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# **Presidential Documents**

#### Title 3—

Executive Order 14250 of March 27, 2025

## The President

# Addressing Risks From WilmerHale

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, it is hereby ordered:

**Section 1.** Background. My Administration is committed to addressing the significant risks associated with law firms, particularly so-called "Big Law" firms, that engage in conduct detrimental to critical American interests. Many firms take actions that threaten public safety and national security, limit constitutional freedoms, degrade the quality of American elections, or undermine bedrock American principles. Moreover, law firms regularly conduct this harmful activity through their powerful pro bono practices, earmarking hundreds of millions of their clients' dollars for destructive causes, that often directly or indirectly harm their own clients. Lawyers and law firms that engage in such egregious conduct should not have access to our Nation's secrets, nor should such conduct be subsidized by Federal taxpayer funds or contracts.

Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP (WilmerHale) is yet another law firm that has abandoned the profession's highest ideals and abused its pro bono practice to engage in activities that undermine justice and the interests of the United States. For example, WilmerHale engages in obvious partisan representations to achieve political ends, supports efforts to discriminate on the basis of race, backs the obstruction of efforts to prevent illegal aliens from committing horrific crimes and trafficking deadly drugs within our borders, and furthers the degradation of the quality of American elections, including by supporting efforts designed to enable noncitizens to vote. Moreover, WilmerHale itself discriminates against its employees based on race and other categories prohibited by civil rights laws, including through the use of race-based "targets."

WilmerHale is also bent on employing lawyers who weaponize the prosecutorial power to upend the democratic process and distort justice. For example, WilmerHale rewarded Robert Mueller and his colleagues—Aaron Zebley, Mueller's "top aide" and "closest associate," and James Quarles—by welcoming them to the firm after they wielded the power of the Federal Government to lead one of the most partisan investigations in American history. Mueller's investigation epitomizes the weaponization of government, yet WilmerHale claimed he "embodies the highest value of our firm and profession." Mueller's "investigation" upended the lives of public servants in my Administration who were summoned before "prosecutors" with the effect of interfering in their ability to fulfill the mandates of my first term agenda. This weaponization of the justice system must not be rewarded, let alone condoned.

- **Sec. 2.** Security Clearance Review. (a) The Attorney General, the Director of National Intelligence, and all other relevant heads of executive departments and agencies (agencies) shall immediately take steps consistent with applicable law to suspend any active security clearances held by individuals at WilmerHale, pending a review of whether such clearances are consistent with the national interest.
- (b) The Office of Management and Budget shall identify all Government goods, property, material, and services, including Sensitive Compartmented Information Facilities, provided for the benefit of WilmerHale. The heads

- of agencies providing such material or services shall, to the extent permitted by law, expeditiously cease such provision.
- **Sec. 3**. Contracting. (a) To prevent the transfer of taxpayer dollars to Federal contractors whose earnings subsidize, among other things, activities that are not aligned with American interests, including racial discrimination, Government contracting agencies shall, to the extent permissible by law, require Government contractors to disclose any business they do with WilmerHale and whether that business is related to the subject of the Government contract.
- (b) The heads of agencies shall review all contracts with WilmerHale or with entities that disclose doing business with WilmerHale under subsection (a) of this section. To the extent permitted by law, the heads of agencies shall:
  - (i) take appropriate steps to terminate any contract, to the maximum extent permitted by applicable law, including the Federal Acquisition Regulation, for which WilmerHale has been hired to perform any service; and
  - (ii) otherwise align their agency funding decisions with the interests of the citizens of the United States; with the goals and priorities of my Administration as expressed in executive actions, especially Executive Order 14147 of January 20, 2025 (Ending the Weaponization of the Federal Government); and as heads of agencies deem appropriate. Within 30 days of the date of this order, agencies shall submit to the Director of the Office of Management and Budget an assessment of contracts with WilmerHale or with entities that do business with WilmerHale effective as of the date of this order and any actions taken with respect to those contracts in accordance with this order.
- **Sec. 4.** Racial Discrimination. Nothing in this order shall be construed to limit the action authorized by section 4 of Executive Order 14230 of March 6, 2025 (Addressing Risks from Perkins Coie LLP).
- **Sec. 5**. *Personnel*. (a) The heads of agencies shall, to the extent permitted by law, provide guidance limiting official access from Federal Government buildings to employees of WilmerHale when such access would threaten the national security of or otherwise be inconsistent with the interests of the United States. In addition, the heads of agencies shall provide guidance limiting Government employees acting in their official capacity from engaging with WilmerHale employees to ensure consistency with the national security and other interests of the United States.
- (b) Agency officials shall, to the extent permitted by law, refrain from hiring employees of WilmerHale, absent a waiver from the head of the agency, made in consultation with the Director of the Office of Personnel Management, that such hire will not threaten the national security of the United States.
- **Sec. 6**. *General Provisions*. (a) Nothing in this order shall be construed to impair or otherwise affect:
  - (i) the authority granted by law to an executive department or agency, or the head thereof; or
  - (ii) the functions of the Director of the Office of Management and Budget relating to budgetary, administrative, or legislative proposals.
- (b) This order shall be implemented consistent with applicable law and subject to the availability of appropriations.

(c) This order is not intended to, and does not, create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity by any party against the United States, its departments, agencies, or entities, its officers, employees, or agents, or any other person.

La walkaming

THE WHITE HOUSE, March 27, 2025.

[FR Doc. 2025–05845 Filed 4–2–25; 8:45 am] Billing code 3395–F4–P

# **Presidential Documents**

Executive Order 14251 of March 27, 2025

# **Exclusions From Federal Labor-Management Relations Programs**

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, including sections 7103(b)(1) of title 5 and 4103(b) of title 22, United States Code, to enhance the national security of the United States, it is hereby ordered:

- **Section 1**. *Determinations*. (a) The agencies and agency subdivisions set forth in section 2 of this order are hereby determined to have as a primary function intelligence, counterintelligence, investigative, or national security work. It is also hereby determined that Chapter 71 of title 5, United States Code, cannot be applied to these agencies and agency subdivisions in a manner consistent with national security requirements and considerations.
- (b) The agency subdivisions set forth in section 3 of this order are hereby determined to have as a primary function intelligence, counterintelligence, investigative, or national security work. It is also hereby determined that Subchapter X of Chapter 52 of title 22, United States Code, cannot be applied to these subdivisions in a manner consistent with national security requirements and considerations.
- **Sec. 2**. *Additional National Security Exclusions*. Executive Order 12171 of November 19, 1979, as amended, is further amended by:
- (a) In section 1–101, adding "and Section 1–4" after "Section 1–2" in both places that term appears.
  - (b) Adding after section 1–3 a new section 1–4 that reads:
  - "1–4. Additional Exclusions.
  - 1–401. The Department of State.
  - 1–402. The Department of Defense, except for any subdivisions excluded pursuant to section 4 of the Executive Order of March 27, 2025, entitled 'Exclusions from Federal Labor-Management Relations Programs.'
  - 1–403. The Department of the Treasury, except the Bureau of Engraving and Printing.
  - 1–404. The Department of Veterans Affairs.
  - 1–405. The Department of Justice.
  - 1–406. Agencies or subdivisions of the Department of Health and Human Services:
    - (a) Office of the Secretary.
    - (b) Food and Drug Administration.
    - (c) Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
    - (d) Administration for Strategic Preparedness and Response.
    - (e) Office of the General Counsel.
  - (f) Office of Refugee Resettlement, Administration for Children and Families.
  - (g) National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, National Institutes of Health.
  - 1-407. Agencies or subdivisions of the Department of Homeland Security:

- (a) Office of the Secretary.
- (b) Office of the General Counsel.
- (c) Office of Strategy, Policy, and Plans.
- (d) Management Directorate.
- (e) Science and Technology Directorate.
- (f) Office of Health Security.
- (g) Office of Homeland Security Situational Awareness.
- (h) U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.
- (i) United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement.
- (i) United States Coast Guard.
- (k) Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency.
- (l) Federal Emergency Management Agency.
- 1–408. Agencies or subdivisions of the Department of the Interior:
  - (a) Office of the Secretary.
  - (b) Bureau of Land Management.
  - (c) Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement.
  - (d) Bureau of Ocean Energy Management.
- 1–409. The Department of Energy, except for the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.
- 1–410. The following agencies or subdivisions of the Department of Agriculture:
  - (a) Food Safety and Inspection Service.
  - (b) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.
- 1–411. The International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.
- 1–412. The Environmental Protection Agency.
- 1–413. The United States Agency for International Development.
- 1–414. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission.
- 1–415. The National Science Foundation.
- 1–416. The United States International Trade Commission.
- 1-417. The Federal Communications Commission.
- 1–418. The General Services Administration.
- 1–419. The following agencies or subdivisions of each Executive department listed in section 101 of title 5, United States Code, the Social Security Administration, and the Office of Personnel Management:
  - (a) Office of the Chief Information Officer.
- (b) any other agency or subdivision that has information resources management duties as the agency or subdivision's primary duty.
- 1–499. Notwithstanding the forgoing, nothing in this section shall exempt from the coverage of Chapter 71 of title 5, United States Code:
- (a) the immediate, local employing offices of any agency police officers, security guards, or firefighters, provided that this exclusion does not apply to the Bureau of Prisons;
- (b) subdivisions of the United States Marshals Service not listed in section 1–209 of this order; or
- (c) any subdivisions of the Departments of Defense or Veterans Affairs for which the applicable Secretary has issued an order suspending the application of this section pursuant to section 4 of the Executive Order

- of March 27, 2025, entitled 'Exclusions from Federal Labor-Management Relations Programs.'"
- **Sec. 3**. Foreign Service Exclusions. Executive Order 12171, as amended, is further amended by:
  - (a) In the first paragraph:
  - (i) adding "and Section 4103(b) of Title 22," after "Title 5"; and
  - (ii) adding "and Subchapter X of Chapter 52 of Title 22" after "Relations Program."
  - (b) Adding after section 1-102 a new section 1-103 that reads:
  - "1–103. The Department subdivisions set forth in section 1–5 of this order are hereby determined to have as a primary function intelligence, counterintelligence, investigative, or national security work. It is also hereby determined that Subchapter X of Chapter 52 of title 22, United States Code, cannot be applied to those subdivisions in a manner consistent with national security requirements and considerations. The subdivisions set forth in section 1–5 of this order are hereby excluded from coverage under Subchapter X of Chapter 52 of title 22, United States Code."
- (c) Adding after the new section 1–4 added by section 2(b) of this order a new section 1–5 that reads:
  - "1-5. Subdivisions of Departments Employing Foreign Service Officers. 1-501. Subdivisions of the Department of State:
    - (a) Each subdivision reporting directly to the Secretary of State.
    - (b) Each subdivision reporting to the Deputy Secretary of State.
  - (c) Each subdivision reporting to the Deputy Secretary of State for Management and Resources.
    - (d) Each subdivision reporting to the Under Secretary for Management.
  - (e) Each subdivision reporting to the Under Secretary for Arms Control and International Security.
  - (f) Each subdivision reporting to the Under Secretary for Civilian Security, Democracy, and Human Rights.
  - (g) Each subdivision reporting to the Under Secretary for Economic Growth, Energy, and Environment.
    - (h) Each subdivision reporting to the Under Secretary for Political Affairs.
  - (i) Each subdivision reporting to the Under Secretary for Public Diplomacy.
  - (j) Each United States embassy, consulate, diplomatic mission, or office providing consular services.
  - 1–502. Subdivisions of the United States Agency for International Development:
    - (a) All Overseas Missions and Field Offices.
    - (b) Each subdivision reporting directly to the Administrator.
  - (c) Each subdivision reporting to the Deputy Administrator for Policy and Programming.
  - (d) Each subdivision reporting to the Deputy Administrator for Management and Resources.".
- **Sec. 4.** Delegation of Authority to the Secretaries of Defense and Veterans Affairs. (a) Subject to the requirements of subsection (b) of this section, the Secretaries of Defense and Veterans Affairs are delegated authority under 5 U.S.C. 7103(b)(1) to issue orders suspending the application of section 1–402 or 1–404 of Executive Order 12171, as amended, to any subdivisions of the departments they supervise, thereby bringing such subdivisions under the coverage of the Federal Service Labor-Management Relations Statute.
- (b) An order described in subsection (a) of this section shall only be effective if:

- (i) the applicable Secretary certifies to the President that the provisions of the Federal Service Labor-Management Relations Statute can be applied to such subdivision in a manner consistent with national security requirements and considerations; and
- (ii) such certification is submitted for publication in the *Federal Register* within 15 days of the date of this order.
- **Sec. 5.** Delegation of Authority to the Secretary of Transportation. (a) The national security interests of the United States in ensuring the safety and integrity of the national transportation system require that the Secretary of Transportation have maximum flexibility to cultivate an efficient workforce at the Department of Transportation that is adaptive to new technologies and innovation. Where collective bargaining is incompatible with that mission, the Department of Transportation should not be forced to seek relief through grievances, arbitrations, or administrative proceedings.
- (b) The Secretary of Transportation is therefore delegated authority under section 7103(b) of title 5, United States Code, to issue orders excluding any subdivision of the Department of Transportation, including the Federal Aviation Administration, from Federal Service Labor-Management Relations Statute coverage or suspending any provision of that law with respect to any Department of Transportation installation or activity located outside the 50 States and the District of Columbia. This authority may not be further delegated. When making the determination required by 5 U.S.C. 7103(b)(1) or 7103(b)(2), the Secretary of Transportation shall publish his determination in the Federal Register.
- **Sec. 6.** *Implementation.* With respect to employees in agencies or subdivisions thereof that were previously part of a bargaining unit but have been excepted under this order, each applicable agency head shall, upon termination of the applicable collective bargaining agreement:
- (a) reassign any such employees who performed non-agency business pursuant to section 7131 of title 5 or section 4116 of title 22, United States Code, to performing solely agency business; and
- (b) terminate agency participation in any pending grievance proceedings under section 7121 of title 5, United States Code, exceptions to arbitral awards under section 7122 of title 5, United States Code, or unfair labor practice proceedings under section 7118 of title 5 or section 4116 of title 22, United States Code, that involve such employees.
- **Sec. 7.** Additional Review. Within 30 days of the date of this order, the head of each agency with employees covered by Chapter 71 of title 5, United States Code, shall submit a report to the President that identifies any agency subdivisions not covered by Executive Order 12171, as amended:
- (a) that have as a primary function intelligence, counterintelligence, investigative, or national security work, applying the definition of "national security" set forth by the Federal Labor Relations Authority in Department of Energy, Oak Ridge Operations, and National Association of Government Employees Local R5–181, 4 FLRA 644 (1980); and
- (b) for which the agency head believes the provisions of Chapter 71 of title 5, United States Code, cannot be applied to such subdivision in a manner consistent with national security requirements and considerations, and the reasons therefore.
- **Sec. 8.** General Provisions. (a) Nothing in this order shall be construed to impair or otherwise affect:
  - (i) the authority granted by law to an executive department or agency, or the head thereof; or
  - (ii) the functions of the Director of the Office of Management and Budget relating to budgetary, administrative, or legislative proposals.
- (b) This order shall be implemented consistent with applicable law and subject to the availability of appropriations.
- (c) This order is not intended to, and does not, create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity by any party

against the United States, its departments, agencies, or entities, its officers, employees, or agents, or any other person.

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THE WHITE HOUSE, March 27, 2025.

[FR Doc. 2025–05836 Filed 4–2–25; 8:45 am] Billing code 3395–F4–P

# **Presidential Documents**

Executive Order 14252 of March 27, 2025

# Making the District of Columbia Safe and Beautiful

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, it is hereby ordered:

**Section 1**. *Purpose*. As the Federal capital city, Washington, D.C., is the only city that belongs to all Americans and that all Americans can claim as theirs. As the capital city of the greatest Nation in the history of the world, it should showcase beautiful, clean, and safe public spaces.

America's capital must be a place in which residents, commuters, and tourists feel safe at all hours, including on public transit. Its highways, boulevards, and parks should be clean, well-kept, and pleasant. Its monuments, museums, and buildings should reflect and inspire awe and appreciation for our Nation's strength, greatness, and heritage. Our citizens deserve nothing less.

- **Sec. 2.** *Policy.* It is the policy of the United States to make the District of Columbia safe, beautiful, and prosperous by preventing crime, punishing criminals, preserving order, protecting our revered American monuments, and promoting beautification and the preservation of our history and heritage.
- **Sec. 3.** Making the District of Columbia Safe by Fighting Crime. (a) My Administration shall work closely with local officials to share information, develop joint priorities, and maximize resources to make the District of Columbia safe. Such coordination shall occur through the D.C. Safe and Beautiful Task Force (Task Force), which is hereby established by this order. The Task Force shall be chaired by the Assistant to the President and Homeland Security Advisor or his designee, and shall otherwise include representatives from the following departments, agencies, or components, selected as such department, agency, or component determines:
  - (i) the Department of the Interior;
  - (ii) the Department of Transportation;
  - (iii) the Department of Homeland Security;
  - (iv) the Federal Bureau of Investigation;
  - (v) the United States Marshals Service;
  - (vi) the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives;
  - (vii) the United States Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia;
  - (viii) the United States Attorney's Office for the District of Maryland; and
- (ix) the United States Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Virginia. The Chairman of the Task Force may also select other departments, agencies, or components to participate as he deems necessary. Representatives of such other departments, agencies, or components shall be selected as such department, agency, or component determines.
- (b) The Task Force may, to the extent permitted by law, request operational assistance from and coordinate with the Metropolitan Police Department of the District of Columbia (MPD), Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority, United States Park Police, Amtrak Police, and other Federal and local officials as appropriate.
- (c) The Task Force shall coordinate to ensure effective Federal participation in the following tasks:

- (i) directing maximum enforcement of Federal immigration law and redirecting available Federal, State, or local law enforcement resources to apprehend and deport illegal aliens in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area;
- (ii) monitoring the District of Columbia's sanctuary-city status and compliance with the enforcement of Federal immigration law;
- (iii) providing assistance to facilitate the prompt and complete accreditation of the District of Columbia's forensic crime laboratory;
- (iv) in collaboration with its leadership and union, providing MPD with assistance to facilitate the recruitment, retention, and capabilities of its police officers and to facilitate work with Federal personnel, resources, and expertise to reduce crime;
- (v) collaborating with appropriate local government entities to provide assistance to increase the speed and lower the cost of processing concealed carry license requests in the District of Columbia;
- (vi) reviewing and, as appropriate, revising Federal prosecutorial policies on seeking pretrial detention of criminal defendants to ensure that individuals who pose a genuine threat to public safety are detained to the maximum extent permitted by law;
- (vii) collaborating with appropriate local government entities to provide assistance to end fare evasion and other crime within the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority system; and
- (viii) deploying a more robust Federal law enforcement presence and coordinating with local law enforcement to facilitate the deployment of a more robust local law enforcement presence as appropriate in areas in or about the District of Columbia, including in such areas as the National Mall and Memorial Parks, museums, monuments, Lafayette Park, Union Station, Rock Creek Park, Anacostia Park, the George Washington Memorial Parkway, the Suitland Parkway, and the Baltimore-Washington Parkway, and ensuring that all applicable quality of life, nuisance, and public-safety laws are strictly enforced, such as those prohibiting assault, battery, larceny, graffiti and other vandalism, unpermitted disturbances and demonstrations, noise, trespassing, public intoxication, drug possession, sale, and use, and traffic violations, including as prescribed by Executive Order 13933 of June 26, 2020 (Protecting American Monuments, Memorials, and Statues and Combating Recent Criminal Violence), which was reinstated by Executive Order 14189 of January 29, 2025 (Celebrating America's 250th Birthday).
- (d) The Task Force shall report to me as necessary through the Assistant to the President and Homeland Security Advisor regarding safety in the District of Columbia, and the tasks set forth in subsection (c) of this section. As part of this reporting, the Attorney General, in consultation with the Task Force, shall assess whether public-safety circumstances in the District of Columbia require additional executive action.
- **Sec. 4.** Making the District of Columbia Beautiful. (a) The Secretary of the Interior, in consultation with the Attorney General, the Secretary of Transportation, the United States Attorney for the District of Columbia, the Administrator of General Services, the National Capital Planning Commission, and the heads of such other executive departments or agencies and local officials as the Secretary of the Interior deems appropriate, shall develop and implement a program to beautify and make safe and prosperous the District of Columbia.
- (b) The program under subsection (a) of this section shall include, at a minimum, the following elements as appropriate and consistent with applicable law:
  - (i) a coordinated beautification plan for Federal and local facilities, monuments, land, parks, and roadways in and around the District of Columbia;

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- (ii) restoration of Federal public monuments, memorials, statues, markers, or similar properties that have been damaged or defaced, or inappropriately removed or changed, in recent years;
- (iii) removal of graffiti from commonly visited areas, with local assistance;
- (iv) proposals to ensure Federal buildings or lands adequately uplift and beautify public spaces and generate in the citizenry pride in and respect for our Nation;
- (v) a coordinated Federal and local approach to ensure the cleanliness of public spaces, sidewalks, parks, highways, roads, and transit systems in and around the District of Columbia; and
- (vi) the encouragement of private-sector participation in coordinated beautification and clean-up efforts in the District of Columbia.
- (c) The Secretary of the Interior shall immediately issue a directive to the National Park Service requiring prompt removal and cleanup of all homeless or vagrant encampments and graffiti on Federal land within the District of Columbia subject to the National Park Service's jurisdiction, to the maximum extent permitted by law.
- **Sec.** 5. *General Provisions*. (a) Nothing in this order shall be construed to impair or otherwise affect:
  - (i) the authority granted by law to an executive department or agency, or the head thereof; or
  - (ii) the functions of the Director of the Office of Management and Budget relating to budgetary, administrative, or legislative proposals.
- (b) This order shall be implemented consistent with applicable law and subject to the availability of appropriations.
- (c) This order is not intended to, and does not, create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity by any party against the United States, its departments, agencies, or entities, its officers, employees, or agents, or any other person.

THE WHITE HOUSE, March 27, 2025.

# **Presidential Documents**

Executive Order 14253 of March 27, 2025

# Restoring Truth and Sanity to American History

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, it is hereby ordered:

Section 1. Purpose and Policy. Over the past decade, Americans have witnessed a concerted and widespread effort to rewrite our Nation's history, replacing objective facts with a distorted narrative driven by ideology rather than truth. This revisionist movement seeks to undermine the remarkable achievements of the United States by casting its founding principles and historical milestones in a negative light. Under this historical revision, our Nation's unparalleled legacy of advancing liberty, individual rights, and human happiness is reconstructed as inherently racist, sexist, oppressive, or otherwise irredeemably flawed. Rather than fostering unity and a deeper understanding of our shared past, the widespread effort to rewrite history deepens societal divides and fosters a sense of national shame, disregarding the progress America has made and the ideals that continue to inspire millions around the globe.

The prior administration advanced this corrosive ideology. At Independence National Historical Park in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania—where our Nation declared that all men are created equal—the prior administration sponsored training by an organization that advocates dismantling "Western foundations" and "interrogating institutional racism" and pressured National Historical Park rangers that their racial identity should dictate how they convey history to visiting Americans because America is purportedly racist.

Once widely respected as a symbol of American excellence and a global icon of cultural achievement, the Smithsonian Institution has, in recent years, come under the influence of a divisive, race-centered ideology. This shift has promoted narratives that portray American and Western values as inherently harmful and oppressive. For example, the Smithsonian American Art Museum today features "The Shape of Power: Stories of Race and American Sculpture," an exhibit representing that "[s]ocieties including the United States have used race to establish and maintain systems of power, privilege, and disenfranchisement." The exhibit further claims that "sculpture has been a powerful tool in promoting scientific racism" and promotes the view that race is not a biological reality but a social construct, stating "Race is a human invention."

The National Museum of African American History and Culture has proclaimed that "hard work," "individualism," and "the nuclear family" are aspects of "White culture." The forthcoming Smithsonian American Women's History Museum plans on celebrating the exploits of male athletes participating in women's sports. These are just a few examples.

It is the policy of my Administration to restore Federal sites dedicated to history, including parks and museums, to solemn and uplifting public monuments that remind Americans of our extraordinary heritage, consistent progress toward becoming a more perfect Union, and unmatched record of advancing liberty, prosperity, and human flourishing. Museums in our Nation's capital should be places where individuals go to learn—not to be subjected to ideological indoctrination or divisive narratives that distort our shared history.

To advance this policy, we will restore the Smithsonian Institution to its rightful place as a symbol of inspiration and American greatness—igniting

the imagination of young minds, honoring the richness of American history and innovation, and instilling pride in the hearts of all Americans.

- **Sec. 2.** Saving Our Smithsonian. (a) The Vice President, in consultation with the Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy and the Special Assistant to the President and Senior Associate Staff Secretary, Lindsey Halligan, Esq., shall work to effectuate the policies of this order through his role on the Smithsonian Board of Regents with respect to the Smithsonian Institution and its museums, education and research centers, and the National Zoo, including by seeking to remove improper ideology from such properties, and shall recommend to the President any additional actions necessary to fully effectuate such policies.
- (b) The Vice President and the Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall work with the Congress to ensure that future appropriations to the Smithsonian Institution:
  - (i) prohibit expenditure on exhibits or programs that degrade shared American values, divide Americans based on race, or promote programs or ideologies inconsistent with Federal law and policy; and
  - (ii) celebrate the achievements of women in the American Women's History Museum and do not recognize men as women in any respect in the Museum.
- (c) The Director of the Office of Management and Budget and the Secretary of the Interior shall take any other measures within their authority to promote the policy of this order.
- (d) As appropriate, the Vice President shall, in consultation with the Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy and Special Assistant to the President and Senior Associate Staff Secretary, Lindsey Halligan, Esq., work with the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the Senate Majority Leader, to seek the appointment of citizen members to the Smithsonian Board of Regents committed to advancing the policy of this order.
- **Sec. 3.** Restoring Independence Hall. The Secretary of the Interior shall provide sufficient funding, as available, to improve the infrastructure of Independence National Historical Park, which shall be complete by July 4, 2026, the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence.
- **Sec. 4**. Restoring Truth in American History.
  - (a) The Secretary of the Interior shall:
  - (i) determine whether, since January 1, 2020, public monuments, memorials, statues, markers, or similar properties within the Department of the Interior's jurisdiction have been removed or changed to perpetuate a false reconstruction of American history, inappropriately minimize the value of certain historical events or figures, or include any other improper partisan ideology;
  - (ii) take action to reinstate the pre-existing monuments, memorials, statues, markers, or similar properties, as appropriate and consistent with 43 U.S.C. 1451 *et seq.*, 54 U.S.C. 100101 *et seq.*, and other applicable law; and
  - (iii) take action, as appropriate and consistent with applicable law, to ensure that all public monuments, memorials, statues, markers, or similar properties within the Department of the Interior's jurisdiction do not contain descriptions, depictions, or other content that inappropriately disparage Americans past or living (including persons living in colonial times), and instead focus on the greatness of the achievements and progress of the American people or, with respect to natural features, the beauty, abundance, and grandeur of the American landscape.
- **Sec. 5**. *General Provisions*. (a) Nothing in this order shall be construed to impair or otherwise affect:
  - (i) the authority granted by law to an executive department or agency, or the head thereof; or

- (ii) the functions of the Director of the Office of Management and Budget relating to budgetary, administrative, or legislative proposals.
- (b) This order shall be implemented consistent with applicable law and subject to the availability of appropriations.
- (c) This order is not intended to, and does not, create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity by any party against the United States, its departments, agencies, or entities, its officers, employees, or agents, or any other person.

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THE WHITE HOUSE, March 27, 2025.

[FR Doc. 2025–05838 Filed 4–2–25; 8:45 am] Billing code 3395–F4–P

# **Rules and Regulations**

#### Federal Register

Vol. 90, No. 63

Thursday, April 3, 2025

This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains regulatory documents having general applicability and legal effect, most of which are keyed to and codified in the Code of Federal Regulations, which is published under 50 titles pursuant to 44 U.S.C. 1510.

The Code of Federal Regulations is sold by the Superintendent of Documents.

#### DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Aviation Administration

#### 14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. FAA-2024-2542; Project Identifier MCAI-2023-00611-R; Amendment 39-22984; AD 2025-05-12]

#### RIN 2120-AA64

Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Helicopters (Type Certificate Previously Held by Eurocopter France)

**AGENCY:** Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

**ACTION:** Final rule.

**SUMMARY:** The FAA is superseding Airworthiness Directive (AD) 2008–10– 01 and AD 2010–05–51, which applied to certain Eurocopter France (now Airbus Helicopters) Model EC120B helicopters. AD 2008-10-01 required replacing certain part-numbered and serial-numbered spherical thrust bearings. AD 2010-05-51 required repetitively inspecting the main rotor (M/R) head rotor hub (rotor hub) and, depending on the results, taking corrective action. Since the FAA issued those ADs, the manufacturer revised the airworthiness limitations section (ALS) to incorporate various airworthiness limitations, tasks, and associated thresholds and intervals that were previously contained in service bulletins, as well as incorporate a new task. This AD requires revising the ALS of the existing maintenance manual (MM) or instructions for continued airworthiness (ICAs) and the existing approved maintenance or inspection program, as applicable, as specified in a European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) AD, which is incorporated by reference. The FAA is issuing this AD to address the unsafe condition on these products.

**DATES:** This AD is effective May 8, 2025. The Director of the Federal Register approved the incorporation by reference

of a certain publication listed in this AD as of May 8, 2025.

#### ADDRESSES:

AD Docket: You may examine the AD docket at regulations.gov under Docket No. FAA-2024-2542; or in person at Docket Operations between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The AD docket contains this final rule, the mandatory continuing airworthiness information (MCAI), any comments received, and other information. The address for Docket Operations is U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, M-30, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12–140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590.

Material Incorporated by Reference:

- · For EASA material identified in this AD, contact EASA, Konrad-Adenauer-Ufer 3, 50668 Cologne, Germany; phone: +49 221 8999 000; email: ADs@ easa.europa.eu; website: easa.europa.eu. You may find the EASA material on the EASA website at ad.easa.europa.eu.
- You may view this material at the FAA, Office of the Regional Counsel, Southwest Region, FAA, 10101 Hillwood Parkway, Room 6N-321, Fort Worth, TX 76177. For information on the availability of this material at the FAA, call (817) 222-5110. It is also available at regulations.gov under Docket No. FAA-2024-2542.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Hve Yoon Jang, Aviation Safety Engineer, FAA, 1600 Stewart Avenue, Suite 410, Westbury, NY 11590; phone: (206) 231-3758; email: Hye. Yoon. Jang@faa.gov.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

#### Background

The FAA issued a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) to amend 14 CFR part 39 to supersede AD 2008-10-01, Amendment 39-15507 (73 FR 24856, May 6, 2008), (AD 2008–10–01) and AD 2010-05-51, Amendment 39-16265 (75 FR 22510, April 29, 2010) (AD 2010-05-51).

AD 2008–10–01 applied to Eurocopter France (now Airbus Helicopters) Model EC120B helicopters with spherical thrust bearings, part number (P/N) 7050A3622036 having serial number LK0130, LK0142, LK0155, or LK0158, installed. AD 2008–10–01 required removing any identified spherical thrust bearing and installing an airworthy spherical thrust bearing. AD 2008-1001 was prompted by Direction generale de l'aviation civile France (DGAC), which was the aviation authority for France before the European Aviation Safety Agency, AD F-2006-040, dated February 15, 2006 (DGAC France AD F-2006-040), to address a batch of nonconforming spherical thrust bearings. The FAA issued AD 2008-10-01 to prevent failure of a spherical thrust bearing during flight, which, if not addressed, could cause the M/R system to separate from the helicopter, which would be catastrophic.

AD 2010–05–51 applied to Eurocopter France (now Airbus Helicopters) Model EC120B helicopters with a rotor hub P/ N C622A1002103, C622A1002104, or C622A1002105, installed. AD 2010-05-51 required repetitively inspecting the rotor hub, and depending on the results, sanding the area to inspect for cracks, and replacing the rotor hub if cracks are found. AD 2010-05-51 was prompted by European Aviation Safety Agency, which was the aviation authority for France after the DGAC and before the European Union Aviation Safety Agency, Emergency AD 2010-0026-E, dated February 19, 2010 (European Aviation Safety Agency Emergency AD 2010-0026-E), to address failure of a rotor hub attachment area in one of the three drag damper fittings. The FAA issued AD 2010-05-51 to prevent failure of a rotor hub, excessive vibrations, loss of an M/R blade, and subsequent loss of control of the helicopter.

The NPRM published in the Federal Register on November 29, 2024 (89 FR 94623). The NPRM was prompted by EASA AD 2023-0083, dated April 19, 2023 (EASA AD 2023-0083) (also referred to as the MCAI), issued by EASA, which is the Technical Agent for the Member States of the European Union (including France), to supersede DGAC France AD F-2006-040 and European Aviation Safety Agency Emergency AD 2010-0026-E. The MCAI states that airworthiness limitations instructions are identified as mandatory for continued airworthiness and that Revision 3 of AH [Airbus Helicopters] EC 120 B Chapter 4 ALS, dated July 18, 2022, was issued to introduce new, or more restrictive tasks, or both, including incorporation of the requirements of DGAC France AD F-2006-040 and European Aviation Safety Agency Emergency AD 2010-0026-E.

In the NPRM, the FAA proposed to require revising the ALS of the existing MM or ICAs and the existing approved maintenance or inspection program, as applicable, by incorporating new or more restrictive actions and associated thresholds and intervals, including any life limits, specified in EASA AD 2023–0083, as incorporated by reference, except for any differences identified as exceptions in the regulatory text of this AD and except as discussed under "Differences Between this AD and the EASA AD."

You may examine the MCAI in the AD docket at *regulations.gov* under Docket No. FAA–2024–2542.

Lastly, since the FAA issued AD 2008–10–01 and AD 2010–05–51, Eurocopter France changed its name to Airbus Helicopters; this AD reflects that change.

#### Discussion of Final Airworthiness Directive

#### **Comments**

The FAA received no comments on the NPRM or on the determination of the costs.

#### Conclusion

These products have been approved by the aviation authority of another country and are approved for operation in the United States. Pursuant to the FAA's bilateral agreement with this State of Design Authority, it has notified the FAA of the unsafe condition described in the MCAI referenced above. The FAA reviewed the relevant data and determined that air safety requires adopting this AD as proposed. Accordingly, the FAA is issuing this AD to address the unsafe condition on these products. Except for minor editorial changes, this AD is adopted as proposed in the NPRM.

# Material Incorporated by Reference Under 1 CFR Part 51

The FAA reviewed EASA AD 2023–0083, which requires replacing components before exceeding their life limits and accomplishing all applicable maintenance tasks within thresholds and intervals specified in the ALS as defined within. Depending on the results of the maintenance tasks, EASA AD 2023–0083 requires accomplishing corrective action(s) or contacting AH [Airbus Helicopters] for approved instructions and accomplishing those instructions.

Additionally, EASA AD 2023–0083 requires revising the Aircraft Maintenance Programme (AMP) by incorporating the limitations, tasks, and associated thresholds and intervals described in the specified ALS, as

applicable. Revising the AMP constitutes terminating action for the requirement to record accomplishment of the actions of replacing components before exceeding their life limits and accomplishing maintenance tasks within thresholds and intervals specified in the applicable ALS as required by EASA AD 2023–0083 for demonstration of AD compliance on a continued basis.

This material is reasonably available because the interested parties have access to it through their normal course of business or by the means identified in the ADDRESSES section.

# Differences Between This AD and the EASA AD

EASA AD 2023-0083 requires, as individual tasks, replacing certain components before exceeding applicable life limits, accomplishing certain maintenance tasks within thresholds and intervals as specified in the ALS, as defined within, and depending on the results, accomplishing corrective action(s), whereas this AD does not. EASA AD 2023-0083 also requires revising the approved AMP to incorporate the limitations, tasks, and associated thresholds and intervals described in that ALS within 12 months, whereas this AD requires revising the ALS of the existing MM or ICAs and the existing approved maintenance or inspection program, as applicable, by incorporating the limitations, tasks, and associated thresholds and intervals described in that ALS within 30 days, and clarifies that if the initial instance of an incorporated limitation or threshold therein is reached before 30 days after the effective date of this AD, you still have up to 30 days after the effective date of this AD to accomplish the corresponding task.

Lastly, the material referenced in "the ALS," as defined in EASA AD 2023–0083, specifies contacting Airbus [Helicopters] if there is a crack in the rotor hub, whereas this AD does not require contacting Airbus Helicopters.

# **Costs of Compliance**

The FAA estimates that this AD affects 65 helicopters of U.S. registry. Labor rates are estimated at \$85 per work-hour. Based on these numbers, the FAA estimates the following costs to comply with this AD.

Revising the ALS of the existing MM or ICAs and the existing approved maintenance or inspection program, as applicable, takes 1 work-hour, at an estimated cost of \$85 per helicopter and \$5,525 for the U.S. fleet.

#### **Authority for This Rulemaking**

Title 49 of the United States Code specifies the FAA's authority to issue rules on aviation safety. Subtitle I, section 106, describes the authority of the FAA Administrator. Subtitle VII: Aviation Programs, describes in more detail the scope of the Agency's authority.

The FAA is issuing this rulemaking under the authority described in Subtitle VII, Part A, Subpart III, Section 44701: General requirements. Under that section, Congress charges the FAA with promoting safe flight of civil aircraft in air commerce by prescribing regulations for practices, methods, and procedures the Administrator finds necessary for safety in air commerce. This regulation is within the scope of that authority because it addresses an unsafe condition that is likely to exist or develop on products identified in this rulemaking action.

### **Regulatory Findings**

The FAA has determined that this AD will not have federalism implications under Executive Order 13132. This AD will not have a substantial direct effect on the States, on the relationship between the national government and the States, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities among the various levels of government.

For the reasons discussed above, I certify that this AD:

- (1) Is not a "significant regulatory action" under Executive Order 12866,
- (2) Will not affect intrastate aviation in Alaska, and
- (3) Will not have a significant economic impact, positive or negative, on a substantial number of small entities under the criteria of the Regulatory Flexibility Act.

#### List of Subjects in 14 CFR Part 39

Air transportation, Aircraft, Aviation safety, Incorporation by reference, Safety.

#### The Amendment

Accordingly, under the authority delegated to me by the Administrator, the FAA amends 14 CFR part 39 as follows:

# PART 39—AIRWORTHINESS DIRECTIVES

■ 1. The authority citation for part 39 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 49 U.S.C. 106(g), 40113, 44701.

#### § 39.13 [Amended]

- 2. The FAA amends § 39.13 by:
- a. Removing Airworthiness Directive AD 2008–10–01, Amendment 39–15507

(73 FR 24856, May 6, 2008), and AD 2010–05–51, Amendment 39–16265 (75 FR 22510, April 29, 2010); and ■ b. Adding the following new airworthiness directive:

2025–05–12 Airbus Helicopters (Type Certificate previously held by Eurocopter France): Amendment 39– 22984; Docket No. FAA–2024–2542; Project Identifier MCAI–2023–00611–R.

#### (a) Effective Date

This airworthiness directive (AD) is effective May 8, 2025.

#### (b) Affected ADs

This AD replaces AD 2008–10–01, Amendment 39–15507 (73 FR 24856, May 6, 2008), and AD 2010–05–51, Amendment 39–16265 (75 FR 22510, April 29, 2010).

# (c) Applicability

This AD applies to Airbus Helicopters (type certificate previously held by Eurocopter France) Model EC120B helicopters, certificated in any category.

#### (d) Subject

Joint Aircraft System Component (JASC) Code: 6220, Main Rotor Head.

#### (e) Unsafe Condition

This AD was prompted by new and more restrictive airworthiness limitations. The FAA is issuing this AD to prevent failure of certain parts, which if not addressed, could result in subsequent loss of control of the helicopter.

#### (f) Compliance

Comply with this AD within the compliance times specified, unless already done.

### (g) Required Actions

Except as specified in paragraphs (h) and (i) of this AD: Comply with all required actions and compliance times specified in, and in accordance with, European Union Aviation Safety Agency AD 2023–0083, dated April 19, 2023 (EASA AD 2023–0083).

### (h) Exceptions to EASA AD 2023-0083

- (1) Where EASA AD 2023–0083 refers to its effective date, this AD requires using the effective date of this AD.
- (2) This AD does not adopt paragraphs (1), (2), (4), and (5) of EASA AD 2023–0083.
- (3) Where paragraph (3) of EASA AD 2023–0083 specifies "Within 12 months after the effective date of this AD, revise the approved AMP," this AD requires replacing that text with "Within 30 days after the effective date of this AD, revise the airworthiness limitations section of the existing maintenance manual or instructions for continued airworthiness and the existing approved maintenance or inspection program, as applicable."

(4) Regarding "the ALS" as defined in EASA AD 2023–0083; where the material referenced in "the ALS" in paragraph (3) of EASA AD 2023–0083 specifies contacting Airbus [Helicopters] if there is a crack in the (main rotor head rotor) hub body, this AD does not require contacting Airbus Helicopters.

(5) The initial compliance time for doing the tasks specified in paragraph (3) of EASA AD 2023–0083 is on or before the applicable "limitations" and "associated thresholds" as incorporated by the requirements of paragraph (3) of EASA AD 2023–0083 or within 30 days after the effective date of this AD, whichever occurs later.

(6) This AD does not adopt the "Remarks" section of EASA AD 2023–0083.

#### (i) Provisions for Alternative Actions and Intervals

After the action required by paragraph (g) of this AD has been done, no alternative actions and associated thresholds and intervals, including life limits, are allowed unless they are approved as specified in the provisions of the "Ref. Publications" section of EASA AD 2023–0083.

# (j) Alternative Methods of Compliance (AMOCs)

- (1) The Manager, International Validation Branch, FAA, has the authority to approve AMOCs for this AD, if requested using the procedures found in 14 CFR 39.19. In accordance with 14 CFR 39.19, send your request to your principal inspector or local Flight Standards District Office, as appropriate. If sending information directly to the manager of the International Validation Branch, send it to the attention of the person identified in paragraph (k) of this AD. If sending information directly to the manager of the International Validation Branch, mail it to the address identified in paragraph (k) of this AD or email to: AMOC@faa.gov. If mailing information, also submit information by email.
- (2) Before using any approved AMOC, notify your appropriate principal inspector, or lacking a principal inspector, the manager of the local flight standards district office/certificate holding district office.

#### (k) Additional Information

For more information about this AD, contact Hye Yoon Jang, Aviation Safety Engineer, 1600 Stewart Avenue, Suite 410, Westbury, NY 11590; phone: (206) 231–3758; email: hye.yoon.jang@faa.gov.

### (l) Material Incorporated by Reference

- (1) The Director of the Federal Register approved the incorporation by reference (IBR) of the material listed in this paragraph under 5 U.S.C. 552(a) and 1 CFR part 51.
- (2) You must use this material as applicable to do the actions required by this AD, unless the AD specifies otherwise.
- (i) European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) AD 2023–0083, dated April 19, 2023. (ii) [Reserved]
- (3) For EASA material identified in this AD, contact EASA, Konrad-Adenauer-Ufer 3, 50668 Cologne, Germany; phone: +49 221 8999 000; email: ADs@easa.europa.eu; website: easa.europa.eu. You may find the EASA material on the EASA website at ad.easa.europa.eu.
- (4) You may view this material at the FAA, Office of the Regional Counsel, Southwest Region, 10101 Hillwood Pkwy., Room 6N–321, Fort Worth, TX 76177. For information on the availability of this material at the FAA, call (817) 222–5110.

(5) You may view this material at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). For information on the availability of this material at NARA, visit www.archives.gov/federal-register/cfr/ibr-locations or email fr.inspection@nara.gov.

Issued on March 27, 2025.

#### Steven W. Thompson,

Acting Deputy Director, Compliance & Airworthiness Division, Aircraft Certification Service.

[FR Doc. 2025–05708 Filed 4–2–25; 8:45 am]

#### DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

#### **Federal Aviation Administration**

#### 14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. FAA-2024-2714; Project Identifier MCAI-2024-00405-T; Amendment 39-22996; AD 2025-06-08]

#### RIN 2120-AA64

Airworthiness Directives; Deutsche Aircraft GmbH (Type Certificate Previously Held by 328 Support Services GmbH; AvCraft Aerospace GmbH; Fairchild Dornier GmbH; Dornier Luftfahrt GmbH) Airplanes

**AGENCY:** Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

**ACTION:** Final rule.

**SUMMARY:** The FAA is adopting a new airworthiness directive (AD) for all Deutsche Aircraft GmbH (Type Certificate previously held by 328 Support Services GmbH; AvCraft Aerospace GmbH; Fairchild Dornier GmbH; Dornier Luftfahrt GmbH) Model 328-100 and Model 328-300 airplanes. This AD was prompted by a report of a nose landing gear (NLG) uplock bracket assembly cracking. This AD requires an inspection of the affected part and applicable on-condition actions, as specified in a European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) AD, which is incorporated by reference (IBR). The FAA is issuing this AD to address the unsafe condition on these products.

**DATES:** This AD is effective May 8, 2025. The Director of the Federal Register approved the incorporation by reference of a certain publication listed in this AD as of May 8, 2025.

#### ADDRESSES:

AD Docket: You may examine the AD docket at regulations.gov under Docket No. FAA–2024–2714; or in person at Docket Operations between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The AD docket contains this final rule, the mandatory continuing airworthiness information

(MCAI), any comments received, and other information. The address for Docket Operations is U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, M—30, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12–140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590.

Material Incorporated by Reference:

- For EASA material identified in this AD, contact EASA, Konrad-Adenauer-Ufer 3, 50668 Cologne, Germany; telephone +49 221 8999 000; email ADs@easa.europa.eu; website easa.europa.eu. You may find this material on the EASA website at ad.easa.europa.eu.
- You may view this material at the FAA, Airworthiness Products Section, Operational Safety Branch, 2200 South 216th St., Des Moines, WA. For information on the availability of this material at the FAA, call 206–231–3195. It is also available at regulations.gov under Docket No. FAA–2024–2714.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Joe Salameh, Aviation Safety Engineer, FAA, 1600 Stewart Avenue, Suite 410, Westbury, NY 11590; phone: 206–231–3536; email: joe.salameh@faa.gov.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

### **Background**

The FAA issued a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) to amend 14 CFR part 39 by adding an AD that would apply to all Deutsche Aircraft GmbH Model 328–100 and Model 328–300 airplanes. The NPRM published in the **Federal Register** on December 27, 2024 (89 FR 105487). The NPRM was prompted by AD 2024–0137, dated July 11, 2024, issued by EASA, which is the Technical Agent for the Member States of the European Union (EASA AD 2024–

0137) (also referred to as the MCAI). The MCAI states an occurrence of NLG uplock bracket assembly cracking was discovered which, if not addressed, could result in uncommanded NLG extension which, in combination with a one engine inoperative condition during initial climb, may result in reduced climb performance, with possible impact with terrain or obstacle.

In the NPRM, the FAA proposed to require an inspection of the affected part and applicable on-condition actions, as specified in EASA AD 2024–0137. The FAA is issuing this AD to address the unsafe condition on these products.

You may examine the MCAI in the AD docket at *regulations.gov* under Docket No. FAA–2024–2714.

# Discussion of Final Airworthiness Directive

#### Comments

The FAA received no comments on the NPRM or on the determination of the cost to the public.

#### Conclusion

This product has been approved by the aviation authority of another country and is approved for operation in the United States. Pursuant to the FAA's bilateral agreement with this State of Design Authority, it has notified the FAA of the unsafe condition described in the MCAI referenced above. The FAA reviewed the relevant data and determined that air safety requires adopting this AD as proposed. Accordingly, the FAA is issuing this AD to address the unsafe condition on this product. Except for minor editorial changes, this AD is adopted as proposed

in the NPRM. None of the changes will increase the economic burden on any operator.

#### Material Incorporated by Reference Under 1 CFR Part 51

EASA AD 2024–0137 specifies procedures for a detailed inspection for any discrepancy (i.e., any corrosion, crack, dent, nick, deformation, and measurement not within specified dimensions of the referenced service information) of the NLG uplock bracket assembly, part number 001A322D3100002, and applicable oncondition actions. The on-condition actions include additional detailed inspections for any discrepancy of the fasteners (which includes corrosion, cracks, dents, nicks, and deformation), replacement of the fasteners, and contacting Deutsche Aircraft GmbH for instructions and doing those instructions. EASA AD 2024-0137 also states that the AD is considered an interim measure and further AD action may follow. This material is reasonably available because the interested parties have access to it through their normal course of business or by the means identified in the ADDRESSES section.

#### **Interim Action**

The FAA considers that this AD is an interim action. If final action is later identified, the FAA might consider further rulemaking then.

#### **Costs of Compliance**

The FAA estimates this AD will affect 30 airplanes of U.S. registry. The FAA estimates the following costs to comply with this AD:

# ESTIMATED COSTS FOR REQUIRED ACTIONS

| Labor cost                                    | Parts cost | Cost per product | Cost on U.S. operators |  |
|---|------------|------------------|------------------------|--|
| Up to 18 work-hours × \$85 per hour = \$1,530 | \$0        | Up to \$1,530    | Up to \$45,900.        |  |

The FAA estimates the following costs to do any necessary on-condition actions that are required based on the

results of any required actions. The FAA has no way of determining the number

of aircraft that might need these oncondition actions:

#### ESTIMATED COSTS OF ON-CONDITION ACTIONS

| Labor cost                           | Parts cost | Cost per product |
|--------------------------------------|------------|------------------|
| 2 work-hours × \$85 per hour = \$170 | \$117      | \$287            |

<sup>\*</sup>The FAA has received no definitive data on which to base the cost estimates for the on-condition instructions specified in this AD.

#### Paperwork Reduction Act

A federal agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, nor shall a person be subject to a penalty for failure to comply with a collection of information subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act unless that collection of information displays a currently valid OMB Control Number. The OMB Control Number for this information collection is 2120–0056. Public reporting for this collection of information is estimated to take approximately 1 hour per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. All responses to this collection of information are mandatory. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to: Information Collection Clearance Officer, Federal Aviation Administration, 10101 Hillwood Parkway, Fort Worth, TX 76177-1524.

#### **Authority for This Rulemaking**

Title 49 of the United States Code specifies the FAA's authority to issue rules on aviation safety. Subtitle I, section 106, describes the authority of the FAA Administrator. Subtitle VII: Aviation Programs, describes in more detail the scope of the Agency's authority.

The FAA is issuing this rulemaking under the authority described in Subtitle VII, Part A, Subpart III, Section 44701: General requirements. Under that section, Congress charges the FAA with promoting safe flight of civil aircraft in air commerce by prescribing regulations for practices, methods, and procedures the Administrator finds necessary for safety in air commerce. This regulation is within the scope of that authority because it addresses an unsafe condition that is likely to exist or develop on products identified in this rulemaking action.

#### Regulatory Findings

This AD will not have federalism implications under Executive Order 13132. This AD will not have a substantial direct effect on the States, on the relationship between the national government and the States, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities among the various levels of government.

For the reasons discussed above, I certify that this AD:

- (1) Is not a "significant regulatory action" under Executive Order 12866,
- (2) Will not affect intrastate aviation in Alaska, and
- (3) Will not have a significant economic impact, positive or negative, on a substantial number of small entities under the criteria of the Regulatory Flexibility Act.

#### List of Subjects in 14 CFR Part 39

Air transportation, Aircraft, Aviation safety, Incorporation by reference, Safety.

#### The Amendment

Accordingly, under the authority delegated to me by the Administrator, the FAA amends 14 CFR part 39 as follows:

# PART 39—AIRWORTHINESS DIRECTIVES

■ 1. The authority citation for part 39 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 49 U.S.C. 106(g), 40113, 44701.

#### § 39.13 [Amended]

■ 2. The FAA amends § 39.13 by adding the following new airworthiness directive:

2025-06-08 Deutsche Aircraft GmbH (Type Certificate Previously Held by 328 Support Services GmbH; AvCraft Aerospace GmbH; Fairchild Dornier GmbH; Dornier Luftfahrt GmbH): Amendment 39-22996; Docket No. FAA-2024-2714; Project Identifier MCAI-2024-00405-T.

#### (a) Effective Date

This airworthiness directive (AD) is effective May 8, 2025.

#### (b) Affected ADs

None.

## (c) Applicability

This AD applies to all Deutsche Aircraft GmbH (Type Certificate previously held by 328 Support Services GmbH; AvCraft Aerospace GmbH; Fairchild Dornier GmbH; Dornier Luftfahrt GmbH) Model 328–100 and Model 328–300 airplanes, certificated in any category.

#### (d) Subject

Air Transport Association (ATA) of America Code 32, Landing gear.

#### (e) Unsafe Condition

This AD was prompted by a report of nose landing gear (NLG) uplock bracket assembly cracking. The FAA is issuing this AD to address this unsafe condition which, if not addressed, could result in uncommanded NLG extension which, in combination with a one engine inoperative condition during initial climb, may result in reduced climb performance, with possible impact with terrain or obstacle.

### (f) Compliance

Comply with this AD within the compliance times specified, unless already done

#### (g) Requirements

Except as specified in paragraph (h) of this AD: Comply with all required actions and compliance times specified in, and in accordance with, European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) AD 2024–0137, dated July 11, 2024 (EASA AD 2024–0137).

#### (h) Exceptions to EASA AD 2024-0137

- (1) Where EASA AD 2024–0137 refers to its effective date, this AD requires using the effective date of this AD.
- (2) This AD does not adopt the "Remarks" section of EASA AD 2024–0137.
- (3) Where paragraph (2) of EASA AD 2024–0137 specifies corrective actions if "any discrepancy, as defined in the SB, is detected," for this AD, replace that text with "any corrosion, crack, dent, nick, deformation, or measurement not within specified dimensions of the SB is detected."
- (4) Where paragraph (3) of EASA AD 2024–0137 specifies additional actions if "any discrepancy is detected," for this AD, replace that text with "any discrepancy, which includes corrosion, cracks, dents, nicks, and deformation, is detected."
- (5) Paragraph (4) of EASA AD 2024–0137 specifies to report inspection results to Deutsche Aircraft GmbH within a certain compliance time. For this AD, report inspection results at the applicable time specified in paragraph (h)(5)(i) or (ii) of this AD.
- (i) If the inspection was done on or after the effective date of this AD: Submit the report within 30 days after the inspection.
- (ii) If the inspection was done before the effective date of this AD: Submit the report within 30 days after the effective date of this AD

#### (i) Additional AD Provisions

The following provisions also apply to this AD:

- (1) Alternative Methods of Compliance (AMOCs): The Manager, International Validation Branch, FAA, has the authority to approve AMOCs for this AD, if requested using the procedures found in 14 CFR 39.19. In accordance with 14 CFR 39.19, send your request to your principal inspector or responsible Flight Standards Office, as appropriate. If sending information directly to the manager of the International Validation Branch, send it to the attention of the person identified in paragraph (j) of this AD and email to: AMOC@faa.gov. Before using any approved AMOC, notify your appropriate principal inspector, or lacking a principal inspector, the manager of the responsible Flight Standards Office.
- (2) Contacting the Manufacturer: For any requirement in this AD to obtain instructions from a manufacturer, the instructions must be accomplished using a method approved by the Manager, International Validation Branch, FAA; or EASA; or Deutsche Aircraft GmbH's EASA Design Organization Approval (DOA). If approved by the DOA, the approval must include the DOA-authorized signature.

#### (j) Additional Information

For more information about this AD, contact Joe Salameh, Aviation Safety Engineer, FAA, 1600 Stewart Avenue, Suite 410, Westbury, NY 11590; phone: 206–231–3536; email: joe.salameh@faa.gov.

#### (k) Material Incorporated by Reference

(1) The Director of the Federal Register approved the incorporation by reference of the material listed in this paragraph under 5 U.S.C. 552(a) and 1 CFR part 51.

- (2) You must use this material as applicable to do the actions required by this AD, unless this AD specifies otherwise.
- (i) European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) AD 2024–0137, dated July 11, 2024.
  - (ii) [Reserved]
- (3) For EASA material identified in this AD, contact EASA, Konrad-Adenauer-Ufer 3, 50668 Cologne, Germany; telephone +49 221 8999 000; email ADs@easa.europa.eu; website easa.europa.eu. You may find this material on the EASA website at ad.easa.europa.eu.
- (4) You may view this material at the FAA, Airworthiness Products Section, Operational Safety Branch, 2200 South 216th St., Des Moines, WA. For information on the availability of this material at the FAA, call 206–231–3195.
- (5) You may view this material at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). For information on the availability of this material at NARA, visit www.archives.gov/federal-register/cfr/ibr-locations or email fr.inspection@nara.gov.

Issued on March 27, 2025.

#### Steven W. Thompson,

Acting Deputy Director, Compliance & Airworthiness Division, Aircraft Certification Service.

[FR Doc. 2025-05643 Filed 4-2-25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-13-P

#### **DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

#### **Federal Aviation Administration**

#### 14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. FAA-2025-0468; Project Identifier MCAI-2023-00872-R; Amendment 39-22995; AD 2025-06-07]

### RIN 2120-AA64

# Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Helicopters

**AGENCY:** Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT. **ACTION:** Final rule; request for

comments.

**SUMMARY:** The FAA is adopting a new airworthiness directive (AD) for all Airbus Helicopters Model AS332C1 helicopters. This AD was prompted by a determination that new or more restrictive airworthiness limitations are necessary. This AD requires revising the airworthiness limitations section (ALS) of the existing maintenance manual (MM) or instructions for continued airworthiness (ICAs) and the existing approved maintenance or inspection program, as applicable, as specified in a European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) AD, which is incorporated by reference. The FAA is issuing this AD to address the unsafe condition on these products.

**DATES:** This AD becomes effective April 18, 2025.

The Director of the Federal Register approved the incorporation by reference of a certain publication listed in this AD as of April 18, 2025.

The FAA must receive comments on this AD by May 19, 2025.

**ADDRESSES:** You may send comments, using the procedures found in 14 CFR 11.43 and 11.45, by any of the following methods:

- Federal eRulemaking Portal: Go to regulations.gov. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.
  - Fax: (202) 493–2251.
- *Mail:* U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, M– 30, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12–140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590.
- Hand Delivery: Deliver to Mail address above between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

AD Docket: You may examine the AD docket at regulations.gov under Docket No. FAA–2025–0468; or in person at Docket Operations between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The AD docket contains this final rule, the mandatory continuing airworthiness information (MCAI), any comments received, and other information. The address for Docket Operations is listed above.

Material Incorporated by Reference:

- For EASA material identified in this AD, contact EASA, Konrad-Adenauer-Ufer 3, 50668 Cologne, Germany; phone: +49 221 8999 000; email: ADs@easa.europa.eu; website: easa.europa.eu. You may find the EASA material on the EASA website at ad.easa.europa.eu.
- You may view this material at the FAA, Office of the Regional Counsel, Southwest Region, 10101 Hillwood Parkway, Room 6N–321, Fort Worth, TX 76177. For information on the availability of this material at the FAA, call (817) 222–5110. It is also available at regulations.gov under Docket No. FAA–2025–0468.

# FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Adam Hein, Aviation Safety Engineer, FAA, 1600 Stewart Avenue, Suite 410, Westbury, NY 11590; phone: (316) 946–4116; email: Adam.Hein@faa.gov.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

#### **Comments Invited**

The FAA invites you to send any written data, views, or arguments about this final rule. Send your comments to an address listed under the ADDRESSES section. Include "Docket No. FAA—2025–0468; Project Identifier MCAI—

2023–00872–R" at the beginning of your comments. The most helpful comments reference a specific portion of the final rule, explain the reason for any recommended change, and include supporting data. The FAA will consider all comments received by the closing date and may amend this final rule because of those comments.

Except for Confidential Business Information (CBI) as described in the following paragraph, and other information as described in 14 CFR 11.35, the FAA will post all comments received, without change, to regulations.gov, including any personal information you provide. The agency will also post a report summarizing each substantive verbal contact received about this final rule.

#### **Confidential Business Information**

CBI is commercial or financial information that is both customarily and actually treated as private by its owner. Under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) (5 U.S.C. 552), CBI is exempt from public disclosure. If your comments responsive to this AD contain commercial or financial information that is customarily treated as private, that you actually treat as private, and that is relevant or responsive to this AD, it is important that you clearly designate the submitted comments as CBI. Please mark each page of your submission containing CBI as "PROPIN." The FAA will treat such marked submissions as confidential under the FOIA, and they will not be placed in the public docket of this AD. Submissions containing CBI should be sent to Adam Hein, Aviation Safety Engineer, FAA, 1600 Stewart Avenue, Suite 410, Westbury, NY 11590; phone: (316) 946–4116; email: Adam.Hein@faa.gov. Any commentary that the FAA receives that is not specifically designated as CBI will be placed in the public docket for this rulemaking.

#### Background

EASA, which is the Technical Agent for the Member States of the European Union, has issued EASA AD 2023-0144, dated July 14, 2023 (EASA AD 2023-0144) (also referred to as the MCAI), to correct an unsafe condition on Airbus Helicopters Model AS 332 C1 helicopters. The MCAI states that new or more restrictive airworthiness limitations have been developed. EASA advises that airworthiness limitations and certification maintenance instructions are identified as mandatory for continued airworthiness and that Revision 9 of AH [Airbus Helicopters] AS 332 C1 ALS, dated July 27, 2022, has been issued to specify all service life

limits and maintenance tasks for AS 332 C1 helicopters and separate the airworthiness limitations from the Master Servicing Manual (M.S.M.). The FAA is issuing this AD to prevent a failure of critical parts and primary structural components, which if not addressed could result in loss of control of the helicopter.

You may examine the MCAI in the AD docket at *regulations.gov* under Docket No. FAA–2025–0468.

### Material Incorporated by Reference Under 1 CFR Part 51

The FAA reviewed EASA AD 2023–0144, which requires replacing components before exceeding their life limits and accomplishing all applicable maintenance tasks within thresholds and intervals specified in the ALS as defined in EASA AD 2023–0144. Depending on the results of the maintenance tasks, EASA AD 2023–0144 requires accomplishing corrective action(s) or contacting Airbus Helicopters for approved instructions and accomplishing those instructions.

Additionally, EASA AD 2023-0144 requires revising the Aircraft Maintenance Programme (AMP) by incorporating the limitations, tasks, and associated thresholds and intervals described in the specified ALS, as applicable. Revising the AMP constitutes terminating action for the requirement to record accomplishment of the actions of replacing components before exceeding their life limits and accomplishing maintenance tasks within thresholds and intervals specified in the applicable ALS as required by EASA AD 2023-0144 for demonstration of AD compliance on a continued basis.

This material is reasonably available because the interested parties have access to it through their normal course of business or by the means identified in the ADDRESSES section.

### FAA's Determination

These products have been approved by the aviation authority of another country and are approved for operation in the United States. Pursuant to the FAA's bilateral agreement with this State of Design Authority, it has notified the FAA of the unsafe condition described in the MCAI referenced above. The FAA is issuing this AD after determining that the unsafe condition described previously is likely to exist or develop on other products of the same type design.

### **AD Requirements**

This AD requires the actions specified in EASA AD 2023–0144, described

previously, as incorporated by reference, except for any differences identified as exceptions in the regulatory text of this AD and except as discussed under "Differences Between this AD and the MCAI."

# **Explanation of Required Compliance Information**

In the FAA's ongoing efforts to improve the efficiency of the AD process, the FAA developed a process to use some civil aviation authority (CAA) ADs as the primary source of information for compliance with requirements for corresponding FAA ADs. The FAA has been coordinating this process with manufacturers and CAAs. As a result, the FAA proposes to incorporate EASA AD 2023-0144 by reference in the FAA final rule. This AD, therefore, requires compliance with EASA AD 2023-0144 in its entirety through that incorporation, except for any differences identified as exceptions in the regulatory text of this AD. Using common terms that are the same as the heading of a particular section in EASA AD 2023-0144 does not mean that operators need comply only with that section. For example, where the AD requirement refers to "all required actions and compliance times,' compliance with this AD requirement is not limited to the section titled "Required Action(s) and Compliance Time(s)" in EASA AD 2023-0144. Material referenced in EASA AD 2023-0144 for compliance will be available at regulations.gov under Docket No. FAA-2025-0468 after the FAA final rule is published.

# Differences Between This AD and the MCAI

The MCAI defines "the ALS" as "AH AS 332 C1 Airworthiness Limitations Section (ALS) issue date 2014.05.28 at Revision (Rev.) 009 (date code 2022.07.27)," whereas this AD requires changing "the ALS" definition to Revision 10 of that document. This AD still allows future revisions of "the ALS" as specified in the provisions of the "Ref. Publications" section of the MCAI, as incorporated by reference.

# Justification for Immediate Adoption and Determination of the Effective Date

Section 553(b) of the Administrative Procedure Act (APA) (5 U.S.C. 551 et seq.) authorizes agencies to dispense with notice and comment procedures for rules when the agency, for "good cause," finds that those procedures are "impracticable, unnecessary, or contrary to the public interest." Under this section, an agency, upon finding good cause, may issue a final rule without

providing notice and seeking comment prior to issuance. Further, section 553(d) of the APA authorizes agencies to make rules effective in less than thirty days, upon a finding of good cause.

There are currently no domestic operators of these products. Accordingly, notice and opportunity for prior public comment are unnecessary, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 553(b). In addition, for the foregoing reason(s), the FAA finds that good cause exists pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 553(d) for making this amendment effective in less than 30 days.

### **Regulatory Flexibility Act**

The requirements of the Regulatory Flexibility Act (RFA) do not apply when an agency finds good cause pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 553 to adopt a rule without prior notice and comment. Because the FAA has determined that it has good cause to adopt this rule without prior notice and comment, RFA analysis is not required.

#### **Costs of Compliance**

There are no costs of compliance with this AD because there are no helicopters with this type certificate on the U.S. Registry.

#### **Authority for This Rulemaking**

Title 49 of the United States Code specifies the FAA's authority to issue rules on aviation safety. Subtitle I, section 106, describes the authority of the FAA Administrator. Subtitle VII: Aviation Programs, describes in more detail the scope of the Agency's authority.

The FAA is issuing this rulemaking under the authority described in Subtitle VII, Part A, Subpart III, Section 44701: General requirements. Under that section, Congress charges the FAA with promoting safe flight of civil aircraft in air commerce by prescribing regulations for practices, methods, and procedures the Administrator finds necessary for safety in air commerce. This regulation is within the scope of that authority because it addresses an unsafe condition that is likely to exist or develop on products identified in this rulemaking action.

#### **Regulatory Findings**

This AD will not have federalism implications under Executive Order 13132. This AD will not have a substantial direct effect on the States, on the relationship between the national government and the States, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities among the various levels of government.

For the reasons discussed, I certify that this AD:

- (1) Is not a "significant regulatory action" under Executive Order 12866, and
- (2) Will not affect intrastate aviation in Alaska.

#### List of Subjects in 14 CFR Part 39

Air transportation, Aircraft, Aviation safety, Incorporation by reference, Safety.

#### The Amendment

Accordingly, under the authority delegated to me by the Administrator, the FAA amends 14 CFR part 39 as follows:

# PART 39—AIRWORTHINESS DIRECTIVES

■ 1. The authority citation for part 39 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 49 U.S.C. 106(g), 40113, 44701.

#### § 39.13 [Amended]

■ 2. The FAA amends § 39.13 by adding the following new airworthiness directive:

#### 2025-06-07 Airbus Helicopters:

Amendment 39–22995; Docket No. FAA–2025–0468; Project Identifier MCAI–2023–00872–R.

#### (a) Effective Date

This airworthiness directive (AD) is effective April 18, 2025.

#### (b) Affected ADs

None.

#### (c) Applicability

This AD applies to Airbus Helicopters Model AS332C1 helicopters, certificated in any category.

#### (d) Subject

Air Transport Association (ATA) of America Code 05, Time Limits/Maintenance Checks.

#### (e) Unsafe Condition

This AD was prompted by new or more restrictive airworthiness limitations. The FAA is issuing this AD to prevent failure of critical parts and primary structural components, which if not addressed, could result in loss of control of the helicopter.

#### (f) Compliance

Comply with this AD within the compliance times specified, unless already done.

### (g) Required Action

Except as specified in paragraphs (h) and (i) of this AD: Comply with all required actions and compliance times specified in, and in accordance with, European Union Aviation Safety Agency AD 2023–0144, dated July 14, 2023 (EASA AD 2023–0144).

#### (h) Exceptions to EASA AD 2023-0144

- (1) Where EASA AD 2023–0144 defines "the ALS," this AD requires replacing that text with "Airbus Airworthiness Limitations Section (ALS) AS 332 C1, Issue Date May 28, 2014, Revision 10, dated July 26, 2023."
- (2) Where EASA AD 2023–0144 refers to its effective date, this AD requires using the effective date of this AD.
- (3) This AD does not adopt paragraphs (1), (2), (4) and (5) of EASA AD 2023–0144.
- (4) Where paragraph (3) of EASA AD 2023–0144 specifies "Within 12 months after the effective date of this AD, revise the approved AMP," this AD requires replacing that text with "Within 30 days after the effective date of this AD, revise the airworthiness limitations section of the existing maintenance manual or instructions for continued airworthiness and the existing approved maintenance or inspection program, as applicable."
- (5) The initial compliance time for doing the tasks specified in paragraph (3) of EASA AD 2023–0144 is on or before the applicable "limitations" and "associated thresholds" as incorporated by the requirements of paragraph (3) of EASA AD 2023–0144 or within 30 days after the effective date of this AD, whichever occurs later.
- (6) This AD does not adopt the "Remarks" section of EASA AD 2023–0144.

# (i) Provisions for Alternative Actions and Intervals

After the action required by paragraph (g) of this AD has been done, no alternative actions and associated thresholds and intervals, including life limits, are allowed unless they are approved as specified in the provisions of the "Ref. Publications" section of EASA AD 2023–0144.

# (j) Alternative Methods of Compliance (AMOCs)

- (1) The Manager, International Validation Branch, FAA, has the authority to approve AMOCs for this AD, if requested using the procedures found in 14 CFR 39.19. In accordance with 14 CFR 39.19, send your request to your principal inspector or local Flight Standards District Office, as appropriate. If sending information directly to the manager of the International Validation Branch, send it to the attention of the person identified in paragraph (k) of this AD. Information may be emailed to: AMOC@ faa.gov.
- (2) Before using any approved AMOC, notify your appropriate principal inspector, or lacking a principal inspector, the manager of the local flight standards district office/certificate holding district office.

# (k) Additional Information

For more information about this AD, contact Adam Hein, Aviation Safety Engineer, FAA, 1600 Stewart Avenue, Suite 410, Westbury, NY 11590; phone: (316) 946–4116; email: Adam.Hein@faa.gov.

#### (l) Material Incorporated by Reference

(1) The Director of the Federal Register approved the incorporation by reference of the material listed in this paragraph under 5 U.S.C. 552(a) and 1 CFR part 51.

- (2) You must use this material as applicable to do the actions required by this AD, unless this AD specifies otherwise.
- (i) European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) AD 2023–0144, dated July 14, 2023.
  - (ii) [Reserved]
- (3) For EASA material identified in this AD, contact EASA, Konrad-Adenauer-Ufer 3, 50668 Cologne, Germany; phone: +49 221 8999 000; email: ADs@easa.europa.eu; website: easa.europa.eu. You may find the EASA material on the EASA website at ad.easa.europa.eu.
- (4) You may view this material at the FAA, Office of the Regional Counsel, Southwest Region, 10101 Hillwood Parkway, Room 6N–321, Fort Worth, TX 76177. For information on the availability of this material at the FAA, call (817) 222–5110.
- (5) You may view this material at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). For information on the availability of this material at NARA, visit www.archives.gov/federal-register/cfr/ibr-locations or email fr.inspection@nara.gov.

Issued on March 27, 2025.

#### Steven W. Thompson,

Acting Deputy Director, Compliance & Airworthiness Division, Aircraft Certification Service.

[FR Doc. 2025–05711 Filed 3–31–25; 11:15 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-13-P

#### **DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

#### **Federal Aviation Administration**

### 14 CFR Part 97

[Docket No. 31598; Amdt. No. 4159]

### Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments

**AGENCY:** Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

**ACTION:** Final rule.

**SUMMARY:** This rule establishes, amends, suspends, or removes Standard Instrument Approach Procedures (SIAPS) and associated Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure procedures (ODPs) for operations at certain airports. These regulatory actions are needed because of the adoption of new or revised criteria, or because of changes occurring in the National Airspace System, such as the commissioning of new navigational facilities, adding new obstacles, or changing air traffic requirements. These changes are designed to provide safe and efficient use of the navigable airspace and to promote safe flight operations under instrument flight rules at the affected airports.

**DATES:** This rule is effective April 3, 2025. The compliance date for each

SIAP, associated Takeoff Minimums, and ODP is specified in the amendatory provisions.

The incorporation by reference of certain publications listed in the regulations is approved by the Director of the Federal Register as of April 3, 2025.

**ADDRESSES:** Availability of matters incorporated by reference in the amendment is as follows:

#### For Examination

- 1. U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Ops-M30. 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, West Bldg., Ground Floor, Washington, DC 20590–0001.
- 2. The FAA Air Traffic Organization Service Area in which the affected airport is located;
- 3. The office of Aeronautical Information Services, 6500 South MacArthur Blvd., Oklahoma City, OK 73169 or,
- 4. The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). For information on the availability of this material at NARA, visit www.archives.gov/federal-register/cfr/ibr-locations or email fr.inspection@nara.gov.

#### Availability

All SIAPs and Takeoff Minimums and ODPs are available online free of charge. Visit the National Flight Data Center at *nfdc.faa.gov* to register. Additionally, individual SIAP and Takeoff Minimums and ODP copies may be obtained from the FAA Air Traffic Organization Service Area in which the affected airport is located.

# FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Romana B. Wolf, Manager, Flight
Procedures and Airspace Group, Flight
Technologies and Procedures Division,
Office of Safety Standards, Flight
Standards Service, Aviation Safety,
Federal Aviation Administration.
Mailing Address: FAA Mike Monroney
Aeronautical Center, Flight Procedures
and Airspace Group, 6500 South
MacArthur Blvd., STB Annex, Bldg. 26,
Room 217, Oklahoma City, OK 73099.
Telephone (405) 954–1139.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This rule amends 14 CFR part 97 by establishing, amending, suspending, or removes SIAPS, Takeoff Minimums and/or ODPS. The complete regulatory description of each SIAP and its associated Takeoff Minimums or ODP for an identified airport is listed on FAA form documents which are incorporated by reference in this amendment under 5 U.S.C. 552(a), 1 CFR part 51, and 14 CFR 97.20. The applicable FAA Forms are 8260–3, 8260–4, 8260–5, 8260–15A,

8260–15B, when required by an entry on 8260–15A, and 8260–15C.

The large number of SIAPs, Takeoff Minimums and ODPs, their complex nature, and the need for a special format make publication in the **Federal** Register expensive and impractical. Further, pilots do not use the regulatory text of the SIAPs, Takeoff Minimums or ODPs, but instead refer to their graphic depiction on charts printed by publishers of aeronautical materials. Thus, the advantages of incorporation by reference are realized and publication of the complete description of each SIAP, Takeoff Minimums and ODP listed on FAA form documents is unnecessary. This amendment provides the affected CFR sections and specifies the types of SIAPS, Takeoff Minimums and ODPs with their applicable effective dates. This amendment also identifies the airport and its location, the procedure, and the amendment number.

# Availability and Summary of Material Incorporated by Reference

The material incorporated by reference is publicly available as listed in the **ADDRESSES** section.

The material incorporated by reference describes SIAPS, Takeoff Minimums and/or ODPs as identified in the amendatory language for part 97 of this final rule.

# The Rule

This amendment to 14 CFR part 97 is effective upon publication of each separate SIAP, Takeoff Minimums and ODP as amended in the transmittal. Some SIAP and Takeoff Minimums and textual ODP amendments may have been issued previously by the FAA in a Flight Data Center (FDC) Notice to Air Missions (NOTAM) as an emergency action of immediate flights safety relating directly to published aeronautical charts.

The circumstances that created the need for some SIAP and Takeoff Minimums and ODP amendments may require making them effective in less than 30 days. For the remaining SIAPs and Takeoff Minimums and ODPs, an effective date at least 30 days after publication is provided.

Further, the SIAPs and Takeoff
Minimums and ODPs contained in this
amendment are based on the criteria
contained in the U.S. Standard for
Terminal Instrument Procedures
(TERPS). In developing these SIAPs and
Takeoff Minimums and ODPs, the
TERPS criteria were applied to the
conditions existing or anticipated at the
affected airports. Because of the close
and immediate relationship between
these SIAPs, Takeoff Minimums and

ODPs, and safety in air commerce, I find that notice and public procedure under 5 U.S.C. 553(b) are impracticable and contrary to the public interest and, where applicable, under 5 U.S.C. 553(d), good cause exists for making some SIAPs effective in less than 30 days.

The FAA has determined that this regulation only involves an established body of technical regulations for which frequent and routine amendments are necessary to keep them operationally current. It, therefore—(1) is not a "significant regulatory action" under Executive Order 12866; (2) is not a "significant rule" under DOT Regulatory Policies and Procedures (44 FR 11034; February 26, 1979); and (3) does not warrant preparation of a regulatory evaluation as the anticipated impact is so minimal. For the same reason, the FAA certifies that this amendment will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities under the criteria of the Regulatory Flexibility Act.

#### Lists of Subjects in 14 CFR Part 97

Air Traffic Control, Airports, Incorporation by reference, Navigation (Air).

Issued in Washington, DC, on March 28, 2025.

#### Romana B. Wolf,

Manager, Flight Procedures and Airspace Group, Flight Technologies and Procedures Division, Office of Safety Standards, Flight Standards Service, Aviation Safety, Federal Aviation Administration.

#### Adoption of the Amendment

Accordingly, pursuant to the authority delegated to me, 14 CFR part 97 is amended by establishing, amending, suspending, or removing Standard Instrument Approach Procedures and/or Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures effective at 0901 UTC on the dates specified, as follows:

# PART 97—STANDARD INSTRUMENT APPROACH PROCEDURES

■ 1. The authority citation for part 97 continues to read as follows:

**Authority:** 49 U.S.C. 106(f), 106(g), 40103, 40106, 40113, 40114, 40120, 44502, 44514, 44701, 44719, 44721–44722.

■ 2. Part 97 is amended to read as follows:

Effective 12 June 2025

Palm Springs, CA, PSP, RNAV (RNP) Y RWY 31L, Amdt 2

Palm Springs, CA, PSP, RNAV (RNP) Z RWY 13R, Amdt 2

Denver, CO, DEN, RNAV (RNP) Z RWY 16R, Amdt 1

Rifle, CO, RIL, RNAV (RNP) Y RWY 26, Amdt 2

Rifle, CO, RIL, RNAV (RNP) Z RWY 26, Amdt 2

Thomaston, GA, OPN, ILS OR LOC RWY 30, Amdt 4

Thomaston, GA, OPN, NDB RWY 30, Amdt 4, CANCELED

Warsaw, IN, ASW, RNAV (GPS) RWY 9, Amdt 1A

Eureka, KS, 13K, Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle DP, Amdt 1

Covington, KY, CVG, ILS OR LOC RWY 18C, ILS RWY 18C (SA CAT I), ILS RWY 18C (SA CAT II), Amdt 24

Covington, KY, CVG, ILS OR LOC RWY 18L, Amdt 8

Covington, KY, CVG, ILS OR LOC RWY 18R, ILS RWY 18R (CAT II), Amdt 2

Covington, KY, CVG, RNAV (GPS) Y RWY 18C, Amdt 2

Covington, KY, CVG, RNAV (GPS) Y RWY 18L, Amdt 2

Covington, KY, CVG, RNAV (GPS) Y RWY 18R, Amdt 2

Covington, KY, CVG, RNAV (RNP) Z RWY 9, Amdt 1

Covington, KY, CVG, RNAV (RNP) Z RWY 18C, Amdt 1

Covington, KY, CVG, RNAV (RNP) Z RWY 18L, Amdt 1

Covington, KY, CVG, RNAV (RNP) Z RWY 18R, Amdt 1

Covington, KY, CVG, RNAV (RNP) Z RWY 27, Amdt 1

Madisonville, KY, 2I0, Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle DP, Orig-A

Caribou, ME, CAR, Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle DP, Amdt 2

Bad Axe, MI, BAX, Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle DP, Amdt 4A

Cook, MN, CQM, Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle DP, Amdt 1A

David City, NE, 93Y, Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle DP, Amdt 1A

Bryan, OH, 0G6, Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle DP, Orig-A

Mount Gilead, OH, 4I9, Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle DP, Amdt 3

Waverly, TN, 0M5, Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle DP, Orig-A

Devine, TX, 23R, Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle DP, Amdt 1A

Fort Worth, TX, AFW, Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle DP, Amdt 3

Kountze/Silsbee, TX, 45R, Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle DP, Orig-A

Winters, TX, 77F, RNAV (GPS) RWY 18, Amdt 1

Winters, TX, 77F, RNAV (GPS) RWY 36, Amdt 1

Winters, TX, 77F, Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle DP, Amdt 1

Toledo, WA, TDO, ATASY THREE, Graphic

Boscobel, WI, OVS, Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle DP, Amdt 1A

[FR Doc. 2025–05714 Filed 4–2–25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-13-P

#### **DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

#### **Federal Aviation Administration**

#### 14 CFR Part 97

[Docket No. 31599; Amdt. No. 4160]

Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments

**AGENCY:** Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

**ACTION:** Final rule.

**SUMMARY:** This rule amends, suspends, or removes Standard Instrument Approach Procedures (SIAPs) and associated Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures for operations at certain airports. These regulatory actions are needed because of the adoption of new or revised criteria, or because of changes occurring in the National Airspace System, such as the commissioning of new navigational facilities, adding new obstacles, or changing air traffic requirements. These changes are designed to provide for the safe and efficient use of the navigable airspace and to promote safe flight operations under instrument flight rules at the affected airports.

