TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

Reallocation of Unused Fiscal Year 2010 Tariff-Rate Quota Volume for Raw Cane Sugar

AGENCY: Office of the United States Trade Representative.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Office of the United States Trade Representative (USTR) is providing notice of country-by-country reallocations of the fiscal year (FY) 2010 in-quota quantity of the tariff-rate quota (TRQ) for imported raw cane sugar.

DATES: Effective Date: March 25, 2010.

ADDRESSES: Inquiries may be mailed or delivered to Leslie O’Connor, Director of Agricultural Affairs, Office of Agricultural Affairs, Office of the United States Trade Representative, 600 17th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20520.


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to Additional U.S. Note 5 to chapter 17 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTS), the United States maintains TRQs for imports of raw cane and refined sugar.

Section 404(d)(3) of the Uruguay Round Agreements Act (19 U.S.C. 3601(d)(3)) authorizes the President to allocate the in-quota quantity of a TRQ for any agricultural product among supplying countries or customs areas. The President delegated this authority to the United States Trade Representative under Presidential Proclamation 6763 (60 FR 1007).

On September 29, 2009, the Secretary of Agriculture established the FY 2010 TRQ for imported raw cane sugar at the minimum amount to which the United States committed to pursuant to the World Trade Organization (WTO) Uruguay Round Agreements (1,117,195 metric tons raw value (MTRV)). On October 6, 2009, USTR provided notice of country-by-country allocations of the FY 2010 in-quota quantity of the TRQ for imported raw cane sugar. Based on consultation with quota holders, USTR has determined to reallocate 81,946 MTRV of the original TRQ quantity from those countries that have stated they will be unable to fill their FY 2010 allocated raw cane sugar quantities.

USTR is allocating the 81,946 MTRV to the following countries in the amounts specified below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>FY 2010 reallocation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Argentina</td>
<td>3,729</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>7,197</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belize</td>
<td>954</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bolivia</td>
<td>694</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>12,574</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colombia</td>
<td>2,081</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Costa Rica</td>
<td>1,301</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dominican Republic</td>
<td>15,262</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ecuador</td>
<td>954</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>El Salvador</td>
<td>2,255</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guatemala</td>
<td>4,162</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

These allocations are based on the countries’ historical shipments to the United States. The allocations of the raw cane sugar TRQ to countries that are net importers of sugar are conditioned on receipt of the appropriate verifications of origin and certificates for quota eligibility must accompany imports from any country for which an allocation has been provided.

Conversion factor: 1 metric ton = 1.10231125 short tons.

Ronald Kirk,
United States Trade Representative.

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

Request for Comments Concerning an Environmental Review of the Proposed Trans-Pacific Partnership Trade Agreement

AGENCY: Office of the United States Trade Representative (USTR).

ACTION: Notice of intent to conduct an environmental review of the proposed Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) trade agreement and request for comments.

SUMMARY: This publication gives notice that the Office of the United States Trade Representative (USTR), through the Trade Policy Staff Committee (TPSC), is initiating an environmental review of the proposed Trans-Pacific Partnership Trade Agreement (TPP) between the United States and the other countries currently involved in TPP negotiations. The TPSC is requesting written comments from the public on what should be included in the scope of the environmental review, including the potential environmental effects that might flow from the trade agreement and the potential implications for U.S. environmental laws and regulations.

The TPSC is also requesting identification of potential...
complementarities between trade and environmental objectives such as the promotion of sustainable development. The TPSC also welcomes public views on appropriate methodologies and sources of data for conducting the review. The review will be conducted consistent with the relevant procedures of Executive Order 13141 (64 FR 63169) (Nov. 18, 1999) and its implementing guidelines (65 FR 79442). Persons submitting written comments should provide as much detail as possible on the degree to which the subject matter they propose for inclusion in the review may raise significant environmental issues in the context of the negotiation. Public comments on environmental issues submitted in response to a previous notice (74 FR 66720) requesting comments from the public to assist USTR in formulating positions and proposals with respect to all aspects of the negotiation of a Trans-Pacific Partnership Trade Agreement will be taken into account in preparing the environmental review and do not need to be resubmitted.

DATES: Written comments are due by June 1, 2010.

