

a result of these factors, purchasers in the lake states area are now faced with high bid prices on their existing contracts, low product prices, and no market related contract term addition to provide additional time for markets to recover or to mix the higher priced timber with lower priced timber for other sources. The market related contract term addition procedures do not appear to be functioning as expected here.

In another example the sale of biomass material has been increasing in recent years with most of that material utilized for generating electricity in co-generation facilities. A reliable index for tracking this new product has not been found so most sales of biomass material also use the wood chips index. But, energy prices can differ substantially in different parts of the country and don't necessarily follow the wood chips index. Consequently, in areas where energy prices have drastically declined and purchasers are holding high price timber sale contracts, they are not currently eligible to receive a market related contract term addition because the wood chips index has not triggered.

#### **Determination of Substantial Overriding Public Interest**

The Government benefits if defaulted timber sale contracts, mill closures, and bankruptcies can be avoided by granting extensions. Having numerous, economically viable, timber sale purchasers increases competition for National Forest System timber sales, results in higher prices paid for such timber, and allows the Forest Service to provide a continuous supply of timber to the public in accordance with the Organic Administration Act. In addition, by extending contracts and avoiding defaults, closures and bankruptcies, the Government avoids the difficult, lengthy, expensive, and sometimes impossible, process of collecting default damages.

Therefore, pursuant to 16 U.S.C. 472a, and the authority delegated to me at 7 CFR 2.59, I have determined that it is in the substantial overriding public interest to extend for up to one year certain National Forest System timber sales that were awarded prior to January 1, 2006. This finding does not apply to contracts that have been or are currently eligible to be extended under market related contract term addition contract provisions, to salvage sale contracts that were sold with the objective of harvesting deteriorating timber, or to contracts that are in breach. Total contract length shall not exceed 10 years as a result of this extension. For those contracts extended pursuant to this finding, periodic payments due after the date of this determination will also be deferred for up to one year. To receive the extension and periodic payment deferral, purchasers must make written request and agree to release the Forest Service from all claims and liability if a contract extended pursuant to this finding is suspended, modified or terminated in the future.

Dated: November 2, 2006.

**David P. Tenny**

*Deputy Under Secretary of Agriculture for Natural Resources and Environment.*

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## **DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

### **Forest Service**

#### **U.S. Forest Service Open Space Conservation Strategy and Implementation Plan**

**AGENCY:** Forest Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Request for public input.

**SUMMARY:** The Forest Service is inviting all interested members of the public to provide input into the development of the USDA Forest Service Open Space Conservation Strategy and Implementation Plan, which will help shape the agency's strategic role in a national effort to conserve open space. The Forest Service is interested in addressing the effects of the loss of open space on private forests; on the National Forests and Grasslands and surrounding landscape; and on forests in cities, suburbs, and towns. Input for the Strategy and Implementation Plan should focus on programs, research, partnerships, and/or policy recommendations that could be developed to conserve open space. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section for more background on the loss of open space and the Strategy and Implementation Plan.

**DATES:** The Forest Service will review public input received no later than December 13, 2006.

**ADDRESSES:** Send written comments to Claire Harper, USDA Forest Service, Cooperative Forestry, Mail Stop Code 1123, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-1123; via electronic mail to [openspace@fs.fed.us](mailto:openspace@fs.fed.us); or via facsimile to (202) 205-1271. The agency cannot confirm receipt of comments. All comments, including names and addresses when provided, are placed in the record and are available for public inspection. The public may inspect comments during regular business hours at the office of the Cooperative Forestry Staff, 4th Floor SE., Yates Building, 201 14th Street, SW., Washington, DC. Visitors are encouraged to call ahead to (202) 205-1389 to facilitate entry into the building.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For general information about the Open Space Conservation Strategy and Implementation Plan and the loss of open space, contact Claire Harper,

USDA Forest Service, Cooperative Forestry, by telephone at (202) 205-1389 or by electronic mail at [openspace@fs.fed.us](mailto:openspace@fs.fed.us). For a summary of the Forest Service's current research, programs, and resources available to facilitate open space conservation, please review the Forest Service's publication entitled "Cooperating Across Boundaries: Partnerships to Conserve Open Space in Rural America." Electronic copies of this publication are available at <http://www.fs.fed.us/projects/four-threats/documents/cooperatingacrossboundaries.pdf>, and hardcopies are available by contacting Claire Harper at [openspace@fs.fed.us](mailto:openspace@fs.fed.us).