**DATES:** This rule is effective April 3, 2025. The compliance date for each SIAP, associated Takeoff Minimums, and ODP is specified in the amendatory provisions.

The incorporation by reference of certain publications listed in the regulations is approved by the Director of the Federal Register as of April 3, 2025.

**ADDRESSES:** Availability of matter incorporated by reference in the amendment is as follows:

#### For Examination

1. U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Ops-M30, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, West Bldg., Ground Floor, Washington, DC 20590–0001;

2. The FAA Air Traffic Organization Service Area in which the affected airport is located;

3. The office of Aeronautical Information Services, 6500 South MacArthur Blvd., Oklahoma City, OK 73169 or.

4. The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA).

For information on the availability of this material at NARA, visit www.archives.gov/federal-register/cfr/ibr-locations or email fr.inspection@nara.gov.

#### Availability

All SIAPs and Takeoff Minimums and ODPs are available online free of charge. Visit the National Flight Data Center online at *nfdc.faa.gov* to register. Additionally, individual SIAP and Takeoff Minimums and ODP copies may be obtained from the FAA Air Traffic Organization Service Area in which the affected airport is located.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Romana B. Wolf, Manager, Flight Procedures and Airspace Group, Flight Technologies and Procedures Division, Office of Safety Standards, Flight Standards Service, Aviation Safety, Federal Aviation Administration. Mailing Address: FAA Mike Monroney Aeronautical Center, Flight Procedures and Airspace Group, 6500 South MacArthur Blvd., STB Annex, Bldg. 26, Room 217, Oklahoma City, OK 73099. Telephone (405) 954–1139.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This rule amends 14 CFR part 97 by amending the referenced SIAPs. The complete regulatory description of each SIAP is listed on the appropriate FAA Form 8260, as modified by the National Flight Data Center (NFDC)/Permanent Notice to Air Missions (P-NOTAM), and is incorporated by reference under 5 U.S.C. 552(a), 1 CFR part 51, and 14 CFR 97.20. The large number of SIAPs, their complex nature, and the need for a special format make their verbatim publication in the Federal Register expensive and impractical. Further, pilots do not use the regulatory text of the SIAPs, but refer to their graphic depiction on charts printed by publishers of aeronautical materials. Thus, the advantages of incorporation by reference are realized and publication of the complete description of each SIAP contained on FAA form documents is unnecessary. This amendment provides the affected CFR sections, and specifies the SIAPs and Takeoff Minimums and ODPs with their applicable effective dates. This amendment also identifies the airport and its location, the procedure and the amendment number.

# Availability and Summary of Material Incorporated by Reference

The material incorporated by reference is publicly available as listed in the **ADDRESSES** section.

The material incorporated by reference describes SIAPs, Takeoff Minimums and ODPs as identified in the amendatory language for part 97 of this final rule.

#### The Rule

This amendment to 14 CFR part 97 is effective upon publication of each separate SIAP and Takeoff Minimums and ODP as amended in the transmittal. For safety and timeliness of change considerations, this amendment incorporates only specific changes contained for each SIAP and Takeoff Minimums and ODP as modified by FDC permanent NOTAMs.

The SIAPs and Takeoff Minimums and ODPs, as modified by FDC permanent NOTAM, and contained in this amendment are based on criteria contained in the U.S. Standard for Terminal Instrument Procedures (TERPS). In developing these changes to SIAPs and Takeoff Minimums and ODPs, the TERPS criteria were applied only to specific conditions existing at the affected airports. All SIAP amendments in this rule have been previously issued by the FAA in a FDC NOTAM as an emergency action of immediate flight safety relating directly to published aeronautical charts.

The circumstances that created the need for these SIAP and Takeoff Minimums and ODP amendments require making them effective in less

than 30 days.

Because of the close and immediate relationship between these SIAPs, Takeoff Minimums and ODPs, and safety in air commerce, I find that notice and public procedure under 5 U.S.C. 553(b) are impracticable and contrary to

the public interest and, where applicable, under 5 U.S.C. 553(d), good cause exists for making these SIAPs effective in less than 30 days.

The FAA has determined that this regulation only involves an established body of technical regulations for which frequent and routine amendments are necessary to keep them operationally current. It, therefore—(1) is not a "significant regulatory action" under Executive Order 12866; (2) is not a "significant rule" under DOT regulatory Policies and Procedures (44 FR 11034; February 26, 1979); and (3) does not warrant preparation of a regulatory evaluation as the anticipated impact is so minimal. For the same reason, the FAA certifies that this amendment will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities under the criteria of the Regulatory Flexibility Act.

### List of Subjects in 14 CFR Part 97

Air traffic control, Airports, Incorporation by reference, Navigation (air).

Issued in Washington, DC, on March 28, 2025.

#### Romana B. Wolf,

Manager, Flight Procedures and Airspace Group, Flight Technologies and Procedures Division, Office of Safety Standards, Flight Standards Service, Aviation Safety, Federal Aviation Administration.

#### Adoption of the Amendment

Accordingly, pursuant to the authority delegated to me, 14 CFR part 97 is amended by amending Standard Instrument Approach Procedures and Takeoff Minimums and ODPs, effective at 0901 UTC on the dates specified, as follows:

#### PART 97—STANDARD INSTRUMENT **APPROACH PROCEDURES**

■ 1. The authority citation for part 97 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 49 U.S.C. 106(f), 106(g), 40103, 40106, 40113, 40114, 40120, 44502, 44514, 44701, 44719, 44721-44722.

■ 2. Part 97 is amended to read as follows:

By amending: § 97.23 VOR, VOR/ DME, VOR or TACAN, and VOR/DME or TACAN; § 97.25 LOC, LOC/DME, LDA, LDA/DME, SDF, SDF/DME; § 97.27 NDB, NDB/DME; § 97.29 ILS, ILS/DME, MLS, MLS/DME, MLS/RNAV; § 97.31 RADAR SIAPs; § 97.33 RNAV SIAPs; and § 97.35 COPTER SIAPs, Identified as follows:

\* \* \* Effective Upon Publication

| AIRAC date | State | City           | Airport                     | FDC No. | FDC<br>date | Procedure name             |
|------------|-------|----------------|-----------------------------|---------|-------------|----------------------------|
| 15-May-25  | sc    | Mount Pleasant | Mt Pleasant Rgnl-Faison Fld | 5/8428  | 3/3/2025    | RNAV (GPS) RWY 17, Orig-F. |

[FR Doc. 2025-05713 Filed 4-2-25; 8:45 am] BILLING CODE 4910-13-P

### PENSION BENEFIT GUARANTY CORPORATION

#### 29 CFR Part 4044

Allocation of Assets in Single-**Employer Plans; Interest Assumptions** for Valuing Benefits

**AGENCY:** Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: This final rule amends the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation's regulation on Allocation of Assets in Single-Employer Plans to prescribe the spreads component of the interest assumption under the asset allocation regulation for plans with valuation dates

of April 30, 2025-July 30, 2025. These interest assumptions are used for valuing benefits under terminating single-employer plans and for other purposes.

DATES: Effective April 30, 2025.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Monica O'Donnell (odonnell.monica@ pbgc.gov), Attorney, Office of the General Counsel, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, 445 12th Street SW, Washington, DC 20024-2101, 202-229–8706. If you are deaf or hard of hearing, or have a speech disability, please dial 7-1-1 to access

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: PBGC's regulation on Allocation of Assets in Single-Employer Plans (29 CFR part 4044) prescribes actuarial assumption including an interest assumption—for valuing benefits under terminating single-employer plans covered by title

telecommunications relay services.

IV of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA). The interest assumption is also posted on PBGC's website (www.pbgc.gov).

PBGC uses the interest assumption in § 4044.54 to determine the present value of annuities in an involuntary or distress termination of a singleemployer plan under the asset allocation regulation. The assumptions in part 4044 of PBGC's regulations are also used in other situations where it is appropriate for liabilities to align with private sector group annuity prices. For example, PBGC's regulations on Notice, Collection, and Redetermination of Withdrawal Liability (29 CFR part 4219) and Duties of Plan Sponsor Following Mass Withdrawal (29 CFR part 4281) provide that these assumptions are used to value liabilities for purposes of determining withdrawn employers' reallocation liability in the event of a

mass withdrawal from a multiemployer plan. Multiemployer plans that receive special financial assistance under the regulation on Special Financial Assistance by PBGC (29 CFR part 4262) must, as a condition of receiving special financial assistance, use the interest assumption to determine withdrawal liability for a prescribed period. Additionally, plan sponsors are required to use some, or all of these assumptions for specified purposes (e.g., reporting benefit liabilities in filings required under PBGC's regulation on Annual Financial and Actuarial Information Reporting (29 CFR part 4010) or determining certain amounts to transfer to PBGC's Missing Participants Program on behalf of a missing participant of a terminating defined benefit plan under PBGC's regulation on Missing Participants (29 CFR part 4050)) and may use them for other purposes (e.g., to ensure that plan spinoffs comply with section 414(l) of the Internal Revenue

On June 6, 2024, PBGC issued a final rule at 89 FR 48291 that changes the structure of the interest assumption for valuation dates on or after July 31, 2024, from the select and ultimate approach to a yield curve approach. As described in the June 6 final rule, this "4044 yield curve" is based on a blend of two publicly available bond yield curves that is adjusted to the extent necessary so that the resulting liabilities align with

group annuity prices. The adjustments are referred to as "spreads." PBGC determines and publishes spreads quarterly based on survey data on pricing of private-sector group annuities. As noted in the preamble to the June 6 rule, PBGC will post the 4044 yield curve on its website at www.pbgc.gov each month shortly after its underlying data become available. In addition, practitioners are able to determine the 4044 yield curve as of the end of any month using the publicly available bond yield curves and the spreads specified in the regulation.

This rule amends the regulation to specify the spreads used to determine the 4044 yield curve as of the last days of April, May, and June of 2025 (*i.e.*, the "second quarter 2025 spreads").

#### **Need for Immediate Guidance**

PBGC has determined that notice of, and public comment on, this rule are impracticable, unnecessary, and contrary to the public interest. PBGC routinely updates the spreads component of the interest assumption in the asset allocation regulation so that the 4044 yield curve may be determined as soon as the underlying bond yield curves become available. These amendments are merely technical; they ensure that use of PBGC's interest assumption continues to yield liabilities in line with group annuity prices.

Accordingly, PBGC finds that the public

interest is best served by issuing this rule expeditiously, without an opportunity for notice and comment, and that good cause exists for making the assumptions set forth in this amendment effective less than 30 days after publication.

PBGC has determined that this action is not a "significant regulatory action" under the criteria set forth in Executive Order 12866.

Because no general notice of proposed rulemaking is required for this amendment, the Regulatory Flexibility Act of 1980 does not apply. See 5 U.S.C. 601(2).

### List of Subjects in 29 CFR Part 4044

Employee benefit plans, Pension insurance, Pensions.

In consideration of the foregoing, 29 CFR part 4044 is amended as follows:

# PART 4044—ALLOCATION OF ASSETS IN SINGLE-EMPLOYER PLANS

■ 1. The authority citation for part 4044 continues to read as follows:

**Authority:** 29 U.S.C. 1301(a), 1302(b)(3), 1341, 1344, 1362.

■ 2. In § 4044.54, revise table 1 to paragraph (e) to read as follows:

#### § 4044.54 Interest assumptions.

(e) \* \* \* \* \*

TABLE 1 TO PARAGRAPH (e)—SPREADS

| Maturity point | Third quarter<br>2024 spreads<br>(percent) | Fourth quarter<br>2024 spreads<br>(percent) | First quarter<br>2025 spreads<br>(percent) | Second quarter<br>2025 spreads<br>(percent) |
|----------------|--|---|--|---|
| 0.5            | 0.38                                       | 0.33  | 0.36                                       | 0.38  |
| 1.0            | 0.38                                       | 0.33  | 0.36                                       | 0.38  |
| 1.5            | 0.37                                       | 0.33  | 0.36                                       | 0.37  |
| 2.0            | 0.37                                       | 0.33  | 0.36                                       | 0.37  |
| 2.5            | 0.37                                       | 0.33  | 0.36                                       | 0.37  |
| 3.0            | 0.37                                       | 0.33  | 0.36                                       | 0.37  |
| 3.5            | 0.37                                       | 0.33  | 0.36                                       | 0.37  |
| 4.0            | 0.37                                       | 0.33  | 0.36                                       | 0.37  |
| 4.5            | 0.37                                       | 0.33  | 0.36                                       | 0.37  |
| 5.0            | 0.37                                       | 0.33  | 0.36                                       | 0.37  |
| 5.5            | 0.37                                       | 0.32  | 0.35                                       | 0.36  |
| 6.0            | 0.37                                       | 0.32  | 0.35                                       | 0.36  |
| 6.5            | 0.37                                       | 0.32  | 0.35                                       | 0.35  |
| 7.0            | 0.37                                       | 0.32  | 0.35                                       | 0.35  |
| 7.5            | 0.37                                       | 0.32  | 0.35                                       | 0.35  |
| 8.0            | 0.37                                       | 0.32  | 0.35                                       | 0.35  |
| 8.5            | 0.37                                       | 0.32  | 0.34                                       | 0.34  |
| 9.0            | 0.37                                       | 0.32  | 0.34                                       | 0.34  |
| 9.5            | 0.36                                       | 0.32  | 0.34                                       | 0.33  |
| 10.0           | 0.36                                       | 0.32  | 0.34                                       | 0.33  |
| 10.5           | 0.36                                       | 0.32  | 0.33                                       | 0.32  |
| 11.0           | 0.36                                       | 0.32  | 0.33                                       | 0.32  |
| 11.5           | 0.36                                       | 0.32  | 0.33                                       | 0.32  |
| 12.0           | 0.36                                       | 0.32  | 0.33                                       | 0.32  |
| 12.5           | 0.36                                       | 0.32  | 0.32                                       | 0.31  |
| 13.0           | 0.36                                       | 0.32  | 0.32                                       | 0.31  |
| 13.5           | 0.35                                       | 0.31  | 0.32                                       | 0.30  |
| 14.0           | 0.35                                       | 0.31  | 0.32                                       | 0.30  |

TABLE 1 TO PARAGRAPH (e)—SPREADS—Continued

| Maturity point | Third quarter<br>2024 spreads<br>(percent) | Fourth quarter<br>2024 spreads<br>(percent) | First quarter<br>2025 spreads<br>(percent) | Second quarter<br>2025 spreads<br>(percent) |
|----------------|--|---|--|---|
| 14.5           | 0.35                                       | 0.31  | 0.31                                       | 0.29  |
| 15.0           | 0.35                                       | 0.31  | 0.31                                       | 0.29  |
| 15.5           | 0.35                                       | 0.31  | 0.30                                       | 0.28  |
| 16.0           | 0.35                                       | 0.31  | 0.30                                       | 0.28  |
| 16.5           | 0.34                                       | 0.31  | 0.30                                       | 0.27  |
| 17.0           | 0.34                                       | 0.31  | 0.30                                       | 0.27  |
| 17.5           | 0.34                                       | 0.31  | 0.29                                       | 0.26  |
| 18.0           | 0.34                                       | 0.31  | 0.29                                       | 0.26  |
| 18.5           | 0.34                                       | 0.31  | 0.29                                       | 0.25  |
| 19.0           | 0.34                                       | 0.31  | 0.29                                       | 0.25  |
| 19.5           | 0.34                                       | 0.30  | 0.28                                       | 0.24  |
| 20.0           | 0.34                                       | 0.30  | 0.28                                       | 0.24  |
| 20.5           | 0.33                                       | 0.30  | 0.28                                       | 0.23  |
| 21.0           | 0.33                                       | 0.30  | 0.28                                       | 0.23  |
| 21.5           | 0.33                                       | 0.30  | 0.27                                       | 0.22  |
| 22.0           | 0.33                                       | 0.30  | 0.27                                       | 0.22  |
| 22.5           | 0.33                                       | 0.30  | 0.27                                       | 0.22  |
| 23.0           | 0.33                                       | 0.30  | 0.27                                       | 0.22  |
| 23.5           | 0.33                                       | 0.30  | 0.26                                       | 0.21  |
| 24.0           | 0.33                                       | 0.30  | 0.26                                       | 0.21  |
| 24.5           | 0.33                                       | 0.30  | 0.26                                       | 0.20  |
| 25.0           | 0.33                                       | 0.30  | 0.26                                       | 0.20  |
| 25.5           | 0.33                                       | 0.30  | 0.26                                       | 0.20  |
| 26.0           | 0.33                                       | 0.30  | 0.26                                       | 0.20  |
| 26.5           | 0.32                                       | 0.30  | 0.26                                       | 0.20  |
| 27.0           | 0.32                                       | 0.30  | 0.26                                       | 0.20  |
| 27.5           | 0.32                                       | 0.30  | 0.25                                       | 0.19  |
| 28.0           | 0.32                                       | 0.30  | 0.25                                       | 0.19  |
| 28.5           | 0.32                                       | 0.30  | 0.25                                       | 0.19  |
| 29.0           | 0.32                                       | 0.30  | 0.25                                       | 0.19  |
| 29.5           | 0.32                                       | 0.30  | 0.25                                       | 0.19  |
| 30.0           | 0.32                                       | 0.30  | 0.25                                       | 0.19  |

Issued in Washington, DC.

#### Hilary Duke,

Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Affairs, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation.

[FR Doc. 2025-05531 Filed 4-2-25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7709-02-P

# DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

**Coast Guard** 

33 CFR Part 165

[Docket Number USCG-2025-0176]

RIN 1625-AA87

Security Zone; Cooper River, Charleston, SC

**AGENCY:** Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security (DHS).

**ACTION:** Temporary final rule.

**SUMMARY:** The Coast Guard is establishing a temporary security zone for navigable waters of the Cooper River, in the vicinity of the Arthur Ravenel Jr. Bridge, near Charleston and Mount Pleasant, South Carolina. This action is

necessary to provide for the security and protection of life of participants and spectators during the Cooper River Bridge Run. Entry of vessels or persons into the security zone is prohibited unless authorized by the Captain of the Port Charleston or a designated representative.

DATES: This rule is effective from 7:30 a.m. until 10:30 a.m. on April 5, 2025. ADDRESSES: To view documents mentioned in this preamble as being available in the docket, go to https://www.regulations.gov, type USCG—2025—0176 in the search box and click "Search." Next, in the Document Type column, select "Supporting & Related Material."

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: If you have questions about this rule, call or email Chief Marine Science Technician Tyler M. Campbell, Sector Charleston, Waterways Management Division, U.S. Coast Guard; telephone (843) 740–3184, email Tyler.M.Campbell@uscg.mil.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

#### I. Table of Abbreviations

CFR Code of Federal Regulations DHS Department of Homeland Security FR Federal Register
NPRM Notice of proposed rulemaking
§ Section
U.S.C. United States Code

# II. Background Information and Regulatory History

The Coast Guard is issuing this temporary rule under authority in 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(B). This statutory provision authorizes an agency to issue a rule without prior notice and opportunity to comment when the agency for good cause finds that those procedures are "impracticable, unnecessary, or contrary to the public interest." The Coast Guard finds that good cause exists for not publishing a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) with respect to this rule because it is impracticable. The Coast Guard did not receive the information required to develop and finalize plans for an official patrol of the security zone in ample time to allow for public comment for the Cooper River Bridge Run even scheduled on April 5, 2025. It would be impracticable to delay promulgating this rule, as it is necessary to protect the safety and security of participants in this event and mitigate potential subversive acts.

Under 5 U.S.C. 553(d)(3), the Coast Guard finds that good cause exists for making this rule effective less than 30 days after publication in the **Federal Register** for the same reasons as discussed above.

#### III. Legal Authority and Need for Rule

The Coast Guard may issue this rule under authority in 46 U.S.C. 70051 and 70124. The Captain of the Port (COTP) Charleston has determined that the presence of persons under the protection of the Coast Guard in the Sector Charleston COTP zone presents a potential target for terrorist attack, sabotage, or other subversive acts, accidents, or other causes of similar nature. The rule is needed to protect persons under the protection of the Coast Guard, personnel in and around the Cooper River Bridge Run event.

#### IV. Discussion of the Rule

This rule establishes a security zone from 7:30 a.m. until 10:30 a.m. on April 5, 2025. The security zone would cover all navigable waters of the Cooper River, in the vicinity of the Arthur Ravenel Jr. Bridge.

Entry into this security zone is prohibited unless specifically authorized by the COTP or their designated representative. A designated representative is a commissioned, warrant, or petty officer of the Coast Guard assigned to units under the operational control of the Coast Guard Sector Charleston. Requests for entry will be considered and reviewed on a case-by-case basis. The COTP may be contacted by telephone at 843-740-3184 or can be reached by VHF-FM channel 16. Persons and vessels permitted to enter these security zones must transit at their slowest safe speed and comply with all lawful directions issued by the COTP or their designated representative.

#### V. Regulatory Analyses

We developed this rule after considering numerous statutes and Executive orders related to rulemaking. Below we summarize our analyses based on a number of these statutes and Executive orders.

# A. Regulatory Planning and Review

Executive Orders 12866 and 13563 direct agencies to assess the costs and benefits of available regulatory alternatives and, if regulation is necessary, to select regulatory approaches that maximize net benefits. This rule has not been designated a "significant regulatory action," under section 3(f) of Executive Order 12866, as amended by Executive Order 14094

(Modernizing Regulatory Review). Accordingly, this rule has not been reviewed by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB).

This regulatory action determination is based on: (1) The security zone would only be enforced for a total of three hours; (2) although persons and vessels may not enter, transit through, anchor in, or remain within the zone without authorization from the COTP or a designated representative, they would be able operate in the surrounding areas during the enforcement period; (3) persons and vessels may still enter, transit through, anchor in, or remain within the areas during the enforcement period if authorized by the COTP or a designated representative; and (4) the Coast Guard will provide advance notification of the zone to the local maritime community by Broadcast Notice to Mariners, or by on-scene designated representatives.

#### B. Impact on Small Entities

The Regulatory Flexibility Act of 1980, 5 U.S.C. 601–612, as amended, requires Federal agencies to consider the potential impact of regulations on small entities during rulemaking. The term "small entities" comprises small businesses, not-for-profit organizations that are independently owned and operated and are not dominant in their fields, and governmental jurisdictions with populations of less than 50,000. The Coast Guard certifies under 5 U.S.C. 605(b) that this rule will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities.

While some owners or operators of vessels intending to transit the safety zone may be small entities, for the reasons stated in section V.A above, this rule will not have a significant economic impact on any vessel owner or operator.

Under section 213(a) of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996 (Pub. L. 104–121), we want to assist small entities in understanding this rule. If the rule will affect your small business, organization, or governmental jurisdiction and you have questions concerning its provisions or options for compliance, please call or email the person listed in the FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT section.

Small businesses may send comments on the actions of Federal employees who enforce, or otherwise determine compliance with, Federal regulations to the Small Business and Agriculture Regulatory Enforcement Ombudsman and the Regional Small Business Regulatory Fairness Boards. The Ombudsman evaluates these actions annually and rates each agency's responsiveness to small business. If you wish to comment on actions by employees of the Coast Guard, call 1–888–REG–FAIR (1–888–734–3247). The Coast Guard will not retaliate against small entities that question or complain about this rule or any policy or action of the Coast Guard.

#### C. Collection of Information

This rule will not call for a new collection of information under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501–3520).

#### D. Federalism and Indian Tribal Governments

A rule has implications for federalism under Executive Order 13132, Federalism, if it has a substantial direct effect on the States, on the relationship between the National Government and the States, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities among the various levels of government. We have analyzed this rule under that order and have determined that it is consistent with the fundamental federalism principles and preemption requirements described in Executive Order 13132.

Also, this rule does not have tribal implications under Executive Order 13175, Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments, because it does not have a substantial direct effect on one or more Indian tribes, on the relationship between the Federal Government and Indian tribes, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities between the Federal Government and Indian tribes.

# E. Unfunded Mandates Reform Act

The Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1531–1538) requires Federal agencies to assess the effects of their discretionary regulatory actions. In particular, the Act addresses actions that may result in the expenditure by a State, local, or tribal government, in the aggregate, or by the private sector of \$100,000,000 (adjusted for inflation) or more in any one year. Though this rule will not result in such an expenditure, we do discuss the effects of this rule elsewhere in this preamble.

### F. Environment

We have analyzed this rule under Department of Homeland Security Directive 023–01, Rev. 1, associated implementing instructions, and Environmental Planning COMDTINST 5090.1 (series), which guide the Coast Guard in complying with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321–4370f), and have determined that this action is one of a category of actions that do not individually or cumulatively have a significant effect on the human environment. This rule involves a security zone lasting only 3 hours that will prohibit persons and vessels from entering, transiting through, anchoring in, or remaining within a limited area surrounding the Arthur Ravenel Jr. Bridge over the Cooper River. It is categorically excluded from further review under paragraph L60(a) of Appendix A, Table 1 of DHS Instruction Manual 023-01-001-01, Rev. 1. A Record of Environmental Consideration supporting this determination is available in the docket. For instructions on locating the docket, see the **ADDRESSES** section of this preamble.

### List of Subjects in 33 CFR Part 165

Harbors, Marine safety, Navigation (water), Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Security measures, Waterways.

For the reasons discussed in the preamble, the Coast Guard amends 33 CFR part 165 as follows:

# PART 165—REGULATED NAVIGATION AREAS AND LIMITED ACCESS AREAS

■ 1. The authority citation for part 165 continues to read as follows:

**Authority:** 46 U.S.C. 70034, 70051, 70124; 33 CFR 1.05–1, 6.04–1, 6.04–6, and 160.5; Department of Homeland Security Delegation No. 00170.1, Revision No. 01.3.

■ 2. Add § 165.T07–0228 to read as follows:

# § 165.T07-0228 Security Zone; Cooper River Bridge Run, Charleston, SC.

- (a) Location. The following area is a security zone: All waters of the Cooper River, and Town Creek Reaches encompassed within the following points: beginning at 32°48′32″ N, 079°56′08″ W, thence east to 32°48′20″ N, 079°54′18″ W, thence south to 32°47′20″ N, 079°54′29″ W, thence west to 32°47′20″ N, 079°55′28″ W, thence north to origin. All coordinates are 1984 World Geodetic System (WGS 84).
- (b) Definitions. As used in this section, designated representative means a Coast Guard Patrol Commander, including a Coast Guard coxswain, petty officer, or other officer operating a Coast Guard vessel and a Federal, State, and local officer designated by or assisting the Captain of the Port (COTP) Charleston in the enforcement of the security zone.
- (c) Regulations. (1) Under the general safety zone regulations in subpart C of this part, you may not enter the safety zone described in paragraph (a) of this

section unless authorized by the COTP Charleson or designated representative.

- (2) Designated representatives may control vessel traffic throughout the enforcement area as determined by the prevailing conditions.
- (3) To seek permission to enter, contact COTP Charleston or representative by telephone at (843) 740–7050 or via VHF radio on channel 16. Those in the security zone must comply with all lawful orders or directions given to them by the COTP Charleston or designated representative.
- (d) Enforcement period. This section will be enforced from 7:30 a.m. until 10:30 a.m. on April 5, 2025.

#### F.J. DelRosso,

Captain, U.S. Coast Guard, Captain of the Port Sector Charleston.

[FR Doc. 2025–05712 Filed 4–2–25; 8:45 am] BILLING CODE 9110–04–P

# ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

#### 40 CFR Part 52

[EPA-R02-OAR-2023-0242; FRL 12441-02-R2]

### Approval of Source-Specific Air Quality Implementation Plan; New York; Lehigh Cement Company LLC

**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

**ACTION:** Final rule.

**SUMMARY:** The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is approving a revision to the State of New York's State Implementation Plan (SIP) for the ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) related to a Source-specific SIP (SSSIP) revision for Lehigh Cement Company LLC, located at 313 Warren Street, Glens Falls, New York (the Facility). The control options in this SSSIP revision implement Reasonably Available Control Technology (RACT) with respect to nitrogen oxide (NO<sub>X</sub>) emissions from the relevant Facility source, which is identified as one Portland cement kiln (the Kiln). This action is being taken in accordance with the requirements of the Clean Air Act (CAA) for implementation of the 2008 and 2015 ozone NAAQS. The EPA proposed to approve this rule on December 26, 2024, and received no comments. This final action will not interfere with ozone NAAQS requirements and meets all applicable requirements of the CAA.

**DATES:** This final rule is effective on May 5, 2025.

ADDRESSES: The EPA has established a docket for this action under Docket ID Number EPA-R02-OAR-2023-0242. All documents in the docket are listed on the https://www.regulations.gov website. Although listed in the index, some information is not publicly available, e.g., Controlled Unclassified Information (CUI) (formerly referred to as Confidential Business Information (CBI)) or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. Certain other material, such as copyrighted material, is not placed on the internet and will be publicly available only in hard copy form. Publicly available docket materials are available electronically through https:// www.regulations.gov.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Stephanie Lin, Air Programs Branch, Environmental Protection Agency, Region 2 Office, 290 Broadway, 25th Floor, New York, New York 10007–1866, 212–637–3711, or by email at lin.stephanie@epa.gov.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

#### **Table of Contents**

I. What is the background for this action?
II. What comments were received in response to the EPA's proposed action?
III. What action is the EPA taking?
IV. Incorporation by Reference
V. Statutory and Executive Order Reviews

# I. What is the background for this action?

On December 26, 2024, the EPA published a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking that proposed to approve a State Implementation Plan (SIP) revision submitted by the State of New York on July 1, 2022, for purposes of a Portland cement manufacturing and quarry facility operated by Lehigh Cement Company LLC, located in Glens Falls, New York. (See 89 FR 104946.) This Lehigh Cement SSSIP is intended to implement NO<sub>X</sub> RACT for the Kiln for purposes of the 2008 and 2015 ozone NAAQS. This Lehigh Cement SSSIP replaces and withdraws the Lehigh Cement SSSIPs that were submitted by the State on September 16, 2008, and December 18, 2013. In this SSSIP submittal, the EPA has reviewed the RACT determination for the Kiln for consistency with the CAA and the EPA regulations, as interpreted through EPA actions and guidance. The State's July 1, 2022 SIP submittal consists of a cover letter, Title V permit application proof, the 2021 NO<sub>X</sub> RACT re-evaluation, consent decree, and the 2020 NO<sub>X</sub> RACT analysis.

The source at issue in this action is a short, dry preheater Kiln. NYSDEC RACT regulations establish RACT requirements for this source in 6 NYCRR Subpart 220–1, "Portland Cement Plants," last approved in the New York SIP by the EPA on July 12, 2013. However, 6 NYCRR Subpart 220-1 does not establish presumptive NO<sub>X</sub> RACT emission limits for cement kilns due to the uniqueness of cement manufacturing operations. Instead, under 6 NYCRR Subpart 220-1.6(b), the Facility must submit a RACT analysis along with the Air Title V Facility Permit application that proposes a RACT emission limit(s) and identifies the procedures and monitoring equipment to be used to demonstrate compliance with the proposed RACT emission limit(s). Here, NYSDEC determined that the Facility's analysis adequately evaluated RACT. Such source-specific determinations must be submitted to the EPA as a SSSIP.

In November 2010, the Facility conducted a NO<sub>X</sub> RACT analysis for the Kiln (Emission Unit 0–UKILN) specifically applicable under the federally approved 6 NYCRR Subpart 220–1.6(b). The RACT analysis included the following: (1) an identification of available NO<sub>X</sub> control technologies; (2) projected effectiveness of each control technology identified; (3) costs for installation and operation of each technology; and (4) determination of the control technology and emission limit selected as RACT.

Lehigh installed and is operating a selective non-catalytic reduction (SNCR) system to meet NO<sub>X</sub> RACT as a result of their 2010 NO<sub>X</sub> RACT analysis.<sup>1</sup> In addition, the federally approved version of 6 NYCRR Subpart 220–1.7(d) requires owners or operators of a Portland cement kiln to install and operate a continuous emissions monitoring system (CEMS) to monitor NO<sub>X</sub> emissions from the cement kiln in accordance with the provisions of 40 CFR part 75, and to demonstrate compliance with the NO<sub>X</sub> RACT emission limit on a 30-day rolling average basis.

A nationwide Federal consent decree, Civil Action # 5:19–cv–05688, was executed on November 18, 2020, due to violations that occurred, in pertinent part, at one or more of Lehigh Cement Company LLC's (Lehigh) Portland cement plants (the CD). The obligations of the CD were negotiated between Lehigh and the U.S. Department of Justice (on behalf of EPA and non-Federal jurisdictions, including the State of New York), and are binding.

The terms of the CD imposed a lower emission limit (2.5 lbs NO<sub>X</sub>/ton clinker (30-day rolling average)) upon the Kiln that meets Best Available Control Technology (BACT), which is based on the maximum degree of control that can be achieved. The NO<sub>X</sub> emission controls and associated cost analysis from the November 2010 RACT analysis for the Kiln were determined to be acceptable as RACT by the NYSDEC. EPA is concluding that an August 27, 2021 NO<sub>X</sub> RACT evaluation to support Lehigh's Title V permit renewal application has successfully demonstrated that the emissions limit continues to be acceptable as RACT, with the RACT emission limit for the Kiln calculated as 2.9 lbs NO<sub>X</sub>/ton clinker (30-day rolling average). Since BACT is the maximum degree of control that can be achieved, BACT generally imposes more stringent requirements than RACT. Given that the BACT emission limit imposed by the CD is lower than the previously calculated RACT limit, the EPA is approving that the BACT limit now represents RACT for this source. Here, the CD requires the Facility, beginning on or before May 18, 2021, to: (1) limit  $NO_X$  emissions from the Kiln to 2.5 lbs per ton of clinker produced with a 30-day rolling average; (2) install and commence continuous operation of a Selective Non-Catalytic Reduction (SNCR) NO<sub>X</sub> control technology; and (3) install and operate NO<sub>X</sub> CEMS at each stack, which collects emissions from the applicable kiln in accordance with the requirements of 40 CFR part 60.

To comply with the requirements outlined in the CD, Lehigh revised its Air Title V Facility Permit to contain two permit conditions (permit conditions 85 and 86) that include the  $NO_X$  monitoring requirements and emission limitations as non-expiring obligations. A copy of the CD is located in the docket of this rule, Docket Number EPA–R02–OAR–2023–0242, at https://www.regulations.gov.

The intended effect of this sourcespecific SIP revision is to: establish the source-specific emission limit by incorporating the NO<sub>X</sub> emission limit imposed by the CD and associated monitoring requirements into the Facility's source-specific SIP.

The EPA is approving through this SSSIP action that the  $NO_X$  emission limit submitted by the State in this SSSIP for the Kiln is the lowest

emission limit with the application of control technology that is reasonably available given technological and economic feasibility considerations. The respective  $NO_X$  RACT emission limit is contained in the Facility's Title V operating permit, 5–5205–00013/00058, under Conditions 85 and 86. This renewal permit was issued by the State on February 28, 2022, and expires on February 27, 2027.

The Facility submitted a RACT plan for the emission limit requirements and NYSDEC reviewed and approved the emission limit as adequately implementing RACT for the source. NYSDEC then submitted the source-specific SIP revision package at issue in this action for EPA approval, and the EPA is approving the respective emission limit as implementing RACT for this source. The emission limit for the Facility will become part of the federally enforceable SIP upon the EPA's final approval of this SSSIP.

The EPA is approving that the proposed limit for Emission Unit 0– UKILN implements RACT because the Facility's more stringent BACT  $NO_X$  emissions limit imposed by the consent decree of 2.5 lbs  $NO_X$ /ton clinker (30-day rolling average) is more stringent than the 2.9 lbs  $NO_X$ /ton clinker (30-day rolling average) limit required to implement RACT for this source.

The specific details of New York's SIP submittals and the rationale for the EPA's approval action are explained in the EPA's proposed rulemaking and are not restated in this final action. For this detailed information, the reader is referred to the EPA's December 26, 2024, proposed rulemaking 89 FR 104946.

# II. What comments were received in response to the EPA's proposed action?

The EPA provided a 30-day review and comment period for the December 26, 2024 proposed rulemaking. The comment period ended on January 27, 2025. We received no comments on the EPA's action.

#### III. What action is the EPA taking?

The EPA is approving New York State's SSSIP revision for Lehigh Cement Company LLC submittal dated July 1, 2022 for purposes of satisfying Lehigh Cement Company LLC's operation under the  $NO_X$  emission limit approved by NYSDEC for the Facility's Kiln.

Specifically, the EPA is approving that the BACT limit now represents RACT for this source. Here, the CD requires the Facility, beginning on or before May 18, 2021 to: (1) limit  $NO_X$  emissions from the Kiln to 2.5 lbs per

 $<sup>^1</sup>$  On September 9, 2010, the EPA published the New Source Performance Standards for Portland Cement Plants (NSPS Subpart F). In that proposal, the EPA determined that SNCR was deemed to be the Best Demonstrated Technology (BDT) for NO\_X in cement plants," . . . we [the EPA] determined SNCR to be BDT and applied a control efficiency for the SNCR to the baseline uncontrolled level to determine the appropriate NO\_X level consistent with application of BDT . . . SNCR performance has been shown to range from 20 to 80 percent NO\_X removal." See 75 FR 54970.

ton of clinker produced with a 30-day rolling average; (2) install and commence continuous operation of a Selective Non-Catalytic Reduction (SNCR)  $NO_X$  control technology; and (3) install and operate  $NO_X$  CEMS at each stack, which collects emissions from the applicable kiln in accordance with the requirements of 40 CFR part 60.

# IV. Incorporation by Reference

In this document, the EPA is finalizing regulatory text that includes incorporation by reference. In accordance with requirements of 1 CFR 51.5, the EPA is finalizing the incorporation by reference of revisions to Lehigh Cement Company LLC Title V operating permit conditions 85 and 86 as described in section I of this preamble. These documents are available in the docket of this rule through www.regulations.gov. Therefore, these materials have been approved by the EPA for inclusion in the State Implementation Plan, have been incorporated by reference by the EPA into that plan, are fully federally enforceable under sections 110 and 113 of the CAA as of the effective date of the final rule of the EPA's approval, and will be incorporated by reference in the next update to the SIP compilation.2

# V. Statutory and Executive Order Reviews

Under the Clean Air Act, the Administrator is required to approve a SIP submission that complies with the provisions of the Act and applicable Federal regulations. 42 U.S.C. 7410(k); 40 CFR 52.02(a). Thus, in reviewing SIP submissions, EPA's role is to approve State choices, provided that they meet the criteria of the Clean Air Act. Accordingly, this action merely approves State law as meeting Federal requirements and does not impose additional requirements beyond those imposed by State law. For that reason, this action:

- Is not a significant regulatory action subject to review by the Office of Management and Budget under Executive Orders 12866 (58 FR 51735, October 4, 1993);
- Does not impose an information collection burden under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*);
- Is certified as not having a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities under the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601 *et seq.*);
- Does not contain any unfunded mandate or significantly or uniquely affect small governments, as described in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104–4);
- Does not have federalism implications as specified in Executive Order 13132 (64 FR 43255, August 10, 1999);
- Is not subject to Executive Order 13045 (62 FR 19885, April 23, 1997) because it approves a State program;
- Is not a significant regulatory action subject to Executive Order 13211 (66 FR 28355, May 22, 2001); and
- Is not subject to requirements of section 12(d) of the National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act of 1995 (15 U.S.C. 272 note) because application of those requirements would be inconsistent with the Clean Air Act.

In addition, the SIP is not approved to apply on any Indian reservation land or in any other area where the EPA or an Indian Tribe has demonstrated that a Tribe has jurisdiction. In those areas of Indian country, the rule does not have Tribal implications and it will not impose substantial direct costs on Tribal governments or preempt Tribal law as specified by Executive Order 13175 (65 FR 67249, November 9, 2000).

This action is subject to the Congressional Review Act, and the EPA will submit a rule report to each House of the Congress and the Comptroller General of the United States. This action is not a "major rule" as defined by 5 U.S.C. 804(2).

Under section 307(b)(1) of the Clean Air Act, petitions for judicial review of this action must be filed in the United States Court of Appeals for the appropriate circuit by June 2, 2025. Filing a petition for reconsideration by the Administrator of this final rule does not affect the finality of this action for the purposes of judicial review nor does it extend the time within which a petition for judicial review may be filed and shall not postpone the effectiveness of such rule or action. This action may not be challenged later in proceedings to enforce its requirements. (See section 307(b)(2)).

### List of Subjects in 40 CFR Part 52

Environmental protection, Air pollution control, Incorporation by reference, Intergovernmental relations, Nitrogen dioxide, Ozone, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Volatile organic compounds.

Authority: 42 U.S.C. 7401 et seq.

#### Michael Martucci,

Regional Administrator, Region 2.

For the reasons stated in the preamble, 40 CFR part 52 is amended as follows:

# PART 52—APPROVAL AND PROMULGATION OF IMPLEMENTATION PLANS

■ 1. The authority citation for part 52 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 42 U.S.C. 7401 et seq.

# Subpart HH—New York

■ 2. In § 52.1670(d), amend the the table by adding the entry "Lehigh Cement Company LLC" at the end of the table to read as follows:

### § 52.1670 Identification of plan.

(d) \* \* \*

# EPA-APPROVED NEW YORK SOURCE-SPECIFIC PROVISIONS

| Name of source            | Identifier No.             | State effective date | EPA approval date  | Comments   |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|--|--|
| Lehigh Cement Company LLC | * * * * 5–5205–00013/00058 | *<br>07/11/2010      | * 4/3/2025, [INSERT FIRST PAGE OF<br>FEDERAL REGISTER CITATION]. | * RACT emission limit for conditions 85 and 86, emission unit 0-UKILN. |

[FR Doc. 2025-05372 Filed 4-2-25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> 62 FR 27968 (May 22, 1997).

#### **DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

#### 50 CFR Part 679

[Docket No. 250312-0037; RTID 0648-XE592]

Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pollock in Statistical Area 620 in the Gulf of Alaska

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

**ACTION:** Temporary rule; closure.

**SUMMARY:** NMFS is prohibiting directed fishing for pollock in Statistical Area 620 in the Gulf of Alaska (GOA). This action is necessary to prevent exceeding the A season allowance of the 2025 total allowable catch (TAC) of pollock for Statistical Area 620 in the GOA.

**DATES:** Effective 1200 hours, Alaska local time (A.l.t.), April 1, 2025, through 2400 hours, A.l.t., May 31, 2025.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Andrew Olson, 907–586–7228.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: NMFS manages the groundfish fishery in the GOA exclusive economic zone according to the Fishery Management Plan for Groundfish of the Gulf of Alaska (FMP) prepared by the North Pacific Fishery Management Council under authority of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act). Regulations governing fishing by U.S. vessels in accordance with the FMP appear at subpart H of 50 CFR part 600 and 50 CFR part 679.

The A season allowance of the 2025 TAC of pollock in Statistical Area 620 of the GOA is 63,267 metric tons (mt) as established by the final 2025 and 2026 harvest specifications for groundfish in the GOA (90 FR 12468, March 18, 2025).

In accordance with § 679.20(d)(1)(i) and (d)(1)(ii)(B), the Regional Administrator has determined that the A season allowance of the 2025 TAC of pollock in Statistical Area 620 of the GOA will soon be reached. Therefore, the Regional Administrator is establishing a directed fishing allowance of 62,767 mt and is setting aside the remaining 200 mt as bycatch to support other anticipated groundfish fisheries. In accordance with § 679.20(d)(1)(iii), the Regional

Administrator finds that this directed fishing allowance has been reached. Consequently, NMFS is prohibiting directed fishing for pollock in Statistical Area 620 of the GOA.

While this closure is effective the maximum retainable amounts at § 679.20(e) and (f) apply at any time during a trip.

#### Classification

NMFS issues this action pursuant to section 305(d) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act. This action is required by 50 CFR part 679, which was issued pursuant to section 304(b), and is exempt from review under Executive Order 12866.

Pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(B), there is good cause to waive prior notice and an opportunity for public comment on this action, as notice and comment would be impracticable and contrary to the public interest, as it would prevent NMFS from responding to the most recent fisheries data in a timely fashion and would delay the closure of directed fishing for pollock in Statistical Area 620 in the GOA. NMFS was unable to publish a notice providing time for public comment because the most recent, relevant data only became available as of March 31, 2025.

The Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, NOAA also finds good cause to waive the 30-day delay in the effective date of this action under 5 U.S.C. 553(d)(3). This finding is based upon the reasons provided above for waiver of prior notice and opportunity for public comment.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 et seq.

Dated: March 31, 2025.

#### Karen H. Abrams,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service. [FR Doc. 2025–05739 Filed 4–1–25; 4:15 pm] BILLING CODE 3510–22–P

#### DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

# 50 CFR Part 679

[Docket No. 250312-0037; RTID 0648-XE818]

Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Gulf of Alaska; Final 2025 and 2026 Harvest Specifications for Groundfish; 2025 Rockfish Program Cooperative Allocations

**AGENCY:** National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and

Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

**ACTION:** Temporary rule.

**SUMMARY:** NMFS is providing notification of the Central Gulf of Alaska (GOA) Rockfish Program cooperative allocations that are based on final total allowable catch (TAC) limits in the final rule published on March 18, 2025, implementing the final 2025 and 2026 harvest specifications and prohibited species catch (PSC) limits for the groundfish fishery of the GOA. These allocations are necessary to provide the Rockfish Program cooperative amounts for 2025, thus allowing commercial fishermen to maximize their economic opportunities in this fishery, consistent with the goals and objectives of the Fishery Management Plan for Groundfish of the GOA (FMP).

**DATES:** Effective 1200 hours, Alaska local time (A.l.t.), April 1, 2025, through 1200 hours, A.l.t., December 31, 2025.

# **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Abby Jahn, 907–586–7228.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: NMFS manages the groundfish fishery in the GOA exclusive economic zone according to the FMP prepared and recommended by the North Pacific Fishery Management Council under authority of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act). Regulations governing fishing by U.S. vessels in accordance with the FMP appear at subpart H of 50 CFR part 600 and 50 CFR parts 679 and 680.

As described in the final 2025 and 2026 harvest specifications for groundfish of the GOA, allocations among vessels belonging to catcher vessel (CV) cooperatives or catcher/ processor (CP) cooperatives are not included in the final harvest specifications (90 FR 12468, March 18, 2025). Rockfish Program applications for CV cooperatives and CP cooperatives are not due to NMFS until March 1 of each calendar year; therefore, NMFS cannot calculate 2025 and 2026 allocations in conjunction with the final harvest specifications (§ 679.81(f)). NMFS has received the 2025 Rockfish Program applications and has calculated the 2025 allocations for CV cooperatives and CP cooperatives as required by and consistent with § 679.81(b), (c), (d), and (e). NMFS is listing the 2025 allocations in table 1.

TABLE 1—2025 ROCKFISH PROGRAM COOPERATIVE ALLOCATIONS

| Entry level  | Group code | Species group                  | Metric tons        |
|--|------------|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| Rockfish Program Entry Level   | 401        | Pacific Ocean Perch            | 5<br>5<br>50       |
| Catcher/Processor Cooperatives:  |            | Dusky Hocklish                 | 50                 |
| Gulf of Alaska Rockfish Best Use Cooperative   | 412        | Pacific Ocean Perch            | 9,683.29           |
|  |            | Thornyhead Rockfish            | 156.35             |
|  |            | Halibut PSC                    | 74.1               |
|  |            | Sablefish                      | 342.014            |
|  |            | Northern Rockfish              | 1,352.58           |
|  |            | Rougheye/Blackspotted Rockfish | 211.343            |
|  |            | Shortraker Rockfish            | 75.6               |
|  |            | Dusky Rockfish                 | 2,081.69           |
| Catcher Vessel Cooperatives:   |            |                                |                    |
| Silver Bay Seafoods Rockfish Cooperative   | 407        | Pacific Cod                    | 145.774            |
|  |            | Pacific Ocean Perch            | 3,978.24           |
|  |            | Thornyhead Rockfish            | 11.507             |
|  |            | Halibut PSC                    | 29.182             |
|  |            | Sablefish                      | 164.359            |
|  |            | Northern Rockfish              | 474.254            |
| N  | 400        | Dusky Rockfish                 | 754.885            |
| North Pacific Rockfish Cooperative   | 408        | Pacific Cod                    | 94.536             |
|  |            | Pacific Ocean Perch            | 2,527.06           |
|  |            | Thornyhead Rockfish            | 7.462              |
|  |            | Halibut PSC                    | 18.925<br>106.588  |
|  |            | Sablefish  Northern Rockfish   | 291.378            |
|  |            | Dusky Rockfish                 | 291.378<br>565.949 |
| OBSI Rockfish Cooperative  | 409        | Pacific Cod                    | 129.026            |
| Obsi Hockiisii Cooperative   | 409        | Pacific Ocean Perch            | 3.119.94           |
|  |            | Thornyhead Rockfish            | 10.185             |
|  |            | Halibut PSC                    | 25.829             |
|  |            | Sablefish                      | 145.476            |
|  |            | Northern Rockfish              | 467.725            |
|  |            | Dusky Rockfish                 | 834.738            |
| Star of Kodiak Rockfish Cooperative  | 411        | Pacific Cod                    | 216.602            |
| Time of the same o |            | Pacific Ocean Perch            | 5,395.46           |
|  |            | Thornyhead Rockfish            | 17.099             |
|  |            | Halibut PSC                    | 43.361             |
|  |            | Sablefish                      | 244.218            |
|  |            | Northern Rockfish              | 789.062            |
|  |            | Dusky Rockfish                 | 1.280.74           |

### Classification

NMFS issues this action pursuant to section 305(d) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act. Through previous actions, the FMP and regulations are designed to authorize NMFS to take this action pursuant to section 305(d). See 50 CFR part 679. This action is exempt from review under Executive Order 12866.

The Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, NOAA, finds good cause to waive the requirement to provide prior notice and opportunity for public comment pursuant to the authority set forth at 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(B), as such requirement is unnecessary and

contrary to the public interest. This notification provides information on the 2025 Rockfish Program cooperative allocations, and does not change operating practices in the fisheries. This notification is consistent with the harvest specifications recommended by the North Pacific Fishery Management Council in December 2024 and implemented by NMFS in the final rule for the 2025 and 2026 harvest specifications (90 FR 12468, March 18, 2025). Those harvest specifications specify the final TAC limits from which NMFS calculates the Rockfish Program cooperative allocations based on existing regulations, which were

implemented through prior notice and comment rulemaking (§ 679.81(b), (c), (d), and (e)). The public was provided with notice and opportunity to comment on the TAC limits during the public comment period for the proposed harvest specifications (89 FR 94680, November 29, 2024) and has had notice of the final harvest specifications implementing the final TAC limits (90 FR 12468, March 18, 2025). Because the public already had a meaningful opportunity to comment on the TAC limits from which these allocations are derived, further opportunity for public comment is unnecessary and would not be meaningful.

This notification announces the Rockfish Program cooperative allocations based on applications received after the publication of the 2025 and 2026 harvest specifications. If this notification is delayed to allow for notice and comment it could also result in confusion for participants in the Rockfish Program given that the final rule implementing the 2025 and 2026

harvest specifications is effective and the Rockfish Program fishery opens April 1, 2025. Therefore, the Assistant Administrator finds good cause to waive the requirement to provide prior notice and opportunity for public comment.

For the reasons above, the Assistant Administrator also finds good cause under 5 U.S.C. 553(d)(3) to waive the 30-day delay in effective date and make

this rule effective immediately upon publication.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 et seq.

Dated: March 31, 2025.

# Karen H. Abrams,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service. [FR Doc. 2025–05740 Filed 4–1–25; 4:15 pm]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-P

# **Proposed Rules**

#### Federal Register

Vol. 90, No. 63

Thursday, April 3, 2025

This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains notices to the public of the proposed issuance of rules and regulations. The purpose of these notices is to give interested persons an opportunity to participate in the rule making prior to the adoption of the final rules

#### DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

#### **Federal Aviation Administration**

#### 14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. FAA-2025-0478; Project Identifier MCAI-2024-00647-A]

RIN 2120-AA64

# Airworthiness Directives; Embraer S.A. Airplanes

**AGENCY:** Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice of proposed rulemaking

(NPRM).

**SUMMARY:** The FAA proposes to supersede Airworthiness Directive (AD) 2023-22-11, which applies to certain Embraer S.A. (Embraer) Model EMB-505 airplanes. AD 2023-22-11 requires repetitively replacing the clutch retaining bolt and washer of the aileron autopilot servo mount. Since the FAA issued AD 2023–22–11, the FAA has determined that the applicability should be expanded to include all Model EMB-505 airplanes and, for certain airplanes, an additional requirement is necessary for the initial replacement of the retaining bolt and washer. This proposed AD would also provide an optional terminating action for the repetitive retaining bolt and washer replacement. These actions are specified in an Agência Nacional de Aviação Civil (ANAC) AD, which is proposed for incorporation by reference. The FAA is proposing this AD to address the unsafe condition on these products.

**DATES:** The FAA must receive comments on this NPRM by May 19, 2025.

**ADDRESSES:** You may send comments, using the procedures found in 14 CFR 11.43 and 11.45, by any of the following methods:

- Federal eRulemaking Portal: Go to regulations.gov. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.
  - Fax: (202) 493–2251.
- Mail: U.S. Department of

Transportation, Docket Operations, M-30, West Building Ground Floor, Room

W12–140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590.

• Hand Delivery: Deliver to Mail address above between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

AD Docket: You may examine the AD docket at regulations.gov under Docket No. FAA–2025–0478; or in person at Docket Operations between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The AD docket contains this NPRM, the mandatory continuing airworthiness information (MCAI) any comments received, and other information. The street address for Docket Operations is listed above.

Material Incorporated by Reference:

- · For ANAC material identified in this proposed AD, contact ANAC, Continuing Airworthiness Technical Branch (GTAC), Rua Doutor Orlando Feirabend Filho, 230—Centro Empresarial Aquarius—Torre B— Andares 14 a 18, Parque Residencial Aquarius, CEP 12.246-190-São José dos Campos—SP, Brazil; phone: 55 (12) 3203–6600; email: pac@anac.gov.br; website: anac.gov.br/en/. You may find this material on the ANAC website at sistemas.anac.gov.br/certificacao/DA/ DAE.asp. It is also available at regulations.gov under Docket No. FAA-2025-0478.
- You may view this material at the FAA, Airworthiness Products Section, Operational Safety Branch, 901 Locust, Kansas City, MO 64106. For information on the availability of this material at the FAA, call (817) 222–5110.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jim Rutherford, Aviation Safety Engineer, FAA, 1600 Stewart Avenue, Suite 410, Westbury, NY 11590; phone: (816) 329–4165; email: jim.rutherford@faa.gov.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

#### **Comments Invited**

The FAA invites you to send any written relevant data, views, or arguments about this proposal. Send your comments to an address listed under ADDRESSES. Include "Docket No. FAA-2025-0478; Project Identifier MCAI-2024-00647-A" at the beginning of your comments. The most helpful comments reference a specific portion of the proposal, explain the reason for any recommended change, and include supporting data. The FAA will consider all comments received by the closing

date and may amend the proposal because of those comments.

Except for Confidential Business Information (CBI) as described in the following paragraph, and other information as described in 14 CFR 11.35, the FAA will post all comments received, without change, to regulations.gov, including any personal information you provide. The agency will also post a report summarizing each substantive verbal contact received about this NPRM.

### **Confidential Business Information**

CBI is commercial or financial information that is both customarily and actually treated as private by its owner. Under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) (5 U.S.C. 552), CBI is exempt from public disclosure. If your comments responsive to this NPRM contain commercial or financial information that is customarily treated as private, that you actually treat as private, and that is relevant or responsive to this NPRM, it is important that you clearly designate the submitted comments as CBI. Please mark each page of your submission containing CBI as "PROPIN." The FAA will treat such marked submissions as confidential under the FOIA, and they will not be placed in the public docket of this NPRM. Submissions containing CBI should be sent to Jim Rutherford, Aviation Safety Engineer, FAA, 1600 Stewart Avenue, Suite 410, Westbury, NY 11590. Any commentary that the FAA receives which is not specifically designated as CBI will be placed in the public docket for this rulemaking.

### **Background**

The FAA issued AD 2023–22–11, Amendment 39–22595 (88 FR 80565, November 20, 2023), (AD 2023–22–11), for certain serial-numbered Embraer Model EMB–505 airplanes. AD 2023–22–11 was prompted by an MCAI originated by ANAC, which is the aviation authority for Brazil. ANAC issued ANAC AD 2023–02–01R1, effective March 14, 2023 (ANAC AD 2023–02–01R1) to correct an unsafe condition.

AD 2023–22–11 requires repetitively replacing the clutch retaining bolt and washer of the aileron autopilot servo mount. The FAA issued AD 2023–22–11 to address failure of the clutch retaining bolt of the aileron autopilot servo mount, which could disengage the

clutch from the drive pin and jam the aileron controls, resulting in reduced controllability of the airplane.

# Actions Since AD 2023–22–11 Was Issued

Since the FAA issued AD 2023-22-11, ANAC superseded ANAC AD 2023-02-01R1 that was for certain serialnumbered Embraer Model EMB-505 airplanes and issued ANAC AD 2023-02-01R2, effective October 16, 2024, for all serial-numbered Embraer Model EMB–505 airplanes, which was superseded by ANAC AD 2023-02-01R3, effective October 25, 2024 (ANAC AD 2023-02-01R3) (also referred to as the MCAI). ANAC AD 2023-02-01R3 maintains the applicability of ANAC AD 2023-02-01R2 to include all Embraer Model EMB-505 airplanes, includes a requirement for the initial replacement of the retaining bolt and washer, and requires repetitively replacing the aileron autopilot servo mount clutch retaining bolt and washer. ANAC AD 2023-02-01R3 also provides an optional terminating action for the repetitive replacement of the aileron autopilot servo mount clutch retaining bolt and washer by replacing the cable guard, clutch cartridge, bolt, and washer with new parts having new part numbers.

The FAA is issuing this AD to address failure of the clutch retaining bolt of the aileron autopilot servo mount, which could disengage the clutch from the drive pin and jam the aileron controls, which could result in reduced controllability of the airplane.

You may examine the MCAI in the AD docket at *regulations.gov* under Docket No. FAA–2025–0478.

# Material Incorporated by Reference Under 1 CFR Part 51

The FAA reviewed ANAC AD 2023–02–01R3, which specifies procedures for

repetitively replacing the clutch retaining bolt and washer of the aileron autopilot servo mount. ANAC AD 2023–02–01R3 also provides a terminating action for repetitively replacing the clutch retaining bolt and washer of the aileron autopilot servo mount by replacing the cable guard, clutch cartridge, bolt, and washer with new parts having new part numbers.

This material is reasonably available because the interested parties have access to it through their normal course of business or by the means identified in the ADDRESSES section.

#### **FAA's Determination**

These products have been approved by the aviation authority of another country and are approved for operation in the United States. Pursuant to the FAA's bilateral agreement with this State of Design Authority, it has notified the FAA of the unsafe condition described in the MCAI referenced above. The FAA is issuing this NPRM after determining that the unsafe condition described previously is likely to exist or develop on other products of the same type design.

# Proposed AD Requirements in This NPRM

This proposed AD would retain some of the requirements of AD 2023–22–11, specifically the repetitive replacement requirements. This proposed AD would require accomplishing the actions specified in ANAC AD 2023–02–01R3 described previously, except for any differences identified as exceptions in the regulatory text of this proposed AD and except as discussed under "Differences Between this Proposed AD and the MCAI."

# **Explanation of Required Compliance Information**

In the FAA's ongoing efforts to improve the efficiency of the AD process, the FAA developed a process to use some civil aviation authority (CAA) ADs as the primary source of information for compliance with requirements for corresponding FAA ADs. The FAA has been coordinating this process with manufacturers and CAAs. As a result, the FAA proposes to incorporate ANAC AD 2023-02-01R3 by reference in the FAA final rule. This proposed AD would, therefore, require compliance with ANAC AD 2023-02-01R3 in its entirety through that incorporation, except for any differences identified as exceptions in the regulatory text of this proposed AD. Material required by ANAC AD 2023-02-01R3 for compliance will be available at regulations.gov under Docket No. FAA-2025-0478 after the FAA final rule is published.

# Differences Between This Proposed AD and the MCAI

The material specified in ANAC AD 2023–02–01R3 states that operators should take pictures of the removed clutch retaining bolt and the removed washer and email them, along with additional information, to Embraer S.A and Garmin. ANAC AD 2023–02–01R3 does not specifically require this task, and the proposed AD would not include this task.

#### **Costs of Compliance**

The FAA estimates that this AD, if adopted as proposed, would affect 586 airplanes of U.S. registry.

The FAA estimates the following costs to comply with this proposed AD:

### **ESTIMATED COSTS**

| Action                  | Labor cost   | Parts cost | Cost per product                | Cost on U.S. operators                  |
|-------------------------|--|------------|---------------------------------|---|
| Replace bolt and washer | 1 work-hour × \$85 per hour = \$85 per replacement interval. | \$50       | \$135 per replacement interval. | \$79,110 per replace-<br>ment interval. |

The FAA estimates the following costs to do any necessary replacements that would be required based on

selection of the terminating action. The agency has no way of determining the

number of airplanes that might need these replacements:

# **ON-CONDITION COSTS**

| Action  | Labor cost                           | Parts cost | Cost per product |
|---|--------------------------------------|------------|------------------|
| Optional terminating action (replace cable guard, clutch cartridge, bolt, and washer with new parts). | 6 work-hours × \$85 per hour = \$510 | \$300      | \$810            |

The FAA has included all known costs in its cost estimate. According to the manufacturer, however, some of the costs of this AD may be covered under warranty, thereby reducing the cost impact on affected operators.

#### Authority for This Rulemaking

Title 49 of the United States Code specifies the FAA's authority to issue rules on aviation safety. Subtitle I, section 106, describes the authority of the FAA Administrator. Subtitle VII, Aviation Programs, describes in more detail the scope of the Agency's authority.

The FAA is issuing this rulemaking under the authority described in Subtitle VII, Part A, Subpart III, Section 44701: General requirements. Under that section, Congress charges the FAA with promoting safe flight of civil aircraft in air commerce by prescribing regulations for practices, methods, and procedures the Administrator finds necessary for safety in air commerce. This regulation is within the scope of that authority because it addresses an unsafe condition that is likely to exist or develop on products identified in this rulemaking action.

#### Regulatory Findings

The FAA determined that this proposed AD would not have federalism implications under Executive Order 13132. This proposed AD would not have a substantial direct effect on the States, on the relationship between the national Government and the States, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities among the various levels of government.

For the reasons discussed above, I certify that the proposed regulation:

- (1) Is not a "significant regulatory action" under Executive Order 12866,
- (2) Would not affect intrastate aviation in Alaska, and
- (3) Would not have a significant economic impact, positive or negative, on a substantial number of small entities under the criteria of the Regulatory Flexibility Act.

# List of Subjects in 14 CFR Part 39

Air transportation, Aircraft, Aviation safety, Incorporation by reference, Safety.

# The Proposed Amendment

Accordingly, under the authority delegated to me by the Administrator, the FAA proposes to amend 14 CFR part 39 as follows:

# PART 39—AIRWORTHINESS DIRECTIVES

■ 1. The authority citation for part 39 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 49 U.S.C. 106(g), 40113, 44701.

## § 39.13 [Amended]

- 2. The FAA amends § 39.13 by:
- a. Removing Airworthiness Directive 2023–22–11, Amendment 39–22595 (88 FR 80565, November 20, 2023); and
- b. Adding the following new airworthiness directive:

Embraer S.A.: Docket No. FAA-2025-0478; Project Identifier MCAI-2024-00647-A.

#### (a) Comments Due Date

The FAA must receive comments on this airworthiness directive (AD) by May 19, 2025.

#### (b) Affected ADs

This AD replaces AD 2023–22–11, Amendment 39–22595 (88 FR 80565, November 20, 2023) (AD 2023–22–11).

# (c) Applicability

This AD applies to Embraer S.A. Model EMB–505 airplanes, certificated in any category.

#### (d) Subject

Joint Aircraft System Component (JASC) Code 2215, Autopilot Main Servo.

### (e) Unsafe Condition

This AD was prompted by corrosion on the clutch retaining bolt of the aileron autopilot servo mount. The FAA is issuing this AD to address the unsafe condition. The unsafe condition, if not addressed, could result in failure of the clutch retaining bolt of the aileron autopilot servo mount, which could disengage the clutch from the drive pin and jam the aileron controls, which could result in reduced controllability of the airplane.

#### (f) Compliance

Comply with this AD within the compliance times specified, unless already done.

### (g) Required Actions

Except as specified in paragraphs (h) and (i) of this AD: Comply with all required actions and compliance times specified in, and in accordance with, Agência Nacional de Aviação Civil (ANAC) AD 2023–02–01R3, effective October 25, 2024 (ANAC AD 2023–02–01R3).

#### (h) Exceptions to ANAC AD 2023-02-01R3

- (1) Where ANAC AD 2023–02–01R3 refers to February 6, 2023, the effective date of ANAC AD 2023–02–01, this AD requires using December 26, 2023, the effective date of AD 2023–22–11.
- (2) Where ANAC AD 2023–02–01R3 refers to its effective date, this AD requires using the effective date of this AD.
- (3) Where ANAC AD 2023–02–01R3 requires replacing a part with a new part, for the purposes of this AD, a new part means a part that has accumulated zero flight hours.

- (4) Where the "NOTE" to Table 01 in ANAC AD 2023–02–01R3 specifies "If the airplane operation age and/or the flight hours criteria change before the SB accomplishment, the most restrictive criteria must be obeyed," this AD requires replacing that text with "comply with the most restrictive criteria for each applicability range (in months and flight hours) in Table 01 of ANAC AD 2023–02–01R3."
- (5) This AD does not adopt paragraph (e) of ANAC AD 2023–02–01R3.

### (i) No Reporting Requirement

Although the service information referenced in ANAC AD 2023–02–01R3 specifies to submit certain information to the manufacturer, this AD does not include that requirement.

# (j) Alternative Methods of Compliance (AMOCs)

- (1) The Manager, International Validation Branch, FAA, has the authority to approve AMOCs for this AD, if requested using the procedures found in 14 CFR 39.19. In accordance with 14 CFR 39.19, send your request to your principal inspector or local Flight Standards District Office, as appropriate. If sending information directly to the manager of the International Validation Branch, send it to the attention of the person identified in paragraph (k) of this AD and email to: AMOC@faa.gov. If mailing information, also submit information by email. Before using any approved AMOC, notify your appropriate principal inspector, or lacking a principal inspector, the manager of the local Flight Standards District Office/ certificate holding district office.
- (2) AMOCs approved for AD 2023–22–11 are approved as AMOCs for the corresponding provisions of this AD.

#### (k) Additional Information

For more information about this AD, contact Jim Rutherford, Aviation Safety Engineer, FAA, 1600 Stewart Avenue, Suite 410, Westbury, NY 11590; phone: (816) 329–4165; email: jim.rutherford@faa.gov.

#### (l) Material Incorporated by Reference

- (1) The Director of the Federal Register approved the incorporation by reference (IBR) of the material listed in this paragraph under 5 U.S.C. 552(a) and 1 CFR part 51.
- (2) You must use this material as applicable to do the actions required by this AD, unless the AD specifies otherwise.
- (i) Agência Nacional de Aviação Civil (ANAC) AD 2023–02–01R3, effective October 25, 2024.
  - (ii) [Reserved]
- (3) For ANAC material identified in this AD, contact ANAC, Continuing Airworthiness Technical Branch (GTAC), Rua Doutor Orlando Feirabend Filho, 230—Centro Empresarial Aquarius—Torre B—Andares 14 a 18, Parque Residencial Aquarius, CEP 12.246–190—São José dos Campos—SP, Brazil; phone: 55 (12) 3203–6600; email: pac@anac.gov.br; website: anac.gov.br/en/. You may find this material on the ANAC website at sistemas.anac.gov.br/certificacao/DA/DAE.asp.
- (4) You may view this material at the FAA, Airworthiness Products Section, Operational

Safety Branch, 901 Locust, Kansas City, MO 64106. For information on the availability of this material at the FAA, call (817) 222–5110.

(5) You may view this material at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). For information on the availability of this material at NARA, visit www.archives.gov/federal-register/cfr/ibr-locations or email fr.inspection@nara.gov.

Issued on March 27, 2025.

#### Steven W. Thompson,

Acting Deputy Director, Compliance & Airworthiness Division, Aircraft Certification Service.

[FR Doc. 2025–05700 Filed 4–2–25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-13-P

#### **DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

#### **Federal Aviation Administration**

#### 14 CFR Part 47

[Docket No. FAA-2025-0638]

# Request for Comment To Withhold Certain Aircraft Registration Information From Public Dissemination

**AGENCY:** Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Department of Transportation (DOT).

**ACTION:** Request for comment.

**SUMMARY:** The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) is seeking comment on the impacts of removing certain aircraft registration data from public display on the FAA website, including through current search functions and published reports. The removal of this data is intended to satisfy the requirement in section 803 of the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2024, requiring removal of private aircraft owner or operator Personally Identifiable Information (PII) from broad dissemination or display by the FAA, including on a publicly available website of the FAA.

**DATES:** Send comments on or before May 5, 2025.

**ADDRESSES:** Send comments identified by docket number FAA-2025-0638 using any of the following methods:

- Federal eRulemaking Portal: Go to www.regulations.gov and follow the online instructions for sending your comments electronically.
- Mail: Send comments to Docket Operations, M–30; U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Room W12–140, West Building Ground Floor, Washington, DC 20590–0001.
- Hand Delivery or Courier: Take comments to Docket Operations in Room W12–140 of the West Building Ground Floor at 1200 New Jersey

Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

• *Fax:* Fax comments to Docket Operations at (202) 493–2251.

Docket: Background documents or comments received may be read at www.regulations.gov at any time. Follow the online instructions for accessing the docket or go to the Docket Operations in Room W12–140 of the West Building Ground Floor at 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Natalie Wilkowske, Flight Standards Service, Registry Bldg., Room 118, 6425 S Denning Ave., Oklahoma City, OK 73169; telephone (405) 954–2539; email faa.aircraft.registry@faa.gov.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section** 803 of the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2024, Public Law 118-63, amended chapter 441 of title 49, United States Code, by adding 49 U.S.C. 44114. Section 44114(b) requires that, not later than 2 years after the enactment of the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2024 (May 16, 2026), notwithstanding any other provision of law, including section 552(b)(3) of title 5, the Administrator shall establish a procedure by which, upon request of a private aircraft owner or operator, the Administrator shall withhold from broad dissemination or display by the FAA (except in furnished data or information made available to or from a Government agency pursuant to a government contract, subcontract, or agreement, including for traffic management purposes) the personally identifiable information of such individual, including on a publicly available website of the FAA. Aircraft owners will retain the ability to view their own aircraft information.

This request for comment seeks public input on the impacts of the FAA removing certain aircraft registration data from FAA websites. Specifically, the data that will be removed includes the following categories:

(A) the mailing address or registration address of the registered owner(s);

- (B) an electronic address (including an email address) of a registered owner(s); or
- (C) the telephone number of a registered owner(s).
- (D) the name(s) of the aircraft owner(s).

FAA websites receive over 1 million visits per month for reports and aircraft inquiries. Due to this activity volume, the FAA seeks comments regarding the following:

- 1. How often do people or organizations access or use registered owner information, and how is this information used?
- 2. What would be the impact on privacy, safety, commerce, and accessibility of information if the identified categories of registered owner information are removed from public availability?
- 3. How would the removal of such information affect the ability of stakeholders to perform necessary functions, such as maintenance, safety checks, and regulatory compliance?
- 4. How should FAA implement the removal of identified categories of registered owner information from public availability?
- 5. What would be the impact if the FAA removed such information for private aircraft owners categorically and permitted such owners to request copies of their information rather than removing such information only upon an individual request?
- 6. What additional aircraft registration data should be removed from FAA websites?

#### Additional Information

#### A. Comments Invited

FAA invites interested persons to participate in this action by submitting written comments, data, or views. The most helpful comments explain the reason for any recommended change and include supporting data. To ensure the docket does not contain duplicate comments, commenters should submit only one time if comments are filed electronically, or commenters should send only one copy of written comments if comments are filed in writing.

FAA will file in the docket all comments it receives, as well as a report summarizing each substantive public contact with FAA personnel concerning this request for comments. FAA will consider all comments it receives on or before the closing date for comments.

Privacy: In accordance with 5 U.S.C. 553(c), DOT solicits comments from the public to better inform its implementation of section 803 of the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2024. DOT posts these comments, without edit, including any personal information the commenter provides, to www.regulations.gov, as described in the system of records notice (DOT/ALL-14 FDMS), which can be reviewed at www.dot.gov/privacy.

#### B. Confidential Business Information

Confidential Business Information (CBI) is commercial or financial

information that is both customarily and actually treated as private by its owner. Under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) (5 U.S.C. 552), CBI is exempt from public disclosure. If your comments responsive to this request for comments contain commercial or financial information that is customarily treated as private, that you actually treat as private, and that is relevant or responsive to this request for comments, it is important that you clearly designate the submitted comments as CBI. Please mark each page of your submission containing CBI as "PROPIN." FAA will treat such marked submissions as confidential under the FOIA, and they will not be placed in the public docket of this request for comments. Submissions containing CBI should be sent to the person in the FOR FURTHER **INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this document. Any commentary that FAA receives which is not specifically designated as CBI will be placed in the public docket for this request for comments.

#### C. Electronic Access and Filing

A copy of this request for comments, all comments received, and all background material may be viewed online at www.regulations.gov using the docket number listed above. Electronic retrieval help and guidelines are available on the website. It is available 24 hours each day, 365 days each year. An electronic copy of this document may also be downloaded from the Office of the Federal Register's website at www.federalregister.gov and the Government Publishing Office's website at www.govinfo.gov.

Copies may also be obtained by sending a request to the Federal Aviation Administration, Office of Rulemaking, ARM–1, 800 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20591, or by calling (202) 267–9677. Commenters must identify the docket number of this request for comments.

# D. Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act

The Small Business Regulatory
Enforcement Fairness Act (SBREFA) of
1996 requires FAA to comply with
small entity requests for information or
advice about compliance with statutes
and regulations within its jurisdiction.
A small entity with questions regarding
this document may contact its local
FAA official, or the person listed under
the FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT
heading at the beginning of the
preamble. To find out more about
SBREFA on the internet, visit
www.faa.gov/regulations\_policies/
rulemaking/sbre act/.

Issued under the authority of 49 U.S.C. 44114 in Washington, DC.

#### Hugh J. Thomas,

Acting Deputy Executive Director, Flight Standards Service.

[FR Doc. 2025–05738 Filed 4–2–25; 8:45 am]

#### **DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

#### **Federal Aviation Administration**

#### 14 CFR Part 71

[Docket No. FAA-2025-0400; Airspace Docket No. 25-AEA-4]

#### RIN 2120-AA66

Revocation of Class D and Class E4 Airspace; Establishment of Class E2 Airspace; Amendment of Class E5 Airspace Aberdeen, MD

**AGENCY:** Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM).

**SUMMARY:** This action proposes to remove Class D and E4 airspace at Phillips Army Airfield (AAF) due to the closure of the air traffic control tower. This action proposes to establish Class E2 airspace extending upward from the surface above Phillips AAF, Aberdeen, MD, at the request of the United States Army to provide the required airspace for Instrument Flight Rules (IFR) operations at Phillips AAF. This action also proposes to amend Class E5 airspace to accommodate the decommissioning of Aberdeen nondirectional radio beacon (NDB), and cancellation of the associated instrument approach procedures. Controlled airspace is necessary for the safety and management of IFR operations in the area for existing instrument approaches.

**DATES:** Comments must be received on or before May 19, 2025.

**ADDRESSES:** Send comments identified by FAA Docket No. FAA–2025–0400 and Airspace Docket No. 25–AEA–4 using any of the following methods:

\* Federal eRulemaking Portal: Go to www.regulations.gov and follow the online instructions for sending your comments electronically.

\* Mail: Docket Operations, M-30; U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Room W12–140, West Building Ground Floor, Washington, DC 20590–0001.

\* Hand Delivery or Courier: Take comments to Docket Operations in Room W12–140 of the West Building Ground Floor at 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except for Federal holidays.

\* *Fax:* Fax comments to Docket Operations at (202) 493–2251.

Docket: Background documents or comments received may be read at www.regulations.gov at any time. Follow the online instructions for accessing the docket or go to the Docket Operations in Room W12–140 of the West Building Ground Floor at 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except for Federal holidays.

FAA Order JO 7400.11J Airspace
Designations and Reporting Points and
subsequent amendments can be viewed
online at www.faa.gov/air\_traffic/
publications/. You may also contact the
Rules and Regulations Group, Policy
Directorate, Federal Aviation
Administration, 600 Independence
Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20597;
telephone: (202) 267–8783.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Robert Scott Stuart, Operations Support Group, Eastern Service Center, Federal Aviation Administration, 1701 Columbia Avenue, College Park, GA 30337; Telephone: (404) 305–5926.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

# **Authority for This Rulemaking**

The FAA's authority to issue rules regarding aviation safety is found in Title 49 of the United States Code. Subtitle I. Section 106, describes the authority of the FAA Administrator. Subtitle VII, Aviation Programs, describes in more detail the scope of the agency's authority. This rulemaking is promulgated under the authority described in Subtitle VII, Part A, Subpart I, Section 40103. Under that section, the FAA is charged with prescribing regulations to assign the use of airspace necessary to ensure the safety of aircraft and the efficient use of airspace. This regulation is within the scope of that authority, as it would remove Class D and E4, establish Class E2, and amend Class E5 airspace in Aberdeen, MD.

#### **Comments Invited**

The FAA invites interested persons to participate in this rulemaking by submitting written comments, data, or views. Comments are specifically invited on the overall regulatory, aeronautical, economic, environmental, and energy-related aspects of the proposal. The most helpful comments reference a specific portion of the proposal, explain the reason for any recommended change, and include

supporting data. To ensure the docket does not contain duplicate comments, commenters should submit only one time if comments are filed electronically, or commenters should send only one copy of written comments if comments are filed in writing.

The FAA will file in the docket all comments it receives, as well as a report summarizing each substantive public contact with FAA personnel concerning this proposed rulemaking. Before acting on this proposal, the FAA will consider all comments it receives on or before the closing date for comments. The FAA will consider comments filed after the comment period has closed if it is possible to do so without incurring expense or delay. The FAA may change this proposal in light of the comments it receives.

Privacy: In accordance with 5 U.S.C. 553(c), DOT solicits comments from the public to better inform its rulemaking process. DOT posts these comments, without edits, including any personal information the commenter provides, to www.regulations.gov, as described in the system of records notice (DOT/ALL–14 FDMS), which can be reviewed at www.dot.gov/privacy.

#### **Availability of Rulemaking Documents**

An electronic copy of this document may be downloaded through the internet at www.regulations.gov.

Recently published rulemaking documents can also be accessed through the FAA's web page at www.faa.gov/air\_traffic/publications/airspace\_amendments/.

You may review the public docket containing the proposal, any comments received, and any final disposition in person in the Dockets Operations office (see ADDRESSES section for address, phone number, and hours of operations). An informal docket may also be examined during regular business hours at the office of the Eastern Service Center, Federal Aviation Administration, Room 210, 1701 Columbia Ave., College Park, GA 30337.

# **Incorporation by Reference**

Class D and Class E airspace designations are published in paragraphs 5000, 6002, 6004, and 6005 of FAA Order JO 7400.11, Airspace Designations and Reporting Points, which is incorporated by reference in 14 CFR 71.1 on an annual basis. This document proposes to amend the current version of that order, FAA Order JO 7400.11J, Airspace Designations and Reporting Points, dated July 31, 2024, and effective September 15, 2024. These updates will be published in the next

update to FAA Order JO 7400.11. FAA Order JO 7400.11J is publicly available as listed in the **ADDRESSES** section of this document. FAA Order JO 7400.11J lists Class A, B, C, D, and E airspace areas, air traffic service routes, and reporting points.

#### The Proposal

This action proposes an amendment to 14 CFR part 71 to remove Class D and E4 airspace, establish Class E2 airspace, and amend Class E5 airspace for Phillips AAF, Aberdeen, MD.

This action proposes to remove the Class D and Class E4 airspaces extending upward from the surface above Phillips Army Airfield (AAF), Aberdeen, MD, as the air traffic control tower will be permanently closing and no longer providing air traffic control services

This action proposes to establish Class E airspace extending upward from the surface that is required to support the existing RNAV approach servicing Phillips AAF and at the request of the United States Army. Controlled airspace is necessary for the safety and management of IFR operations for existing instrument approaches at Phillips AAF.

This action proposes to amend Class E5 airspace extending upward from 700 feet above the surface for Phillips AAF, Aberdeen, MD, to accommodate airspace reconfiguration due to the decommissioning of Aberdeen's nondirectional radio beacon (NDB) and cancellation of the NDB approaches. The reconfiguration would remove the extension from the 8.3-mile radius of Phillips AAF extending clockwise from the 260° bearing to the 030° bearing from the airport leaving only the 6.9mile radius Class E5 airspace that is required for existing approaches into Phillips AAF.

