

responsive personnel systems, and selective use of retention incentives; (3) strengthen the manager's role in personnel management through delegation of personnel authorities; and (4) increase the efficiency of personnel systems through the installation of a simpler and more flexible classification system based on pay banding through reduction of guidelines, steps, and paperwork in classification, hiring, and other personnel systems, and through automation.

The current participating organizations include 1 office of the Deputy Secretary in the Office of the Secretary, 6 offices of the Chief Financial Officer/Assistant Secretary for Administration in the Office of the Secretary; the Bureau of Economic Analysis; 2 units of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA): the Institute for Telecommunication Sciences and the First Responder Network Authority (an independent authority within NTIA); and 12 units of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration: Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research, National Marine Fisheries Service, the National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service, National Weather Service—Space Environment Center, National Ocean Service, Program Planning and Integration Office, Office of the Under Secretary, Marine and Aviation Operations, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer, Office of the Chief Financial Officer, the Workforce Management Office, and the Office of the Chief Information Officer.

This amendment modifies the December 24, 1997, **Federal Register** notice. Specifically, it expands DoC CAPS to include additional OAR bargaining unit and non-bargaining unit employees located in the ESRL, GLERL, and the PMEL; and adds the Investigative Analysis Series, 1805 to the Administrative (ZA) career path

## II. Basis for CAPS Expansion

### A. Purpose

CAPS is designed to provide supervisors/managers at the lowest organizational level the authority, control, and flexibility to recruit, retain, develop, recognize, and motivate its workforce, while ensuring adequate accountability and oversight.

OAR is the primary research and development organization within NOAA. OAR research results allow decision makers to make effective judgements in order to prevent the loss of human life and conserve and manage natural resources while maintaining a strong economy. OAR conducts research

programs in coastal, marine, atmospheric, and space sciences through its own laboratories and offices, as well as through networks of university-based programs. The work consists of research, modeling, and environmental observations relating to weather and air quality, climate, and ocean and coastal resources. Since the inception of the demonstration project in 1997, and subsequent modification/expansion notices, units of OAR have participated in CAPS, with the exception of the GLERL, and the PMEL. In October 2005, the ESRL was formed, which absorbed the following former demonstration project covered units: Aeronomy Laboratory, Air Resources Laboratory—Surface Radiation Research Branch, Climate Diagnostics Center, Climate Monitoring and Diagnostics Laboratory, Environmental Technology Laboratory, and the Forecast Systems Laboratory. Subsequent reorganizations have occurred within OAR, resulting in the alignment of additional bargaining and non-bargaining unit General Schedule (GS) employees under ESRL. With the majority of ESRL employees being covered by an alternative personnel management system, a determination was made to have one uniform pay system and to convert the remaining GS ESRL workforce under CAPS.

The expansion of CAPS coverage to include the remaining OAR laboratories and the bargaining unit and non-bargaining unit GS employees of ESRL will allow OAR to continue to benefit from the flexibilities provided by CAPS and should improve the organization's ability to recruit and retain a high-quality workforce by offering one uniform pay system throughout OAR.

DoC's CAPS allows for modifications of procedures if no new waiver from law or regulation is added. Given that this expansion and modification is in accordance with existing law and regulation and CAPS is a permanent alternative personnel system, the DoC is authorized to make the changes described in this notice.

### B. Participating Employees

Employee notification of this expansion will be accomplished by providing a full set of briefings to employees and managers and providing them electronic access to all CAPS policies and procedures, including the twelve previous **Federal Register** Notices. A copy of this **Federal Register** notice will also be accessible electronically upon approval. Subsequent supervisor training and informational briefings for all employees will be accomplished prior

to the implementation date of the expansion.

### C. Labor Participation

Labor organizations were notified about the CAPS expansion pertaining to their bargaining unit membership. Bargaining-unit employees are covered by AFGE Local 2186, Boulder, Colorado, and AFGE Local 3908, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

## III. Changes to the Project Plan

The CAPS at DoC, published in the **Federal Register** on December 24, 1997 (62 FR 67434), is amended as follows:

1. The following organization will be added to the project plan, Section II D—Participating Organizations

Within the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research, (OAR),

Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory (GLERL)

Pacific Marine Environmental Research Laboratory (PMEL)

Additional employees in the following:

Earth Science Research Laboratory (ESRL)

2. The following bargaining units are added to the project plan, Section II F—Labor Participation Table 4—Bargaining Unit Coverage.

ESRL . . . Boulder, CO AFGE Local 2186

GLERL . . . Ann Arbor, MI AFGE Local 3908

3. The following series is added to the project plan, Section II E. Participating Employees—Table 2.—Occupational Series by Career Path

Administrative (ZA) career path, 1805, Investigative Analysis

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**BILLING CODE 3510-EA-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### Foreign-Trade Zones Board

[Order No. 2065]

### **Production Authority Not Approved; PBR, Inc. d/b/a SKAPS Industries; Foreign-Trade Zone 26; (Non-Woven Geotextiles); Athens, Georgia**

Pursuant to its authority under the Foreign-Trade Zones Act of June 18, 1934, as amended (19 U.S.C. 81a-81u), the Foreign-Trade Zones Board (the Board) adopts the following Order:

*Whereas*, the Foreign-Trade Zones (FTZ) Act provides for “. . . the establishment . . . of foreign-trade zones in ports of entry of the United

States, to expedite and encourage foreign commerce, and for other purposes,” and authorizes the Foreign-Trade Zones Board to grant to qualified corporations the privilege of establishing foreign-trade zones in or adjacent to U.S. Customs and Border Protection ports of entry;

