after publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**. Industrial users and (if the merchandise under investigation is sold at the retail level) representative consumer organizations have the right to appear as parties in Commission antidumping investigations. The Secretary will prepare a public service list containing the names and addresses of all persons, or their representatives, who are parties to these investigations upon the expiration of the period for filing entries of appearance.

Limited disclosure of business proprietary information (BPI) under an administrative protective order (APO) and BPI service list.—Pursuant to section 207.7(a) of the Commission's rules, the Secretary will make BPI gathered in these investigations available to authorized applicants representing interested parties (as defined in 19 U.S.C. 1677(9)) who are parties to the investigations under the APO issued in the investigations, provided that the application is made not later than seven days after the publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**. A separate service list will be maintained by the Secretary for those

parties authorized to receive BPI under the APO.

Conference.—The Commission's Director of Operations has scheduled a conference in connection with these investigations for 9:30 a.m. on March 22, 2000, at the U.S. International Trade Commission Building, 500 E Street SW., Washington, DC. Parties wishing to participate in the conference should contact Karen Taylor (202-708-4101) not later than March 20, 2000, to arrange for their appearance. Parties in support of the imposition of antidumping duties in these investigations and parties in opposition to the imposition of such duties will each be collectively allocated one hour within which to make an oral presentation at the conference. A nonparty who has testimony that may aid the Commission's deliberations may request permission to present a short statement at the conference.

Written submissions.—As provided in sections 201.8 and 207.15 of the Commission's rules, any person may submit to the Commission on or before March 27, 2000, a written brief containing information and arguments pertinent to the subject matter of the investigations. Parties may file written testimony in connection with their presentation at the conference no later than three days before the conference. If briefs or written testimony contain BPI, they must conform with the requirements of sections 201.6, 207.3, and 207.7 of the Commission's rules. The Commission's rules do not authorize filing of submissions with the Secretary by facsimile or electronic means.

In accordance with sections 201.16(c) and 207.3 of the rules, each document filed by a party to the investigations must be served on all other parties to the investigations (as identified by either the public or BPI service list), and a certificate of service must be timely filed. The Secretary will not accept a document for filing without a certificate of service.

Authority: These investigations are being conducted under authority of title VII of the Tariff Act of 1930; this notice is published pursuant to section 207.12 of the Commission's rules.

Issued: March 3, 2000.

By order of the Commission.

Donna R. Koehnke,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 00-5784 Filed 3-8-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Notice of Lodging of Consent Decree Pursuant to the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980, as Amended

Consistent with Departmental policy, 28 CFR 50.7, 38 FR 19029, and 42 USC 9622(d), notice is hereby given that on February 22, 2000, a proposed Consent Decree ("Decree") in *United States v. Northrop Grumman Corporation, et al.*, Civil Action No. CV-00-1070, was lodged with the United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York. The proposed Consent Decree will resolve the United States' claims under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act ("CERCLA"), 42 USC 9601 *et seq.*, on behalf of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") against defendants Northrop Grumman Corporation, Marmon Corporation, Occidental Chemical Corporation, Town of Oyster Bay, Jakobson Shipyard, Inc., and Keyspan Corporation relating to the Syosset Landfill Superfund Site ("Site") located in the Village of Syosset, in the Town of Oyster Bay, Nassau County, New York. The Complaint alleges that the Town of Oyster Bay is liable as an owner and/or operator of the Site pursuant to Section 107(a)(2) of CERCLA, 42 USC 9607(a)(2). The remaining defendants are liable as generators, or successors to generators, who arranged for the disposal of hazardous substances possessed by them at the Site pursuant to Section 107(a)(3) of CERCLA, 42 USC 9607(a)(3).

Under the terms of the Decree, the settling defendants will deposit into interest-bearing escrow accounts, within 30 days of receipt of this Notice, \$890,000 in reimbursement of EPA's past response costs incurred at the Site. Within 20 days after notice of entry of the Decree, settling defendants will withdraw and pay to the United States all principal and accrued interest from the designated escrow accounts.

The Department of Justice will receive for a period of thirty (30) days from the date of this publication comments relating to the proposed Consent Decree. Any comments should be addressed to the Assistant Attorney General for the Environment and Natural Resources Division, Department of Justice, PO Box 7611, Washington, DC 20044-7611, and should refer to United States v. Northrop Grumman Corporation, et al., Civil Action No. CV-00-1070, D.J. Ref. 90-11-2-491/1.

The Decree may be examined at the Office of the United States Attorney,