# **Regulatory Notices and Analyses**

The FAA has determined that this proposed regulation only involves an established body of technical regulations for which frequent and routine amendments are necessary to keep them operationally current. It, therefore, (1) is not a "significant regulatory action" under Executive Order 12866; (2) is not a "significant rule" under Department of Transportation (DOT) Regulatory Policies and Procedures (44 FR 11034; February 26, 1979); and (3) does not warrant preparation of a regulatory evaluation as the anticipated impact is so minimal. Since this is a routine matter that will only affect air traffic procedures and air navigation, it is certified that this proposed rule, when

promulgated, will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities under the criteria of the Regulatory Flexibility Act.

#### **Environmental Review**

This proposal will be subject to an environmental analysis in accordance with FAA Order 1050.1F, "Environmental Impacts: Policies and Procedures," prior to any final regulatory action by the FAA.

#### Lists of Subjects in 14 CFR Part 71

Airspace, Incorporation by reference, Navigation (air).

#### The Proposed Amendment

In consideration of the foregoing, the Federal Aviation Administration proposes to amend 14 CFR part 71 as follows:

# PART 71—DESIGNATION OF CLASS A, B, C, D, AND E AIRSPACE AREAS; AIR TRAFFIC SERVICE ROUTES; AND REPORTING POINTS

■ 1. The authority citation for part 71 continues to read as follows:

**Authority:** 49 U.S.C. 106(f), 106(g), 40103, 40113, 40120; E.O. 10854, 24 FR 9565, 3 CFR, 1959–1963 Comp., p. 389.

#### §71.1 [Amended]

■ 2. The incorporation by reference in 14 CFR 71.1 of FAA Order JO 7400.11J, Airspace Designations and Reporting Points, dated July 31, 2024, and effective September 15, 2024, is amended as follows:

Paragraph 5000 Class D Airspace.

# AEA MD D Aberdeen, MD [Remove]

Phillips AAF, MD

(Lat. 39°27′56" N, long. 76°10′06" W)

That airspace extending upward from the surface to and including 2,600 feet MSL within a 4.4-mile radius of Phillips AAF; excluding that airspace in Restricted Area R–4001A when it is in effect. This Class D airspace area is effective during the specific dates and times established in advance by a Notice to Airmen. The specific date and time will thereafter be continuously published in the Chart Supplement.

Paragraph 6004 Class E Airspace Designated as an Extension to a Class D Surface Area.

# AEA MD E4 Aberdeen, MD [Remove]

Phillips AAF, MD

(Lat. 39°27′56″ N, long. 76°10′06″ W)

That airspace extending upward from the surface within 2 miles each side of the  $028^{\circ}$  bearing from Phillips AAF, extending from the 4.4-mile radius of the airport to 9 miles

northeast of the airport; excluding that airspace in Restricted Area R-4001A when it is in effect. This Class E airspace area is effective during the specific dates and times established in advance by a Notice to Airmen. The specific date and time will thereafter be continuously published in the Chart Supplement.

Paragraph 6002 Class E Surface Airspace.

#### AEA MD E2 Aberdeen, MD [New]

Phillips AAF, MD

(Lat. 39°27′56" N, long. 76°10′06" W)

That airspace extending upward from the surface within a 4.4-mile radius of Phillips AAF; excluding that airspace in Restricted Area R-4001A when it is in effect. This Class E airspace area is effective during the specific dates and times established in advance by a Notice to Airmen. The specific date and time will thereafter be continuously published in the Chart Supplement.

Paragraph 6005 Class E Airspace.

AEA MD E5 Aberdeen, MD [Amended]

Phillips AAF, MD

(Lat. 39°27′56" N, long. 76°10′06" W)

That airspace extending upward from 700 feet above the surface within a 6.9-mile radius of Phillips AAF excluding the airspace in Restricted Areas R-4001A and R-4001B when they are in effect.

Issued in College Park, Georgia, on March 28, 2025.

### Patrick Young,

Manager, Airspace & Procedures Team North, Eastern Service Center, Air Traffic Organization.

[FR Doc. 2025-05636 Filed 4-2-25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-13-P

#### **DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

14 CFR Chapters I Through III

23 CFR Chapters I Through III

33 CFR Chapter IV

46 CFR Chapter II

48 CFR Chapter 12

49 CFR Subtitle A and Subtitle B, Chapters I Through III and V and VI

[Docket No. DOT-OST-2025-0026]

**Ensuring Lawful Regulation; Reducing Regulation and Controlling Regulatory** Costs

**AGENCY:** Office of the Secretary, Department of Transportation.

**ACTION:** Request for information (RFI).

**SUMMARY:** As part of its implementation of Executive orders issued by the President, including Executive Order 14219, "Ensuring Lawful Governance and Implementation of the President's 'Department of Government Efficiency' Deregulatory Agenda," issued on February 19, 2025, and Executive Order 14192, "Unleashing Prosperity through Deregulation," issued on January 31, 2025, the Department of Transportation (DOT) seeks comments and information to assist DOT in identifying existing regulations, guidance, paperwork requirements, and other regulatory obligations that can be modified or repealed, consistent with law, to ensure that DOT administrative actions do not undermine the national interest and that DOT achieves meaningful burden reduction while continuing to meet statutory obligations and ensure the safety of the U.S. transportation system. **DATES:** Written comments and

information are requested on or before May 5, 2025.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons are encouraged to submit comments, identified by "Regulatory Reform RFI," by any of the following methods:

Federal eRulemaking Portal: https:// www.regulations.gov. Follow the instructions for submitting comments. Email:

Transportation.RegulatoryInfo@dot.gov. Include "Regulatory Reform RFI" in the subject line of the message.

Mail: U.S. Department of Transportation, Office of the General Counsel, 1200 New Jersey Ave. SE, Washington, DC 20590.

All comments received will be posted without change to https:// www.regulations.gov, including any personal information provided.

#### Electronic Access and Filing

This document and all comments received may be viewed online through the Federal eRulemaking portal at https://www.regulations.gov using the docket number listed above. Electronic retrieval help and guidelines are also available at https:// www.regulations.gov. An electronic copy of this document may also be downloaded from the Office of the Federal Register's website at www.FederalRegister.gov and the U.S. Government Publishing Office's website at www.GovInfo.gov. All comments received before the close of business on the comment closing date indicated above will be considered and will be available for examination in the docket at the above address. Comments received after the comment closing date

will be filed in the docket and will be considered to the extent practicable.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Daniel Cohen, U.S. Department of Transportation, Office of the General Counsel, 1200 New Jersey Ave. SE, Washington, DC 20590. Telephone:

(202) 366-4702. Email:

Transportation.RegulatoryInfo@dot.gov. SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On

February 19, 2025, the President issued Executive Order 14219, "Ensuring Lawful Regulation and Implementing the President's 'Department of Government Efficiency' Deregulatory Agenda" (90 FR 10583; February 25, 2025). That order stated the policy of the Administration is to focus the executive branch's limited enforcement resources on regulations squarely authorized by constitutional Federal statutes and commence the deconstruction of the overbearing and burdensome administrative state. Pursuant to the order, agencies are required to identify and report to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (OIRA) within the Office of Management and Budget on regulations in one or more of the following categories:

- (i) Unconstitutional regulations and regulations that raise serious constitutional difficulties, such as exceeding the scope of the power vested in the Federal Government by the Constitution:
- (ii) Regulations that are based on unlawful delegations of legislative
- (iii) Regulations that are based on anything other than the best reading of the underlying statutory authority or prohibition;
- (iv) Regulations that implicate matters of social, political, or economic significance that are not authorized by clear statutory authority;
- (v) Regulations that impose significant costs upon private parties that are not outweighed by public benefits;
- (vi) Regulations that harm the national interest by significantly and unjustifiably impeding technological innovation, infrastructure development, disaster response, inflation reduction, research and development, economic development, energy production, land use, and foreign policy objectives; and (vii) regulations that impose undue burdens on small business and impede private enterprise and entrepreneurship.

After receiving this report, OIRA is instructed to consult with agency heads to develop a Unified Regulatory Agenda to rescind or modify identified regulations as appropriate and consider these factors when evaluating potential

new regulations. On January 31, 2025, the President issued Executive Order 14192, "Unleashing Prosperity Through Deregulation" (90 FR 9065; Feb. 6, 2025). The order states the policy of the executive branch is to be prudent and financially responsible in the expenditure of funds, from both public and private sources, and to alleviate unnecessary regulatory burdens placed on the American people. Toward that end, E.O. 14192 requires that:

(a) Unless prohibited by law, whenever an agency proposes for notice and comment or otherwise promulgates a new regulation, it shall identify at least 10 existing regulations to be

repealed.

(b) For fiscal year 2025, all agencies must ensure that the total incremental cost of all new regulations, including repealed regulations, being finalized is significantly less than zero, as determined by the Director of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), unless otherwise required by law or instructions from OMB.

(c) Any new incremental costs associated with new regulations must, to the extent permitted by law, be offset by the elimination of existing costs associated with at least 10 prior

regulations.

Further, Executive Order 14192 requires that for fiscal year 2026, and each fiscal year thereafter, the head of each agency identify, on an aggregated basis, for regulations that increase incremental cost, offsetting regulations and provide the agency's best approximation of the total costs or savings associated with each new regulation or repealed regulation. During the Presidential budget process, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget will identify for each agency a total amount of incremental costs that will be allowed for such agency in issuing new regulations and repealing regulations for each fiscal year after fiscal year 2025. No regulations exceeding the agency's total incremental cost allowance will be permitted in that fiscal year, unless required by law or approved in writing by the Director. The total incremental cost allowance may allow an increase or require a reduction in total regulatory cost.

To implement these Executive orders, DOT is taking two immediate steps. First, as described further below, DOT is issuing this RFI seeking public comment on how best to ensure lawful regulation and to achieve meaningful burden reduction while continuing to achieve DOT's legal obligations, safety mission, and regulatory objectives. Second, DOT has created an email in-box at

Transportation.RegulatoryInfo@dot.gov, which interested parties can use to identify to DOT—on a continuing basis—existing regulations, guidance, reporting requirements, and other regulatory obligations that they believe can be modified or repealed, consistent with law. Any comments received will be placed in the docket for this RFI on https://regulations.gov. Together, these steps will help DOT ensure it acts in a lawful, prudent, and financially responsible manner in the expenditure of funds, from both public and private sources, and manages appropriately the costs associated with private expenditures required for compliance with DOT regulations.

### **Request for Information**

Pursuant to the Executive orders described herein, DOT is, through this RFI, seeking input, as permitted by law, from the public, particularly entities significantly affected by administrative actions of DOT, including State, local, and tribal governments; small businesses; consumers; nongovernmental organizations; transportation system operators and service providers; and manufacturers and their trade associations. DOT's goal is to create a systematic method for identifying those existing DOT regulations, guidance, or reporting requirements that are inconsistent with law or Administration policy, including regulations, guidance, or reporting requirements that are obsolete, unnecessary, unjustified, or simply no longer make sense. Consistent with DOT's commitment to public participation in the rulemaking process, DOT is beginning this process by soliciting views from the public on how best to conduct its analysis of existing DOT regulations, guidance, or reporting requirements. It is also seeking views from the public on specific regulations, guidance, or reporting requirements or DOT-imposed obligations that should be altered or eliminated. Because knowledge about the full effects of a regulation, guidance, or reporting requirement is widely dispersed in society, members of the public are likely to have useful information and perspectives on the benefits and burdens of existing requirements and how regulatory obligations may be updated, streamlined, revised, or repealed to better achieve regulatory objectives, while minimizing regulatory burdens, consistent with applicable law. Interested parties may also be wellpositioned to identify those regulations, guidance, or reporting requirements that are most in need of reform, and, thus, assist DOT in prioritizing and properly

tailoring its review process. In short, engaging the public in an open, transparent process is a crucial first step in DOT's review of its existing regulations, guidance, or reporting requirements.

DOT also seeks comments on DOT regulations, guidance, or reporting requirements that may be inconsistent with Executive Order 14151, "Ending Radical and Wasteful Government DEI Programs and Preferencing" (90 FR 8339; Jan. 29, 2025); Executive Order 14154, "Unleashing American Energy" (90 FR 8353; Jan. 29, 2025); Executive Order 14168, "Defending Women from Gender Ideology Extremism and Restoring Biological Truth to the Federal Government" (90 FR 8615; Jan. 30, 2025); Executive Order 14213, "Establishing the National Energy Dominance Council" (90 FR 9945; Feb. 20, 2025); and other Executive orders issued by the President.

#### **List of Questions for Commenters**

To allow DOT to evaluate suggestions more effectively, DOT is requesting that commenter provide, to the extent possible:

- Supporting data or other information such as cost information; and
- Specific suggestions regarding repeal, replacement, or modification.

The following list of questions represents an initial step by DOT to identify regulations, guidance, or reporting requirements on which it should immediately focus. 1 This nonexhaustive list is meant to assist in the formulation of comments and is not intended to restrict the issues that may be addressed. In addressing these questions or others, DOT requests that commenters identify with specificity the regulation, guidance, or reporting requirement at issue, providing legal citations where available. DOT also requests that the submitter provide, in as much detail as possible, an explanation of why a regulation, guidance, or reporting requirement should be modified, streamlined, or repealed, as well as specific suggestions of ways DOT can do so while achieving its regulatory objectives. Submitters are encouraged to provide economic data to demonstrate the cost of complying with

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The Department recognizes that commenters may have already submitted similar comments to the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) in Docket No. FMCSA–2024–0208 (regarding FMCSA's comprehensive review of its guidance pursuant to section 5203 of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act). To the extent that there are comments on which FMCSA should immediately focus, in light of the Executive orders addressed by this RFI, please highlight those in your comments to this document.

existing regulations, guidance, or reporting requirements, as well as the savings that a change to the rule, guidance, or reporting requirement might provide.

(1) Are there any regulations or guidance commenters can identify that fall within the seven categories outlined in Executive Order 14219? If so, how does any particular regulation or guidance fall within one or more of those categories? Would repeal or modification (and if so, please describe what modification) advance the policies of the order, consistent with law?

(2) How can DOT best promote meaningful regulatory cost reduction while achieving its regulatory objectives, and how can it best identify those regulations, guidance, or reporting requirements that might be modified,

streamlined, or repealed?

(3) How can DOT best obtain and consider accurate, objective information and data about the costs, burdens, and benefits of existing regulations, guidance, and reporting requirements? Are there existing sources of data DOT can use to evaluate the post-promulgation effects of regulations, guidance, or reporting requirements over time? DOT invites interested parties to provide data that may be in their possession that documents the costs, burdens, and benefits of existing requirements.

(4) Are there regulations, guidance, or reporting requirements that simply make no sense or have become unnecessary, ineffective, or ill-advised? If so, please identify them. Are there regulations, guidance, or reporting requirements that can be repealed without impairing DOT's ability to comply with its statutory obligations? If so, please identify them.

(5) Are there regulations, guidance, or reporting requirements that have become outdated and, if so, how can they be modernized to better

accomplish their objectives?

(6) Are there regulations, guidance, or reporting requirements that are still necessary, but have not operated as well as expected such that a modified, or slightly different approach at lower cost is justified?

(7) Are there regulations, guidance, or reporting requirements that unnecessarily obstruct, delay, curtail, or otherwise impose significant costs on the siting, permitting, or delivery of

transportation projects?

(8) Does DOT currently collect information that it does not need or use effectively?

(9) Are there regulations, guidance, or reporting requirements, or regulatory processes that are unnecessarily complicated or could be streamlined to achieve statutory obligations in more efficient ways? If so, what changes should be made?

(10) Are there regulations, guidance, or reporting requirements that have been overtaken by technological developments? Can new technologies be leveraged to modify, streamline, or rescind existing regulations, guidance, or reporting requirements?

(11) Does the methodology and data used in analyses supporting DOT's regulations meet the requirements of the

Information Quality Act?

(12) Are there any DOT regulations, guidance, or reporting requirements that are inconsistent with Executive Orders 14151, 14154, 14168, 14213, and other Executive orders issued by the President, described earlier in this RFI? If so, what modifications would ensure consistency with the orders and applicable law?

DOT notes that this RFI is issued solely for information and program-planning purposes. While responses to this RFI do not bind DOT to any further actions related to the response, all submissions will be made publicly available on https://www.regulations.gov.

Issued in Washington, DC, on March 27, 2025.

#### Gregory D. Cote,

Acting General Counsel, United States Department of Transportation.

[FR Doc. 2025-05557 Filed 4-2-25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-57-P

#### **DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

# National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

# 50 CFR Part 648

[Docket No. 250326-0055]

RIN 0648-BN51

Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; 2025 Black Sea Bass Recreational Management Measures

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

**ACTION:** Proposed rule; request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** NMFS proposes Federal management measures for the 2025 black sea bass recreational fishery. The implementing regulations for this fishery require NMFS to publish recreational measures for the fishing year and to provide an opportunity for

public comment. The intent of this action is to set management measures that allow this recreational fishery to achieve, but not exceed, the recreational harvest target and thereby prevent overfishing.

**DATES:** Comments must be received by April 18, 2025.

ADDRESSES: A plain language summary of this proposed rule is available at: https://www.regulations.gov/docket/NOAA-NMFS-2025-0016. You may submit comments on this document, identified by NOAA-NMFS-2025-0016, by any of the following methods:

• Electronic Submission: Submit all electronic public comments via the Federal e-Rulemaking Portal. Go to https://www.regulations.gov and type NOAA-NMFS-2025-0016 in the Search box (note: copying and pasting the FDMS Docket Number directly from this document may not yield search results). Click on the "Comment" icon, complete the required fields, and enter or attach your comments.

Instructions: Comments sent by any other method, to any other address or individual or received after the end of the comment period, may not be considered by NMFS. All comments received are a part of the public record and will generally be posted for public viewing on https://www.regulations.gov without change. All personal identifying information (e.g., name, address, etc.), confidential business information, or otherwise sensitive information submitted voluntarily by the sender will be publicly accessible. NMFS will accept anonymous comments (enter "N/ A" in the required fields if you wish to remain anonymous).

### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Savannah Lewis, Fishery Management Specialist, (978) 281–9348, or Savannah.Lewis@noaa.gov.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

# **Background**

NMFS is proposing to implement the 2025 black sea bass recreational management measures under the Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass Fishery Management Plan (FMP). The Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (Council) and the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (Commission) jointly manage the summer flounder, scup, and black sea bass commercial and recreational fisheries. The Council and the Commission's Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass Management Board (Board) meet jointly each year to recommend recreational management measures for all three species, generally set for two years, so that recreational

harvest achieves, but does not exceed, the recreational harvest targets specified by the Percent Change Approach adopted in the Harvest Control Rule Framework (Framework 17; 88 FR 14499; March 9, 2023). In a previous rule, summer flounder and scup recreational measures were set for two years (2024-2025; 89 FR 32374) and will remain status quo with no further action required in 2025. Black sea bass recreational management measures were previously only set for 2024 due to a delayed stock assessment. This action proposes the recreational management measures for only black sea bass and for only the 2025 fishing year.

Pursuant to the regulations at 50 CFR 648.142(d), NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) must implement coastwide measures or approve conservation-equivalent measures for black sea bass as soon as possible following the Council and Board's recommendation. The Council and Board recommend status quo recreational black sea bass measures for 2025, including the continued use of conservation equivalency, with regional measures expected to achieve, but not exceed, the harvest target. A status quo approach for 2025 complies with Framework 17 given that the 2025 catch and landings limits were not set "in response to updated stock assessment information" and instead were left unchanged. The rationale for leaving the 2025 catch and landings limits unchanged, including the recreational harvest limit, is explained in the final rule for the 2025 specifications (89 FR 99138; December 10, 2024). According to the most recent stock assessment, the biomass of black sea bass remains well above the target level and overfishing is not occurring. Black sea bass measures are being set for only one year as an updated management track assessment is expected to be available later this year and will be used to inform specifications and recreational measures for 2026 and beyond. Therefore, the Council and Board recommended that recreational measures remain unchanged in 2025.

# Black Sea Bass Conservation Equivalency

Under conservation equivalency, Federal recreational measures are waived and federally permitted party/charter vessels and all recreational vessels fishing in Federal waters are subject to the recreational fishing measures implemented by the State in which they land. This approach allows for more customized measures at a State or regional level that are likely to better meet the needs of anglers in each area,

compared to coastwide measures that may be advantageous to anglers in some areas and unnecessarily restrictive in others. The combination of State/ regional measures must be "equivalent" in terms of conservation to a set of "non-preferred coastwide measures," which are recommended by the Council and the Board.

The Council and Board recommend that either state-specific recreational measures be developed (*i.e.*, conservation equivalency) or that coastwide management measures be implemented. Even when the Council and Board recommend conservation equivalency, the Council must specify a set of non-preferred coastwide measures that would apply if conservation equivalency is not approved for use in Federal waters.

When conservation equivalency is recommended, and following confirmation by the Commission that the proposed State or regional measures developed through its technical and policy review processes achieve conservation equivalency, NMFS waives the permit condition found at 50 CFR 648.4(b) that requires Federal permit holders to comply with the more restrictive management measures when State and Federal measures differ. In such a situation, federally permitted black sea bass charter/party permit holders and individuals fishing for black sea bass in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ) are subject to the recreational fishing measures implemented by the State in which they land, rather than the coastwide measures

In addition, the Council and the Board must recommend precautionary default measures when recommending conservation equivalency. The Commission would require adoption of the precautionary default measures by any State that either does not submit a management proposal to the Commission's Technical Committee or that submits measures that are not conservationally equivalent to the coastwide measures.

The development of conservation-equivalency measures happens both at the Commission and individual State or regional level. The selection of appropriate data and analytical techniques for technical review of potential conservation-equivalent measures, and the process by which the Commission evaluates and recommends proposed conservation-equivalent measures, are wholly a function of the Commission and its individual member States. Individuals seeking information regarding the process to develop specific State measures, or on the

Commission process for technical evaluation of proposed measures, should contact the marine fisheries agency in the State of interest, the Commission, or both.

Once the States and regions select their final 2025 black sea bass management measures through their respective development, analytical, and review processes and submit them to the Commission, the Commission will conduct further review and evaluation of the submitted proposals. The Commission will notify NMFS as to which proposals have been approved or disapproved. NMFS has no overarching authority in the development of State or Commission management measures but is an equal participant along with all the member States in the review process. NMFS neither approves nor implements individual States' measures, but retains the final authority either to approve or to disapprove the use of conservation equivalency in place of the coastwide measures in Federal waters. The final combination of State and regional measures will be detailed in a letter from the Commission to the Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office certifying that the combination of State and regional measures has met the conservation objectives under Addendum XXXII to the Commission's Interstate FMP. NMFS will publish its determination on 2025 conservational equivalency as a final rule in the Federal Register following review of the Commission's determination and any other public comment on this proposed

# 2025 Black Sea Bass Recreational Management Measures

This action proposes the continued adoption of conservation equivalency for black sea bass in 2025. The non-preferred coastwide and precautionary default measures would be the same in 2025 as they were in 2024.

The non-preferred coastwide measures for 2025 include: (1) a 15-inch (38.1-cm) minimum size; (2) a 5-fish possession limit; and (3) a May 15-September 8 open season. The precautionary default measures would be implemented in any State or region that failed to develop adequate measures to constrain landings as required by the conservationequivalency guidelines. The precautionary default measures in 2025 include: (1) a 16-inch (40.64-cm) minimum size; (2) a 2-fish possession limit; and (3) a June 1-August 31 open season.

#### Classification

Pursuant to section 304(b)(1)(A) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act, the Acting Assistant Administrator has determined that this proposed rule is consistent with the Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass FMP, other provisions of the Magnuson-Stevens Act, and other applicable law, subject to further consideration after public comment.

Section 304(b) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act (16 U.S.C. 1854(b)) requires publication of proposed regulations in the **Federal Register** with a public comment period of 15 to 60 days. NMFS finds that a 15-day comment period for this action provides a reasonable opportunity for public participation in this action pursuant to Administrative Procedure Act section 553(c) (5 U.S.C. 553(c)), while also ensuring that the final recreational measures are in place as close to the start of State black sea bass fishery seasons in early May 2025, as possible. This is a routine action that occurs every year, and stakeholder and industry groups have been involved with the development of this action and have participated in public meetings throughout their development over the past year. A longer comment period here would be contrary to the public interest, as it could extend this rulemaking beyond the start of the 2025 recreational fishing season, resulting in confusion for fishery participants, disadvantage Federal permit holders, and create enforcement challenges.

This proposed rule has been determined to be not significant for purposes of Executive Order 12866. This proposed rule is being issued in compliance with Executive Order 14192.

The Chief Counsel for Regulation of the Department of Commerce certified to the Chief Counsel for Advocacy of the Small Business Administration (SBA) that this proposed rule, if adopted, would not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities. The Council conducted an evaluation of the potential socioeconomic impacts of the proposed measures.

Vessel ownership data <sup>1</sup> were used to identify all individuals who own fishing vessels. Vessels were then grouped according to common owners. The resulting groupings were then treated as entities, or affiliates, for purposes of identifying small and large businesses that may be regulated by this action. A business primarily engaged in fishing is

classified as a small business if it is independently owned and operated, is not dominant in its field of operation (including its affiliates) and has combined annual receipts not in excess of \$11 million, for all its affiliated operations worldwide (North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code 487210).

A total of 490 affiliates had a Federal party/charter permit for all permit types, not just black sea bass, during 2021–2023. All 490 affiliates were categorized as small businesses based on their average 2021–2023 revenues for any species. It is not possible to determine what proportion of their revenues came from fishing for an individual species. Nevertheless, given the popularity of black sea bass as a recreational species, revenues generated from this species are likely important for many of these affiliates at certain times of the year.

These 490 small businesses had average total annual revenues of \$119,320 during 2021–2023. Their average revenues from recreational forhire fishing (for a variety of species) were \$107,429. Average annual revenues from for-hire fishing ranged from less than \$10,000 for 198 affiliates to over \$1,000,000 for 11 affiliates. On average, recreational fishing accounted for 87 percent of the total revenues for these 490 small businesses. The contribution of black sea bass to these revenues is unknown.

For-hire revenues are impacted by a variety of factors, including regulations and demand for for-hire trips for black sea bass, and other potential target species, as well as weather, the economy, and other factors. Given that the State/regional measures for black sea bass are expected to remain unchanged from 2024, no impacts from the proposed action are expected.

Based on the analysis provided by the Council, NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service concludes that the 2025 black sea bass recreational management measures will not have a significant adverse impact on a substantial number of small businesses. As a result, an initial regulatory flexibility analysis is not required and none has been prepared.

This proposed rule contains no information collection requirements under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

Dated: March 26, 2025.

#### Samuel D. Rauch III,

Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, National Marine Fisheries Service.

#### List of Subjects in 50 CFR Part 648

Fisheries, Fishing, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

For the reasons set out in the preamble, NMFS proposes to amend 50 CFR part 648 as follows:

# PART 648—FISHERIES OF THE NORTHEASTERN UNITED STATES

■ 1. The authority citation for part 648 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 et seq.

■ 2. In § 648.151, revise paragraphs (a) and (b) to read as follows:

# § 648.151 Black sea bass conservation equivalency.

- (a) The Regional Administrator has determined that the recreational fishing measures proposed to be implemented by the States of Maine through North Carolina for 2025 are the conservation equivalent of the season, size limits, and possession limit prescribed in §§ 648.146, 648.147(b), and 648.145(a). This determination is based on a recommendation from the Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass Board of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission.
- (1) Federally permitted vessels subject to the recreational fishing measures of this part, and other recreational fishing vessels harvesting black sea bass in or from the EEZ and subject to the recreational fishing measures of this part, landing black sea bass in a State whose fishery management measures are determined by the Regional Administrator to be conservation equivalent shall not be subject to the more restrictive Federal measures, pursuant to the provisions of § 648.4(b). Those vessels shall be subject to the recreational fishing measures implemented by the State in which they land.
  - (2) [Reserved]
- (b) Federally permitted vessels subject to the recreational fishing measures of this part, and other recreational fishing vessels registered in States and subject to the recreational fishing measures of this part, whose fishery management measures are not determined by the Regional Administrator to be the conservation equivalent of the season, size limits and possession limit prescribed in §§ 648.146, 648.147(b), and 648.145(a), respectively, due to the lack of, or the reversal of, a conservation-equivalent

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Affiliate data for 2021–2023 were provided by the NMFS Northeast Fisheries Science Center Social Sciences Branch. This is the latest affiliate data set available for analysis.

recommendation from the Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass Board of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission shall be subject to the following precautionary default measures: Season—June 1 through

August 31; minimum size—16 inches (40.64 cm); and possession limit—2 fish.

[FR Doc. 2025–05494 Filed 4–2–25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-P

# **Notices**

#### Federal Register

Vol. 90, No. 63

Thursday, April 3, 2025

This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains documents other than rules or proposed rules that are applicable to the public. Notices of hearings and investigations, committee meetings, agency decisions and rulings, delegations of authority, filing of petitions and applications and agency statements of organization and functions are examples of documents appearing in this section.

#### **DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

# Foreign-Trade Zones Board

[B-19-2025]

Foreign-Trade Zone (FTZ) 177, Notification of Proposed Production Activity; AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals LP (Pharmaceutical Products); Mount Vernon, Indiana

AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals LP submitted a notification of proposed production activity to the FTZ Board (the Board) for its facilities in Mount Vernon, Indiana within Subzone 177A. The notification conforming to the requirements of the Board's regulations (15 CFR 400.22) was received on March 27, 2025.

Pursuant to 15 CFR 400.14(b), FTZ production activity would be limited to the specific foreign-status material(s)/ component(s) and specific finished product(s) described in the submitted notification (summarized below) and subsequently authorized by the Board. The benefits that may stem from conducting production activity under FTZ procedures are explained in the background section of the Board's website—accessible via www.trade.gov/ ftz. The proposed finished product and material/component would be added to the production authority that the Board previously approved for the operation, as reflected on the Board's website.

The proposed finished product is zibotentan/dapagliflozin tablets (duty-free).

The proposed foreign-status material/component is zibotentan active pharmaceutical ingredient (duty rate—6.5%). The request indicates that the material/component is subject to duties under section 1702(a)(1)(B) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (section 1702), depending on the country of origin. The applicable section 1702 decisions require subject merchandise to be admitted to FTZs in

privileged foreign status (19 CFR 146.41).

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 May 13, 2025.

A copy of the notification will be available for public inspection in the "Online FTZ Information System" section of the Board's website.

For further information, contact Diane Finver at *Diane.Finver@trade.gov*.

Dated: March 31, 2025.

#### Elizabeth Whiteman,

Executive Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2025-05743 Filed 4-2-25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-DS-P

#### **DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

### **International Trade Administration**

[A-520-811, A-791-829]

Certain Corrosion-Resistant Steel Products From the United Arab Emirates and South Africa: Preliminary Affirmative Determination, in Part, of Critical Circumstances

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

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of Commerce (Commerce) preliminarily determines that critical circumstances exist with respect to imports of certain corrosion-resistant steel products (CORE) from the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and that critical circumstances do not exist with respect to imports of CORE from South Africa. The period of investigation (POI) is July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024.

**DATES:** Applicable April 3, 2025.

# FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Jacob Saude or Thomas Cloyd, AD/CVD Operations, Office VII, Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482–0981 or (202) 482–1246, respectively.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

#### **Background**

On October 2, 2025, Commerce initiated the less-than-fair-value (LTFV)

investigations of CORE from the UAE and South Africa.<sup>1</sup> On February 18, 2025, Nucor Corporation, United States Steel Corporation, Wheeling-Nippon Steel, Inc., Steel Dynamics, Inc., and the United Steel, Paper and Forestry, Rubber, Manufacturing, Energy, Allied Industrial and Service Workers International Union, AFL-CIO, CLC (collectively, the petitioners), timely alleged that critical circumstances exist with respect to imports of CORE from the UAE and South Africa.<sup>2</sup> For a complete description of the events that followed the initiation of this investigation with respect to critical circumstances, see the Preliminary Critical Circumstances Decision Memorandum.<sup>3</sup> The Preliminary Critical Circumstances Decision Memorandum is a public document and is on file electronically via Enforcement and Compliance's Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Centralized Electronic Service System (ACCESS). ACCESS is available to registered users at https://access.trade.gov. In addition, a complete version of the Preliminary Critical Circumstances Decision Memorandum can be accessed directly at https://access.trade.gov/public/ FRNoticesListLayout.aspx.

# Scope of the Investigation

The product covered by these investigations is CORE from the UAE and South Africa. For a complete description of the scope of this investigation, see Appendix I.

# **Preliminary Affirmative Determination** of Critical Circumstances, in Part

In accordance with section 733(e) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act), and 19 CFR 351.206, Commerce preliminarily finds that critical

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See Certain Corrosion-Resistant Steel Products from Australia, Brazil, Canada, Mexico, the Netherlands, South Africa, Taiwan, the Republic of Türkiye, the United Arab Emirates, and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam: Initiation of Less-Than-Fair-Value Investigations, 89 FR 80196 (October 2, 2024)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> See Petitioners' Letter, "Certain Corrosion-Resistant Steel Products From South Africa and the United Arab Emirates: Critical Circumstances Allegation," dated February 18, 2025.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> See Memorandum, "Decision Memorandum for the Preliminary Affirmative Critical Circumstances Determination in the Less-Than-Fair-Value Investigations of Certain Corrosion-Resistant Steel Products from the United Arab Emirates and South Africa," dated concurrently with, and hereby adopted by, this notice (Preliminary Critical Circumstances Decision Memorandum).

circumstances exist for certain companies. For a full description of the methodology and results of Commerce's critical circumstances analysis, see the Preliminary Critical Circumstances

Decision Memorandum. Our findings are summarized as follows:

| Country      | Case No.  | Affirmative critical circumstances determination | Negative critical circumstances determination                 |
|--------------|-----------|--|---|
| UAE          | A-520-811 | All Other Producers                              | Al-Ghurair Iron & Steel LLC. United Iron & Steel Company LLC. |
| South Africa | A-791-829 |  | Duferco Steel Processing PTY Ltd. All Other Producers.        |

# Suspension of Liquidation

In accordance with sections 733(e)(2) of the Act, we have preliminarily found that critical circumstances exist with regard to shipments of CORE exported by certain producers and exporters from the UAE. If we make an affirmative preliminary determination that sales at LTFV have been made by these same producers/exporters at above de minimis rates,4 we will instruct U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to suspend liquidation of all entries of subject merchandise from these producers/exporters that are entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after the date that is 90 days prior to the effective date of "provisional measures" (e.g., the date of publication in the Federal Register of the notice of an affirmative preliminary determination of sales at LTFV at above de minimis rates). At such time, we will also instruct CBP to require a cash deposit equal to the estimated preliminary dumping margins reflected in the preliminary determination published in the Federal Register. This suspension of liquidation will remain in effect until further notice.

#### Disclosure

Commerce intends to disclose its calculations and analysis performed to interested parties in this preliminary critical circumstances determination within five days of any public announcement or, if there is no public announcement, within five days of the date of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**, in accordance with 19 CFR 351.224(b).

# **Public Comment**

All interested parties will have the opportunity to address these determinations in case briefs to be submitted after completion of the preliminary determinations in these LTFV investigations. The timeline for the submission of case briefs and

written comments will be notified to interested parties at a later date.

# U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC) Notification

In accordance with section 733(f) of the Act, Commerce will notify the ITC of its preliminary critical circumstances determination.

# **Final Critical Circumstances Determinations**

We will issue final critical circumstances determinations in conjunction with our final determinations in these LTFV investigations. All interested parties will have the opportunity to address these determinations in case briefs to be submitted after completion of the preliminary LTFV determinations

#### **Notification to Interested Parties**

This determination is issued and published in accordance with sections 733(f) and 777(i)(1) of the Act, and 19 CFR 351.205(c).

Dated: March 24, 2025.

### Christopher Abbott,

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy and Negotiations, performing the non-exclusive functions and duties of the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance.

# Appendix I

#### Scope of the Investigations

The products covered by these investigations are certain flat-rolled steel products, either clad, plated, or coated with corrosion-resistant metals such as zinc, aluminum, or zinc-, aluminum-, nickel- or iron-based alloys, whether or not corrugated or painted, varnished, laminated, or coated with plastics or other non-metallic substances in addition to the metallic coating. The products covered include coils that have a width of 12.7 mm or greater, regardless of form of coil (e.g., in successively superimposed layers, spirally oscillating, etc.). The products covered also include products not in coils (e.g., in straight lengths) of a thickness less than 4.75 mm and a width that is 12.7 mm or greater and that measures at least 10 times the thickness. The products covered also include products not in coils (e.g., in straight lengths) of a thickness of 4.75 mm or more and a width exceeding 150 mm and measuring at least

twice the thickness. The products described above may be rectangular, square, circular, or other shape and include products of either rectangular or non-rectangular cross-section where such cross-section is achieved subsequent to the rolling process, *i.e.*, products which have been "worked after rolling" (e.g., products which have been beveled or rounded at the edges).

For purposes of the width and thickness requirements referenced above:

(1) Where the nominal and actual measurements vary, a product is within the scope if application of either the nominal or actual measurement would place it within the scope based on the definitions set forth above, and

(2) where the width and thickness vary for a specific product (e.g., the thickness of certain products with non-rectangular cross-section, the width of certain products with non-rectangular shape, etc.), the measurement at its greatest width or thickness applies.

Steel products included in the scope of this investigation are products in which: (1) iron predominates, by weight, over each of the other contained elements; and (2) the carbon content is 2 percent or less, by weight.

Subject merchandise also includes corrosion-resistant steel that has been further processed in a third country, including but not limited to annealing, tempering, painting, varnishing, trimming, cutting, punching and/or slitting or any other processing that would not otherwise remove the merchandise from the scope of the investigations if performed in the country of manufacture of the in-scope corrosion resistant steel.

All products that meet the written physical description are within the scope of this investigation unless specifically excluded. The following products are outside of and/or specifically excluded from the scope of this investigation:

- Flat-rolled steel products either plated or coated with tin, lead, chromium, chromium oxides, both tin and lead ("terne plate") or both chromium and chromium oxides ("tin free steel"), whether or not painted, varnished or coated with plastics or other nonmetallic substances in addition to the metallic coating;
- Clad products in straight lengths of
   4.7625 mm or more in composite thickness and of a width which exceeds 150 mm and measures at least twice the thickness;
- Certain clad stainless flat-rolled products, which are three-layered corrosionresistant carbon steel flat-rolled products less than 4.75 mm in composite thickness that consist of a carbon steel flat-rolled product

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> The preliminary determinations concerning sales at LTFV are currently scheduled to be issued on April 3, 2025.

clad on both sides with stainless steel in a 20%–60%–20% ratio; and

Also excluded from the scope of the antidumping duty investigations on corrosion resistant steel from Taiwan are any products covered by the existing antidumping duty order on corrosionresistant steel from Taiwan. See Certain Corrosion-Resistant Steel Products from India, Italy, the People's Republic of China, the Republic of Korea and Taiwan: Amended Final Affirmative Antidumping Determination for India and Taiwan, and Antidumping Duty Orders, 81 FR 48390 (July 25, 2016); Corrosion-Resistant Steel Products from Taiwan: Notice of Third Amended Final Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value Pursuant to Court Decision and Partial Exclusion from Antidumping Duty Order, 88 FR 58245 (August 25, 2023).

Also excluded from the scope of the antidumping duty investigations on corrosion-resistant steel from the UAE and the antidumping duty and countervailing duty investigations on corrosion-resistant steel from the Socialist Republic of Vietnam are any products covered by the existing antidumping and countervailing duty orders on corrosion-resistant steel from the People's Republic of China and the Republic of Korea and the antidumping duty order on corrosion-resistant steel from Taiwan. See Certain Corrosion-Resistant Steel Products from India, Italy, the People's Republic of China, the Republic of Korea and Taiwan: Amended Final Affirmative Antidumping Determination for India and Taiwan, and Antidumping Duty Orders, 81 FR 48390 (July 25, 2016); see also Certain Corrosion-Resistant Steel Products from India, Italy, Republic of Korea and the People's Republic of China: Countervailing Duty Order, 81 FR 48387 (July 25, 2016). This exclusion does not apply to imports of corrosion-resistant steel that are entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption in the United States for which the relevant importer and exporter certifications have been completed and maintained and all other applicable certification requirements have been met such that the entry is entered into the United States as not subject to the antidumping and countervailing duty orders on corrosionresistant steel from the People's Republic of China, the antidumping and countervailing duty orders on corrosion-resistant steel from the Republic of Korea, or the antidumping duty order on corrosion resistant steel from

The products subject to the investigations are currently classified in the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) under item numbers: 7210.30.0030, 7210.30.0060, 7210.41.0000, 7210.49.0030, 7210.49.0045, 7210.49.0091, 7210.49.0095, 7210.61.0000, 7210.69.0000, 7210.70.6030, 7210.70.6060, 7210.70.6090, 7210.90.6000, 7210.90.9000, 7212.20.0000, 7212.30.1030, 7212.30.1090, 7212.30.3000, 7212.30.5000, 7212.40.1000, 7212.40.5000, 7212.50.0000, 7212.60.0000, 7225.92.0000, 7226.99.0110, and 7226.99.0130.

The products subject to the investigations may also enter under the following HTSUS item numbers: 7210.90.1000, 7215.90.1000,

7215.90.3000, 7215.90.5000, 7217.20.1500, 7217.30.1530, 7217.30.1560, 7217.90.1000, 7217.90.5030, 7217.90.5060, 7217.90.5090, 7225.99.0090, 7226.99.0180, 7228.60.6000, 7228.60.8000, and 7229.90.1000.

The HTSUS subheadings above are provided for convenience and customs purposes only. The written description of the scope of the investigations is dispositive.

[FR Doc. 2025–05694 Filed 4–2–25; 8:45 am] BILLING CODE 3510–DS-P

#### \_\_\_\_\_

#### DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

#### **International Trade Administration**

# Notice of Scope Ruling Applications Filed in Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Proceedings

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

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of Commerce (Commerce) received scope ruling applications, requesting that scope inquiries be conducted to determine whether identified products are covered by the scope of antidumping duty (AD) and/or countervailing duty (CVD) orders and that Commerce issue scope rulings pursuant to those inquiries. In accordance with Commerce's regulations, we are notifying the public of the filing of the scope ruling applications listed below in the month of February 2025.

# DATES: Applicable April 3, 2025.

### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Terri Monroe, AD/CVD Operations, Customs Liaison Unit, Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20230, telephone: (202) 482–1384.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

### **Notice of Scope Ruling Applications**

In accordance with 19 CFR 351.225(d)(3), we are notifying the public of the following scope ruling applications related to AD and CVD orders and findings filed in or around the month of February 2025. This notification includes, for each scope application: (1) identification of the AD and/or CVD orders at issue (19 CFR 351.225(c)(1)); (2) concise public descriptions of the products at issue, including the physical characteristics (including chemical, dimensional and technical characteristics) of the products (19 CFR 351.225(c)(2)(ii)); (3) the countries where the products are produced and the countries from where the products are exported (19 CFR 351.225(c)(2)(i)(B)); (4) the full names of the applicants; and (5) the dates that the

scope applications were filed with Commerce and the name of the ACCESS scope segment where the scope applications can be found. This notice does not include applications which have been rejected and not properly resubmitted. The scope ruling applications listed below are available on Commerce's online e-filing and document management system, Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Electronic Service System (ACCESS), at https://access.trade.gov.

#### Scope Ruling Applications

Mattresses from China (A–570–092); Hospital Memory Foam Mattresses (Hospital Mattresses); <sup>2</sup> produced in and exported from China; submitted by Point A Technologies (Point A Tech); February 3, 2025; ACCESS scope segment "Point A Technologies."

Truck and Bus Tires from Thailand (A–549–848); Yokohama TWS TR–900 Series Tires (TR–900 Series Tires); <sup>3</sup> produced in and exported from Thailand; submitted by Yokohama TWS North America, Inc. (Yokohama TWS); February 4, 2025; ACCESS scope segment "Yokohama TR–900 Series Tires."

Fresh Garlic from China (A–570–831); Whole Garlic Cloves in brine; <sup>4</sup> produced in and exported from China; submitted by International Golden Foods, Inc. (IGF); February 7, 2025; ACCESS scope segment "Intl Golden Foods."

Mattresses from Mexico (A–201–859); Mattresses assembled in Mexico using

<sup>2</sup> The products are adult sized memory-foam mattresses for use exclusively with hospital beds, with or without a plastic cover. Their dimensions are 34.5 inches wide, 77.5 inches long, and 5.9 inches in depth.

<sup>3</sup> The products are TR–900 tires, which are radial industrial pneumatic tires with reinforced sidewall construction. They are designed for forklift and port applications with a tire size ranging between 5.00R8 and 16.00R25. The tires have a maximum speed rating of 25 KPH or 16 MPH. The tires do not have the symbol "DOT" on the sidewall because they are not for use with motor vehicles. While the tires do indicate "TR" on the sidewall, this stands for the tires branding, "Trelleborg Radial."

<sup>4</sup> The products are whole garlic cloves in brine. The ingredients are as follows: garlic cloves, water, salt, citric acid, acetic acid, and lactic acid. The pH value is below 3.7. The acidity percentage is 1.0–1.8%.

¹ See Regulations to Improve Administration and Enforcement of Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Laws, 86 FR 52300, 52316 (September 20, 2021) (Final Rule) ("It is our expectation that the Federal Register list will include, where appropriate, for each scope application the following data: (1) identification of the AD and/or CVD orders at issue; (2) a concise public summary of the product's description, including the physical characteristics (including chemical, dimensional and technical characteristics) of the product; (3) the country(ies) where the product is exported; (4) the full name of the applicant; and (5) the date that the scope application was filed with Commerce.")

U.S. Origin mattress cores; <sup>5</sup> produced in and exported from Mexico; submitted by Bob Barker Company (Bob Barker); February 13, 2025; ACCESS scope segment "Bob Barker Mattresses."

Notification to Interested Parties

This list of scope ruling applications is not an identification of scope inquiries that have been initiated. In accordance with 19 CFR 351.225(d)(1), if Commerce has not rejected a scope ruling application nor initiated the scope inquiry within 30 days after the filing of the application, the application will be deemed accepted and a scope inquiry will be deemed initiated the following day-day 31.6 Commerce's practice generally dictates that where a deadline falls on a weekend, Federal holiday, or other non-business day, the appropriate deadline is the next business day. 7 Accordingly, if the 30th day after the filing of the application falls on a non-business day, the next business day will be considered the "updated" 30th day, and if the application is not rejected or a scope inquiry initiated by or on that particular business day, the application will be deemed accepted and a scope inquiry will be deemed initiated on the next business day which follows the 'updated" 30th day.8

In accordance with 19 CFR 351.225(m)(2), if there are companion AD and CVD orders covering the same merchandise from the same country of origin, the scope inquiry will be conducted on the record of the AD proceeding. Further, please note that pursuant to 19 CFR 351.225(m)(1), Commerce may either apply a scope

ruling to all products from the same country with the same relevant physical characteristics, (including chemical, dimensional, and technical characteristics) as the product at issue, on a country-wide basis, regardless of the producer, exporter, or importer of those products, or on a company-specific basis.

For further information on procedures for filing information with Commerce through ACCESS and participating in scope inquiries, please refer to the Filing Instructions section of the Scope Ruling Application Guide, at https:// access.trade.gov/help/Scope Ruling Guidance.pdf. Interested parties, apart from the scope ruling applicant, who wish to participate in a scope inquiry and be added to the public service list for that segment of the proceeding must file an entry of appearance in accordance with 19 CFR 351.103(d)(1) and 19 CFR 351.225(n)(4). Interested parties are advised to refer to the case segment in ACCESS as well as 19 CFR 351.225(f) for further information on the scope inquiry procedures, including the timelines for the submission of

Please note that this notice of scope ruling applications filed in AD and CVD proceedings may be published before any potential initiation, or after the initiation, of a given scope inquiry based on a scope ruling application identified in this notice. Therefore, please refer to the case segment on ACCESS to determine whether a scope ruling application has been accepted or rejected and whether a scope inquiry has been initiated.

Interested parties who wish to be served scope ruling applications for a particular AD or CVD order may file a request to be included on the annual inquiry service list during the anniversary month of the publication of the AD or CVD order in accordance with 19 CFR 351.225(n) and Commerce's procedures.<sup>9</sup>

Interested parties are invited to comment on the completeness of this monthly list of scope ruling applications received by Commerce. Any comments should be submitted to Scot Fullerton, Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for AD/CVD Operations, Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, via email to CommerceCLU@trade.gov.

This notice of scope ruling applications filed in AD and CVD proceedings is published in accordance with 19 CFR 351.225(d)(3).

Dated: March 28, 2025.

#### Scot Fullerton,

Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Operations.

[FR Doc. 2025-05745 Filed 4-2-25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-DS-P

#### **DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

International Trade Administration [C-533-937]

Overhead Door Counterbalance Torsion Springs From India: Preliminary Affirmative Countervailing Duty Determination and Alignment of Final Determination With Final Antidumping Duty Determination

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

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of Commerce (Commerce) preliminarily determines that countervailable subsidies are being provided to producers and exporters of overhead door counterbalance torsion springs (overhead door springs) from India. The period of investigation is January 1, 2023, through December 31, 2023. Interested parties are invited to comment on this preliminary determination.

DATES: Applicable April 3, 2025.
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Zachary Shaykin, AD/CVD Operations,
Office IV, Enforcement and Compliance,
International Trade Administration,
U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401
Constitution Avenue NW, Washington,
DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482–2638.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

# Background

This preliminary determination is made in accordance with section 703(b) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act). Commerce published the notice of initiation of this countervailing duty (CVD) investigation on November 25, 2024.¹ On January 2, 2025, Commerce postponed the preliminary determination of this investigation and the revised deadline is now March 28, 2025.² For a complete description of the events that followed the initiation of

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> The products are mattresses for institutional use in jails, prisons, mental health facilities, homeless shelters, and juvenile facilities. Each mattress is designed for a single bed with a 100% polyester core encased in a stitched vinyl cover. The merchandise is sold in two sizes. Model PJM25754 is 25″ W x 75″ L x 4″ H, and Model PJM30754 is 30″ W x 75″ L x 4″ H. The core is manufactured in the United States through a thermal-bonded batting process from 100% polyester fibers. The mattress cover is manufactured in Mexico from Chinese origin 3-Ply Polyvinyl Chloride fabric.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup>In accordance with 19 CFR 351.225(d)(2), within 30 days after the filing of a scope ruling application, if Commerce determines that it intends to address the scope issue raised in the application in another segment of the proceeding (such as a circumvention inquiry under 19 CFR 351.226 or a covered merchandise inquiry under 19 CFR 351.227), it will notify the applicant that it will not initiate a scope inquiry, but will instead determine if the product is covered by the scope at issue in that alternative segment.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> See Notice of Clarification: Application of "Next Business Day" Rule for Administrative Determination Deadlines Pursuant to the Tariff Act of 1930, As Amended, 70 FR 24533 (May 10, 2005).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> This structure maintains the intent of the applicable regulation, 19 CFR 351.225(d)(1), to allow day 30 and day 31 to be separate business days.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> See Scope Ruling Application; Annual Inquiry Service List; and Informational Sessions, 86 FR 53205 (September 27, 2021).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See Overhead Door Counterbalance Torsion Springs from the People's Republic of China and India: Initiation of Countervailing Duty Investigations, 89 FR 92901 (November 25, 2024) (Initiation Notice).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> See Overhead Door Counterbalance Torsion Springs from India and the People's Republic of China: Postponement of Preliminary Determinations in the Countervailing Duty Investigations, 90 FR 84 (January 2, 2025).

this investigation, see the Preliminary Decision Memorandum.<sup>3</sup> A list of topics discussed in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum is included as Appendix II to this notice. The Preliminary Decision Memorandum is a public document and is on file electronically via Enforcement and Compliance's Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Centralized Electronic Service System (ACCESS). ACCESS is available to registered users at https://access. trade.gov. In addition, a complete version of the Preliminary Decision Memorandum can be accessed directly at https://access.trade.gov/public/ FRNoticesListLayout.aspx.

### Scope of the Investigation

The products covered by this investigation are overhead door springs from India. For a complete description of the scope of this investigation, see Appendix I.

#### **Scope Comments**

In accordance with the *Preamble* to Commerce's regulations,<sup>4</sup> the *Initiation Notice* set aside a period of time for parties to raise issues regarding product coverage, (*i.e.*, scope).<sup>5</sup> Certain interested parties commented on the scope of the investigation as it appeared in the *Initiation Notice*.

For a summary of the product coverage comments and rebuttal responses submitted to the record for this preliminary determination, and accompanying discussion and analysis of all comments timely received, see the Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum. 6 Commerce is not preliminarily modifying the scope language as it appeared in the Initiation Notice.

### Methodology

Commerce is conducting this investigation in accordance with section 701 of the Act. For each of the subsidy programs found countervailable, Commerce preliminarily determines that there is a subsidy, *i.e.*, a financial contribution by an "authority" that

gives rise to a benefit to the recipient, and that the subsidy is specific.<sup>7</sup>

Commerce notes that, in making these findings, it relied, in part, on facts available and finds that one or more respondents and also (in certain instances) the Government of India did not act to the best of their ability to respond to Commerce's requests for information. Consequently, Commerce has drawn an adverse inference where appropriate in selecting from among the facts otherwise available.<sup>8</sup> For further information, see the "Use of Facts Otherwise Available and Adverse Inferences" section in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum.

#### Alignment

As noted in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum, in accordance with section 705(a)(1) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.210(b)(4), Commerce is aligning the final CVD determination in this investigation with the final determination in the companion lessthan-fair-value (LTFV) investigation of overhead door springs from India based on a request made by the petitioners.9 Consequently, the final CVD determination will be issued on the same date as the final LTFV determination, which is currently scheduled to be issued no later than August 11, 2025, unless postponed.

#### All-Others Rate

Sections 703(d) and 705(c)(5)(A) of the Act provide that in the preliminary determination, Commerce shall determine an estimated all-others rate for companies not individually examined. This rate shall be an amount equal to the weighted average of the estimated subsidy rates established for those companies individually examined, excluding any zero and deminimis rates and any rates based entirely under section 776 of the Act.

Commerce preliminarily calculated an individual estimated countervailable subsidy rate for Alcomex Springs Pvt Ltd. (Alcomex), the only individually examined exporter/producer in this investigation. Because the only individually calculated rate is not zero, de minimis, or based entirely on facts otherwise available, the estimated

weighted-average rate calculated for Alcomex is the rate assigned to all other producers and exporters, pursuant to section 705(c)(5)(A)(i) of the Act.

# **Preliminary Determination**

Commerce preliminarily determines that the following estimated countervailable subsidy rates exist:

| Company  | Subsidy rate<br>(percent<br>ad valorem) |
|--|---|
| Alcomex Springs Pvt Ltd<br>Asha Spring and Engineering | 2.66                                    |
| & Spring Company                                       | * 164.60                                |
| Balaji Springs Pvt. Ltd<br>Modern Engineering &        | * 164.60                                |
| Spring Company   | * 164.60                                |
| Reliable Springs Ltd                                   | * 164.60                                |
| All Others   | 2.66                                    |

<sup>\*</sup> Rate based on facts available with adverse inferences.

### Suspension of Liquidation

In accordance with section 703(d)(1)(B) and (d)(2) of the Act, Commerce will direct U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to suspend liquidation of entries of subject merchandise as described in the scope of the investigation section entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after the date of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**. Further, pursuant to 19 CFR 351.205(d), Commerce will instruct CBP to require a cash deposit equal to the rates indicated above.

#### Disclosure

Commerce intends to disclose its calculations and analysis performed to interested parties in this preliminary determination within five days of its public announcement, or if there is no public announcement, within five days of the date of this notice in accordance with 19 CFR 351.224(b).

Consistent with 19 CFR 351.224(e), Commerce will analyze and, if appropriate, correct any timely allegations of significant ministerial errors by amending the preliminary determination. However, consistent with 19 CFR 351.224(d), Commerce will not consider incomplete allegations that do not address the significance standard under 19 CFR 351.224(g) following the preliminary determination. Instead, Commerce will address such allegations in the final determination together with issues raised in the case briefs or other written comments.

# Verification

As provided in section 782(i)(1) of the Act, Commerce intends to verify the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> See Memorandum, "Decision Memorandum for the Preliminary Affirmative Determination of the Countervailing Duty Investigation of Overhead Door Counterbalance Torsion Springs from India," dated concurrently with, and hereby adopted by, this notice (Preliminary Decision Memorandum).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> See Antidumping Duties; Countervailing Duties, Final Rule, 62 FR 27296, 27323 (May 19, 1997).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> See Initiation Notice.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> See Memorandum, "Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Investigations of Overhead Door Counterbalance Torsion Springs from the People's Republic of China and India: Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum," dated concurrently with this notice (Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> See sections 771(5)(B) and (D) of the Act regarding financial contribution; section 771(5)(E) of the Act regarding benefit; and section 771(5A) of the Act regarding specificity.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> See sections 776(a) and (b) of the Act.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> See Petitioners' Letter, "Countervailing Duty Investigations of Overhead Door Counterbalance Torsion Springs from the People's Republic of China and India—Petitioners' Request to Align Final Countervailing Duty Determinations with the Companion Antidumping Duty Final Determinations," dated March 4, 2025.

information relied upon in making its final determination.

#### **Public Comment**

All interested parties are invited to comment on Commerce's Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum in scope case and scope rebuttal briefs. The deadline for interested parties to submit scope case briefs is 5 p.m. Eastern Time (ET) on April 30, 2025. Scope rebuttal briefs, limited to issues raised in the scope case briefs, may be submitted no later than five days after the deadline for the scope case briefs, i.e., 5 p.m. ET on May 5, 2025. Such comments must be filed via ACCESS on the records of the China and India CVD investigations and the concurrent LTFV investigations of overhead door springs from China and India.

Case briefs or other written comments, excluding scope comments, may be submitted to the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance no later than seven days after the date on which the last verification report is issued in this investigation. Rebuttal briefs, limited to issues raised in the case briefs, may be filed not later than five days after the date for filing case briefs. 10 Interested parties who submit case briefs or rebuttal briefs in this proceeding must submit: (1) a table of contents listing each issue; and (2) a table of authorities.11

As provided under 19 CFR 351.309(c)(2) and (d)(2), in prior proceedings we have encouraged interested parties to provide an executive summary of their brief that should be limited to five pages total, including footnotes. In this investigation, we instead request that interested parties provide at the beginning of their briefs a public, executive summary for each issue raised in their briefs. 12 Further, we request that interested parties limit their executive summary of each issue to no more than 450 words, not including citations. We intend to use the executive summaries as the basis of the comment summaries included in the issues and decision memorandum that will accompany the final determination in this investigation. We request that interested parties include footnotes for relevant citations

in the executive summary of each issue. Note that Commerce has amended certain of its requirements pertaining to the service of documents in 19 CFR 351.303(f).<sup>13</sup>

Pursuant to 19 CFR 351.310(c), interested parties who wish to request a hearing, limited to issues raised in the case and rebuttal briefs, must submit a written request to the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance, U.S. Department of Commerce within 30 days after the date of publication of this notice. Requests should contain: (1) the party's name, address, and telephone number, the number of participants, (2) whether any participant is a foreign national, and (3) a list of the issues to be discussed. If a request for a hearing is made, Commerce intends to hold the hearing at a date and time to be determined. Parties should confirm by telephone the date, time, and location of the hearing two days before the scheduled date.

#### U.S. International Trade Commission Notification

In accordance with section 703(f) of the Act, Commerce will notify the U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC) of its determination. If the final determination is affirmative, the ITC will determine before the later of 120 days after the date of this preliminary determination or 45 days after the final determination whether imports of overhead door springs from India are materially injuring, or threaten material injury to, the U.S. industry.

# **Notification to Interested Parties**

This determination is issued and published pursuant to sections 703(f) and 777(i) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.205(c).

Dated: March 28, 2025.

#### Christopher Abbott,

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy and Negotiations, performing the non-exclusive functions and duties of the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance.

#### Appendix I

# Scope of the Investigation

The merchandise covered by this investigation is helically-wound, overhead door counterbalance torsion steel springs (overhead door counterbalance torsion springs) and any cones, plugs or other similar fittings for mounting and creating torque in the spring (herein collectively referred to as cones) attached to or entered with and invoiced with the subject overhead door counterbalance torsion springs. Overhead door counterbalance torsion springs are helical steel springs with tightly wound coils that store and release mechanical energy by

winding and unwinding along the spring's axis by an angle, using torque to create a lifting force in the counterbalance assembly typically used to raise and lower overhead doors, including garage doors, industrial rolling doors, warehouse doors, trailer doors, and other overhead doors, gates, grates, or similar devices. The merchandise covered by this investigation covers all overhead door counterbalance torsion springs with a coil inside diameter of 15.8 millimeters (mm) or more but not exceeding 304.8 mm (measured across the diameter from inner edge to inner edge); a wire diameter of 2.5 mm to 20.4 mm; a length of 127 mm or more; and regardless of the following characteristics:

- wire type (including, but not limited to, oil-tempered wire, hard-drawn wire, music wire, galvanized or other coated wire);
- wire cross-sectional shape (e.g., round, square, or other shapes);
- coating (e.g., uncoated, oil- or waterbased coatings, lubricant coatings, zinc, aluminum, zinc-aluminum, paint or plastic coating, etc.);
- winding orientation (left-hand or right-hand wind direction);
- end type (including, but not limited to, looped, double looped, clipped, long length, mini warehouse, Barcol, Crawford, Kinnear, Wagner, rolling steel or barrel ends); and
- whether the overhead door counterbalance torsion springs are fitted with hardware, including but not limited to fasteners, clips, and cones (winding or stationary cones).

For purposes of the diameters referenced above, where the nominal and actual measurements vary, a product is within the scope if application of either the nominal or actual measurement would place it within the scope based on the definitions set forth above.

The steel torsion springs included in the scope of this investigation are produced from steel in which: (1) iron predominates, by weight, over each of the other contained elements; and (2) the carbon content is 2 percent or less, by weight.

Subject merchandise includes cones attached to or entered with and invoiced with the subject overhead door counterbalance torsion springs. Such cones, which are typically cast aluminum, aluminum alloy or steel (but may be made from other materials) are made to mount the subject springs to the overhead door counterbalance system and create and maintain torque in the spring. Cones or other similar fittings that are not attached to the subject springs or are not entered with and invoiced with the subject springs are not included within the scope unless entered as parts of kits as described below.

Subject merchandise also includes all subject overhead door counterbalance torsion springs and cones or other similar fittings for mounting and tensioning the spring entered as a part of overhead door kits, overhead door mounting or assembly kits, or as a part of a spring-operated motor assembly or as a part of a spring winder assembly kit for torsion springs. When counterbalance torsion springs and cones or other similar fittings for attaching and tensioning the torsion spring are entered as a part of such kits, only the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> See 19 CFR 351.309(d); see also Administrative Protective Order, Service, and Other Procedures in Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Proceedings, 88 FR 67069, 67077 (September 29, 2023) (APO and Service Final Rule).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> See 19 351.309(c)(2) and (d)(2).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> We use the term "issue" here to describe an argument that Commerce would normally address in a comment of the Issues and Decision Memorandum.

<sup>13</sup> See APO and Service Final Rule.

counterbalance spring and cones or other similar fittings in the kit are within scope. Subject merchandise also includes overhead door counterbalance torsion springs that have been further processed in a third country, including but not limited to cutting to length, attachment of hardware, cones or endfittings, inclusion in garage door kits or garage door mounting or assembly kits, or any other processing that would not remove the merchandise from the scope of this investigation if performed in the country of manufacture of the in-scope overhead door counterbalance torsion springs. All products that meet the written physical description are within the scope of this investigation unless specifically excluded. The following products are specifically excluded from the scope of this investigation:

- · leaf springs (slender arc-shaped length of spring steel of a rectangular cross-section);
- disc springs (conical springs consisting of a convex disc with the outer edge working against the center of the disc);
- extension springs (close-wound round helical wire springs that store and release energy by resisting the external pulling forces applied to the spring's ends in the direction of its length);
- · compression springs (helical coiled springs with open wound active coils (such open winding is also known as pitch) that are designed to compress under load or force);
- spiral springs (torsion springs wound as concentric spirals such as a clock spring or mainspring).

The products subject to this investigation are currently classified under Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) subheadings 7320.20.5020, 7320.20.5045 and 7320.20.5060. They may also be classified under HTSUS subheading 8412.90.9085 if entered as parts of spring-operated motors. They may also be classified in HTSUS subheading 8412.80.1000 (spring-operated motors) if entered as part of a spring counterweight assembly for an overhead door. They may also be classified in HTSUS subheading 7308.90.9590, a basket category that includes metal garage doors entered with mounting accessories or assemblies.

Although the HTSUS subheadings are provided for convenience and customs purposes, the written description of the scope of this investigation is dispositive.

# Appendix II

#### List of Topics Discussed in the Preliminary **Decision Memorandum**

I. Summary

II. Background

III. Scope Comments

IV. Injury Test

V. Diversification of India's Economy VI. Use of Facts Otherwise Available and

Adverse Inferences

VII. Subsidies Valuation VIII. Analysis of Programs

IX. Recommendation

[FR Doc. 2025-05759 Filed 4-2-25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-DS-P

#### **DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

# **International Trade Administration** [C-580-920]

### Certain Epoxy Resins From the Republic of Korea: Final Affirmative **Countervailing Duty Determination and Final Negative Critical Circumstances** Determination

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

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Department of Commerce (Commerce) determines that countervailable subsidies are being provided to producers and exporters of certain epoxy resins (epoxy resins) from the Republic of Korea (Korea). The period of investigation (POI) is January 1, 2023, through December 31, 2023.

# **DATES:** Applicable April 3, 2025. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Thomas Martin or Benjamin Blythe, AD/ CVD Operations, Office IV, Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482-3936 or (202) 482-3457, respectively.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

# **Background**

On September 13, 2024, Commerce published the *Preliminary* Determination on epoxy resins from Korea in the Federal Register.1 Commerce invited parties to comment on the *Preliminary Determination*.<sup>2</sup> For a complete discussion of the events that followed the Preliminary Determination, see the Issues and Decision Memorandum.<sup>3</sup> The Issues and Decision Memorandum is a public document and is made available to the public via Enforcement and Compliance's Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Centralized Electronic Service System (ACCESS). ACCESS is available to registered users at https://access. trade.gov. In addition, a complete version of the Issues and Decision

Memorandum can be accessed directly at https://access.trade.gov/public/ FRNoticesListLayout.aspx.

# Scope of the Investigation

The merchandise covered by the scope of this investigation is epoxy resins from Korea. For a complete description of the scope of this investigation, see Appendix I.

# **Scope Comments**

During the course of this investigation, Commerce received scope comments from interested parties. Commerce issued a Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum to address these comments and set aside a period of time for parties to address scope issues in scope-specific case and rebuttal briefs.4 Between February and March 2025, Commerce received scope case and rebuttal briefs from interested parties on the Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum, which we addressed in the Final Scope Decision Memorandum.<sup>5</sup> After analyzing these comments, we made changes to the scope of the investigation published in the Preliminary Determination. See Appendix I.

#### Analysis of Subsidy Programs and **Comments Received**

The subsidy programs under investigation, and the issues raised in the case and rebuttal briefs by parties in this investigation, are discussed in the Issues and Decision Memorandum. For a list of the issues raised by parties, and to which we responded in the Issues and Decision Memorandum, see Appendix II.

# Methodology

Commerce conducted this investigation in accordance with section 701 of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act). For each of the subsidy programs found to be countervailable, Commerce determines that there is a subsidy, i.e., a financial contribution by an "authority" that gives rise to a benefit to the recipient, and that the subsidy is specific. 6 For a

Continued

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See Certain Epoxy Resins from the Republic of Korea: Preliminary Negative Countervailing Duty Determination, Preliminary Negative Critical Circumstances Determination and Alignment of Final Determination with Final Antidumping Duty Determination, 89 FR 74912 (September 13, 2024) (Preliminary Determination), and accompanying Preliminary Decision Memorandum (PDM).

 $<sup>^{3}\,</sup>See$  Memorandum, "Issues and Decisions Memorandum for the Final Affirmative Determination of the Countervailing Duty Investigation of Certain Epoxy Resins from the Republic of Korea," dated concurrently with, and hereby adopted by, this notice (Issues and Decision Memorandum).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> See Memorandum, "Less-Than-Fair-Value and Countervailing Duty Investigations of Certain Epoxy Resins from the People's Republic of China, India, the Republic of Korea, Taiwan, and Thailand: Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum," dated November 6, 2024 (Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> See Memorandum, "Less-Than-Fair-Value and Countervailing Duty Investigations of Certain Epoxy Resins from the People's Republic of China, India, the Republic of Korea, Taiwan, and Thailand: Final Scope Decision Memorandum," dated March 28, 2025 (Final Scope Decision Memorandum).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> See sections 771(5)(B) and (D) of the Act regarding financial contribution; section 771(5)(E)

full description of the methodology underlying our final determination, *see* the Issues and Decision Memorandum.

#### Verification

Consistent with section 782(i) of the Act, in January 2025, Commerce verified all information reported by the crossowned entities Kukdo Chemical Co., Ltd. and Kukdo Finechem Co., Ltd. (Kukdo), the cross-owned entities Kumho P&B Chemicals Inc. and Kumho Petrochemical Co., Ltd. (Kumho), and the Government of Korea (GOK). We used standard verification procedures, including an examination of relevant account records and original source documents provided by the respondents.

# Changes Since the Preliminary Determination and Post-Preliminary Analysis

Based on our review and analysis of the information received during verification and comments received from parties, for this final determination, we made certain changes to the countervailable subsidy rate calculations for Kukdo, Kumho, and for all other producers/exporters. For a discussion of these changes, see the Issues and Decision Memorandum.

# Final Negative Determination of Critical Circumstances

Commerce preliminarily determined, in accordance with sections 703(e)(1)(A) and (B) of the Act, and 19 CFR 351.206, that critical circumstances did not exist with respect to imports of subject merchandise for Kukdo, Kumho, and all other producers and/or exporters.8 For this final determination, in accordance with section 705(a)(2) of the Act, Commerce continues to find that critical circumstances do not exist with respect to imports of subject merchandise for Kukdo, Kumho, and all other producers and/or exporters. For a full description of the methodology and results of our critical circumstances analysis, see the Issues and Decision Memorandum.

#### **All-Others Rate**

Pursuant to section 705(c)(5)(A)(i) of the Act, Commerce will determine an

all-others rate equal to the weightedaverage countervailable subsidy rates established for exporters and/or producers individually investigation, excluding any zero and de minimis countervailable subsidy rates, and any rates determined entirely under section 776 of the Act. Commerce preliminarily calculated total net subsidy rates for Kukdo and Kumho that were de minimis, and thus did not calculate an estimated weighted-average subsidy rate for all other producers/exporters. We calculated the all-others rate using a weighted average of the individual estimated subsidy rates calculated for the examined respondents (Kukdo and Kumho) using each company's publiclyranged sales value for their exports to the United States of subject merchandise,9 in accordance with section 705(c)(5)(A)(i) of the Act. 10

#### **Final Determination**

Commerce determines that the following estimated net countervailable subsidy rates exist for the period January 1, 2023, through December 31, 2023:

| Company   | Subsidy rate<br>(percent<br>ad valorem) |
|---|---|
| Kukdo Chemical Co., Ltd. <sup>11</sup><br>Kumho P&B Chemicals | 1.01                                    |
| Inc. <sup>12</sup>  | 1.84                                    |
| All Others  | 1.30                                    |

<sup>9</sup> With two respondents under examination, Commerce normally calculates: (A) a weightedaverage of the estimated subsidy rates calculated for the examined respondents; (B) a simple average of the estimated subsidy rates calculated for the examined respondents; and (C) a weighted-average of the estimated subsidy rates calculated for the examined respondents using each company's publicly-ranged U.S. sale quantities for the merchandise under consideration. Commerce then compares (B) and (C) to (A) and selects the rate closest to (A) as the most appropriate rate for all other producers and exporters. See, e.g., Ball Bearings and Parts Thereof from France, Germany, Italy, Japan, and the United Kingdom: Final Results of Antidumping Administrative Reviews, Final Results of Changed-Circumstances Review, and Revocation of an Order in Part, 75 FR 53661, 53663 (September 1, 2010); see also Forged Steel Fluid End Blocks from Italy: Preliminary Affirmative Countervailing Duty Determination, and Alignment of Final Determination with Final Antidumping Duty Determination, 85 FR 31460, 31461 (May 26, 2020), unchanged in Forged Steel Fluid End Blocks from Italy: Final Affirmative Countervailing Duty Determination, 85 80022, 80023 (December 11, 2020).

 $^{10}\,See$  Memorandum, "Calculation of the All Others Rate," dated concurrently with this memorandum.

#### Disclosure

Commerce intends to disclose its calculations and analysis performed to interested parties in this final determination within five days of its public announcement or, if there is no public announcement, within five days of the date of the publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**, in accordance with 19 CFR 351.244(b).

### **Suspension of Liquidation**

Because the Preliminary Determination was negative, we did not instruct U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to suspend entries of subject merchandise. In accordance with section 705(c)(1)(C) of the Act, we are now directing CBP to suspend liquidation of entries of subject merchandise and to require the posting of a cash deposit on all imports of the subject merchandise from Korea that are entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after the date of publication of this notice in the Federal **Register**. The suspension of liquidation will remain in effect until further notice. In addition, pursuant to section 705(c)(1)(B)(ii) of the Act, we are directing CBP to require a cash deposit for such entries of merchandise in the amount indicated above.

As our final determination is affirmative and our preliminary determination was negative, in accordance with section 705(b)(3) of the Act, the U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC) will determine within 75 days whether the domestic industry in the United States is materially injured, or threatened with material injury, by reason of imports or sales (or the likelihood of sales) for importation of the subject merchandise. We will issue a countervailing duty order if the ITC issues a final affirmative injury determination. If the ITC determines that material injury, or threat of material injury, does not exist, this proceeding will be terminated and all estimated duties deposited or securities posted as a result of the suspension of liquidation will be refunded or canceled.

# **ITC Notification**

In accordance with section 705(d) of the Act, Commerce will notify the ITC of its final affirmative determination that countervailable subsidies are being provided to producers and exporters of epoxy resins for Korea. As Commerce's final determination is affirmative, in accordance with section 705(b)(3) of the Act, the ITC will determine, within 75 days, whether the domestic industry in the United States is materially injured,

of the Act regarding benefit; and section 771(5A) of the Act regarding specificity.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> See Memoranda, "Verification of the Questionnaire Responses of the Government of the Republic of Korea," dated February 7, 2025 (GOK Verification Report); see also "Verification of the Questionnaire Responses of Kumho Petrochemical and Kumho P & B Chemicals Inc." dated February 10, 2025 (Kumho Verification Report); and "Verification of the Questionnaire Responses of Kukdo Chemical Co., Ltd. and Kukdo Finechem Co., Ltd.," dated February 11, 2025 (Kukdo Verification Report).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> See Preliminary Determination PDM at 4-7.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup>Commerce continues to find Kukdo Chemical Co., Ltd is cross-owned with Kukdo Finechem Co., Ltd. See Preliminary Determination PDM at 9–10.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup>Commerce continues to determine that Kumho P&B Chemicals Inc. is cross-owned with Kumho Petrochemical Co., Ltd. and Chemoil Corporation. See Preliminary Determination PDM at 10.

or threated with material injury, by reason of import of epoxy resins for Korea. In addition, we are making available to the ITC all non-privileged and non-proprietary information in our files, provided the ITC confirms that it will not disclose such information, either publicly or under administrative protective order (APO), without the written consent of the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance.

If the ITC determines that material injury or threat of material injury does not exist, this proceeding will be terminated and all cash deposits will be refunded. If the ITC determines that such injury does exist, Commerce will issue a countervailing duty order directing CBP to assess, upon further instruction by Commerce, countervailing duties on all imports of the subject merchandise that are entered, or withdrawn, for consumption on or after the effective date of the suspension of liquidation, as discussed above in the "Continuation of Suspension of Liquidation" section.

# **Administrative Protective Order**

This notice will serve as the only reminder to parties subject to the APO of their responsibility concerning the destruction of proprietary information disclosed under APO, in accordance with 19 CFR 351.305(a)(3). Timely written notification of the return/destruction of APO materials or conversion to judicial protective order is hereby requested. Failure to comply with the regulations and terms of an APO is a violation which is subject to sanction.

### Notification to Interested Parties

This determination is issued and published pursuant to sections 705(d) and 777(i) of the Act, and 19 CFR 351.210(c).

Dated: March 28, 2025.

# Christopher Abbott,

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy and Negotiations, performing the non-exclusive functions and duties of the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance.

# Appendix I

#### Scope of the Investigation

The merchandise subject to this investigation is fully or partially uncured epoxy resins, also known as epoxide resins, polyepoxides, oxirane resins, ethoxyline resins, diglycidyl ether of bisphenol, (chloromethyl) oxirane, or aromatic diglycidyl, which are polymers or prepolymers containing epoxy groups (i.e., three-membered ring structures comprised of two carbon atoms and one oxygen atom). Epoxy resins range in physical form from low viscosity liquids to solids. All epoxy resins

are covered by the scope of this investigation irrespective of physical form, viscosity, grade, purity, molecular weight, or molecular structure, and packaging.

Epoxy resins may contain modifiers or additives, such as hardeners, curatives, colorants, pigments, diluents, solvents, thickeners, fillers, plasticizers, softeners, flame retardants, toughening agents, catalysts, Bisphenol F, and ultraviolet light inhibitors, so long as the modifier or additive has not chemically reacted so as to cure the epoxy resin or convert it into a different product no longer containing epoxy groups. Such epoxy resins with modifiers or additives are included in the scope where the epoxy resin component comprises no less than 30 percent of the total weight of the product. The scope also includes blends of epoxy resins with different types of epoxy resins, with or without the inclusion of modifiers and additives, so long as the combined epoxy resin component comprises at least 30 percent of the total weight of the

Epoxy resins that enter as part of a system or kit with separately packaged co-reactants, such as hardeners or curing agents, are within the scope. The scope does not include any separately packaged co-reactants that would not fall within the scope if entered on their own.

The scope includes merchandise matching the above description that has been processed in a third country, including by commingling, diluting, introducing, or removing modifiers or additives, or performing any other processing that would not otherwise remove the merchandise from the scope of the investigation if performed in the subject country.

The scope also includes epoxy resin that is commingled or blended with epoxy resin from sources not subject to this investigation. Only the subject component of such commingled products is covered by the scope of this investigation. Excluded from the scope are phenoxy resins, which are polymers with a weight greater than 11,000 Daltons, a Melt Flow Index (MFI) at 200 °C (392 °F) no less than 4 grams and no greater than 70 grams per 10 min, Glass-Transition Temperatures (Tg) no less than 80 °C (176 °F) and no greater than 100 °C (212 °F), and which contain no epoxy groups other than at the terminal ends of the molecule.

Excluded from the scope are certain paint and coating products, which are blends, mixtures, or other formulations of epoxy resin, curing agent, and pigment, in any form, packaged in one or more containers, wherein (1) the pigment represents a minimum of 10 percent of the total weight of the product, (2) the epoxy resin represents a maximum of 80 percent of the total weight of the product, and (3) the curing agent represents 5 to 40 percent of the total weight of the product.

Excluded from the scope are preimpregnated fabrics or fibers, often referred to as "pre-pregs," which are composite materials consisting of fabrics or fibers (typically carbon or glass) impregnated with epoxy resin.

Also excluded from the scope is Tetramethyl Bisphenol F Diglycidyl Ether epoxy resin, also known as Tetramethyl Bisphenol F-DGE Polymer (TMBPF-DGE), that (1) has the chemical name: phenol, 4, 4'-methylenebis[2,6-dimethyl-, polymer with 2-(chloromethyl)oxirane, (2) falls under Chemical Abstract Services (CAS) Registry Number 113693–69–9, and (3) has an epoxy equivalent weight (EEW), also referred to as the weight per epoxide (WPE), of no less than 200 and no greater than 230 grams of epoxy resin per epoxy equivalent (g/eq or GEW). 13

This merchandise is currently classifiable under Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) subheading 3907.30.0000. Subject merchandise may also be entered under subheadings 3907.29.0000, 3824.99.9397, 3214.10.0020, 2910.90.9100, 2910.90.2000, and 1518.00.4000. The HTSUS subheadings are provided for convenience and customs purposes only; the written description of the scope is dispositive.

# Appendix II

# List of Topics Discussed in the Issues and Decision Memorandum

I. Summary

II. Background

III. Final Negative Critical Circumstances Determination

IV. Subsidies Valuation

V. Use of Facts Otherwise Available and Application of Adverse Inferences

VI. Changes Since the *Preliminary*Determination

VII. Analysis of Programs VIII. Discussion of the Issues

Comment 1: Whether the Provision of Electricity for Less Than Adequate Remuneration (LTAR) is a Countervailable Subsidy

Comment 2: Whether Commerce Should Revise Its Benefit Calculation for the Base Charge of the Provision of Electricity for LTAR

Comment 3: Whether Commerce Should Revise the Electricity Benchmarks Used to Determine Respondents' Preliminary Subsidy Rate

Comment 4: Whether the Provision of Electricity for More than Adequate Remuneration (MTAR) is a Countervailable Subsidy

Comment 5: Whether Commerce Should Revise Its Benefit Calculation of the Provision of Electricity for MTAR

Comment 6: Whether the Provision of Allocated Korea Allowance Units is a Countervailable Subsidy

Comment 7: Whether Commerce Should Revise Its Benchmark to Measure the Benefit to Kumho Under the Korea Emissions Trading System Program

Comment 8: Whether the Chemical Substances Registration Support Project is a Countervailable Subsidy

Comment 9: Whether Commerce Should Revise Its Benefit Calculation for the Chemical Substances Registration Support Project

Comment 10: Whether the Renewable Energy Certificates Program is Countervailable

 $<sup>^{13}\,\</sup>rm The$  bracket in this sentence is part of the chemical formula and does not denote business proprietary information.

