If APHIS decides, based on its review of the petition and its evaluation and analysis of comments received during the 60-day public comment period on the petition, that the petition involves a GE organism that raises no substantive new issues, APHIS will follow Approach 1 for public involvement. Under Approach 1, APHIS announces in the Federal Register the availability of APHIS’ preliminary regulatory determination along with its draft EA, preliminary finding of no significant impact (FONSI), and its draft plant pest risk assessment (PPRA) for a 30-day public review period. APHIS will evaluate any information received related to the petition and its supporting documents during the 30-day public review period.

For this petition, we are following approach 2. Under this approach, if APHIS decides, based on its review of the petition and its evaluation and analysis of comments received during the 60-day public comment period on the petition, that the petition involves a GE organism that raises substantive new issues, APHIS first solicits written comments from the public on a draft EA and draft PPRA for a 30-day comment period through the publication of a Federal Register notice. Then, after reviewing and evaluating the comments on the draft EA and draft PPRA and other information, APHIS will revise the draft PPRA as necessary. It will then prepare a final EA, and based on the final EA, a National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) decision document (either a FONSI or a notice of intent to prepare an environmental impact statement).

As part of our decisionmaking process regarding a GE organism’s regulatory status, APHIS prepares a PPRA to assess the plant pest risk of the article. APHIS also prepares the appropriate environmental documentation—either an EA or an environmental impact statement—in accordance with NEPA. This will provide the Agency and the public with a review and analysis of any potential environmental impacts that may result if the petition request is approved.

APHIS concludes in its draft PPRA that MON 88702 cotton, which as stated above has been genetically engineered for resistance to certain insects, primarily Lygus spp., is unlikely to pose a plant pest risk. In section 403 of the Plant Protection Act, “plant pest” is defined as any living stage of any of the following that can directly or indirectly injure, cause damage to, or cause disease in an animal or plant or plant product: A protozoan, a nonhuman animal, a parasitic plant, a bacterium, a fungus, a virus or viroid, an infectious agent or other pathogen, or any article similar to or allied with any of the foregoing.

APHIS has also prepared a draft EA in which we present two alternatives based on our analysis of data Monsanto submitted, a review of other scientific data, field tests conducted under APHIS’ oversight, and comments received on the petition (see footnote 3). APHIS is considering the following alternatives: (1) Take no action, i.e., APHIS would not change the regulatory status of MON 88702 cotton, or (2) make a determination of nonregulated status for insect-protected MON 88702 cotton.

The draft EA was prepared in accordance with (1) NEPA, as amended (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.), (2) regulations of the Council on Environmental Quality for implementing the procedural provisions of NEPA (40 CFR parts 1500–1508), (3) USDA regulations implementing NEPA (7 CFR part 1b), and (4) APHIS’ NEPA Implementing Procedures (7 CFR part 372).

Based on APHIS’ analysis of field and laboratory data submitted by Monsanto, references provided in the petition, peer-reviewed publications, information analyzed in the draft EA, the draft PPRA, comments provided by the public on the petition, and discussion of issues in the draft EA, APHIS has determined that cotton designated as event MON 88702 is unlikely to pose a plant pest risk.

We are making available for a 30-day review period our draft PPRA and draft EA. The draft EA and draft PPRA are available as indicated under ADDRESSES and FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT above. Copies of these documents may also be obtained from the person listed under FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT.

After the 30-day review period closes, APHIS will review and evaluate any information received during the 30-day review period. APHIS will revise the draft PPRA as necessary and prepare a final EA and, based on the final EA, a NEPA decision document (either a FONSI or a notice of intent to prepare an environmental impact statement).


Done in Washington, DC, this 9th day of October 2020.

Michael Watson,
Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

BILLING CODE 3410–34–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Foreign-Trade Zones Board
[B–60–2020]

Foreign-Trade Zone (FTZ) 90—Syracuse, New York; Notification of Proposed Production Activity; PPC Broadband, Inc. (Fiber Optic Cables); Dewitt, New York

PPC Broadband, Inc. (PPC Broadband) submitted a notification of proposed production activity to the FTZ Board for its facility in Dewitt, New York. The notification conformed to the requirements of the regulations of the FTZ Board (15 CFR 400.22) was received on October 8, 2020.

PPC Broadband already has authority to produce hardline coaxial cables within Subzone 90C. The current request would add finished products and foreign status components to the scope of authority. Pursuant to 15 CFR 400.14(b), additional FTZ authority would be limited to the specific foreign-status components and specific finished products described in the submitted notification (as described below) and subsequently authorized by the FTZ Board.

Production under FTZ procedures could exempt PPC Broadband from customs duty payments on the foreign-status materials/components used in export production. On its domestic sales, for the foreign-status materials/components noted below and in the existing scope of authority, PPC Broadband would be able to choose the duty rates during customs entry procedures that apply to fiber optic cables and fiber optic terminated jumpers or patchcords (duty-free). PPC Broadband would be able to avoid duty on foreign-status components which become scrap/waste. Customs duties also could possibly be deferred or reduced on foreign-status production equipment.