ADDRESSES: Submissions via on-line: http://www.regulations.gov. For alternatives to on-line submissions, please contact Gloria Blue, Executive Secretary, Trade Policy Staff Committee (TPSC), at (202) 395–3475.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For procedural questions concerning written comments, please contact Gloria Blue at the above number. All other questions regarding the environmental review of the TPP trade agreement should be directed to David Brooks, Environment and Natural Resources Section, USTR, at (202) 395–7320.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

1. Background Information

On December 14, 2009, USTR notified Congress of the President’s intent to enter into negotiations of the Trans-Pacific Partnership, a regional, Asia-Pacific trade agreement. The United States is entering into negotiations with the Trans-Pacific Partnership countries (Singapore, Chile, New Zealand, Brunei Darussalam, Australia, Peru and Vietnam) with the goal of shaping a high-standard, 21st century, regional agreement that will have broad-based membership. Through notices in the Federal Register and a public hearing (held March 4, 2009 in Washington, DC), the TPSC invited the public to provide written comments and/or oral testimony to assist USTR in amending and clarifying negotiating objectives for the proposed TPP and to provide advice on how specific goods and services and other matters should be treated under the proposed agreement (see 74 FR 4480; 74 FR 66720). Additional information about the proposed Trans-Pacific Partnership Free Trade Agreement can be found at http://ustr.gov/tpp.

2. Environmental Review

USTR, through the TPSC, will conduct an environmental review of the agreement consistent with Executive Order 13141 (64 FR 63169) and its implementing guidelines (65 FR 79442). Environmental reviews are used to identify potentially significant, reasonably foreseeable environmental impacts (both positive and negative), and information from the review can help facilitate consideration of appropriate responses where impacts are identified. Reviews address potential environmental impacts of the proposed agreement and potential implications for environmental laws and regulations. The focus of the review is on impacts in the United States, although global and trans-boundary impacts may be considered, where appropriate and prudent.

Environmental reviews were conducted for bilateral free trade agreements concluded with a number of TPP negotiating partners. Environmental reviews for the U.S.-Singapore FTA, the U.S.-Chile FTA, the U.S.-Australia FTA and the U.S.-Peru Trade Promotion Agreement are available on the USTR Web site: http://www.ustr.gov/trade-topics/environment/environmental-reviews. These reviews provide background information on the FTA partner, information on trade-related environmental issues in the context of the bilateral free trade agreement, as well as information on the approach to conducting environmental reviews.

3. Requirements for Submissions

Persons submitting comments must do so in English and must identify (on the first page of the submission) the “United States–Trans-Pacific Partnership Trade Agreement.” In order to be assured of consideration, comments should be submitted by June 1, 2010.

In order to ensure the timely receipt and consideration of comments, USTR strongly encourages commenters to make on-line submissions, using the http://www.regulations.gov Web site. Comments should be submitted under the following docket: USTR–2010–0010. To find the docket, enter the docket number in the “Enter Keyword or ID” window at the http://www.regulations.gov home page and click “Search.” The site will provide a search-results page listing all documents associated with this docket. Find a reference to this notice by selecting “Notices” under “Document Type” on the search-results page, and click on the link entitled “Submit a Comment.” (For further information on using the http://www.regulations.gov Web site, please consult the resources provided on the website by clicking on the “Help” tab.)

The http://www.regulations.gov Web site provides the option of making submissions by filing in a comments field, or by attaching a document. USTR prefers submissions to be provided in an attached document. If a document is attached, it is sufficient to type “See attached” in the “Type comment & Upload File” field. USTR prefers submissions in Microsoft Word (.doc) or Adobe Acrobat (.pdf). If the submission is in an application other than those two, please indicate the name of the application in the “Comments” field.

For any comments submitted electronically containing business confidential information, the file name of the business confidential version should begin with the characters “BC”. Any page containing business confidential information must be clearly marked “BUSINESS CONFIDENTIAL” on the top of that page. Filers of submissions containing business confidential information must also submit a public version of their comments. The file name of the public version should begin with the character “P”. The “BC” and “P” should be followed by the name of the person or entity submitting the comments or reply comments. Filers submitting comments containing no business confidential information should name their file using the character “P”, followed by the name of the person or entity submitting the comments.

Please do not attach separate cover letters to electronic submissions; rather, include any information that might appear in a cover letter in the comments themselves. Similarly, to the extent possible, please include any exhibits, annexes, or other attachments in the same file as the submission itself, not as separate files.

USTR strongly urges submitters to file comments through http://www.regulations.gov, if at all possible. Any alternative arrangements must be made with Ms. Blue in advance of transmitting a comment. Ms. Blue should be contacted at (202) 395–3475.
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Railroad Administration


Proposed Agency Information Collection Activities; Comment Request

AGENCY: Federal Railroad Administration, DOT.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.), this notice announces that the Information Collection Requirements (ICRs) abstracted below have been forwarded to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and comment. The ICRs describe the nature of the information collection and its expected burden. The Federal Register notice with a 60-day comment period soliciting comments on the following collections of information was published on January 20, 2010 (75 FR 3275).