Comment 11: Whether the Loans Received by Kumho from the Korea National Oil Company are Countervailable

Comment 12: Whether Certain Programs are *De Facto* Specific

Comment 13: Whether Commerce Should Find Kukdo and Several of Its Affiliates to be Cross-Owned

Comment 14: Whether Commerce Should Clarify or Correct Aspects of the Government of the Republic of Korea Verification Report

Comment 15: Whether Commerce has the Legal Authority under the World Trade Organization Rules and U.S. Law to Investigate Transnational Subsidies

Comment 16: Whether Commerce Should Account for Value-Added Taxes on Certain Purchases for ECH from China for LTAR

Comment 17: Whether Transnational Subsidies Exist in this Investigation Comment 18: Whether the Provision of ECH from China for LTAR is a Countervailable Subsidy

Comment 19: Whether Commerce Should Apply Adverse Facts Available to Kukdo's Inland Freight Costs for Purchases of ECH

Comment 20: Whether Commerce Should find the Korean ECH Market is Distorted by Chinese Overcapacity and Subsidies

Comment 21: Whether Commerce Should Reverse Its Decision Not to Initiate an Investigation of the Provision of Certain Other Chemical Inputs for LTAR

Comment 22: Whether Chinese Subsidies to an International Consortium is a Countervailable Subsidy

IX. Recommendation

[FR Doc. 2025-05751 Filed 4-2-25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-DS-P

# **DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

# **International Trade Administration**

[A-549-502]

Circular Welded Carbon Steel Pipes and Tubes From Thailand: Preliminary Results and Partial Rescission of Antidumping Duty Administrative Review; 2023–2024

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

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Department of Commerce (Commerce) preliminarily finds that certain producers/exporters subject to this administrative review did

not make sales of subject merchandise at less than normal value (NV) during the period of review (POR) March 1, 2023, through February 29, 2024.

Additionally, Commerce is rescinding the review, in part, with respect to 28 companies. Interested parties are invited to comment on these preliminary results.

DATES: Applicable April 3, 2025.

# FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Michael Romani, AD/CVD Operations, Office I, Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482–0198.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

#### **Background**

On March 11, 1986, Commerce published in the Federal Register the antidumping duty (AD) order on circular welded carbon steel pipes and tubes (CWP) from Thailand. 1 On March 1, 2024, we published in the Federal Register a notice of opportunity to request an administrative review of the Order for the POR.2 On May 8, 2024, based on timely requests for an administrative review, Commerce initiated an administrative review of the Order.3 On July 3, 2024, Commerce selected Saha Thai Steel Pipe Public Co., Ltd. (Saha Thai) for individual examination as the sole mandatory respondent in this administrative review.4 On December 12, 2024, Commerce notified interested parties of our intent to rescind this administrative review with respect to the 28 companies that had no suspended entries during the POR.5

On July 22, 2024, Commerce tolled certain deadlines in this administrative proceeding by seven days. On November 25, 2024, Commerce extended the time limit for these preliminary results to February 28, 2025. Further, on December 9, 2024, Commerce tolled certain deadlines in this administrative proceeding by 90 days. The deadline for the preliminary results is now May 29, 2025. For a complete description of the events following the initiation of this administrative review, see the Preliminary Decision Memorandum.

A list of topics included in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum is included in the appendix to this notice. The Preliminary Decision Memorandum is a public document and is on file electronically via Enforcement and Compliance's Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Centralized Electronic Service System (ACCESS). ACCESS is available to registered users at <a href="https://access.trade.gov">https://access.trade.gov</a>. In addition, a complete version of the Preliminary Decision Memorandum can be accessed directly at <a href="https://access.trade.gov/public/FRNoticesListLayout.aspx">https://access.trade.gov/public/FRNoticesListLayout.aspx</a>.

# Scope of the Order

The products covered by the *Order* are CWP from Thailand. For a complete description of the scope of this *Order*, see the Preliminary Decision Memorandum.

# Rescission of Administrative Review, in Part

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See Antidumping Duty Order; Circular Welded Carbon Steel Pipes and Tubes from Thailand, 51 FR 8341 (March 11, 1986) (Order).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> See Antidumping or Countervailing Duty Order, Finding, or Suspended Investigation; Opportunity To Request Administrative Review and Join Annual Inquiry Service List, 89 FR 15157, 15159 (March 1, 2024).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> See Initiation of Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Administrative Reviews, 89 FR 38867, 38870 (May 8, 2024).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> See Memorandum, "Respondent Selection," dated July 3, 2024.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> See Memorandum, "Intent to Partially Rescind Review," dated December 12, 2024 (Intent to Rescind Memorandum).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> See Memorandum, "Tolling of Deadlines for Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Proceedings," dated July 22, 2024.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> See Memorandum, "Extension of Deadline for Preliminary Results of the Antidumping Duty Administrative Review," dated November 25, 2024.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> See Memorandum, "Tolling of Deadlines for Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Proceedings," dated December 9, 2024.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> See Memorandum, "Decision Memorandum for the Preliminary Results of the Administrative Review of the Antidumping Duty Order on Circular Welded Carbon Steel Pipes and Tubes from Thailand; 2023–2024," dated concurrently with, and hereby adopted by, this notice (Preliminary Decision Memorandum).

Pursuant to 19 CFR 351.213(d)(3), Commerce will rescind an administrative review, in whole or in part, when it concludes that there were no suspended entries of subject merchandise during the POR. Normally, upon completion of an administrative review, the suspended entries are liquidated at the AD assessment rate for the review period. 10 Therefore, for an administrative review to be conducted, there must be a reviewable, suspended entry that Commerce can instruct U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to liquidate at the calculated AD assessment rate for the review period.11 Based on our analysis of CBP information, we determined that 28 companies had no suspended entries of subject merchandise during the POR. On December 12, 2024, we notified the parties of our intent to rescind the administrative review with respect to the 28 companies listed in Appendix II that had no suspended entries of subject merchandise during the POR. 12 No party commented on our Intent to Rescind Memorandum. As a result, we are rescinding this review for the 28 companies listed in Appendix II of this notice.

#### Methodology

Commerce is conducting this review in accordance with section 751(a)(1)(B) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act). We calculated export price and NV in accordance with sections 772 and 773 of the Act, respectively. For a complete description of the methodology underlying our conclusions, see the Preliminary Decision Memorandum.

#### **Rate for Non-Examined Company**

The Act and Commerce's regulations do not address the establishment of a rate to be applied to companies not selected for individual examination when Commerce limits its examination in an administrative review pursuant to section 777A(c)(2) of the Act. Generally, Commerce looks to section 735(c)(5) of the Act, which provides instructions for calculating the all-others rate in a market economy investigation, for guidance when calculating the rate for companies which were not selected for individual examination in an administrative review. Under section 735(c)(5)(A) of the Act, the all-others rate is normally "an amount equal to the weighted average of the estimated weighted average dumping margins established for exporters and producers individually investigated, excluding any zero or de minimis margins, and any margins determined entirely {on the basis of facts available}."

In this review, we have preliminarily calculated a weighted-average dumping margin of zero percent for the sole mandatory respondent, Saha Thai. Consistent with the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit's decision in *Albemarle*, <sup>13</sup> and Commerce's practice, <sup>14</sup> we assigned the sole non-examined company under review, Thai Premium Pipe Co. Ltd. (TPP), a weighted-average dumping margin of zero percent, based on the rate calculated for Saha Thai, pursuant to section 735(c)(5)(B) of the Act.

# **Preliminary Results of Review**

We preliminarily determine that the following estimated weighted-average dumping margins exist for the period March 1, 2023, through February 29, 2024:

| Producer or exporter  | Weighted-<br>average<br>dumping<br>margin<br>(percent) |
|---|--|
| Saha Thai Steel Pipe Public Co.,<br>Ltd. (also known as Saha Thai<br>Steel Pipe (Public) Company, |  |
| Ltd.)   | 0.00   |
| Thai Premium Pipe Co. Ltd   | 0.00   |

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> See Albemarle Corp. v. United States, 821 F.3d 1345 (Fed. Cir. 2016) (Albemarle).

#### Disclosure

We intend to disclose the calculations and analysis performed for these preliminary results to interested parties within five days of any public announcement or, if there is no public announcement, within five days of the date of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register** in accordance with 19 CFR 351.224(b).

#### **Public Comment**

Case briefs or other written comments may be submitted to the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance. Pursuant to 19 CFR  $351.\overline{309}(c)(1)(ii)$ , we have modified the deadline for interested parties to submit case briefs to Commerce to no later than 21 days after the date of the publication of this notice.<sup>15</sup> Rebuttal briefs, limited to issues raised in the case briefs, may be filed not later than five days after the date for filing case briefs.<sup>16</sup> Interested parties who submit case or rebuttal briefs in this administrative review must submit: (1) a table of contents listing each issue; and (2) a table of authorities.17

As provided to 19 CFR 351.309(c)(2) and  $(\bar{d})(2)$ , in prior proceedings we have encouraged interested parties to provide an executive summary of their brief that should be limited to five pages total, including footnotes. In this administrative review, we instead request that interested parties provide at the beginning of their briefs a public, executive summary for each issue raised in their briefs. 18 Further, we request that interested parties limit their executive summary of each issue to no more than 450 words, not including citations. We intend to use the public executive summaries as the basis of the comment summaries included in the issues and decision memorandum that will accompany the final results in this administrative review. We request that interested parties include footnotes for relevant citations in the public executive summary of each issue.

Pursuant to 19 CFR 351.310(c), interested parties who wish to request a hearing, limited to issues raised in case and rebuttal briefs, must submit a written request to the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> See, e.g., Certain Carbon and Alloy Steel Cutto Length Plate from the Federal Republic of Germany: Recission of Antidumping Administrative Review; 2020–2021, 88 FR 4154 (January 24, 2023).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> See, e.g., Shanghai Sunbeauty Trading Co., Ltd. v. United States, 380 F. Supp. 3d 1328, 1337 (CIT 2019) (referring to section 751(a) of the Act, the U.S. Court of International Trade held that "{w}hile the statute does not explicitly require that an entry be suspended as a prerequisite for establishing entitlement to a review, it does explicitly state the determined rate will be used as the liquidation rate for the reviewed entries. This result can only obtain if the liquidation of entries has been suspended"); see also Certain Frozen Fish Fillets from the Socialist Republic of Vietnam: Final Results of Antidumping Duty Administrative Review and Final Determination of No Shipments: 2018–2019. 86 FR 36102 (July 8, 2021), and accompanying Issues and Decision Memorandum at Comment 4; and Solid Fertilizer Grade Ammonium Nitrate from the Russian Federation: Notice of Rescission of Antidumping Duty Administrative Review, 77 FR 65532 (October 29, 2012) (noting that "for an administrative review to be conducted, there must be a reviewable, suspended entry to be liquidated at the newly calculated assessment rate")

<sup>12</sup> See Intent to Rescind Memorandum.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> See Certain Cold-Rolled Steel Flat Products from the Republic of Korea: Preliminary Results of Antidumping Duty Administrative Review; 2020– 2021,87 FR 60989 (October 7, 2022), unchanged in Certain Cold-Rolled Steel Flat Products from the Republic of Korea: Final Results of Antidumping Duty Administrative Review; 2020–2021, 88 FR 20218 (April 5, 2023).

<sup>15</sup> See 19 CFR 351.309.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> See 19 CFR 351.309(d); see also Administrative Protective Order, Service, and Other Procedures in Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Proceedings, 88 FR 67069, 67077 (September 29, 2023) (APO and Final Service Rule).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> See 19 CFR 351.309(c)(2) and (d)(2).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> We use the term "issue" here to describe an argument that Commerce would normally address in a comment of the Issues and Decision Memorandum.

Compliance via ACCESS within 30 days after the date of publication of this notice. Hearing requests should contain: (1) the party's name, address, and telephone number; (2) the number of participants and whether any participant is a foreign national; and (3) a list of issues to be discussed. Issues raised at the hearing will be limited to those raised in the case and rebuttal briefs. If a hearing request is made, parties will be notified of the date and time of the hearing. <sup>19</sup> Parties should confirm the date and time of the hearing two days before the scheduled date.

All submissions, including case and rebuttal briefs, as well as hearing requests, should be filed using ACCESS.<sup>20</sup> An electronically filed document must be received successfully in its entirety by ACCESS by 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on the established deadline. Note that Commerce has amended certain of its requirements pertaining to the service of documents in 19 CFR 351.303(f).<sup>21</sup>

# **Assessment Rates**

Pursuant to section 751(a)(2)(A) of the Act, upon completion of the final results of this administrative review, Commerce shall determine and CBP shall assess, antidumping duties on all appropriate entries of subject merchandise covered by this review.<sup>22</sup> If Saha Thai's weighted-average dumping margin is not zero or de minimis (i.e., less than 0.50 percent) in the final results of this review, we will calculate importerspecific ad valorem assessment rates on the basis of the ratio of the total amount of dumping calculated for each importer's examined sales and the total entered value of those same sales in accordance with 19 CFR 351.212(b)(1).23 If the respondent's weighted-average dumping margin or an importer-specific assessment rate is zero or de minimis in the final results of review, we intend to instruct CBP to liquidate relevant entries without regards to antidumping duties.24

In accordance with Commerce's "automatic assessment" practice, for entries of subject merchandise during the POR produced by Saha Thai for which it did not know that the merchandise was destined to the United

States, we will instruct CBP to liquidate those entries at the all-others rate if there is no rate for the intermediate company(ies) involved in the transaction.<sup>25</sup>

For TPP, which was not selected for individual review, we will instruct CBP to assess antidumping duties on all appropriate entries at a rate equal to the weighted-average dumping margin determined in the final results of this review, unless that rate is zero or de minimis, in which case we intend to instruct CBP to liquidate relevant entries without regards to antidumping duties. The final results of this review shall be the basis for the assessment of antidumping duties on entries of merchandise covered by the final results of this review and for future deposits of estimated duties, where applicable.26

For the companies for which this review is rescinded with these preliminary results, we will instruct CBP to assess antidumping duties on all appropriate entries at a rate equal to the cash deposit of estimated antidumping duties required at the time of entry, or withdrawal from warehouse, for consumption, during the period March 1, 2023, through February 29, 2024, in accordance with 19 CFR 351.212(c)(l)(i). Commerce intends to issue assessment instructions to CBP for the rescinded companies no earlier than 35 days after the date of publication of this notice in the Federal Register.

The final results of this administrative review shall be the basis for the assessment of antidumping duties on entries of merchandise covered by the final results of this review and for future deposits of estimated duties, where applicable.<sup>27</sup>

Commerce intends to issue assessment instructions to CBP no earlier than 35 days after the date of publication of the final results of this review in the **Federal Register**. If a timely summons is filed at the U.S. Court of International Trade, the assessment instructions will direct CBP not to liquidate relevant entries until the time for parties to file a request for a statutory injunction has expired, *i.e.*, within 90 days of publication.

# **Cash Deposit Requirements**

The following cash deposit requirements will be effective upon publication in the **Federal Register** of the notice of final results of

administrative review for all shipments of CWP from Thailand entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after the date of publication as provided for by section 751(a)(2)(C) of the Act: (1) the cash deposit rate for Saha Thai and TPP will be equal to the weighted-average dumping margin established in the final results of this review (except, if that rate is de minimis within the meaning of 19 CFR 351.106(c)(1), then the cash deposit rate will be zero); (2) for merchandise exported by a company not covered in this review but covered in a prior completed segment of the proceeding, the cash deposit rate will continue to be the company-specific rate published in the completed segment for the most recent period; (3) if the exporter is not a firm covered in this review or another completed segment of this proceeding, but the producer is, then the cash deposit rate will be the companyspecific rate established for the completed segment for the most recent period for the producer of the merchandise; and (4) the cash deposit rate for all other producers or exporters will continue to be 15.67 percent, the all-others rate established in the lessthan-fair-value investigation.<sup>28</sup> These cash deposit requirements, when imposed, shall remain in effect until further notice.

# **Notification to Importers**

This notice serves as a preliminary reminder to importers of their responsibility under 19 CFR 351.402(f)(2) to file a certificate regarding the reimbursement of antidumping duties prior to liquidation of the relevant entries during this review period. Failure to comply with this requirement could result in Commerce's presumption that reimbursement of antidumping duties occurred and the subsequent assessment of double antidumping duties.

# Final Results of Review

Unless otherwise extended, Commerce intends to issue the final results of this administrative review, including the results of its analysis of the issues raised in any written briefs, not later than 120 days after the date of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**, pursuant to section 751(a)(3)(A) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.213(h)(1).

#### **Notification to Interested Parties**

We are issuing and publishing these preliminary results in accordance with sections 751(a)(1) and 777(i) of the Act,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> See 19 CFR 351.310(d).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> See 19 CFR 351.303.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> See APO and Final Service Rule.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> See 19 CFR 351.212(b)(1).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> See Antidumping Proceedings: Calculation of the Weighted-Average Dumping Margin and Assessment Rate in Certain Antidumping Proceedings: Final Modification, 77 FR 8101, 8103 (February 14, 2012).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> *Id.*, 77 FR at 8102; *see also* 19 CFR 351.106(c)(2).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> For a full discussion of this practice, see Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Proceedings: Assessment of Antidumping Duties, 68 FR 23954 (May 6, 2003)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> See section 751(a)(2)(C) of the Act.

 $<sup>^{27}\,</sup>See$  section 751(a)(2)(C) of the Act; and 19 CFR 351.212(b).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> See Order.

and 19 CFR 351.213(h) and 351.221(b)(4).

Dated: March 27, 2025.

#### Christopher Abbott,

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy and Negotiations, performing the non-exclusive functions and duties of the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance.

#### Appendix I

#### List of Topics Discussed in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum

I. Summary

II. Background

III. Scope of the *Order* 

IV. Rate for Non-Examined Company

V. Rescission of Administrative Review, In Part

VI. Discussion of the Methodology

VII. Currency Conversion

VIII. Recommendation

### Appendix II

#### Companies Rescinded From This Administrative Review

- 1. Apex International Logistics
- 2. Aquatec Maxcon Asia
- 3. Asian Unity Part Co., Ltd.
- 4. Better Steel Pipe Company Limited
- 5. Bis Pipe Fitting Industry Co., Ltd.
- 6. Blue Pipe Steel Center Co. Ltd.
- 7. Chuhatsu (Thailand) Co., Ltd.
- 8. CSE Technologies Co., Ltd.
- 9. Expeditors International (Bangkok)
- 10. Expeditors Ltd.
- 11. FS International (Thailand) Co., Ltd.
- 12. Kerry-Apex (Thailand) Co., Ltd.
- 13. K Line Logistics
- 14. Oil Steel Tube (Thailand) Co., Ltd.
- 15. Otto Ender Steel Structure Co., Ltd.
- 16. Pacific Pipe and Pump
- 17. Pacific Pipe Public Company Limited
- 18. Panalpina World Transport Ltd.
- 19. Polypipe Engineering Co., Ltd.
- 20. Schlumberger Overseas S.A.
- 21. Siam Fittings Co., Ltd.
- 22. Siam Steel Pipe Co., Ltd.
- 23. Sino Connections Logistics (Thailand) Co., Ltd.
- 24. Thai Malleable Iron and Steel
- 25. Thai Oil Group
- 26. Thai Oil Pipe Co., Ltd.
- 27. Vatana Phaisal Engineering Company
- 28. Visavakit Patana Corp., Ltd.

[FR Doc. 2025-05691 Filed 4-2-25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-DS-P

#### DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

# International Trade Administration

[A-583-876]

# Certain Epoxy Resins From Taiwan: Final Affirmative Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value

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

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Department of Commerce (Commerce) determines that

imports of certain epoxy resins (epoxy resins) from Taiwan are being, or are likely to be, sold in the United States at less than fair value (LTFV) for the period of investigation (POI) April 1, 2023, through March 31, 2024.

DATES: Applicable April 3, 2025.

# FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Elizabeth Beuley or Benito Ballesteros, AD/CVD Operations, Office IX, Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482–3269 or (202) 482–7425, respectively.

# SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

### **Background**

On November 13, 2024, Commerce published the *Preliminary Determination* in the **Federal Register** and invited interested parties to comment.<sup>1</sup>

For a complete discussion of the events that followed the Preliminary Determination, see the Issues and Decision Memorandum.<sup>2</sup> The Issues and Decision Memorandum is a public document and is on file electronically via Enforcement and Compliance's Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Centralized Electronic Service System (ACCESS). ACCESS is available to registered users at https://access. trade.gov. In addition, a complete version of the Issues and Decision Memorandum can be accessed directly at https://access.trade.gov/public/ FRNoticesListLayout.aspx.

#### **Scope of the Investigation**

The products covered by this investigation are epoxy resins from Taiwan. For a complete description of the scope of this investigation, *see* Appendix I.

# **Scope Comments**

During the course of this investigation, Commerce received scope comments from interested parties.
Commerce issued a Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum to address these comments and set aside a period of time for parties to address scope issues in

scope-specific case and rebuttal briefs.<sup>3</sup> Between February, 2025 and March, 2025, Commerce received scope case and rebuttal briefs from interested parties.<sup>4</sup> After analyzing these comments, we made changes to the scope of the investigation published in the *Preliminary Determination*, as noted in Appendix I.<sup>5</sup>

#### Verification

As provided in section 782(i) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act), Commerce conducted verification of the sales and cost information submitted by Chang Chun Plastics Co., Ltd. (Chang Chun) and Nan Ya Plastics Corporation (Nan Ya).<sup>6</sup> We used standard verification procedures, including an examination of relevant sales and accounting records, and original source documents provided by Chang Chun and Nan Ya.

#### **Analysis of Comments Received**

All issues raised in the case and rebuttal briefs submitted by interested parties in this investigation are addressed in the Issues and Decision Memorandum. A list of the issues addressed in the Issues and Decision Memorandum is attached to this notice as Appendix II.

# **Changes Since the Preliminary Determination**

Based on our review and analysis of the information received during verification and comments received from interested parties, we made certain changes to the estimated weightedaverage dumping margins for Chang

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See Certain Epoxy Resins from Taiwan: Preliminary Affirmative Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value, Postponement of Final Determination, and Extension of Provisional Measures, 89 FR 89591 (November 13, 2024) (Preliminary Determination), and accompanying Preliminary Decision Memorandum.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> See Memorandum, "Issues and Decision Memorandum for the Final Affirmative Determination in the Less-Than-Fair-Value Investigation of Epoxy Resins from Taiwan," dated concurrently with, and hereby adopted by, this notice (Issues and Decision Memorandum).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> See Memorandum, "Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum," dated November 6, 2024 (Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> See Petitioner's Letter, "Case Brief on Scope Issues," dated February 28, 2025; Sherwin Williams' Letter, "Scope Case Brief on Behalf of Sherwin-Williams," dated February 28, 2025; PPG's Letter, "Scope Case Brief of PPG Industries, Inc.," dated February 28, 2025; Petitioner's Letter, "Petitioner's Letter in Lieu of Rebuttal Brief on Scope Issues," dated March 5, 2025; PPG's Letter, "Rebuttal Scope Case Brief of PPG Industries, Inc.," dated March 5, 2025; and Sherwin-Williams' Letter, "Scope Rebuttal Brief on Behalf of Sherwin Williams," dated March 5, 2025.

 $<sup>^5\,</sup>See$  Memorandum, "Final Scope Decision Memorandum," dated concurrently with this notice.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> See Memoranda, "Verification Report of the Sales Response of Chang Chun Plastics Co. Ltd.," dated January 3, 2025; see also "Verification Report of the U.S. Sales Response of Chang Chun Chemical Corporation," dated January 6, 2025; "Verification of the Sales Response of Nan Ya Plastics Corporation," dated January 13, 2025; "Verification of the Cost Response of Nan Ya Plastics Corporation in the Antidumping Duty Investigation of Certain Epoxy Resins from Taiwan," dated February 11, 2025; and "Verification of the Cost Response of Chang Chun Plastics Co., Ltd. in the Antidumping duty Investigation of Epoxy Resin from Taiwan," dated February 13, 2025.

Chun and Nan Ya. For a discussion of these changes, *see* the Issues and Decision Memorandum.

#### **All-Others Rate**

Sections 733(d)(1)(ii) and 735(c)(5)(A) of the Act provide that Commerce shall determine an estimated all-others rate for all exporters and producers not individually examined. This rate shall be an amount equal to the weighted average of the estimated weighted-average dumping margins established for exporters and producers individually investigated, excluding any zero and de minimis margins, and any margins determined entirely under section 776 of the Act.

In this investigation, Commerce has calculated estimated weighted-average dumping margins for Chang Chun and Nan Ya that are not zero, *de minimis*, or based entirely on facts otherwise available. Commerce calculated the allothers rate using a weighted average of the estimated weighted-average dumping margins calculated for the examined respondents using each company's publicly-ranged values for the merchandise under consideration.<sup>7</sup>

#### **Final Determination**

Commerce determines that the final estimated weighted-average dumping margins exist for the period April 1, 2023, through March 31, 2024:

| Exporter/producer            | Weighted-<br>average<br>dumping<br>margin<br>(percent) |
|------------------------------|--|
| Chang Chun Plastics Co., Ltd | 10.93  |
| Nan Ya Plastics Corporation  | 26.98  |

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> With two respondents under examination. Commerce normally calculates: (A) a weightedaverage of the estimated weighted-average dumping margins calculated for the examined respondents; (B) a simple average of the estimated weightedaverage dumping margins calculated for the examined respondents; and (C) a weighted-average of the estimated weighted-average dumping margins calculated for the examined respondents using each company's publicly-ranged U.S. sales values for the merchandise under consideration. Commerce then compares (B) and (C) to (A) and selects the rate closest to (A) as the most appropriate rate for all other producers and exporters. See, e.g., Ball Bearings and Parts Thereof from France, Germany, Italy, Japan, and the United Kingdom: Final Results of Antidumping Duty Administrative Reviews, Final Results of Changed-Circumstances Review, and Revocation of an Order in Part, 75 FR 53661, 53662 (September 1, 2010), and accompanying Issues and Decision Memorandum at Comment 1. As complete publicly-ranged sales data were available, Commerce based the all-others rate on the public ranged sales data of the mandatory respondents. For a complete analysis of the data, see Memorandum, "Calculation of the All-Others Rate for the Final Determination," dated March 28, 2025.

| Exporter/producer | Weighted-<br>average<br>dumping<br>margin<br>(percent) |
|-------------------|--|
| All Others        | 18.66  |

#### Disclosure

Commerce intends to disclose the calculations performed in connection with this final determination to interested parties within five days of any public announcement or, if there is no public announcement, within five days of the date of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**, in accordance with 19 CFR 351.224(b).

# **Continuation of Suspension of Liquidation**

In accordance with section 735(c)(1)(B) of the Act, Commerce will instruct U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to continue to suspend liquidation of all entries of subject merchandise, as described in Appendix I of this notice, which were entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after November 13, 2024, the date of publication of the Preliminary Determination in the Federal Register. These suspension of liquidation instructions will remain in effect until further notice.

Pursuant to section 735(c)(1)(B)(ii) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.210(d), upon the publication of this notice, Commerce will instruct CBP to require a cash deposit for estimated antidumping duties for such entries as follows: (1) the cash deposit rate for the respondents listed above will be equal to the company-specific estimated weighted-average dumping margin determined in this final determination; (2) if the exporter is not a company identified above but the producer is, then the cash deposit rate will be equal to the company-specific estimated weighted-average dumping margin established for that producer of the subject merchandise; and (3) the cash deposit rate for all other producers and exporters will be equal to the estimated weighted-average dumping margin for all other producers and exporters listed in the table above.

Commerce normally adjusts cash deposits for estimated antidumping duties by the amount of export subsidies countervailed in a companion countervailing duty (CVD) proceeding. However, because Commerce did not make an affirmative determination for countervailable export subsidies in the companion CVD proceeding, Commerce has not offset the estimated weighted-

average dumping margins in the table above.<sup>8</sup>

# U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC) Notification

In accordance with section 735(d) of the Act, Commerce will notify the ITC of its final affirmative determination of sales at LTFV. Because Commerce's final determination is affirmative, in accordance with section 735(b)(2) of the Act, the ITC will determine, within 45 days, whether the domestic industry in the United States is materially injured, or threatened with material injury, by reason of imports of epoxy resins from Taiwan. If the ITC determines that material injury or threat of material injury does not exist, this proceeding will be terminated, all cash deposits posted will be refunded, and suspension of liquidation will be lifted. If the ITC determines that such injury does exist, Commerce will issue an antidumping duty order directing CBP to assess, upon further instruction by Commerce, antidumping duties on all imports of the subject merchandise entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after the effective date of the suspension of liquidation, as discussed in the "Continuation of Suspension of Liquidation" section above.

# Administrative Protective Order (APO)

This notice serves as the only reminder to parties subject to an APO of their responsibility concerning the disposition of proprietary information disclosed under APO, in accordance with 19 CFR 351.305(a)(3). Timely written notification of the return or destruction of APO materials or conversion to judicial protective order is hereby requested. Failure to comply with the regulations and terms of an APO is a sanctionable violation.

# Notification to Interested Parties

This determination is issued and published in accordance with sections 735(d) and 777(i) of the Act, and 19 CFR 351.210(c).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup>In any event, we note that suspension of liquidation of in the companion CVD investigation has been discontinued. See Certain Epoxy Resins from Taiwan: Preliminary Affirmative Countervailing Duty Determination, and Alignment of Final Determination With Final Antidumping Duty Determination, 89 FR 74896 (September 13, 2024); see also section 703(d) of the Act, which states that the provisional measures may not be in effect for more than four months, which in the companion CVD case is 120 days after the publication of the preliminary determination, or January 10, 2025 (i.e., the last day provisional measures were in effect).

Dated: March 28, 2025.

#### Christopher Abbott,

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy and Negotiations, performing the non-exclusive functions and duties of the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance.

#### Appendix I

#### Scope of the Investigation

The merchandise subject to this investigation is fully or partially uncured epoxy resins, also known as epoxide resins, polyepoxides, oxirane resins, ethoxyline resins, diglycidyl ether of bisphenol, (chloromethyl) oxirane, or aromatic diglycidyl, which are polymers or prepolymers containing epoxy groups (i.e., three-membered ring structures comprised of two carbon atoms and one oxygen atom). Epoxy resins range in physical form from low viscosity liquids to solids. All epoxy resins are covered by the scope of this investigation irrespective of physical form, viscosity, grade, purity, molecular weight, or molecular structure, and packaging.

Epoxy resins may contain modifiers or additives, such as hardeners, curatives, colorants, pigments, diluents, solvents, thickeners, fillers, plasticizers, softeners, flame retardants, toughening agents, catalysts, Bisphenol F, and ultraviolet light inhibitors, so long as the modifier or additive has not chemically reacted so as to cure the epoxy resin or convert it into a different product no longer containing epoxy groups. Such epoxy resins with modifiers or additives are included in the scope where the epoxy resin component comprises no less than 30 percent of the total weight of the product. The scope also includes blends of epoxy resins with different types of epoxy resins, with or without the inclusion of modifiers and additives, so long as the combined epoxy resin component comprises at least 30 percent of the total weight of the

Epoxy resins that enter as part of a system or kit with separately packaged co-reactants, such as hardeners or curing agents, are within the scope. The scope does not include any separately packaged co-reactants that would not fall within the scope if entered on their own.

The scope includes merchandise matching the above description that has been processed in a third country, including by commingling, diluting, introducing, or removing modifiers or additives, or performing any other processing that would not otherwise remove the merchandise from the scope of the investigation if performed in the subject country.

The scope also includes epoxy resin that is commingled or blended with epoxy resin from sources not subject to this investigation. Only the subject component of such commingled products is covered by the scope of this investigation. Excluded from the scope are phenoxy resins, which are polymers with a weight greater than 11,000 Daltons, a Melt Flow Index (MFI) at 200 °C (392 °F) no less than 4 grams and no greater than 70 grams per 10 min, Glass-Transition Temperatures (Tg) no less than 80 °C (176 °F) and no greater than 100 °C (212 °F), and

which contain no epoxy groups other than at the terminal ends of the molecule.

Excluded from the scope are certain paint and coating products, which are blends, mixtures, or other formulations of epoxy resin, curing agent, and pigment, in any form, packaged in one or more containers, wherein (1) the pigment represents a minimum of 10 percent of the total weight of the product, (2) the epoxy resin represents a maximum of 80 percent of the total weight of the product, and (3) the curing agent represents 5 to 40 percent of the total weight of the product.

Excluded from the scope are preimpregnated fabrics or fibers, often referred to as "pre-pregs," which are composite materials consisting of fabrics or fibers (typically carbon or glass) impregnated with epoxy resin.

Also excluded from the scope is Tetramethyl Bisphenol F Diglycidyl Ether epoxy resin, also known as Tetramethyl Bisphenol F -DGE Polymer (TMBPF–DGE), that (1) has the chemical name: phenol, 4, 4'-methylenebis[2,6-dimethyl-, polymer with 2-(chloromethyl)oxirane, (2) falls under Chemical Abstract Services (CAS) Registry Number 113693–69–9, and (3) has an epoxy equivalent weight (EEW), also referred to as the weight per epoxide (WPE), of no less than 200 and no greater than 230 grams of epoxy resin per epoxy equivalent (g/eq or GEW).9

This merchandise is currently classifiable under Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) subheading 3907.30.0000. Subject merchandise may also be entered under subheadings 3907.29.0000, 3824.99.9397, 3214.10.0020, 2910.90.9100, 2910.90.2000, and 1518.00.4000. The HTSUS subheadings are provided for convenience and customs purposes only; the written description of the scope is dispositive.

# Appendix II

# List of Topics Discussed in the Issues and Decision Memorandum

I. Summary

II. Background

III. Changes Since the *Preliminary Determination* 

IV. Discussion of the Issues

Comment 1: Whether to Apply Facts Available with an Adverse Inference (AFA) to Chang Chun's Packing Costs

Comment 2: Whether Commerce Should Reconsider its Rejection of Nan Ya's Correction to Packing Costs

Comment 3: Whether to Apply AFA to Nan Ya's Packing Costs

Comment 4: Whether to Correct Errors found at Nan Ya's Verification

Comment 5: Whether Commerce Should Implement Corrections from Verification for Both Chang Chun and Nan Ya

Comment 6: Whether Commerce Should Include Certain Items in Chang Chun's General and Administrative Expense Ratio

Comment 7: Application of the Major Input Rule for Nan Ya V. Recommendation

[FR Doc. 2025–05753 Filed 4–2–25; 8:45 am]

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#### **DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

# International Trade Administration [A-533-926]

# Certain Epoxy Resins From India: Final Affirmative Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value

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

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of Commerce (Commerce) determines that certain epoxy resins (epoxy resins) from India are being, or are likely to be, sold in the United States at less than fair value (LTFV). The period of investigation is April 1, 2023, through March 31, 2024.

DATES: Applicable April 3, 2025.

# FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

David Crespo, AD/CVD Operations, Office II, Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482–3693.

# SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

# **Background**

On November 13, 2024, Commerce published in the **Federal Register** its preliminary affirmative determination in the LTFV investigation of epoxy resins from India. We invited interested parties to comment on the *Preliminary Determination*.

A summary of the events that occurred since Commerce published the *Preliminary Determination*, as well as a full discussion of the issues raised by parties for this final determination, may be found in the Issues and Decision Memorandum.<sup>2</sup> The Issues and Decision Memorandum is a public document and is on file electronically via Enforcement and Compliance's Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Centralized Electronic Service System (ACCESS). ACCESS is available to registered users at <a href="https://access.trade.gov">https://access.trade.gov</a>. In addition, a

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> The bracket in this sentence is part of the chemical formula and does not denote business proprietary information.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See Certain Epoxy Resins from India: Preliminary Affirmative Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value, Postponement of Final Determination, and Extension of Provisional Measures, 89 FR 89612 (November 13, 2024) (Preliminary Determination), and accompanying Preliminary Decision Memorandum (PDM).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> See Memorandum, "Issues and Decision Memorandum for the Final Affirmative Determination in the Less-Than-Fair-Value Investigation of Epoxy Resins from India," dated concurrently with, and hereby adopted by, this notice (Issues and Decision Memorandum).

complete version of the Issues and Decision Memorandum can be accessed directly at https://access.trade.gov/ public/FRNoticesListLayout.aspx.

#### Scope of the Investigation

The product covered by this investigation are epoxy resins from India. For a complete description of the scope of this investigation, *see* Appendix I.

#### **Scope Comments**

During the course of this investigation, Commerce received scope comments from interested parties. Commerce issued a Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum to address these comments and set aside a period of time for parties to address scope issues in scope-specific case and rebuttal briefs.³ Between February 2025 and March 2025, Commerce received scope-specific case and rebuttal briefs from interested parties.⁴ We made changes to the scope of the investigation from the scope published in the *Preliminary Determination*, as noted in Appendix I.⁵

#### Verification

As provided in section 782(i)(1) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act), in November 2024 and January 2025, we verified the sales and cost information submitted by Atul Limited (Atul) for use in our final determination. We used standard verification procedures, including an examination of relevant sales and accounting records, and original source documents provided by Atul.<sup>6</sup>

#### Use of Adverse Facts Available (AFA)

Champion Advanced Materials (Champion) was selected as a

mandatory respondent in this investigation.7 However, Champion did not provide an adequate response to Commerce's Initial Questionnaire.8 As discussed in the Preliminary Determination, Commerce preliminarily determined that the use of facts otherwise available with adverse inferences, pursuant to sections 776(a) and (b) of the Act, was appropriate with respect to Champion.9 No parties commented on the application of AFA with respect to Champion. Accordingly, for this final determination, we continue to find that the application of AFA, pursuant to sections 776(a) and (b) of the Act, is warranted with respect to Champion.

### **Analysis of Comments Received**

All issues raised in the case and rebuttal briefs submitted by interested parties in this investigation are addressed in the Issues and Decision Memorandum. A list of the issues addressed in the Issues and Decision Memorandum is attached as Appendix II to this notice.

# **Changes Since the Preliminary Determination**

We made certain changes to the margin calculations for Atul since the *Preliminary Determination*. <sup>10</sup> For a discussion of these changes, *see* the Issues and Decision Memorandum.

### All-Others Rate

Section 735(c)(5)(A) of the Act provides that the estimated weighted-average dumping margin for all other producers and exporters not individually investigated shall be equal to the weighted average of the estimated weighted-average dumping margins established for individually investigated exporters and producers, excluding rates that are zero, de minimis, or determined entirely under section 776 of the Act, i.e., facts otherwise available.

In this investigation, Commerce calculated an estimated weighted-average dumping margin for Atul that is not zero, *de minimis*, or based entirely on facts otherwise available. The estimated weighted-average dumping margin determined for Champion is based on total facts available with an

adverse inference. Consequently, for this final determination, the estimated weighted-average dumping margin calculated for Atul is the estimated weighted-average dumping margin for all other producers and exporters.

#### Final Determination

Commerce determines that the following estimated weighted-average dumping margins exist:

| Exporter or producer | Estimated<br>weighted-<br>average<br>dumping<br>margin<br>(percent) |
|----------------------|---|
| Atul Limited         | 12.69<br>* 15.68<br>12.69   |

<sup>\*</sup> Rate based on facts available with adverse inferences.

#### **Disclosure**

Commerce intends to disclose under administrative protective order (APO) the calculations performed in connection with this final determination to interested parties within five days of any public announcement or, if there is no public announcement, within five days of the date of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**, in accordance with 19 CFR 351.224(b).

# Continuation of Suspension of Liquidation

In accordance with section 735(c)(1)(B) of the Act, Commerce will instruct U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to continue to suspend liquidation of all entries of subject merchandise, as described in Appendix I of this notice, which were entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption, on or after November 13, 2024, the date of publication of the *Preliminary Determination* in the **Federal Register**. These suspension of liquidation instructions will remain in effect until further notice.

Pursuant to section 735(c)(1)(B)(ii) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.210(d), upon the publication of this notice, we will instruct CBP to require a cash deposit for estimated antidumping duties for such entries as follows: (1) the cash deposit rate for the exporters listed in the table above is the company-specific estimated weighted-average dumping margins listed for the respondents in the table; (2) if the exporter is not listed in the table above, but the producer is, then the cash deposit rate is the company-specific estimated weightedaverage dumping margins listed for the producer of the subject merchandise in the table above; and (3) the cash deposit

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> See Memorandum, "Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum," dated November 6, 2024 (Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> See Petitioner's Letter, "Case Brief on Scope Issues," dated February 28, 2025; Sherwin Williams' Letter, "Scope Case Brief on Behalf of Sherwin-Williams," dated February 28, 2025; PPG's Letter, "Scope Case Brief of PPG Industries, Inc.," dated February 28, 2025; Petitioner's Letter, "Petitioner's Letter in Lieu of Rebuttal Brief on Scope Issues," dated March 5, 2025; PPG's Letter, "Rebuttal Scope Case Brief of PPG Industries, Inc.," dated March 5, 2025; and Sherwin-Williams' Letter, "Scope Rebuttal Brief on Behalf of Sherwin Williams," dated March 5, 2025.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> See Memorandum, "Final Scope Decision Memorandum," dated concurrently with this notice.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> See Memoranda, "Verification of the Sales Response of Atul Ltd. in the Antidumping Investigation of Certain Epoxy Resins from India," dated January 29, 2025; "CEP Verification of the Sales Response of Atul USA Inc in the Antidumping Investigation of Certain Epoxy Resins from India," dated January 29, 2025; and "Verification of the Cost Response of Atul Limited in the Antidumping Duty Investigation of Epoxy Resin from India," dated February 12, 2025.

<sup>7</sup> See Memorandum, "Respondent Selection," dated May 16, 2024.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> See Commerce's Letter, "Initial Questionnaire," dated May 20, 2024 (Initial Questionnaire).

<sup>9</sup> See Preliminary Determination PDM at section IV "APPLICATION OF FACTS AVAILABLE AND USE OF ADVERSE INFERENCES."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> See Memorandum, "Analysis for the Final Determination of the Less-Than-Fair-Value Investigation of Certain Epoxy Resins from India for Atul Limited," dated concurrently with this notice, at Attachments III and IV.

rate for all other producers and exporters is the all-others estimated weighted-average dumping margin listed in the table above.

To determine the cash deposit rate, Commerce normally adjusts the estimated weighted-average dumping margin by the amount of export subsidies countervailed in a companion countervailing duty (CVD) proceeding, when CVD provisional measures are in effect. Accordingly, where Commerce has made a final affirmative determination for countervailable export subsidies, Commerce offsets the estimated weighted-average dumping margin by the appropriate CVD rate. Commerce would adjust the cash deposit rate for export subsidies in the companion CVD investigation by the appropriate export subsidy rate, however, suspension of liquidation of provisional measures in the companion CVD proceeding has been discontinued; 11 therefore, we are not instructing CBP to collect cash deposits based upon the adjusted estimated weighted-average dumping margin for those export subsidies at this time. If the U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC) makes a final affirmative determination of injury due to both dumping and subsidies, then the cash deposit rate will be revised effective on the date of the publication of the ITC's final affirmative determination in the Federal Register to be the companyspecific estimated weighted-average dumping margin adjusted for export subsidies.

#### U.S. ITC Notification

In accordance with section 735(d) of the Act, we will notify the ITC of our final affirmative determination of sales at LTFV. Because the final determination in this proceeding is affirmative, in accordance with section 735(b)(2) of the Act, the ITC will make its final determination as to whether the domestic industry in the United States is materially injured, or threatened with material injury, by reason of imports of epoxy resins from India no later than 45 days after this final determination. If the ITC determines that such injury does not exist, this proceeding will be terminated, all cash deposits posted will be refunded, and suspension of

liquidation will be lifted. If the ITC determines that such injury does exist, Commerce will issue an antidumping duty order directing CBP to assess, upon further instruction by Commerce, antidumping duties on all imports of the subject merchandise entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after the effective date of the suspension of liquidation, as discussed in the "Continuation of Suspension of Liquidation" section above.

#### Administrative Protective Order

This notice will serve as the final reminder to parties subject to an APO of their responsibility concerning the destruction of proprietary information disclosed under APO in accordance with 19 CFR 351.305(a)(3). Timely written notification of return or destruction of APO materials or conversion to judicial protective order is hereby requested. Failure to comply with the regulations and the terms of an APO is a violation which is subject to sanction.

#### **Notification to Interested Parties**

This determination and this notice are issued and published pursuant to sections 735(d) and 777(i)(1) of the Act, and 19 CFR 351.210(c).

Dated: March 28, 2025.

#### Christopher Abbott,

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy and Negotiations, performing the non-exclusive functions and duties of the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance.

#### Appendix I

# **Scope of the Investigation**

The merchandise subject to this investigation is fully or partially uncured epoxy resins, also known as epoxide resins, polyepoxides, oxirane resins, ethoxyline resins, diglycidyl ether of bisphenol, (chloromethyl) oxirane, or aromatic diglycidyl, which are polymers or prepolymers containing epoxy groups (i.e., three-membered ring structures comprised of two carbon atoms and one oxygen atom). Epoxy resins range in physical form from low viscosity liquids to solids. All epoxy resins are covered by the scope of these investigations irrespective of physical form, viscosity, grade, purity, molecular weight, or molecular structure, and packaging.

Epoxy resins may contain modifiers or additives, such as hardeners, curatives, colorants, pigments, diluents, solvents, thickeners, fillers, plasticizers, softeners, flame retardants, toughening agents, catalysts, Bisphenol F, and ultraviolet light inhibitors, so long as the modifier or additive has not chemically reacted so as to cure the epoxy resin or convert it into a different product no longer containing epoxy groups. Such epoxy resins with modifiers or additives are included in the scope where the

epoxy resin component comprises no less than 30 percent of the total weight of the product. The scope also includes blends of epoxy resins with different types of epoxy resins, with or without the inclusion of modifiers and additives, so long as the combined epoxy resin component comprises at least 30 percent of the total weight of the blend.

Epoxy resins that enter as part of a system or kit with separately packaged co-reactants, such as hardeners or curing agents, are within the scope. The scope does not include any separately packaged co-reactants that would not fall within the scope if entered on their own.

The scope includes merchandise matching the above description that has been processed in a third country, including by commingling, diluting, introducing, or removing modifiers or additives, or performing any other processing that would not otherwise remove the merchandise from the scope of the investigations if performed in the subject country.

The scope also includes epoxy resin that is commingled or blended with epoxy resin from sources not subject to these investigations. Only the subject component of such commingled products is covered by the scope of this investigation. Excluded from the scope are phenoxy resins, which are polymers with a weight greater than 11,000 Daltons, a Melt Flow Index (MFI) at 200 °C (392 °F) no less than 4 grams and no greater than 70 grams per 10 min, Glass-Transition Temperatures (Tg) no less than 80 °C (176 °F) and no greater than 100 °C (212 °F), and which contain no epoxy groups other than at the terminal ends of the molecule.

Excluded from the scope are certain paint and coating products, which are blends, mixtures, or other formulations of epoxy resin, curing agent, and pigment, in any form, packaged in one or more containers, wherein (1) the pigment represents a minimum of 10 percent of the total weight of the product, (2) the epoxy resin represents a maximum of 80 percent of the total weight of the product, and (3) the curing agent represents 5 to 40 percent of the total weight of the product.

Excluded from the scope are preimpregnated fabrics or fibers, often referred to as "pre-pregs," which are composite materials consisting of fabrics or fibers (typically carbon or glass) impregnated with epoxy resin.

Also excluded from the scope is Tetramethyl Bisphenol F Diglycidyl Ether epoxy resin, also known as Tetramethyl Bisphenol F–DGE Polymer (TMBPF–DGE), that (1) has the chemical name: phenol, 4, 4'-methylenebis[2,6-dimethyl-, polymer with 2-(chloromethyl)oxirane, (2) falls under Chemical Abstract Services (CAS) Registry Number 113693–69–9, and (3) has an epoxy equivalent weight (EEW), also referred to as the weight per epoxide (WPE), of no less than 200 and no greater than 230 grams of epoxy resin per epoxy equivalent (g/eq or GEW). 12

This merchandise is currently classifiable under Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the

<sup>11</sup> See Certain Epoxy Resins from India: Preliminary Affirmative Countervailing Duty Determination and Alignment of Final Determination With Final Antidumping Duty Determination, 89 FR 74889 (September 13, 2024); see also section 703(d) of the Act, which states that the provisional measures may not be in effect for more than four months, which in the companion CVD case is 120 days after the publication of the preliminary determination, or January 10, 2025, (i.e., last day provisional measures are in effect).

 $<sup>^{12}\,\</sup>rm The$  bracket in this sentence is part of the chemical formula and does not denote business proprietary information.

United States (HTSUS) subheading 3907.30.0000. Subject merchandise may also be entered under subheadings 3907.29.0000, 3824.99.9397, 3214.10.0020, 2910.90.9100, 2910.90.2000, and 1518.00.4000. The HTSUS subheadings are provided for convenience and customs purposes only; the written description of the scope is dispositive.

#### Appendix II

# List of Topics Discussed in the Issues and Decision Memorandum

I. Summarv

II. Background

III. Adjustments to Cash Deposit Rates for Export Subsidies

IV. Changes Since the *Preliminary* Determination

V. Discussion of the Issues

Comment 1: Atul's Most Recent Cost File Should Be Used

Comment 2: Atul's General and Administrative (G&A) Expenses Should Be Adjusted

Comment 3: Atul's Financial Expenses Should Be Adjusted

VI. Recommendation

[FR Doc. 2025–05756 Filed 4–2–25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-DS-P

#### **DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

# International Trade Administration

[A-570-166]

Certain Epoxy Resins From the People's Republic of China: Final Affirmative Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value and Final Affirmative Determination of Critical Circumstances

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

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of Commerce (Commerce) determines that certain epoxy resins (epoxy resins) from the People's Republic of China (China) are being, or are likely to be, sold in the United States at less than fair value (LTFV). The period of investigation is October 1, 2023, through March 31, 2024.

DATES: Applicable April 3, 2025.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Erin Kearney, AD/CVD Operations, Office VI, Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482–0167.

# SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

#### **Background**

On November 13, 2024, Commerce published in the **Federal Register** its preliminary affirmative determination in the LTFV investigation of epoxy resins from China.¹ We invited interested parties to comment on the *Preliminary Determination*.² No interested party submitted case briefs or rebuttal briefs on the *Preliminary Determination*.

#### Scope of the Investigation

The products covered by this investigation are epoxy resins from China. For a complete description of the scope of this investigation, *see* Appendix I.

# **Scope Comments**

During the course of this investigation, Commerce received scope comments from interested parties. Commerce issued a Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum to address these comments and set aside a period of time for parties to address scope issues in scope-specific case and rebuttal briefs.<sup>3</sup> Between February 2025 and March 2025, Commerce received scope case and rebuttal briefs from interested parties.<sup>4</sup> We made changes to the scope of the investigation from the scope published in the *Preliminary Determination*, as noted in Appendix I.<sup>5</sup>

# Final Affirmative Determination of Critical Circumstances

Commerce preliminarily determined, pursuant to section 733(e)(1) of the Tariff Act of 1830, as amended (the Act), and 19 CFR 351.206(c), that critical circumstances exist with respect to imports of epoxy resins from China for the China-wide entity. For the final determination, we continue to find that critical circumstances exist for imports

of epoxy resins from China with respect to the China-wide entity, pursuant to section 735(a)(3)(A) and (B) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.206.<sup>6</sup>

#### Verification

Because the mandatory respondent in this investigation did not provide information requested by Commerce, and Commerce determined that the mandatory respondent was uncooperative, no verification was conducted.

# **Changes Since the Preliminary Determination**

Other than the changes to the scope of this investigation noted above, this final determination remains unchanged from the *Preliminary Determination*, and, in the absence of comments from interested parties, no decision memorandum accompanies this notice.

# China-Wide Entity and Use of Adverse Facts Available

Consistent with the *Preliminary Determination*, Commerce continues to find, pursuant to sections 776(a) and (b) of the Act, that the use of facts otherwise available, with adverse inferences, is warranted in determining the dumping rate for the China-wide entity. Thus, in this final determination, as adverse facts available (AFA), we continue to assign a rate of 354.99 percent, which is the highest margin alleged in the petition, to the Chinawide entity.

#### **Combination Rates**

In the *Initiation Notice*, <sup>10</sup> Commerce stated that it would calculate producer/ exporter combination rates for the respondents that are eligible for a separate rate in this investigation. Policy Bulletin 05.1 describes this practice. <sup>11</sup>

See Certain Epoxy Resins from the People's Republic of China: Preliminary Affirmative Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value and Preliminary Affirmative Determination of Critical Circumstances, 89 FR 89594 (November 13, 2024) (Preliminary Determination), and accompanying Preliminary Decision Memorandum (PDM).

<sup>2</sup> Id., 89 FR at 89596.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> See Memorandum, "Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum," dated November 6, 2024 (Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> See Petitioner's Letter, "Case Brief on Scope Issues," dated February 28, 2025 (Petitioner's Scope Case Brief); Sherwin Williams' Letter, "Scope Case Brief on Behalf of Sherwin-Williams," dated February 28, 2025 (Sherwin-Williams' Scope Case Brief); PPG's Letter, "Scope Case Brief of PPG Industries, Inc.," dated February 28, 2025 (PPG's Scope Case Brief); Petitioner's Letter, "Petitioner's Letter in Lieu of Rebuttal Brief on Scope Issues," dated March 5, 2025 (Petitioner's Rebuttal Scope Case Brief); PPG's Letter, "Rebuttal Scope Case Brief of PPG Industries, Inc.," dated March 5, 2025 (PPG's Rebuttal Scope Case Brief); and Sherwin-Williams' Letter, "Scope Rebuttal Brief on Behalf of Sherwin Williams," dated March 5, 2025 (Sherwin-Williams' Rebuttal Scope Case Brief).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> See Memorandum, "Final Scope Decision Memorandum," dated concurrently with this notice

 $<sup>^{\</sup>rm 6}\,See$  Preliminary Determination PDM at 12–16.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> See Preliminary Determination, 89 FR at 89595.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> See Certain Epoxy Resins from the People's Republic of China, India, the Republic of Korea, Taiwan, and Thailand: Initiation of Less-Than-Fair-Value Investigations, 89 FR 33324 (April 29, 2024) (Initiation Notice); see also Checklist, "Antidumping Duty Investigation Initiation

Antidumping Buty investigation initiation Checklist: Certain Epoxy Resins from the People's Republic of China," dated April 3, 2024 (Initiation Checklist) at 8.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> The China-wide entity includes: (1) Huntsman Advanced Materials (Guangdong) Company Ltd.; (2) Artmate Co. Ltd.; (3) Changzhou Original Chemical Co., Ltd.; (4) Jiangsu Ruiheng New Material Technology Co., Ltd.; (5) Jiangsu Sanmu Group Co., Ltd.; (6) Jushi Group Company Ltd.; (7) Mercury Far East Enterprise Ltd.; and (8) Shandong Deyuan Epoxy Resin Co., Ltd. See Preliminary Determination, 89 FR at 89595.

 $<sup>^{10}\,</sup>See$  Initiation Notice, 89 FR at 33328–29.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> See Enforcement and Compliance's Policy Bulletin No. 05.1, regarding, "Separate-Rates Practice and Application of Combination Rates in Antidumping Investigations involving Non-Market

Because no respondent qualified for a separate rate, we did not calculate producer/exporter combination rates for this final determination.

#### **Final Determination**

The final estimated weighted-average dumping margin is as follows: 12

| Producer/exporter | Weighted-<br>average<br>dumping<br>margin<br>(percent) |
|-------------------|--|
| China-Wide Entity | * 354.99   |

<sup>\*</sup> Rate based on facts available with adverse inferences.

#### Disclosure

Normally, Commerce discloses to interested parties the calculations performed in connection with a final determination within five days of its public announcement or, if there is no public announcement, within five days of the date of publication of this notice in accordance with 19 CFR 351.224(b). However, because Commerce applied AFA to the China-wide entity in this investigation, in accordance with section 776 of the Act, and the applied AFA rate is based solely on the petition, there are no calculations to disclose.

# Continuation of Suspension of Liquidation

In accordance with section 735(c)(1)(B) of the Act, we will instruct U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to continue to suspend liquidation of all appropriate entries of subject merchandise, as described in Appendix I of this notice, which were entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption, on or after August 15, 2024, which is 90 days prior to the date of the date of publication of the affirmative *Preliminary Determination* in the **Federal Register**.

Section 733(e)(2) of the Act provides that, given an affirmative determination of critical circumstances, an suspension of liquidation shall apply to unliquidated entries of subject merchandise entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after the later of: (a) the date which is 90 days before the date on which the suspension of liquidation was first ordered; or (b) the date on which notice of initiation of the investigation was published. Commerce continues to find that critical circumstances exist for imports of subject merchandise

Economy Countries," (April 5, 2005) (Policy Bulletin 05.1), available at https://access.trade.gov/Resources/policy/bull05-1.pdf.

produced or exported by the China-wide entity. In accordance with section 733(e)(2)(A) of the Act, the suspension of liquidation shall apply to unliquidated entries of shipments of subject merchandise from the producer(s) or exporter(s) identified in this paragraph that were entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after August 15, 2024.

Pursuant to section 735(c)(1)(B)(ii) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.210(d), upon the publication of this notice, Commerce will instruct CBP to require a cash deposit for estimated antidumping duties for appropriate entries. Commerce will instruct CBP to require the following cash deposits of estimated antidumping duties for all appropriate entries: (1) for all Chinese exporters of subject merchandise, the cash deposit will be equal to the estimated dumping margin established for the China-wide entity; and (2) for all third-country exporters of merchandise under consideration, the cash deposit rate is also the cash deposit rate applicable to the China-wide entity. These suspension of liquidation instructions will remain in effect until further notice.

# U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC) Notification

In accordance with section 735(d) of the Act, we will notify the ITC of our final affirmative determination of sales at LTFV. Because the final determination in this proceeding is affirmative, in accordance with section 735(b)(2) of the Act, the ITC will make its final determination as to whether the domestic industry in the United States is materially injured, or threatened with material injury, by reason of imports of epoxy resins from China no later than 45 days after this final determination. If the ITC determines that material injury or threat of material injury does not exist, the proceeding will be terminated and all cash deposits will be refunded or canceled, and suspension of liquidation will be lifted. If the ITC determines that such injury does exist, Commerce will issue an AD duty order directing CBP to assess, upon further instruction by Commerce, AD duties on all imports of the subject merchandise that are entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after the effective date of the suspension of liquidation, as discussed above in the "Continuation of Suspension of Liquidation" section.

# Administrative Protective Order (APO)

In the event that the ITC issues a final negative injury determination, this

notice will serve as the only reminder to parties subject to an APO of their responsibility concerning the disposition of proprietary information disclosed under APO in accordance with 19 CFR 351.305(a)(3). Timely written notification of the return or destruction of APO materials or conversion to judicial protective order is hereby requested. Failure to comply with the regulations and terms of an APO is a violation subject to sanction.

#### **Notification to Interested Parties**

This final determination is issued and published in accordance with sections 735(d) and 777(i)(1) of the Act, and 19 CFR 351.210(c).

Dated: March 28, 2025.

#### Christopher Abbott,

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy and Negotiations, performing the non-exclusive functions and duties of the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance.

### Appendix I

### Scope of the Investigation

The merchandise subject to this investigation is fully or partially uncured epoxy resins, also known as epoxide resins, polyepoxides, oxirane resins, ethoxyline resins, diglycidyl ether of bisphenol, (chloromethyl) oxirane, or aromatic diglycidyl, which are polymers or prepolymers containing epoxy groups (i.e., three-membered ring structures comprised of two carbon atoms and one oxygen atom). Epoxy resins range in physical form from low viscosity liquids to solids. All epoxy resins are covered by the scope of this investigation irrespective of physical form, viscosity, grade, purity, molecular weight, or molecular structure, and packaging.

Epoxy resins may contain modifiers or additives, such as hardeners, curatives, colorants, pigments, diluents, solvents, thickeners, fillers, plasticizers, softeners, flame retardants, toughening agents, catalysts, Bisphenol F, and ultraviolet light inhibitors, so long as the modifier or additive has not chemically reacted so as to cure the epoxy resin or convert it into a different product no longer containing epoxy groups. Such epoxy resins with modifiers or additives are included in the scope where the epoxy resin component comprises no less than 30 percent of the total weight of the product. The scope also includes blends of epoxy resins with different types of epoxy resins, with or without the inclusion of modifiers and additives, so long as the combined epoxy resin component comprises at least 30 percent of the total weight of the blend.

Epoxy resins that enter as part of a system or kit with separately packaged co-reactants, such as hardeners or curing agents, are within the scope. The scope does not include any separately packaged co-reactants that would not fall within the scope if entered on their own.

The scope includes merchandise matching the above description that has been

<sup>12</sup> See Preliminary Determination, 89 FR at 89594.

processed in a third country, including by commingling, diluting, introducing, or removing modifiers or additives, or performing any other processing that would not otherwise remove the merchandise from the scope of the investigation if performed in the subject country.

The scope also includes epoxy resin that is commingled or blended with epoxy resin from sources not subject to this investigation. Only the subject component of such commingled products is covered by the scope of this investigation. Excluded from the scope are phenoxy resins, which are polymers with a weight greater than 11,000 Daltons, a Melt Flow Index (MFI) at 200 °C (392 °F) no less than 4 grams and no greater than 70 grams per 10 min, Glass-Transition Temperatures (Tg) no less than 80 °C (176 °F) and no greater than 100 °C (212 °F), and which contain no epoxy groups other than at the terminal ends of the molecule.

Excluded from the scope are certain paint and coating products, which are blends, mixtures, or other formulations of epoxy resin, curing agent, and pigment, in any form, packaged in one or more containers, wherein (1) the pigment represents a minimum of 10 percent of the total weight of the product, (2) the epoxy resin represents a maximum of 80 percent of the total weight of the product, and (3) the curing agent represents 5 to 40 percent of the total weight of the product.

Excluded from the scope are preimpregnated fabrics or fibers, often referred to as "pre-pregs," which are composite materials consisting of fabrics or fibers (typically carbon or glass) impregnated with epoxy resin.

Also excluded from the scope is Tetramethyl Bisphenol F Diglycidyl Ether epoxy resin, also known as Tetramethyl Bisphenol F -DGE Polymer (TMBPF–DGE), that (1) has the chemical name: phenol, 4, 4'-methylenebis[2,6-dimethyl-, polymer with 2-(chloromethyl)oxirane, (2) falls under Chemical Abstract Services (CAS) Registry Number 113693–69–9, and (3) has an epoxy equivalent weight (EEW), also referred to as the weight per epoxide (WPE), of no less than 200 and no greater than 230 grams of epoxy resin per epoxy equivalent (g/eq or GEW). 13

This merchandise is currently classifiable under Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) subheading 3907.30.0000. Subject merchandise may also be entered under subheadings 3907.29.0000, 3824.99.9397, 3214.10.0020, 2910.90.9100, 2910.90.9000, 2910.90.2000, and 1518.00.4000. The HTSUS subheadings are provided for convenience and customs purposes only; the written description of the scope is dispositive.

[FR Doc. 2025–05755 Filed 4–2–25; 8:45 am]

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#### **DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

#### **International Trade Administration**

[C-583-877]

#### Certain Epoxy Resins From Taiwan: Final Affirmative Countervailing Duty Determination

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

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Department of Commerce (Commerce) determines that countervailable subsidies are being provided to producers and exporters of certain epoxy resins (epoxy resins) from Taiwan. The period of investigation (POI) is January 1, 2023, through December 31, 2023.

DATES: Applicable April 3, 2025.
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ian Riggs, AD/CVD Operations, Office IX, Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482–3810.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

# **Background**

On September 13, 2024, Commerce published the *Preliminary Determination* in the **Federal Register** and invited interested parties to comment.<sup>1</sup> On October 31, 2024, Commerce released its Post Preliminary Analysis.<sup>2</sup>

For a complete discussion of the events that followed the *Preliminary Determination, see* the Issues and Decision Memorandum.<sup>3</sup> The Issues and Decision Memorandum is a public document and is made available to the public via Enforcement and Compliance's Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Centralized Electronic Service System (ACCESS). ACCESS is available to registered users at *https://access.trade.gov.* In addition, a complete version of the Issues and Decision Memorandum can be accessed

directly at https://access.trade.gov/public/FRNoticesListLayout.aspx.

# Scope of the Investigation

The products covered by the scope of this investigation are epoxy resins from Taiwan. For a complete description of the scope of this investigation, see Appendix I.

# **Scope Comments**

During the course of this investigation, Commerce received scope comments from interested parties. Commerce issued a Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum to address these comments and set aside a period of time for parties to address scope issues in scope-specific case and rebuttal briefs.4 Between February and March 2025, Commerce received scope case and rebuttal briefs from interested parties.5 After analyzing these comments, we made changes to the scope of the investigation published in the Preliminary Determination, as noted in Appendix I.6

#### Verification

As provided in section 782(i) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act), in November 2024, Commerce conducted verification of the subsidy information reported by the Taiwan Authorities (TA), Chang Chun Plastics Co. Ltd. (CCPC), and Nan Ya Plastics Corp. (Nan Ya) for use in our final determination. We used standard verification procedures, including an examination of relevant accounting records and original source documents provided by CCPC, Nan Ya, and the TA.

# Analysis of Subsidy Programs and Comments Received

The subsidy programs under investigation and the issues raised in

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> The bracket in this sentence is part of the chemical formula and does not denote business proprietary information.

See Certain Epoxy Resins from Taiwan:
Preliminary Affirmative Countervailing Duty
Determination, and Alignment of Final
Determination With Final Antidumping Duty
Determination, 89 FR 74896 (September 13, 2024)
(Preliminary Determination), and accompanying
Preliminary Decision Memorandum (PDM).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> See Memorandum, "Post Preliminary Analysis in the Countervailing Duty Investigation of Certain Epoxy Resins from Taiwan," dated October 31, 2024 (Post Preliminary Analysis).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> See Memorandum, "Issues and Decision Memorandum for the Final Determination of the Countervailing Duty Investigation of Certain Epoxy Resins from Taiwan," dated concurrently with, and hereby adopted by, this notice (Issues and Decision Memorandum).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> See Memorandum, "Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum," dated November 6, 2024 (Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> See Petitioner's Letter, "Case Brief on Scope Issues," dated February 28, 2025; Sherwin Williams' Letter, "Scope Case Brief on Behalf of Sherwin-Williams," dated February 28, 2025; PPG's Letter, "Scope Case Brief of PPG Industries, Inc.," dated February 28, 2025; Petitioner's Letter, "Petitioner's Letter in Lieu of Rebuttal Brief on Scope Issues," dated March 5, 2025; PPG's Letter, "Rebuttal Scope Case Brief of PPG Industries, Inc.," dated March 5, 2025; and Sherwin-Williams' Letter, "Scope Rebuttal Brief on Behalf of Sherwin Williams," dated March 5, 2025.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> See Memorandum, "Final Scope Decision Memorandum," dated concurrently with this notice.

<sup>7</sup> See Memoranda, "Verification of the Questionnaire Responses of Chang Chun Plastics Co. Ltd.," dated January 22, 2025; "Verification of the Questionnaire Responses of Nan Ya Plastics Corp.," dated January 22, 2025; and "Verification of the Questionnaire Responses of the Taiwan Authorities," dated January 22, 2025.

the case and rebuttal briefs that were submitted by interested parties in this investigation are discussed in the Issues and Decision Memorandum. For a list of the issues raised by interested parties and addressed in the Issues and Decision Memorandum, see Appendix II.

#### Methodology

Commerce conducted this investigation in accordance with section 701 of the Act. For each of the subsidy programs found to be countervailable, Commerce determines that there is a subsidy, *i.e.*, a financial contribution by an "authority" that gives rise to a benefit to the recipient, and that the subsidy is specific.<sup>8</sup> For a full description of the methodology underlying our final determination, *see* the Issues and Decision Memorandum.

In making this final determination, Commerce relied, in part, on facts otherwise available, including with an adverse inference, pursuant to sections 776(a) and (b) of the Act. For a full discussion of our application of adverse facts available (AFA), see the Issues and Decision Memorandum at the section entitled "Uses of Facts Available and Application of Adverse Inferences."

### **Changes Since the Preliminary Determination**

Based on our review and analysis of the information at verification and comments received from interested parties, we made changes to the subsidy rate calculations for CCPC, Nan Ya, and for all other producers/exporters, including the addition of subsidy programs included in the Post-Preliminary Analysis. For a discussion of these changes, see the Issues and Decision Memorandum.

#### **All-Others Rate**

In accordance with section 705(c)(1)(B)(i) of the Act, we calculated an individual estimated countervailable subsidy rate for the two mandatory respondents, CCPC and Nan Ya. Section 705(c)(5)(A)(i) of the Act states that, for companies not individually investigated, Commerce will determine an all-others rate equal to the weightedaverage countervailable subsidy rates established for exporters and/or producers individually investigated, excluding any zero and de minimis countervailable subsidy rates, and any rates determined entirely under section 776 of the Act.

In this investigation, we continue to calculate individual total net countervailable subsidy rates for CCPC and Nan Ya that are not zero, de minimis, or based entirely on facts otherwise available. Therefore, we continue to calculate the all-others rate using a weighted average of the individual estimated subsidy rates calculated for the examined respondents using each company's publicly-ranged sales value for their exports to the United States of subject merchandise, in accordance with section 705(c)(5)(A)(i) of the Act.

#### **Final Determination**

Commerce determines that the following estimated countervailable subsidy rates exist for the period January 1, 2023, through December 31, 2023:

| Company                                    | Subsidy rate<br>(percent<br>ad valorem) |
|--|---|
| Chang Chun Plastics Co. Ltd. <sup>10</sup> | 19.13                                   |
| Nan Ya Plastics Corp. <sup>11</sup>        | 3.38                                    |
| All Others                                 | 11.35                                   |

#### Disclosure

Commerce intends to disclose its calculations performed to interested parties in this final determination within five days of its public announcement or, if there is no public announcement, within five days of the

date of the publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**, in accordance with 19 CFR 351.224(b).

#### Suspension of Liquidation

As a result of our *Preliminary* Determination, and pursuant to sections 703(d)(1)(B) and (d)(2) of the Act, we instructed U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to collect cash deposits and suspend liquidation of entries of subject merchandise from Taiwan that were entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption, on or after September 13, 2024, the date of the publication of the *Preliminary* Determination in the Federal Register. 12 In accordance with section 703(d) of the Act, we instructed CBP to discontinue the suspension of liquidation of all entries of subject merchandise entered or withdrawn from warehouse, on or after January 11, 2025, but to continue the suspension of liquidation of all entries of subject merchandise on or before January 10, 2025.

If the U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC) issues a final affirmative injury determination, we will issue a countervailing duty (CVD) order, reinstate the suspension of liquidation under section 706(a) of the Act, and require a cash deposit of estimated countervailing duties for entries of subject merchandise in the amounts indicated above. Pursuant to section 705(c)(2) of the Act, if the ITC determines that material injury, or threat of material injury, does not exist, this proceeding will be terminated, and all estimated duties deposited or securities posted as a result of the suspension of liquidation will be refunded or cancelled.

#### **ITC Notification**

In accordance with section 705(d) of the Act, Commerce will notify the ITC of its final affirmative determination that countervailable subsidies are being provided to producers and exporters of epoxy resins from Taiwan. As Commerce's final determination is affirmative, in accordance with section 705(b) of the Act, the ITC will determine, within 45 days, whether the domestic industry in the United States is materially injured, or threatened with material injury, by reason of import of epoxy resins from Taiwan. In addition, we are making available to the ITC all non-privileged and non-proprietary information in our files, provided the ITC confirms that it will not disclose such information, either publicly or under administrative protective order (APO), without the written consent of

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> See sections 771(5)(B) and (D) of the Act regarding financial contribution; see also section 771(5)(E) of the Act regarding benefit; and section 771(5A) of the Act regarding specificity.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> With two respondents under examination, Commerce normally calculates: (A) a weightedaverage of the estimated subsidy rates calculated for the examined respondents; (B) a simple average of the estimated subsidy rates calculated for the examined respondents; and (C) a weighted-average of the estimated subsidy rates calculated for the examined respondents using each company's publicly-ranged U.S. sale quantities for the merchandise under consideration. Commerce then compares (B) and (C) to (A) and selects the rate closest to (A) as the most appropriate rate for all other producers and exporters. See, e.g., Ball Bearings and Parts Thereof from France, Germany, Italy, Japan, and the United Kingdom: Final Results of Antidumping Administrative Reviews, Final Results of Changed-Circumstances Review, and Revocation of an Order in Part, 75 FR 53661, 53663 (September 1, 2010); see also Forged Steel Fluid End Blocks from Italy: Preliminary Affirmative Countervailing Duty Determination, and Alignment of Final Determination with Final Antidumping Duty Determination, 85 FR 31460, 31461 (May 26, 2020), unchanged in Forged Steel Fluid End Blocks from Italy: Final Affirmative Countervailing Duty Determination, 85 80022, 80023 (December 11,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Commerce has found the following companies to be cross-owned with CCPC: Chang Chun Petrochemical Co., Ltd.; Dairen Chemical Corporation; Jinzhou Technology Co., Ltd.; and Taiwan Prosperity Chemical Corporation.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Commerce has found the following companies to be cross-owned with Nan Ya: Formosa Plastics Corporation; Formosa Chemicals & Fibre Corporation; and Formosa Petrochemical Corporation.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> See Preliminary Determination, 89 FR at 74897.

the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance.

If the ITC determines that material injury or threat of material injury does not exist, this proceeding will be terminated and all cash deposits will be refunded. If the ITC determines that such injury does exist, Commerce will issue a CVD directing CBP to assess, upon further instruction by Commerce, countervailing duties on all imports of the subject merchandise that are entered, or withdrawn, for consumption on or after the effective date of the suspension of liquidation, as discussed above in the "Continuation of Suspension of Liquidation" section.

#### Administrative Protective Order (APO)

This notice will serve as the only reminder to parties subject to the APO of their responsibility concerning the destruction of proprietary information disclosed under APO, in accordance with 19 CFR 351.305(a)(3). Timely written notification of the return/destruction of APO materials or conversion to judicial protective order is hereby requested. Failure to comply with the regulations and terms of an APO is a violation which is subject to sanction.

#### **Notification to Interested Parties**

This determination is issued and published in accordance with sections 705(d) and 777(i) of the Act, and 19 CFR 351.210(c).

Dated: March 28, 2025.

#### Christopher Abbott,

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy and Negotiations, performing the non-exclusive functions and duties of the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance.

#### Appendix I

#### Scope of the Investigation

The merchandise subject to this investigation is fully or partially uncured epoxy resins, also known as epoxide resins, polyepoxides, oxirane resins, ethoxyline resins, diglycidyl ether of bisphenol, (chloromethyl) oxirane, or aromatic diglycidyl, which are polymers or prepolymers containing epoxy groups (i.e., three-membered ring structures comprised of two carbon atoms and one oxygen atom). Epoxy resins range in physical form from low viscosity liquids to solids. All epoxy resins are covered by the scope of this investigation irrespective of physical form, viscosity, grade, purity, molecular weight, or molecular structure, and packaging.

Epoxy resins may contain modifiers or additives, such as hardeners, curatives, colorants, pigments, diluents, solvents,

thickeners, fillers, plasticizers, softeners, flame retardants, toughening agents, catalysts, Bisphenol F, and ultraviolet light inhibitors, so long as the modifier or additive has not chemically reacted so as to cure the epoxy resin or convert it into a different product no longer containing epoxy groups. Such epoxy resins with modifiers or additives are included in the scope where the epoxy resin component comprises no less than 30 percent of the total weight of the product. The scope also includes blends of epoxy resins with different types of epoxy resins, with or without the inclusion of modifiers and additives, so long as the combined epoxy resin component comprises at least 30 percent of the total weight of the blend.

Epoxy resins that enter as part of a system or kit with separately packaged co-reactants, such as hardeners or curing agents, are within the scope. The scope does not include any separately packaged co-reactants that would not fall within the scope if entered on their own.

The scope includes merchandise matching the above description that has been processed in a third country, including by commingling, diluting, introducing, or removing modifiers or additives, or performing any other processing that would not otherwise remove the merchandise from the scope of the investigation if performed in the subject country.

The scope also includes epoxy resin that is commingled or blended with epoxy resin from sources not subject to this investigation. Only the subject component of such commingled products is covered by the scope of this investigation. Excluded from the scope are phenoxy resins, which are polymers with a weight greater than 11,000 Daltons, a Melt Flow Index (MFI) at 200 °C (392 °F) no less than 4 grams and no greater than 70 grams per 10 min, Glass-Transition Temperatures (Tg) no less than 80 °C (176 °F) and no greater than 100 °C (212 °F), and which contain no epoxy groups other than at the terminal ends of the molecule.

Excluded from the scope are certain paint and coating products, which are blends, mixtures, or other formulations of epoxy resin, curing agent, and pigment, in any form, packaged in one or more containers, wherein (1) the pigment represents a minimum of 10 percent of the total weight of the product, (2) the epoxy resin represents a maximum of 80 percent of the total weight of the product, and (3) the curing agent represents 5 to 40 percent of the total weight of the product.

Excluded from the scope are preimpregnated fabrics or fibers, often referred to as "pre-pregs," which are composite materials consisting of fabrics or fibers (typically carbon or glass) impregnated with epoxy resin.

Also excluded from the scope is Tetramethyl Bisphenol F Diglycidyl Ether epoxy resin, also known as Tetramethyl Bisphenol F-DGE Polymer (TMBPF–DGE), that (1) has the chemical name: phenol, 4, 4'- methylenebis[2,6-dimethyl-, polymer with 2-(chloromethyl)oxirane, (2) falls under Chemical Abstract Services (CAS) Registry Number 113693–69–9, and (3) has an epoxy equivalent weight (EEW), also referred to as the weight per epoxide (WPE), of no less than 200 and no greater than 230 grams of epoxy resin per epoxy equivalent (g/eq or GEW).<sup>13</sup>

This merchandise is currently classifiable under Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) subheading 3907.30.0000. Subject merchandise may also be entered under subheadings 3907.29.0000, 3824.99.9397, 3214.10.0020, 2910.90.9100, 2910.90.2000, and 1518.00.4000. The HTSUS subheadings are provided for convenience and customs purposes only; the written description of the scope is dispositive.

#### Appendix II

### List of Topics Discussed in the Issues and Decision Memorandum

I. Summary

II. Background

III. Subsidies Valuation

IV. Use of Facts Available and Adverse Inferences

V. Analysis of Programs

VI. Discussion of the Issues

Comment 1: Whether to Continue to Find the Provision of Electricity for Less than Adequate Remuneration (LTAR) and the Provision of Natural Gas for LTAR *De* Facto Specific

Comment 2: Whether to Revise the Benchmarks for the Provision of Electricity and Natural Gas for LTAR

Comment 3: Whether Commerce Must Conduct an Upstream Subsidy Analysis for Purchases of Natural Gas from Natural Gas Utility Enterprises (NGUEs)

Comment 4: Whether to Continue to Find Certain Tax and Grant Programs *De Facto* Specific

Comment 5: Whether Nan Ya's Usage of the Industrial Upgrade and Innovation Platform (IUIP) Program is Tied to Non-Subject Merchandise

Comment 6: Whether Nan Ya's Usage of the Smart Machinery and 5G Equipment Investment (Smart Machinery) Program is Tied to Non-Subject Merchandise

Comment 7: Whether to Find Nan Ya Cross-Owned With Certain Affiliates

Comment 8: Whether to Apply Facts Available to the Provision of Natural Gas for LTAR for Nan Ya's Cross-Owned Affiliates

Comment 9: Whether to Apply Adverse Facts Available (AFA) to CCPC for its Unreported Subsidy Programs

VII. Recommendation

[FR Doc. 2025–05752 Filed 4–2–25; 8:45 am]

#### BILLING CODE 3510-DS-P

 $<sup>^{13}\,\</sup>rm The$  bracket in this sentence is part of the chemical formula and does not denote business proprietary information.

#### **DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

# International Trade Administration [A-549-850]

Certain Epoxy Resins From Thailand: Final Affirmative Determination of Sales at Less-Than-Fair Value and Final Negative Determination of Critical Circumstances

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

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Department of Commerce (Commerce) determines that certain epoxy resins (epoxy resins) from Thailand are being, or are likely to be, sold in the United States at less-thanfair value (LTFV). The period of investigation is April 1, 2023, through March 31, 2024.

**DATES:** Applicable April 3, 2025. **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** John Frye, AD/CVD Operations, Office V, Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482–3035.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

#### **Background**

On November 13, 2024, Commerce published in the **Federal Register** its preliminary affirmative determination in the LTFV investigation of epoxy resins from Thailand.¹ We invited interested parties to comment on the *Preliminary Determination*. Although we received comments on other issues, no interested party submitted comments regarding the preliminary determination of negative critical circumstances. Therefore, we continue to determine that critical circumstances do not exist for imports of epoxy resins from Thailand.

