

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

Notice of Modification of Section 301 Action: China's Acts, Policies, and Practices Related to Technology Transfer, Intellectual Property, and Innovation

AGENCY: Office of the United States Trade Representative.

ACTION: Notice of modification of action.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the direction of the President, the U.S. Trade Representative has determined to modify the action being taken in this Section 301 investigation by reducing the rate of additional duty on certain products of China from 15 percent to 7.5 percent.

DATES: Applicable as of 12:01 a.m. Eastern Standard Time on February 14, 2020, the rate of additional duty will be 7.5 percent for products covered by Annex A of the August 20, 2019 notice (84 FR 43304).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For questions about this notice, contact Assistant General Counsels Philip Butler or Susie Park, or Director of Industrial Goods Justin Hoffmann at (202) 395-5725. For questions on customs classification or implementation of additional duties, contact traderemedy@cbp.dhs.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

A. Prior Determinations in the Investigation

For background on the proceedings in this investigation, please see the prior notices issued in this investigation, including 82 FR 40213 (August 24, 2017), 83 FR 14906 (April 6, 2018), 83 FR 28710 (June 20, 2018), 83 FR 33608 (July 17, 2018), 83 FR 38760 (August 7, 2018), and 83 FR 40823 (August 16, 2018), 83 FR 47974 (September 21, 2018), 83 FR 49153 (September 28, 2018), 84 FR 20459 (May 9, 2019), 84 FR 43304 (August 20, 2019), 84 FR 45821 (August 30, 2019), and 84 FR 69447 (December 18, 2019).

On August 20, 2019, the U.S. Trade Representative, at the direction of the President, determined to modify the action being taken in the investigation by imposing an additional 10 percent *ad valorem* duty on products of China with an annual aggregate trade value of approximately \$300 billion. See 84 FR 43304 (August 20, 2019) (the August 20 notice). The tariff subheadings subject to the 10 percent additional duties were separated into two lists with different effective dates. The list in Annex A had an effective date of September 1, 2019.

The list in Annex C had an effective date of December 15, 2019.

Subsequently, at the direction of the President, the U.S. Trade Representative determined to increase the rate of the additional duty applicable to the tariff subheadings covered by the action announced in the August 20 notice from 10 percent to 15 percent. See 84 FR 45821 (August 30, 2019).

On December 18, 2019, at the direction of the President, the U.S. Trade Representative determined to suspend indefinitely the imposition of the additional 15 percent *ad valorem* duty on products covered by Annex C of the August 20 notice. See 84 FR 69447 (December 18, 2019).

B. Determination To Modify Action

The Section 301 statute, which is set out in Sections 301 to 308 of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2411-2418), includes authority for the U.S. Trade Representative to modify the action being taken in an investigation. In particular, Section 307(a)(1) authorizes the U.S. Trade Representative to modify or terminate any action taken under Section 301, subject to the specific direction, if any, of the President, if the burden or restriction on United States commerce of the acts, policies, and practices that are the subject of the action has increased or decreased, or the action being taken under Section 301(b) and no longer is appropriate.

The United States is engaging with China with the goal of obtaining the elimination of the acts, policies, and practices covered in the investigation. On December 13, 2019, following months of negotiations, the United States and China reached an agreement on a phase one trade deal that requires structural reforms and other changes to China's economic and trade regime, including with respect to certain issues covered in this Section 301 investigation. The United States and China signed the phase one agreement on January 15, 2020, and the agreement is scheduled to enter into force 30 days thereafter on February 14, 2020.

In light of the scheduled entry into force of the phase one agreement, and at the direction of the President, the U.S. Trade Representative has determined that the action announced on August 20, 2019, as modified by the August 30 notice, no longer is appropriate. Specifically, and in accordance with the President's direction, the U.S. Trade Representative has determined to reduce the level of additional duties from 15 percent to 7.5 percent on products of China covered by Annex A of the August 20 notice, effective February 14, 2020.

The U.S. Trade Representative's decision to modify the action being taken in this investigation takes into account the extensive comments and testimony previously provided in connection with the August 20 modification.

The Annex to this notice amends the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) to provide that the additional duties for the products covered in Annex A of the August 20 notice will be reduced to 7.5 percent.

The U.S. Trade Representative will continue to consider the actions being taken in this investigation. In the event that further modifications are appropriate, the U.S. Trade Representative intends to take into account the extensive comments and testimony previously provided.

Annex

Effective with respect to goods entered for consumption, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, on or after 12:01 a.m. Eastern Standard Time on February 14, 2020, subchapter III of chapter 99 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States is modified:

1. By amending U.S. Note 20(r), as established by the U.S. Trade Representative in a determination contained in 84 FR 43304 (August 20, 2019), and as modified by 84 FR 45821 (August 30, 2019), by deleting "15 percent" each place that it appears, and inserting "7.5 percent" in lieu thereof; and

2. By amending the Rates of Duty 1-General column of heading 9903.88.15, as established by the U.S. Trade Representative in a determination contained in 84 FR 43304 (August 20, 2019), and as modified by 84 FR 45821 (August 30, 2019), by deleting "15%", and inserting "7.5%" in lieu thereof.

Joseph Barloon,

General Counsel, Office of the U.S. Trade Representative.

