

The value of shipments, especially when adjusted for change in inventory, measures current levels of production. Changes in the level of unfilled orders, because of excess or shortfall of new orders compared with shipments, are used to measure the excess (or deficiency) in the demand for manufactured products. Changes in the level of inventories and the relation of these to shipments are used to project future movements in manufacturing activity. These statistics are valuable for analysts of business cycle conditions, including members of the CEA, BEA, FRB, Department of Treasury, business firms, trade associates, private research and consulting agencies, and the academic community.

*Affected Public:* Business or other for-profit.

*Frequency:* Every five years.

*Respondent's Obligation:* Mandatory.

*Legal Authority:* The M3DOD survey will be conducted on a mandatory basis under the authority of Title 13, United State Code, Sections 131, 182, 193 and 224.

*OMB Desk Officer:* Brian Harris-Kojetin, (202) 395-7314.

Copies of the above information collection proposal can be obtained by calling or writing Diana Hynek, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, (202) 482-0266, Department of Commerce, Room 6625, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet at [dhynek@doc.gov](mailto:dhynek@doc.gov)).

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to Brian Harris-Kojetin, OMB Desk Officer either by fax (202-395-7245) or e-mail ([bharrisk@omb.eop.gov](mailto:bharrisk@omb.eop.gov)).

#### **Gwellnar Banks,**

*Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.*

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## **DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

### **Bureau of Economic Analysis**

#### **Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; Direct Investments Survey; Direct Transactions of U.S. Reporter with Foreign Affiliate**

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Commerce, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to

take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

**DATES:** Written comments must be submitted on or before 5 p.m. October 14, 2008.

**ADDRESSES:** Direct all written comments to Diane Hynek, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 6625, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20230, or via e-mail at [dhynek@doc.gov](mailto:dhynek@doc.gov).

#### **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument and instructions should be directed to David Galler, Chief, Direct Investment Division (BE-50), Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20230; phone: (202) 606-9835; fax: (202) 606-5318; or via e-mail at [David.Galler@bea.gov](mailto:David.Galler@bea.gov).

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

##### **I. Abstract**

The Form BE-577, Direct Transactions of U.S. Reporter with Foreign Affiliate, obtains quarterly data on transactions and positions between U.S.-owned foreign business enterprises and their U.S. parent companies. The survey is a sample survey that covers all foreign affiliates above a size-exemption level. The sample data are used to derive universe estimates in nonbenchmark years from similar data reported in the BE-10, Benchmark Survey of U.S. Direct Investment Abroad, which is taken every five years. The data are used in the preparation of the U.S. international transactions accounts, the input-output accounts, and the national income and product accounts. The data are needed to measure the size and economic significance of direct investment abroad, measure changes in such investment, and assess its impact on the U.S. and foreign economies.

The data from the survey are primarily intended as general purpose statistics. They should be readily available to answer any number of research and policy questions related to U.S. direct investment abroad.

The form remains the same as in the past. No changes in the data collected or in exemption levels are proposed.

##### **II. Method of Collection**

Survey forms will be sent to U.S. parent companies each quarter; responses will be due within 30 days after the close of each fiscal quarter, except for the final quarter of the fiscal

year, when reports should be filed within 45 days. A report must be filed for every foreign business enterprise whose voting stock (or the equivalent) is owned 10 percent or more by a U.S. business enterprise and for which any one of the following three items was greater than \$40 million (positive or negative) at the end of, or for, the foreign business enterprise's fiscal year: (1) Total assets, (2) sales or gross operating revenues excluding sales taxes, or (3) net income after provision for foreign income taxes.

As an alternative to filing paper forms, BEA will offer an electronic filing option, its eFile system, for use in reporting on Form BE-577. For more information about eFile go to <http://www.bea.gov/efile>.

Potential respondents are the U.S.-owned foreign business enterprises that were reported in the last benchmark survey of U.S. direct investment abroad, which covered the data year 2004, along with the foreign business enterprises that subsequently entered the direct investment universe. The data collected are sample data. Universe estimates are developed from the reported sample data.

##### **III. Data**

*OMB Number:* 0608-0004.

*Form Number:* BE-577.

*Type of Review:* Regular submission.

*Affected Public:* Business or other for-profit organizations.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 15,500 per quarter; 62,000 annually.

*Estimated Time Per Response:* 1 hour is the average, but may vary according to the number, size, and complexity of the businesses covered by the response.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:* 62,000.

*Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public:* \$0.

##### **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 will 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: August 8, 2008.

**Gwellnar Banks,**

*Management Analyst, Office of Chief Information Officer.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### International Trade Administration

#### North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), Article 1904 Binational Panel Reviews: Notice of Completion of Panel Review

**AGENCY:** NAFTA Secretariat, United States Section, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice of Completion of Panel Review of the International Trade Administration's Final Scope Ruling Regarding Entries Made Under HTSUS 4409.10.05 in Certain Softwood Lumber Products from Canada (Secretariat File No. USA-CDA-2006-1904-05).