A summary of the events that occurred since Commerce published the *Preliminary Determination*, as well as a full discussion of the issues raised by parties for this final determination, may be found in the Issues and Decision Memorandum.<sup>2</sup> The Issues and Decision

Memorandum is a public document and is on file electronically via Enforcement and Compliance's Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Centralized Electronic Service System (ACCESS). ACCESS is available to registered users at <a href="https://access.trade.gov">https://access.trade.gov</a>. In addition, a complete version of the Issues and Decision Memorandum can be accessed directly at <a href="https://access.trade.gov/public/FRNoticesListLayout.aspx">https://access.trade.gov/public/FRNoticesListLayout.aspx</a>.

#### Scope of the Investigation

The product covered by this investigation are epoxy resins from Thailand. For a complete description of the scope of this investigation, *see* Appendix I.

#### **Scope Comments**

During the course of this investigation, Commerce received scope comments from interested parties.
Commerce issued a Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum to address these comments and set aside a period of time for parties to address scope issues in scope-specific case and rebuttal briefs.<sup>3</sup> Between February 2025 and March 2025, Commerce received scope-specific case and rebuttal briefs from interested parties.<sup>4</sup> We made changes to the scope of the investigation from the scope published in the *Preliminary Determination*, as noted in Appendix I.<sup>5</sup>

#### Verification

Commerce verified the sales and cost information submitted by Aditya Birla Chemicals (Thailand) Limited (Aditya Thai) and its affiliate, Aditya Birla Chemicals (USA), Inc. (ABCUSA),<sup>6</sup> for

use in our final determination, consistent with section 782(i) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act). We used standard verification procedures, including an examination of relevant sales and accounting records, and original source documents provided by Aditya Thai and ABCUSA.

#### **Analysis of Comments Received**

All issues raised in the case and rebuttal briefs submitted by interested parties in this investigation are addressed in the Issues and Decision Memorandum. A list of the issues raised is attached to this notice as Appendix II.

### **Changes Since the Preliminary Determination**

We made certain changes since the *Preliminary Determination*. For a discussion of these changes, *see* the Issues and Decision Memorandum.

#### **All-Others Rate**

Section 735(c)(5)(A) of the Act provides that Commerce shall determine an estimated all-others rate for all exporters and producers not individually examined. This rate shall be an amount equal to the weighted average of the estimated weighted-average dumping margins established for exporters and producers individually investigated, excluding any zero and *de minimis* margins, and any margins determined entirely under section 776 of the Act.

In this investigation, Commerce calculated an estimated weighted-average dumping margin for Aditya Thai that is not zero, *de minimis*, or based entirely on facts available. Consequently, for this final determination, the estimated weighted-average dumping margin calculated for Aditya Thai is the estimated weighted-average dumping margin for all other producers and exporters.

#### **Final Determination**

The final estimated weighted-average dumping margins are as follows:

| Exporter/producer                         | Estimated<br>weighted-<br>average<br>dumping<br>margin<br>(percent) |
|---|---|
| Aditya Birla Chemicals (Thailand) Limited | 5.25<br>5.25  |

#### Disclosure

Commerce intends to disclose under administrative protective order (APO) the calculations performed in connection with this final determination

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See Certain Epoxy Resins from Thailand: Preliminary Affirmative Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value, Preliminary Negative Determination of Critical Circumstances, Postponement of Final Determination, and Extension of Provisional Measures, 89 FR 89608 (November 13, 2024) (Preliminary Determination), and accompanying Preliminary Decision Memorandum (PDM).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> See Memorandum, "Issues and Decision Memorandum for the Final Affirmative Determination of Sales at Less-Than-Fair-Value of Certain Epoxy Resins from Thailand," dated concurrently with, and hereby adopted by, this notice (Issues and Decision Memorandum).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> See Memorandum, "Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum," dated November 6, 2024 (Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> See Petitioner's Letter, "Case Brief on Scope Issues," dated February 28, 2025; The Sherwin-Williams Company's Letter, "Scope Case Brief on Behalf of Sherwin-Williams," dated February 28, 2025; PPG Industries, Inc.," Letter, "Scope Case Brief of PPG Industries, Inc.," dated February 28, 2025; Petitioner's Letter, "Petitioner's Letter in Lieu of Rebuttal Brief on Scope Issues," dated March 5, 2025; PPG Industries, Inc.'s Letter, "Rebuttal Scope Case Brief of PPG Industries, Inc.," dated March 5, 2025; and The Sherwin-Williams Company's Letter, "Scope Rebuttal Brief on Behalf of Sherwin Williams," dated March 5, 2025.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> See Memorandum, "Final Scope Decision Memorandum," dated concurrently with this notice.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> See Memoranda, "Verification of the Questionnaire Responses of Aditya Birla Chemicals (Thailand) Limited in the Less-Than-Fair-Value Investigation of Certain Epoxy Resins from Thailand," dated February 11, 2025; "Verification of the Questionnaire Responses of Aditya Birla Chemicals (USA), Inc. in the Less-Than-Fair-Value Investigation of Certain Epoxy Resins from Thailand," dated February 24, 2025; and "Verification of the Cost Response of Aditya Birla Chemicals (Thailand) Limited in the Less-Than-Fair-Value Epoxy Resins from the Kingdom of Thailand," dated February 28, 2025.

to interested parties within five days of any public announcement or, if there is no public announcement, within five days of the date of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**, in accordance with 19 CFR 351.224(b).

### Continuation of Suspension of Liquidation

In accordance with section 735(c)(1)(B) of the Act, Commerce will instruct U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to continue to suspend liquidation of all entries of subject merchandise, as described in Appendix I of this notice, which were entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption, on or after November 13, 2024, the date of publication of the *Preliminary Determination* in the **Federal Register**. These suspension of liquidation instructions will remain in effect until further notice.

Pursuant to section 735(c)(1)(B)(ii) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.210(d), upon the publication of this notice, we will instruct CBP to require a cash deposit for estimated weighted-average antidumping duties as follows: (1) the cash deposit rate for the company listed in the table above that exported the subject merchandise will be equal to the company-specific estimated weightedaverage dumping margins determined in this final determination; (2) if the exporter is not a company identified in the table above, but the producer is, then the cash deposit rate will be equal to the company-specific estimated weighted-average dumping margin established for that producer of the subject merchandise; and (3) the cash deposit rate for all other producers and exporters will be equal to the estimated weighted-average dumping margin for all other producers and exporters. These suspension of liquidation instructions will remain in effect until further notice.

### U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC) Notification

In accordance with section 735(d) of the Act, we will notify the ITC of our final affirmative determination of sales at LTFV. Because the final determination in this proceeding is affirmative, in accordance with section 735(b)(2) of the Act, the ITC will make its final determination as to whether the domestic industry in the United States is materially injured, or threatened with material injury, by reason of imports of epoxy resins from Thailand no later than 45 days after this final determination. If the ITC determines that material injury or threat of material injury does not exist, the proceeding will be terminated and all cash deposits will be refunded or canceled, and

suspension of liquidation will be lifted. If the ITC determines that such injury does exist, Commerce will issue an antidumping duty order directing CBP to assess, upon further instruction by Commerce, antidumping duties on all imports of the subject merchandise that are entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after the effective date of the suspension of liquidation, as discussed above in the "Continuation of Suspension of Liquidation" section.

#### **Administrative Protective Order**

This notice will serve as the only reminder to parties subject to an APO of their responsibility concerning the disposition of proprietary information disclosed under APO in accordance with 19 CFR 351.305(a)(3). Timely written notification of the return or destruction of APO materials or conversion to judicial protective order is hereby requested. Failure to comply with the regulations and terms of an APO is a sanctionable violation.

#### **Notification to Interested Parties**

This final determination and notice are issued and published in accordance with sections 735(d) and 777(i) of the Act, and 19 CFR 351.210(c).

Dated: March 28, 2025.

#### Christopher Abbott,

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy and Negotiations, performing the non-exclusive functions and duties of the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance.

#### Appendix I

#### Scope of the Investigation

The merchandise subject to this investigation is fully or partially uncured epoxy resins, also known as epoxide resins, polyepoxides, oxirane resins, ethoxyline resins, diglycidyl ether of bisphenol, (chloromethyl) oxirane, or aromatic diglycidyl, which are polymers or prepolymers containing epoxy groups (i.e., three-membered ring structures comprised of two carbon atoms and one oxygen atom). Epoxy resins range in physical form from low viscosity liquids to solids. All epoxy resins are covered by the scope of this investigation irrespective of physical form, viscosity, grade, purity, molecular weight, or molecular structure, and packaging.

Epoxy resins may contain modifiers or additives, such as hardeners, curatives, colorants, pigments, diluents, solvents, thickeners, fillers, plasticizers, softeners, flame retardants, toughening agents, catalysts, Bisphenol F, and ultraviolet light inhibitors, so long as the modifier or additive has not chemically reacted so as to cure the epoxy resin or convert it into a different product no longer containing epoxy groups. Such epoxy resins with modifiers or additives are included in the scope where the epoxy resin component comprises no less

than 30 percent of the total weight of the product. The scope also includes blends of epoxy resins with different types of epoxy resins, with or without the inclusion of modifiers and additives, so long as the combined epoxy resin component comprises at least 30 percent of the total weight of the blend.

Epoxy resins that enter as part of a system or kit with separately packaged co-reactants, such as hardeners or curing agents, are within the scope. The scope does not include any separately packaged co-reactants that would not fall within the scope if entered on their own.

The scope includes merchandise matching the above description that has been processed in a third country, including by commingling, diluting, introducing, or removing modifiers or additives, or performing any other processing that would not otherwise remove the merchandise from the scope of the investigation if performed in the subject country.

The scope also includes epoxy resin that is commingled or blended with epoxy resin from sources not subject to this investigation. Only the subject component of such commingled products is covered by the scope of this investigation. Excluded from the scope are phenoxy resins, which are polymers with a weight greater than 11,000 Daltons, a Melt Flow Index (MFI) at 200 °C (392 °F) no less than 4 grams and no greater than 70 grams per 10 min, Glass-Transition Temperatures (Tg) no less than 80 °C (176 °F) and no greater than 100 °C (212 °F), and which contain no epoxy groups other than at the terminal ends of the molecule.

Excluded from the scope are certain paint and coating products, which are blends, mixtures, or other formulations of epoxy resin, curing agent, and pigment, in any form, packaged in one or more containers, wherein (1) the pigment represents a minimum of 10 percent of the total weight of the product, (2) the epoxy resin represents a maximum of 80 percent of the total weight of the product, and (3) the curing agent represents 5 to 40 percent of the total weight of the product.

Excluded from the scope are preimpregnated fabrics or fibers, often referred to as "pre-pregs," which are composite materials consisting of fabrics or fibers (typically carbon or glass) impregnated with epoxy resin.

Also excluded from the scope is Tetramethyl Bisphenol F Diglycidyl Ether epoxy resin, also known as Tetramethyl Bisphenol F -DGE Polymer (TMBPF–DGE), that (1) has the chemical name: phenol, 4, 4'-methylenebis[2,6-dimethyl-, polymer with 2-(chloromethyl)oxirane, (2) falls under Chemical Abstract Services (CAS) Registry Number 113693–69–9, and (3) has an epoxy equivalent weight (EEW), also referred to as the weight per epoxide (WPE), of no less than 200 and no greater than 230 grams of epoxy resin per epoxy equivalent (g/eq or GEW).7

This merchandise is currently classifiable under Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) subheading

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> The bracket in this sentence is part of the chemical formula and does not denote business proprietary information.

3907.30.0000. Subject merchandise may also be entered under subheadings 3907.29.0000, 3824.99.9397, 3214.10.0020, 2910.90.9100, 2910.90.2000, and 1518.00.4000. The HTSUS subheadings are provided for convenience and customs purposes only; the written description of the scope is dispositive.

#### Appendix II

### List of Topics Discussed in the Issues and Decision Memorandum

I. Summary

II. Background

III. Changes from the *Preliminary Determination* 

IV. Discussion of the Issues

Comment 1: Whether the Application of the Cohen's d Test is Appropriate

Comment 2: Whether Commerce Should Apply the Cohen's d Test Using a Weighted Average

Comment 3: Whether to Adjust Aditya Thai's Cost of Manufacturing (COM) to Account for Chinese Overcapacity of Material Inputs

Comment 4: Whether to Adjust Aditya Thai's Reported Costs Based on the Cost Verification Findings

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#### **DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

## International Trade Administration [A-580-919]

Certain Epoxy Resins From South Korea: Final Affirmative Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value and Final Negative Determination of Critical Circumstances

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

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of Commerce (Commerce) determines that imports of certain epoxy resins (epoxy resins) from South Korea (Korea) are being, or are likely to be, sold in the United States at less than fair value (LTFV) for the period of investigation (POI) April 1, 2023, through March 31, 2024.

DATES: Applicable April 3, 2025.
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Joy Zhang or Laura Delgado, AD/CVD Operations, Office III, Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482–4001 or (202) 482–1468, respectively.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

#### Background

On November 13, 2024, Commerce published in its **Federal Register** its

preliminary affirmative determinative in the LTFV investigation of epoxy resins from Korea.<sup>1</sup> We invited interested parties to comment on the *Preliminary Determination*.<sup>2</sup> On December 13, 2024, Commerce published in its **Federal Register** its amended preliminary affirmative determination due to ministerial errors for Kumho P&B Chemicals Inc (Kumho P&B).<sup>3</sup>

A summary of the events that occurred since Commerce published the Preliminary Determination, as well as a full discussion of the issues raised by parties for this final determination, may be found in the Issues and Decision Memorandum.<sup>4</sup> The Issues and Decision Memorandum is a public document and is on file electronically via Enforcement and Compliance's Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Centralized Electronic Service System (ACCESS). ACCESS is available to registered users at https://access.trade.gov. In addition, a complete version of the Issues and Decision Memorandum can be accessed directly at https://access.trade.gov/ public/FRNoticesListLayout.aspx.

### Final Negative Determination of Critical Circumstances

We continue to find that critical circumstances do not exist for imports of epoxy resins from South Korea for all producers and exporters pursuant to section 735(a)(3) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act) and 19 CFR 351.206. For a discussion and analysis of comments regarding Commerce's critical circumstances analysis, see the Issues and Decision Memorandum.

#### **Scope of the Investigation**

The products covered by this investigation are epoxy resins from Korea. For a complete description of the scope of this investigation, *see* Appendix I.

#### **Scope Comments**

During the course of this investigation, Commerce received scope comments from interested parties. Commerce issued a Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum to address these comments and set aside a period of time for parties to address scope issues in scope-specific case and rebuttal briefs. Between February 2025, and March 2025, Commerce received scope case and rebuttal briefs from interested parties. We made changes to the scope of the investigation from the scope published in the *Preliminary Determination*, as noted in Appendix I.7

#### Verification

Commerce verified the sales and cost information submitted by Kumho P&B and Kukdo Chemical Co., Ltd. and Kukdo Finechem (collectively referred to as Kukdo/Finechem), for use in our final determination, consistent with section 782(i) of the Act.<sup>8</sup> We used standard verification procedures, including an examination of relevant sales and accounting records, and original source documents provided by Kumho P&B and Kukdo/Finechem.

#### **Analysis of Comments Received**

All issues raised in the case and rebuttal briefs submitted by interested parties in this investigation are

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See Certain Epoxy Resins from the Republic of Korea: Preliminary Affirmative Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value, Preliminary Negative Critical Circumstances Determination, Postponement of Final Determination, and Extension of Provisional Measures, 89 FR 89605 (November 13, 2024) (Preliminary Determination), and accompanying Preliminary Decision Memorandum (PDM).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Id., 89 FR 89605.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> See Certain Epoxy Resins from the Republic of Korea: Amended Preliminary Determination of Less-Than-Fair-Value Investigation, 89 FR 100972 (December 13, 2024) (Amended Preliminary Determination), and accompanying Ministerial Error Memorandum.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> See Memorandum, "Decision Memorandum for the Final Affirmative Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value in the Investigation of Certain Epoxy Resins from the Republic of Korea," dated concurrently with, and hereby adopted by, this notice (Issues and Decision Memorandum).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> See Memorandum, "Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum," dated November 6, 2024 (Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> See Petitioner's Letter, "Case Brief on Scope Issues," dated February 28, 2025 (Petitioner's Scope Case Brief); see also Sherwin Williams' Letter, "Scope Case Brief on Behalf of Sherwin-Williams," dated February 28, 2025 (Sherwin-Williams' Scope Case Brief); PPG's Letter, "Scope Case Brief of PPG Industries, Inc.," dated February 28, 2025 (PPG's Scope Case Brief); Petitioner's Letter, "Petitioner's Letter in Lieu of Rebuttal Brief on Scope Issues," dated March 5, 2025 (Petitioner's Rebuttal Scope Case Brief); PPG's Letter, "Rebuttal Scope Case Brief of PPG Industries, Inc.," dated March 5, 2025 (PPG's Rebuttal Scope Case Brief); and Sherwin-Williams' Letter, "Scope Rebuttal Brief on Behalf of Sherwin Williams," dated March 5, 2025 (Sherwin-Williams' Rebuttal Scope Case Brief).

 $<sup>^{7}\,</sup>See$  Memorandum, "Final Scope Decision Memorandum," dated concurrently with this notice.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> See Memoranda, "Verification of the Sales Response of Kumho P&B Chemicals Inc. in the Antidumping Duty Investigation of Epoxy Resins from the Republic of Korea.," dated February 7, 2025 (Kumĥo P&B's Sales Verification Report); "Verification of the Sales Response of Kukdo/ Finechem and KDCA in the Antidumping Investigation of Epoxy Resins from the Republic of dated February 7, 2025 (Kukdo/Finechem's Sales Verification Report); "Verification of the Cost Response of Kumho P&B Chemicals, Inc. in the Less-Than-Fair-Value Investigation of Certain Epoxy Resins from the Republic of Korea," dated February 27, 2025; and "Verification of the Cost Response of Kukdo Chemical Co., Ltd. in the Antidumping Duty Investigation of Certain Epoxy Resins from Republic of Korea," dated February 27,

addressed in the Issues and Decision Memorandum. A list of the issues addressed in the Issues and Decision Memorandum is attached to this notice as Appendix II.

### **Changes Since the Amended Preliminary Determination**

We made certain changes to the margin calculations for Kukdo/Finechem and Kumho P&B since the Amended Preliminary Determination. For a discussion of these changes, see the Issues and Decision Memorandum.

#### **All-Others Rate**

Sections 735(c)(5)(A) of the Act provide that Commerce shall determine an estimated all-others rate for all exporters and producers not individually examined. This rate shall be an amount equal to the weighted average of the estimated weighted-average dumping margins established for exporters and producers individually investigated, excluding any zero and de minimis margins, and any margins determined entirely under section 776 of the Act.

In this investigation, Commerce calculated estimated weighted-average

dumping margins for Kumho P&B and Kukdo/Finechem that are not zero, de minimis or based entirely on facts available. As a result, the rate calculated for all other producers and exporters is a weighted average of the estimated weighted-average dumping margins for Kumho P&B and Kukdo/Finechem using each company's publicly-ranged values for the merchandise under consideration.<sup>9</sup>

#### **Final Determination**

Commerce determines that the following estimated weighted-average dumping margins exist:

| Exporter/producer       | Weighted-average<br>dumping margin<br>(percent) | Cash deposit rate<br>(adjusted for<br>subsidy offset(s))<br>(percent) |
|-------------------------|---|---|
| Kumho P&B Chemicals Inc | 7.60<br>5.68<br>6.37                            | 7.59<br>5.62<br>6.33  |

#### Disclosure

Commerce intends to disclose its calculations and analysis performed to interested parties in this final determination within five days of any public announcement or, if there is no public announcement, within five days of the date of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**, accordance with 19 CFR 351.224(b).

### Continuation of Suspension of Liquidation

In accordance with section 735(c)(1)(B) of the Act, Commerce will instruct U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to continue to suspend liquidation of all entries of subject merchandise, as described in Appendix I of this notice, which were entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after November 13, 2024, the date of publication of the Preliminary Determination in the Federal Register. These suspension of liquidation instructions will remain in effect until further notice.

Pursuant to section 735(c)(1)(B)(ii) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.210(d), upon the publication of this notice, we will

<sup>9</sup> See Memorandum, "All-Others Rate Calculation," dated concurrently with this notice. With two respondents under examination, Commerce normally calculates: (A) a weighted-average of the estimated weighted-average dumping margins calculated for the examined respondents; (B) a simple average of the estimated weighted-average dumping margins calculated for the examined respondents; and (C) a weighted-average of the estimated weighted-average dumping margins calculated for the examined respondents using each company's publicly-ranged U.S. sales values for the merchandise under consideration. Commerce then

instruct CBP to require a cash deposit for estimated weighted-average antidumping duties as follows: (1) the cash deposit rate for the companies listed in the table above that exported the subject merchandise will be equal to the company-specific estimated weighted-average dumping margins determined in this final determination; (2) if the exporter is not a company identified in the table above, but the producer is, then the cash deposit rate will be equal to the company-specific estimated weighted-average dumping margin established for that producer of the subject merchandise; and (3) the cash deposit rate for all other producers and exporters will be equal to the estimated weighted-average dumping margin for all other producers and exporters. These suspension of liquidation instructions will remain in effect until further notice.

To determine the cash deposit rate, Commerce normally adjusts the estimated weighted-average dumping margin by the amount of export subsidies countervailed in a companion countervailing duty (CVD) proceeding, when CVD provisional measures are in effect. Accordingly, where Commerce

compares (B) and (C) to (A) and selects the rate closest to (A) as the most appropriate rate for all other producers and exporters. See, e.g., Ball Bearings and Parts Thereof from France, Germany, Italy, Japan, and the United Kingdom: Final Results of Antidumping Duty Administrative Reviews, Final Results of Changed-Circumstances Review, and Revocation of an Order in Part, 75 FR 53661, 53662 (September 1, 2010), and accompanying Issues and Decision Memorandum at Comment 1. As complete publicly ranged sales data were available, Commerce based the all-others rate on the publicly-ranged sales data of the mandatory respondents. For

has made a final affirmative determination for countervailable export subsidies, Commerce offsets the estimated weighted-average dumping margin by the appropriate CVD rate. Commerce has adjusted the cash deposit rate for export subsidies in the companion CVD investigation by the appropriate export subsidy rate as indicated in the above chart.

### U.S. International Trade Commission Notification (ITC)

In accordance with section 735(d) of the Act, Commerce will notify the ITC of its final affirmative determination of sales at LTFV. Because Commerce's final determination is affirmative, in accordance with section 735(b)(2) of the Act, the ITC will make its final determination as to whether the domestic industry in the United States is materially injured, or threatened with material injury, by reason of imports or sales (or the likelihood of sales) for importation of epoxy resins no later than 45 days after this final determination. If the ITC determines that such injury does not exist, this proceeding will be terminated, all cash deposits posted will be refunded, and

a complete analysis of the data, see All-Others Rate Calculation Memorandum.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> In the *Preliminary Determination*, Commerce preliminarily determined that these companies are a single entity. *See Preliminary Determination* PDM at 5; *see also* Memorandum, "Preliminary Affiliation and Collapsing Memorandum," dated November 6, 2024. No parties commented on this determination; thus, we continue to treat these companies as a single entity for purposes of this final determination.

suspension of liquidation will be lifted. If the ITC determines that such injury does exist, Commerce will issue an antidumping duty order directing CBP to assess, upon further instruction by Commerce, antidumping duties on all imports of the subject merchandise entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after the effective date of the suspension of liquidation, as discussed in the "Continuation of Suspension of Liquidation" section above.

#### **Administrative Protective Order**

This notice serves as the only reminder to parties subject to an administrative protective order (APO) of their responsibility concerning the disposition of proprietary information disclosed under APO in accordance with 19 CFR 351.305(a)(3). Timely written notification of the return or destruction of APO materials or conversion to judicial protective order is hereby requested. Failure to comply with the regulations and terms of an APO is a sanctionable violation.

#### **Notification to Interested Parties**

This determination is issued and published in accordance with sections 735(d) and 777(i)(1) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.210(c).

Dated: March 28, 2025.

#### Christopher Abbott,

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy and Negotiations, performing the non-exclusive functions and duties of the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance.

#### Appendix I

#### Scope of the Investigation

The merchandise subject to this investigation is fully or partially uncured epoxy resins, also known as epoxide resins, polyepoxides, oxirane resins, ethoxyline resins, diglycidyl ether of bisphenol, (chloromethyl) oxirane, or aromatic diglycidyl, which are polymers or prepolymers containing epoxy groups (i.e., three-membered ring structures comprised of two carbon atoms and one oxygen atom). Epoxy resins range in physical form from low viscosity liquids to solids. All epoxy resins are covered by the scope of this investigation irrespective of physical form, viscosity grade, purity, molecular weight, or molecular structure, and packaging.

Epoxy resins may contain modifiers or additives, such as hardeners, curatives, colorants, pigments, diluents, solvents, thickeners, fillers, plasticizers, softeners, flame retardants, toughening agents, catalysts, Bisphenol F, and ultraviolet light inhibitors, so long as the modifier or additive has not chemically reacted so as to cure the epoxy resin or convert it into a different product no longer containing epoxy groups. Such epoxy resins with modifiers or additives are included in the scope where the

epoxy resin component comprises no less than 30 percent of the total weight of the product. The scope also includes blends of epoxy resins with different types of epoxy resins, with or without the inclusion of modifiers and additives, so long as the combined epoxy resin component comprises at least 30 percent of the total weight of the blend.

Epoxy resins that enter as part of a system or kit with separately packaged co-reactants, such as hardeners or curing agents, are within the scope. The scope does not include any separately packaged co-reactants that would not fall within the scope if entered on their own.

The scope includes merchandise matching the above description that has been processed in a third country, including by commingling, diluting, introducing, or removing modifiers or additives, or performing any other processing that would not otherwise remove the merchandise from the scope of the investigation if performed in the subject country.

The scope also includes epoxy resin that is commingled or blended with epoxy resin from sources not subject to this investigation. Only the subject component of such commingled products is covered by the scope of this investigation.

Excluded from the scope are phenoxy resins, which are polymers with a weight greater than 11,000 Daltons, a Melt Flow Index (MFI) at 200 °C (392 °F) no less than 4 grams and no greater than 70 grams per 10 min, Glass-Transition Temperatures (Tg) no less than 80 °C (176 °F) and no greater than 100 °C (212 °F), and which contain no epoxy groups other than at the terminal ends of the molecule.

Excluded from the scope are certain paint and coating products, which are blends, mixtures, or other formulations of epoxy resin, curing agent, and pigment, in any form, packaged in one or more containers, wherein (1) the pigment represents a minimum of 10 percent of the total weight of the product, (2) the epoxy resin represents a maximum of 80 percent of the total weight of the product, and (3) the curing agent represents 5 to 40 percent of the total weight of the product.

Excluded from the scope are preimpregnated fabrics or fibers, often referred to as "pre-pregs," which are composite materials consisting of fabrics or fibers (typically carbon or glass) impregnated with epoxy resin.

Also excluded from the scope is Tetramethyl Bisphenol F Diglycidyl Ether epoxy resin, also known as Tetramethyl Bisphenol F -DGE Polymer (TMBPF–DGE), that (1) has the chemical name: phenol, 4, 4'-methylenebis[2,6-dimethyl-, polymer with 2-(chloromethyl)oxirane, (2) falls under Chemical Abstract Services (CAS) Registry Number 113693–69–9, and (3) has an epoxy equivalent weight (EEW), also referred to as the weight per epoxide (WPE), of no less than 200 and no greater than 230 grams of epoxy resin per epoxy equivalent (g/eq or GEW).<sup>11</sup>

This merchandise is currently classifiable under Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the

United States (HTSUS) subheading 3907.30.0000. Subject merchandise may also be entered under subheadings 3907.29.0000, 3824.99.9397, 3214.10.0020, 2910.90.9100, 2910.90.2000, and 1518.00.4000. The HTSUS subheadings are provided for convenience and customs purposes only; the written description of the scope is dispositive.

#### Appendix II

### List of Topics Discussed in the Issues and Decision Memorandum

- I. Summary
- II. Background
- III. Changes Since the Amended Preliminary Determination
- IV. Final Negative Critical Circumstances Decision
- V. Discussion of the Issues
- Comment 1: Whether Commerce Should Correct a Ministerial Error in the Calculation of Kukdo's U.S. Movement Expenses
- Comment 2: Whether Commerce Should Use Kukdo's Most Recent Sales Files in the Final Determination
- Comment 3: Whether Commerce Should Treat Kukdo Finechem's International Freight Expenses as Incurred in Korean Won (KRW)
- Comment 4: Whether Commerce Should Increase the Costs of Manufacture Reported by the Mandatory Respondents Due to Chinese Overcapacity of Bisphenol A and Epichlorohydrin
- Comment 5: Whether Commerce Should Revise the Transactions Disregarded Adjustment Calculated for Certain Kumho P&B Inputs
- Comment 6: Whether Commerce Should Consider the Losses on the Valuation of Inventories or Inventory Obsolescence Amounts Related to Finished Goods for Kumho P&B
- VI. Recommendation

[FR Doc. 2025–05757 Filed 4–2–25; 8:45 am]

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#### **DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

## International Trade Administration [C-570-197]

# Slag Pots From the People's Republic of China: Preliminary Affirmative Countervailing Duty Determination

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

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of Commerce (Commerce) preliminarily determines that countervailable subsidies are being provided to producers and exporters of slag pots from the People's Republic of China (China). The period of investigation is January 1, 2023, through December 31, 2023. Interested parties are invited to comment on this preliminary determination.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup>The bracket in this sentence is part of the chemical formula and does not denote business proprietary information.

DATES: Applicable April 3, 2025.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Samuel Brummitt or T.J. Worthington, AD/CVD Operations, Office III, Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482–7851 or (202) 482–4567, respectively.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

#### Background

This preliminary determination is made in accordance with section 703(b) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act). Commerce published the notice of initiation of this investigation on January 28, 2025.1 For a complete description of the events that followed the initiation of this investigation, see the Preliminary Decision Memorandum.<sup>2</sup> A list of topics discussed in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum is included as Appendix II to this notice. The Preliminary Decision Memorandum is a public document and is on file electronically via Enforcement and Compliance's Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Centralized Electronic Service System (ACCESS). ACCESS is available to registered users at https://access. vtrade.gov. In addition, a complete version of the Preliminary Decision Memorandum can be accessed directly at https://access.trade.gov/public/ FRNoticesListLayout.aspx.

#### Scope of the Investigation

The products covered by this investigation are slag pots from China. For a complete description of the scope of this investigation, see Appendix I.

#### **Scope Comments**

In accordance with the Preamble to Commerce's regulations,<sup>3</sup> the *Initiation* Notice set aside a period of time for parties to raise issues regarding product coverage, (i.e., scope).4 Certain interested parties commented on the scope of the investigation as it appeared in the Initiation Notice. For a summary of the product coverage comments submitted to the record for this preliminary determination, and accompanying discussion and analysis of the comments timely received, see the Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum.<sup>5</sup> Commerce is preliminarily modifying the scope language as it appeared in the *Initiation* Notice. See revised scope in Appendix

#### Methodology

Commerce is conducting this investigation in accordance with section 701 of the Act. For each of the subsidy programs found countervailable, Commerce preliminarily determines that there is a subsidy, *i.e.*, a financial contribution by an "authority" that gives rise to a benefit to the recipient, and that the subsidy is specific.<sup>6</sup>

Commerce notes that, in making these findings, it relied on facts available and, because Commerce finds that necessary information was missing from the record and because respondents did not act to the best of their ability to respond to Commerce's requests for information, Commerce drew an adverse inference (AFA) in selecting from among the facts otherwise available. For further information, see the "Use of Facts Otherwise Available and Adverse

Inferences" section in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum.

#### **All-Others Rate**

Sections 703(d) and 705(c)(5)(A) of the Act provide that in the preliminary determination, Commerce shall determine an estimated all-others rate for companies not individually examined. This rate shall be an amount equal to the weighted average of the estimated subsidy rates established for those companies individually examined, excluding any zero and deminimis rates and any rates based entirely under section 776 of the Act.

Pursuant to section 705(c)(5)(A)(ii) of the Act, if the individual estimated countervailable subsidy rates established for all exporters and producers individually examined are zero, de minimis, or determined based entirely on facts otherwise available, Commerce may use any reasonable method to establish the estimated subsidy rate for all other producers or exporters. In this investigation, Commerce preliminarily determined the individually estimated subsidy rate for each of the individually examined respondents based entirely on facts available under section 776 of the Act. This is the only rate available in this proceeding for deriving the all-others rate. Consequently, pursuant to sections 703(d) and 705(c)(5)(A)(ii) of the Act, Commerce established the all-others rate by applying the countervailable subsidy rate assigned to the non-responsive companies listed below.

#### **Preliminary Determination**

Commerce preliminarily determines that the following estimated countervailable subsidy rates exist:

| Company   | Subsidy rate (percent <i>ad valorem</i> ) |
|---|---|
| Chaeng Great Wall Steel Casting Co. Ltd         | * 226.16                                  |
| UMECC Beijing Equipment Inc. Ltd                | * 226.16                                  |
| Cast-Con Engineering GmbH & Co. KG              | * 226.16                                  |
| Changzhou Jinyuan Machinery Equipment Ltd. Co   | * 226.16                                  |
| Dawang Metals Co. Ltd                           | * 226.16                                  |
| Dawang Metals Co. Ltd                           | * 226.16                                  |
| Liaoning Mineral and Metallurgy Group Co. Ltd   | * 226.16                                  |
| Luoyang Zhongtai Industries Co., Ltd            | * 226.16                                  |
| Shantou Huaxing Metallurgical Equipment Co. Ltd | * 226.16                                  |
| Tangshan Sinya International Trade Co., Ltd     | * 226.16                                  |
| All Others                                      | 226.16                                    |

<sup>\*</sup> Rate is based on facts available with adverse inferences.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See Slag Pots from the People's Republic of China: Initiation of Countervailing Duty Investigation, 90 FR 8267 (January 28, 2025) (Initiation Notice).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> See Memorandum, "Decision Memorandum for the Preliminary Affirmative Determination of the Countervailing Duty Investigation of Slag Pots from the People's Republic of China," dated concurrently

with, and hereby adopted by, this notice (Preliminary Decision Memorandum).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> See Antidumping Duties; Countervailing Duties, Final Rule, 62 FR 27296, 27323 (May 19, 1997).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> See Initiation Notice, 90 FR at 8268.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> See Memorandum, "Antidumping Duty and Countervailing Duty Investigations of Slag Pots from the People's Republic of China: Preliminary

Scope Decision Memorandum," dated concurrently with this notice (Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> See sections 771(5)(B) and (D) of the Act regarding financial contribution; section 771(5)(E) of the Act regarding benefit; and section 771(5A) of the Act regarding specificity.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> See sections 776(a) and (b) of the Act.

#### Suspension of Liquidation

In accordance with section 703(d)(2) of the Act, Commerce will direct U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to suspend liquidation of entries of subject merchandise as described in the scope of the investigation section entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after the date of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**.

Further, pursuant to section 703(d)(1)(B) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.107(e), Commerce will instruct CBP to require a cash deposit equal to the estimated company-specific countervailable subsidy rate or the estimated all-others rate, as follows: (1) the cash deposit rate for the respondents listed above will be equal to the company-specific estimated individual countervailable subsidy rates determined in this preliminary determination; (2) if both the producer and exporter of the subject merchandise have company-specific estimated subsidy rates determined in this preliminary determination, and their rates differ, then the applicable cash deposit rate will be the higher of these two rates; (3) if either the producer or the exporter, but not both, of the subject merchandise have a company-specific estimated subsidy rate determined in this preliminary determination, the applicable cash deposit rate will be that company's company-specific rate; and (4) the cash deposit rate for all other producers and exporters will be equal to the estimated all-others subsidy rate.

#### Disclosure

Normally, Commerce discloses its calculations and analysis performed in connection with the preliminary determination to interested parties within five days of its public announcement, or if there is no public announcement, within five days of the date of this notice in accordance with 19 CFR 351.224(b). However, because Commerce preliminarily applied total AFA in the calculation of the benefit for Chaeng Great Wall Steel Casting Co. Ltd., UMECC Beijing Equipment Inc. Ltd, and the non-responsive companies, and the applied AFA rates are based on rates calculated in prior proceedings, there are no calculations to disclose.

#### Verification

Because the examined respondents in this investigation did not provide information requested by Commerce and Commerce preliminarily determines each of the examined respondents to have been uncooperative, it will not conduct verification.

#### **Public Comment**

All interested parties will have the opportunity to submit scope case and rebuttal briefs on the preliminary decision regarding the scope of the lessthan-fair-value (LTFV)and CVD investigations. The deadlines to submit scope case and rebuttal briefs will be provided in the preliminary scope decision memorandum. For all scope case and rebuttal briefs, parties must file identical documents simultaneously on the records of the ongoing LTFV and CVD slag pots investigations. No new factual information or business proprietary information may be included in either scope case or rebuttal briefs.

Case briefs or other written comments on non-scope issues may be submitted to the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance no later than 20 days after the date of publication of the preliminary determination. Rebuttal briefs, limited to issues raised in the case briefs, may be filed not later than five days after the date for filing case briefs.<sup>8</sup> Interested parties who submit case briefs or rebuttal briefs in this proceeding must submit: (1) a table of contents listing each issue; and (2) a table of authorities.<sup>9</sup>

As provided under 19 CFR 351.309(c)(2) and (d)(2), in prior proceedings we have encouraged interested parties to provide an executive summary of their brief that should be limited to five pages total, including footnotes. In this investigation, we instead request that interested parties provide at the beginning of their briefs a public, executive summary for each issue raised in their briefs. 10 Further, we request that interested parties limit their executive summary of each issue to no more than 450 words, not including citations. We intend to use the executive summaries as the basis of the comment summaries included in the issues and decision memorandum that will accompany the final determination in this investigation. We request that interested parties include footnotes for relevant citations in the executive summary of each issue. Note that Commerce has amended certain of its requirements pertaining to

the service of documents in 19 CFR 351.303(f).<sup>11</sup>

Pursuant to 19 CFR 351.310(c), interested parties who wish to request a hearing, limited to issues raised in the case and rebuttal briefs, must submit a written request to the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance, U.S. Department of Commerce within 30 days after the date of publication of this notice. Requests should contain the party's name, address, and telephone number, the number of participants, whether any participant is a foreign national, and a list of the issues to be discussed. If a request for a hearing is made, Commerce intends to hold the hearing at a time and date to be determined. Parties should confirm by telephone the date, time, and location of the hearing two days before the scheduled date.

### U.S. International Trade Commission Notification

In accordance with section 703(f) of the Act, Commerce will notify the U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC) of its determination. If the final determination is affirmative, the ITC will determine before the later of 120 days after the date of this preliminary determination or 45 days after the final determination whether imports of slag pots from China are materially injuring, or threaten material injury to, the U.S. industry.

#### **Notification to Interested Parties**

This determination is issued and published pursuant to sections 703(f) and 777(i) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.205(c).

Dated: March 27, 2025.

#### Christopher Abbott,

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy and Negotiations, performing the non-exclusive functions and duties of the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance.

#### Appendix I

#### **Scope of the Investigation**

The merchandise covered by the investigation is slag pots with a nominal capacity of 65 cubic feet to 1200 cubic feet regardless of shape, form, or finish.

Slag pots are load bearing devices typically formed as a curved shell or bowl-shaped container. Slag pots are metallurgical goods typically produced either using a casting process or a fabrication process (e.g., welding) and may include a ceramic refractory coating, heat treatment or various finishes in order to handle high temperature slag. Slag pots may contain integral features or attachments including (1) legs (or a stand) and (2) pivotal mounting hooks or brackets. Legs (or a stand) are a fixed or detachable

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> See 19 CFR 351.309(d); see also Administrative Protective Order, Service, and Other Procedures in Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Proceedings, 88 FR 67069, 67077 (September 29, 2023) (APO and Service Final Rule).

<sup>9</sup> See 19 351.309(c)(2) and (d)(2).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> We use the term "issue" here to describe an argument that Commerce would normally address in a comment of the Issues and Decision Memorandum.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> See APO and Service Final Rule.

support structure which allows the slag pot to be securely positioned upright on a surface when not being lifted or transported and may also keep the slag pot off the ground and allow for air cooling. The pivotal mounting hooks and brackets are specialized attachment points (such as lifting lugs or trunnions) that allow the slag pot to be securely lifted and transported by a crane or lifting device, or that enable the slag pot to swing or rotate while remaining attached to the lifting mechanism. The merchandise covered by this investigation includes all aforementioned attachments of a fully assembled slag pot, regardless of whether shipped assembled or unassembled.

Slag pots are included within the scope whether finished or unfinished, whether imported individually or with other subject or non-subject merchandise, or whether assembled with attachments or unassembled. Finishing includes, but is not limited to, arc washing, welding, grinding, shot blasting, heat treatment, machining, and assembly of various parts.

The country of origin for slag pots whether fully assembled, unfinished or finished, is the country where the slag pot was cast or forged. Subject merchandise includes slag pots that have been further processed or further assembled in a third country. Further processing and further assembly include, but is not limited to, arc washing, welding, grinding, shot blasting, heat treatment, painting, coating, priming, machining, and assembly of attachments.

Slag pots subject to the investigation are specified within the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) under subheadings 7309.00.0090 and 8454.20.0080. The slag pot attachments covered by the scope of this investigation may enter under HTSUS subheadings 7316.00.0000, 7325.10.0080, 7325.99.1000, 7325.99.5000, and 7326.19.0080. The HTSUS subheading is provided for convenience and customs purposes only. The written description of the scope of the investigation is dispositive.

#### Appendix II

### List of Topics Discussed in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum

I. Summary

II. Background

III. Injury Test

IV. Analysis of China's Financial System

V. Diversification of China's Economy

VI. Use of Facts Otherwise Available and

Adverse Inferences VII. Analysis of Programs

VII. Alialysis of Flograms

VIII. Recommendation

[FR Doc. 2025–05693 Filed 4–2–25; 8:45 am]

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#### **DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

#### **International Trade Administration**

[C-570-167]

Certain Epoxy Resins From the People's Republic of China: Final Affirmative Countervailing Duty Determination and Final Affirmative Determination of Critical Circumstances

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

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Department of Commerce (Commerce) determines that countervailable subsidies are being provided to producers and exporters of certain epoxy resins (epoxy resins) from the People's Republic of China (China). The period of investigation is January 1, 2023, through December 31, 2023.

DATES: Applicable April 3, 2025.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Nathan James, AD/CVD Operations, Office V, Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482–5305.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

#### **Background**

On September 13, 2024, Commerce published its Preliminary Determination in the Federal Register. On February 7, 2025, Commerce issued its postpreliminary analysis in this investigation.<sup>2</sup> On February 10, 2025, we solicited comments in advance of this final determination.3 Because no comments were submitted by interested parties, we have adopted our Preliminary Results and Post-Preliminary Analysis for purposes of this final determination. Accordingly, no decision memorandum accompanies this Federal Register notice. Commerce conducted this investigation in accordance with section 705 of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act).

#### Scope of the Investigation

The products covered by this investigation are epoxy resins from China. For a complete description of the scope of this investigation, *see* Appendix I.

#### **Scope Comments**

During the course of this investigation, Commerce received scope comments from interested parties.

Commerce issued a Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum to address these comments and set aside a period of time for parties to address scope issues in scope-specific case and rebuttal briefs. Between February 2025 and March 2025, Commerce received scope case and rebuttal briefs from interested parties. We made changes to the scope of the investigation from the scope published in the *Preliminary Determination*, as noted in Appendix I.6

### Final Affirmative Determination of Critical Circumstances

Commerce preliminarily determined, pursuant to section 703(e)(1) of the Act, that critical circumstances exist for Jiangsu Sanmu Group Co., Ltd. (Sanmu), Shandong Bluestar Dongda Chemical (Bluestar), and all other producers and/or exporters. We have made no changes to that determination, and we find that critical circumstances exist for Sanmu, Bluestar, and all other producers and/or exporters, consistent with section 705(a)(2) of the Act.

#### Verification

Because the mandatory respondents in this investigation did not provide information requested by Commerce, and Commerce determined that the mandatory respondents were uncooperative, no verification was conducted.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See Certain Epoxy Resins from the People's Republic of China: Preliminary Affirmative Countervailing Duty Determination, Preliminary Affirmative Determination of Critical Circumstances, and Alignment of Final Determination with Final Antidumping Duty Determination, 89 FR 74891 (September 13, 2024) (Preliminary Determination), and accompanying Preliminary Decision Memorandum (PDM).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> See Memorandum, "Post-Preliminary Analysis in the Countervailing Duty Investigation of Certain Epoxy Resins from the People's Republic of China," dated February 7, 2025 (Post-Preliminary Analysis).

 $<sup>^3\,</sup>See$  Memorandum, ''Case Brief Schedule,'' dated February 10, 2025.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> See Memorandum, "Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum," dated November 6, 2024 (Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> See Petitioner's Letter, "Case Brief on Scope Issues," dated February 28, 2025 (Petitioner's Scope Case Brief); Sherwin Williams' Letter, "Scope Case Brief on Behalf of Sherwin-Williams," dated February 28, 2025 (Sherwin-Williams' Scope Case Brief); PPG's Letter, "Scope Case Brief of PPG Industries, Inc.," dated February 28, 2025 (PPG's Scope Case Brief); Petitioner's Letter, "Petitioner's Letter in Lieu of Rebuttal Brief on Scope Issues," dated March 5, 2025 (Petitioner's Rebuttal Scope Case Brief); PPG's Letter, "Rebuttal Scope Case Brief of PPG Industries, Inc.," dated March 5, 2025 (PPG's Rebuttal Scope Case Brief); and Sherwin-Williams' Letter, "Scope Rebuttal Brief on Behalf of Sherwin Williams," dated March 5, 2025 (Sherwin-Williams' Rebuttal Scope Case Brief).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> See Memorandum, "Final Scope Decision Memorandum," dated concurrently with this notice.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> See Preliminary Determination, 89 FR 74892.

#### **All-Others Rate**

As discussed in the Preliminary Determination, Commerce based the selection of the all- others rate on the countervailable subsidy rates established for the mandatory respondents, in accordance with 703(d) of the Act.8 Consistent with section 705(c)(5)(A)(ii) of the Act, we made no changes to the methodology used to select of the all-others rate for the final determination; specifically, we have assigned the sole rate assigned to the mandatory respondents to all other companies. Commerce has, however, updated the subsidy rates for the mandatory respondents (and consequently the All Others rate), to reflect the additional programs countervailed in the Post-Preliminary Analysis.9

#### **Final Determination**

Commerce determines that the following estimated countervailable subsidy rates exist:

| Subsidy rate<br>(percent<br>ad valorem) |
|---|
| * 547.76                                |
| * 547.76<br>547.76                      |
|   |

<sup>\*</sup> Rate based on facts available with adverse inferences.

#### Disclosure

Normally, Commerce discloses to interested parties the calculations performed in final determination within five days of any public announcement or, if there is no public announcement, within five days of the date of publication of this final determination in the Federal Register, in accordance with 19 CFR 351.224(b). However, the program rates assigned as AFA in the Preliminary Determination and Post-Preliminary Analysis are unchanged. and there are no additional calculations performed in this final determination and, therefore, there are no calculations to disclose.

#### Suspension of Liquidation

As a result of our *Preliminary Determination* and pursuant to sections 703(d)(1)(B) and (d)(2) of the Act, we

instructed U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to suspend liquidation of entries of subject merchandise from China that were entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption. Because we preliminarily determined that critical circumstances existed with respect to Sanmu, Bluestar, and all other producers and/or exporters, we instructed CBP to suspend such entries on or after June 15, 2024, which is 90 days prior to the date of the publication of the Preliminary Determination in the Federal Register. 10 In accordance with section 703(d) of the Act, we instructed CBP to discontinue the suspension of liquidation of all entries of subject merchandise entered or withdrawn from warehouse, on or after January 11, 2025, but to continue the suspension of liquidation of all entries of subject merchandise that were subject to suspension of liquidation between June 15, 2024, and January 10, 2025.

If the U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC) issues a final affirmative injury determination, we will issue a countervailing duty order, reinstate the suspension of liquidation under section 706(a) of the Act, and require a cash deposit of estimated countervailing duties for entries of subject merchandise in the amounts indicated above. If the ITC determines that material injury, or threat of material injury, does not exist, this proceeding will be terminated, and all estimated duties deposited or securities posted as a result of the suspension of liquidation will be refunded or canceled.

#### **ITC Notification**

In accordance with section 705(d) of the Act, we intend to notify the ITC of our final affirmative determination that countervailable subsidies are being provided to producers and exporters of epoxy resins from China. Because the final determination in this proceeding is affirmative, in accordance with section 705(b) of the Act, the ITC will make its final determination as to whether the domestic industry in the United States is materially injured, or threatened with material injury, by reason of imports of epoxy resins from China no later than 45 days after our final determination. In addition, we are making available to the ITC all non-privileged and nonproprietary information related to this investigation. We will allow the ITC access to all privileged and business proprietary information in our files, provided the ITC confirms that it will not disclose such information, either publicly or under an administrative protective order (APO), without the

written consent of the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance.

If the ITC determines that material injury or threat of material injury does not exist, this proceeding will be terminated and all cash deposits will be refunded or canceled, as Commerce determines to be appropriate. If the ITC determines that such injury does exist. Commerce intends to issue a countervailing duty order directing CBP to assess, upon further instruction by Commerce, countervailing duties on all imports of the subject merchandise that are entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after the effective date of the suspension of liquidation, as discussed above in the "Continuation of Suspension of Liquidation" section.

#### **Administrative Protective Order**

In the event that the ITC issues a final negative injury determination, this notice will serve as the only reminder to parties subject to an APO of their responsibility concerning the destruction of proprietary information disclosed under APO in accordance with 19 CFR 351.305(a)(3). Timely written notification of the return/destruction of APO materials or conversion to judicial protective order is hereby requested. Failure to comply with the regulations and terms of an APO is a violation which is subject to sanction.

#### **Notification to Interested Parties**

We are issuing and publishing this final determination in accordance with sections 705(d) and 777(i) of the Act, and 19 CFR 351.210(c).

Dated: March 28, 2025.

#### Christopher Abbott,

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy and Negotiations, performing the non-exclusive functions and duties of the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance.

#### Appendix I

#### Scope of the Investigation

The merchandise subject to this investigation is fully or partially uncured epoxy resins, also known as epoxide resins, polyepoxides, oxirane resins, ethoxyline resins, diglycidyl ether of bisphenol, (chloromethyl) oxirane, or aromatic diglycidyl, which are polymers or prepolymers containing epoxy groups (i.e., three-membered ring structures comprised of two carbon atoms and one oxygen atom). Epoxy resins range in physical form from low viscosity liquids to solids. All epoxy resins are covered by the scope of this investigation irrespective of physical form, viscosity, grade, purity, molecular weight, or molecular structure, and packaging.

<sup>8</sup> Id

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Specifically, we are summing the rate assigned in the *Preliminary Determination* (108.64 percent) and the Post-Preliminary Analysis (439.12 percent) to arrive at the final subsidy rate of 547.76 percent. *See Preliminary Determination* PDM at Appendix (assigning an AFA rate of 108.64); and Post-Preliminary Analysis at 3 (assigning an AFA rate of 439.12).

Epoxy resins may contain modifiers or additives, such as hardeners, curatives, colorants, pigments, diluents, solvents, thickeners, fillers, plasticizers, softeners, flame retardants, toughening agents, catalysts, Bisphenol F, and ultraviolet light inhibitors, so long as the modifier or additive has not chemically reacted so as to cure the epoxy resin or convert it into a different product no longer containing epoxy groups. Such epoxy resins with modifiers or additives are included in the scope where the epoxy resin component comprises no less than 30 percent of the total weight of the product. The scope also includes blends of epoxy resins with different types of epoxy resins, with or without the inclusion of modifiers and additives, so long as the combined epoxy resin component comprises at least 30 percent of the total weight of the blend.

Epoxy resins that enter as part of a system or kit with separately packaged co-reactants, such as hardeners or curing agents, are within the scope. The scope does not include any separately packaged co-reactants that would not fall within the scope if entered on their own.

The scope includes merchandise matching the above description that has been processed in a third country, including by commingling, diluting, introducing, or removing modifiers or additives, or performing any other processing that would not otherwise remove the merchandise from the scope of the investigation if performed in the subject country.

The scope also includes epoxy resin that is commingled or blended with epoxy resin from sources not subject to this investigation. Only the subject component of such commingled products is covered by the scope of this investigation. Excluded from the scope are phenoxy resins, which are polymers with a weight greater than 11,000 Daltons, a Melt Flow Index (MFI) at 200 °C (392 °F) no less than 4 grams and no greater than 70 grams per 10 min, Glass-Transition Temperatures (Tg) no less than 80 °C (176 °F) and no greater than 100 °C (212 °F), and which contain no epoxy groups other than at the terminal ends of the molecule.

Excluded from the scope are certain paint and coating products, which are blends, mixtures, or other formulations of epoxy resin, curing agent, and pigment, in any form, packaged in one or more containers, wherein (1) the pigment represents a minimum of 10 percent of the total weight of the product, (2) the epoxy resin represents a maximum of 80 percent of the total weight of the product, and (3) the curing agent represents 5 to 40 percent of the total weight of the product. Excluded from the scope are preimpregnated fabrics or fibers, often referred to as "prepregs," which are composite materials consisting of fabrics or fibers (typically carbon or glass) impregnated with epoxy

Also excluded from the scope is Tetramethyl Bisphenol F Diglycidyl Ether epoxy resin, also known as Tetramethyl Bisphenol F -DGE Polymer (TMBPF–DGE), that (1) has the chemical name: phenol, 4, 4'methylenebis[2,6-dimethyl-, polymer with 2-(chloromethyl)oxirane, (2) falls under Chemical Abstract Services (CAS) Registry Number 113693–69–9, and (3) has an epoxy equivalent weight (EEW), also referred to as the weight per epoxide (WPE), of no less than 200 and no greater than 230 grams of epoxy resin per epoxy equivalent (g/eq or GEW).<sup>11</sup>

This merchandise is currently classifiable under Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) subheading 3907.30.0000. Subject merchandise may also be entered under subheadings 3907.29.0000, 3824.99.9397, 3214.10.0020, 2910.90.9100, 2910.90.2000, and 1518.00.4000. The HTSUS subheadings are provided for convenience and customs purposes only; the written description of the scope is dispositive.

[FR Doc. 2025–05750 Filed 4–2–25; 8:45 am] BILLING CODE 3510–DS–P

#### **DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

## International Trade Administration [C-570-187]

Overhead Door Counterbalance Torsion Springs From the People's Republic of China: Preliminary Affirmative Countervailing Duty Determination and Alignment of Final Determination With Final Antidumping Duty Determination

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

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of Commerce (Commerce) preliminarily determines that countervailable subsidies are being provided to producers and exporters of overhead door counterbalance torsion springs (overhead door springs) from the People's Republic of China (China). The period of investigation is January 1, 2023, through December 31, 2023. Interested parties are invited to comment on this preliminary determination.

**DATES:** Applicable April 3, 2025. **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Bob Palmer or Laurel Smalley, AD/CVD Operations, Office VIII, Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482–9068 or (202) 482–3456, respectively.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

#### Background

This preliminary determination is made in accordance with section 703(b) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended

(the Act). Commerce published the notice of initiation of this investigation on November 25, 2024.1 On January 2, 2025, Commerce postponed the preliminary determination of this investigation until March 28, 2025.2 For a complete description of the events that followed the initiation of this investigation, see the Preliminary Decision Memorandum.<sup>3</sup> A list of topics discussed in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum is included as Appendix II to this notice. The Preliminary Decision Memorandum is a public document and is on file electronically via Enforcement and Compliance's Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Centralized Electronic Service System (ACCESS). ACCESS is available to registered users at https://access. trade.gov. In addition, a complete version of the Preliminary Decision Memorandum can be accessed directly at https://access.trade.gov/public/ FRNoticesListLayout.aspx.

#### **Scope of the Investigation**

The product covered by this investigation is overhead door springs from China. For a complete description of the scope of this investigation, *see* Appendix I.

#### **Scope Comments**

In accordance with the *Preamble* to Commerce's regulations,<sup>4</sup> the *Initiation Notice* set aside a period of time for parties to raise issues regarding product coverage, (i.e., scope).<sup>5</sup> Certain interested parties commented on the scope of this investigation as it appeared in the *Initiation Notice*.

For a summary of the product coverage comments submitted to the record for this preliminary determination, and accompanying discussion and analysis of all comments timely received, *see* the Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup>The bracket in this sentence is part of the chemical formula and does not denote business proprietary information.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See Overhead Door Counterbalance Torsion Springs from the People's Republic of China and India: Initiation of Countervailing Duty Investigations, 89 FR 92901 (November 25, 2024) (Initiation Notice).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> See Overhead Door Counterbalance Torsion Springs from India and the People's Republic of China: Postponement of Preliminary Determinations in the Countervailing Duty Investigations, 90 FR 84 (January 2, 2025).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> See Memorandum, "Decision Memorandum for the Preliminary Affirmative Determination in the Countervailing Duty Investigation of Overhead Door Counterbalance Torsion Springs from the People's Republic of China," dated concurrently with, and hereby adopted by, this notice (Preliminary Decision Memorandum).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> See Antidumping Duties; Countervailing Duties, Final Rule, 62 FR 27296, 27323 (May 19, 1997).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> See Initiation Notice.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> See Memorandum, "Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Investigations of Overhead Door Counterbalance Torsion Springs from the

Commerce is not preliminarily modifying the scope language as it appeared in the *Initiation Notice*.

#### Methodology

Commerce is conducting this investigation in accordance with section 701 of the Act. For each of the subsidy programs found countervailable, Commerce preliminarily determines that there is a subsidy, *i.e.*, a financial contribution by an "authority" that gives rise to a benefit to the recipient, and that the subsidy is specific.<sup>7</sup>

Commerce notes that, in making these findings, it relied, in part, on facts available and, because it finds that one or more respondents did not act to the best of their ability to respond to Commerce's requests for information, it drew an adverse inference where appropriate in selecting from among the facts otherwise available.<sup>8</sup> For further information, see the "Use of Facts Otherwise Available and Adverse Inferences" section in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum.

#### Alignment

As noted in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum, in accordance with section 705(a)(1) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.210(b)(4), Commerce is aligning the final CVD determination in this investigation with the final determination in the companion less-than-fair-value (LTFV) of overhead door springs from China based on a request made by the petitioners. Consequently, the final CVD determination will be issued on the same date as the final LTFV determination, which is currently scheduled to be issued no later than August 11, 2025, unless postponed.

#### All-Others Rate

Sections 703(d) and 705(c)(5)(A) of the Act provide that in the preliminary determination, Commerce shall determine an estimated all-others rate for companies not individually examined. This rate shall be an amount equal to the weighted average of the estimated subsidy rates established for those companies individually

People's Republic of China and India: Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum," dated concurrently with this preliminary determination. (Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum).

examined, excluding any zero and *de minimis* rates and any rates based entirely under section 776 of the Act.

Commerce preliminarily assigned rates based entirely on facts available for Foshan Nanhai Xulong Spring Factory (Xulong Spring). Therefore, the only rate that is not zero, *de minimis* or based entirely on facts otherwise available is the rate calculated for Tianjin Wangxia Spring Co. Ltd. (Tianjin Wangxia). Consequently, the rate calculated for Tianjin Wangxia is also assigned as the rate for all other producers and exporters.

#### **Preliminary Determination**

Commerce preliminarily determines that the following estimated countervailable subsidy rates exist:

| Company                        | Subsidy rate<br>(percent<br>ad valorem) |
|--------------------------------|---|
|                                |   |
| Tianjin Wangxia Spring Co.,    |   |
| Ltd. <sup>10</sup>             | 50.78                                   |
| Foshan Nanhai Xulong Spring    |   |
| Factory                        | * 143.33                                |
| Beled Co., Ltd./Beled          |   |
| (Shenzhen) Commerce Co.,       |   |
| Ltd                            | * 143.33                                |
| Chi Hardware Corp. Ltd         | 50.78                                   |
| Hangzhou Fuxing Spring Co.,    |   |
| Ltd                            | 50.78                                   |
| Hebei Meirui Metals & Minerals |   |
| Co., Ltd                       | 50.78                                   |
| Jiaxing Taike Springs Co., Ltd | * 143.33                                |
| Kowloon Metal Spring Factory   | * 143.33                                |
| MFG Direct (Ningbo) Limited    | 50.78                                   |
| Ningbo I Promise Import Export | * 143.33                                |
| Ningbo Well Lift Door Co. Ltd  | 50.78                                   |
| Wuxi Jiupie Information Tech-  | 50.78                                   |
| nology Co., Ltd                | 50.78                                   |
| Wuxi Kop Door Technology Co.   | 50.78                                   |
| LtdXiamen Globe Truth (GT) In- | 50.76                                   |
| dustries                       | * 143.33                                |
| All Others                     | 50.78                                   |
| All Others                     | 50.78                                   |

<sup>\*</sup>Rate is based on an adverse facts available inference

#### Suspension of Liquidation

In accordance with sections 703(d)(1)(B) and (d)(2) of the Act, Commerce will direct U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to suspend liquidation of entries of subject merchandise as described in the scope of the investigation section entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after the date of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**. Further, pursuant to 19 CFR 351.205(d), Commerce will instruct CBP to require a cash deposit equal to the rates indicated above.

#### Disclosure

Commerce intends to disclose its calculations and analysis performed to interested parties in this preliminary determination within five days of its public announcement, or if there is no public announcement, within five days of the date of this notice in accordance with 19 CFR 351.224(b).

Consistent with 19 CFR 351.224(e), Commerce will analyze and, if appropriate, correct any timely allegations of significant ministerial errors by amending the preliminary determination. However, consistent with 19 CFR 351.224(d), Commerce will not consider incomplete allegations that do not address the significance standard under 19 CFR 351.224(g) following the preliminary determination. Instead, Commerce will address such allegations in the final determination together with issues raised in the case briefs or other written comments.

#### Verification

As provided in section 782(i)(1) of the Act, Commerce intends to verify the information relied upon in making its final determination.

#### **Public Comment**

All interested parties are invited to comment on Commerce's Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum in scope case and scope rebuttal briefs. The deadline for interested parties to submit scope case briefs is 5 p.m. Eastern Time (ET) on April 30, 2025. Scope rebuttal briefs, limited to issues raised in the scope case briefs, may be submitted no later than five days after the deadline for the scope case briefs, *i.e.*, 5 p.m. ET on May 5, 2025. Such comments must be filed via ACCESS on the records of the China and India CVD investigations and the concurrent LTFV investigations of overhead door springs from China and India.

Case briefs or other written comments, excluding scope comments, may be submitted to the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance no later than seven days after the date on which the last verification report is issued in this investigation. Rebuttal briefs, limited to issues raised in the case briefs, may be filed not later than five days after the date for filing case briefs. <sup>11</sup> Interested parties who submit case briefs or rebuttal briefs in this proceeding must submit: (1) a table of contents listing

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> See sections 771(5)(B) and (D) of the Act regarding financial contribution; section 771(5)(E) of the Act regarding benefit; and section 771(5A) of the Act regarding specificity.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> See sections 776(a) and (b) of the Act.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> See Petitioners' Letter, "Petitioners' Request to Align Final Countervailing Duty Determinations With the Companion Antidumping Duty Final Determinations," dated March 4, 2025. The petitioners in this investigation are IDC Group, Inc., Iowa Spring Manufacturing, Inc., and Service Spring Corp.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> As discussed in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum, Commerce has found the following companies to be cross-owned with Tianjin Wangxia: Tianjin Gangzhen Auto Parts Co., Ltd. and Tianjin Ok Garage Door Parts Co., Ltd.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> See 19 CFR 351.309(d); see also Administrative Protective Order, Service, and Other Procedures in Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Proceedings, 88 FR 67069, 67077 (September 29, 2023) (APO and Service Final Rule).

each issue; and (2) a table of authorities. 12

As provided under 19 CFR 351.309(c)(2) and (d)(2), in prior proceedings we have encouraged interested parties to provide an executive summary of their brief that should be limited to five pages total, including footnotes. In this investigation, we instead request that interested parties provide at the beginning of their briefs a public, executive summary for each issue raised in their briefs. 13 Further, we request that interested parties limit their executive summary of each issue to no more than 450 words, not including citations. We intend to use the executive summaries as the basis of the comment summaries included in the issues and decision memorandum that will accompany the final determination in this investigation. We request that interested parties include footnotes for relevant citations in the executive summary of each issue. Note that Commerce has amended certain of its requirements pertaining to the service of documents in 19 CFR 351.303(f).14

Pursuant to 19 CFR 351.310(c). interested parties who wish to request a hearing, limited to issues raised in the case and rebuttal briefs, must submit a written request to the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance, U.S. Department of Commerce within 30 days after the date of publication of this notice. Requests should contain: (1) the party's name, address, and telephone number, the number of participants, (2) whether any participant is a foreign national, and (3) a list of the issues to be discussed. If a request for a hearing is made, Commerce intends to hold the hearing at a date and time to be determined. Parties should confirm by telephone the date, time, and location of the hearing two days before the scheduled date.

### U.S. International Trade Commission Notification

In accordance with section 703(f) of the Act, Commerce will notify the U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC) of its determination. If the final determination is affirmative, the ITC will determine before the later of 120 days after the date of this preliminary determination or 45 days after the final determination whether imports of overhead door springs from China are materially injuring, or threaten material injury to, the U.S. industry.

#### **Notification to Interested Parties**

This determination is issued and published pursuant to sections 703(f) and 777(i) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.205(c).

Dated: March 28, 2025.

#### Christopher Abbott,

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy and Negotiations, performing the non-exclusive functions and duties of the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance.

#### Appendix I

#### Scope of the Investigation

The merchandise covered by this investigation is helically-wound, overhead door counterbalance torsion steel springs (overhead door counterbalance torsion springs) and any cones, plugs or other similar fittings for mounting and creating torque in the spring (herein collectively referred to as cones) attached to or entered with and invoiced with the subject overhead door counterbalance torsion springs. Overhead door counterbalance torsion springs are helical steel springs with tightly wound coils that store and release mechanical energy by winding and unwinding along the spring's axis by an angle, using torque to create a lifting force in the counterbalance assembly typically used to raise and lower overhead doors, including garage doors, industrial rolling doors, warehouse doors, trailer doors, and other overhead doors, gates, grates, or similar devices. The merchandise covered by this investigation covers all overhead door counterbalance torsion springs with a coil inside diameter of 15.8 millimeters (mm) or more but not exceeding 304.8 mm (measured across the diameter from inner edge to inner edge); a wire diameter of 2.5 mm to 20.4 mm; a length of 127 mm or more; and regardless of the following characteristics:

- wire type (including, but not limited to, oil-tempered wire, hard-drawn wire, music wire, galvanized or other coated wire);
- wire cross-sectional shape (e.g., round, square, or other shapes);
- coating (e.g., uncoated, oil- or water-based coatings, lubricant coatings, zinc, aluminum, zinc-aluminum, paint or plastic coating, etc.);
- winding orientation (left-hand or right-hand wind direction);
- end type (including, but not limited to, looped, double looped, clipped, long length, mini warehouse, Barcol, Crawford, Kinnear, Wagner, rolling steel or barrel ends); and
- whether the overhead door counterbalance torsion springs are fitted with hardware, including but not limited to fasteners, clips, and cones (winding or stationary cones).

For purposes of the diameters referenced above, where the nominal and actual measurements vary, a product is within the scope if application of either the nominal or actual measurement would place it within the scope based on the definitions set forth above.

The steel torsion springs included in the scope of this investigation are produced from

steel in which: (1) iron predominates, by weight, over each of the other contained elements; and (2) the carbon content is 2 percent or less, by weight.

Subject merchandise includes cones attached to or entered with and invoiced with the subject overhead door counterbalance torsion springs. Such cones, which are typically cast aluminum, aluminum alloy or steel (but may be made from other materials) are made to mount the subject springs to the overhead door counterbalance system and create and maintain torque in the spring. Cones or other similar fittings that are not attached to the subject springs or are not entered with and invoiced with the subject springs are not included within the scope unless entered as parts of kits as described below.

Subject merchandise also includes all subject overhead door counterbalance torsion springs and cones or other similar fittings for mounting and tensioning the spring entered as a part of overhead door kits, overhead door mounting or assembly kits, or as a part of a spring-operated motor assembly or as a part of a spring winder assembly kit for torsion springs. When counterbalance torsion springs and cones or other similar fittings for attaching and tensioning the torsion spring are entered as a part of such kits, only the counterbalance spring and cones or other similar fittings in the kit are within scope.

Subject merchandise also includes overhead door counterbalance torsion springs that have been further processed in a third country, including but not limited to cutting to length, attachment of hardware, cones or end-fittings, inclusion in garage door kits or garage door mounting or assembly kits, or any other processing that would not remove the merchandise from the scope of this investigation if performed in the country of manufacture of the in-scope overhead door counterbalance torsion springs.

All products that meet the written physical description are within the scope of this investigation unless specifically excluded. The following products are specifically excluded from the scope of this investigation:

- leaf springs (slender arc-shaped length of spring steel of a rectangular cross-section);
- disc springs (conical springs consisting of a convex disc with the outer edge working against the center of the disc);
- extension springs (close-wound round helical wire springs that store and release energy by resisting the external pulling forces applied to the spring's ends in the direction of its length);
- compression springs (helical coiled springs with open wound active coils (such open winding is also known as pitch) that are designed to compress under load or force);
   and
- spiral springs (torsion springs wound as concentric spirals such as a clock spring or mainspring).

The products subject to this investigation are currently classified under Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) subheadings 7320.20.5020, 7320.20.5045, and 7320.20.5060. They may also be classified under HTSUS subheading 8412.90.9085 if entered as parts of spring-operated motors. They may also be classified

<sup>12</sup> See 19 351.309(c)(2) and (d)(2).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> We use the term "issue" here to describe an argument that Commerce would normally address in a comment of the Issues and Decision Memorandum.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> See APO and Service Final Rule.

in HTSUS subheading 8412.80.1000 (springoperated motors) if entered as part of a spring counterweight assembly for an overhead door. They may also be classified in HTSUS subheading 7308.90.9590, a basket category that includes metal garage doors entered with mounting accessories or assemblies.

Although the HTSUS subheadings are provided for convenience and customs purposes, the written description of the scope of this investigation is dispositive.

#### Appendix II

#### List of Topics Discussed in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum

I. Summary

II. Background

III. Scope Comments

IV. Injury Test

V. Analysis of China's Financial System

VI. Diversification of China's Economy

VII. Use of Facts Otherwise Available and Adverse Inferences

VIII. Subsidies Valuation

IX. Interest Rates and Benchmarks

X. Analysis of Programs

XI. Recommendation

[FR Doc. 2025-05758 Filed 4-2-25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-DS-P

#### **DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

## International Trade Administration [A-583-854]

Certain Steel Nails From Taiwan: Preliminary Results of Antidumping Duty Administrative Review and Partial Rescission of Review; 2023–2024

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

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Department of Commerce (Commerce) preliminarily finds that Dar Yu Enterprise Co Ltd. (Dar Yu), Liang Chyuan Industrial Co. Ltd. (Liang Chyuan), Tricera Corp. (Tricera), and Your Standing International Inc. (YSI) made sales of certain steel nails (nails) from Taiwan at prices below normal value (NV) during the period of review (POR), July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024. Additionally, Commerce is rescinding this administrative review, in part, with respect to certain companies that had no entries of subject merchandise during the POR. We invite interested parties to comment on these preliminary results.

**DATES:** Applicable April 3, 2025.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Henry Wolfe, AD/CVD Operations, Office VIII, Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482–0574.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

#### **Background**

On July 13, 2015, Commerce published the antidumping duty (AD) order on nails from Taiwan.¹ On July 1, 2024, Commerce published a notice of opportunity to request an administrative review of the *Order*.² On July 31, 2024, Mid Continent Steel & Wire Inc. (Mid Continent) filed a timely request for review with respect to 23 companies.³ Pursuant to this request, on August 14, 2024, Commerce published the *Initiation Notice* in the **Federal Register**.⁴

In the *Initiation Notice*, Commerce indicated that, in the event that it limited the respondents for individual examination in accordance with section 777A(c)(2) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act), Commerce intended to select respondents for individual examination based on U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) data. 5 On August 22, 2024, Commerce released CBP entry data to interested parties and provided interested parties the opportunity to comment on the CBP data and respondent selection.<sup>6</sup> No interested parties filed comments regarding the CBP data or respondent selection.

On September 17, 2024, Commerce selected Liang Chyuan and Tricera as mandatory respondents in this review.<sup>7</sup> On September 19, 2024, Commerce issued the AD questionnaire to Liang Chyuan and Tricera.<sup>8</sup>

Because Liang Chyuan and Tricera did not timely respond, or request an extension of time to respond to Commerce's AD questionnaire,<sup>9</sup> on November 25, 2024, Commerce selected Dar Yu and YSI as additional mandatory respondents. <sup>10</sup> On November 27, 2024, Commerce issued the AD questionnaire to Dar Yu and YSI. <sup>11</sup> Dar Yu and YSI did not timely respond, or request an extension of time to respond to Commerce's AD questionnaire. <sup>12</sup>

On December 9, 2024, Commerce tolled the deadline to issue the preliminary results in this administrative review by 90 days. <sup>13</sup> Accordingly, the deadline for these preliminary results is now July 1, 2025.

On February 20, 2025, Commerce set a deadline to file pre-preliminary comments on the record of this administrative review. 14 On March 6, 2025, Mid-Continent submitted pre-preliminary comments. 15 No other interested parties filed pre-preliminary comments.

#### Scope of the Order

The merchandise covered by the order is nails having a nominal shaft length not exceeding 12 inches. 16 Nails include, but are not limited to, nails made from round wire and nails that are cut from flat-rolled steel. Nails may be of one piece construction or constructed of two or more pieces. Nails may be produced from any type of steel, and may have any type of surface finish, head type, shank, point type and shaft diameter. Finishes include, but are not limited to, coating in vinyl, zinc (galvanized, including but not limited to electroplating or hot dipping one or more times), phosphate, cement, and paint. Nails may have one or more surface finishes. Head styles include, but are not limited to, flat, projection, cupped, oval, brad, headless, double, countersunk, and sinker. Shank styles include, but are not limited to, smooth, barbed, screw threaded, ring shank and fluted. Screw-threaded nails subject to this proceeding are driven using direct force and not by turning the nail using a tool that engages with the head. Point

<sup>1</sup> See Certain Steel Nails from the Republic of Korea, Malaysia, the Sultanate of Oman, Taiwan, and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam: Antidumping Duty Orders, 80 FR 39994 (July 13, 2015) (Order).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> See Antidumping or Countervailing Duty Order, Finding, or Suspended Investigation; Opportunity to Request Administrative Review and Join Annual Inquiry Service List, 89 FR 54437, 54438 (July 1, 2024).

 $<sup>^3</sup>$  See Mid Continent's Letter, "Request for Administrative Review," dated July 31, 2024.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> See Initiation of Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Administrative Reviews, 89 FR 66035, 66041 (August 14, 2024) (Initiation Notice).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> See Memorandum "Release of Customs Data from U.S. Customs and Border Protection," dated August 22, 2024.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> See Memorandum, "Respondent Selection," dated September 17, 2024.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> See Commerce's Letters, "Request for Information," dated September 19, 2024 (AD Questionnaire).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> See Memorandum, "Questionnaire Deadline for Liang Chyuan," dated October 11, 2024; see also Memorandum, "Questionnaire Deadline for Tricera Corp," dated October 11, 2024.

 $<sup>^{10}\,</sup>See$  Memorandum, "Selection of Additional Mandatory Respondents," dated November 25, 2024.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> See Commerce's Letters, "Request for Information," dated November 27, 2024.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> See Memorandum, "Questionnaire Deadline for Dar Yu," dated January 3, 2025; see also Memorandum, "Questionnaire Deadline for YSI," dated January 3, 2025.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> See Memorandum, "Tolling of Deadlines for Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Proceedings," dated December 9, 2024.

<sup>14</sup> See Memorandum, "Deadline for Pre-Preliminary Comments," dated February 20, 2025.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> See Mid-Continent's Letter, "Pre-Preliminary Comments," dated March 6, 2025.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> The shaft length of nails with flat heads or parallel shoulders under the head shall be measured from under the head or shoulder to the tip of the point. The shaft length of all other nails shall be measured overall.

styles include, but are not limited to, diamond, needle, chisel and blunt or no point. Nails may be sold in bulk, or they may be collated in any manner using any material.

Excluded from the scope of the order are nails packaged in combination with one or more non-subject articles, if the total number of nails of all types, in aggregate regardless of size, is less than 25. If packaged in combination with one or more non-subject articles, nails remain subject merchandise if the total number of nails of all types, in aggregate regardless of size, is equal to or greater than 25, unless otherwise excluded based on the other exclusions below.

Also excluded from the scope are nails with a nominal shaft length of one inch or less that are (a) a component of an unassembled article, (b) the total number of nails is sixty (60) or less, and (c) the imported unassembled article falls into one of the following eight groupings: (1) Builders' joinery and carpentry of wood that are classifiable as windows, French-windows and their frames; (2) builders' joinery and carpentry of wood that are classifiable as doors and their frames and thresholds; (3) swivel seats with variable height adjustment; (4) seats that are convertible into beds (with the exception of those classifiable as garden seats or camping equipment); (5) seats of cane, osier, bamboo or similar materials; (6) other seats with wooden frames (with the exception of seats of a kind used for aircraft or motor vehicles); (7) furniture (other than seats) of wood (with the exception of (i) medical, surgical, dental or veterinary furniture; and (ii) barbers' chairs and similar chairs, having rotating as well as both reclining and elevating movements); or (8) furniture (other than seats) of materials other than wood, metal, or plastics (e.g., furniture of cane, osier, bamboo or similar materials). The aforementioned imported unassembled articles are currently classified under the following Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) subheadings: 4418.10, 4418.20, 9401.30, 9401.40, 9401.51, 9401.59, 9401.61, 9401.69, 9403.30, 9403.40, 9403.50, 9403.60, 9403.81, or 9403.89.

Also excluded from the scope of the order are nails that meet the specifications of Type I, Style 20 nails as identified in Tables 29 through 33 of ASTM Standard F1667 (2013 revision).

Also excluded from the scope of the order are nails suitable for use in powder-actuated hand tools, whether or not threaded, which are currently classified under HTSUS subheadings 7317.00.20.00 and 7317.00.30.00.

Also excluded from the scope of the order are nails having a case hardness greater than or equal to 50 on the Rockwell Hardness C scale (HRC), a carbon content greater than or equal to 0.5 percent, a round head, a secondary reduced-diameter raised head section, a centered shank, and a smooth symmetrical point, suitable for use in gas-actuated hand tools.

Also excluded from the scope of the order are corrugated nails. A corrugated nail is made up of a small strip of corrugated steel with sharp points on one side.

Also excluded from the scope of the order are thumb tacks, which are currently classified under HTSUS subheading 7317.00.10.00.

Nails subject to the order are currently classified under HTSUS subheadings 7317.00.55.02, 7317.00.55.03, 7317.00.55.05, 7317.00.55.07, 7317.00.55.08, 7317.00.55.11, 7317.00.55.18, 7317.00.55.19, 7317.00.55.20, 7317.00.55.30, 7317.00.55.40, 7317.00.55.50, 7317.00.55.60, 7317.00.55.70, 7317.00.55.80, 7317.00.55.90, 7317.00.65.30, 7317.00.65.60, and 7317.00.75.00. Nails subject to these orders also may be classified under HTSUS subheadings 7907.00.60.00, 8206.00.00.00, 7806.00.80.00, 7318.29.00.00, or other HTSUS subheadings.

While the HTSUS subheadings are provided for convenience and customs purposes, the written description of the scope of the *Order* is dispositive.

#### **Partial Rescission of Review**

Pursuant to 19 CFR 351.213(d)(3), it is Commerce's practice to rescind an administrative review of an AD order when there are no reviewable entries of subject merchandise during the POR for which liquidation is suspended. 17 Normally, upon completion of an administrative review, the suspended entries are liquidated at the AD assessment rate calculated for the review period.18 Therefore, for an administrative review to be conducted, there must be at least one reviewable, suspended entry that Commerce can instruct CBP to liquidate at the AD assessment rate calculated for the review period. 19 There were no entries of subject merchandise during the POR

for 19 of the companies subject to review. <sup>20</sup> As a result, on December 2, 2024, Commerce notified all interested parties of its intent to rescind this review, in part, with respect to these 19 companies and received no comments. <sup>21</sup> Therefore, we are rescinding this review, in part, with respect to these 19 companies which had no suspended entries in the POR. The administrative review remains active with respect to four companies.

### Facts Available With Adverse Inferences

Section 776(a) of the Act provides that, subject to section 782(d) of the Act, Commerce shall apply "facts otherwise available" if, inter alia, necessary information is not on the record or an interested party or any other person: (A) withholds information that has been requested; (B) fails to provide information within the deadlines established, or in the form and manner requested by Commerce, subject to subsections (c)(1) and (e) of section 782 of the Act; (C) significantly impedes a proceeding; or (D) provides information that cannot be verified as provided by section 782(i) of the Act.

