

Notices

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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.

ACTION: To give firms an opportunity to comment.

Petitions have been accepted for filing on the dates indicated from the firms listed below.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Economic Development Administration

Notice of Petitions by Producing Firms for Determination of Eligibility To Apply for Trade Adjustment Assistance

AGENCY: Economic Development Administration (EDA).

Firm name	Address	Date petition accepted	Product
Ambu, Inc.	611 N. Hammonds Ferry Rd. Linthicum, MD 21090.	01/03/01	Medical devices—resuscitation equipment and surgical collars.
Super Steel Products Corp	7900 West Tower Avenue, Milwaukee, WI 53223.	01/03/01	Cabs, bodies and platforms of railroad locomotives, agricultural and construction equipment and industrial and electrical machinery.
Revelation Industries	101 East Oak Street, Boze- man, MT 59715.	01/03/01	LED illuminated signs, circuit boards, power cabinets, and cables.
Covers Unlimited, Inc	2205 Dutch Lane, Jefferson- ville, IN 47130.	01/18/01	Boat tarpaulins, pillows, and upholstery.
Amendola General Woodwork Co., Inc.	529 Sherman Avenue, Ham- den, CT 06514.	01/18/01	Wood furniture stock and components, wood flooring, humi- dors, wind chime components and wooden arms for lawn furniture.
Baker Microfarads, Inc	P.O. Box 697, Hillsville, VA 24343.	01/18/01	Aluminum electrolytic capacitors.
Doyle Enterprises, Inc	4330 Truevine Road, Rocky Mount, VA 24151.	01/24/01	Knit active wear—pants and sweatshirts.

The petitions were submitted pursuant to section 251 of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2341). Consequently, the United States Department of Commerce has initiated separate investigations to determine whether increased imports into the United States of articles like or directly competitive with those produced by each firm contributed importantly to total or partial separation of the firm's workers, or threat thereof, and to a decrease in sales or production of each petitioning firm.

Any party having a substantial interest in the proceedings may request a public hearing on the matter. A request for a hearing must be received by Trade Adjustment Assistance, Room 7315, Economic Development

Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20230, no later than the close of business of the tenth calendar day following the publication of this notice.

The Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance official program number and title of the program under which these petitions are submitted is 11.313, Trade Adjustment Assistance.

Dated: January 19, 2001.

Anthony J. Meyer,

*Coordinator, Trade Adjustment and
Technical Assistance.*

[FR Doc. 01-2739 Filed 1-31-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-24-U

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

Request for Duty-Free Entry of Scientific Instrument or Apparatus

ACTION: Proposed collection; comment request.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burdens, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on the continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(2)(A)).

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before April 2, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Madeleine Clayton, Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 6086, 14th & Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230; phone (202) 482-3129 or via the Internet at Mclayton@doc.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument and instructions should be directed to: Katie Stephenson, Room 4211, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street & Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230; phone (202) 482-2723, fax (202) 482-0949.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

The Departments of Commerce and Treasury are required to determine whether nonprofit institutions established for scientific or educational purposes are entitled to duty-free entry under the Florence Agreement of certain scientific instruments they import. Form ITA-338P enables (1) Treasury to determine whether the statutory eligibility requirements for the institution and the instrument are fulfilled, and (2) Commerce to make a comparison and finding as to the scientific equivalency of comparable instruments being manufactured in the United States. Without the collection of the information, Treasury and Commerce would not have the necessary information to carry out the responsibilities of determining eligibility for duty-free entry assigned by law.

II. Method of Collection

The Department of Commerce distributes Form ITA-338P to potential applicants upon request. The applicant completes the form and then forwards it to the United States Customs Service. Upon acceptance by Customs as a valid application, the application is transmitted to Commerce for processing.

III. Data

OMB Number: 0625-0037.

Form Number: ITA-338P.

Type of Review: Extension-Regular Submission.

Affected Public: State or local governments; Federal agencies; nonprofit institutions.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 50.

Estimated Time per Response: 2 hours.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 100.

Estimated Total Annual Cost: \$202,200 (\$2200 for respondents and \$200,000 for federal government).

IV. Request for Comments

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection; they also will become a matter of public record.

Dated: January 29, 2001.

Madeleine Clayton,

Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. 01-2775 Filed 1-31-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-DS-U

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 010901B]

Incidental Take of Marine Mammals; Taking of Ringed Seals Incidental to On-ice Seismic Activities

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of issuance of a letter of authorization.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA), as amended, notification is hereby given that a letter of authorization to take ringed and bearded seals incidental to on-ice seismic operations in the Beaufort Sea off Alaska was issued on January 22, 2001, to Western Geophysical of Anchorage, AK.

DATES: This letter of authorization is effective from January 22, 2001, through May 31, 2001.

ADDRESSES: The application and letter is available for review in the following

offices: Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910, and Western Alaska Field Office, NMFS, 701 C Street, Anchorage, AK 99513.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kenneth R. Hollingshead, NMFS, (301) 713-2055, ext 128 or Brad Smith, Western Alaska Field Office, NMFS, (907) 271-5006.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 101(a)(5)(A) of the MMPA (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*) directs NMFS to allow, on request, the incidental, but not intentional, taking of small numbers of marine mammals by U.S. citizens who engage in a specified activity (other than commercial fishing) within a specified geographical region, if certain findings are made by NMFS and regulations are issued. Under the MMPA, the term "taking" means to harass, hunt, capture, or kill or to attempt to harass, hunt, capture or kill marine mammals.

Permission may be granted for periods up to 5 years if NMFS finds, after notification and opportunity for public comment, that the taking will have a negligible impact on the species or stock(s) of marine mammals and will not have an unmitigable adverse impact on the availability of the species or stock(s) for subsistence uses. In addition, NMFS must prescribe regulations that include permissible methods of taking and other means effecting the least practicable adverse impact on the species and its habitat and on the availability of the species for subsistence uses, paying particular attention to rookeries, mating grounds, and areas of similar significance. The regulations must include requirements pertaining to the monitoring and reporting of such taking. Regulations governing the taking of ringed and bearded seals incidental to on-ice seismic surveys were published on February 2, 1998 (63 FR 5277), and remain in effect until December 31, 2002.

Summary of Request

NMFS received a request for a letter of authorization on September 11, 2000, from Western Geophysical. This letter requested a take by harassment of a small number of ringed seals and bearded seals incidental to conducting vibroseis surveys in the Beaufort Sea off Alaska.

Issuance of the letter of authorization is based on findings that the total takings by this activity will have a negligible impact on the ringed seal stocks of the Western Beaufort Sea and that the applicant has met the requirements contained in the