

facilities provide water for urban, industrial, and agricultural uses from the San Francisco Bay area to southern California. In the south Delta, much of the land is used for agriculture purposes. There are approximately 170 diversions within the area of the South Delta Water Agency (SDWA) that provide water for irrigation. Through its Programmatic EIS/EIR, CALFED determined that its overall program objectives could not be met without some south Delta conveyance improvements. The SDIP contains key conveyance improvements identified for implementation in Stage 1 of CALFED.

There are three primary issues with respect to water in the south Delta: Water level, water quality, and fishery concerns. For water level, current diversion rates and the proposed diversion rates could lower the water stage, making the water in the channels too low for agricultural purposes during some low-tide conditions. To mitigate the effects of the lowered stage levels, DWR has been installing temporary rock hydraulic barriers each year; however, temporary barriers are expensive and inflexible in use, and limit water quality actions in the south Delta. The second issue is related to water quality. In addition to an adequate water supply, salinity standards set forth by the State Water Resources Control Board must also be met. Water quality for agriculture has been addressed through a partial exchange of water during high tides. However, this method is limited to the exchange that the tides can offer. The third issue is fishery concerns related to salmon and Delta smelt. San Joaquin River salmon populations have greatly declined since the construction of the CVP and SWP. Some of the decline is attributable to the operation of the CVP and SWP Delta export facilities, where San Joaquin River salmon smolts are lost through predation and entrainment. DWR has been installing a temporary rock barrier at the Head of Old River (where Old River bifurcates from the San Joaquin River) to reduce the number of fish entering the south Delta channels and being lost due to predation or entrainment.

The major components of the SDIP are:

- Increasing the maximum allowable diversion capacity at the SWP's Clifton Court Forebay to 8,500 cubic feet per second;
- Dredging a portion of Old River to improve conveyance capability during periods of high SWP and CVP Delta exports;
- Construction of permanent operable barriers to improve water supply

reliability and water quality in the south Delta;

- Dredging local channels to reduce the frequency of barriers operations and to accommodate improvements to existing agricultural diversions both upstream and downstream of the proposed barriers;

- Constructing a permanent operable fish control structure at the head of Old River to reduce fish losses.

The SDIP is intended to address the needs of the export projects, the Delta ecosystem and local in-Delta agricultural water users. An integral element of the SDIP is to minimize water supply conflicts by incrementally increasing to the maximum pumping capability at Banks Pumping Plant when impacts to aquatic resources are low, thereby allowing reduced exports during environmentally sensitive times. The SDIP would provide more reliable long-term export capability by the SWP and CVP, protect local diversions in the Delta and minimize fishery impacts, and supplement and/or replace ongoing annual installation of temporary barriers and local dredging and diversion improvements in the Delta.

Alternatives

Initial types of alternatives identified for consideration involve alternative barrier design, number of barriers and locations of barriers, and operating criteria at Banks Pumping Plant. These alternatives will be analyzed in the EIS/EIR if they are determined to be reasonable and feasible alternatives that meet the basic purpose and need and objectives of the Proposed Action/Project. Additional alternatives may be identified through the public involvement and scoping process.

Additional Information

Comments provided on this NOI and as part of public scoping meetings, including names and home addresses of respondents, may be made available for public review. Individual respondents may request that their home address be withheld from public disclosure, which will be honored to the extent allowable by law. There may also be circumstances in which the respondent's identity may be withheld from public disclosure, as allowable by law. If you wish to withhold your name and/or address, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comments. All submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be made available for public disclosure in their entirety.

If special services are required at the meeting, please contact Sammie Cervantes at (916) 978-5104, as far in advance of the meeting as possible. If a request cannot be honored, the requestor will be notified.

Dated: August 19, 2002.

Frank Michny,

Regional Environmental Officer.

[FR Doc. 02-22172 Filed 8-29-02; 8:45 am]

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INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

[Investigation 332-444]

Oil and Gas Field Services: Impediments to Trade and Prospects for Liberalization

AGENCY: International Trade Commission.

ACTION: Rescheduling of public hearing.

EFFECTIVE DATE: August 23, 2002.

SUMMARY: The public hearing on this matter, scheduled for October 1, 2002, has been rescheduled to October 3, 2002. The public hearing will be held at the U.S. International Trade Commission Building, 500 E Street SW., Washington, DC, beginning at 9:30 a.m. on October 3, 2002. All persons will have the right to appear, by counsel or in person, to present information and to be heard. Requests to appear at the public hearing should be filed with the Secretary, United States International Trade Commission, 500 E Street SW., Washington, DC 20436, no later than 5:15 p.m., September 17, 2002. Any prehearing briefs (original and 14 copies) should be filed not later than 5:15 p.m., September 19, 2002; the deadline for filing post-hearing briefs or statements is 5:15 p.m., October 22, 2002. Notice of institution of the investigation and an earlier scheduled hearing date were published in the **Federal Register** of July 15, 2002 (67 FR 46541). In the event that, at the close of business on September 17, 2002, no witnesses are scheduled to appear at the hearing, the hearing will be cancelled. Any person interested in attending the hearing as an observer or non-participant may call the Secretary of the Commission (202-205-2000) after September 17, 2002 for information concerning whether the hearing will be held.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Information specific to this investigation may be obtained from Joann Tortorice, Project Leader (202-205-3032; jtortorice@usitc.gov), Amanda Horan,

Deputy Project Leader (202-205-3459; ahoran@usitc.gov), or Richard Brown, Chief, Services and Investment Division (202-205-3438; rbrown@usitc.gov), Office of Industries, U.S. International Trade Commission, Washington, DC, 20436. For information on the legal aspects of this investigation, contact William Gearhart of the Office of the General Counsel (202-205-3091; wgearhart@usitc.gov). Hearing impaired individuals are advised that information on this matter can be obtained by contacting the 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>).