Where Commerce determines that a response to a request for information does not comply with the request, section 782(d) of the Act provides that Commerce will so inform the party submitting the response and will, to the extent practicable, provide that party the opportunity to remedy or explain the deficiency. If the party fails to remedy the deficiency within the applicable time limits and subject to section 782(e) of the Act, Commerce may disregard all or part of the original and subsequent responses, as appropriate.

Section 776(b) of the Act provides that Commerce may use an adverse inference in applying the facts otherwise available when a party has failed to cooperate by not acting to the best of its ability to comply with a request for information. In doing so, Commerce is not required to determine, or make any adjustments to, a weighted average dumping margin based on any assumptions about information an interested party would have provided if the interested party had complied with the request for information.<sup>22</sup> Further, section 776(b)(2) of the Act states that an adverse inference may include reliance on information derived from

<sup>17</sup> See, e.g., Dioctyl Terephthalate from the Republic of Korea: Rescission of Antidumping Administrative Review; 2021–2022, 88 FR 24758 (April 24, 2023); see also Certain Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut-to-Length Plate from the Federal Republic of Germany: Recission of Antidumping Administrative Review; 2020–2021, 88 FR 4154 (January 24, 2023).

<sup>18</sup> See 19 CFR 351.212(b)(1).

<sup>19</sup> See 19 CFR 351.213(d)(3).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> See Appendix for a list of these companies.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> See Memorandum, "Notice of Intent to Rescind Review, In Part," dated December 2, 2024.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> See sections 776(b)(1)(B) and 776(d)(3)(A) of

the petition, the final determination from the AD investigation, a previous administrative review, or other information placed on the record.<sup>23</sup> The SAA explains that Commerce may employ an adverse inference "to ensure that the party does not obtain a more favorable result by failing to cooperate than if it had cooperated fully." <sup>24</sup> Further, affirmative evidence of bad faith on the part of a respondent is not required before Commerce may make an adverse inference.<sup>25</sup>

Section 776(c) of the Act provides that, in general, when Commerce relies on secondary information rather than on information obtained in the course of an investigation, it shall, to the extent practicable, corroborate that information from independent sources that are reasonably at its disposal.26 Secondary information is defined as information derived from the petition that gave rise to the investigation, the final determination concerning the subject merchandise, or any previous review under section 751 of the Act concerning the subject merchandise.<sup>27</sup> When selecting facts available with an adverse inference, Commerce is not required to estimate what the dumping margin would have been if the interested party failing to cooperate had cooperated or to demonstrate that the dumping margin reflects an "alleged commercial reality" of the interested party.28

Pursuant to sections 776(a)(1) and 776(a)(2)(A)–(C) of the Act, Commerce is preliminarily relying upon facts otherwise available to assign estimated dumping margins to mandatory respondents Dar Yu, Liang Chyuan, Tricera, and YSI because all four companies were unresponsive to our requests for information, thereby withholding necessary information that was requested by Commerce, failing to provide the information requested by the specified deadlines in the form and manner requested, and significantly impeding the conduct of the review. Further, Commerce preliminarily finds that Dar Yu, Liang Chyuan, Tricera, and YSI failed to cooperate by not acting to the best of their ability to comply with

requests for information and, thus, Commerce is applying an adverse inference in selecting among the facts available, in accordance with section 776(b) of the Act. As adverse facts available, we are assigning these companies a rate of 78.17 percent, which is the highest rate applied in any segment of this proceeding.<sup>29</sup> Pursuant to section 776(c)(2) of the Act, Commerce is not required to corroborate any dumping margin applied in a separate segment of the same proceeding.

#### **Preliminary Results**

Commerce preliminarily determines that the following estimated weighted-average dumping margin exists for the period, July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024:

| Producer or exporter            | Weighted-<br>average<br>dumping<br>margin<br>(percent) |
|---------------------------------|--|
| Dar Yu Enterprise Co Ltd        | 78.17  |
| Liang Chyuan Industrial Co. Ltd | 78.17  |
| Tricera Corp                    | 78.17  |
| Your Standing International Inc | 78.17  |

#### **Disclosure**

Normally, Commerce discloses to interested parties the calculations performed in connection with a preliminary determination within five days of any public announcement or, if there is no public announcement, within five days of the date of publication of the notice of preliminary determination in the Federal Register, in accordance with 19 CFR 351.224(b). However, because Commerce preliminarily applied total adverse facts available to the four companies subject to this review, in accordance with section 776 of the Act, there are no calculations to disclose.

#### **Public Comment**

Case briefs or other written comments may be submitted to the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance. Pursuant to 19 CFR 351.309(c)(1)(ii), we have modified the deadline for interested parties to submit case briefs to Commerce to no later than 21 days after the date of the publication of this notice.<sup>30</sup> Rebuttal briefs, limited to issues raised in the case briefs, may be filed no later than five days after the date for filing case briefs.<sup>31</sup> Interested parties who submit case or rebuttal briefs in this proceeding must submit: (1) a table of contents listing each issue; and (2) a table of authorities.<sup>32</sup>

As provided under 19 CFR 351.309(c)(2) and (d)(2), in prior proceedings we have encouraged interested parties to provide an executive summary of their brief that should be limited to five pages total, including footnotes. In this review, we instead request that interested parties provide at the beginning of their briefs a public, executive summary for each issue raised in their briefs. Further, we request that interested parties limit their public executive summary of each issue to no more than 450 words, not including citations. We intend to use the executive summaries as the basis of the comment summaries included in the issues and decision memorandum that will accompany the final determination in this review. We request that interested parties include footnotes for relevant citations in the public executive summary of each issue. Note that Commerce has amended certain of its requirements pertaining to the service of documents in 19 CFR 351.303(f).33

Pursuant to 19 CFR 351.310(c), interested parties who wish to request a hearing must submit a written request to the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance, filed electronically via Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Centralized Electronic Service System (ACCESS). Requests should contain: (1) the party's name, address, and telephone number; (2) the number of participants and whether any participant is a foreign national; and (3) a list of issues to be discussed. Issues raised in the hearing will be limited to those raised in the respective case briefs. An electronically filed hearing request must be received successfully in its entirety by Commerce's electronic records system, ACCESS, within 30 days after the date of publication of this notice. If a request for a hearing is made, Commerce intends to hold a hearing at a time and date to be determined.34

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> See 19 CFR 351.308(c).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> See Statement of Administrative Action Accompanying the Uruguay Round Agreements Act, H.R. Doc. No. 103–316, 103d Cong., 2d Session, vol. 1 (1994) (SAA) at 870.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> See, e.g., Notice of Final Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value: Circular Seamless Stainless Steel Hollow Products from Japan, 65 FR 42985 (July 12, 2000); and Antidumping Duties, Countervailing Duties, 62 FR 27296, 27340 (May 19, 1997); and Nippon Steel Corp. v. United States, 337 F.3d 1373, 1382–83 (Fed. Cir. 2003).

<sup>26</sup> See 19 CFR 351.308(d).

<sup>27</sup> See SAA at 870

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> See section 776(d)(3)(B) of the Act.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> See Certain Steel Nails from Taiwan: Preliminary Results of Antidumping Duty Administrative Review and Partial Rescission of Administrative Review; 2015–2016, 82 FR 36744 (August 7, 2017), and accompanying Preliminary Decision Memorandum, unchanged in Certain Steel Nails from Taiwan: Final Results of Antidumping Duty Administrative Review and Partial Rescission of Administrative Review; 2015–2016, 83 FR 6163 (February 13, 2018).

 $<sup>^{\</sup>rm 30}\,See$  19 CFR 351.303 (for general filing requirements).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>51</sup> See 19 CFR 351.309(d); see also Administrative Protective Order, Service, and Other Procedures in Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Proceedings, 88 FR 67069, 67077 (September 29, 2023) (APO and Service Final Rule).

<sup>32</sup> See 19 CFR 351.309(c)(2) and (d)(2).

<sup>33</sup> See APO and Service Final Rule.

<sup>34</sup> See 19 CFR 351.310(d).

Parties should confirm the date, time, and location of the hearing two days before the scheduled date. All submissions, including case and rebuttal briefs, as well as hearing requests, should be filed using ACCESS.<sup>35</sup> An electronically-filed document must be received successfully in its entirety by ACCESS by 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on the established deadline.

#### **Assessment Rates**

Consistent with section 751(a)(1) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.212(b)(1), upon issuing the final results of this review, Commerce will determine, and CBP shall assess, antidumping duties on all appropriate entries covered by this review.<sup>36</sup> Commerce intends to issue assessment instructions to CBP no earlier than 35 days after the date of publication of the final results of this review in the **Federal Register**. If a timely summons is filed at the U.S. Court of International Trade, the assessment instructions will direct CBP not to liquidate relevant entries until the time for parties to file a request for a statutory injunction has expired (i.e., within 90 days of publication).

With respect to the companies for which we have rescinded this review, Commerce will instruct CBP to assess antidumping duties on all appropriate entries at rates equal to the cash deposit rate of estimated antidumping duties required at the time of entry, or withdrawal from warehouse, for consumption, during the POR, in accordance with 19 CFR 351.212(c)(1)(i). Commerce intends to issue rescission instructions to CBP no earlier than 35 days after the date of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**.

#### **Cash Deposit Instructions**

The following cash deposit requirements will be effective upon publication in the Federal Register of the notice of final results of administrative review for all shipments of nails from Taiwan entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after the date of publication, as provided for by section 751(a)(2)(C) of the Act: (1) the cash deposit rate for Dar Yu, Liang Chyuan, Tricera, and YSI will be equal to the weighted-average dumping margin established in the final results of this review; (2) for merchandise exported by a company not covered in this review but covered in a prior completed segment of the proceeding, the cash

deposit rate will continue to be the company specific rate published in the completed segment for the most recent period; (3) if the exporter is not a firm covered in this review or another completed segment of this proceeding, but the producer is, then the cash deposit rate will be the companyspecific rate established for the completed segment for the most recent period for the producer of the merchandise; and (4) the cash deposit rate for all other producers or exporters will continue to be 2.16 percent, the allothers rate established in the less-thanfair-value investigation.37 These cash deposit requirements, when imposed, shall remain in effect until further notice.

#### **Final Results of the Review**

Unless the deadline is otherwise extended, Commerce intends to issue the final results of this administrative review, including the results of its analysis of issues raised by interested parties in the written briefs, within 120 days after the date of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**, pursuant to section 751(a)(3)(A) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.213(h)(1).

#### **Notification to Importers**

This notice serves as a preliminary reminder to importers of their responsibility under 19 CFR 351.402(f)(2) to file a certificate regarding the reimbursement of antidumping duties prior to liquidation of the relevant entries during this review period. Failure to comply with this requirement could result in Commerce's presumption that reimbursement of antidumping duties occurred and the subsequent assessment of double antidumping duties.

#### **Notification to Interested Parties**

We are issuing and publishing these preliminary results in accordance with sections 751(a)(1) and 777(i) of the Act, and 19 CFR 351.213(h) and 351.221(b)(4).

Dated: March 27, 2025.

#### Christopher Abbott,

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy and Negotiations, Performing the non-exclusive functions and duties of the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance.

#### **Appendix**

Companies for Which Commerce Is Rescinding the Administrative Review

1. Cool Shot Ltd.

- 2. Chunyu Factory Co., Ltd
- 3. Create Trading Co., Ltd.
- 4. Fang Sheng Screw Co., Ltd
- 5. Fwang Tzay Enterprise Corp
- 6. Home Value Co., Ltd.
- 7. Hsi Yi Enterprise Co. Ltd.
- 8. Hsin Ho Mfg. Co., Ltd.
- 9. JCH Hardware Company, Inc.
- 10. Joker Industrial Co., Ltd.
- 11. Leading Hardware Corporation
- 12. Panther T & H Industry Co., Ltd.
- 13. Perfect Seller Co., Ltd.
- 14. Phoenix Merchandise Inc.
- 15. Sanji Co., Ltd.
- 16. Sourcing Metrics Ltd.
- 17. TG Co., Ltd
- 18. Xiamen Huiyu Chemical Trading Co.
- 19. Yeun Chang Hardware Tool Company Limited

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#### **DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

# International Trade Administration [C-533-927]

# Certain Epoxy Resins From India: Final Affirmative Countervailing Duty Determination

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

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Department of Commerce (Commerce) determines that countervailable subsidies are being provided to producers and exporters of certain epoxy resins (epoxy resins) from India. The period of investigation (POI) is January 1, 2023, through December 31, 2023.

#### DATES: Applicable April 3, 2025.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Eliza DeLong or Colin Thrasher, AD/ CVD Operations, Office V, Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482–3878 or (202) 482–6458, respectively.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

#### **Background**

On September 13, 2024, Commerce published the *Preliminary Determination* in this investigation in the **Federal Register.**<sup>1</sup> On January 3, 2025, Commerce issued its Post Preliminary Analysis.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>35</sup> See 19 CFR 351.303.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>36</sup> See 19 CFR 351.212(b).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>37</sup> See Certain Steel Nails from Taiwan: Notice of Court Decision Not in Harmony With Final Determination in Less Than Fair Value Investigation and Notice of Amended Final Determination, 82 FR 55090 (November 20, 2017).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See Certain Epoxy Resins from India: Preliminary Affirmative Countervailing Duty Determination and Alignment of Final Determination with Final Antidumping Duty Determination, 89 FR 74889 (September 13, 2024) (Preliminary Determination), and accompanying Preliminary Decision Memorandum (PDM).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> See Memorandum, "Post-Preliminary Analysis," dated January 3, 2025 (Post-Preliminary Analysis).

For a complete description of the events that followed the Preliminary Determination, see the Issues and Decision Memorandum.3 The Issues and Decision Memorandum is a public document and is on file electronically via Enforcement and Compliance's Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Centralized Electronic Service System (ACCESS). ACCESS is available to registered users at https://access. trade.gov. In addition, a complete version of the Issues and Decision Memorandum can be accessed directly at https://access.trade.gov/public/ FRNoticesListLayout.aspx.

#### Scope of the Investigation

The product covered by this investigation are epoxy resins from India. For a complete description of the scope of investigation, *see* Appendix I.

#### Scope Comments

During the course of this investigation, Commerce received scope comments from interested parties.
Commerce issued a Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum to address these comments and set aside a period of time for parties to address scope issues in scope-specific case and rebuttal briefs.<sup>4</sup> Between February 2025 and March 2025, Commerce received scope-specific case and rebuttal briefs from interested parties.<sup>5</sup> We made changes to the scope of the investigation from the scope published in the *Preliminary Determination*, as noted in Appendix I.<sup>6</sup>

#### Verification

As provided in section 782(i) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act), in November 2024, Commerce conducted verifications of the information reported by Atul Limited (Atul) and the Government of India (GOI) for use in our final determination.

We used standard verification procedures, including an examination of relevant account records and original source documents provided by Atul and the GOI.<sup>7</sup>

#### Analysis of Subsidy Programs and Comments Received

The subsidy programs under investigation, and the issues raised in the case and rebuttal briefs that were submitted by interested parties in this investigation are discussed in the Issues and Decision Memorandum. For a complete list of the issues raised by parties, and to which we responded in the Issues and Decision Memorandum, see Appendix II.

#### Methodology

Commerce conducted this investigation in accordance with section 701 of the Act. For each of the subsidy programs found to be countervailable, Commerce determines that there is a subsidy, *i.e.*, a financial contribution by an "authority" that gives rise to a benefit to the recipient, and that the subsidy is specific.<sup>8</sup> For a full description of the methodology underlying our final determination, *see* the Issues and Decision Memorandum.

In making this final determination, Commerce relied, in part, on facts otherwise available, with adverse inferences (AFA), pursuant to sections 776(a) and (b) of the Act. For a full discussion of our methodology, including our application of AFA, see the *Preliminary Determination*, and the Issues and Decision Memorandum.

### Changes Since the Preliminary Determination

Based on our review of the information examined at verification and analysis of the comments received from interested parties, we made certain changes to the countervailable subsidy rate calculations for Atul which, in turn, impacted the rates assigned to Champion Advanced Materials (Champion) and all other producers/ exporters, including the addition of subsidy programs included in the Post-Preliminary Analysis. For a discussion of these changes, see the Issues and Decision Memorandum.

#### All-Others Rate

In accordance with section 705(c)(1)(B)(i) of the Act, we calculated an individual estimated countervailable subsidy rate for one of the mandatory respondents, Atul. Section 705(c)(5)(A)(i) of the Act states that, for companies not individually investigated, Commerce will determine an all-others rate equal to the weighted-average countervailable subsidy rates established for exporters and/or producers individually investigated, excluding any rates that are zero, de minimis, or determined entirely under section 776 of the Act.

In this investigation, we are assigning a rate based entirely on AFA to Champion. Therefore, the only rate that is not zero, *de minimis*, or based entirely on AFA is the rate calculated for Atul. Consequently, we have also assigned the rate calculated for Atul as the rate for all-other producers and exporters.

#### **Final Determination**

Commerce determines that the following estimated net countervailable subsidy rates exist for the period January 1, 2023, through December 31, 2023:

| Company      | Subsidy rate<br>(percent<br>ad valorem) |
|--------------|---|
| Atul Limited | 10.66                                   |
| rials *      | * 103.72<br>10.66                       |

<sup>\*</sup> Rate based on facts available with adverse inferences.

#### Disclosure

Commerce intends to disclose its calculations performed to interested parties in this final determination within five days of its public announcement or, if there is no public announcement, within five days of the date of the publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**, in accordance with 19 CFR 351.224(b).

#### **Suspension of Liquidation**

As a result of our *Preliminary Determination*, and pursuant to sections 703(d)(1)(B) and (d)(2) of the Act, Commerce instructed U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to collect cash deposits and suspend liquidation of entries of subject merchandise from India that were entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after September 13, 2024, the date of publication of the *Preliminary* 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> See Memorandum, "Issue and Decision Memorandum for the Final Affirmative Determination of the Countervailing Duty Investigation of Certain Epoxy Resins from India," dated concurrently with, and hereby adopted by, this notice (Issues and Decision Memorandum).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> See Memorandum, "Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum," dated November 6, 2024 (Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> See Petitioner's Letter, "Case Brief on Scope Issues," dated February 28, 2025; The Sherwin-Williams Company's Letter, "Scope Case Brief on Behalf of Sherwin-Williams," dated February 28, 2025; PPG Industries, Inc.," dated February 28, 2025; Petitioner's Letter, "Petitioner's Letter in Lieu of Rebuttal Brief on Scope Issues," dated March 5, 2025; PPG Industries' Letter, "Rebuttal Scope Case Brief of PPG Industries' Letter, "Rebuttal Scope Case Brief of PPG Industries' Letter, "Scope Rebuttal Scope Case Brief of PPG Industries, Inc.," dated March 5, 2025; and Sherwin-Williams' Letter, "Scope Rebuttal Brief on Behalf of Sherwin Williams," dated March 5, 2025

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> See Memorandum, "Final Scope Decision Memorandum," dated concurrently with this notice

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> See Memoranda, "Verification of the Government of India Questionnaire Responses," dated January 14, 2025; and "Verification of Atul Limited Questionnaire Responses," dated January 14, 2025.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> See sections 771(5)(B) and (D) of the Act regarding financial contribution; see also section 771(5)(E) of the Act regarding benefit; and section 771(5A) of the Act regarding specificity.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> See Preliminary Determination PDM at 8-32.

Determination in the Federal Register. <sup>10</sup> In accordance with section 703(d) of the Act, we instructed CBP to discontinue the suspension of liquidation of all entries of subject merchandise entered or withdrawn from warehouse, on or after January 11, 2025, but to continue the suspension of liquidation of all entries of subject merchandise on or before January 10, 2025.

If the U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC) issues a final affirmative injury determination, we will issue a countervailing duty (CVD) order, reinstate the suspension of liquidation under section 706(a) of the Act, and require a cash deposit of estimated countervailing duties for entries of subject merchandise in the amounts indicated above. Pursuant to section 705(c)(2) of the Act, if the ITC determines that material injury, or threat of material injury, does not exist, this proceeding will be terminated, and all estimated duties deposited or securities posted as a result of the suspension of liquidation will be refunded or cancelled.

#### ITC Notification

In accordance with section 705(d) of the Act, Commerce will notify the ITC of its final affirmative determination that countervailable subsidies are being provided to producers and exporters of epoxy resins from India. As Commerce's final determination is affirmative, in accordance with section 705(b) of the Act, the ITC will determine, within 45 days, whether the domestic industry in the United States is materially injured, or threatened with material injury, by reason of import of epoxy resins from India. In addition, we are making available to the ITC all non-privileged and non-proprietary information in our files, provided the ITC confirms that it will not disclose such information, either publicly or under administrative protective order (APO), without the written consent of the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance.

If the ITC determines that material injury or threat of material injury does not exist, this proceeding will be terminated and all cash deposits will be refunded. If the ITC determines that such injury does exist, Commerce will issue a CVD order directing CBP to assess, upon further instruction by Commerce, countervailing duties on all imports of the subject merchandise that are entered, or withdrawn, for consumption on or after the effective date of the suspension of liquidation, as

discussed above in the "Suspension of Liquidation" section.

#### Administrative Protective Order (APO)

This notice will serve as the only reminder to parties subject to the APO of their responsibility concerning the destruction of proprietary information disclosed under APO, in accordance with 19 CFR 351.305(a)(3). Timely written notification of the return/destruction of APO materials or conversion to judicial protective order is hereby requested. Failure to comply with the regulations and terms of an APO is a violation which is subject to sanction.

#### **Notification to Interested Parties**

This determination is issued and published pursuant to sections 705(d) and 777(i) of the Act, and 19 CFR 351.210(c).

Dated: March 28, 2025.

#### Christopher Abbott,

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy and Negotiations, performing the non-exclusive functions and duties of the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance.

#### Appendix I

#### Scope of the Investigation

The merchandise subject to this investigation is fully or partially uncured epoxy resins, also known as epoxide resins, polyepoxides, oxirane resins, ethoxyline resins, diglycidyl ether of bisphenol, (chloromethyl) oxirane, or aromatic diglycidyl, which are polymers or prepolymers containing epoxy groups (i.e., three-membered ring structures comprised of two carbon atoms and one oxygen atom). Epoxy resins range in physical form from low viscosity liquids to solids. All epoxy resins are covered by the scope of this investigation irrespective of physical form, viscosity, grade, purity, molecular weight, or molecular structure, and packaging.

Epoxy resins may contain modifiers or additives, such as hardeners, curatives, colorants, pigments, diluents, solvents, thickeners, fillers, plasticizers, softeners, flame retardants, toughening agents, catalysts, Bisphenol F, and ultraviolet light inhibitors, so long as the modifier or additive has not chemically reacted so as to cure the epoxy resin or convert it into a different product no longer containing epoxy groups. Such epoxy resins with modifiers or additives are included in the scope where the epoxy resin component comprises no less than 30 percent of the total weight of the product. The scope also includes blends of epoxy resins with different types of epoxy resins, with or without the inclusion of modifiers and additives, so long as the combined epoxy resin component comprises at least 30 percent of the total weight of the

Epoxy resins that enter as part of a system or kit with separately packaged co-reactants, such as hardeners or curing agents, are within the scope. The scope does not include any separately packaged co-reactants that would not fall within the scope if entered on their own.

The scope includes merchandise matching the above description that has been processed in a third country, including by commingling, diluting, introducing, or removing modifiers or additives, or performing any other processing that would not otherwise remove the merchandise from the scope of the investigation if performed in the subject country.

The scope also includes epoxy resin that is commingled or blended with epoxy resin from sources not subject to this investigation. Only the subject component of such commingled products is covered by the scope of this investigation. Excluded from the scope are phenoxy resins, which are polymers with a weight greater than 11,000 Daltons, a Melt Flow Index (MFI) at 200 °C (392 °F) no less than 4 grams and no greater than 70 grams per 10 min, Glass-Transition Temperatures (Tg) no less than 80 °C (176 °F) and no greater than 100 °C (212 °F), and which contain no epoxy groups other than at the terminal ends of the molecule.

Excluded from the scope are certain paint and coating products, which are blends, mixtures, or other formulations of epoxy resin, curing agent, and pigment, in any form, packaged in one or more containers, wherein (1) the pigment represents a minimum of 10 percent of the total weight of the product, (2) the epoxy resin represents a maximum of 80 percent of the total weight of the product, and (3) the curing agent represents 5 to 40 percent of the total weight of the product.

Excluded from the scope are preimpregnated fabrics or fibers, often referred to as "pre-pregs," which are composite materials consisting of fabrics or fibers (typically carbon or glass) impregnated with epoxy resin.

Also excluded from the scope is Tetramethyl Bisphenol F Diglycidyl Ether epoxy resin, also known as Tetramethyl Bisphenol F–DGE Polymer (TMBPF–DGE), that (1) has the chemical name: phenol, 4, 4'-methylenebis[2,6-dimethyl-, polymer with 2-(chloromethyl)oxirane, (2) falls under Chemical Abstract Services (CAS) Registry Number 113693–69–9, and (3) has an epoxy equivalent weight (EEW), also referred to as the weight per epoxide (WPE), of no less than 200 and no greater than 230 grams of epoxy resin per epoxy equivalent (g/eq or GEW).<sup>11</sup>

This merchandise is currently classifiable under Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) subheading 3907.30.0000. Subject merchandise may also be entered under subheadings 3907.29.0000, 3824.99.9397, 3214.10.0020, 2910.90.9100, 2910.90.2000, and 1518.00.4000. The HTSUS subheadings are provided for convenience and customs purposes only; the written description of the scope is dispositive.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> The bracket in this sentence is part of the chemical formula and does not denote business proprietary information.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> See Preliminary Determination, 89 FR at 74890.

#### Appendix II

#### List of Topics Discussed in the Issues and **Decision Memorandum**

I. Summary

II. Background

III. Use of Facts Otherwise Available and Application of Adverse Inferences

IV. Subsidies Valuation Information

V. Analysis of Programs VI. Discussion of the Issues

Comment 1: Countervailability of Remission of Duties and Taxes on Export Products (RoDTEP)

Comment 2: Countervailability of Section 35(1)(iv) of the Income Tax Act

Comment 3: Countervailability of State Government of Gujarat (SGOG)-Electricity Duty Exemption (EDE)

Comment 4: Countervailability of SGOG— Preferential Water Rates

Comment 5: Provision of Coal for Less Than Adequate Remuneration (LTAR) Benefit Calculation

Comment 6: Countervailability of Provision of Natural Gas for LTAR

Comment 7: Countervailability of the Advanced Authorization Program (AAP)

Comment 8: Countervailability of Provision of Land by the Gujarat Industrial Development Corporation (GIDC) for

Comment 9: Countervailability of the **Export Promotion of Capital Goods** Scheme (EPCGS)

VII. Recommendation

[FR Doc. 2025-05749 Filed 4-2-25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-DS-P

#### **DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

#### **International Trade Administration** [A-570-135, C-570-136]

#### **Certain Chassis and Subassemblies** Thereof From the People's Republic of China: Notice of Covered Merchandise Referral and Initiation of Covered Merchandise Inquiry

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

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Department of Commerce (Commerce) has received a covered merchandise referral from U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) in connection with a CBP investigation concerning alleged evasion of the antidumping/countervailing duty (AD/ CVD) orders on certain chassis and subassemblies thereof (chassis) from the People's Republic of China (China). Commerce is initiating a covered merchandise inquiry to determine whether the merchandise described in the referral is subject to the AD/CVD orders on chassis from China. Interested parties are invited to comment and submit factual information addressing this initiation.

DATES: Applicable April 3, 2025. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Jacob Keller at (202) 482-4849, AD/CVD Operations Office I, Enforcement & Compliance, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20230.

#### **Background**

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Section 517(b)(4)(A)(i) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act), provides a procedure whereby if, during the course of an Enforce and Protect Act (EAPA) investigation, CBP is unable to determine whether the merchandise at issue is covered merchandise within the meaning of section 517(a)(3) of the Act, it shall refer the matter to Commerce to make such a determination. Section 517(a)(3) of the Act defines covered merchandise as merchandise that is subject to an antidumping duty order issued under section 736 of the Act or a countervailing duty order issued under section 706 of the Act. Section 517(b)(4)(B) of the Act states that Commerce, after receiving a covered merchandise referral from CBP, shall determine whether the merchandise is covered merchandise and promptly transmit its determination to CBP. Commerce's regulations at 19 CFR 351.227 establish procedures for covered merchandise referrals that Commerce receives from CBP in connection with an EAPA investigation.1

On March 11, 2025, Commerce received a sufficient covered merchandise referral from CBP regarding CBP EAPA Investigation No. 7839 2 which concerns the Orders on chassis from China.3 Specifically, CBP explained that an allegation was filed by

SAF-HOLLAND, Inc., alleging U.S. importer AXN Heavy Duty LLC (AXN) evaded the Orders on chassis from China.4 CBP informed Commerce that CBP is unable to determine whether certain merchandise is covered merchandise subject to the *Orders* on chassis from China.<sup>5</sup> Thus, CBP has requested that Commerce issue a determination as to whether merchandise imported by AXN from China is covered merchandise subject to the Orders on chassis from China.6

#### **Initiation of Covered Merchandise Inquiry**

In accordance with 19 CFR 351.227(b)(1), Commerce is hereby notifying interested parties that it is initiating a covered merchandise inquiry, to determine whether the merchandise subject to the referral is covered merchandise within the meaning of section 517(a)(3) of the Act. Additionally, Commerce intends to provide interested parties with the opportunity to participate in this segment of the proceeding, including through the submission of comments and factual information, and, if appropriate, verification. In accordance with 19 CFR 351.227(m)(2), Commerce is initiating a single inquiry regarding the merchandise described in the covered merchandise referral on the record of the antidumping duty proceeding. Upon issuance of a final covered merchandise determination, Commerce will include a copy of the determination on the record of the countervailing duty proceeding.

In accordance with 19 CFR 351.227(d)(1), within 30 days of the date of publication of this notice, interested parties are permitted one opportunity to submit comment and factual information addressing the initiation. Within 14 days of the filing of such comments, any interested party is permitted one opportunity to submit comment and factual information to rebut, clarify, or correct factual information submitted by the other interested parties.

In accordance with 19 CFR 351.227(d)(2), following initiation of a covered merchandise inquiry, Commerce may also issue questionnaires and verify submissions received, where appropriate. Commerce may limit issuance of questionnaires to a reasonable number of respondents. Questionnaire responses are due on the date specified by Commerce. Within 14 days after a questionnaire response has

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See Regulations to Improve Administration and Enforcement of Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Laws, 86 FR 52300, 52354-62 (September 20, 2021) (final rule promulgating the regulation establishing procedures for covered merchandise referrals).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> See CBP's Letter, "Covered Merchandise Referral Request for EAPA Investigation 7839 Involving the Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Orders on Certain Chassis and Subassemblies Thereof from the People's Republic of China," dated March 11, 2025 (Covered Merchandise Referral Request). The covered merchandise referral and any supporting documents will be made available on Enforcement and Compliance's Antidumping Duty and Countervailing Duty Centralized Electronic Service System (ACCESS).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> See Certain Chassis and Subassemblies Thereof from the People's Republic of China: Antidumping Duty Order, 86 FR 36093 (July 8, 2021) (AD Order) and Certain Chassis and Subassemblies Thereof from the People's Republic of China: Countervailing Duty Order and Amended Final Affirmative Countervailing Duty Determination, 86 FR 24844 (May 10, 2021) (CVD Order), respectively (collectively, the Orders).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> See Covered Merchandise Referral Request at 1.

<sup>5</sup> Id. at 5.

<sup>6</sup> Id. at 6.

been filed with Commerce, an interested party other than the original submitter is permitted one opportunity to submit comment and factual information to rebut, clarify, or correct factual information contained in the questionnaire response. Within seven days of the filing of such rebuttal, clarification, or correction, the original submitter is permitted one opportunity to submit comment and factual information to rebut, clarify, or correct factual information submitted in the interested party's rebuttal, clarification, or correction.

In certain circumstances, Commerce may issue a preliminary determination as to whether there is a reasonable basis to believe or suspect that the product that is subject to the covered merchandise inquiry is covered by the scope of the order. Pursuant to 19 CFR 351.227(c), Commerce intends to issue a final determination within 120 days of the publication of this notice (this deadline may be extended if Commerce determines that good cause exists to warrant an extension). Promptly after publication of Commerce's final determination, Commerce will convey a copy of the final determination in the manner prescribed by section 516A(a)(2)(A)(ii) of the Act to all parties to the proceeding and Commerce will transmit its final determination to CBP in accordance with section 517(b)(4)(B) of the Act.7

Pursuant to 19 CFR 351.227(d)(5), during the pendency of this proceeding, Commerce may rescind, in whole or in part, a covered merchandise inquiry. Situations in which Commerce may rescind a covered merchandise inquiry include if CBP withdraws its covered merchandise referral or if Commerce determines that it can address CBP's covered merchandise referral in another segment of the proceeding. In accordance with 19 CFR 351.227(c)(3), Commerce may align the deadlines of this covered merchandise inquiry with the deadlines of another segment of the proceeding if it determines it is appropriate to do so.

Parties are hereby notified that this may be the only notice that Commerce publishes in the **Federal Register** concerning this covered merchandise referral. Except as indicated below, interested parties that wish to participate in this segment of the proceeding and receive notice of the final determination, must submit their letters of appearance as discussed below. Further, any representative of an interested party desiring access to business proprietary information in this

segment of the proceeding must file an application for access to business proprietary information under administrative protective order (APO), as discussed below.

#### **Scope of the Orders**

The merchandise covered by the Orders consists of chassis and subassemblies thereof, whether finished or unfinished, whether assembled or unassembled, whether coated or uncoated, regardless of the number of axles, for carriage of containers, or other payloads (including self-supporting payloads) for road, marine roll-on/rolloff (RORO) and/or rail transport. Chassis are typically, but are not limited to, rectangular framed trailers with a suspension and axle system, wheels and tires, brakes, a lighting and electrical system, a coupling for towing behind a truck tractor, and a locking system or systems to secure the shipping container or containers to the chassis using twistlocks, slide pins or similar attachment devices to engage the corner fittings on the container or other payload.

Subject merchandise includes, but is not limited to, the following subassemblies:

- Chassis frames, or sections of chassis frames, including kingpin assemblies, bolsters consisting of transverse beams with locking or support mechanisms, goosenecks, drop assemblies, extension mechanisms and/or rear impact guards;
- Running gear assemblies or axle assemblies for connection to the chassis frame, whether fixed in nature or capable of sliding fore and aft or lifting up and lowering down, which may or may not include suspension(s) (mechanical or pneumatic), wheel end components, slack adjusters, axles, brake chambers, locking pins, and tires and wheels:
- Landing gear assemblies, for connection to the chassis frame, capable of supporting the chassis when it is not engaged to a tractor; and
- Assemblies that connect to the chassis frame or a section of the chassis frame, such as, but not limited to, pintle hooks or B-trains (which include a fifth wheel), which are capable of connecting a chassis to a converter dolly or another chassis

Importation of any of these subassemblies, whether assembled or unassembled, constitutes an unfinished chassis for purposes of these *Orders*.

Subject merchandise also includes chassis, whether finished or unfinished, entered with or for further assembly with components such as, but not limited to: hub and drum assemblies, brake assemblies (either drum or disc), axles, brake chambers, suspensions and suspension components, wheel end components, landing gear legs, spoke or disc wheels, tires, brake control systems, electrical harnesses and lighting systems.

Processing of finished and unfinished chassis and components such as trimming, cutting, grinding, notching, punching, drilling, painting, coating, staining, finishing, assembly, or any other processing either in the country of manufacture of the in-scope product or in a third country does not remove the product from the scope. Inclusion of other components not identified as comprising the finished or unfinished chassis does not remove the product from the scope.

Individual components entered and sold by themselves are not subject to these *Orders*, but components entered with or for further assembly with a finished or unfinished chassis are subject merchandise. A finished chassis is ultimately comprised of several different types of subassemblies. Within each subassembly there are numerous components that comprise a given subassembly.

This scope excludes dry van trailers, refrigerated van trailers and flatbed trailers. Dry van trailers are trailers with a wholly enclosed cargo space comprised of fixed sides, nose, floor and roof, with articulated panels (doors) across the rear and occasionally at selected places on the sides, with the cargo space being permanently incorporated in the trailer itself. Refrigerated van trailers are trailers with a wholly enclosed cargo space comprised of fixed sides, nose, floor and roof, with articulated panels (doors) across the rear and occasionally at selected places on the sides, with the cargo space being permanently incorporated in the trailer and being insulated, possessing specific thermal properties intended for use with selfcontained refrigeration systems. Flatbed (or platform) trailers consist of loadcarrying main frames and a solid, flat or stepped loading deck or floor permanently incorporated with and supported by frame rails and cross members.

The finished and unfinished chassis subject to these *Orders* are typically classified in the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) at subheadings: 8716.39.0090 and 8716.90.5060. Imports of finished and unfinished chassis may also enter under HTSUS subheading 8716.90.5010. While the HTSUS subheadings are provided for convenience and customs purposes, the written description of the

<sup>7</sup> See also 19 CFR 351.227(e)(2).

merchandise under the *Orders* is dispositive.

#### Merchandise Subject to the Covered Merchandise Inquiry

The covered merchandise inquiry will address whether the scope covers certain merchandise imported by AXN from China.8 Pursuant to 19 CFR 351.227(m)(1), Commerce will consider, based on the available record evidence, whether the final determination in the covered merchandise inquiry should be applied on a (i) producer-specific, exporter-specific, importer-specific basis, or some combination thereof; or (ii) on a country-wide basis, regardless of the producer, exporter, or importer, to all products from the same country with the same relevant physical characteristics as the product at issue.

#### Filing Requirements

All submissions to Commerce must be filed electronically via Enforcement and Compliance (E&C)'s Antidumping Duty and Countervailing Duty Centralized Electronic Service System (ACCESS), unless an exception applies.<sup>9</sup> An electronically filed document must be received successfully in its entirety by the applicable deadline. Each submission must be placed on the record of the segment of the proceeding for the *AD Order* (A–570–135), ACCESS Covered Merchandise Inquiry segment "EAPA 7839".

#### Suspension of Liquidation

In accordance with 19 CFR 351.227(l)(1), Commerce will notify CBP of the initiation of the covered merchandise inquiry and direct CBP to continue to suspend liquidation of entries of products subject to the covered merchandise inquiry that were already subject to the suspension of liquidation, and to apply the cash deposit rate that would be applicable if the product were determined to be covered by the scope of the *Orders*. Should Commerce issue preliminary or final covered merchandise determinations, Commerce will follow the suspension of liquidation rules under 19 CFR 351.227(l)(2) through (4). In accordance with 19 CFR 351.227(l)(5), nothing in this section affects CBP's authority to take any additional action with respect to the suspension of liquidation or related measures.

#### **Notification to Interested Parties**

Interested parties that wish to participate in this segment of the proceeding and be added to the public service list(s) for this segment of the proceeding must file a letter of appearance in accordance with 19 CFR 351.103(d)(1), with one exception: the relevant parties to CBP's EAPA investigation publicly identified by CBP in the covered merchandise referral referenced above are not required to submit a letter of appearance, and will be added to the public service list for this segment of the proceeding by Commerce.

Commerce placed an APO on the record on March 19, 2025. <sup>10</sup> Commerce intends to place the business proprietary versions of the documents (if any) contained in the covered merchandise referral on the record of this proceeding in ACCESS.

Representatives of interested parties must submit applications for disclosure under the APO in accordance with the procedures outlined in Commerce's regulations at 19 CFR 351.305. Those procedures apply to this segment of the proceeding, with one exception: APO applicants representing the parties that have been identified by CBP as an importer in the covered merchandise referral (referenced above) are exempt from the additional filing requirements for importers pursuant to 19 CFR 351.305(d).

This notice is issued and published pursuant to section 517(b)(4) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.227(b).

Dated: March 31, 2025.

#### Scot Fullerton,

Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Operations.

[FR Doc. 2025-05746 Filed 4-2-25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-DS-P

#### **DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648-XE789]

Fisheries of the Gulf of America and South Atlantic; Southeast Data, Assessment, and Review (SEDAR); Public Meeting

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

**ACTION:** Notice of SEDAR 94 Data Scoping Webinar for Florida hogfish.

**SUMMARY:** The SEDAR 94 assessment process of Florida hogfish will consist of a Data Workshop, and a series of assessment webinars, and a Review Workshop. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

**DATES:** The SEDAR 94 Data Scoping Webinar will be held April 22, 2025, from 1 p.m. until 3 p.m., EST.

#### ADDRESSES:

Meeting address: The meeting will be held via webinar. The webinar is open to members of the public. Those interested in participating should contact Julie A. Neer at SEDAR (see FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT) to request an invitation providing webinar access information. Please request webinar invitations at least 24 hours in advance of each webinar.

SEDAR address: 4055 Faber Place Drive, Suite 201, North Charleston, SC 29405.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Julie A. Neer, SEDAR Coordinator; (843) 571–4366; email: Julie.neer@safmc.net.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Gulf, South Atlantic, and Caribbean Fishery Management Councils, in conjunction with NMFS and the Atlantic and Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commissions have implemented the Southeast Data, Assessment and Review (SEDAR) process, a multi-step method for determining the status of fish stocks in the Southeast Region. SEDAR is a multistep process including: (1) Data Workshop, (2) a series of assessment

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Specifically, CBP requests that Commerce address whether the following are covered by the scope of the Orders: (1) the axle beams imported by AXN that can be used on chassis, whether (a) incorporated into an axle assembly by AXN by adding Chinese-origin parts; (b) incorporated into an axle assembly by AXN by adding domestically (i.e., U.S.) sourced parts; (c) incorporated into an axle assembly by AXN by adding a mix of Chineseorigin and domestically sourced parts; and/or (d) not incorporated into an axle assembly by AXN (i.e. as imported); (2) The slider boxes that can be used on chassis, as imported by AXN; (3) Landing gear sets, as imported by AXN; and (4) Any merchandise imported by AXN that can be used on chassis, including, but not limited to, axle beams, slider boxes, and landing gear leg components/landing gear sets, that, even if considered individual components, were imported by AXN "with or for further assembly with a finished or unfinished chassis" by virtue of their intended sale by AXN to manufacturers for use in the production of completed trailers.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> See Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Proceedings: Electronic Filing Procedures; Administrative Protective Order Procedures, 76 FR 39263 (July 6, 2011), as amended in Enforcement and Compliance; Change of Electronic Filing System Name, 79 FR 69046 (November 20, 2014) for details of Commerce's electronic filing requirements, effective August 5, 2011. Information on help using ACCESS can be found at https://access.trade.gov/help.aspx and a handbook can be found at https://access.trade.gov/help/Handbook%20on%20Electronic%20Filing% 20Procedures.pdf.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> See the Administrative Protective Order "Request for Establishment of Administrative Protective Order Certain Chassis and Subassemblies Thereof from the People's Republic of China (A– 570–135)," dated March 19, 2025.

webinars, and (3) a Review Workshop. The product of the Data Workshop is a report that compiles and evaluates potential datasets and recommends which datasets are appropriate for assessment analyses. The assessment webinars produce a report that describes the fisheries, evaluates the status of the stock, estimates biological benchmarks, projects future population conditions, and recommends research and monitoring needs. The product of the Review Workshop is an Assessment Summary documenting panel opinions regarding the strengths and weaknesses of the stock assessment and input data. Participants for SEDAR Workshops are appointed by the Gulf, South Atlantic, and Caribbean Fishery Management Councils and NMFS Šoutheast Regional Office, Highly Migratory Species Management Division, and Southeast Fisheries Science Center. Participants include data collectors and database managers; stock assessment scientists, biologists, and researchers; constituency representatives including fishermen, environmentalists, and NGO's; International experts; and staff of Councils, Commissions, and state and federal agencies.

The items of discussion during the Data Scoping Webinar are as follows:

Participants will discuss what data may be available for use in the assessment.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before this group for discussion, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during this meeting. Action will be restricted to those issues specifically identified in this notice and any issues arising after publication of this notice that require emergency action under section 305(c) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, provided the public has been notified of the intent to take final action to address the emergency.

#### **Special Accommodations**

The meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to the Council office (see **ADDRESSES**) at least 5 business days prior to each workshop.

**Note:** The times and sequence specified in this agenda are subject to change.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 et seq. Dated: March 31, 2025.

#### Rey Israel Marquez,

Acting Deputy Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

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BILLING CODE 3510-22-P

#### **DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

#### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648-XE788]

Fisheries of the South Atlantic; Southeast Data, Assessment, and Review (SEDAR); Public Meeting

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

**ACTION:** Notice of SEDAR 91 Assessment Webinar 4 for U.S. Caribbean Spiny Lobster.

**SUMMARY:** The SEDAR 91 assessment of the U.S. Caribbean stock of spiny lobster will consist of a data scoping webinar, a data workshop, a series of assessment webinars, and a review workshop. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

DATES: The SEDAR 91 Assessment Webinar 4 will be held via webinar April 25, 2025, from 9 a.m. until 12 p.m., EST. The established times may be adjusted as necessary to accommodate the timely completion of discussion relevant to the assessment process. Such adjustments may result in the meeting being extended from or completed prior to the time established by this notice. Additional SEDAR 91 workshops and webinar dates and times will publish in a subsequent issue in the Federal Register.

#### ADDRESSES:

Meeting address: The SEDAR 91
Assessment Webinar 4 will be held via
webinar. The webinar is open to
members of the public. Registration is
available by contacting the SEDAR
coordinator via email at Emily.Ott@
safmc.net.

SEDAR address: South Atlantic Fishery Management Council, 4055 Faber Place Drive, Suite 201, N Charleston, SC 29405; www.sedarweb.org.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Emily Ott, SEDAR Coordinator, 4055 Faber Place Drive, Suite 201, North Charleston, SC 29405; phone: (843) 571– 4373; email: *Emily.Ott@safmc.net*.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Gulf, South Atlantic, and Caribbean Fishery Management Councils, in conjunction with NMFS and the Atlantic and Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commissions, have implemented the Southeast Data, Assessment and Review (SEDAR) process, a multi-step method for determining the status of fish stocks in the Southeast Region. SEDAR is a three-step process including: (1) Data Workshop; (2) Assessment Process

utilizing webinars; and (3) Review Workshop. The product of the Data Workshop is a data report which compiles and evaluates potential datasets and recommends which datasets are appropriate for assessment analyses. The product of the Assessment Process is a stock assessment report which describes the fisheries, evaluates the status of the stock, estimates biological benchmarks, projects future population conditions, and recommends research and monitoring needs. The assessment is independently peer reviewed at the Review Workshop. The product of the Review Workshop is a Summary documenting panel opinions regarding the strengths and weaknesses of the stock assessment and input data. Participants for SEDAR Workshops are appointed by the Gulf, South Atlantic. and Caribbean Fishery Management Councils and NMFS Southeast Regional Office, Highly Migratory Species Management Division, and Southeast Fisheries Science Center. Participants include: data collectors and database managers; stock assessment scientists, biologists, and researchers; constituency representatives including fishermen, environmentalists, and nongovernmental organizations (NGOs); international experts; and staff of Councils, Commissions, and state and federal agencies.

The items of discussion for the webinar are as follows:

• Continue discussion on modeling issues and decisions.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before this group for discussion, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during this meeting. Action will be restricted to those issues specifically identified in this notice and any issues arising after publication of this notice that require emergency action under section 305(c) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, provided the public has been notified of the intent to take final action to address the emergency.

#### **Special Accommodations**

This meeting is accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for auxiliary aids should be directed to the SAFMC office (see **ADDRESSES**) at least 5 business days prior to the meeting.

**Note:** The times and sequence specified in this agenda are subject to change.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 et seq.

Dated: March 31, 2025.

#### Rey Israel Marquez,

Acting Deputy Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service. [FR Doc. 2025–05741 Filed 4–2–25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-P

#### **DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

Applications for New Awards; Indian Education Discretionary Grants Programs; Professional Development Program (PD)-Training Grants; Corrections

**AGENCY:** Office of Elementary and Secondary Education, Department of Education.

**ACTION:** Notice; corrections.

SUMMARY: On January 17, 2025, the Department of Education (Department) published in the Federal Register a notice inviting applications (NIA) for the fiscal year (FY) 2025 Indian **Education Discretionary Grants** Programs; Professional Development Program (PD)-Training Grants competition. The Department is correcting the NIA by changing the date of the pre-application webinar; extending the deadline date for transmittal of applications, together with the intergovernmental review deadline; amending the Background information; changing the heading of a requirement; and adjusting certain selection criteria and point values. All other information in the NIA remains the same.

**DATES:** These corrections are applicable on April 3, 2025.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Linda Brake, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, Washington, DC 20202–6335. Telephone: (202) 987–0796. Email: linda.brake@ed.gov.

If you are deaf, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability and wish to access telecommunications relay services, please dial 7–1–1.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On January 17, 2025, the Department published in the Federal Register an NIA for the FY 2025 Indian Education Discretionary Grants Programs; Professional Development Program (PD)-Training Grants competition (90 FR 5856). The Department is correcting the NIA as part of a comprehensive review of recently published FY 2025 NIAs. This reevaluation seeks to ensure that all priorities and requirements for the Department's FY 2025 competitions align with the objectives established by the Trump Administration while

fostering consistency across all grant programs. Additionally, the Department is dedicated to optimizing the impact of our grant competitions on students and families, as well as enhancing the economic effectiveness of federal education funding. Specifically, the Department is changing the date of the Pre-Application Webinar; extending the deadline date for transmittal of applications, together with the intergovernmental review deadline; amending the Background information; changing the heading of a requirement; and adjusting certain selection criteria and point values. All other information in the NIA remains the same.

The Department will not consider applications submitted prior to April 3, 2025. Applicants that have already submitted an application under the Professional Development—Training Grants program must submit an updated application on or before the extended application deadline of May 13, 2025, for the application to be reviewed. Program staff will endeavor to notify applicants that have already submitted an application of the requirement to submit an updated application. The Department will consider the application that is last submitted and timely received by 11:59:59 p.m., Eastern Time, on May 13, 2025.

Program Authority: 20 U.S.C. 7442.

#### Corrections

In FR Doc. 2025–01316, published in the **Federal Register** on January 17, 2025 (90 FR 5856), we make the following corrections:

1. On page 5856, in the third column, revise the text under **DATES** to read as follows:

Applications Originally Available: January 17, 2025.

Updated Application Instructions Available: April 7, 2025.

Date of Pre-Application Webinar: April 8, 2025.

Deadline for Notice of Intent to Apply: April 18, 2025.

Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: May 13, 2025.

Deadline for Intergovernmental Review: July 13, 2025.

- 2. On page 5857, in the first column, make the following corrections:
- a. In the second and third lines from the top, remove the words "who reflect the diversity of the students they serve".
- b. Remove the fifth (final) sentence of the first paragraph.
- 3. On page 5858, in the first column, remove the heading "Statutory Hiring Preference" and replace it with "Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act Requirement".

- 4. On page 5861, in the third column, remove paragraph (d) *Quality of project personnel.*
- 5. On page 5861, in the third column, redesignate paragraph (e) Adequacy of resources as paragraph (d) Adequacy of resources.

6. On page 5862, in the first column, redesignate paragraph (f) Quality of the management plan as paragraph (e) Quality of the management plan.

7. On page 5862, in the first column, in redesignated paragraph (e) Quality of the management plan, make the

following corrections:

a. Revise the parenthetical that follows the heading *Quality of the management plan* in redesignated paragraph (e) to read "(up to 25 points)".

b. Revise the parenthetical at the end of redesignated paragraph (e)(1) to read

"Up to 9 points".

c. Revise the parenthetical at the end of redesignated paragraph (e)(2) to read

"Up to 8 points".

d. After redesignated paragraph (e)(2), add the following: "(3) The extent to which the time commitments of the project director and principal investigator and other key project personnel are appropriate and adequate to meet the objectives of the proposed project. (Up to 8 points)".

8. On page 5862, in the first column, redesignate paragraph (g) Quality of the project evaluation or other evidence-building as paragraph (f) Quality of the project evaluation or other evidence-

building.

Accessible Format: On request to the program contact person listed under FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT, individuals with disabilities can obtain this notice and the NIA in an accessible format. The Department will provide the requestor with an accessible format that may include Rich Text Format (RTF) or text format (txt), a thumb drive, an MP3 file, braille, large print, audiotape, compact disc, or other accessible format.

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You may also access Department documents published in the **Federal Register** by using the article search feature at *www.federalregister.gov*. Specifically, through the advanced

search feature at this site, you can limit your search to documents published by the Department.

#### Hayley B. Sanon,

Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary and Acting Assistant Secretary Office of Elementary and Secondary Education.

[FR Doc. 2025-05722 Filed 4-2-25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-P

#### **DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

Applications for New Awards; Demonstration Grants for Indian Children and Youth Program—Native Youth Community Projects; Corrections

**AGENCY:** Office of Elementary and Secondary Education, Department of Education.

**ACTION:** Notice; corrections.

SUMMARY: On January 17, 2025, the Department of Education (Department) published in the Federal Register a notice inviting applications (NIA) for the fiscal year (FY) 2025 Demonstration Grants for Indian Children and Youth Program (Demonstration program) competition. The Department is correcting the NIA by amending the Background information, editing Table 1, revising a requirement to reflect the precise statutory language, and amending certain selection criteria. In addition, we are updating the dates of the pre-application webinars and extending the deadline date for the transmittal of applications together with the intergovernmental review deadline. All other information in the NIA remains the same.

**DATES:** These corrections are applicable on April 3, 2025.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Donna Bussell, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue SW, Room 3W239, Washington, DC 20202–6335. Telephone: (202) 987–0204. Email: donna.bussell@ed.gov.

If you are deaf, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability and wish to access telecommunications relay services, please dial 7–1–1.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On January 17, 2025, the Department published in the Federal Register an NIA for the FY 2025 Demonstration Grants for Indian Children and Youth Program (Demonstration program) competition. The Department is correcting the NIA as part of a comprehensive review of recently published FY 2025 NIAs. This reevaluation seeks to ensure that all priorities and requirements for the

Department's FY 2025 competitions align with the objectives established by the Trump Administration while fostering consistency across all grant programs. Additionally, the Department is dedicated to optimizing the impact of our grant competitions on students and families, as well as enhancing the economic effectiveness of federal education funding. Specifically, the Department is amending the Background information, editing Table 1, revising a requirement to reflect the precise statutory language, and amending certain selection criteria. In addition, we are updating the dates of the pre-application webinars and extending the deadline date for the transmittal of applications together with the intergovernmental review deadline. All other information in the NIA remains the same.

The Department will not consider applications submitted prior to [INSERT DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER]. Applicants that have already submitted an application under the Demonstration program must submit an updated application on or before the extended application deadline of May 8, 2025, for the application to be reviewed. Program staff will endeavor to notify applicants that have already submitted an application of the requirement to submit an updated application. The Department will consider the application that is last submitted and timely received by 11:59:59 p.m., Eastern Time, on May 8,

Program Authority: 20 U.S.C. 7441.

#### Corrections

In, FR Doc. 2025–01238 published in the **Federal Register** on January 17, 2025 (90 FR 5838) we make the following corrections:

1. On page 5838, in the second column, revise the text under **DATES** to read as follows:

Applications Originally Available: January 17, 2025.

Updated Application Instructions Available: April 7, 2025.

Date of Pre-Application Webinar: April 7, 2025.

Deadline for Notice of Intent to Apply: March 28, 2025.

Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: May 8, 2025.

Deadline for Intergovernmental Review: July 7, 2025.

2. On page 5839, in the first and second columns, in the fourth full paragraph under the "4. *Background*" heading, make the following corrections:

- a. In the first sentence, remove the words "promoting equity in achievement".
- b. In the second sentence, remove the words "that are inclusive, developmentally informed, and linguistically and culturally responsive".
- 3. On page 5839, in Table 1 entitled Summary of Notice Inviting Applications (NIA) Sections That Must Be Addressed for Your Application To Be Considered, in the Description column for Application Requirements, remove the words "and Culturally Appropriate" from (c).
- 4. On page 5840, in the third column, revise the text under the heading "Application Requirements:" in paragraph (c) to read: "Information demonstrating that the proposed program is an evidence-based program, where applicable, which may include a program that has been modified to be culturally appropriate for students who will be served."
- 5. On page 5841, in the third column, under the *Quality of project personnel* heading, replace paragraph (c)(4) with the following language: "The extent to which the proposed planning, implementing, and evaluating project team are familiar with the assets, needs, and other contextual considerations of the proposed implementation sites. (Up to 4 points)".

Accessible Format: On request to the program contact person listed under FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT, individuals with disabilities can obtain this notice and the NIA in an accessible format. The Department will provide the

format. The Department will provide the requestor with an accessible format that may include Rich Text Format (RTF) or text format (txt), a thumb drive, an MP3 file, braille, large print, audiotape, compact disc, or other accessible format.

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You may also access Department documents published in the **Federal Register** by using the article search feature at *www.federalregister.gov*. Specifically, through the advanced search feature at this site, you can limit

your search to documents published by the Department.

#### Hayley B. Sanon,

Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary and Acting Assistant Secretary Office of Elementary and Secondary Education.

[FR Doc. 2025–05721 Filed 4–2–25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-P

#### **DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

Applications for New Awards; Indian Education Discretionary Grants Programs; Professional Development Program—Native American Teacher Retention Initiative; Corrections

**AGENCY:** Office of Elementary and Secondary Education, Department of Education.

**ACTION:** Notice; corrections.

SUMMARY: On January 17, 2025, the Department of Education (Department) published in the Federal Register a notice inviting applications (NIA) for the fiscal year (FY) 2025 Indian **Education Discretionary Grants** Programs; Professional Development Program—Native American Teacher Retention Initiative competition. The Department is correcting the NIA by changing the date of the pre-application webinar; extending the deadline for transmittal of applications, together with the intergovernmental review deadline; amending the Background information; changing the header of a requirement; adjusting certain selection criteria and point values; and editing the performance measure. All other information in the NIA remains the

**DATES:** These corrections are applicable on April 3, 2025.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Linda Brake, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue SW, Room 3W239, Washington, DC 20202. Telephone: (202) 987–0796. Email: linda.brake@ed.gov.

If you are deaf, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability and wish to access telecommunications relay services, please dial 7–1–1.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On January 17, 2025, the Department published in the Federal Register an NIA for the FY 2025 Indian Education Discretionary Grants Programs; Professional Development Program—Native American Teacher Retention Initiative competition (90 FR 5863). The Department is correcting the NIA as part of a comprehensive review of recently published FY 2025 NIAs. This reevaluation seeks to ensure that all

priorities and requirements for the Department's FY 2025 competitions align with the objectives established by the Trump Administration while fostering consistency across all grant programs. Additionally, the Department is dedicated to optimizing the impact of our grant competitions on students and families, as well as enhancing the economic effectiveness of federal education funding. Specifically, the Department is changing the date of the pre-application webinar; extending the deadline for transmittal of applications together with the intergovernmental review deadline; amending the Background information; changing the header of a requirement; adjusting certain selection criteria and point values; and editing the performance measure. All other information in the NIA remains the same.

The Department will not consider applications submitted prior to April 3, 2025. Applicants that have already submitted an application under the Professional Development—Native American Teacher Retention Initiative program must submit an updated application on or before the extended application deadline of May 13, 2025, for the application to be reviewed. Program staff will endeavor to notify applicants that have already submitted an application of the requirement to submit an updated application. The Department will consider the application that is last submitted and timely received by 11:59:59 p.m., Eastern Time, on May 13, 2025.

Program Authority: 20 U.S.C. 7442.

#### Corrections

In FR Doc. 2025–01315, published in the **Federal Register** on January 17, 2025 (90 FR 5863), we make the following corrections:

1. On page 5863, in the third column, revise the text under **DATES** to read as follows:

Applications Originally Available: January 17, 2025.

Updated Application Instructions Available: April 7, 2025.

Date of Pre-Application Webinar: April 9, 2025.

Deadline for Notice of Intent to Apply: April 18, 2025.

Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: May 13, 2025.

Deadline for Intergovernmental Review: July 13, 2025.

- 2. On page 5864, in the first column, make the following corrections under the *Background* heading:
- a. Revise the first sentence by removing the words "who reflect the diversity of the students they serve".

- b. Revise the fifth sentence by removing the words "in ways that create a diverse and well-prepared educator workforce".
- 3. On page 5865, in the third column, delete the heading "Statutory Hiring Preference" and replace it with "Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act Requirement".

4. On page 5867, in the third column, in paragraph (b) *Quality of project design*, make the following corrections:

a. Revise the parenthetical at the end of paragraph (b)(1) to read "(Up to 7 points)".

b. Revise the parenthetical at the end of paragraph (b)(2) to read "(Up to 7 points)".

c. Revise the parenthetical at the end of paragraph (b)(3) to read "(Up to 6 points)".

d. Remove paragraph (b)(4).

5. On page 5867, beginning at the bottom of the third column and carrying over to the first four lines of the first column of page 5868, remove paragraph (d) *Quality of project personnel*.

6. On page 5868, in the first column, redesignate paragraph (e) Adequacy of resources as paragraph (d) Adequacy of

resources.

7. On page 5868, in the first column, redesignate paragraph (f) *Quality of management plan* as paragraph (e) *Quality of management plan*.

8. On page 5868, in the first column, in redesignated paragraph (e) *Quality of management plan*, make the following corrections:

a. Revise the parenthetical that follows the heading *Quality of the management plan* to read "(up to 25 points)".

b. Revise the parenthetical that follows redesignated paragraph (e)(1) to read "(Up to 9 points)".

c. Revise the parenthetical that follows redesignated paragraph (e)(2) to

read "(Up to 8 points)".

d. After redesignated paragraph (e)(2), add the following: "(3) The extent to which the time commitments of the project director and principal investigator and other key project personnel are appropriate and adequate to meet the objectives of the proposed project. (Up to 8 points)".

9. On page 5868, in the first column, redesignate paragraph (g) Quality of the project evaluation or other evidence-building as paragraph (f) Quality of project evaluation or other evidence-

building.

10. On page 5869, in the first column, under the heading *Performance Measures*, in the sixth line, remove the term "Indian".

Accessible Format: On request to the program contact person listed under FOR

#### FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT.

individuals with disabilities can obtain this notice and the NIA in an accessible format. The Department will provide the requestor with an accessible format that may include Rich Text Format (RTF) or text format (txt), a thumb drive, an MP3 file, braille, large print, audiotape, compact disc, or other accessible format.

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which is available free at the site.

You may also access Department documents published in the **Federal Register** by using the article search feature at *www.federalregister.gov*. Specifically, through the advanced search feature at this site, you can limit your search to documents published by the Department.

#### Hayley B. Sanon,

Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary and Acting Assistant Secretary Office of Elementary and Secondary Education.

[FR Doc. 2025–05720 Filed 4–2–25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-P

#### **ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION**

#### Sunshine Act Meetings

**AGENCY:** Election Assistance Commission.

**ACTION:** Sunshine Act notice; notice of public meeting agenda.

**SUMMARY:** Public Meeting: U.S. Election Assistance Commission Board of Advisors 2025 Annual Meeting.

**DATES:** Monday, May 5, 2025, 9 a.m.—5 p.m. ET, and Tuesday, May 6, 2025, 8:30—11:45 a.m. ET. Public registration for the event on or before May 2, 2025. Written comments should be received no later than 5 p.m. ET on May 2, 2025. **ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held in person at the Election Assistance Commission hearing room at 633 3rd St.

### NW, Washington, DC 20001. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Kristen Muthig, Telephone: (202) 897–9285, Email: kmuthig@eac.gov.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Purpose: In accordance with the Government in the Sunshine Act (Sunshine Act), Public Law 94–409, as amended (5 U.S.C. 552b) and the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. 10), the U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC) will conduct an annual meeting of the EAC Board of Advisors to conduct regular business, discuss EAC updates and upcoming programs, and other relevant election topics.

Agenda: The U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC) will hold its 2025 Board of Advisors Annual Meeting to conduct regular business, learn about EAC agency developments, and more. The board will also vote to elect members to Executive Officer positions.

Registration is required to attend. Members of the public should register by May 2, 2025, on the event page at *eac.gov/events*.

The EAC will only accept written comments and questions from members of the public. If you would like to participate, please email *clearinghouse@eac.gov* with your full name and question or comment no later than 5:00 p.m. ET on May 2, 2025.

Background: HAVA designates the Board of Advisors to assist EAC in carrying out its mandates under the law. The board consists of 35 members composed of representatives from specified associations, organizations, federal departments, and members of Congress.

The full agenda will be posted in advance on the EAC website: eac.gov/

*Status:* This meeting will be open to the public.

#### Camden Kelliher,

General Counsel, U.S. Election Assistance Commission.

[FR Doc. 2025–05830 Filed 4–1–25; 4:15 pm]
BILLING CODE 4810–71–P

#### **ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION**

#### **Sunshine Act Meetings**

**AGENCY:** Election Assistance Commission.

**ACTION:** Sunshine Act notice; notice of public meeting agenda.

**SUMMARY:** Public Meeting: U.S. Election Assistance Commission Local Leadership Council 2025 Annual Meeting.

**DATES:** Monday, April 21, 2025, 1–4:30 p.m. ET, and Tuesday, April 22, 2025, 9 a.m.–4:45 p.m. ET. Public registration for the event on or before April 18, 2025. Written comments should be received no later than 5 p.m. ET on April 18, 2025.

ADDRESSES: Grand Bohemian Charlotte, Autograph Collection, 201 West Trade Street, Charlotte, North Carolina 28202.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Kristen Muthig, Telephone: (202) 897–9285, Email: kmuthig@eac.gov.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Purpose: In accordance with the Government in the Sunshine Act (Sunshine Act), Public Law 94–409, as amended (5 U.S.C. 552b), the U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC) will hold its annual meeting of the EAC Local Leadership Council to conduct regular business and discuss EAC updates and upcoming programs.

Agenda: The U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC) Local Leadership Council will hold its 2025 Annual Meeting to conduct regular business and discuss EAC updates and upcoming programs.

Registration is required to attend. Members of the public should register by April 18, 2025, on the event page at *eac.gov/events*.

The EAC will only accept written comments and questions from members of the public. If you would like to participate, please email *clearinghouse@eac.gov* with your full name and question or comment no later than 5 p.m. ET on April 18, 2025.

Background: The Local Leadership Council was established in June 2021 under agency authority pursuant to and in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. 10). The Advisory Committee advises the EAC on how best to fulfill the EAC's statutory duties set forth in 52 U.S.C. 20922 as well as such other matters as the EAC determines. It shall provide a relevant and comprehensive source of expert, unbiased analysis and recommendations to the EAC on local election administration topics.

The Local Leadership Council consists of 100 members. The EAC appoints two members from each state after soliciting nominations from each state's election official professional association. At the time of submission, the Local Leadership Council has 91 appointed members. Upon appointment, Advisory Committee members must be serving or have previously served in a leadership role in a state election official professional association.

The full agenda will be posted in advance on the EAC website: https://www.eac.gov/events.

*Status:* This meeting will be open to the public.

#### Camden Kelliher.

General Counsel, U.S. Election Assistance Commission.

[FR Doc. 2025–05827 Filed 4–1–25; 4:15 pm]  ${\tt BILLING}$  CODE 4810–71–P

#### **ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION**

#### **Sunshine Act Meetings**

**AGENCY:** Election Assistance

Commission.

**ACTION:** Sunshine Act notice; notice of

public meeting agenda.

**SUMMARY:** *Public Meeting:* U.S. Election Assistance Commission Standards Board 2025 Annual Meeting.

**DATES:** Thursday, April 24, 2025, 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m. ET, and Friday, April 25, 2025, 9 –11:45 a.m. ET. Public registration for the event on or before April 18, 2025. Written comments should be received no later than 5 p.m. ET on April 23, 2025.

ADDRESSES: Grand Bohemian Charlotte, Autograph Collection, 201 West Trade Street, Charlotte, North Carolina 28202.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Kristen Muthig, Telephone: (202) 897–9285, Email: *kmuthig@eac.gov.* 

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Purpose: In accordance with the Government in the Sunshine Act (Sunshine Act), Public Law 94–409, as amended (5 U.S.C. 552b) and the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. 10), the U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC) will hold its annual meeting of the EAC Standards Board to conduct regular business, discuss EAC updates and upcoming programs, and discuss other relevant election topics.

Agenda: The U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC) Standards Board will hold its 2025 Annual Meeting to conduct regular business, and discuss EAC updates and upcoming programs, such as audit standards, voter registration and list maintenance, signature verification, and more.

Registration is required to attend. Members of the public should register by April 18, 2025, on the event page at eac.gov/events.

The EAC will only accept written comments and questions from members of the public. If you would like to participate, please email *clearinghouse@eac.gov* with your full name and question or comment no later than 5 p.m. ET on April 23, 2025.

Background: The Help America Votes Act (HAVA) designates a 110-member Standards Board to assist EAC in carrying out its mandates under the law. The board consists of 55 state election officials selected by their respective chief state election official, and 55 local election officials selected through a process supervised by the chief state election official.

The full agenda will be posted in advance on the EAC website: https://www.eac.gov/events.

*Status:* This meeting will be open to the public.

#### Camden Kelliher,

General Counsel, U.S. Election Assistance Commission.

 $[FR\ Doc.\ 2025-05822\ Filed\ 4-1-25;\ 11:15\ am]$ 

BILLING CODE 4810-71-P

#### **DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**

### Agency Information Collection Extension

**AGENCY:** U.S. Department of Energy. **ACTION:** Notice of request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Department of Energy (DOE), pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, intends to extend for three years, an information collection request with the Office of Management and Budget (OMB).

**DATES:** Comments regarding this proposed information collection must be received on or before June 2, 2025. If you anticipate any difficulty in submitting comments within that period, contact the person listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section as soon as possible.

ADDRESSES: Written comments may be sent to Attila Csoma, Contract and Financial Assistance Policy Division, Office of Acquisition Management, U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20585–1615, or by email to Attila.Csoma@hq.doe.gov.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Attila Csoma, Mr. Csoma may be contacted by email at *Attila.Csoma@hq.doe.gov*, or by telephone at (240) 449–5619.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Comments** are invited on: (a) Whether the extended collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) 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.

This information collection request contains:

- (1) OMB No.: 1910-4100;
- (2) Information Collection Request Titled: Procurement Requirements;
  - (3) Type of Review: Renewal;
- (4) Purpose: The Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Title 48 Federal Acquisition Regulations System, Chapter 9 Department of Energy (DOE), Subchapter H Clauses and Forms, Part 952—Solicitation Provisions and Contract Clauses, and Subchapter I Agency Supplementary Regulations, Part 970 DOE Management and Operating Contracts, Section 970.52 Solicitation Provisions and Contract Clauses for Management and Operating Contracts require DOE to collect certain types of information from those seeking to do business with the Department or those awarded contracts by the Department. This package contains information collections necessary for the solicitation, award, administration, and closeout of procurement contracts;
- (5) Annual Estimated Number of Respondents: 7,420;
- (6) Annual Estimated Number of Total Responses: 7,672;
- (7) Annual Estimated Number of Burden Hours: 667,056;
- (8) Annual Estimated Reporting and Recordkeeping Cost Burden: \$69,287,107.

Statutory Authority: 42 U.S.C. 2201.

#### **Signing Authority**

This document of the Department of Energy was signed on February 26, 2025, by Berta Schreiber, Director, Office of Acquisition Management and Senior Procurement Executive, pursuant to delegated authority from the Secretary of Energy. That document with the original signature and date is maintained by DOE. For administrative purposes only, and in compliance with requirements of the Office of the Federal Register, the undersigned DOE Federal Register Liaison Officer has been authorized to sign and submit the document in electronic format for publication, as an official document of the Department of Energy. This administrative process in no way alters the legal effect of this document upon publication in the Federal Register.

Signed in Washington, DC, on March 31, 2025.

#### Jennifer Hartzell,

Alternate Federal Register Liaison Officer, U.S. Department of Energy.

[FR Doc. 2025–05729 Filed 4–2–25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

#### **DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**

Notice of Early Public and Governmental Engagement for Potential Designation of Tribal Energy Access, Southwestern Grid Connector, and Lake Erie-Canada National Interest Electric Transmission Corridors; Reopening of Comment Period

**AGENCY:** Grid Deployment Office, Department of Energy.

**ACTION:** Notice of early public and governmental engagement and request for comment; reopening of public comment period.

**SUMMARY:** The Grid Deployment Office (GDO) of the Department of Energy (DOE) is seeking public input and comment from Federal and State agencies, regional entities, Tribal and local governments, the public, and other interested parties on DOE's consideration of three potential National Interest Electric Transmission Corridors (NIETCs). On December 16, 2024, DOE published a Notice of Early Public and Governmental Engagement (notice) inviting input and comment on the possible scope of analysis, including environmental, cultural, or socioeconomic effects should DOE designate any of the potential NIETCs, and the contents of DOE's engagement framework, including appropriate methods and locations of future NIETCspecific meetings. DOE also invited any other relevant feedback. The notice provided an opportunity for submitting written comments, data, and information to DOE no later than February 14, 2025. DOE received requests to extend the public comment period, and in response DOE is reopening the public comment period through April 15, 2025.

**DATES:** The comment period for the notice published on December 14, 2024 (89 FR 101597) which closed on February 14, 2025, is reopened. DOE will accept comments, data, and information regarding the notice that are received no later than April 15, 2025.

ADDRESSES: Interested parties are encouraged to submit comments using the Federal eRulemaking Portal at www.regulations.gov, under the relevant docket number(s). Alternatively, interested parties may submit comments, identified by relevant docket number(s), by any of the following methods:

- *Email: NIETC@hq.doe.gov.* Include the relevant docket number(s) in the subject line of the email.
- Mail: Address written comments to U.S. Department of Energy, Grid Deployment Office, 1000 Independence

Ave. SW, Suite 4H–065, Washington, DC 20585.

Instructions: There are four docket numbers associated with this re-opening of Notice of Early Public and Governmental Engagement comment period. DOE encourages interested parties to submit general recommendations and comments under the docket number in which this notice has been posted, as well as recommendations and comments specific to the circumstances of individual potential NIETCs in the relevant dockets: DOE-HQ-2024-0088-Potential Designation of the Tribal Energy Access National Interest Electric Transmission Corridor; DOE-HQ-2024-0089—Potential Designation of the Southwestern Grid Connector National Interest Electric Transmission Corridor; DOE-HQ-2024-0090-Potential Designation of the Lake Erie-Canada National Interest Electric Transmission Corridor.

Docket: The dockets for this activity are available for review at www.regulations.gov. All documents in the dockets are listed in the www.regulations.gov index. However, not all documents listed in the index may be publicly available, such as information that is exempt from public disclosure. The docket web pages can be found at www.regulations.gov. The docket web pages contain instructions on how to access all documents, including public comments, in the dockets.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Christina Gomer, Senior Technical Advisor, by email at *NIETC@hq.doe.gov* or by telephone at (202) 586–2006.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On December 14, 2024, DOE published the notice in the Federal Register inviting input and comment from Federal and State agencies, regional entities, Tribal and local governments, the public, and other interested parties on DOE's consideration of three potential NIETCs (89 FR 101597). In that notice, DOE identified certain programmatic and engagement topics on which it seeks input. The notice set a comment period deadline of February 14, 2025.

In response to feedback received and requests to provide additional time to comment, DOE is reopening the public comment period until April 15, 2025. DOE anticipates that reopening the public comment period will enable additional stakeholders to submit valuable feedback in response to the notice.

#### **Signing Authority**

This document of the Department of Energy was signed on March 27, 2025, by Nick Elliot, Director, Grid Deployment Office, pursuant to delegated authority from the Secretary of Energy. That document with the original signature and date is maintained by DOE. For administrative purposes only, and in compliance with requirements of the Office of the Federal Register, the undersigned DOE Federal Register Liaison Officer has been authorized to sign and submit the document in electronic format for publication, as an official document of the Department of Energy. This administrative process in no way alters the legal effect of this document upon publication in the Federal Register.

Signed in Washington, DC, on March 28, 2025.

#### Treena V. Garrett,

Federal Register Liaison Officer, U.S. Department of Energy.

[FR Doc. 2025-05698 Filed 4-2-25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

#### **DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 7189-015]

Green Lake Water Power Company; Notice of Revised Procedural Schedule for Environmental Assessment for the Proposed Project Relicense

On March 31, 2022, Green Lake Water Power Company (Green Lake Power) filed an application for a subsequent license to continue to operate and maintain the 425-kilowatt Green Lake Hydroelectric Project No. 7189 (Green Lake Project). On May 31, 2023, Commission staff issued a notice of intent to prepare an environmental assessment (EA) to evaluate the effects of relicensing the Green Lake Project. The notice included an anticipated schedule for issuing the EA. By notices issued April 11, 2024, June 4, 2024, September 30, 2024, and January 30, 2025, staff revised the procedural schedule for completing the EA.

Staff is still evaluating the effects of relicensing the Green Lake Project. In order for staff to fully consider all the information filed by Green Lake Power, the procedural schedule for completing the EA is being revised as follows. Further revisions to the schedule may be made as appropriate.

| Milestone | Target Date |
|-----------|-------------|
| Issue EA  | April 2025. |

Any questions regarding this notice may be directed to Amanda Gill at (202) 502–6773, or by email at *amanda.gill@ferc.gov.* 

Dated: March 27, 2025.

#### Debbie-Anne A. Reese,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2025-05704 Filed 4-2-25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-P

#### **DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP25-156-000]

#### Southern Star Central Gas Pipeline, Inc.; Notice of Request Under Blanket Authorization and Establishing Intervention and Protest Deadline

Take notice that on March 20, 2025, Southern Star Central Gas Pipeline, Inc. (Southern Star), 4700 State Route 56 Owensboro, Kentucky 42301, filed in the above referenced docket, a prior notice request pursuant to sections 157.205 and 157.208 of the Commission's regulations under the Natural Gas Act (NGA), and Southern Star's blanket certificate issued in Docket No. CP82-479-000, for authorization to increase the maximum allowable operating pressure on Southern Star's Line DLA from 260 psig to 500 psig (MAOP Uprate Project or Project). All of Line DLA is located in Johnson County, Kansas. The project will allow Southern Star to provide adequate pressure for the running of inline inspection tools for safety, maintenance, and integrity purposes. Since no new facilities are required to accomplish the uprate 1, there will be no cost associated with the Project, all as more fully set forth in the request which is on file with the Commission and open to public inspection.

In addition to publishing the full text of this document in the **Federal Register**, the Commission provides all interested persons an opportunity to view and/or print the contents of this document via the internet through the Commission's Home Page (http://

www.ferc.gov). From the Commission's Home Page on the internet, this information is available on eLibrary. The full text of this document is available on eLibrary in PDF and Microsoft Word format for viewing, printing, and/or downloading. To access this document in eLibrary, type the docket number excluding the last three digits of this document in the docket number field.

User assistance is available for eLibrary and the Commission's website during normal business hours from FERC Online Support at (202) 502–6652 (toll free at 1–866–208–3676) or email at ferconlinesupport@ferc.gov, or the Public Reference Room at (202) 502–8371, TTY (202) 502–8659. Email the Public Reference Room at public.referenceroom@ferc.gov.

Any questions concerning this request should be directed to Jennifer Matthews Manager, Regulatory, Southern Star Central Gas Pipeline, Inc., 4700 State Route 56 Owensboro, Kentucky 42301, by telephone at (270) 316–2972, or by email at *jennifer.matthews@southernstar.com*.

#### **Public Participation**

There are three ways to become involved in the Commission's review of this project: you can file a protest to the project, you can file a motion to intervene in the proceeding, and you can file comments on the project. There is no fee or cost for filing protests, motions to intervene, or comments. The deadline for filing protests, motions to intervene, and comments is 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on May 27, 2025. How to file protests, motions to intervene, and comments is explained below.

The Commission's Office of Public Participation (OPP) supports meaningful public engagement and participation in Commission proceedings. OPP can help members of the public, including landowners, community organizations, Tribal members and others, access publicly available information and navigate Commission processes. For public inquiries and assistance with making filings such as interventions, comments, or requests for rehearing, the public is encouraged to contact OPP at (202) 502–6595 or OPP@ferc.gov.

#### Protests

Pursuant to section 157.205 of the Commission's regulations under the NGA, $^2$  any person  $^3$  or the Commission's staff may file a protest to the request. If

no protest is filed within the time allowed or if a protest is filed and then withdrawn within 30 days after the allowed time for filing a protest, the proposed activity shall be deemed to be authorized effective the day after the time allowed for protest. If a protest is filed and not withdrawn within 30 days after the time allowed for filing a protest, the instant request for authorization will be considered by the Commission.

Protests must comply with the requirements specified in section 157.205(e) of the Commission's regulations,<sup>4</sup> and must be submitted by the protest deadline, which is May 27, 2025. A protest may also serve as a motion to intervene so long as the protestor states it also seeks to be an intervenor.

#### Interventions

Any person has the option to file a motion to intervene in this proceeding. Only intervenors have the right to request rehearing of Commission orders issued in this proceeding and to subsequently challenge the Commission's orders in the U.S. Circuit Courts of Appeal.

To intervene, you must submit a motion to intervene to the Commission in accordance with Rule 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure 5 and the regulations under the NGA <sup>6</sup> by the intervention deadline for the project, which is May 27, 2025. As described further in Rule 214, your motion to intervene must state, to the extent known, your position regarding the proceeding, as well as your interest in the proceeding. For an individual, this could include your status as a landowner, ratepayer, resident of an impacted community, or recreationist. You do not need to have property directly impacted by the project in order to intervene. For more information about motions to intervene, refer to the FERC website at https://www.ferc.gov/ resources/guides/how-to/intervene.asp.