[FR Doc. 2020-00904 Filed 1-21-20; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3290-F0-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

Notice of Permanent Closure of Grove Hill Municipal Airport (3A0), Grove Hill, Alabama

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration, DOT.

ACTION: Notice of permanent closure of Grove Hill Municipal Airport (3A0) and

removal from the National Plan of Integrated Airport Systems (NPIAS).

SUMMARY: The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) received written notice, dated November 26, 2019, from the Town of Grove Hill Alabama requesting the permanent closure of Grove Hill Municipal Airport (3A0) and the removal of the airport from the NPIAS. The FAA hereby publishes the intent of the Town of Grove Hill's notice of permanent closure of Grove Hill Municipal Airport in accordance with U.S.C. 46319(b).

DATES: The permanent closure of the airport is effective as of December 28, 2019.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Graham Coffelt, Program Manager, Jackson Airports District Office, 100 West Cross Street, Suite B, Jackson, MS 39208-2307, (601) 664-9886. The closure request may be reviewed in person at this same location.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Grove Hill Municipal Airport is a single runway, general aviation airport located in Southwest Alabama and is an unobligated and unclassified NPIAS airport. On November 26, 2019, The Town of Grove Hill, Alabama, sponsor of Grove Hill Municipal Airport (3A0), informed the FAA of its intent to finalize the closure. Section 46319 of Title 49 of the United States Code [49 U.S.C. 46319] provides that a public agency (as defined in 49 U.S.C. 47102) may not permanently close an airport listed in the national plan of integrated airport systems under 49 U.S.C. 47103 without providing written notice to the Administrator of the FAA at least 30 days before the date of the closure. The FAA recognizes the letter received November 26, 2019 from the Town of Grove Hill meets that requirement. The FAA is publishing the Town of Grove Hill's notice of permanent closure of Grove Hill Municipal Airport in accordance with 49 U.S.C. 46319(b). Questions may be directed to the individual named above under the heading, **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

Issued in Jackson, Mississippi on December 10, 2019.

Rans D. Black,

Manager, Jackson Airports District Office, Southern Region.

[FR Doc. 2020-00934 Filed 1-21-20; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-13-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

[Docket No. FAA-2020-0059]

Agency Information Collection Activities: Requests for Comments; Clearance of Renewed Approval of Information Collection: Extended Operations (ETOPS) of Multi-Engine Airplanes

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, FAA invites public comments about our intention to request the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval to renew an information collection. A final rule published on January 16, 2007 codified previous practices that permitted certificated air carriers to operate two-engine airplanes over long range routes. The FAA uses this information collection to ensure that aircraft for long range flights are equipped to minimize diversions, to preclude and prevent diversions in remote areas, and to ensure that all personnel are trained to minimize any adverse impacts of a diversion.

DATES: Written comments should be submitted by March 23, 2020.

ADDRESSES: Please send written comments:

By Electronic Docket:
www.regulations.gov (Enter docket number into search field).

By mail: Sandra Ray, Federal Aviation Administration, Policy Integration Branch AFS-270, 1187 Thorn Run Road, Suite 200, Coraopolis, PA 15108.

By fax: 412-239-3063.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Timothy McClain by email at: Timothy.McClain@faa.gov; phone: 202-267-4112.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Public Comments Invited: You are asked to comment on any aspect of this information collection, including (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for FAA's performance; (b) the accuracy of the estimated burden; (c) ways for FAA to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information collection; and (d) ways that the burden could be minimized without reducing the quality of the collected information. The agency will summarize and/or include your comments in the request for OMB's clearance of this information collection.

OMB Control Number: 2120-0718.

Title: Extended Operations (ETOPS) of Multi-Engine Airplanes.

Form Numbers: None.

Type of Review: Renewal of an information collection.

Background: The final rule codified the previous practices that permitted certificated air carriers to operate two-engine airplanes over these long-range routes and extended the procedures for extended operations to all passenger-carrying operations on routes beyond 180 minutes from an alternate airport. This option is voluntary for operators and manufacturers. The FAA uses this information collection to ensure that aircraft for long range flights are equipped to minimize diversions, to preclude and prevent diversions in remote areas, and to ensure that all personnel are trained to minimize any adverse impacts of a diversion.

Respondents: Approximately 20 Operators and 4 Manufacturers and 7 future operators.

Frequency: Information is collected on occasion.

Estimated Average Burden per Response: Burden per Operator varies per operation.

Estimated Total Annual Burden: 36,536 Hours.

Issued in Washington, DC, on January 16, 2020.

Sandra L. Ray,

Aviation Safety Inspector, FAA, Policy Integration Branch, AFS-270.

[FR Doc. 2020-01002 Filed 1-21-20; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-13-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Railroad Administration

[Docket Number FRA-2007-28340]

Petition for Waiver of Compliance

Under part 211 of title 49 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), this provides the public notice that on October 24, 2019, Union Pacific Railroad Company (UP) petitioned the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) to renew a waiver of compliance from certain provisions of the Federal railroad safety regulations contained at 49 CFR 232.205, *Class I brake test—initial terminal inspection*, and part 215, Railroad Freight Car Safety Standards. FRA assigned the petition Docket Number FRA-2007-28340.

By letter dated April 24, 2015, UP received conditional relief from these Federal railroad safety regulations for freight cars received in interchange at the U.S./Mexico border crossing in Brownsville, Texas, to permit required inspections to be conducted in Olmito,