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

##### **I. Background**

In 2003, Forest Service Chief Dale Bosworth identified the loss of open space as one of four great threats facing our nation's forests and grasslands. Loss of open space is an issue that affects the sustainability of both the National Forests and Grasslands and private forests. Open space—including public and private land, wilderness and working land—provides a multitude of public benefits and ecosystem services we all need and enjoy. Three interrelated trends of conversion, fragmentation, and parcelization are jeopardizing the long term health and function of forests, limiting management options, and reducing opportunities for public enjoyment and use. To address the loss of open space threat, the Forest Service is building a national strategy to identify how the agency plans to focus its efforts on the issue. This strategy will provide actions and policy recommendations to conserve open space, with an emphasis on partnerships and collaborative approaches.

##### **II. Open Space Conservation Strategy and Implementation Plan**

The Forest Service recognizes that it is not the only contributor to open space conservation; it is only one among many. The Forest Service also acknowledges that the agency's role in open space conservation is not to regulate development or land use, but is to provide expertise, resources, information, and programs. To help prioritize and focus the agency's efforts, the Forest Service plans to develop and refine an Open Space Conservation Strategy and Implementation Plan to address the loss of open space.

Input for the Strategy and Implementation Plan should focus on programs, research, partnerships and/or policy recommendations that could be

developed to conserve open space. Specifically, input regarding the following three questions is most useful:

1. How can the Forest Service protect land from conversion to other uses;
2. How can the Forest Service assist private landowners and communities in maintaining and managing their land as sustainable forests and grasslands; and
3. How can the Forest Service mitigate the impacts of existing and new developments.

By receiving input from people with diverse interests and perspectives, the agency hopes to attain an array of viewpoints and ideas regarding the Open Space Conservation Strategy and Implementation Plan. Feedback from a range of interested individuals will assist the agency in developing a well-informed, focused, and effective strategy to address the loss of open space threat.

Dated: November 2, 2006.

**Dale N. Bosworth,**

Chief, Forest Service.

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### International Trade Administration

[A-428-815]

#### Notice of Final Results of Antidumping Duty Changed Circumstances Review and Revocation of Order In Part: Certain Corrosion-Resistant Carbon Steel Flat Products from Germany

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

**SUMMARY:** On October 13, 2006, the U.S. Department of Commerce (“the Department”) published a notice of preliminary results of changed circumstances reviews with the intent to revoke, in part, the antidumping duty order on certain corrosion-resistant carbon steel flat products (“corrosion-resistant steel”) from Germany, as described below. See *Preliminary Results of Antidumping Duty Changed Circumstances Reviews And Notice of Intent to Revoke Order in Part: Certain Corrosion-Resistant Carbon Steel Flat Products from Germany*, 71 FR 60473 (October 13, 2006) (*Preliminary Results*). In our *Preliminary Results*, the Department invited interested parties to comment on the preliminary determination to exclude certain corrosion-resistant carbon steel flat products from Germany (“product in question”), as described below, from the scope of the order. The Department received no comments.

