

*mtbpscomments*. For any questions about these documents, email [mtbinfo@usitc.gov](mailto:mtbinfo@usitc.gov) or call Jennifer Rohrbach, USITC MTB Program Manager (202–205–2088). Hearing-impaired individuals may obtain information on this matter by contacting the Commission's TDD terminal at 202–205–1810. General information concerning the Commission may also be obtained by accessing its website (<https://www.usitc.gov>).

**Purpose of Information Collection:** The information requested by these forms is for use by the Commission in connection with its evaluation of miscellaneous tariff bill petitions submitted under the American Manufacturing Competitiveness Act of 2016 (the Act) (Pub. L. 114–159, approved May 20, 2016). Section 3 of the Act establishes a process for the submission and consideration of petitions for, and public comments on, duty suspensions and reductions for imported goods. The Act requires the Commission to conduct two petition submission cycles. One such cycle, now completed, was conducted beginning in October 2016. The cycle that is the subject of this notice begins not later than October 15, 2019.

**Summary of Proposal:**

- (1) *Number of forms submitted:* 2.
- (2) *Title of forms:* Miscellaneous Tariff Bill Petition Submission Form and Miscellaneous Tariff Bill Petition Comment Form;
- (3) *Type of request:* Extension of approval for a collection of information.
- (4) *Frequency of use:* Once.
- (5) *Description of affected industry:* Domestic firms.
- (6) *Estimated number of petitioners and commenters:* up to 5,000 petitions; 3,000 comments.
- (7) *Estimated total number of hours to complete the forms:* 5 hours for compiling information and submitting petitions and 0.5 hours to draft and submit comments.

(8) Information obtained from the forms that qualifies as confidential business information will be so treated by the Commission and not disclosed in a manner that would reveal the individual operations of a firm.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**I. Abstract**

Tariff categories and duty rates on imported goods are established by Congress and set out in the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTS). Temporary duty suspensions and reductions are set forth in chapter 99, subchapter II of the HTS.

The Act referenced above requires the Commission to establish a process to

receive petitions for temporary duty suspensions and reductions, and specifies the contents of such petitions. The Act also provides that these petitions must be made available on the Commission's website for public review and comment. The Act specifies the information that the Commission must include in its preliminary and final reports to the House Committee on Ways and Means and the Senate Committee on Finance (Committees), including certain determinations the Commission must make concerning the petitions filed. While the Act only requires that the Commission provide one public comment period, the Commission may provide additional opportunity for public comment if deemed appropriate.

The Act specifies the schedule for conducting each of the two cycles for collection of petitions. The first cycle commenced on October 14, 2016, and the Commission delivered its final report to the Committees on the submitted petitions on August 8, 2017. This notice concerns the second petition submission cycle, which must start not later than October 15, 2019.

**II. Method of Collection**

Each interested party will be required to establish a user web account on the Commission's designated website, the Miscellaneous Tariff Bill Petition System (MTBPS), to submit a petition requesting the extension or establishment of a temporary duty suspension or reduction provision in the HTS. Similarly, each interested party will be required to establish a user web account on MTBPS to submit a comment on received petitions.

**III. Request for Comments**

Comments are invited on (1) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary; (2) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) 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.

The draft forms and other supplementary documents may be downloaded from the USITC website at <https://www.usitc.gov/mtbpscomments>.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection;

they will also become a matter of public record.

By order of the Commission.

Issued: April 1, 2019.

**Lisa Barton,**

*Secretary to the Commission.*

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**DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**

**Antitrust Division**

**Notice Pursuant to the National Cooperative Research and Production Act of 1993—Cooperative Research Group on HEDGE IV**

Notice is hereby given that, on March 11, 2019, pursuant to Section 6(a) of the National Cooperative Research and Production Act of 1993, 15 U.S.C. 4301 *et seq.* (“the Act”), Southwest Research Institute—Cooperative Research Group on HEDGE IV (“HEDGE IV”) has filed written notifications simultaneously with the Attorney General and the Federal Trade Commission disclosing changes in its membership. The notifications were filed for the purpose of extending the Act's provisions limiting the recovery of antitrust plaintiffs to actual damages under specified circumstances. Specifically, Tenneco Automotive Operating Company, Inc., Grass Lake, MI, has withdrawn as a party to this venture.

No other changes have been made in either the membership or planned activity of the group research project. Membership in this group research project remains open, and HEDGE IV intends to file additional written notifications disclosing all changes in membership.

On February 14, 2017, HEDGE IV, filed its original notification pursuant to Section 6(a) of the Act. The Department of Justice published a notice in the **Federal Register** pursuant to Section 6(b) of the Act on March 27, 2017 (82 FR 15238).

The last notification was filed with the Department on January 28, 2019. A notice was published in the **Federal Register** pursuant to section 6(b) of the Act on February 28, 2019 (84 FR 6820).

**Suzanne Morris,**

*Chief, Premerger and Division Statistics Unit, Antitrust Division.*

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