All timely, unopposed motions to intervene are automatically granted by operation of Rule 214(c)(1). Motions to intervene that are filed after the intervention deadline are untimely and may be denied. Any late-filed motion to intervene must show good cause for being late and must explain why the time limitation should be waived and provide justification by reference to factors set forth in Rule 214(d) of the Commission's Rules and Regulations. A person obtaining party status will be

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Related to the MAOP Uprate Project, Southern Star will upgrade Line DLA to accommodate the use of inline inspection tools by installing a pig launcher/receiver, replacing approximately 4,500 feet of 16-inch-diameter pipeline with 12-inch-diameter pipeline, and abandoning various related facilities under the automatic authorization authority of its blanket certificate issued in Docket No. CP82–479–000.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> 18 CFR 157.205.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Persons include individuals, organizations, businesses, municipalities, and other entities. 18 CFR 385.102(d).

<sup>4 18</sup> CFR 157.205(e).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> 18 CFR 385.214.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> 18 CFR 157.10.

placed on the service list maintained by the Secretary of the Commission and will receive copies (paper or electronic) of all documents filed by the applicant and by all other parties.

#### Comments

Any person wishing to comment on the project may do so. The Commission considers all comments received about the project in determining the appropriate action to be taken. To ensure that your comments are timely and properly recorded, please submit your comments on or before May 27, 2025. The filing of a comment alone will not serve to make the filer a party to the proceeding. To become a party, you must intervene in the proceeding.

How To File Protests, Interventions, and Comments

There are two ways to submit protests, motions to intervene, and comments. In both instances, please reference the Project docket number CP25–156–000 in your submission.

- (1) You may file your protest, motion to intervene, and comments by using the Commission's eFiling feature, which is located on the Commission's website (www.ferc.gov) under the link to Documents and Filings. New eFiling users must first create an account by clicking on "eRegister." You will be asked to select the type of filing you are making; first select "General" and then select "Protest", "Intervention", or "Comment on a Filing"; or 7
- (2) You can file a paper copy of your submission by mailing it to the address below. Your submission must reference the Project docket number CP25–156–000.

To file via USPS: Debbie-Anne A. Reese, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE, Washington, DC 20426.

To file via any other method: Debbie-Anne A. Reese, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 12225 Wilkins Avenue, Rockville, Maryland 20852.

The Commission encourages electronic filing of submissions (option 1 above) and has eFiling staff available to assist you at (202) 502–8258 or FercOnlineSupport@ferc.gov.

Protests and motions to intervene must be served on the applicant either by mail at: Jennifer Matthews, Manager, Regulatory, Southern Star Central Gas Pipeline, Inc., 4700 State Route 56, Owensboro, Kentucky, or by email (with a link to the document) at *jennifer.matthews@southernstar.com*. Any subsequent submissions by an intervenor must be served on the applicant and all other parties to the proceeding. Contact information for parties can be downloaded from the service list at the eService link on FERC Online.

#### Tracking the Proceeding

Throughout the proceeding, additional information about the project will be available from the Commission's Office of External Affairs, at (866) 208–FERC, or on the FERC website at www.ferc.gov using the "eLibrary" link as described above. The eLibrary link also provides access to the texts of all formal documents issued by the Commission, such as orders, notices, and rulemakings.

In addition, the Commission offers a free service called eSubscription which allows you to keep track of all formal issuances and submittals in specific dockets. This can reduce the amount of time you spend researching proceedings by automatically providing you with notification of these filings, document summaries, and direct links to the documents. For more information and to register, go to www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/esubscription.asp.

Dated: March 27, 2025.

#### Debbie-Anne A. Reese,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2025–05701 Filed 4–2–25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-P

#### **DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**

#### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 15094-002]

### Ohio Power and Light, LLC; Notice of Revised Procedural Schedule

Take notice that the schedule for processing the proposed Robert C. Byrd Locks and Dam Hydroelectric Project No. 15094 final license application has been updated. Subsequent revisions to the schedule may be made as appropriate.

| Milestone                                      | Target date                     |
|--|---------------------------------|
| Issue Deficiency Letter (if necessary).        | April 2025.                     |
| Request Additional Information.                | April 2025.                     |
| Issue Acceptance Letter Issue Scoping Document | August 2025.<br>September 2025. |
| 1 for comments.                                | Coptombol 2020.                 |

| Milestone   | Target date    |
|---|----------------|
| Issue Scoping Document 2 (if necessary).          | November 2025. |
| Issue Notice of Ready for Environmental Analysis. | November 2025. |

Dated: March 27, 2025.

#### Debbie-Anne A. Reese,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2025-05705 Filed 4-2-25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-P

#### **DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 2310-263]

#### Pacific Gas & Electric Company; Notice of Availability of Final Environmental Assessment

The final EA contains Commission staff's analysis of the potential environmental effects of the proposed temporary flow variance, alternatives to the proposed action, and concludes that the proposed variance, would not constitute a major federal action that would significantly affect the quality of the human environment.

The final EA may be viewed on the Commission's website at http://www.ferc.gov using the "elibrary" link. Enter the docket number (P–2310–263) in the docket number field to access the document. For assistance, contact FERC Online Support at FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov or toll-free at 1–866–208–3676, or for TTY, (202) 502–8659.

You may also register online at http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/esubscription.asp to be notified via email of new filings and issuances related to this or other pending projects. For assistance, contact FERC Online Support.

The Commission's Office of Public Participation (OPP) supports meaningful public engagement and participation in Commission proceedings. OPP can help members of the public, including landowners, Tribal members and others, access publicly available information and navigate Commission processes. For public inquiries and assistance with making filings such as interventions, comments, or requests for rehearing, the public is encouraged to contact OPP at (202) 502–6595 or *OPP@ferc.gov*.

For further information, contact Katie Schmidt at (415) 369–3348 or katherine.schmidt@ferc.gov.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Additionally, you may file your comments electronically by using the eComment feature, which is located on the Commission's website at www.ferc.gov under the link to Documents and Filings. Using eComment is an easy method for interested persons to submit brief, text-only comments on a project.

Dated: March 27, 2025. **Debbie-Anne A. Reese**,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2025-05702 Filed 4-2-25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-P

#### **DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. RM01-5-000]

#### Electronic Tariff Filings; Notice of Changes to eTariff Validation Error Codes

(March 27, 2025)

Take notice that effective April 28, 2025, the following changes will be made to the eTariff Validation Error Codes. The change to validation error code 170 regarding OLE objects was previewed in the March 7, 2025 Notice. Validation Error Code 190 is being added to detect and reject tariff records that contain track change markings.

| Error Description |   |
|-------------------|---|
| 170               | If a record binary data is provided then the file should not have any embedded OLE objects. |

| Error | Description                                      |  |
|-------|--|--|
| 190   | Tariff record file cannot contain track changes. |  |

For more information, contact Michael.Goldenberg@ferc.gov, James.Sarikas@ferc.gov, or the eTariff Advisory Staff at 202–502–6501 or at etariffresponse@ferc.gov.

Dated: March 27, 2025. **Debbie-Anne A. Reese**,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2025-05706 Filed 4-2-25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-P

#### **DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**

#### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 6878-014]

#### ECOsponsible, LLC, LSA Power LLC; Notice of Transfer of Exemption

(Issued March 27, 2025)

1. By letter filed January 17, 2025, LSA Power LLC, and ECOsponsible, LLC, informed the Commission that the exemption from licensing for the Adams Power Project No. 6878, originally issued July 12, 1983,¹ has been transferred to LSA Power LLC. The project is located on the Sandy Creek in Jefferson County, New York. The transfer of an exemption does not require Commission approval.

2. LSA Power LLC, located at 193 Getzville Road, Buffalo, New York 14226, is now the exemptee of the Adams Power Project No. 6878.

Dated: March 27, 2025.

#### Debbie-Anne A. Reese,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2025-05703 Filed 4-2-25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-P

### FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

[FR ID 287845]

#### Deletion of Item From March 27, 2025 Open Meeting

March 25, 2025.

The following item has been adopted by the Commission and deleted from the list of items scheduled for consideration at the Thursday, March 27, 2025, Open Meeting. The item was previously listed in the Commission's Sunshine Notice on Thursday, March 20, 2025.

| Item No. | Bureau       | Subject   |
|----------|--------------|---|
| 4        | Media Bureau | TITLE: Restricted adjudicatory matter.  Summary: The Commission will consider a restricted adjudicatory matter from the Media Bureau. |

Authority: This meeting is held, in accordance with the Government in the Sunshine Act (Sunshine Act), Public Law 94–409, as amended (5 U.S.C. 552b).

Federal Communications Commission.

Marlene Dortch,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2025-05695 Filed 4-2-25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6712-01-P

#### Health Resources and Services Administration

#### National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program List of Petitions Received

**AGENCY:** Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

**ACTION:** Notice.

**HUMAN SERVICES** 

SUMMARY: HRSA is publishing this notice of petitions received under the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program (the Program), as required by the Public Health Service (PHS) Act, as amended. While the Secretary of HHS is named as the respondent in all proceedings brought by the filing of petitions for compensation under the Program, the United States Court of

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For information about requirements for filing petitions, and the Program in general, contact Lisa L. Reyes, Clerk of Court, United States Court of Federal Claims, 717 Madison Place NW, Washington, DC 20005, (202) 357–6400. For information on HRSA's role in the Program, contact the Director, National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program, 5600 Fishers Lane, Room 8W–25A, Rockville, Maryland 20857; (301) 443–6593, or visit our website at: https://www.hrsa.gov/vaccinecompensation/index.html.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Program provides a system of no-fault compensation for certain individuals who have been injured by specified

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND

Federal Claims is charged by statute with responsibility for considering and acting upon the petitions.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Notice Regarding Inclusion of OLE Objects in Tariff Records and use of ALJ Settlement Codes, Docket No. RM01–5–000 (Mar. 7, 2025), 90 FR 11964 (Mar. 13, 2025).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Taft Hydro Power Co, Inc., and Power Resources Development Corp., 24 FERC ¶62,036 (1983). (Order Granting Exemption from Licensing for a Small Hydroelectric Project of 5 Megawatts or Less).

childhood vaccines. Subtitle 2 of title XXI of the PHS Act, 42 U.S.C. 300aa-10 et seq., provides that those seeking compensation are to file a petition with the United States Court of Federal Claims and to serve a copy of the petition to the Secretary of HHS, who is named as the respondent in each proceeding. The Secretary has delegated this responsibility under the Program to HRSA. The Court is directed by statute to appoint special masters who take evidence, conduct hearings as appropriate, and make initial decisions as to eligibility for, and amount of, compensation.

A petition may be filed with respect to injuries, disabilities, illnesses, conditions, and deaths resulting from vaccines described in the Vaccine Injury Table (the Table) set forth at 42 CFR 100.3. This Table lists for each covered childhood vaccine the conditions that may lead to compensation and, for each condition, the time period for occurrence of the first symptom or manifestation of onset or of significant aggravation after vaccine administration. Compensation may also be awarded for conditions not listed in the Table and for conditions that are manifested outside the time periods specified in the Table, but only if the petitioner shows that the condition was caused by one of the listed vaccines.

Section 2112(b)(2) of the PHS Act, 42 U.S.C. 300aa-12(b)(2), requires that "[w]ithin 30 days after the Secretary receives service of any petition filed under section 2111 the Secretary shall publish notice of such petition in the Federal Register." Set forth below is a list of petitions received by HRSA on February 1, 2025, through February 28, 2025. This list provides the name of the petitioner, city, and state of vaccination (if unknown then the city and state of the person or attorney filing the claim), and case number. In cases where the Court has redacted the name of a petitioner and/or the case number, the list reflects such redaction.

Section 2112(b)(2) also provides that the special master "shall afford all interested persons an opportunity to submit relevant, written information" relating to the following:

1. The existence of evidence "that there is not a preponderance of the evidence that the illness, disability, injury, condition, or death described in the petition is due to factors unrelated to the administration of the vaccine described in the petition," and

2. Any allegation in a petition that the petitioner either:

a. "[S]ustained, or had significantly aggravated, any illness, disability, injury, or condition not set forth in the

Vaccine Injury Table but which was caused by" one of the vaccines referred to in the Table, or

b. "[S]ustained, or had significantly aggravated, any illness, disability, injury, or condition set forth in the Vaccine Injury Table the first symptom or manifestation of the onset or significant aggravation of which did not occur within the time period set forth in the Table but which was caused by a vaccine" referred to in the Table.

In accordance with section 2112(b)(2), all interested persons may submit written information relevant to the issues described above in the case of the petitions listed below. Any person choosing to do so should file an original and three (3) copies of the information with the Clerk of the United States Court of Federal Claims at the address listed above (under the heading **FOR**) FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT), with a copy to HRSA addressed to Director, **Division of Injury Compensation** Programs, Health Systems Bureau, 5600 Fishers Lane, 8W-25A, Rockville, Maryland 20857. The Court's caption (Petitioner's Name v. Secretary of HHS) and the docket number assigned to the petition should be used as the caption for the written submission. Chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code, related to paperwork reduction, does not apply to information required for purposes of carrying out the Program.

#### Thomas J. Engels,

Administrator.

#### List of Petitions Filed

- 1. Leann Diercks, Grafton, Wisconsin, Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0192V
- 2. Da Vang, Black River Falls, Wisconsin, Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0194V
- 3. Brenda Fernandez, Scottsdale, Arizona, Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0197V
- 4. Kathryn Christin Uberti, Everett, Washington, Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0198V
- 5. Rick Gardner, Grand Rapids, Michigan, Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0199V
- 6. Kennedy Wall, Cincinnati, Ohio, Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0200V
- 7. Elizabeth Morales, Burbank, California, Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0205V
- 8. Terrelle Oliver, Oshkosh, Wisconsin, Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0206V
- 9. Dawn Clayton, Sidney, Ohio, Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0207V
- 10. Sandra DeMetz, Elkhart, Indiana, Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0209V
- 11. Cecilia Beltran, Tampa, Florida, Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0210V
- 12. DeAnne Carr, Louisville, Kentucky, Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0214V
- Maria del Rosario Mansilla Rojas, Stockton, California, Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0215V
- 14. Patricia Dean, Olympia Fields, Illinois, Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0217V
- 15. Barbara Silverman, La Plata, Maryland,

- Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0223V 16. Jenifer Taylor, Sylvester, Georgia, Court
- of Federal Claims No: 25–0224V 17. Barry Ketter, Chicago, Illinois, Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0227V
- Dianne Campo, Boston, Massachusetts, Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0228V
- 19. Robert Meyer, Boston, Massachusetts, Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0229V
- 20. Delmont Likins, Portland, Oregon, Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0231V
- 21. Katie Dienberg on behalf of L.D., Oak Creek, Wisconsin, Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0233V
- 22. Robin L. Fletcher, Chesapeake, Ohio, Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0235V
- 23. Riley Corbitt, New York, New York, Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0237V
- 24. Nakia Payton, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0239V
- 25. Steven Gendron, Hudson, New Hampshire, Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0241V
- 26. Meghan Thibodeau, Round Rock, Texas, Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0245V
- 27. Chadwick Wilson, Long Beach, California, Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0249V
- Colin Watters and Kelly Ryan Watters on behalf of Estate of F.R.W., Deceased, Closter, New Jersey, Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0251V
- 29. Diana Smith, Boston, Massachusetts, Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0252V
- 30. Constantia Kyrou, Beavercreek, Ohio, Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0253V
- 31. Olivia Gunter, Oak Park, Illinois, Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0255V
- 32. Kenneth Burnham, Spring Grove, Pennsylvania, Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0256V
- 33. Retha Haze, Dublin, Georgia, Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0257V
- 34. George Cuccia, Delray Beach, Florida, Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0258V
- Joleen Holmstrom, Boston, Massachusetts, Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0259V
- 36. Angela Thacker, Boston, Massachusetts, Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0260V
- 37. Josh Cook, Highlands Ranch, Colorado, Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0261V
- 38. Karen Cuffie, Fort Washington, Maryland, Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0262V
- 39. Elizabeth Tzotchev, San Diego, California, Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0263V
- 40. Gloria J. Condon, Rochester, New York, Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0264V
- 41. Rodney Boone, Burlington, New Jersey, Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0265V
- 42. Bailey Nicholson, Elkhart, Kansas, Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0267V
- 43. Hannah Navarre, Woodbridge, Virginia, Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0268V
- 44. Thomas Stokes, Cornwell Heights, Pennsylvania, Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0269V
- 45. Chantel Maahs, Lee, New Hampshire, Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0270V
- 46. Dayna Comins, Sunnyside, New York, Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0276V
- 47. Dallece Curley, Cambridge, Massachusetts, Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0277V
- 48. Theodore McKinney, Cherry Hill

- Township, New Jersey, Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0281V
- 49. Shilah Cash, Norwalk, Iowa, Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0285V
- Heather Camacho, Litchfield Park, Arizona, Court of Federal Claims No: 25– 0287V
- Madison Quinn Gaskin, White Marsh, Maryland, Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0289V
- 52. Heather MacDougall, Seattle, Washington, Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0293V
- 53. Forrest Christo, Bend, Oregon, Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0294V
- 54. Irene Gonzalez Martinez, Santa Rosa, California, Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0296V
- 55. Sarah Voelcker, Pate, Texas, Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0297V
- 56. Asia Kane, Portland, Oregon, Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0298V
- Michael Martinez, Boston, Massachusetts, Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0304V
- Nancy Kay, Oakland, California, Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0308V
- 59. Kadijah Chesson, Knightdale, North Carolina, Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0309V60. Kelley Cundiff, Bermuda Run, North
- Carolina, Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0311V 61. Jaime Johnson, Rhinelander, Wisconsin,
- Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0313V
- 62. Eleanor Brown, Los Angeles, California, Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0317V
- 63. Kate Peabody, Los Angeles, California, Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0320V
- Jessica Damiani, Dresher, Pennsylvania, Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0322V
- 65. Stephanie Latimer, Mesa, Arizona, Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0323V
- 66. Jerome Nash, Franklinville, North Carolina, Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0324V
- 67. Aaron Carico, Brooklyn, New York, Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0331V
- 68. Jennifer McGarvin, Lyndonville, Vermont, Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0335V
- 69. Rosauara Vasquez, Bronx, New York, Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0336V
- Lonell Echols, Waupun, Wisconsin, Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0337V
- 71. Patricia Dewitt, Boston, Massachusetts, Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0339V
- 72. Mary Byrd, New York, New York, Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0340V
- 73. Frances Collier, Gainesville, Georgia, Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0342V
- 74. Kimberly Norris, Mobile, Alabama, Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0343V
- 75. Gina Thomason, Eagle Grove, Iowa, Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0344V
- 76. Phillip Lee, Marietta, Georgia, Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0345V
- Shatrece Minett, Racine, Wisconsin, Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0347V
- 78. Philip Groves, New York, New York, Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0348V
- Debbie Simeon, Dresher, Pennsylvania, Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0349V
- 80. Rhonda Uselman, Sauk City, Wisconsin, Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0353V
- 81. Heidi Brown, New Orleans, Louisiana, Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0354V

- 82. Stephanie M. Grzegorski, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0357V
- 83. David M. Wilson, Black River Falls, Wisconsin, Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0358V
- 84. Marina Goncharova, Las Vegas, Nevada, Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0360V
- 85. James Hart, Franklin, Ohio, Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0362V
- David M. Wilson, Black River Falls, Wisconsin, Court of Federal Claims No: 25–0363V

[FR Doc. 2025–05716 Filed 4–2–25; 8:45 am] BILLING CODE 4165–15–P

### DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

#### **National Institutes of Health**

### Center for Scientific Review; Amended Notice of Meeting

Notice is hereby given of a change in the meeting of the Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel Fellowships: Learning, Memory, Language, Communication and Related Neuroscience. April 30, 2025, 9 a.m. to May 1, 2025, 8 p.m., National Institutes of Health, Rockledge II, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892 which was published in the **Federal Register** on March 26, 2025, 90 FR 13761, Doc. No. 2025–05072.

This meeting is being amended to change the meeting from a 2-day to a 1-day meeting on April 30, 2025. The meeting is closed to the public.

Dated: March 31, 2025.

#### Melanie J. Pantoja,

Program Analyst, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.

[FR Doc. 2025–05724 Filed 4–2–25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140-01-P

### DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

#### **National Institutes of Health**

# National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases; Notice of Closed Meeting

Pursuant to section 1009 of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended, notice is hereby given of the following meeting. The meeting will be closed to the

The meeting will be closed to the public in accordance with the provisions set forth in sections 552b(c)(4) and 552b(c)(6), Title 5 U.S.C., as amended. The grant applications and the discussions could disclose confidential trade secrets or commercial property such as patentable material, and personal information concerning

individuals associated with the grant applications, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

Name of Committee: National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases Special Emphasis Panel; NIAID Clinical Trial Implementation Cooperative Agreement (U01 Clinical Trial Required).

Date: May 1, 2025.

Time: 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Address: National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, National Institutes of Health, 5601 Fishers Lane, Room 3G47, Rockville, MD 20892.

Meeting Format: Video Assisted Meeting. Contact Person: Vanitha Sundaresa Raman, Scientific Review Officer, Scientific Review Program, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, National Institutes of Health, 5601 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20892, 301–761–7949, vanitha.raman@nih.gov.

(Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.855, Allergy, Immunology, and Transplantation Research; 93.856, Microbiology and Infectious Diseases Research, National Institutes of Health, HHS)

Dated: March 31, 2025.

#### Melanie J. Pantoja,

Program Analyst, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.

[FR Doc. 2025–05727 Filed 4–2–25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140-01-P

### DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

#### **National Institutes of Health**

# National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases; Notice of Closed Meeting

Pursuant to section 1009 of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended, notice is hereby given of the following meeting.

The meeting will be closed to the public in accordance with the provisions set forth in sections 552b(c)(4) and 552b(c)(6), title 5 U.S.C., as amended. The grant applications and the discussions could disclose confidential trade secrets or commercial property such as patentable material, and personal information concerning individuals associated with the grant applications, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

Name of Committee: National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases Special Emphasis Panel; Notice of Special Interest (NOSI): Resource-Related Research Project (R24) Applications to Support Collaborative Implementation Science to End the HIV Epidemic and NIAID Resource Related Research Projects (R24 Clinical Trial Not Allowed).

Date: May 2, 2025.

Time: 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, National Institutes of Health, 5601 Fishers Lane, Room 3G33B, Rockville, MD 20892.

Meeting Format: Video Assisted Meeting. Contact Person: Poonam Pegu, Ph.D., Scientific Review Officer, Scientific Review Program, Division of Extramural Activities, National Institutes of Health/NIAID, 5601 Fishers Lane, Room 3G33B, Rockville, MD 20892, 240–292–0719, Poonam.pegu@nih.gov.

(Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.855, Allergy, Immunology, and Transplantation Research; 93.856, Microbiology and Infectious Diseases Research, National Institutes of Health, HHS)

Dated: March 31, 2025.

#### Melanie J. Pantoja,

Program Analyst, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.

[FR Doc. 2025-05725 Filed 4-2-25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140-01-P

### DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

#### **National Institutes of Health**

# National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases; Notice of Closed Meeting

Pursuant to section 1009 of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended, notice is hereby given of the following meeting.

The meeting will be closed to the public in accordance with the provisions set forth in sections 552b(c)(4) and 552b(c)(6), Title 5 U.S.C., as amended. The grant applications and the discussions could disclose confidential trade secrets or commercial property such as patentable material, and personal information concerning individuals associated with the grant applications, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

Name of Committee: National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases Special Emphasis Panel; Notice of Special Interest (NOSI): Competitive Revision Supplements to Existing T32 Programs to Include Institutional Research Training in Data Science for Infectious and Immune Mediated Diseases.

Date: April 28, 2025.

Time: 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Address: National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, National Institutes of Health, 5601 Fishers Lane, Room 3G47, Rockville, MD 20892. Meeting Format: Video Assisted Meeting. Contact Person: Vanitha S. Raman, Ph.D., Scientific Review Officer, Scientific Review Program, National Institute of Allergy and Institutes of Beath, 5601 Fishers Lane, Room 3G47, Rockville, MD 20892, 301–761–7949, vanitha.raman@nih.gov.

(Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.855, Allergy, Immunology, and Transplantation Research; 93.856, Microbiology and Infectious Diseases Research, National Institutes of Health, HHS)

Dated: March 31, 2025.

#### Melanie J. Pantoja,

Program Analyst, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.

[FR Doc. 2025-05728 Filed 4-2-25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140-01-P

### DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

#### **National Institutes of Health**

### National Institute of General Medical Sciences; Notice of Closed Meetings

Pursuant to section 1009 of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended, notice is hereby given of the following meetings.

The meetings will be closed to the public in accordance with the provisions set forth in sections 552b(c)(4) and 552b(c)(6), title 5 U.S.C., as amended. The grant applications and the discussions could disclose confidential trade secrets or commercial property such as patentable material, and personal information concerning individuals associated with the grant applications, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

Name of Committee: National Institute of General Medical Sciences Special Emphasis Panel; Review of the Centers of Biomedical Research Excellence (COBRE) Phase 1.

Date: July 15–16, 2025.

Time: 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Address: National Institutes of Health, National Institute of General Medical Sciences, Natcher Building, 45 Center Drive, Bethesda, Maryland 20892.

Meeting Format: Virtual Meeting. Contact Person: John J. Laffan, Ph.D., Scientific Review Officer, Office of Scientific Review, National Institute of General Medical Sciences, National Institutes of Health, Natcher Building, 45 Center Drive, Room 3AN18J, Bethesda, Maryland 20892, 301– 594–2773, laffanjo@mail.nih.gov.

Name of Committee: National Institute of General Medical Sciences Special Emphasis Panel; Review of the Centers of Biomedical Research Excellence (COBRE) Phase 1.

Date: July 17–18, 2025.

Time: 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

*Agenda:* To review and evaluate grant applications.

Address: National Institutes of Health, National Institute of General Medical Sciences, Natcher Building, 45 Center Drive, Bethesda, Maryland 20892.

Meeting Format: Virtual Meeting. Contact Person: Manas Chattopadhyay, Ph.D., Scientific Review Officer, Office of Scientific Review, National Institute of General Medical Sciences, National Institutes of Health, 45 Center Drive, Room 3AN12N, Bethesda, Maryland 20892, 301–827–5320, manasc@mail.nih.gov.

Name of Committee: National Institute of General Medical Sciences Special Emphasis Panel; Review of Centers of Biomedical Research Excellence (COBRE) Phase 1.

Date: July 24–25, 2025.

Time: 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

*Agenda:* To review and evaluate grant applications.

Address: National Institutes of Health, National Institute of General Medical Sciences, Natcher Building, 45 Center Drive, Bethesda, Maryland 20892.

Meeting Format: Virtual Meeting.
Contact Person: Jason M. Chan, Ph.D.,
Scientific Review Officer, Scientific Review
Branch, National Institute of General Medical
Sciences, National Institutes of Health, 45
Center Drive, MSC 6200, Bethesda, Maryland
20892, 301–594–3663, jason.chan2@nih.gov.

(Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program No. 93.859, Biomedical Research and Research Training, National Institutes of Health, HHS)

Dated: March 31, 2025.

#### Melanie J. Pantoja,

Program Analyst, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.

[FR Doc. 2025-05723 Filed 4-2-25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140-01-P

### DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

#### **U.S. Customs and Border Protection**

[OMB Control Number 1651-0051]

#### Agency Information Collection Activities; Extension; Foreign Trade Zones Annual Reconciliation and Recordkeeping Requirement

**AGENCY:** U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), Department of Homeland Security.

**ACTION:** 30-Day notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) will be submitting the following information collection request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA). The information collection is published in

the **Federal Register** to obtain comments from the public and affected agencies. **DATES:** Comments are encouraged and must be submitted (no later than May 5, 2025) to be assured of consideration.

2025) to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and/or suggestions regarding the item(s) contained in this notice should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain. Please submit written comments and/or suggestions in English. Find this particular information collection by selecting "Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments" or by using the search function.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Requests for additional PRA information should be directed to Seth Renkema, Chief, Economic Impact Analysis Branch, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Office of Trade, Regulations and Rulings, 90 K Street NE, 10th Floor, Washington, DC 20229-1177, telephone number 202–325–0056 or via email CBP PRA@cbp.dhs.gov. Please note that the contact information provided here is solely for questions regarding this notice. Individuals seeking information about other CBP programs should contact the CBP National Customer Service Center at 877–227–5511, (TTY) 1-800-877-8339, or CBP website at https://www.cbp.gov/.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: CBP invites the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on the proposed and/or continuing information collections pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.). This proposed information collection was previously published in the Federal Register (90 FR 3232) on January 14, 2025, allowing for a 60-day comment period. This notice allows for an additional 30 days for public comments. This process is conducted in accordance with 5 CFR 1320.8. Written comments and suggestions from the public and affected agencies should address one or more of the following four points: (1) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (3) suggestions to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) suggestions to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of

appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses. The comments that are submitted will be summarized and included in the request for approval. All comments will become a matter of public record.

# Overview of This Information Collection

*Title:* Foreign Trade Zones Annual Reconciliation and Recordkeeping Requirement.

*ÖMB Number:* 1651–0051.

Form Number: N/A.

Current Actions: CBP proposes to extend the expiration date of this information collection with no change to the burden hours, the information collection, or to the record keeping requirements.

*Type of Review:* Extension (without

change).

Affected Public: Businesses.

Abstract: In accordance with 19 CFR 146.4(a), the operator shall supervise all admissions, transfers, removals, recordkeeping, manipulations, manufacturing, destruction, exhibition, physical and procedural security, and conditions of storage in the zone as required by law and regulations.

Foreign Trade Zone (FTZ) operators must prepare a reconciliation report within 90 days after the end of the zone/ subzone year unless an extension is authorized and must retain the annual reconciliation report for a spot check or audit by CBP. In addition, within 10 working days after the annual reconciliation report, FTZ operators must submit to the CBP port director a letter signed by the operator certifying that the annual reconciliation has been prepared, is available for CBP review, and is accurate. See 19 CFR 146.25. The Foreign Trade Zones Act of 1934, as amended (19 U.S.C. 81a-81u), authorizes these requirements.

Type of Information Collection: Record Keeping Requirements (19 CFR 146.4(d)).

Estimated Number of Respondents: 276.

Estimated Number of Annual Responses per Respondent: 1. Estimated Number of Total Annual

Responses: 276.

*Estimated Time per Response:* 45 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 207.

Type of Information Collection: Certification Letter (19 CFR 146.25). Estimated Number of Respondents:

276.
Estimated Number of Annual Responses per Respondent: 1.

Estimated Number of Total Annual Responses: 276.

Estimated Time per Response: 20 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 92.

Dated: March 31, 2025.

### Robert F. Altneu,

Director, Regulations and Disclosure Law Division, U.S. Customs and Border Protection. [FR Doc. 2025–05735 Filed 4–2–25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 9111-14-P

# DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

U.S. Customs and Border Protection [OMB Control Number 1651–0011]

Agency Information Collection Activities; Extension; Declaration for Free Entry of Returned American Products (CBP Form 3311)

**AGENCY:** U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), Department of Homeland Security.

**ACTION:** 30-Day notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) will be submitting the following information collection request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA). The information collection is published in the Federal Register to obtain comments from the public and affected agencies. DATES: Comments are encouraged and must be submitted (no later than May 5, 2025) to be assured of consideration. ADDRESSES: Written comments and/or suggestions regarding the item(s)

suggestions regarding the item(s) contained in this notice should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain. Please submit written comments and/or suggestions in English. Find this particular information collection by selecting "Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments" or by using the search function.

# FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Requests for additional PRA information should be directed to Seth Renkema, Chief, Economic Impact Analysis Branch, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Office of Trade, Regulations and Rulings, 90 K Street NE, 10th Floor, Washington, DC 20229–1177, Telephone number 202–325–0056 or via email CBP\_PRA@cbp.dhs.gov. Please note that the contact information

provided here is solely for questions regarding this notice. Individuals seeking information about other CBP programs should contact the CBP National Customer Service Center at 877–227–5511, (TTY) 1–800–877–8339, or CBP website at https://www.cbp.gov/.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: CBP invites the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on the proposed and/or continuing information collections pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.). This proposed information collection was previously published in the Federal Register (89 FR 102154) December 17, 2024, allowing for a 60day comment period. This notice allows for an additional 30 days for public comments. This process is conducted in accordance with 5 CFR 1320.8. Written comments and suggestions from the public and affected agencies should address one or more of the following four points: (1) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (3) suggestions to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) suggestions to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses. The comments that are submitted will be summarized and included in the request for approval. All comments will become a matter of public record.

# Overview of This Information Collection

Title: Declaration for Free Entry of Returned American Products. OMB Number: 1651–0011. Form Number: 3311. Current Actions: Extension.

Type of Review: Extension (without

change).

Affected Public: Businesses.
Abstract: CBP Form 3311, Declaration for Free Entry of Returned American Products, which is authorized by, among others, 19 CFR 10.1, 10.66, 10.67, 12.41, 123.4, and 143.23, is used to collect information from the importer or authorized agent in order to claim duty-free treatment for articles entered under

certain provisions of Subchapter I of Chapter 98 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS, https://hts.usitc.gov/current). The form serves as a declaration that the articles are: (1) the growth, production, and manufacture of the United States; (2) are returned to the United States without having been advanced in value or improved in condition while abroad; (3) the goods were not previously entered under a temporary importation under bond provision; and (4) drawback was never claimed and/or paid.

This collection of information applies to members of the importing public and trade community who seek to claim duty-free treatment based on compliance with the aforementioned requirements. These members of the public and trade community are familiar with import procedures and with CBP regulations. Obligation to respond to this information collection is required to obtain benefits.

Type of Information Collection: Form 3311.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 12,000.

Estimated Number of Annual Responses per Respondent: 35.

Estimated Number of Total Annual Responses: 420,000.

Estimated Time per Response: 6 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 42,000.

Dated: March 31, 2025.

#### Robert F. Altneu,

Director, Regulations and Disclosure Law Division, U.S. Customs and Border Protection. [FR Doc. 2025–05732 Filed 4–2–25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 9111-14-P

# DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

# **U.S. Customs and Border Protection**

# Notice of Issuance of Final Determination Concerning Multifunction Digital Printers

**AGENCY:** U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security.

**ACTION:** Notice of final determination.

**SUMMARY:** This document provides notice that U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) has issued a final determination concerning the country of origin of multifunction digital printers. Based upon the facts presented, CBP has concluded in the final determination that the components of the subject multifunction digital printers undergo a substantial transformation in Mexico

when made into the final multifunction digital printer units.

**DATES:** The final determination was issued on January 17, 2025. A copy of the final determination is attached. Any party-at-interest, as defined in 19 CFR 177.22(d), may seek judicial review of this final determination within May 5, 2025.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Reema Bogin, Valuation and Special Programs Branch, Regulations and Rulings, Office of Trade, at reema.bogin@cbp.dhs.gov, or (202) 325– 7703.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Notice is hereby given that on January 17, 2025, CBP issued a final determination concerning the country of origin of multifunction digital printers for purposes of title III of the Trade Agreements Act of 1979. This final determination, HQ H332745, was issued at the request of Konica Minolta Business Solutions U.S.A., Inc. ("Konica Minolta"), under procedures set forth at 19 CFR part 177, subpart B, which implements Title III of the Trade Agreements Act of 1979, as amended (19 U.S.C. 2511-18). In the final determination, CBP has concluded that, based upon the facts presented, the components are substantially transformed in Mexico when made into the subject multifunction digital printers.

Section 177.29, CBP Regulations (19 CFR 177.29), provides that notice of final determinations shall be published in the **Federal Register** within 60 days of the date the final determination is issued. Section 177.30, CBP Regulations (19 CFR 177.30), provides that any party-at-interest, as defined in 19 CFR 177.22(d), may seek judicial review of a final determination within 30 days of publication of such determination in the **Federal Register**.

#### Alice A. Kipel,

Executive Director, Regulations and Rulings, Office of Trade.

#### HQ H332745

January 17, 2025

OT:RR:CTF:VS H332745 RRB

Category: Origin

Daniel E. Waltz, Squire Patton Boggs (US) LLP, 2550 M Street NW, Washington, DC 20037

Re: U.S. Government Procurement; Title III, Trade Agreements Act of 1979 (19 U.S.C. 2511); Subpart B, Part 177, CBP Regulations; Konica Minolta Business Solutions U.S.A., Inc.; Country of Origin of Multifunction Digital Printers; Substantial Transformation

Dear Mr. Waltz:

This is in response to your request, dated April 27, 2023, on behalf of your client, Konica Minolta Business Solutions U.S.A., Inc. ("Konica Minolta"), for a final determination concerning the country of origin of its Minerva SSBK series multifunction digital printers ("MFPs"), pursuant to Title III of the Trade Agreements Act of 1979 ("TAA"), as amended (19 U.S.C. 2511 et seq.), and subpart B of Part 177, U.S. Customs and Border Protection ("CBP") Regulations (19 CFR 177.21 et seq.). Konica Minolta is a party-at-interest within the meaning of 19 CFR 177.22(d)(1) and § 177.23(a) and is therefore entitled to request this final determination.

#### Facts

Konica Minolta plans to sell its Minerva SSBK MFPs to customers in the United States, including the U.S. Government. The Minerva SSBK MFPs are multifunction digital printers intended for use in mid-tolarge size offices and light Centralized Reprographic Departments ("CRDs") as highspeed printers, black-and-white copiers, scanners, and fax machines. According to counsel for Konica Minolta, most of the product design and development of the Minerva SSBK series MFPs is conducted in Japan, and several of its most important and complex components and subassemblies will be manufactured either in Mexico or China using a number of Japanese, Thai, or Vietnamese parts. The Minerva SSBK MFPs will initially be assembled in China. Counsel for Konica Minolta explains that several assemblies of the MFPs, including more complicated or advanced assemblies, will be removed before the resulting frame is shipped to Mexico for final assembly, as well as where other Mexican-made components and assemblies will be incorporated.

#### Assembly Process in China

In China, the following subassemblies will be assembled within the Minerva SSBK MFP's frame:

- 1. The Print Head will be produced in China from the following subcomponents:
  - a G1 lens manufactured in Japan;
  - a G2 lens manufactured in China;
- a polygonal motor manufactured in China; and
- a laser diode manufactured in Thailand. The print head operates by reflecting a laser beam off of the lenses and onto the polygonal mirrors to produce a copied image on the photoconductor ("OPC") drum. According to counsel for Konica Minolta, while the G1 lens is among the print head's most technically sophisticated parts, the cost per lens is low because they are produced in such large quantities. The print head will be assembled, and then installed into a frame in China to ensure proper alignment, but it will then be removed from the frame and shipped separately to Mexico for final installation.
- 2. The Drum Unit incorporates important Japanese components, including a Japanese OPC drum, which receives laser light that is reflected off the polygonal mirrors. Toner is deposited on the OPC drum and then transferred to the image transfer belt to create an image, which is then transferred from the belt onto paper.
- 3. The Developing Unit also incorporates important Japanese components. It holds the

- printer's developing material. The developing material consists of toner and carrier and is made in Japan. When mixed with the carrier, the toner becomes negatively charged and is attracted to the latent electrostatic image on the OPC drum, creating a visible developed image.
- 4. The 2nd Image Transfer Roller Unit will be manufactured in China. It supports the image transfer belt unit. Following testing for quality checks in China, the 2nd image transfer roller unit will be removed from the MFP frame and shipped to Mexico. A new version of the 2nd image transfer roller unit will be shipped from China to Mexico for final installation into the MFP frame.
- 5. Additional units that are assembled within the MFP frame in China include the toner cartridge, which is manufactured in Japan, and the sub hopper unit, waste toner box, and copyholder, which are manufactured in China. Each of these units will be removed from the frame in China after initial testing for quality checks is complete. Replacement units known as "jig units" will be attached to the frame before it is shipped to Mexico for final assembly of the MFPs. The jig units have the same shape as the original units but cannot be attached to the finished product. Instead, during production in Mexico, the jig unit is used as an exchange device to prevent the sub hopper unit, toner cartridge unit, waste toner box and copyholder inside the frame from getting dirty. Like the original units, the jig units will be manufactured in China. After final assembly in Mexico is complete, the jig units are replaced with the original units that will be part of the final MFP.1

### Assembly Process in Mexico

When shipped from China to Mexico after initial testing is complete in China, the printer's frame houses several subassemblies, but does not include the MFP board, print head, image transfer belt unit, fusing unit, and the 2nd image transfer roller unit, which have been removed, along with three jig units—the sub hopper unit and toner cartridge, the waste toner box, and the copyholder. It also does not include the 1500 paper feed unit. New versions of all of these subassemblies except for the image transfer belt unit, the fusing unit, and 1500 paper feed unit will be produced in China and shipped from China to Mexico for final installation. The image transfer belt unit, the fusing unit, and 1500 paper feed unit are not shipped to Mexico because new, Mexicanmade versions of these units are already in Mexico for final installation into the Minerva SSBK series MFPs.

6. The MFP Board will be manufactured in Mexico. Counsel for Konica Minolta states that the MFP board constitutes the "brain" of the digital printer, integrating its printer and copier functions. Konica Minolta's proprietary software was majority developed and coded in Japan. The software is loaded onto the MFP board, the solid state drive, and the mechanical controller board in Mexico. The MFP board converts an electrical signal

into a digital signal and sends the signal to the print head to create an image. It will be installed into the Minerva SSBK MFPs in Mexico. The MFP board consists of the following subcomponents:

- CPU Board from China;
- Base Board from China; and
- Solid State Drive from Taiwan.
- 7. The Image Transfer Belt Unit will be manufactured in Mexico, and includes the following subcomponents:
- an intermediate transfer belt manufactured in Japan, which accepts a single image created by the OPC drum to create the image that is then transferred onto paper;
  - a transfer frame manufactured in China;
- a transfer roller manufactured in China; and
  - · a brush manufactured in China.

The image transfer belt unit is installed into the Minerva SSBK MFP frame in China to perform initial quality checks, but it is removed before the frame is shipped to Mexico. Counsel for Konica Minolta states that the image transfer belt unit finally installed in Mexico has never left Mexico.

- 8. The Fusing Unit will be manufactured in Mexico, and includes the following subcomponents:
  - a fusing belt manufactured in China;
  - a pressure roller manufactured in China;
- a heating roller manufactured in China; and
- a heater lamp manufactured in China. The fusing unit will be installed into a Minerva SSBK MFP frame in China to perform initial quality checks, but it will be removed before the frame is shipped to Mexico. Counsel for Konica Minolta states that the fusing unit finally installed in Mexico has never left Mexico.
- 9. The 1500 Paper Feed Unit will be manufactured in Mexico. It will be installed into a Minerva SSBK MFP frame in China to perform initial quality checks, but it will be removed before the frame is shipped to Mexico. Counsel for Konica Minolta states that the 1500 paper feed unit finally installed in Mexico has never left Mexico.

After final installation of the subassemblies onto the final MFP, all software is loaded onto the MFP board and the solid state drive in Mexico. The finished printer is then tested, adjusted, and calibrated in Mexico before shipment to the United States. Counsel for Konica Minolta states that the tests and inspections performed in Mexico are more complex and precise than those conducted in China.

#### Issue

What is the country of origin of the Minerva SSBK MFPs for purposes of U.S. Government procurement?

### Law and Analysis

CBP issues country of origin advisory rulings and final determinations as to whether an article is or would be a product of a designated country or instrumentality for the purpose of granting waivers of certain "Buy American" restrictions in U.S. law or practice for products offered for sale to the U.S. Government, pursuant to subpart B of Part 177, 19 CFR 177.21 et seq., which

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> According to counsel for Konica Minolta, the toner cartridge and the copyholder are not part of the main body of the final MFP but are sold as an option.

implements Title III, Trade Agreements Act of 1979, as amended (19 U.S.C. 2511–2518).

CBP's authority to issue advisory rulings and final determinations stems from 19 U.S.C. 2515(b)(1), which states:

For the purposes of this subchapter, the Secretary of the Treasury shall provide for the prompt issuance of advisory rulings and final determinations on whether, under section 2518(4)(B) of this title, an article is or would be a product of a foreign country or instrumentality designated pursuant to section 2511(b) of this title.

Emphasis added.

The Secretary of the Treasury's authority mentioned above, along with other customs revenue functions, are delegated to the Secretary of Homeland Security via Treasury Department Order (TO) 100–20 "Delegation of Customs revenue functions to Homeland Security," dated October 30, 2024, and are subject to further delegations to CBP (see also 19 CFR part 177, subpart B).

The rule of origin set forth in 19 U.S.C. 2518(4)(B) states:

An article is a product of a country or instrumentality only if (i) it is wholly the growth, product, or manufacture of that country or instrumentality, or (ii) in the case of an article which consists in whole or in part of materials from another country or instrumentality, it has been substantially transformed into a new and different article of commerce with a name, character, or use distinct from that of the article or articles from which it was so transformed.

See also 19 CFR 177.22(a).

In rendering advisory rulings and final determinations for purposes of U.S. Government procurement, CBP applies the provisions of subpart B of Part 177 consistent with the Federal Acquisition Regulation ("FAR"). See 19 CFR 177.21. In this regard, CBP recognizes that the FAR restricts the U.S. Government's purchase of products to U.S.-made or designated country end products for acquisitions subject to the TAA. See 48 CFR 25.403(c)(1).

Section 25.003 defines "designated country end product" as:

a WTO GPA [World Trade Organization Government Procurement Agreement] country end product, an FTA [Free Trade Agreement] country end product, a least developed country end product, or a Caribbean Basin country end product.

Section 25.003 defines "Free Trade Agreement country end product" as an article that:

(1) Is wholly the growth, product, or manufacture of a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) country; or

(2) In the case of an article that consists in whole or in part of materials from another country, has been substantially transformed in an FTA country into a new and different article of commerce with a name, character, or use distinct from that of the article or articles from which it was transformed.

"Free Trade Agreement country" means Australia, Bahrain, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Korea (Republic of), Mexico, Morocco, Nicaragua, Oman, Panama, Peru, or Singapore. See 48 CFR 25.003. Thus, Mexico is an FTA country for purposes of the FAR.

To determine whether the combining of parts or materials constitutes a substantial transformation, the determinative issue is the extent of operations performed and whether the parts lose their identity and become an integral part of the new article. Belcrest Linens v. United States, 573 F. Supp. 1149 (Ct. Int'l Trade 1983), aff'd, 741 F.2d 1368 (Fed. Cir. 1984). Assembly operations that are minimal or simple, as opposed to complex or meaningful, will generally not result in a substantial transformation. See C.S.D. 80-111, C.S.D. 85-25, C.S.D. 89-110, C.S.D. 89-118, C.S.D. 90-51, and C.S.D. 90-97. CBP will make these decisions on a case-by-case basis, considering the totality of the circumstances. The country of origin of the article's components, the extent of the processing that occurs within a given country, and whether such processing renders a product with a new name. character, and use are primary considerations in such cases. Additionally, facts such as resources expended on product design and development, extent and nature of postassembly inspection procedures, and worker skill required during the actual manufacturing process will be considered when analyzing whether a substantial transformation has occurred; however, no one such factor is determinative.

In various rulings concerning similar merchandise, CBP has held that complex and meaningful assembly operations involving a large number of components will generally result in a substantial transformation. In Headquarters Ruling Letter ("HQ") 562936, dated March 17, 2004, CBP addressed the country of origin of certain MFPs assembled in Japan of various Japanese- and Chineseorigin parts. CBP determined that the MFP was a product of Japan based on the fact that a "substantial portion of the printer's individual components and subassemblies [were] of Japanese origin." Furthermore, CBP noted that some of the Japanese components and subassemblies were essential parts of the finished article, and other Japanese parts, including the reader scanner unit and the control panel unit, were critical to the production of the printer. Finally, CBP noted that the Japanese processing operations were complex and meaningful, that required "the assembly of a large number of components, and render[ed] a new and distinct article of commerce that possesse[d] a new name, character, and use."

In HQ W563491, dated February 8, 2007, CBP addressed a two-country scenario where all of the subassemblies of the multifunction printer were made in China, with the exception of the controller unit subassembly, application-specific integrated circuits, and firmware, which were made in Japan. Final assembly of the multifunction printer, testing and final inspection were also done in Japan. In that ruling, CBP determined that the multifunction printers were a product of Japan based on the fact that although several of the subassemblies were assembled in China, enough of the Japanese subassemblies and individual components served major functions and were high in value, in particular, the transfer belt, control box unit, application-specific integrated circuits, charged couple device, and laser diodes.

Further, CBP found that the testing and adjustments performed in Japan were technical and complex, and the assembly operations that occurred in Japan were sufficiently complex and meaningful. Thus, through the product assembly and testing and adjustment operations, the individual components and subassemblies of Japanese and foreign-origin were subsumed into a new and distinct article of commerce that had a new name, character, and use.

In HQ H018467, dated January 4, 2008, CBP considered two manufacturing scenarios for multifunctional printers. In one scenario, manufacturing took place in two countries. In the other scenario, manufacturing took place in three countries. In the two-country scenario, 18 units were manufactured in the Philippines from components produced in various countries. The units were sent to Japan where the system control board, engine control board, OPC drum unit, and the toner reservoir were manufactured and incorporated into the units. The control boards were programmed in Japan with Japanese firmware that controlled the user interface, imaging, memories, and the mechanics of the machines. The machines were then inspected and adjusted as necessary. CBP found that the manufacturing operations in Japan substantially transformed the Philippines units such that it was determined that Japan was the country of origin of the multifunctional machines. In making the determination (and in addition to the finding that operations performed in Japan were meaningful and complex and resulted in an article of commerce with a new name, character, and use), CBP found it very significant that the system control board, the engine control board, and the firmware, which were very important to the functionality of the machines, were manufactured in Japan.

In HQ H025106, dated June 11, 2008, CBP addressed the country of origin of certain photocopying machines, which had photocopying, printing, faxing, and scanning functions. The machines were comprised of a scanning unit, controller unit subassembly, laser scanning unit, photoconductor unit, developer unit, transfer unit, and fusing unit. Three of these components were assembled into the machine's frame in China, and the rest were assembled into the frame in Japan, where the machines were completed. CBP noted that though the developer unit and transfer unit were assembled in China, enough of the subassemblies and individual components (e.g., the transfer belt and photoconductor unit, among others) were from Japan, with the photoconductor being made of entirely Japanese parts. It also noted that though the developer unit would be assembled in China, two of the unit's key components were from Japan; and while the transfer unit would be partially assembled in China, the transfer belt was from Japan. CBP also noted that there were a large variety of adjustments that were made to the subassemblies in Japan, using advanced equipment and firmware. As a result, CBP held that the country of origin of the machines was Japan because the Japanese and foreign origin parts were substantially transformed into the machines through the product assembly that took place in Japan.

It is Konica Minolta's position that the country of origin of the Minerva SSBK MFPs will be Mexico, where the MFPs are substantially transformed upon final assembly involving what counsel describes as the skillful integration of several critical components, followed by numerous distinct physical and electronic testing, adjustment, and calibration procedures.

Before proceeding with our analysis, we note that CBP issued a final determination to Konica Minolta in HQ H263561, dated March 23, 2015, concerning the proposed manufacturing process of the bizhub C3850FS MFPs. There, the assembly process of the bizhub MFPs began in Thailand and finished in Japan, utilizing components from several countries. Specifically, four subassemblies—the print head, optical lens, charge coupled device board, and mechanical control board-were to be assembled into and permanently integrated within the MFP's frame in Thailand, while six subassemblies would be assembled and tested in Thailand, removed, and ultimately assembled into the final MFP frame in Japan for final testingthe latent image unit, image transfer belt unit, 2nd image transfer roller unit, fusing unit, hard disk drive, and power supply unit. Additionally, the MFP board was to be manufactured in Japan, installed with Japanese-developed software in Japan, and assembled into the final MFP in Japan. There, CBP held that the country of origin of the bizhub MFPs was Japan.

Based on the facts presented in the instant matter, we note that although the assembly of the Minerva SSBK MFP will take place in Mexico and China, there are also operations that contribute to this assembly that will take place in Japan. Thus, where no one country imparts the dominant portion of the work conducted, we will employ a totality of the circumstances approach in determining the country of origin of the finished Minerva SSBK MFPs. First, we note that all but two of the subassemblies will be assembled into and permanently installed into the MFPs in Mexico; only the developing unit and drum unit, both manufactured in China, will be assembled and permanently installed into the frame in China. Although the drum unit and developing unit are assembled and permanently installed into the frame in China, both of these subassemblies incorporate important Japanese subcomponents, including the OPC drum, toner and carrier. While the print head unit and 2nd image transfer roller unit will be assembled and installed into the frame in China, they will be removed from the frame following initial testing and shipped separately to Mexico for final assembly. Less critical subassemblies manufactured in China, including the sub hopper unit and waste toner box, are assembled onto the final product in Mexico following removal of the jig units.2 More importantly, not only are some of the most critical subassemblies of the Minerva SSBK MFPs permanently integrated within the MFPs in Mexico, but they are also

manufactured there. While the MFP board, *i.e.*, the "brain" of the Minerva SSBK MFP, consists of subcomponents from various countries, its proprietary software that was majority developed and coded in Japan is loaded onto the MFP board in Mexico where that subassembly is also manufactured. In addition to the MFP board, not only are the image transfer belt unit, the fusing unit, and the 1500 paper feed unit manufactured in Mexico, but the versions that are integrated into the final MFP in Mexico have never left Mexico.

Compared to the Konica Minolta bizhub MFPs in HQ H263561, where four of the major subassemblies were permanently installed into the MFP frame when shipped from Thailand to Japan, only two major subassemblies will be permanently installed into the Minerva SSBK MFP frame in the instant matter when shipped from China to Mexico. In HQ H263561, CBP found that although several of the subassemblies were assembled and installed onto the frame in Thailand, those subassemblies included important components of Japanese origin. Here, more of the subassemblies are either finally integrated into the MFP in Mexico or are both manufactured in Mexico and finally integrated into the MFP in Mexico. Unlike in HQ H263561, four additional subassemblies—namely, the MFP board, the fusing unit, the image transfer belt unit, and the 1500 paper feed unit-are manufactured in Mexico. Moreover, final assembly in Mexico includes loading Konica Minolta's complex proprietary software onto the MFP board and other components in Mexico, along with numerous distinct physical and electronic testing, adjustment, and calibration procedures to ensure each machine's proper operation. Through final assembly of all the subassemblies onto the MFP—including the four subassemblies that will be manufactured in Mexico-as well as the testing and adjustment operations, the individual subassemblies and subcomponents of Mexican and foreign origin will be subsumed into a new and distinct article of commerce that has a new name, character, and use. Accordingly, under the totality of the circumstances, we find that the country of origin of the Minerva SSBK MFP will be Mexico for purposes of U.S. Government procurement.

#### Holding

Based on the facts and analysis set forth above, the country of origin of the Minerva SSBK MFP will be considered Mexico for purposes of U.S. Government procurement.

Notice of this final determination will be given in the Federal Register, as required by 19 CFR 177.29. Any party-at-interest other than the party which requested this final determination may request, pursuant to 19 CFR 177.31, that CBP reexamine the matter anew and issue a new final determination. Pursuant to 19 CFR 177.30, any party-at-interest may, within 30 days of publication of the Federal Register Notice referenced above, seek judicial review of this final determination before the U.S. Court of International Trade.

Sincerely, Alice A. Kipel, Executive Director, Regulations and Rulings, Office of Trade.

[FR Doc. 2025–05733 Filed 4–2–25; 8:45 am] BILLING CODE 9111–14–P

# DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

U.S. Customs and Border Protection [OMB Control Number 1651–0067]

Agency Information Collection Activities; Extension; Documentation Requirements for Articles Entered Under Various Special Tariff Treatment Provisions

**AGENCY:** U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), Department of Homeland Security.

**ACTION:** 30-Day notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) will be submitting the following information collection request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA). The information collection is published in the Federal Register to obtain comments from the public and affected agencies.

**DATES:** Comments are encouraged and must be submitted (no later than May 5, 2025) to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and/or suggestions regarding the item(s) contained in this notice should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain. Please submit written comments and/or suggestions in English. Find this particular information collection by selecting "Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments" or by using the search function.

# FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Requests for additional PRA information should be directed to Seth Renkema, Chief, Economic Impact Analysis Branch, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Office of Trade, Regulations and Rulings, 90 K Street NE, 10th Floor, Washington, DC 20229-1177, telephone number 202-325-0056 or via email CBP PRA@cbp.dhs.gov. Please note that the contact information provided here is solely for questions regarding this notice. Individuals seeking information about other CBP programs should contact the CBP National Customer Service Center at 877-227-5511, (TTY) 1-800-877-8339, or CBP website at https://www.cbp.gov/.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The jig units manufactured in China are not part of the final MFP. The toner cartridge manufactured in Japan and the copyholder manufactured in China are not part of the main body of the final MFP and are sold as an option.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: CBP invites the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on the proposed and/or continuing information collections pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.). This proposed information collection was previously published in the Federal Register (89 FR 102153) on December 17, 2024, allowing for a 60day comment period. This notice allows for an additional 30 days for public comments. This process is conducted in accordance with 5 CFR 1320.8. Written comments and suggestions from the public and affected agencies should address one or more of the following four points: (1) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (3) suggestions to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) suggestions to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses. The comments that are submitted will be summarized and included in the request for approval. All comments will become a matter of public record.

# Overview of This Information Collection

Title: Documentation Requirements for Articles Entered Under Various Special Tariff Treatment Provisions.

OMB Number: 1651–0067. Form Number: N/A.

Current Actions: This submission will extend the expiration date without a change to the information collected or method of collection.

Type of Review: Extension (without

Affected Public: Businesses.
Abstract: U.S. Customs and Border
Protection (CBP) is responsible for
determining whether imported articles
that are classified under Harmonized
Tariff Schedule of the United States
(HTSUS) subheadings 9801.00.10,
9802.00.20, 9802.00.40, 9802.00.50,
9802.00.60 and 9817.00.40 are entitled
to duty-free or reduced duty treatment.
In order to file under these HTSUS
provisions, importers, or their agents,
must have the declarations that are

provided for in 19 CFR 10.1(a), 10.8(a), 10.9(a) and 10.121 in their possession at the time of entry and submit them to CBP upon request. These declarations enable CBP to ascertain whether the requirements of these HTSUS provisions have been satisfied.

These requirements apply to the trade community who are familiar with CBP regulations and the tariff schedules.

Type of Information Collection:
Declarations under Chapter 98.
Estimated Number of Respondents:
19,445.

Estimated Number of Annual Responses per Respondent: 3. Estimated Number of Total Annual Responses: 58,335.

Estimated Time per Response: 1

minute.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 972.

Dated: March 31, 2025.

#### Robert F. Altneu,

Director, Regulations and Disclosure Law Division, U.S. Customs and Border Protection. [FR Doc. 2025–05734 Filed 4–2–25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 9111-14-P

# DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

### **U.S. Customs and Border Protection**

# Notice of Issuance of Final Determination Concerning Alcohol Prep Pads

**AGENCY:** U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security.

**ACTION:** Notice of final determination.

**SUMMARY:** This document provides notice that U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) has issued a final determination concerning the country of origin of alcohol prep pads. Based upon the facts presented, CBP has concluded that the subject alcohol prep pads would be the product of Taiwan.

**DATES:** The final determination was issued on January 17, 2025. A copy of the final determination is attached. Any party-at-interest, as defined in 19 CFR 177.22(d), may seek judicial review of this final determination no later than May 5, 2025.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ani Mard, Valuation and Special Programs Branch, Regulations and Rulings, Office of Trade, at (202) 325–0727.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Notice is hereby given that on January 17, 2025, CBP issued a final determination concerning the country of origin of alcohol prep pads for purposes of title III of the Trade Agreements Act of 1979.

This final determination, HQ H340712, was issued at the request of Medline Industries, LP, under procedures set forth at 19 CFR part 177, subpart B, which implements Title III of the Trade Agreements Act of 1979, as amended (19 U.S.C. 2511–18). In the final determination, CBP has concluded that, based upon the facts presented, the country of origin of the alcohol prep pads is Taiwan, the country in which the fabric-making process occurs.

Section 177.29, CBP Regulations (19 CFR 177.29), provides that a notice of final determination shall be published in the **Federal Register** within 60 days of the date the final determination is issued. Section 177.30, CBP Regulations (19 CFR 177.30), provides that any party-at-interest, as defined in 19 CFR 177.22(d), may seek judicial review of a final determination within 30 days of publication of such determination in the **Federal Register**.

# Alice A. Kipel,

Executive Director, Regulations and Rulings, Office of Trade.

# HQ H340712

January 17, 2025

OT:RR:CTF:VS H340712 a.m. *Category:* Origin

Lawrence R. Pilon, Rock Trade Law LLC, 134 N LaSalle Street, Chicago, IL 60602

Re: U.S. Government Procurement; Title III, Trade Agreements Act of 1979 (19 U.S.C. 2511); Subpart B, Part 177, CBP Regulations; Country of Origin of Alcohol Prep Pads

Dear Mr. Pilon:

This is in response to your request, dated July 9, 2024, on behalf of Medline Industries, LP ("Medline"), for a final determination concerning the country of origin of alcohol prep pads pursuant to Title III of the Trade Agreements Act of 1979 ("TAA"), as amended (19 U.S.C. 2511 et seq.), and subpart B of Part 177, U.S. Customs and Border Protection ("CBP") Regulations (19 CFR 177.21, et seq.). Medline is a party-atinterest within the meaning of 19 CFR 177.22(d)(1) and 177.23(a) and is therefore entitled to request this final determination.

#### Facts

The merchandise at issue consists of disposable, sterile, single-use nonwoven textile alcohol prep pads, classified under subheading 5603.12.00, Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States ("HTSUS"), imported individually packaged, ready for use, and saturated with a sterile solution consisting of 70% isopropyl alcohol and 30% water. The prep pads will be imported in two sizes: medium measuring 1½" x 2½", and large measuring 1¾" x 3". The merchandise is designed and intended for use in hospitals, surgery centers, and similar settings where healthcare services are provided.

The manufacturing process is described as follows:

Product Design and Development (United States)

In the United States, Medline performs the design research, product development, and materials selection.

Production of Nonwoven Fabric (Taiwan)

The manufacturing of the synthetic nonwoven filament fabric takes place in Taiwan. This process consists of melting primary forms of polypropylene plastic polymer. The polymer is then extruded into filaments that are spun and bonded into a sheeted web of nonwoven filament fabric textile material that is formed into rolls.

Cutting, Saturation, Packaging (China)

In China, the fabric is unrolled and cut into individual rectangular pieces of fabric weighing 45 g/m² which are folded to create a two-ply pad. The individual pads are then saturated with a sterile solution consisting of 70% by weight isopropyl alcohol and 30% purified water, prepared in China. Lastly, the individual prep pads are packaged into individual packets and then boxed into cases containing either 1,000 or 3,000 individual prep pads.

#### Issue

What is the country of origin of the subject alcohol prep pads for purposes of U.S. Government procurement?

#### Law & Analysis

CBP issues country of origin advisory rulings and final determinations as to whether an article is or would be a product of a designated country or instrumentality for the purpose of granting waivers of certain "Buy American" restrictions in U.S. law or practice for products offered for sale to the U.S. Government, pursuant to subpart B of Part 177, 19 CFR 177.21 et seq., which implements Title III, Trade Agreements Act of 1979, as amended (19 U.S.C. 2511–2518).

CBP's authority to issue advisory rulings and final determinations stems from 19 U.S.C. 2515(b)(1), which states:

For the purposes of this subchapter, the Secretary of the Treasury shall provide for the prompt issuance of advisory rulings and final determinations on whether, under section 2518(4)(B) of this title, an article is or would be a product of a foreign country or instrumentality designated pursuant to section 2511(b) of this title.

Emphasis added.

The Secretary of the Treasury's authority mentioned above, along with other customs revenue functions, are delegated to the Secretary of Homeland Security via Treasury Department Order (TO) 100–20 "Delegation of Customs revenue functions to Homeland Security," dated October 30, 2024, and are subject to further delegations to CBP (see also 19 CFR part 177, subpart B).

The rule of origin set forth in 19 U.S.C. 2518(4)(B) states:

An article is a product of a country or instrumentality only if (i) it is wholly the growth, product, or manufacture of that country or instrumentality, or (ii) in the case of an article which consists in whole or in part of materials from another country or instrumentality, it has been substantially

transformed into a new and different article of commerce with a name, character, or use distinct from that of the article or articles from which it was so transformed.

See also 19 CFR 177.22(a).

In rendering advisory rulings and final determinations for purposes of U.S. Government procurement, CBP applies the provisions of subpart B of Part 177 consistent with the Federal Acquisition Regulation ("FAR"). See 19 CFR 177.21. In this regard, CBP recognizes that the FAR restricts the U.S. Government's purchase of products to U.S.-made or designated country end products for acquisitions subject to the TAA. See 48 CFR 25.403(c)(1).

The FAR, 48 CFR 25.003, defines "designated country end product" as: a WTO GPA [World Trade Organization Government Procurement Agreement] country end product, an FTA [Free Trade Agreement] country end product, a least developed country end product, or a Caribbean Basin country end product.

Section 25.003 defines "WTO GPA country end product" as an article that:

(1) Is wholly the growth, product, or manufacture of a WTO GPA country; or

(2) In the case of an article that consists in whole or in part of materials from another country, has been substantially transformed in a WTO GPA country into a new and different article of commerce with a name, character, or use distinct from that of the article or articles from which it was transformed. The term refers to a product offered for purchase under a supply contract, but for purposes of calculating the value of the end product includes services (except transportation services) incidental to the article, provided that the value of those incidental services does not exceed that of the article itself.

Once again, we note that the fabric for the alcohol prep pads is produced in Taiwan while the cutting, saturation, and packaging takes place in China. Taiwan is a TAAdesignated country, and China is not.

The rules of origin for textile and apparel products for purposes of the customs laws and the administration of quantitative restrictions are governed by 19 U.S.C. 3592, unless otherwise provided for by statute. These provisions are implemented in the CBP Regulations at 19 CFR 102.21. Section 3592 has been described as Congress's expression of substantial transformation as it relates to textile and apparel products. A textile or apparel product, in relevant part, includes any good classifiable in Chapters 50 through 63, HTSUS. See 19 CFR 102.21(a)(5). Therefore, as the alcohol prep pads are classified under subheading 5603.12.00, HTSUS, the country of origin will be determined by sequential application of paragraphs (1) through (5) of section 102.21 (19 CFR 102.21(c)(1)–(5)).

Paragraph (c)(1) of section 102.21 (19 CFR 102.21(c)(1)) states that "[t]he country of origin of a textile or apparel product is the single country, territory, or insular possession in which the good was wholly obtained or produced." The subject alcohol prep pads are produced in two different countries: (1) Taiwan (where the fabric is produced), and (2) China (where the fabrics

are cut, and solution is added). Therefore, 19 CFR 102.21(c)(1) is inapplicable.

Paragraph (c)(2) of section 102.21 (19 CFR 102.21(c)(2)) states that "the country of origin of the good is the single country, territory, or insular possession in which each foreign material incorporated in that good underwent an applicable change in tariff classification, and/or met any other requirement, specified for the good in paragraph (e) of this section." Paragraph (e) of section 102.21 (19 CFR 102.21(e)) states, in relevant part, that "[t]he following rules will apply for purposes of determining the country of origin of a textile or apparel product under paragraph (c)(2) of this section:"

(1) Except for fabric of wool or of fine animal hair, a change from greige fabric of heading 5602 through 5603 to finished fabric of heading 5602 through 5603 by both dyeing and printing when accompanied by two or more of the following finishing operations: bleaching, shrinking, fulling, napping, decating, permanent stiffening, weighting, permanent embossing, or moireing; or

(2) If the country of origin cannot be determined under (1) above, a change to heading 5602 through 5603 from any heading outside that group, provided that the change is the result of a fabric-making process.

The term "[f]abric-making process" is defined in paragraph (b)(2) of Section 102.21 as:

. . . any manufacturing operation that begins with polymers, fibers, filaments (including strips), yarn, twine, cordage, rope, or fabric strips and results in a textile fabric.

The tariff shift rule in 19 CFR 102.21(e)(1) is inapplicable because there is no change from greige fabric. The tariff shift rule in 19 CFR 102.21(e)(2) requires a change to heading 5603 from any heading outside of headings 5602-5603, resulting from a fabricmaking process. In Taiwan, polypropylene plastic polymer is melted and extruded into filaments. These filaments are spun and then bonded into a sheeted web of nonwoven filament textile fabric classified under subheading 5603.12.00, HTSUS. Hence, because the change to subheading 5603.12.00, HTSUS, is a result of a fabricmaking process, the merchandise complies with the requisite tariff shift rule 19 CFR 102.21(e)(2). Accordingly, the country of origin of the alcohol prep pads is Taiwan, the country in which the fabric-making process occurs.

Based on the analysis above, we find that the country of origin of the subject alcohol prep pads is Taiwan and, therefore, the subject merchandise would be the product of a foreign country or instrumentality designated pursuant to 19 U.S.C. 2511(b)(1).

### **Holding**

Based on the facts and analysis set forth above, the subject alcohol prep pads are a product of Taiwan, for purposes of U.S. Government procurement.

Notice of this final determination will be given in the **Federal Register**, as required by 19 CFR 177.29. Any party-at-interest other than the party which requested this final determination may request, pursuant to 19 CFR 177.31, that CBP reexamine the matter anew and issue a new final determination.

Pursuant to 19 CFR 177.30, any party-atinterest may, within 30 days of publication of the **Federal Register** Notice referenced above, seek judicial review of this final determination before the U.S. Court of International Trade.

Sincerely,

Alice A. Kipel,

Executive Director, Regulations & Rulings, Office of Trade.

[FR Doc. 2025-05731 Filed 4-2-25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 9111-14-P

# INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

[Investigation Nos. 731–TA–1140–1142 (Third Review)]

# Uncovered Innerspring Units From China, South Africa, and Vietnam Determinations

On the basis of the record <sup>1</sup> developed in the subject five-year reviews, the United States International Trade Commission ("Commission") determines, pursuant to the Tariff Act of 1930 ("the Act"), that revocation of the antidumping duty orders on uncovered innerspring units from China, South Africa, and Vietnam would be likely to lead to continuation or recurrence of material injury to an industry in the United States within a reasonably foreseeable time.

# Background

The Commission instituted these reviews on September 3, 2024 (89 FR 71414) and determined on December 9, 2024, that it would conduct expedited reviews (90 FR 8940, February 4, 2025).<sup>2</sup>

The Commission made these determinations pursuant to section 751(c) of the Act (19 U.S.C. 1675(c)). It completed and filed its determinations in these reviews on March 28, 2025. The views of the Commission are contained in USITC Publication 5604 (March 2025), entitled *Uncovered Innerspring Units from China, South Africa, and Vietnam: Investigation Nos. 731–TA–1140–1142 (Third Review).* 

By order of the Commission. Issued: March 28, 2025.

### Lisa Barton,

Secretary to the Commission.

[FR Doc. 2025-05697 Filed 4-2-25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7020-02-P

### **DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**

### Federal Bureau of Investigation

# Meeting of the Compact Council for the National Crime Prevention and Privacy Compact

**AGENCY:** Federal Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice.

**ACTION:** Meeting notice.

**SUMMARY:** The purpose of this notice is to announce a meeting of the National Crime Prevention and Privacy Compact Council (Council) created by the National Crime Prevention and Privacy Compact Act of 1998 (Compact).

**DATES:** The Council will meet virtually from 9 a.m. (EDT) until 5 p.m. (EDT) on Thursday, May 8, 2025.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will take place virtually via Microsoft Teams. The public will be permitted to provide comments and/or questions related to matters of the Council prior to the meeting and attend upon registration. Please see registration details in the supplemental information.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Inquiries may be addressed to Ms. Chasity S. Anderson, FBI Compact Officer, Biometric Technology Center, 1000 Custer Hollow Road, Clarksburg, West Virginia 26306, telephone 304–625–2803.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Thus far, the Federal Government and 35 states are parties to the Compact which governs the exchange of criminal history records for licensing, employment, immigration and naturalization matters, and similar noncriminal justice purposes. The Compact also provides a legal framework for the establishment of a cooperative federal-state system to exchange such records.

The United States Attorney General appointed 15 persons from state and federal agencies to serve on the Council. The Council will prescribe system rules and procedures for the effective and proper operation of the Interstate Identification Index system for noncriminal justice purposes.

Matters for discussion are expected to include:

- (1) Proposed Change to the Security and Management Control Outsourcing Standard for Non-Channeling.
- (2) Proposed Revision to the Next Generation Identification Noncriminal Justice Rap Back Service Outsourcing Policy Implementation Guide.
- (3) Proposed Changes to the Next Generation Identification Noncriminal Justice Rap Back Appendix 2.

The meeting will be conducted virtually. To register for participation,

individuals must provide their name, city, state, phone, email address and agency/organization to compactmeetings@fbi.gov by April 25, 2025. Information regarding virtual participation will be provided prior to the meeting to all registered individuals.

Any member of the public wishing to file a written statement with the Council or wishing to address this session of the Council should notify the FBI Compact Officer, Ms. Chasity S. Anderson at compactoffice@fbi.gov, at least 7 days prior to the start of the session. The notification should contain the individual's name and corporate designation, consumer affiliation, or government designation, along with a short statement describing the topic to be addressed and the time needed for the presentation. Individuals will ordinarily be allowed up to 15 minutes to present a topic. The Compact Officer will compile all requests and submit to the Compact Council for consideration.

Individuals requiring special accommodations should contact Ms. Anderson at *compactoffice@fbi.gov* no later than April 25, 2025. Please note all personal registration information may be made publicly available through a Freedom of Information Act request.

### Chasity S. Anderson,

FBI Compact Officer, Criminal Justice Information Services Division, Federal Bureau of Investigation.

[FR Doc. 2025–05736 Filed 4–2–25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4410-02-P

# NEIGHBORHOOD REINVESTMENT CORPORATION

### **Sunshine Act Meetings**

TIME AND DATE: 1 p.m., Tuesday, April 15, 2025.

PLACE: via ZOOM.

**STATUS:** Parts of this meeting will be open to the public. The rest of the meeting will be closed to the public.

**MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:** Regular Board of Directors meeting.

The General Counsel of the Corporation has certified that in her opinion, one or more of the exemptions set forth in the Government in the Sunshine Act, 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(2) permit closure of the following portion(s) of this meeting:

• Executive (Closed) Session

# Agenda

I. Call to Order

II. Discussion Item: FY2024 External Audit Discussion with External Auditors

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The record is defined in § 207.2(f) of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (19 CFR 207.2(f)).

 $<sup>^2</sup>$  Commissioner David S. Johanson voted to conduct full reviews.

- III. Sunshine Act Approval of Executive (Closed) Session
- IV. Executive Session: Executive Session with External Auditors
- V. Executive Session: CEO Report VI. Executive Session: CFO Report
- VII. Executive Session: General Counsel Report
- VIII. Executive Session: CIO Report
- IX. Executive Session: Officer Performance Metrics
- X. Action Item: Approval of Meeting Minutes for February 18 Regular **Board Meeting**
- XI. Action Item: Approval of FY2024 External Audit
- XII. Action Item: Approval of Special Health Insurance Delegation
- XIII. Discussion Item: March 25 Audit Committee Report
- XIV. Discussion Item: Capital Corporations Update and Grant Request for June
- XV. Discussion Ítem: Investment Policy Review
- XVI. Discussion Item: Management Program Background and Updates
  - a. 2025 Board Calendar
  - b. 2025 Board Agenda Planner
  - c. CFO Report
  - i. Financials (through 1/31/25)
  - ii. Single Invoice Approvals \$100K and over
  - iii. Vendor Payments \$350K and over iv. Exceptions

  - d. Programs Dashboard
  - e. Housing Stability Counseling Program (HSCP)
  - f. Strategic Plan Scorecard—FY25 Q1

### PORTIONS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:

Everything except the Executive (closed)

#### PORTIONS CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC:

Executive (closed) session.

### CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Jenna Sylvester, Paralegal, (202) 568-2560; jsylvester@nw.org.

# Jenna Sylvester,

Paralegal.

[FR Doc. 2025-05874 Filed 4-1-25; 4:15 pm]

BILLING CODE 7570-01-P

# **NUCLEAR REGULATORY** COMMISSION

[NRC-2024-0210]

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission **Plan for Monitoring Disposal Actions** Taken by the U.S. Department of **Energy at the Savannah River Site** Saltstone Disposal Facility in Accordance With the Ronald W. **Reagan National Defense** Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2005, **Revision 2** 

**AGENCY:** Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**ACTION:** Notice of issuance; availability.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is announcing the availability of "U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Plan for Monitoring Disposal Actions Taken by the U.S Department of Energy at the Savannah River Site Saltstone Disposal Facility in Accordance with the Ronald W. Reagan National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2005, Revision 2." This monitoring plan describes how the NRC staff intends to complete its assessment of compliance with NRC's performance objectives for the Department of Energy (DOE) disposal actions at the Savannah River Site (SRS) Saltstone Disposal Facility (SDF).

**DATES:** April 3, 2025.

ADDRESSES: Please refer to Docket ID NRC-2024-0210 when contacting the NRC about the availability of information regarding this document. You may access publicly available information related to this document using any of the following methods:

- Federal Rulemaking Website: Go to https://www.regulations.gov and search for Docket ID NRC-2024-0210. Address questions about Docket IDs in Regulations.gov to Bridget Curran; telephone: 301-415-1003; email: Bridget.Curran@nrc.gov. For technical questions, contact the individual listed in the FOR FURTHER INFORMATION
- **CONTACT** section of this document.
- NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS): You may obtain publicly available documents online in the ADAMS Public Documents collection at https://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/ adams.html. To begin the search, select "Begin Web-based ADAMS Search." For problems with ADAMS, please contact the NRC's Public Document Room (PDR) reference staff at 1-800-397-4209, at 301-415-4737, or by email to PDR.Resource@nrc.gov. For the convenience of the reader, instructions about obtaining materials referenced in this document are provided in the "Availability of Documents" section.
- NRC's PDR: The PDR, where you may examine and order copies of publicly available documents, is open by appointment. To make an appointment to visit the PDR, please send an email to PDR.Resource@nrc.gov or call 1-800-397-4209 or 301-415-4737, between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. eastern time (ET), Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Harry Felsher, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards; U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission,

Washington, DC 20555-0001; telephone: 301-415-6559; email: Harry.Felsher@ nrc.gov.

### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

#### I. Discussion

The monitoring plan describes the NRC staff's planned activities in carrying out its responsibilities for monitoring the DOE disposal actions at the Savannah River Site (SRS) Saltstone Disposal Facility (SDF) in accordance with the Ronald W. Reagan National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2005 (NDAA). In 2005, the DOE provided the Draft Basis for Waste Determination for the SRS SDF to the NRC, as part of the DOE's consultation with the NRC required by NDAA Section 3116(a). After its review, the NRC issued a Technical Evaluation Report (TER) for the SRS SDF in December 2005. In the 2005 TER, the NRC staff documented the results of its review and concluded that there was reasonable assurance that the applicable criteria of NDAA could be met by the DOE, provided certain assumptions made in the DOE analyses were verified via monitoring. Taking into consideration the assumptions, conclusions, and recommendations in both the 2005 NRC TER and the 2006 DOE Final Basis for Waste Determination for the SRS SDF, the Secretary of Energy issued the SRS SDF Waste Determination in January 2006 that stated SRS treated salt waste is not high-level waste and may be disposed of at the SRS SDF. After issuance of the 2006 Secretary of Energy Waste Determination for the SRS SDF document, the NRC began monitoring the DOE disposal actions at the SRS SDF under NDAA Section 3116(b) in coordination with the NDAA-Covered State of South Carolina. In 2007, the NRC issued Revision 0 of the SRS SDF Monitoring Plan based on both the 2005 NRC TER and the 2006 DOE Final Basis for Waste Determination documents. In 2009, the DOE provided a revised SRS SDF Performance Assessment to the NRC. After its review of the revised DOE Performance Assessment, the NRC issued Revision 1 of the TER for the SRS SDF in April 2012. In the 2012 TER, the NRC staff documented the results of its review and concluded that it did not have reasonable assurance that salt waste disposal at the SDF met the Performance Objectives in part 61, subpart C, of title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations (10 CFR), specifically 10 CFR 61.41 "Protection of the General Population from Releases of Radioactivity." In 2013, the NRC issued Revision 1 of the SRS SDF Monitoring

Plan based on the 2012 NRC TER. In 2020, the DOE provided a revised SRS SDF Performance Assessment to the NRC. After its review, the NRC issued Revision 2 of the TER for the SRS SDF in April 2023. In the 2023 TER, the NRC staff documented its review and concluded that if the DOE Closure Cap design and implementation achieve the DOE expected performance, as described in the 2020 SDF Performance Assessment, then there was reasonable assurance that the DOE disposal actions

at the SDF meet or will meet all the 10 CFR part 61, subpart C, Performance Objectives, including the 10 CFR 61.40 Performance Objective.

In the issued monitoring plan, the NRC staff identified specific areas that it intends to monitor in assessing the DOE compliance with the 10 CFR part 61, subpart C Performance Objectives. The document describes what the NRC staff intends to do in each of those areas, as well as other activities that will be performed to allow a complete

assessment of compliance with the 10 CFR part 61, subpart C, Performance Objectives. In finalizing the monitoring plan, the NRC staff considered comments and input from the NDAA-Covered State of South Carolina.