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to the Order of the Binational Panel dated June 25, 2008, the determination described above was completed on June 25, 2008.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Valerie Dees, United States Secretary, NAFTA Secretariat, Suite 2061, 14th and Constitution Avenue, Washington, DC 20230, (202) 482-5438.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On June 25, 2008, the Binational Panel issued a memorandum opinion and order, which granted the International Trade Administration's Motion to Dismiss the Complaints, concerning Certain Softwood Lumber Products from Canada. The Secretariat was instructed to issue a Notice of Completion of Panel Review on the 31st day following the issuance of the Notice of Final Panel Action, if no request for an Extraordinary Challenge was filed. No such request was filed. Therefore, on the basis of the Panel Order and Rule 80 of the *Article 1904 Panel Rules*, the Panel Review was completed and the panelists were discharged from their duties effective June 25, 2008.

Dated: August 7, 2008.

**Valerie Dees,**

*United States Secretary, NAFTA Secretariat.*

[FR Doc. E8-18637 Filed 8-12-08; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### International Trade Administration

[C-580-851]

#### Dynamic Random Access Memory Semiconductors from the Republic of Korea: Preliminary Results of Countervailing Duty Administrative Review

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

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Commerce is conducting an administrative review of the countervailing duty order on dynamic random access memory semiconductors from the Republic of Korea for the period January 1, 2006, through December 31, 2006. We preliminarily find that Hynix Semiconductor, Inc. received countervailable subsidies during the period of review. If these preliminary results are adopted in our final results of this review, we will instruct U.S. Customs and Border Protection to assess countervailing duties as detailed in the "Preliminary Results of Review" section of this notice. Interested parties are invited to comment on these preliminary results. See the "Public Comment" section of this notice.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** August 13, 2008.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** David Neubacher or Shane Subler, Office of AD/CVD Operations, Office 1, Import Administration, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 3069, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482-5823 and (202) 482-0189, respectively.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Background

On August 11, 2003, the Department of Commerce ("the Department") published a countervailing duty order on dynamic random access memory semiconductors ("DRAMs") from the Republic of Korea ("ROK"). See *Notice of Countervailing Duty Order: Dynamic Random Access Memory Semiconductors from the Republic of Korea*, 68 FR 47546 (Aug. 11, 2003) ("CVD Order"). On August 2, 2007, the Department published a notice of "Opportunity to Request Administrative Review" for this countervailing duty order. See *Antidumping or Countervailing Duty Order, Finding, or Suspended Investigation; Opportunity to Request Administrative Review*, 72 FR 42383 (Aug. 2, 2007). On August 27, 2007, we received a request for review

from Hynix Semiconductor, Inc. ("Hynix"). On August 29, 2007, we received a request for review of Hynix from the petitioner, Micron Technology, Inc. ("Micron"). In accordance with 19 CFR 351.221(c)(1)(i), we published a notice of initiation of the review on September 25, 2007. See *Initiation of Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Administrative Reviews*, 72 FR 54428 (September 25, 2007) ("Initiation Notice").

On October 23, 2007, we issued countervailing duty questionnaires to the Government of the Republic of Korea ("GOK") and Hynix. We received responses to these questionnaires on November 26, 2007. On April 1, 2008, we issued supplemental questionnaires to the GOK and Hynix. We received timely responses to these supplemental questionnaires on April 15, 2008. We issued additional supplemental questionnaires to the GOK and Hynix on June 12, and July 16, 2008, and received responses on June 26, and July 23, 2008, respectively.

We received new subsidy allegations from Micron on December 17, 2007.<sup>1</sup> On March 17, 2008, we initiated an investigation of one of the two new subsidies that Micron alleged in this administrative review. In addition, we stated that we did not intend to reexamine the timing of the benefit of a previously countervailed debt-to-equity swap ("DES") for the preliminary results. See *Fourth Countervailing Duty Administrative Review: Dynamic Random Access Memory Semiconductors from Korea: New Subsidy Allegations Memorandum* (Mar. 17, 2008) ("New Subsidy Allegations—DOC Memorandum"), available in the Central Records Unit ("CRU"), Room 1117 of the main Department building. On March 25, 2008, we issued questionnaires concerning the new subsidy allegation to Hynix and the GOK. We received a response to this questionnaire from Hynix on April 8, 2008, and from the GOK on April 9, 2008. On July 14, 2008, Micron submitted comments for consideration in the preliminary results.

On April 7, 2008, we published a postponement of the preliminary results in this review until July 31, 2008. See *Dynamic Random Access Memory Semiconductors from the Republic of Korea: Extension of Time Limit for Preliminary Results of the*

<sup>1</sup>See submission from Micron to the Department, Re: Dynamic Random Access Memory Semiconductors From South Korea/Petitioner's New Subsidies Allegation And New Issues Presented (Dec. 17, 2007) ("New Subsidy Allegations").