

359-7316), Office of Management and Budget, Room 10230, New Executive Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20503.

Chuck Mierzwa,
Clearance Officer.

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[SEC File No. 270-34; OMB Control No. 3235-0034]

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

Upon Written Request, Copies Available From: Securities and Exchange Commission, Office of Filings and Information Services, Washington, DC 20549.

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.), the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget a request for extension of the previously approved collection of information discussed below.

Rule 17f-2(a) Fingerprinting Requirements for Securities Professionals

Rule 17f-2(a) requires that securities professionals be fingerprinted. This requirement serves to identify security risk personnel, to allow an employer to make fully informed employment decisions, and to deter possible wrongdoers from seeking employment in the securities industry. Partners, directors, officers, and employees of exchanges, broker, dealers, transfer agents, and clearing agencies are included.

It is estimated that approximately 10,000 respondents will submit fingerprint cards. It is also estimated that each respondent will submit 55 fingerprint cards. The staff estimates that the average number of hours necessary to comply with the Rule 17f-2(a) is one-half hour. The total burden is 275,000 hours for respondents, based upon past submissions. The average cost per hour is approximately \$50. Therefore, the total cost of compliance for respondents is \$13,750,000.

Fingerprint cards submitted under Rule 17f-2(a) must be retained for a period of not less than three years after termination of the person's employment relationship with the organization. Submitting fingerprint cards for all securities personnel is mandatory to

obtain the benefit of identifying security risk personnel, allowing an employer to make fully informed employment decisions and deterring possible wrongdoers from seeking employment in the securities industry. Fingerprint cards submitted according to Rule 17f-2(a) will not be kept confidential.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid control number.

Written comments regarding the above information should be directed to the following persons:

- (1) Desk Officer for the Securities and Exchange Commission, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Room 10102, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503; and
- (ii) Michael E. Bartell, Associate Executive Director, Office of Information Technology, Securities and Exchange Commission, 450 Fifth Street, NW., Washington, DC 20549.

Comments must be submitted to OMB on or before September 7, 2000.

August 2, 2000.

Margaret H. McFarland,
Deputy Secretary.

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OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

[Docket No. WTO/D-203]

WTO Consultations Regarding Mexico—Measures Affecting Trade in Live Swine

AGENCY: Office of the United States Trade Representative.

ACTION: Notice; request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Office of the United States Trade Representative (USTR) is providing notice that on July 10, 2000, the United States requested consultations with Mexico under the Marrakesh Agreement Establishing the World Trade Organization (WTO), regarding its 20 October 1999 definitive anti-dumping measure involving live swine from the United States as well as sanitary and other restrictions imposed by Mexico on imports of live swine weighing more than 110 kilograms. The United States considers that Mexico made a determination of threat of material injury that appears to be in contravention of Articles 3 and 12 of the Anti-Dumping Agreement and that actions by Mexico in the conduct of the

anti-dumping investigation appear to be inconsistent with Mexico's obligations under Article 6 of the Agreement. In addition, Mexico maintains sanitary restrictions on the importation of live swine weighing 110 kilograms or more that appear to be inconsistent with Mexico's obligations under the WTO Agreements on Agriculture, the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures and Technical Barriers to Trade as well as the GATT. Pursuant to Article 4.3 of the WTO Dispute Settlement Understanding ("DSU"), such consultations are to take place within a period of 30 days from the date of the request, or within a period otherwise mutually agreed between the United States and Mexico. USTR invites written comments from the public concerning the issues raised in this dispute.

DATES: Although the USTR will accept any comments received during the course of the dispute settlement proceedings, comments should be submitted on or before September 4, 2000 to be assured of timely consideration by USTR.

ADDRESSES: Submit comments to Sandy McKinzy, Monitoring and Enforcement Unit, Office of the General Counsel, Room 122, Office of the United States Trade Representative, 600 17th Street, NW., Washington, DC, 20508, Attn: Live Swine Dispute. Telephone: (202) 395-3582.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: James M. Lyons, Associate General Counsel, Office of the United States Trade Representative, 600 17th Street, NW., Washington, DC, (202) 395-3582.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 127(b) of the Uruguay Round Agreements Act (URAA) (19 U.S.C. 3537(b)(1)) requires that notice and opportunity for comment be provided after the United States submits or receives a request for the establishment of a WTO dispute settlement panel. Consistent with this obligation, but in an effort to provide an earlier opportunity for comment, USTR is providing notice that consultations have been requested pursuant to the WTO Dispute Settlement Understanding. If such consultations should fail to resolve the matter and a dispute settlement panel is established pursuant to the DSU, such panel, which would hold its meetings in Geneva, Switzerland, would be expected to issue a report on its findings and recommendations within six to nine months after it is established.