*Whereas*, the Georgia Foreign-Trade Zone, Inc., grantee of FTZ 26, has requested production authority on behalf of PBR, Inc. d/b/a SKAPS Industries, located in Athens, Georgia (B-22-2014, docketed March 12, 2014);

*Whereas*, notice inviting public comment has been given in the **Federal Register** (79 FR 15725-15726, March 21, 2014; 79 FR 17500, March 28, 2014) and the application has been processed pursuant to the FTZ Act and the Board’s regulations; and,

*Whereas*, the Board adopts the findings and recommendations of the examiner’s report, and finds that the requirements of the FTZ Act and the Board’s regulations have not been satisfied;

*Now, therefore*, the Board hereby does not approve the application requesting production authority under zone procedures within FTZ 26 at the facility of PBR, Inc. d/b/a SKAPS Industries, located in Athens, Georgia, as described in the application and **Federal Register** notice.

Dated: October 25, 2018.

**Gary Taverman**,

*Deputy Assistant Secretary for Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Operations, performing the non-exclusive functions and duties of the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance Alternate Chairman, Foreign-Trade Zones Board.*

[FR Doc. 2018-23796 Filed 10-30-18; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-DS-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### Foreign-Trade Zones Board

[Order No. 2071]

#### **Restricted Approval for Production Authority; Foreign-Trade Zone 186; Flemish Master Weavers (Machine-Woven Area Rugs); Waterville, Maine**

Pursuant to its authority under the Foreign-Trade Zones Act of June 18, 1934, as amended (19 U.S.C. 81a-81u), the Foreign-Trade Zones Board (the Board) adopts the following Order:

*Whereas*, the Foreign-Trade Zones (FTZ) Act provides for “. . . the establishment . . . of foreign-trade zones in ports of entry of the United States, to expedite and encourage foreign commerce, and for other purposes,” and authorizes the Foreign-

Trade Zones Board to grant to qualified corporations the privilege of establishing foreign-trade zones in or adjacent to U.S. Customs and Border Protection ports of entry;

*Whereas*, the City of Waterville, Maine, grantee of Foreign-Trade Zone 186, has requested production authority on behalf of Flemish Master Weavers (FMW), within Subzone 186A in Sanford, Maine (B-28-2017, docketed April 18, 2017);

*Whereas*, notice inviting public comment has been given in the **Federal Register** (82 FR 26434, June 7, 2017; 83 FR 1608, January 12, 2018) and the application has been processed pursuant to the FTZ Act and the Board’s regulations; and,

*Whereas*, the Board adopts the findings and recommendations of the examiner’s report, and finds that the requirements of the FTZ Act and the Board’s regulations would be satisfied, and that the proposal would be in the public interest, if subject to the restrictions listed below;

*Now, therefore*, the Board hereby orders:

The application for production authority under zone procedures within Subzone 186A on behalf of FMW, as described in the application and **Federal Register** notice, is approved, subject to the FTZ Act and the Board’s regulations, including Section 400.13, and further subject to the following restrictions:

1. The annual quantitative volume of continuous filament polypropylene yarn that FMW may admit into Subzone 186A under nonprivileged foreign status (19 CFR 146.42) is limited to 3 million kilograms; and,

2. Approval is limited to an initial period of five years, subject to extension upon review.

Dated: October 25, 2018.

**Gary Taverman**,

*Deputy Assistant Secretary for Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Operations, performing the non-exclusive functions and duties of the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance Alternate Chairman, Foreign-Trade Zones Board.*

[FR Doc. 2018-23803 Filed 10-30-18; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-DS-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### Foreign-Trade Zones Board

[B-42-2018]

#### **Foreign-Trade Zone (FTZ) 244—Riverside County, California; Authorization of Production Activity; ModusLink Corporation (Camera and Accessories Kitting), Riverside, California**

On June 28, 2018, ModusLink Corporation submitted a notification of proposed production activity to the FTZ Board for its facility within FTZ 244—Site 11, in Riverside, California.

The notification was processed in accordance with the regulations of the FTZ Board (15 CFR part 400), including notice in the **Federal Register** inviting public comment (83 FR 31526-31527, July 6, 2018). On October 26, 2018, the applicant was notified of the FTZ Board’s decision that no further review of the activity is warranted at this time. The authorization is for the foreign-status components and finished products described in the notification, subject to a restriction requiring that textile bag packs; textile chest mount harnesses; bags, microfibers, and dive filters; camera cases; men’s knitted shirts; men’s t-shirts; women’s t-shirts; men’s sweatshirts; lithium-ion storage batteries; women’s sweatshirts; and, men’s jackets be admitted to the zone in privileged foreign status (19 CFR 146.41), with no further review by the FTZ Board.

Dated: October 26, 2018.

**Elizabeth Whiteman**,

*Acting Executive Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 2018-23799 Filed 10-30-18; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-DS-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### Foreign-Trade Zones Board

[Order No. 2070]

#### **Reorganization of Foreign-Trade Zone 29 Under Alternative Site Framework; Louisville, Kentucky**

Pursuant to its authority under the Foreign-Trade Zones Act of June 18, 1934, as amended (19 U.S.C. 81a-81u), the Foreign-Trade Zones Board (the Board) adopts the following Order:

*Whereas*, the Foreign-Trade Zones (FTZ) Act provides for “. . . the establishment . . . of foreign-trade zones in ports of entry of the United States, to expedite and encourage foreign commerce, and for other purposes,” and authorizes the Foreign-