Absent any comments, the Department concludes that producers accounting for substantially all of the production of the domestic like product to which this order pertains lack interest in the relief provided by this order with respect to the product in question because the domestic parties: (1) Made affirmative statements of no interest in the continuation of the order with respect to the product in question; and (2) did not comment on the *Preliminary Results*, in which the Department stated its intent to revoke the order with respect to that merchandise. Therefore, the Department concludes that it is appropriate to revoke this order, in part, with respect to unliquidated entries of the product in question that are not subject to the final results of an administrative review.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** November 13, 2006.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Judy Lao or Richard Weible, AD/CVD Operations, Office 7, Import Administration, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482-7924 or (202) 482-1103, respectively.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Background

The Department published the antidumping duty order on corrosion-resistant steel from Germany on August 19, 1993. See *Notice of Antidumping Duty Order: Corrosion-Resistant Carbon Steel Flat Products from Germany*, 58 FR 44170 (August 19, 1993). See also *Final Results of Changed Circumstances Antidumping Duty and Countervailing Duty Reviews and Revocation of Orders in Part: Certain Corrosion-Resistant Carbon Steel Flat Products from Germany*, 64 FR 51292 (September 22, 1999), and *Final Results of Changed Circumstances Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Reviews and Revocation of Orders in Part: Certain Corrosion-Resistant Carbon Steel Flat Products from Canada and Germany*, 71 FR 14498 (March 22, 2006).

On August 17, 2006, ThyssenKrupp Steel North America, Inc. (“ThyssenKrupp”), a U.S. importer of the subject merchandise, requested a changed circumstances review to exclude from the antidumping duty order on corrosion-resistant steel from Germany imports meeting the following description: electrolytically zinc coated flat steel products, with a coating mass between 35 and 72 grams per meter squared on each side; with a thickness range of 0.67 mm or more but not more than 2.95 mm and width 817 mm or

more but not over 1830 mm; having the following chemical composition (percent by weight): carbon not over 0.08, silicon not over 0.25, manganese not over 0.9, phosphorous not over 0.025, sulfur not over 0.012, chromium not over 0.1, titanium not over 0.005 and niobium not over 0.05; with a minimum yield strength of 310 Mpa and a minimum tensile strength of 390 Mpa; additionally coated on one or both sides with an organic coating containing not less than 30% and not more than 60% zinc and free of hexavalent chrome. See ThyssenKrupp letter to the Department dated August 17, 2006.<sup>1</sup> In addition, Mittal Steel USA (“Mittal Steel”), a major domestic corrosion-resistant steel producer, submitted a letter to the Department expressing a lack of interest in continuing to have the product in question subject to this antidumping duty order.<sup>2</sup> See Mittal Steel letter to the Department dated August 18, 2006.

In response to the request made by the “interested party” within the meaning of section 771(9) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (“the Act”), ThyssenKrupp, and the expressed lack of interest from Mittal Steel, the Department published a notice of initiation of a changed circumstances review of the antidumping duty order on corrosion-resistant steel from Germany on September 12, 2006. See *Initiation of Antidumping Duty Changed Circumstances Review: Certain Corrosion-Resistant Carbon Steel Flat Products from Germany*, 71 FR 53653 (September 12, 2006) (*Initiation Notice*). On September 27, 2006, ThyssenKrupp stated that the effective date for the exclusion should be August 1, 2005. In the *Initiation Notice*, the Department indicated that interested parties could submit comments for consideration in the Department’s preliminary results no later than 15 days after publication of the initiation of this review. The Department did not receive comments from interested parties. Absent any comments, the Department

<sup>1</sup> DaimlerChrysler Corporation (“DaimlerChrysler”), a domestic customer of corrosion-resistant steel, also submitted letters to the Department pre-dating ThyssenKrupp’s request, indicating that it had contacted United States Steel Corporation, Mittal Steel, AK Steel, and Nucor Corporation, (domestic interested parties) and determined they are not interested in maintaining the antidumping duty order with respect to the product in question. See Letters to the Department from DaimlerChrysler dated June 22, 2006, and July 18, 2006, respectively.

<sup>2</sup> On September 26, 2006, Mittal Steel submitted a letter to the Department clarifying minor discrepancies in its August 18, 2006, submission regarding the product specifications of the product in question it is no longer interested in having covered by the antidumping duty order on corrosion-resistant steel from Germany.