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before April 26, 2010.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Robert Brogan, Office of Planning and Evaluation Division, RRS–21, Federal Railroad Administration, 1200 New Jersey Ave., SE., Mail Stop 17, Washington, DC 20590 (telephone: (202) 493–6292) or Ms. Kimberly Toone, Office of Information Technology, RAD–20, Federal Railroad Administration, 1200 New Jersey Ave., SE., Mail Stop 35, Washington, DC 20590 (telephone: (202) 493–6132). (These telephone numbers are not toll-free.)

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), Public Law 104–13, section 2, 109 Stat. 163 (1995) (codified as revised at 44 U.S.C. 3501–3520), and its implementing regulations, 5 CFR Part 1320, require Federal agencies to issue two notices seeking public comment on information collection activities before OMB may approve paperwork packages. 44 U.S.C. 3506, 3507; 5 CFR 1320.5, 1320.6(d)(1), 1320.12. On January 20, 2010, FRA published a 60-day notice in the Federal Register soliciting comment on ICRs that the agency was seeking OMB approval. See 75 FR 3275. FRA received no comments after issuing this notice. Accordingly, DOT announces that these information collection activities have been re-evaluated and certified under 5 CFR 1320.5(a) and forwarded to OMB for review and approval pursuant to 5 CFR 1320.12(c).

Before OMB decides whether to approve these proposed collections of information, it must provide 30 days for public comment. 44 U.S.C. 3507(b); 5 CFR 1320.12(d). Federal law requires OMB to approve or disapprove paperwork packages between 30 and 60 days after the 30-day notice is published. 44 U.S.C. 3507(b)–(c); 5 CFR 1320.12(d); see also 60 FR 44978, 44983, Aug. 29, 1995. OMB believes that the 30-day notice informs the regulated community to file relevant comments and affords the agency adequate time to digest public comments before it renders a decision. 60 FR 44983, Aug. 29, 1995. Therefore, respondents should submit their respective comments to OMB within 30 days of publication to best ensure having their full effect. 5 CFR 1320.12(c); see also 60 FR 44983, Aug. 29, 1995.

The summaries below describe the nature of the information collection requirements (ICRs) and the expected burden. The unchanged requirements are being submitted for clearance by OMB as required by the PRA.

Title: Control of Alcohol and Drug Use in Railroad Operations.

OMB Control Number: 2130–0526.

Type of Request: Extension without change of a currently approved collection.

Affected Public: Railroads.

Form(s): FRA F 6180.73; 6180.74.

Abstract: The information collection requirements contained in pre-employment and “for cause” testing regulations are intended to ensure a sense of fairness and accuracy for railroads and their employees. The principal information—evidence of unauthorized alcohol or drug use—is used to prevent accidents by screening personnel who perform safety-sensitive service. FRA uses the information to measure the level of compliance with regulations governing the use of alcohol or controlled substances. Elimination of this problem is necessary to prevent accidents, injuries, and fatalities of the nature already experienced and further reduce the risk of a truly catastrophic accident.

Annual Estimated Burden Hours: 31,797 hours.

Addressees: Send comments regarding this information collection to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, 725 Seventeenth Street, NW., Washington, DC, 20503, Attention: FRA Desk Officer.

Comments are invited on the following: Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Department, including whether the information will have practical utility; the accuracy of the Department’s estimate of the burden of the proposed information collection; ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

A comment to OMB is best assured of having its full effect if OMB receives it within 30 days of publication of this notice in the Federal Register.


Issued in Washington, DC, on March 22, 2010.

Kimberly Coronel,
Director, Office of Financial Management, Federal Railroad Administration.

Environmental Impact Statement; Houma-Thibodaux to LA 3127 Connection; Terrebonne, Lafourche, Assumption, St. James, St. John the Baptist, St. Charles, and St. Mary Parishes, LA

AGENCY: Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), DOT.

ACTION: Revised Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: The FHWA is issuing this Revised Notice of Intent (NOI) to advise the public and interested agencies of modifications to the scope and environmental review process for the Houma-Thibodaux to LA 3127 Connection Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The project study area has been expanded due to resource agency concerns to include a potential alternative to the west in the vicinity of the LA 1 and LA 308 corridor to the Sunshine Bridge. FHWA also intends to utilize the environmental review provisions afforded under Section 6002 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA–LU). The EIS will build upon the environmental and technical studies and public comments and outreach conducted to date. This NOI revises the NOI that was

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Highway Administration

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