List of Subjects: WTO, GATS, oil and gas field services.

Issued: August 26, 2002.

By order of the Commission.

Marilyn R. Abbott,

Secretary to the Commission.

[FR Doc. 02-22114 Filed 8-29-02; 8:58 am]

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INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

[Investigation No. 731-TA-1013 (Preliminary)]

Saccharin from China

Determination

On the basis of the record¹ developed in the subject investigation, the United States International Trade Commission determines,² pursuant to section 733(a) of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1673b(a)) (the Act), that there is a reasonable indication that an industry in the United States is materially injured by reason of imports from China of saccharin, provided for in subheading 2925.11.00 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States, that are alleged to be sold in the United States at less than fair value (LTFV).

Pursuant to § 207.18 of the Commission's rules, the Commission also gives notice of the commencement of the final phase of its investigation. The Commission will issue a final phase notice of scheduling, which will be published in the **Federal Register** as provided in § 207.21 of the

Commission's rules, upon notice from the Department of Commerce of an affirmative preliminary determination in the investigation under section 733(b) of the Act, or, if the preliminary determination is negative, upon notice of an affirmative final determination in that investigation under section 735(a) of the Act. Parties that filed entries of appearance in the preliminary phase of the investigation need not enter a separate appearance for the final phase of the investigation. 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 and countervailing duty investigations. The Secretary will prepare a public service list containing the names and addresses of all persons, or their representatives, who are parties to the investigation.

Background

On July 11, 2002, a petition was filed with the Commission and Commerce by PMC Specialties Group, Inc., Cincinnati, OH, alleging that an industry in the United States is materially injured or threatened with material injury by reason of LTFV imports of saccharin from China. Accordingly, effective July 11, 2002, the Commission instituted antidumping duty investigation No. 731-TA-1013 (Preliminary).

Notice of the institution of the Commission's investigation and of a public conference to be held in connection therewith was given by posting copies of the notice in the Office of the Secretary, U.S. International Trade Commission, Washington, DC, and by publishing the notice in the **Federal Register** of July 18, 2002 (67 FR 47398). The conference was held in Washington, DC, on August 1, 2002, and all persons who requested the opportunity were permitted to appear in person or by counsel.

The Commission transmitted its determination in this investigation to the Secretary of Commerce on August 26, 2002. The views of the Commission are contained in USITC Publication 3535 (September 2002), entitled *Saccharin From China: Investigation No. 1013 (Preliminary)*.

By order of the Commission.

Issued: August 26, 2002.

Marilyn R. Abbott,

Secretary to the Commission.

[FR Doc. 02-22185 Filed 8-29-02; 8:45 am]

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INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

Possible Modifications to the International Harmonized System Nomenclature

AGENCY: International Trade Commission.

ACTION: Request for public comments on proposal to delete certain low-trade categories from the Harmonized System.

SUMMARY: The Commission is soliciting the views of interested parties on a proposal before the Review Subcommittee (RSC) of the World Customs Organization (WCO), Brussels, Belgium, to delete certain low-trade headings and subheadings from the international Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System (Harmonized System or HS).

EFFECTIVE DATE: August 21, 2002.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Ronald H. Heller, Office of Tariff Affairs and Trade Agreements (O/TATA) (202/205-2596, E-Mail rheller@usitc.gov). The O/TATA fax number is 202/205-2616.

Background

The Harmonized System was established by an international Convention, which, *inter alia*, provides that the System should be kept up-to-date in light of changes in technology and patterns of international trade. The international HS nomenclature, which is maintained by the WCO, provides a uniform structural basis for the customs tariff and statistical nomenclatures of all major trading countries of the world, including the United States. The Commission, the U.S. Customs Service and the Bureau of the Census are responsible for the development of U.S. technical proposals concerning the HS under section 1210 of the Omnibus Trade and Competitiveness Act of 1988 (the 1988 Act) (19 U.S.C. 3010). A 1988 notice issued by the United States Trade Representative (53 FR 45646, November 10, 1988), established the Commission as the lead U.S. agency in considering proposals for HS amendments that are intended to ensure that it reflects such changes in technology and trade. The WCO expects to implement the next series of amendments to the HS nomenclature by the year 2007. As part of each review cycle, the RSC considers simplifying the HS by removing lines for which trade falls below a threshold value. HS lines that are eliminated are merged with HS lines containing like products. Noting that the HS has expanded over the years and now comprises 1,244 four-digit headings and

¹ The record is defined in sec. 207.2(f) of the Commission's rules of practice and procedure (19 CFR 207.2(f)).

² Commissioner Lynn M. Bragg not participating.