The materials/components sourced from abroad include: Tight buffered fibers; aramid yarn, swellcoat blockers or equivalent; polymer pocan polybutylene terephthalate, crastin or equivalent; copper tone wires (0.182 mm); talc—magnes diamond; and, fiber optic connectors (duty rate ranges from duty-free to 8%). The request indicates that aramid yarn and swellcoat blockers or equivalent will be admitted to the zone in privileged foreign status (19 CFR 146.41), thereby precluding inverted tariff benefits on such items. The request also indicates that certain components are subject to duties under Section 301 of the Trade Act of 1974 (Section 301), depending on the country...
of origin. The applicable Section 301 decisions require subject merchandise to be admitted to FTZs in privileged foreign status.

Public comment is invited from interested parties. Submissions shall be addressed to the Board’s Executive Secretary and sent to: ftz@trade.gov. The closing period for their receipt is November 25, 2020.

A copy of the notification will be available for public inspection in the “Reading Room” section of the Board’s website, which is accessible via www.trade.gov/ftz.

For further information, contact Christopher Wedderburn at Chris.Wedderburn@trade.gov or (202) 482–1963.

Andrew McGilvray,
Executive Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2020–22954 Filed 10–15–20; 8:45 am]
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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
International Trade Administration


Passenger Vehicle and Light Truck Tires From the Republic of Korea, Taiwan, Thailand, and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam: Postponement of Preliminary Determinations in the Less-Than-Fair-Value Investigations

AGENCY: Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.


FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Leo Ayala at (202) 482–3045 (Republic of Korea (Korea) and Thailand); Lauren Caserta at (202) 482–4737 (Taiwan); and Jason Moy at (202) 482–8194 (the Socialist Republic of Vietnam (Vietnam)), AD/CVD Operations, Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20230.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On June 22, 2020, the Department of Commerce (Commerce) initiated less-than-fair-value (LTFV) investigations of imports of passenger vehicle and light truck tires (passenger tires) from Korea, Taiwan, Thailand, and Vietnam.1 Currently, the preliminary determinations are due no later than November 9, 2020.

Postponement of Preliminary Determinations

Section 733(b)(1)(A) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act), requires Commerce to issue the preliminary determination in an LTFV investigation within 140 days of the date on which Commerce initiated the investigation. However, section 733(c)(1) of the Act permits Commerce to postpone the preliminary determination until no later than 190 days after the date on which Commerce initiated the investigation if: (A) The petitioner makes a timely request for a postponement; or (B) Commerce concludes that the parties concerned are cooperating, that the investigation is extraordinarily complicated, and that additional time is necessary to make a preliminary determination. Under 19 CFR 351.205(e), the petitioner must submit a request for postponement 25 days or more before the scheduled date of the preliminary determination and must state the reasons for the request. Commerce will grant the request unless it finds compelling reasons to deny the request.

On October 1, 2020, the United Steel, Paper and Forestry, Rubber, Manufacturing, Energy, Allied Industrial and Service Workers International Union, AFL–CIO, CLC (the petitioner) submitted a timely request that Commerce postpone the preliminary determinations in these LTFV investigations.2 The petitioner stated that it requests postponement due to the complexity of selecting the mandatory respondents and obtaining initial and supplemental questionnaire responses. Under the current timeline, the petitioner believes that Commerce will not have complete responses and sufficient information to issue these preliminary determinations.3 For the reasons stated above, and because there are no compelling reasons to deny the request, Commerce, in accordance with section 733(c)(1)(A) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.205(e), is postponing the deadline for the preliminary determinations by 50 days (i.e., 190 days after the date on which these investigations were initiated). As a result, Commerce will issue its

Preliminary Determinations no later than December 29, 2020. In accordance with section 735(a)(1) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.210(b)(1), the deadline for the final determinations in these investigations will continue to be 75 days after the date of the preliminary determinations, unless postponed at a later date.

Notification to Interested Parties

This notice is issued and published pursuant to section 733(c)(2) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.205(f)(1).

Dated: October 9, 2020.

Jeffrey I. Kessler,
Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance.

[FR Doc. 2020–22958 Filed 10–15–20; 8:45 am]
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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648–XA467]

Endangered and Threatened Species; Draft Recovery Plan and Draft Recovery Implementation Strategy for the Main Hawaiian Islands Insular False Killer Whale Distinct Population Segment and Notice of Initiation of 5-Year Review

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of availability of draft recovery plan and draft recovery implementation strategy; request for comments; notice of initiation of a 5-year review; request for information.

SUMMARY: We, the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), announce the availability of the Draft Recovery Plan and Draft Recovery Implementation Strategy for the Main Hawaiian Islands Insular False Killer Whale (MHI IFKW; Pseudorca crassidens) Distinct Population Segment (DPS) for public review. We are soliciting review and comment from the public and all interested parties on the Draft Recovery Plan and Draft Recovery Implementation Strategy, and will consider all substantive comments received during the review period before submitting the Recovery Plan and Recovery Implementation Strategy for final approval. We are also initiating a 5-year review of the MHI IFKW and are requesting new information on its status.


3 Id.