# II. Availability of Documents

The documents identified in the following table are available to interested persons through one or more of the following methods, as indicated.

| Document description  | ADAMS accession No./<br>internet link                               |
|---|---|
| Ronald W. Reagan National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2005  | https://www.congress.gov/108/plaws/publ375/<br>PLAW-108publ375.pdf. |
| DOE Waste Determination for the Savannah River Site Saltstone Disposal Facility, dated January 2006.                                      | ML17136A069.  |
| NRC Technical Evaluation Report, Final Report, Revision 2, for the DOE Savannah River Site Saltstone Disposal Facility, dated April 2023. | ML23024A099.  |
| Revised DOE Performance Assessment for the Savannah River Site Saltstone Disposal Facility, dated March 2020.                             | ML20190A056.  |
| NRC Monitoring Plan, Revision 1, for the DOE Savannah River Site Saltstone Disposal Facility, dated September 2013.                       | ML13100A113.  |
| NRC Technical Evaluation Report, Final Report, Revision 1, for the DOE Savannah River Site Saltstone Disposal Facility, dated April 2012. | ML121170309.  |
| Revised DOE Performance Assessment for the Savannah River Site Saltstone Disposal Facility, dated October 2009.                           | ML101590008.  |
| NRC Monitoring Plan, Revision 0, for the DOE Savannah River Site Saltstone Disposal Facility, dated May 2007.                             | ML070730363.  |
| DOE Final Basis for Waste Determination for the Savannah River Site Saltstone Disposal Facility, dated January 2006.                      | ML102850319.  |
| NRC Technical Evaluation Report, Revision 0, for the DOE Savannah River Site Saltstone Disposal Facility, dated December 2005.            | ML053010225.  |
| DOE Draft Basis for Waste Determination for the Savannah River Site Saltstone Disposal Facility, dated February 2005.                     | ML051020072.  |

Dated: March 31, 2025.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

#### Jane Marshall,

Director, Division of Decommissioning, Uranium Recovery, and Waste Programs, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards.

[FR Doc. 2025-05747 Filed 4-2-25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590-01-P

# OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

Submission for Review: 3206–0170, Application for Refund of Retirement Deductions, SF 3106 and Current/ Former Spouse(s) Notification of Application for Refund of Retirement Deductions Under FERS, SF 3106A

**AGENCY:** U.S. Office of Personnel Management.

**ACTION:** 60-Day notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** Office of Personnel Management (OPM), Retirement Services, offers the general public and other Federal agencies the opportunity to comment on the review of a revised information collection request (ICR), Application for Refund of Retirement Deductions, Federal Employees Retirement System, SF 3106, and Current/Former Spouse's Notification of Application for Refund of Retirement Deductions under FERS, SF 3106A.

**DATES:** Comments are encouraged and will be accepted until June 2, 2025.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments, identified by docket number and title, by the following method:

• Federal Rulemaking Portal: https://www.regulations.gov. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.

All submissions received must include the agency name and docket number for this document. The general policy for comments and other submissions from members of the public is to make these submissions available for public viewing at <a href="https://www.regulations.gov">https://www.regulations.gov</a> as they are received without change, including any personal identifiers or contact information.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** A copy of this ICR with applicable

supporting documentation may be obtained by contacting the Retirement Services Publications Team, Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E Street NW, Room 3316–L, Washington, DC 20415, Attention: Cyrus S. Benson, or by email at RSPublicationsTeam@opm.gov or fax at (202) 606–0910 or via telephone at (202) 936–0401.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: As required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. chapter 35), OPM is soliciting comments for this collection (OMB No. 3206–0170). The Office of Personnel Management is particularly interested in comments that:

1. Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;

2. Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

3. Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

4. Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submissions of responses.

Standard Form 3106, Application for Refund of Retirement Deductions under FERS, is used by former Federal employees under FERS to apply for a refund of retirement deductions withheld during Federal employment, plus any interest provided by law. Standard Form 3106A, Current/Former Spouse(s) Notification of Application for Refund of Retirement Deductions under FERS, is used by refund applicants to notify their current/former spouse(s) that they are applying for a refund of retirement deductions, which is required by law.

### Analysis

Agency: Retirement Operations, Retirement Services, Office of Personnel Management.

Title: Application for Refund of Retirement Deductions (FERS) and Current/Former Spouse's Notification of Application for Refund of Retirement Deductions under FERS.

OMB Number: 3206–0170. Frequency: On occasion. Affected Public: Individuals or Households.

*Number of Respondents:* SF 3106 = 8,000; SF 3106A = 6,400.

Estimated Time per Respondent: SF 3106 = 30 minutes; SF 3106A = 5 minutes

Total Burden Hours: 4,533.

U.S. Office of Personnel Management. Alexys Stanley,

Federal Register Liaison.

[FR Doc. 2025-05696 Filed 4-2-25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6325-38-P

# OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

Submission for Review: 3206–0212, Rollover Election (RI 38–117), Rollover Information (RI 38–118), and Special Tax Notice Regarding Rollovers (RI 37– 22)

**AGENCY:** U.S. Office of Personnel Management.

**ACTION:** 60-Day notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** Office of Personnel Management (OPM), Retirement Services offers the general public and other federal agencies the opportunity to

comment on a revised information collection request (ICR), Rollover Election (RI 38–117), Rollover Information (RI 38–118), and Special Tax Notice Regarding Rollovers.

**DATES:** Comments are encouraged and will be accepted until June 2, 2025.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments by the following method:

• Federal Rulemaking Portal: http://www.regulations.gov. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.

All submissions received must include the agency name and docket number for this document. The general policy for comments and other submissions from members of the public is to make these submissions available for public viewing at <a href="http://www.regulations.gov">http://www.regulations.gov</a> as they are received without change, including any personal identifiers or contact information.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: A copy of this ICR with applicable supporting documentation may be obtained by contacting the Retirement

supporting documentation may be obtained by contacting the Retirement Services Publications Team, Office of Personnel Management, 1900 E Street NW, Room 3316–L, Washington, DC 20415, Attention: Cyrus S. Benson, or sent by email to RSPublicationsTeam@opm.gov or faxed to (202) 606–0910 or reached via telephone at (202) 936–0401.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Internal Revenue Code allows the recipient of certain types of distributions from OPM to elect how the payee prefers to receive the funds with varying tax implications. RI 38–117, Rollover Election, is used to collect information from a payee so that OPM can make payment in accordance with the wishes of the payee. RI 38–118, Rollover Information, explains the election. RI 37–22, Special Tax Notice Regarding Rollovers, provides more detailed information.

The Office of Personnel Management is particularly interested in comments addressing the following issues: (1) Whether this collection is necessary to the proper functions of OPM; (2) whether this information will be processed and used in a timely manner; (3) the accuracy of the burden estimates; (4) ways in which OPM might enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (5) ways in which OPM might minimize the burden of this collection on the respondents, including through the use of information technology.

# Analysis

Agency: Office of Personnel Management, Retirement Services.

*Title:* Rollover Election, Rollover Information, and Special Tax Notice Regarding Rollover.

OMB Number: 3206–0212. Frequency: On occasion. Affected Public: Individuals or Households.

Number of Respondents: 1,500. Estimated Time per Respondent: 40 minutes.

Total Burden Hours: 1,000.

U.S. Office of Personnel Management.

#### Alexys Stanley,

Federal Register Liaison.

[FR Doc. 2025-05690 Filed 4-2-25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6325-38-P

### POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket Nos. MC2025–1269 and K2025– 1268; MC2025–1270 and K2025–1269; MC2025–1271 and K2025–1270; MC2025– 1272 and K2025–1271]

# **New Postal Products**

**AGENCY:** Postal Regulatory Commission. **ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Commission is noticing a recent Postal Service filing for the Commission's consideration concerning a negotiated service agreement. This notice informs the public of the filing, invites public comment, and takes other administrative steps.

**DATES:** Comments are due: April 7, 2025.

ADDRESSES: Submit comments electronically via the Commission's Filing Online system at https://www.prc.gov. Those who cannot submit comments electronically should contact the person identified in the FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT section by telephone for advice on filing alternatives.

# FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

David A. Trissell, General Counsel, at 202–789–6820.

### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

# **Table of Contents**

I. Introduction II. Public Proceeding(s) III. Summary Proceeding(s)

#### I. Introduction

Pursuant to 39 CFR 3041.405, the Commission gives notice that the Postal Service filed request(s) for the Commission to consider matters related to Competitive negotiated service agreement(s). The request(s) may propose the addition of a negotiated service agreement from the Competitive product list or the modification of an existing product currently appearing on the Competitive product list.

The public portions of the Postal Service's request(s) can be accessed via the Commission's website (http:// www.prc.gov). Non-public portions of the Postal Service's request(s), if any, can be accessed through compliance with the requirements of 39 CFR 3011.301.1

Section II identifies the docket number(s) associated with each Postal Service request, if any, that will be reviewed in a public proceeding as defined by 39 CFR 3010.101(p), the title of each such request, the request's acceptance date, and the authority cited by the Postal Service for each request. For each such request, the Commission appoints an officer of the Commission to represent the interests of the general public in the proceeding, pursuant to 39 U.S.C. 505 and 39 CFR 3000.114 (Public Representative). Section II also establishes comment deadline(s) pertaining to each such request.

The Commission invites comments on whether the Postal Service's request(s) identified in Section II, if any, are consistent with the policies of title 39. Applicable statutory and regulatory requirements include 39 U.S.C. 3632, 39 U.S.C. 3633, 39 U.S.C. 3642, 39 CFR part 3035, and 39 CFR part 3041. Comment deadline(s) for each such request, if any, appear in Section II.

Section III identifies the docket number(s) associated with each Postal Service request, if any, to add a standardized distinct product to the Competitive product list or to amend a standardized distinct product, the title of each such request, the request's acceptance date, and the authority cited by the Postal Service for each request. Standardized distinct products are negotiated service agreements that are variations of one or more Competitive products, and for which financial models, minimum rates, and classification criteria have undergone advance Commission review. See 39 CFR 3041.110(n); 39 CFR 3041.205(a). Such requests are reviewed in summary proceedings pursuant to 39 CFR 3041.325(c)(2) and 39 CFR 3041.505(f)(1). Pursuant to 39 CFR 3041.405(c)-(d), the Commission does not appoint a Public Representative or request public comment in proceedings to review such requests.

# II. Public Proceeding(s)

 Docket No(s).: MC2025–1269 and K2025–1268; Filing Title: USPS Request to Add Priority Mail & USPS Ground Advantage Contract 673 to the Competitive Product List and Notice of Filing Materials Under Seal; Filing Acceptance Date: March 28, 2025; Filing Authority: 39 U.S.C. 3642, 39 CFR 3035.105, and 39 CFR 3041.310; *Public* Representative: Alain Brou; Comments Due: April 7, 2025.

2. Docket No(s).: MC2025–1270 and K2025–1269; Filing Title: USPS Request to Add Priority Mail & USPS Ground Advantage Contract 674 to the Competitive Product List and Notice of Filing Materials Under Seal; Filing Acceptance Date: March 28, 2025; Filing Authority: 39 U.S.C. 3642, 39 CFR 3035.105, and 39 CFR 3041.310; Public Representative: Alain Brou; Comments Due: April 7, 2025.

3. Docket No(s).: MC2025-1271 and K2025–1270; Filing Title: USPS Request to Add Priority Mail Express, Priority Mail & USPS Ground Advantage Contract 1356 to the Competitive Product List and Notice of Filing Materials Under Seal; Filing Acceptance Date: March 28, 2025; Filing Authority: 39 U.S.C. 3642, 39 CFR 3035.105, and 39 CFR 3041.310; Public Representative: Kenneth Moeller; Comments Due: April 7, 2025.

4. Docket No(s).: MC2025-1272 and K2025-1271; Filing Title: USPS Request to Add USPS Ground Advantage Contract 13 to the Competitive Product List and Notice of Filing Materials Under Seal; Filing Acceptance Date: March 28, 2025; Filing Authority: 39 U.S.C. 3642, 39 CFR 3035.105, and 39 CFR 3041.310; Public Representative: Madison Lichtenstein; Comments Due: April 7, 2025.

### III. Summary Proceeding(s)

None. See Section II for public proceedings.

This Notice will be published in the Federal Register.

Erica A. Barker,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2025-05719 Filed 4-2-25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7710-FW-P

# **POSTAL SERVICE**

#### Privacy Act of 1974; System of Records

AGENCY: Postal Service®.

**ACTION:** Notice of a modified system of records.

**SUMMARY:** The United States Postal Service (USPS®) is proposing to revise a General Privacy Act System of Records to integrate enhanced chat analytics, support, and reporting.

**DATES:** These revisions will become effective without further notice on May 5, 2025, unless comments received on or before that date result in a contrary determination.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments may be submitted via email to the Privacy and Records Management Office, United States Postal Service Headquarters (privacy@usps.gov). Arrangements to view copies of any written comments received, to facilitate public inspection, will be made upon request.

# FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Janine Castorina, Chief Privacy and

Records Management Officer, Privacy and Records Management Office, 202-268-3069 or privacy@usps.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This notice is in accordance with the Privacy Act requirement that agencies publish their systems of records in the Federal Register when there is a revision, change, or addition, or when the agency establishes a new system of records.

# I. Background

As USPS continues in its efforts to serve the American people, they are constantly looking to innovate and streamline their operations at every level. To that end, USPS seeks to deploy a web-based chat-and-response assistant for USPS employee use.

# II. Rationale for Changes to USPS **Privacy Act Systems of Records**

USPS employees perform a variety of tasks, requiring a tremendous amount of both institutional and external knowledge. As is the nature of most organizations, this information can often be siloed, difficult to reach, or highly specific. To alleviate these issues and maximize efficiency, USPS will employ a large language model-based chat assistant for USPS employees. This assistant will improve information access, retention, and recollection among its workforce by providing an engaging and responsive 24-hour accessmedium able to locate information quickly and with high levels of specificity. This access will save countless hours of searching disparate sources for critical pieces of information, and will also allow the organization as a whole to see if there are any particular trends that require action, attention, or recognition at a higher level. Deployment of this assistant will be highly constrained within the USPS Information Technology Infrastructure, with new data sources subject to enhanced scrutiny prior to integration with the chat assistant; this will ensure that

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See Docket No. RM2018-3, Order Adopting Final Rules Relating to Non-Public Information, June 27, 2018, Attachment A at 19-22 (Order No.

privacy protections are taken with every step.

The Postal Service is therefore proposing to modify USPS System of Records (SOR) 550.000 Commercial Information Technology Resources—Infrastructure to integrate enhanced chat analytics, support, and reporting. USPS will modify this SOR as follows:

- 1. Five new purposes, twelve through sixteen.
- 2. One new record within category of records one, Information System Account Access records.
- 3. Three new records within category of records three, Productivity Analytics records.

# III. Description of the Modified System of Records

Pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552a(e)(11), interested persons are invited to submit written data, views, or arguments on this proposal. A report of the proposed revisions has been sent to Congress and to the Office of Management and Budget for their evaluations. The Postal Service does not expect this amended system of records to have any adverse effect on individual privacy rights. The notice for USPS 550.000 Commercial Information Technology Resources- Infrastructure, provided below in its entirety, is as follows:

### SYSTEM NAME AND NUMBER:

550.000 Commercial Information Technology Resources—Infrastructure.

#### SECURITY CLASSIFICATION:

None.

### SYSTEM LOCATION:

All USPS facilities and contractor sites.

#### SYSTEM MANAGER(S):

For records of computer access authorizations: Chief Information Officer and Executive Vice President, United States Postal Service, 475 L'Enfant Plaza SW, Washington, DC 20260.

# AUTHORITY FOR MAINTENANCE OF THE SYSTEM:

39 U.S.C. 401, 403, and 404.

# PURPOSE(S) OF THE SYSTEM:

- 1. To provide USPS employees, contractors, and other authorized individuals with hierarchical access to and accounts for commercial information technology resources administered by the Postal Service and based on least privileged access.
- 2. To facilitate a cohesive software experience and simplify ease of use by sharing user and application data across participating IT programs.

- 3. To authenticate user identity for the purpose of accessing USPS information systems.
- 4. To assess user attributes and assign related access privileges.
- 5. To authenticate suppliers and contractors and facilitate further access to downstream Postal Service information systems.
- 6. To provide active and passive monitoring of information systems, applications, software, devices, and users for information security risks.
- 7. To review information systems, applications, software, devices, and users to ensure compliance with USPS regulations.
- 8. To facilitate and support cybersecurity investigations of detected or reported information security incidents.
- 9. To administer programs, processes, and procedures to assess information security risks and to detect information security threats and vulnerabilities.
- 10. To provide tools and analytics for USPS employees and contractors to measure work productivity and improve efficiency.
- 11. To improve manager-subordinate relationships within their formal reporting structure through data-based insights generated from their own email and related electronic communications with subordinates.
- 12. To provide employees access to a large language model based chat assistant.
- 13. To associate chat assistant conversations with individual USPS employee users for quick response and recollection.
- 14. To identify trends in chat assistant conversations for model refinement.
- 15. To ensure the accuracy of responses provided by the chat assistant to the end user.
- 16. To voluntarily provide data generated from chat assistant conversations to large language models for future model training and development.

# CATEGORIES OF INDIVIDUALS COVERED BY THE SYSTEM:

- 1. Individuals with authorized access to USPS computers, information resources, and facilities, including employees, contractors, business partners, suppliers, and third parties.
- 2. Individuals participating in webbased meetings, web-based video conferencing, web-based communication applications, and webbased collaboration applications.

# CATEGORIES OF RECORDS IN THE SYSTEM:

1. *Information System Account*Access records: Records relating to the

access or use of an information system, application, or piece of software, including; Name, User ID, Email Address, User Type, User Role, Job Title, Department, Manager, Company, Street Address, State Or Province, Country Or Region, Work Phone Number(S), Employee Identification Number (EIN), Advanced Computing Environment (ACE) ID, License Information, Action Initiated, Datetime, User Principle Name, Usage Location, Alternate Email Address, Proxy Address, Age Group, IP Address, MAC Address, Password, Multi-Factor Authentication Credentials, Security Questions, Security Answers, Passcode, Geolocation Data, User Profile Picture, Picture Metadata, Information **Technology Account Administration** User Configuration Status, Supplier Credentials, Supplier Company Codes, Conditional Access Attributes, Last Sign-In Time, User Account Status, User Admin Status, Password Length Compliance, Password Strength, Number Of Installed External Apps, Less Secure Apps Access, Admin-Defined Name, Profile Name Status, Photo Storage Space Used, Total Storage Space Used, Storage Usage Percentage, Total Emails Sent, Total Emails Received, Total Emails Sent And Received, Email Server Last Usage Time, Device Application Change, Device Privilege Changed, Device Policy Changed, Device Action Reported, Device Compliance Status, Device Operating System Updated, Device Ownership Updated, Device Settings Changed, Device Status Changed Through Apple Device Enrollment, Device Account Synced, Device Risk Signal Updated, Device Work Profile Submitted, Document Uploaded to chat assistant.

2. Security Analytics records: Records relating to the gathering, analysis, review, monitoring, and investigation of information system security risks, including; User Investigation Priority Score, User Identity Risk Level, User Lateral Movement Paths, User Devices Numbers, User Account Numbers, User Resources Numbers, User Locations Numbers, User Matches Files Numbers, User Locations, Apps Used By User, User Groups, User Last Seen Date, User Affiliation, User Domain, App Instance, Organizational Groups, User Account Status, Activity ID, Activity Objects, Activity Type, Administrative Activity, Alert ID, Applied Action, Activity Date, Device Tag, Activity Files And Folders, Impersonated Activities, App Instance Activity, App Location Activity, Activity Matched Policy, Activity Registered ISP, Activity Source, Activity User, Activity User Agent, Activity User Agent Tag, Application Risk Score, Application Activity, User Software Deactivation, User Software Installation, User Software Removal, Last Date Of Software Execution, internet Application Transaction Counts, Data Volume Upload, Data Volume Download, Data Sensitivity Classification, internet Protocol, internet Port, And internet Access History, Login IP Address, Login Type, Login Failed, Login Successful, Number Of Times A User Was Suspended, Number Of Times A User Was Suspended Due To Spam Relay, Number Of Times A User Was Suspended Due To Spam, Number Of Times A User Was Suspended Due To Suspicious Activity, Device Name, Device Operating System, Days Since First Sync, Days Since Last Sync, Device Status, Device Type, Device Model, Device Account Registration Changed, Device Action Event, Device Compliance Status, Device Compromise Status, Device Ownership Change, Device Operating System Updated, Device Settings Changed, Device Failed Screen Unlock Attempts, Device Status Changed On Apple Portal, Device User Signed Out, Device Suspicious Activity Detected, Device Work Profile Supported, Two-Factor Authentication Disabled, Two-Factor Authentication Enrolled, Account Password Changed, Account Recovery Email Changed, Account Recovery Phone Number Changed, Account Recovery Secret Question Changed, Account Recovery Secret Answer Changed, Account Password Leak Suspected, Account Suspicious Login Blocked, Account Suspicious Login From Less Secure App Blocked, Suspicious Programmatic Login Blocked, User Suspended, User Suspended (Spam Through Relay), User Suspended (Spam), User Suspended (Suspicious Activity), Account Enrolled In Advanced Protection, Account Unenrolled In Advanced Protection, Account Targeted By Government-Backed Attack, Out Of Domain Email Forwarding Enabled, Login Challenge Question Presented, Login Verification Presented, Log Out, Secure Shell Public Key Added, Secure Shell Public Key Deleted, Secure Shell Public Key Retrieved, Secure Shell Public Kev Updated, Login Profile Retrieved, POSIX Account Deleted, Application Method Called, Application Access Authorized, Application Access Revoked, Device Compromised, Failed Password Attempts On User Device, Device Property Changed.

3. Productivity Analytics records: Records relating to the gathering, analysis, review, and investigation of information system utilization, including; Calendar Appointments, Email Read Rate, Email Response Rate, Operating System Activity History, Email Timestamp, Statements Made In Email Body, Email Sender, Email Recipient, Email Subject Line, Calendar Event Type, Calendar Event Status, Calendar Event Category, Calendar Event Subject, Calendar Event Duration, Calendar Event Attendees, Meeting Organizer, Meeting Invitees, Meeting Subject Line, Meeting Scheduled Time, Meeting Attendee Status, Meeting Scheduled Location, Web Call Organizer, Web Call Invitees, Web Call Scheduled Time, Web Call Joined Time, Web Call Duration, Web Call Status, Web Call Join Status, Number Of Collaborative Audio Calls Made, Number Of Collaborative Video Calls Made, Chat Initiator, Chat Recipient, Chat IM Sent Time, Number Of Cloud-**Based Personal Storage Documents** Worked On, Number Of Cloud-Based Enterprise Storage Documents Worked On, Device Name, Chat Assistant Conversation Records, Chat Assistant Usage Metrics, Chat Assistant User Data,

# ROUTINE USES OF RECORDS MAINTAINED IN THE SYSTEM, INCLUDING CATEGORIES OF USERS AND THE PURPOSES OF SUCH USES:

Standard routine uses 1. through 9. apply. In addition:

(a) To appropriate agencies, entities, and persons when (1) the Postal Service suspects or has confirmed that there has been a breach of the system of records; (2) the Postal Service has determined that as a result of the suspected or confirmed breach there is a risk of harm to individuals, the Postal Service (including its information systems, programs, and operations), the Federal Government, or national security; and (3) the disclosure made to such agencies, entities, and persons is reasonably necessary to assist in connection with the Postal Service's efforts to respond to the suspected or confirmed breach or to prevent, minimize, or remedy such harm.

# **RECORD SOURCE CATEGORIES:**

Employees; contractors; customers.

# POLICIES AND PRACTICES FOR STORAGE OF RECORDS:

Automated database, computer storage media, and paper.

# POLICIES AND PRACTICES FOR RETRIEVAL OF RECORDS:

- 1. Records relating to information system access are retrievable by name, email address, username, geolocation data, and ACE ID.
- 2. Records relating to security analysis are retrievable by name, unique user ID,

email address, geolocation data, IP address and computer name.

- 3. Records relating to productivity are retrievable by name, email address, and ACE ID.
- 4. Records relating to third-parties are retrievable by name, email address, user name, and IP address.

# POLICIES AND PRACTICES FOR RETENTION AND DISPOSAL OF RECORDS:

- 1. Records relating to information system access are retained twenty-four months after last access.
- 2. Records relating to security analysis are retained for twenty-four months.
- 3. Records relating to productivity are retained for twenty-four months.
- 4. Records relating to third-parties are retained for twenty-four months.

# ADMINISTRATIVE, TECHNICAL, AND PHYSICAL SAFEGUARDS:

Paper records, computers, and computer storage media are located in controlled-access areas under supervision of program personnel. Computer access is limited to authorized personnel with a current security clearance, and physical access is limited to authorized personnel who must be identified with a badge.

Access to records is limited to individuals whose official duties require such access. Contractors and licensees are subject to contract controls and unannounced on-site audits and inspections. Computers are protected by encryption, mechanical locks, card key systems, or other physical access control methods. The use of computer systems is regulated with installed security software, computer logon identifications, and operating system controls including access controls, terminal and transaction logging, and file management software.

# RECORD ACCESS PROCEDURES:

Requests for access must be made in accordance with the Notification Procedure above and USPS Privacy Act regulations regarding access to records and verification of identity under 39 CFR 266.5.

# CONTESTING RECORD PROCEDURES:

See Notification Procedure and Record Access Procedures above.

### **NOTIFICATION PROCEDURES:**

Customers wanting to know if other information about them is maintained in this system of records must address inquiries in writing to the Chief Information Officer and Executive Vice President and include their name and address.

# EXEMPTION(S) PROMULGATED FROM THIS SYSTEM:

None.

#### HISTORY:

May 10th, 2021; 86 FR 24907.

#### Helen E. Vecchione,

Attorney, Ethics and Legal Compliance. [FR Doc. 2025–05678 Filed 4–2–25; 8:45 am] BILLING CODE 7710–12–P

# SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Investment Company Act Release No. 35514; 812–15718]

# Blue Owl Alternative Credit Fund and Blue Owl Alternative Credit Advisors II LLC

March 28, 2025.

**AGENCY:** Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission" or "SEC").

**ACTION:** Notice.

Notice of an application under section 6(c) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the "Act") for an exemption from sections 18(a)(2), 18(c) and 18(i) of the Act, under sections 6(c) and 23(c) of the Act for an exemption from rule 23c–3 under the Act, and for an order pursuant to section 17(d) of the Act and rule 17d–1 under the Act.

**SUMMARY OF APPLICATION:** Applicants request an order to permit certain registered closed-end investment companies to issue multiple classes of shares and to impose asset-based distribution and/or service fees and early withdrawal charges.

**APPLICANTS:** Blue Owl Alternative Credit Fund and Blue Owl Alternative Credit Advisors II LLC.

**FILING DATES:** The application was filed on March 7, 2025.

HEARING OR NOTIFICATION OF HEARING: An order granting the requested relief will be issued unless the Commission orders a hearing. Interested persons may request a hearing on any application by emailing the SEC's Secretary at Secretarys-Office@sec.gov and serving the Applicants with a copy of the request by email, if an email address is listed for the relevant Applicant below, or personally or by mail, if a physical address is listed for the relevant Applicant below. Hearing requests should be received by the Commission by 5:30 p.m. on April 22, 2025, and should be accompanied by proof of service on the Applicants, in the form of an affidavit, or, for lawyers, a certificate of service. Pursuant to rule 0-5 under the Act, hearing requests should state the nature of the writer's interest, any facts bearing upon the desirability of a hearing on the matter, the reason for the request, and the issues contested. Persons who wish to be notified of a hearing may request notification by emailing the Commission's Secretary.

ADDRESSES: The Commission: Secretarys-Office@sec.gov. Applicants: Neena Reddy, Esq., Blue Owl Alternative Credit Advisors II LLC, 399 Park Avenue, New York, New York 10022, with copies to Nicole M. Runyan, P.C. and Brad A. Green, P.C., Kirkland & Ellis LLP, 601 Lexington Avenue, New York, New York 10022.

# FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Rachel Loko, Senior Special Counsel, at

Rachel Loko, Senior Special Counsel, at (202) 551–6825 (Division of Investment Management, Chief Counsel's Office).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: For Applicants' representations, legal analysis, and conditions, please refer to Applicants' application, dated March 7, 2025, which may be obtained via the Commission's website by searching for the file number at the top of this document, or for an Applicant using the Company name search field on the SEC's EDGAR system. The SEC's EDGAR system may be searched at <a href="https://www.sec.gov/edgar/searchedgar/companysearch">https://www.sec.gov/edgar/searchedgar/companysearch</a>. You may also call the SEC's Office of Investor Education and Advocacy at (202) 551–8090.

For the Commission, by the Division of Investment Management, under delegated authority.

#### Sherry R. Haywood,

Assistant Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2025–05707 Filed 4–2–25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8011-01-P

# SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

### **Sunshine Act Meetings**

TIME AND DATE: Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the provisions of the Government in the Sunshine Act, Public Law 94–409, that the Securities and Exchange Commission's Crypto Task Force will hold a public meeting on May 12, 2025, from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. (ET).

**PLACE:** The roundtable will be held in the Auditorium at the Commission's headquarters, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549.

**STATUS:** This Sunshine Act notice is being issued because a majority of the Commission may attend the meeting. The meeting will begin at 1 p.m. (ET) and will be open to the public. Seating will be on a first-come, first-served basis. Doors will open at 12 p.m. (ET).

Visitors will be subject to security checks. The meeting will be webcast on the Commission's website at www.sec.gov, and a recording will be posted at a later date.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED: The Crypto Task Force will host a roundtable on "Tokenization—Moving Assets Onchain: Where TradFi and DeFi Meet." The roundtable is open to the public, who must register at this link. This Sunshine Act notice is being issued because a majority of the Commission may attend the roundtable.

The agenda for the roundtable will focus on tokenization. Members of the public are able to communicate directly on this and other topics and request a meeting with the Crypto Task Force.

# CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION:

For further information; please contact Vanessa A. Countryman from the Office of the Secretary at (202) 551–5400.

(Authority: 5 U.S.C. 552b)

Dated: April 1, 2025.

Vanessa A. Countryman,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2025-05855 Filed 4-1-25; 4:15 pm]

BILLING CODE 8011-01-P

# SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

# **Sunshine Act Meetings**

TIME AND DATE: Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the provisions of the Government in the Sunshine Act, Public Law 94–409, that the Securities and Exchange Commission's Crypto Task Force will hold a public meeting on June 6, 2025, from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. (ET).

**PLACE:** The roundtable will be held in the Auditorium at the Commission's headquarters, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549.

STATUS: This Sunshine Act notice is being issued because a majority of the Commission may attend the meeting. The meeting will begin at 1 p.m. (ET) and will be open to the public. Seating will be on a first-come, first-served basis. Doors will open at 12 p.m. (ET). Visitors will be subject to security checks. The meeting will be webcast on the Commission's website at www.sec.gov, and a recording will be posted at a later date.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED: The Crypto Task Force will host a roundtable on "DeFi and the American Spirit." The roundtable is open to the public, who must register at this link. This Sunshine Act notice is being issued because a majority of the Commission may attend the roundtable.

The agenda for the roundtable will focus on DeFi. Members of the public are able to communicate directly on this and other topics and request a meeting with the Crypto Task Force.

#### CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION:

For further information; please contact Vanessa A. Countryman from the Office of the Secretary at (202) 551–5400.

(Authority: 5 U.S.C. 552b)

Dated: April 1, 2025.

### Vanessa A. Countryman,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2025-05856 Filed 4-1-25; 4:15 pm]

BILLING CODE 8011-01-P

# SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

### **Sunshine Act Meetings**

TIME AND DATE: Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the provisions of the Government in the Sunshine Act, Public Law 94–409, that the Securities and Exchange Commission's Crypto Task Force will hold a public meeting on April 11, 2025, from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. (ET).

**PLACE:** The roundtable will be held in the Auditorium at the Commission's headquarters, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549.

STATUS: This Sunshine Act notice is being issued because a majority of the Commission may attend the meeting. The meeting will begin at 1 p.m. (ET) and will be open to the public. Seating will be on a first-come, first-served basis. Doors will open at 12 p.m. (ET). Visitors will be subject to security checks. The meeting will be webcast on the Commission's website at <a href="https://www.sec.gov">www.sec.gov</a>, and a recording will be posted at a later date.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED: The Crypto Task Force will host a roundtable on "Between a Block and a Hard Place: Tailoring Regulation for Crypto Trading." The roundtable is open to the public, who must register at this link. This Sunshine Act notice is being issued because a majority of the Commission may attend the roundtable.

The agenda for the roundtable will focus on crypto trading. Members of the public are able to communicate directly on this and other topics and request a meeting with the Crypto Task Force.

#### CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION:

For further information; please contact Vanessa A. Countryman from the Office of the Secretary at (202) 551–5400.

(Authority: 5 U.S.C. 552b)

Dated: April 1, 2025.

### Vanessa A. Countryman,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2025–05850 Filed 4–1–25; 4:15 pm]

BILLING CODE 8011-01-P

# SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-102742; File No. SR-CBOE-2025-017]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Cboe Exchange, Inc.; Notice of Filing of a Proposed Rule Change, as Modified by Amendment No. 3, To Amend Rules 4.3, 4.20, and 8.30, To Allow the Exchange To List and Trade Options on the VanEck Bitcoin Trust

March 28, 2025.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Act"),1 and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,2 notice is hereby given that on March 14, 2025, Cboe Exchange, Inc. (the "Exchange" or "Cboe Options") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II, and III below, which Items have been prepared by the Exchange. On March 26, 2025, the Exchange filed Amendment No. 1 to the proposed rule change. On March 27, 2025, the Exchange withdrew Amendment No. 1, filed and withdrew Amendment No. 2, and filed Amendment No. 3 to the proposal, which supersedes and replaces the original proposal in its entirety.<sup>3</sup> The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change, as modified by Amendment No. 3, from interested persons.

# I. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule Change

Cboe Exchange, Inc. (the "Exchange" or "Cboe Options") proposes to amend Rules 4.3, 4.20, and 8.30, to allow the Exchange to list and trade options on the VanEck Bitcoin Trust. The text of the proposed rule change is provided in Exhibit 5.

The text of the proposed rule change is also available on the Exchange's website (http://www.cboe.com/AboutCBOE/CBOELegalRegulatory Home.aspx), at the Exchange's Office of the Secretary, and at the Commission's Public Reference Room.

# II. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

In its filing with the Commission, the Exchange included statements concerning the purpose of and basis for the proposed rule change and discussed any comments it received on the proposed rule change. The text of these statements may be examined at the places specified in Item IV below. The Exchange has prepared summaries, set forth in sections A, B, and C below, of the most significant aspects of such statements.

A. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

# 1. Purpose

The Exchange proposes to amend Rule 4.3 regarding the criteria for underlying securities. Specifically, the Exchange proposes to amend Rule 4.3, Interpretation and Policy .06(a)(4) to allow the Exchange to list and trade options on Units <sup>4</sup> that represent interests in the VanEck Bitcoin Trust, <sup>5</sup> designating them as "Units" deemed appropriate for options trading on the Exchange. Current Rule 4.3,

<sup>1 15</sup> U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>This Amendment No. 3 modifies the original filing by (1) adding information regarding the proposed changes to Rule 4.20; and (2) correcting minor technical errors.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>Rule 1.1 defines a "Unit" (which may also be referred to as an ETF) as a share or other security traded on a national securities exchange and defined as an NMS stock as set forth in Rule 4.3.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 99306 (Jan. 10, 2024), 89 FR 3008 (Jan. 17, 2024) (SR–CboeBZX–2023–040) (Order Granting Accelerated Approval of Proposed Rule Changes, as Modified by Amendments Thereto, to List and Trade Bitcoin-Based Commodity-Based Trust Shares and Trust Units) ("Bitcoin ETP Approval Order").

Interpretation and Policy .06 provides that, subject to certain other criteria set forth in that Rule, securities deemed appropriate for options trading include Units that represent certain types of interests, including interests in certain specific trusts that hold financial instruments, money market instruments, or precious metals (which are deemed commodities).

The VanEck Bitcoin Trust is a Bitcoinbacked commodity ETF structured as a

<sup>6</sup> See Rule 4.3, Interpretation and Policy .06(a),

which permits options trading on Units that represent (1) interests in registered investment companies (or series thereof) organized as open-end management investment companies, unit investment trusts or similar entities that hold portfolios of securities and/or financial instruments including, but not limited to, stock index futures contracts, options on futures, options on securities and indexes, equity caps, collars and floors, swap agreements, forward contracts, repurchase agreements and reverse purchase agreements (the "Financial Instruments"), and money market instruments, including, but not limited to, U.S. government securities and repurchase agreements (the "Money Market Instruments") comprising or otherwise based on or representing investments in indexes or portfolios of securities and/or Financial Instruments and Money Market Instruments (or that hold securities in one or more other registered investment companies that themselves hold such portfolios of securities and/or Financial Instruments and Money Market Instruments); (2) interests in a trust or similar entity that holds a specified non-U.S. currency deposited with the trust or similar entity when aggregated in some specified minimum number may be surrendered to the trust by the beneficial owner to receive the specified non-U.S. currency and pays the beneficial owner interest and other distributions on deposited non-U.S. currency, if any, declared and paid by the trust ("Currency Trust Shares"); (3) commodity pool interests principally engaged, directly or indirectly, in holding and/or managing portfolios or baskets of securities, commodity futures contracts, options on commodity futures contracts, swaps, forward contracts and/or options on physical commodities and/or non-U.S. currency ("Commodity Pool Units"); (4) represent interests in the SPDR Gold Trust, the iShares COMEX Gold Trust, the iShares Silver Trust, the Aberdeen Standard Physical Silver Trust, the Aberdeen Standard Physical Gold Trust, the Aberdeen Standard Physical Palladium Trust, the Aberdeen Standard Physical Platinum Trust, the Sprott Physical Gold Trust, the Goldman Sachs Physical Gold ETF, the Fidelity Wise Origin Bitcoin Fund, the ARK 21Shares Bitcoin ETF, the iShares Bitcoin Trust, the Grayscale Bitcoin Trust, the Grayscale Bitcoin Mini Trust, or the Bitwise Bitcoin ETF; or (5) an interest in a registered investment company ("Investment Company") organized as an open-end management investment company or similar entity, that invests in a portfolio of securities selected by the Investment Company's investment adviser consistent with the Investment Company's investment objectives and policies. which is issued in a specified aggregate minimum number in return for a deposit of a specified portfolio of securities and/or a cash amount with a value equal to the next determined net asset value ("NAV"), and when aggregated in the same specified minimum number, may be redeemed at a holder's request, which holder will be paid a specified portfolio of securities and/or cash with a value equal to the next determined NAV ("Managed Fund Share").

trust. Similar to any Unit currently deemed appropriate for options trading under Rule 4.3, Interpretation and Policy .06, the investment objective of the VanEck Bitcoin Trust is for its shares to reflect the performance of Bitcoin (less the expenses of the trust's operations), offering investors an opportunity to gain exposure to Bitcoin without the complexities of Bitcoin delivery. As is the case for Units currently deemed appropriate for options trading, the VanEck Bitcoin Trust's shares represent units of fractional undivided beneficial interest in the trust, the assets of which consist principally of Bitcoin and are designed to track Bitcoin or the performance of the price of Bitcoin and offer access to the Bitcoin market.<sup>7</sup> The VanEck Bitcoin Trust provides investors with costefficient alternatives that allow a level of participation in the Bitcoin market through the securities market.

The Exchange believes the VanEck Bitcoin Trust satisfies the Exchange's initial listing standards for Units on which the Exchange may list options. Specifically, the VanEck Bitcoin Trust satisfies the initial listing standards set forth in Rule 4.3, Interpretation and Policy .06(b), as is the case for other Units on which the Exchange lists options (including trusts that hold commodities). Rule 4.3, Interpretation and Policy .06 requires that Units must either (1) meet the criteria and standards set forth in Rule 4.3, Interpretation and Policy .01(a),8 or (2) be available for creation or redemption each business day from or through the issuer in cash or in kind at a price related to net asset value, and the issuer must be obligated to issue Units in a specified aggregate number even if some or all of the investment assets required to be deposited have not been received by the issuer, subject to the condition that the person obligated to deposit the investments has undertaken to deliver the investment assets as soon as possible and such undertaking is secured by the delivery and maintenance of collateral consisting of cash or cash equivalents satisfactory to the issuer, as provided in the respective prospectus. The VanEck Bitcoin Trust satisfies Rule 4.3, Interpretation and

Policy .06(b)(2), as each is subject to this creation and redemption process.

While not required by the Rules for purposes of options listings, the Exchange believes the VanEck Bitcoin Trust satisfies the criteria and guidelines set forth in Rule 4.3, Interpretation and Policy .01. Pursuant to Rule 4.3(a), a security (which includes a Unit) on which options may be listed and traded on the Exchange must be duly registered (with the Commission) and be an NMS stock (as defined in Rule 600 of Regulation NMS under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Act")), and be characterized by a substantial number of outstanding shares that are widely held and actively traded.<sup>9</sup> The VanEck Bitcoin Trust is an NMS Stock as defined in Rule 600 of Regulation NMS under the Act.<sup>10</sup> The Exchange believes the VanEck Bitcoin Trust is characterized by a substantial number of outstanding shares that are widely held and actively traded.

As of March 5, 2025, the VanEck Bitcoin Trust had the following number of shares outstanding:

| Bitcoin fund         | Shares outstanding |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| VanEck Bitcoin Trust | 49,900,000         |

The VanEck Bitcoin Trust had significantly more than 7,000,000 shares outstanding (approximately 7 times that amount), which is the minimum number of shares of a corporate stock that the Exchange generally requires to list options on that stock pursuant to Rule 4.3, Interpretation and Policy .01(a)(1). The Exchange believes this demonstrates that the VanEck Bitcoin Trust is characterized by a substantial number of outstanding shares.

Further, the below table contains information regarding the number of beneficial holders of the VanEck Bitcoin Trust as of the specified dates:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup>The trust may include minimal cash and cash equivalents (*i.e.*, short-term instruments with maturities of less than three months).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup>Rule 4.3, Interpretation and Policy .01 provides for guidelines to be by the Exchange when evaluating potential underlying securities for Exchange option transactions.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> The criteria and guidelines for a security to be considered widely held and actively traded are set forth in Rule 4.3, Interpretation and Policy .01, subject to exceptions.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> An "NMS stock" means any NMS security other than an option, and an "NMS security" means any security or class of securities for which transaction reports are collected, processed, and made available pursuant to an effective transaction reporting plan (or an effective national market system plan for reporting transaction in listed options). See 17 CFR 242.600(b)(64) (definition of "NMS security") and (65) (definition of "NMS stock").

| Bitcoin fund         | Beneficial holders | Date    |
|----------------------|--------------------|---------|
| VanEck Bitcoin Trust | 32,469             | 1/31/25 |

As this table shows, the VanEck Bitcoin Trust has significantly more than 2,000 beneficial holders (approximately 16 times more), which is the minimum number of holders the Exchange generally requires for corporate stock in order to list options on that stock pursuant to Rule 4.3,

Interpretation and Policy .01(a)(2). Therefore, the Exchange believes the shares of the VanEck Bitcoin Trust are widely held.<sup>11</sup>

The Exchange also believes the shares of the VanEck Bitcoin Trust are actively traded. As of March 5, 2025, the total trading volume (by shares) for the trust

for the six-month period of September 5, 2024, through March 5, 2025, and the approximate average daily volume ("ADV") (in shares and notional) over the 30-day period of September 5, 2024, through March 5, 2025, for the VanEck Bitcoin Trust was as follows:

| Bitcoin fund         | 6-Month trading<br>volume<br>(shares) | 30-Day ADV<br>(shares) | 30-Day ADV<br>(notional \$) |
|----------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| VanEck Bitcoin Trust | 133,275,448                           | 794,677                | 39,163,513.72               |

As demonstrated above, as of March 5, 2025, the six-month trading volume for the VanEck Bitcoin Trust as of that date was substantially higher than 2,400,000 shares (approximately 55 times that amount), which is the minimum 12-month volume the Exchange generally requires for a corporate stock in order to list options on that security as set forth in Rule 4.3, Interpretation and Policy .01. The Exchange believes this data demonstrates the VanEck Bitcoin Trust is characterized as having shares that are actively traded.

Options on the VanEck Bitcoin Trust will be subject to the Exchange's continued listing standards set forth in Rule 4.4, Interpretation and Policy .06 for Units deemed appropriate for options trading pursuant to Rule 4.3, Interpretation and Policy .06. Specifically, Rule 4.4, Interpretation and Policy .06 provides that Units that were initially approved for options trading pursuant to Rule 4.3, Interpretation and Policy .06 shall be deemed not to meet the requirements for continued approval, and the Exchange shall not open for trading any additional series of option contracts of the class covering that such Units, if the Units cease to be an NMS stock or the Units are halted

from trading in their primary market. Additionally, options on Units may be subject to the suspension of opening transactions in any of the following circumstances: (1) in the case of options covering Units approved for trading under Rule 4.3, Interpretation and Policy .06(b)(1), in accordance with the terms of paragraphs (a), (b), and (c) of Rule 4.4, Interpretation and Policy .01; (2) in the case of options covering Units approved for trading under Rule 4.3 Interpretation and Policy .06(b)(2) (as is the case for the VanEck Bitcoin Trust), following the initial twelve-month period beginning upon the commencement of trading in the Units on a national securities exchange and are defined as an NMS stock, there are fewer than 50 record and/or beneficial holders of such Units for 30 or more consecutive trading days; (3) the value of the index or portfolio of securities, non-U.S. currency, or portfolio of commodities including commodity futures contracts, options on commodity futures contracts, swaps, forward contracts and/or options on physical commodities and/or financial instruments and money market instruments on which the Units are based is no longer calculated or available; or (4) such other event shall

occur or condition exist that in the opinion of the Exchange makes further dealing in such options on the Exchange inadvisable.

Options on the VanEck Bitcoin Trust will be physically settled contracts with American-style exercise. 12 Consistent with current Rule 4.5, which governs the opening of options series on a specific underlying security (including Units), the Exchange will open at least one expiration month for options on the VanEck Bitcoin Trust 13 at the commencement of trading on the Exchange and may also list series of options on the VanEck Bitcoin Trust for trading on a weekly,14 monthly,15 or quarterly 16 basis. The Exchange may also list long-term equity option series ("LEAPS") that expire from 12 to 180 months from the time they are listed.

Pursuant to Rule 4.5, Interpretation and Policy .07, which governs strike prices of series of options on Units, the interval of strikes prices for series of options on the VanEck Bitcoin Trust will be \$1 or greater when the strike price is \$200 or less and \$5 or greater where the strike price is over

arising out of the exercise of physically settled stock option contracts).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> The Exchange continues to believe assets under management ("AUM"), rather than shares outstanding and number of holders, is a better measure of investable capacity of ETFs and a more appropriate figure for determining position and exercise limits of ETFs and looks forward to further discussions with the Commission staff on this topic.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> See Rule 4.2, which provides that the rights and obligations of holders and writers are set forth in the Rules of the Options Clearing Corporation ("OCC"); and Equity Options Product Specifications Jan. 3, 2024), available at Equity Options Specifications (cboe.com); see also OCC Rules, Chapters VIII (which governs exercise and assignment) and Chapter IX (which governs the discharge of delivery and payment obligations

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> See Rule 4.5(b). The monthly expirations are subject to certain listing criteria for underlying securities described within Rule 4.3. Monthly listings expire the third Friday of the month. The term "expiration date" (unless separately defined elsewhere in the OCC By-Laws), when used in respect of an option contract (subject to certain exceptions), means the third Friday of the expiration month of such option contract, or if such Friday is a day on which the exchange on which such option is listed is not open for business, the preceding day on which such exchange is open for business. See OCC By-Laws Article I, Section 1.
Pursuant to Rule 4.5(c), additional series of options

of the same class may be opened for trading on the Exchange when the Exchange deems it necessary to maintain an orderly market, to meet customer demand or when the market price of the underlying stock moves more than five strike prices from the initial exercise price or prices. New series of options on an individual stock may be added until the beginning of the month in which the options contract will expire. Due to unusual market conditions, the Exchange, in its discretion, may add a new series of options on an individual stock until the close of trading on the business day prior to expiration.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> See Rule 4.5(d).

<sup>15</sup> See Rule 4.5(g).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> See Rule 4.5(e).

\$200.17 Additionally, the Exchange may list series of options pursuant to the \$1 Strike Price Interval Program, 18 the \$0.50 Strike Program,19 the \$2.50 Strike Price Program,<sup>20</sup> and the \$5 Strike Program.<sup>21</sup> Pursuant to Rule 5.4, where the price of a series of the VanEck Bitcoin Trust option is less than \$3.00, the minimum increment will be \$0.05, and where the price is \$3.00 or higher, the minimum increment will be \$0.10.22 Any and all new series of VanEck Bitcoin Trust options that the Exchange lists will be consistent and comply with the expirations, strike prices, and minimum increments set forth in Rules 4.5 and 5.4, as applicable.

VanEck Bitcoin Trust options will trade in the same manner as any other Unit options on the Exchange. The Exchange Rules that currently apply to the listing and trading of all Unit options on the Exchange, including, for example, Rules that govern listing

criteria, expirations, exercise prices, minimum increments, margin requirements, customer accounts, and trading halt procedures will apply to the listing and trading of VanEck Bitcoin Trust options on the Exchange in the same manner as they apply to other options on all other Units that are listed and traded on the Exchange, including the precious-metal backed commodity Units already deemed appropriate for options trading on the Exchange pursuant to current Rule 4.3, Interpretation and Policy .06(a)(4).

Rule 4.20 currently permits the Exchange to authorize for trading a FLEX option class on any equity security if it may authorize for trading a non-FLEX option class on that equity security pursuant to Rule 4.3. The proposed rule change amends Rule 4.20 to exclude the VanEck Bitcoin Trust from this provision.

The Exchange also proposes to amend Rule 8.30. Specifically, the Exchange proposes to amend Rule 8.30, Interpretation and Policy .10 to provide a position limit of 25,000 same side option contracts for the VanEck Bitcoin Trust option. Additionally, pursuant to Rule 8.42, Interpretation and Policy .02, the exercise limits for options on the VanEck Bitcoin Trust will be equivalent to this proposed position limit.

The Exchange determined these proposed position and exercise limits considering, among other things, the approximate six-month average daily volume ("ADV") and outstanding shares of the VanEck Bitcoin Trust (which as discussed above demonstrate that the VanEck Bitcoin Trust is widely held and actively traded and thus justify these conservatively proposed position limits), as set forth below, along with market capitalization (as of March 5, 2025):

| Underlying Bitcoin fund | Six-month ADV (shares) | Outstanding shares | Market capitalization (\$) |
|-------------------------|------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|
| VanEck Bitcoin Trust    | 1,074,802              | 49,900,000         | 1,271,859,416              |

The Exchange then compared the number of outstanding shares of the VanEck Bitcoin Trust to those of other ETFs. The following table provides the approximate average position (and exercise limit) of ETF options with similar outstanding shares (as of March 5, 2025), compared to the proposed

position and exercise limit for the VanEck Bitcoin Trust options:

| Underlying Bitcoin fund | Average limit of other ETF options (contracts) | Proposed limit<br>(contracts) |
|-------------------------|--|-------------------------------|
| VanEck Bitcoin Trust    | <sup>23</sup> 225,000                          | 25,000                        |

The Exchange considered current position and exercise limits of options on ETFs with outstanding shares comparable to those of the VanEck Bitcoin Trust, with the proposed limit significantly lower (between two and ten times lower) than the average limits of the options on the other ETFs. As discussed above, the VanEck Bitcoin Trust is actively held and widely traded (all statistics as of March 5, 2025) because it: (1) had significantly more than 7,000,000 shares outstanding, which is the minimum number of shares

of a corporate stock that the Exchange generally requires to list options on that stock pursuant to Rule 4.3, Interpretation and Policy .01(a)(1); (2) had significantly more than 2,000 beneficial holders, which is the minimum number of holders the Exchange generally requires for corporate stock in order to list options on that stock pursuant to Rule 4.3, Interpretation and Policy .01(a)(2); and (3) had a six-month trading volume substantially higher than 2,400,000 shares, which is the minimum 12-month

volume the Exchange generally requires for a security in order to list options on that security as set forth in Rule 4.3, Interpretation and Policy .01.

With respect to outstanding shares, if a market participant held the maximum number of positions possible pursuant to the proposed position and exercise limits, the equivalent shares represented by the proposed position/exercise limit would represent the following approximate percentage of current outstanding shares:

| Underlying Bitcoin fund | Proposed position/<br>exercise limit<br>(in equivalent shares) | Outstanding shares | Percentage of outstanding shares |
|-------------------------|--|--------------------|----------------------------------|
| VanEck Bitcoin Trust    | 2,500,000  | 49,900,000         | 5.01                             |

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> The Exchange notes that for options listed pursuant to the Short Term Option Series Program, the Monthly Options Series Program, and the Quarterly Options Series Program, Rules 4.5(d), (e), and (g) specifically sets forth intervals between strike prices on Quarterly Options Series, Short Term Option Series, and Monthly Options Series, respectively.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> See Rule 4.5, Interpretation and Policy .01(a).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> See Rule 4.5, Interpretation and Policy .01(b).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> See Rule 4.5, Interpretation and Policy .04.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> See Rule 4.5, Interpretation and Policy .01(f).

 $<sup>^{22}\,\</sup>mathrm{If}$  options on the VanEck Bitcoin Trust are eligible to participate in the Penny Interval Program, the minimum increment will be \$0.01 for

series with a price below \$3.00 and \$0.05 for series with a price at or above \$3.00. See 5.4(d) (which describes the requirements for the Penny Interval Program).

 $<sup>^{23}\,\</sup>rm Over~90\%$  of the ETFs used for comparison have a limit of at least 200,000, and more than 75% have a limit of 250,000.

As this table demonstrates, if a market participant held the maximum permissible options positions in VanEck Bitcoin Trust options and exercised all of them at the same time, that market participant would control a small percentage of the outstanding shares of the VanEck Bitcoin Trust.

Cboe Options Rule 8.30, Interpretation and Policy .02, provides two methods of qualifying for a position limit tier above 25,000 option contracts. The first method is based on six-month trading volume in the underlying security, and the second method is based on slightly lower six-month trading volume and number of shares outstanding in the underlying security. An underlying stock or ETF that qualifies for method two based on trading volume and number of shares outstanding would be required to have the minimum number of outstanding shares as shown in middle column of the table below.

The table, which provides the equivalent shares of the position limits applicable to equity options, including ETFs, further represents the percentages of the minimum number of outstanding shares that an underlying stock or ETF must have to qualify for that position limit (under the second method described above), all of which are higher than the percentages for the VanEck Bitcoin Trust.

| Position/exercise limit (in equivalent shares) | Minimum outstanding shares | Percentage of outstanding shares |
|--|----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 2,500,000                                      | <sup>24</sup> 6,300,000    | 40.0                             |
| 5,000,000                                      | 40,000,000                 | 12.5                             |
| 7,500,000                                      | 120,000,000                | 6.3                              |
| 20,000,000                                     | 240,000,000                | 8.3                              |
| 25,000,000                                     | 300,000,000                | 8.3                              |

The equivalent shares represented by the proposed position and exercise limits for the VanEck Bitcoin Trust as a percentage of outstanding shares of the VanEck Bitcoin Trust is significantly lower than the percentage for the lowest possible position limit for equity options of 25,000 (under 6% compared to 40%) and is lower than that percentage for each current position limit bucket.<sup>25</sup>

Further, the proposed position and exercise limits for the VanEck Bitcoin Trust option are significantly below the limits that would otherwise apply pursuant to current Rule 8.30. These position and exercise limits are the lowest position and exercise limits available in the options industry, are extremely conservative and more than appropriate given the market capitalization, average daily volume, and high number of outstanding shares of the VanEck Bitcoin Trust.

All of the above information demonstrates that the proposed position and exercise limits for the VanEck

Bitcoin Trust options are more than reasonable and appropriate. The trading volume, ADV, and outstanding shares of the VanEck Bitcoin Trust demonstrate that the trust is actively traded and widely held, and proposed position and exercise limits are well below those of other ETFs with similar market characteristics. The proposed position and exercise limits are the lowest position and exercise limits available for equity options in the industry, are extremely conservative, and are more than appropriate given the VanEck Bitcoin Trust's market capitalization, ADV, and high number of outstanding shares.

Today, the Exchange has an adequate surveillance program in place for options. Choe intends to apply those same program procedures to options on the VanEck Bitcoin Trust that it applies to the Exchange's other options products.<sup>26</sup> Cboe's market surveillance staff would have access to the surveillances conducted by Cboe BZX Exchange, Inc.<sup>27</sup> with respect to the VanEck Bitcoin Trust and would review activity in the underlying VanEck Bitcoin Trust when conducting surveillances for market abuse or manipulation in the options on the VanEck Bitcoin Trust. Additionally, the Exchange is a member of the Intermarket Surveillance Group ("ISG") under the ISG Agreement. ISG members work together to coordinate surveillance and investigative information sharing in

the stock, options, and futures markets. In addition to obtaining information from BZX, the Exchange would be able to obtain information regarding trading of shares of the VanEck Bitcoin Trust through ISG.

In addition, Cboe has a Regulatory Services Agreement with the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority ("FINRA") for certain market surveillance, investigation and examinations functions. Pursuant to a multi-party 17d–2 joint plan, all options exchanges allocate amongst themselves and FINRA responsibilities to conduct certain options-related market surveillance that are common to rules of all options exchanges.<sup>28</sup>

The underlying shares of spot bitcoin exchange-traded products ("ETPs"), including the VanEck Bitcoin Trust, are also subject to safeguards related to addressing market abuse and manipulation. As the Commission stated in its order approving proposals of several exchanges to list and trade shares of spot bitcoin-based ETPs:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> This is the minimum number of outstanding shares an underlying security must have for the Exchange to continue to list options on that security, so this would be the smallest number of outstanding shares permissible for any corporate option that would have a position limit of 25,000 contract. See Rule 4.4, Interpretation and Policy .01. This rule applies to corporate stock options but not ETF options, which currently have no requirement regarding outstanding shares of the underlying ETF for the Exchange to continue listing options on that ETF. Therefore, there may be ETF options trading for which the 25,000 contract position limits represents an even larger percentage of outstanding shares of the underlying ETF than set forth above.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> As these percentages are based on the minimum number of outstanding shares an underlying security must have to qualify for the applicable position limit, these are the highest possible percentages that would apply to any option subject to that position and exercise limit.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> The surveillance program includes surveillance patterns for price and volume movements as well as patterns for potential manipulation (*e.g.*, spoofing and marking the close).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> Cboe BZX Exchange, Inc. is an affiliated market of the Exchange.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> Section 19(g)(1) of the Act, among other things, requires every self-regulatory organization ("SRO") registered as a national securities exchange or national securities association to comply with the Act, the rules and regulations thereunder, and the SRO's own rules, and, absent reasonable justification or excuse, enforce compliance by its members and persons associated with its members. See 15 U.S.C. 78q(d)(1) and 17 CFR 240.17d-2. Section 17(d)(1) of the Act allows the Commission to relieve an SRO of certain responsibilities with respect to members of the SRO who are also members of another SRO ("common members"). Specifically, Section 17(d)(1) allows the Commission to relieve an SRO of its responsibilities to: (i) receive regulatory reports from such members; (ii) examine such members for compliance with the Act and the rules and regulations thereunder, and the rules of the SRO; or (iii) carry out other specified regulatory responsibilities with respect to such members.

Each Exchange has a comprehensive surveillance-sharing agreement with the CME via their common membership in the Intermarket Surveillance Group. This facilitates the sharing of information that is available to the CME through its surveillance of its markets, including its surveillance of the CME bitcoin futures market.<sup>29</sup>

The Exchange states that, given the consistently high correlation between the CME Bitcoin futures market and the spot bitcoin market, as confirmed by the Commission through robust correlation analysis, the Commission was able to conclude that such surveillance sharing agreements could reasonably be "expected to assist in surveilling for fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices in the specific context of the [Bitcoin ETPs]." <sup>30</sup>

In light of surveillance measures related to both options and futures as well as the VanEck Bitcoin Trust,<sup>31</sup> the Exchange believes that existing surveillance procedures are designed to deter and detect possible manipulative behavior which might potentially arise from listing and trading the proposed options on the VanEck Bitcoin Trust. Further, the Exchange will implement any new surveillance procedures it deems necessary to effectively monitor the trading of options on the VanEck Bitcoin Trust.

The Exchange has also analyzed its capacity and represents that it believes the Exchange and OPRA have the necessary systems capacity to handle the additional traffic associated with the listing of new series that may result from the introduction of options on VanEck Bitcoin Trust up to the number of expirations currently permissible under the Rules. Because the proposal is limited to two classes, the Exchange believes any additional traffic that may be generated from the introduction of VanEck Bitcoin Trust options will be manageable.

The Exchange believes that offering options on the VanEck Bitcoin Trust will benefit investors by providing them with an additional, relatively lower cost investing tool to gain exposure to the price of Bitcoin and hedging vehicle to meet their investment needs in connection with Bitcoin-related products and positions. The Exchange expects investors will transact in options on the VanEck Bitcoin Trust in the unregulated over-the-counter ("OTC") options market,<sup>32</sup> but may

prefer to trade such options in a listed environment to receive the benefits of trading listing options, including (1) enhanced efficiency in initiating and closing out positions; (2) increased market transparency; and (3) heightened contra-party creditworthiness due to the role of OCC as issuer and guarantor of all listed options. The Exchange believes that listing the VanEck Bitcoin Trust options may cause investors to bring this liquidity to the Exchange, would increase market transparency and enhance the process of price discovery conducted on the Exchange through increased order flow. The Units that hold financial instruments, money market instruments, or precious metal commodities on which the Exchange may already list and trade options are trusts structured in substantially the same manner as the VanEck Bitcoin Trust and essentially offer the same objectives and benefits to investors, just with respect to different assets. The Exchange notes that it has not identified any issues with the continued listing and trading of any Unit options, including Units that hold commodities (i.e., precious metals) that it currently lists and trades on the Exchange.

# 2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act and the rules and regulations thereunder applicable to the Exchange and, in particular, the requirements of Section 6(b) of the Act.<sup>33</sup> Specifically, the Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with the Section  $6(b)(5)^{34}$  requirements that the rules of an exchange be designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to foster cooperation and coordination with persons engaged in regulating, clearing, settling, processing information with respect to, and facilitating transactions in securities, to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system, and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest. Additionally, the Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with the Section 6(b)(5) 35 requirement that the rules of an exchange not be designed to permit unfair discrimination between customers, issuers, brokers, or dealers.

In particular, the Exchange believes that the proposal to list and trade

options on the VanEck Bitcoin Trust will remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system and, in general, protect investors because offering options on the VanEck Bitcoin Trust will provide investors with an opportunity to realize the benefits of utilizing options on the VanEck Bitcoin Trust, including cost efficiencies and increased hedging strategies. The Exchange believes that offering the VanEck Bitcoin Trust options will benefit investors by providing them with a relatively lowercost risk management tool, which will allow them to manage their positions and associated risk in their portfolios more easily in connection with exposure to the price of Bitcoin and with Bitcoin-related products and positions. Additionally, the Exchange's offering of VanEck Bitcoin Trust options will provide investors with the ability to transact in such options in a listed market environment as opposed to in the unregulated OTC options market, which would increase market transparency and enhance the process of price discovery conducted on the Exchange through increased order flow to the benefit of all investors. The Exchange also notes that it already lists options on other commodity-based Units,<sup>36</sup> which, as described above, are trusts structured in substantially the same manner as the VanEck Bitcoin Trust and essentially offer the same objectives and benefits to investors and for which the Exchange has not identified any issues with the continued listing and trading of commodity-backed Unit options it currently lists for trading. 37

The Exchange also believes the proposed rule change will remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system, because it is consistent with current Exchange Rules previously filed with the Commission. 38 Options on the VanEck Bitcoin Trust satisfy the initial listing standards and continued listing standards currently in the Exchange Rules applicable to options on all Units, including Units that hold other commodities already deemed appropriate for options trading on the

 $<sup>^{29}</sup>$  See Bitcoin ETP Approval Order at 3009.  $^{30}$  See Bitcoin ETP Approval Order, 89 FR at 3010–11.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>31</sup> See supra note 5.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>32</sup> The Exchange understands from customers that investors have historically transacted in options on Units in the OTC options market if such options

were not available for trading in a listed environment.

<sup>33 15</sup> U.S.C. 78f(b).

<sup>34 15</sup> U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>35</sup> Id.

 $<sup>^{36}</sup>$  See Rule 4.3, Interpretation and Policy .06(a)(4).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>37</sup> See Securities Exchange Act No. 101387 (Oct. 18, 2024) 89 FR 84948 (Oct. 24, 2024) (SR–CBOE–2024–035) (Notice of Filing of Amendment Nos. 2 and 3 and Order Granting Accelerated Approval of a Proposed Rule Change, as Modified by Amendment Nos. 2 and 3, To Permit the Listing and Trading of Options on Bitcoin Exchange-Traded Funds).

<sup>38</sup> Id.

Exchange. Additionally, as demonstrated above, the VanEck Bitcoin Trust is characterized by a substantial number of shares that are widely held and actively traded. VanEck Bitcoin Trust options will trade in the same manner as any other Unit options—the same Exchange Rules that currently govern the listing and trading of all Unit options, including permissible expirations, strike prices and minimum increments, and applicable margin requirements, will govern the listing and trading of options on the VanEck Bitcoin Trust in the same manner.

The Exchange believes the proposed rule change to exclude the VanEck Bitcoin Trust from being eligible for trading as FLEX options is consistent with the Act, because it will permit the Exchange to continue to participate in ongoing discussions with the Commission regarding appropriate position limits for ETF options.<sup>39</sup>

The Exchange believes the proposed position and exercise limits are designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices and promote just and equitable principles of

trade, as they are designed to address potential manipulative schemes and adverse market impacts surrounding the use of options, such as disrupting the market in the security underlying the options. The proposed position and exercise limits in this proposal for the VanEck Bitcoin Trust options are 25,000 contracts, which is currently the lowest limit applicable to any equity options (including ETF options). The Exchange believes the proposed position and exercise limits are extremely conservative for the VanEck Bitcoin Trust option given the trading volume and outstanding shares for each. The information above demonstrates that the average position and exercise limits of options on ETFs with comparable outstanding shares and trading volume to those of the VanEck Bitcoin Trust is significantly higher than the proposed position and exercise limits for the VanEck Bitcoin Trust options. Therefore, the proposed position and exercise limits for the VanEck Bitcoin Trust options are conservative relative to options on ETFs with comparable market characteristics.

Further, given that the issuer of the VanEck Bitcoin Trust may create and redeem shares that represent an interest in Bitcoin, the Exchange believes it is relevant to compare the size of a position limit to the market capitalization of the Bitcoin market. As of March 5, 2025, the global supply of Bitcoin was 19,832,309, and the price of one Bitcoin was approximately \$90,608.57,40 which equates to a market capitalization of approximately \$1.797 trillion. Consider the proposed position and exercise limit of 25,000 option contracts for the VanEck Bitcoin Trust option. A position and exercise limit of 25,000 same side contracts effectively restricts a market participant from holding positions that could result in the receipt of no more than 2,500,000 of VanEck Bitcoin Trust shares, as applicable (if that market participant exercised all of its options). The following table shows the share price of the VanEck Bitcoin Trust on March 5, 2025, the value of 2,500,000 shares of the VanEck Bitcoin Trust at that price, and the approximate percentage of that value of the size of the Bitcoin market:

| Bitcoin fund         | March 5, 2025 share price (\$) | Value of 2,500,000<br>shares of Bitcoin fund<br>(\$) | Percentage of Bitcoin market |
|----------------------|--------------------------------|--|------------------------------|
| VanEck Bitcoin Trust | 25.60                          | 64,000,000   | 0.0035                       |

Therefore, if a market participant with the maximum 25,000 same side contracts in VanEck Bitcoin Trust options exercised all positions at one time, such an event would have no practical impact on the Bitcoin market.

The Exchange also believes the proposed limits are appropriate given

position limits for Bitcoin futures. For example, the Chicago Mercantile Exchange ("CME") imposes a position limit of 2,000 futures (for the initial spot month) on its Bitcoin futures contract.<sup>41</sup> On March 5, 2025, CME Mar 25 Bitcoin Futures settled at \$90,935. A position of

2,000 CME Bitcoin futures, therefore, would have a notional value of \$909,350,000. The following table shows the share price of the VanEck Bitcoin Trust on March 5, 2025, and the approximate number of option contracts that equates to that notional value:

| Bitcoin fund         | March 5, 2025<br>share price (\$) | Number of option contracts |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| VanEck Bitcoin Trust | 25.60                             | 355,214                    |

The approximate number of option contracts for the VanEck Bitcoin Trust that equate to the notional value of CME Bitcoin futures is significantly higher than the proposed limit of 25,000 options contract for the VanEck Bitcoin Trust option. The fact that many options ultimately expire out-of-the-money and thus are not exercised for shares of the underlying, while the delta of a Bitcoin

Future is 1, further demonstrates how conservative the proposed limits of 25,000 options contracts are for the VanEck Bitcoin Trust options.

The Exchange notes, unlike options contracts, CME position limits are calculated on a net futures-equivalent basis by contract and include contracts that aggregate into one or more base contracts according to an aggregation

ratio(s).<sup>42</sup> Therefore, if a portfolio includes positions in options on futures, CME would aggregate those positions into the underlying futures contracts in accordance with a table published by CME on a delta equivalent value for the relevant spot month, subsequent spot month, single month and all month position limits.<sup>43</sup> If a position exceeds position limits because of an option

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>39</sup> The Exchange may submit a separate rule filing that would permit the Exchange to authorize for trading FLEX options on the VanEck Bitcoin Trust (which filing may propose changes to existing FLEX option position limits for such options if appropriate).

 $<sup>^{40}\,</sup>See$  Blockchain.com | Charts—Total Circulating Bitcoin.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>41</sup> See CME Rulebook Chapter 350 (description of CME Bitcoin Futures) and Chapter 5, Position Limit, Position Accountability and Reportable Level Table in the Interpretations & Special Notices. Each CME Bitcoin futures contract is valued at five

Bitcoins as defined by the CME CF Bitcoin Reference Rate ("BRR"). See CME Rule 35001.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>42</sup> See CME Rulebook Chapter 5, Position Limit, Position Accountability and Reportable Level Table in the Interpretations & Special Notices.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>43</sup> Id.

assignment, CME permits market participants to liquidate the excess position within one business day without being considered in violation of its rules. Additionally, if at the close of trading, a position that includes options exceeds position limits for futures contracts, when evaluated using the delta factors as of that day's close of trading but does not exceed the limits when evaluated using the previous day's delta factors, then the position shall not constitute a position limit violation. Considering CME's position

limits on futures for Bitcoin, the Exchange believes that the proposed same side position limits are more than appropriate for the VanEck Bitcoin Trust options.

The Exchange believes the proposed position and exercise limits in this proposal will have no material impact to the supply of Bitcoin. For example, consider again the proposed position limit of 25,000 option contracts for the VanEck Bitcoin Trust option. As noted above, a position limit of 25,000 same side contracts effectively restricts a market participant from holding

positions that could result in the receipt of no more than 2,500,000 shares of the applicable VanEck Bitcoin Trust (if that market participant exercised all its options). As of March 5, 2025, the VanEck Bitcoin Trust had the number of shares outstanding set forth in the table below. The table below also sets forth the approximate number of market participants that could hold the maximum of 25,000 same side positions in the VanEck Bitcoin Trust that would equate to the number of shares outstanding of the VanEck Bitcoin:

| Bitcoin fund         | Shares out-<br>standing | Number of market<br>participants with<br>25,000 same side<br>positions |
|----------------------|-------------------------|--|
| VanEck Bitcoin Trust | 49,900,000              | 20   |

This means if 20 market participants had 25,000 same side positions in VanEck Bitcoin Trust options, each of them would have to simultaneously exercise all of those options to create a scenario that may put the underlying security under stress. The Exchange believes it is highly unlikely for either such event to occur; however, even if either such event did occur, the Exchange would not expect the VanEck Bitcoin Trust to be under stress because such an event would merely induce the creation of more shares through the trust's creation and redemption process.

As of March 5, 2025, the global supply of Bitcoin was approximately 19,832,309.44 Based on the \$25.60 price of VanEck Bitcoin Trust share on March 5, 2025, a market participant could have redeemed one Bitcoin for approximately 3.539 VanEck Bitcoin Trust shares. Another 70,194,417,201 VanEck Bitcoin Trust shares could be created before the supply of Bitcoin was exhausted. As a result, 28,078 market participants would have to simultaneously exercise 25,000 same side positions in VanEck Bitcoin Trust options to receive shares of the VanEck Bitcoin Trust holding the entire global supply of Bitcoin. Unlike the VanEck Bitcoin Trust, the number of shares that corporations may issue is limited. However, like corporations, which authorize additional shares, repurchase shares, or split their shares, the VanEck Bitcoin Trust may create, redeem, or split shares in response to demand. While the supply of Bitcoin is limited to 21,000,000, it is believed that it will take more than 100 years to fully mine the remaining Bitcoin. The supply

of Bitcoin is larger than the available supply of most securities. 45 Given the significant unlikelihood of any of these events ever occurring, the Exchange does not believe options on the VanEck Bitcoin Trust should be subject to position and exercise limits even lower than those proposed (which are already equal to the lowest available limit for equity options in the industry) to protect the supply of Bitcoin. 46

The Exchange believes the available supply of Bitcoin is not relevant to the determination of position and exercise limits for options overlying the VanEck Bitcoin Trust. Position and exercise limits are not a tool that should be used to address a potential limited supply of the underlying of an underlying. Position and exercise limits do not limit the total number of options that may be held, but rather they limit the number of positions a single customer may hold or exercise at one time.47 "Since the inception of standardized options trading, the options exchanges have had rules imposing limits on the aggregate number of options contracts that a member or customer could hold or

exercise." <sup>48</sup> Position and exercise limit rules are intended "to prevent the establishment of options positions that can be used or might create incentives to manipulate or disrupt the underlying market so as to benefit the options position. In particular, position and exercise limits are designed to minimize the potential for mini-manipulations and for corners or squeezes of the underlying market. In addition, such limits serve to reduce the possibility for disruption of the options market itself, especially in illiquid options classes." <sup>49</sup>

The Exchange notes that a Registration Statement on Form S-1 was filed with the Commission for the VanEck Bitcoin Trust, each of which described the supply of Bitcoin as being limited to 21,000,000 (of which approximately 90% had already been mined), and that the limit would be reached around the year 2140.50 The Registration Statement permits an unlimited number of shares of the applicable VanEck Bitcoin Trust to be created. Further, the Commission approved proposed rule changes that permitted the listing and trading of shares of the VanEck Bitcoin Trust, which approval did not comment on the sufficient supply of Bitcoin or address whether there was a risk that permitting an unlimited number of shares for the VanEck Bitcoin Trust would impact the supply of Bitcoin.<sup>51</sup> Therefore, the Exchange believes the Commission had ample time and opportunity to consider

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>44</sup> See Blockchain.com | Charts—Total Circulating Bitcoin (which also shows the price of one Bitcoin equal to \$90,608.57).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>45</sup>The market capitalization of Bitcoin would rank in the top 10 among securities. See https://companiesmarketcap.com/usa/largest-companies-in-the-usa-by-market-cap/.

 $<sup>^{\</sup>rm 46}$  This would be even more unlikely with respect to the VanEck Bitcoin Trust for which the Exchange proposes lower position limits.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>47</sup> For example, suppose an option has a position limit of 25,000 option contracts and there are a total of 10 investors trading that option. If all 10 investors max out their positions, that would result in 250,000 option contracts outstanding at that time. However, suppose 10 more investors decide to begin trading that option and also max out their positions. This would result in 500,000 option contracts outstanding at that time. An increase in the number of investors could cause an increase in outstanding options even if position limits remain unchanged.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>48</sup> See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 39489 (Dec. 24, 1997), 63 FR 276 (Jan. 5, 1998) (SR–CBOE–1997–11).

<sup>49</sup> See id.

 $<sup>^{50}\,</sup>See$  Amendment No. 8 to Form S–1 Registration Statement No. 333–251808, filed Jan. 9, 2024.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>51</sup> See Bitcoin ETP Approval Order.

whether the supply of Bitcoin was sufficient to permit the creation of unlimited VanEck Bitcoin Trust shares, and does not believe considering this supply with respect to the establishment of position and exercise limits is appropriate given its lack of relevance to the purpose of position and exercise limits. However, given the significant size of the Bitcoin supply, the proposed positions limits are more than sufficient to protect investors and the market.

Based on the above information demonstrating, among other things, that the VanEck Bitcoin Trust is characterized by a substantial number of outstanding shares that are actively traded and widely held, the Exchange believes the proposed position and exercise limits are extremely conservative compared to those of ETF options with similar market characteristics. The proposed position and exercise limits reasonably and appropriately balance the liquidity provisioning in the market against the prevention of manipulation. The Exchange believes these proposed limits are effectively designed to prevent an individual customer or entity from establishing options positions that could be used to manipulate the market of the underlying as well as the Bitcoin market.52

The Exchange represents that it has the necessary systems capacity to support VanEck Bitcoin Trust options. As discussed above, the Exchange believes that its existing surveillance and reporting safeguards are designed to deter and detect possible manipulative behavior which might arise from listing and trading Unit options, including VanEck Bitcoin Trust options.

# B. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on intramarket competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act as the VanEck Bitcoin Trust will be equally available to all market participants who wish to trade such options and will trade generally in the same manner as other options. The Exchange Rules that currently apply to the listing and trading of all Unit options on the Exchange, including, for

example, Rules that govern listing criteria, expirations, exercise prices, minimum increments, margin requirements, customer accounts, and trading halt procedures will apply to the listing and trading of the VanEck Bitcoin Trust options on the Exchange in the same manner as they apply to other options on all other Units that are listed and traded on the Exchange. Also, and as stated above, the Exchange already lists options on other commodity-based Units.53 Further, the VanEck Bitcoin Trust would need to satisfy the maintenance listing standards set forth in the Exchange Rules in the same manner as any other Unit for the Exchange to continue listing options on them.

The Exchange does not believe that the proposal to list and trade options on the VanEck Bitcoin Trust will impose any burden on intermarket competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. To the extent that the advent of the VanEck Bitcoin Trust options trading on the Exchange may make the Exchange a more attractive marketplace to market participants at other exchanges, such market participants are free to elect to become market participants on the Exchange. Additionally, other options exchanges are free to amend their listing rules, as applicable, to permit them to list and trade options on the VanEck Bitcoin Trust. The Exchange notes that listing and trading VanEck Bitcoin Trust options on the Exchange will subject such options to transparent exchangebased rules as well as price discovery and liquidity, as opposed to alternatively trading such options in the OTC market.

The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change may relieve any burden on, or otherwise promote, competition, as it is designed to increase competition for order flow on the Exchange in a manner that is beneficial to investors by providing them with a lower-cost option to hedge their investment portfolios. The Exchange notes that it operates in a highly competitive market in which market participants can readily direct order flow to competing venues that offer similar products. Ultimately, the Exchange believes that offering VanEck Bitcoin Trust options for trading on the Exchange will promote competition by providing investors with an additional, relatively low-cost means to hedge their portfolios and meet their investment needs in connection with Bitcoin prices

and Bitcoin-related products and positions on a listed options exchange.

C. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule Change Received From Members, Participants, or Others

The Exchange neither solicited nor received written comments on the proposed rule change.

# III. Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action

Within 45 days of the date of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register** or within such longer period up to 90 days (i) as the Commission may designate if it finds such longer period to be appropriate and publishes its reasons for so finding or (ii) as to which the Exchange consents, the Commission will:

A. by order approve or disapprove such proposed rule change, or

B. institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule change should be disapproved.

### **IV. Solicitation of Comments**

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act. Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

# Electronic Comments

- Use the Commission's internet comment form (https://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml); or
- Send an email to *rule-comments@* sec.gov. Please include file number SR–CBOE–2025–017 on the subject line.

# Paper Comments

 Send paper comments in triplicate to Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549-1090. All submissions should refer to file number SR-CBOE-2025-017. This file number should be included on the subject line if email is used. To help the Commission process and review your comments more efficiently, please use only one method. The Commission will post all comments on the Commission's internet website (https://www.sec.gov/ rules/sro.shtml). Copies of the submission, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the proposed rule change between the Commission and any person, other than

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>52</sup> See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 39489 (Dec. 24, 1997), 63 FR 276 (Jan. 5, 1998) (SR-CBOE-1997-11)

 $<sup>^{53}</sup>$  See Rule 4.3, Interpretation and Policy .06(a)(4).

those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be available for website viewing and printing in the Commission's Public Reference Room, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549, on official business days between the hours of 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. Copies of the filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the Exchange. Do not include personal identifiable information in submissions; you should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. We may redact in part or withhold entirely from publication submitted material that is obscene or subject to copyright protection. All submissions should refer to file number SR-CBOE-2025-017 and should be submitted on or before April 24, 2025.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.  $^{54}$ 

#### Sherry R. Haywood,

Assistant Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2025-05699 Filed 4-2-25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8011-01-P

# SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

### **Sunshine Act Meetings**

TIME AND DATE: Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the provisions of the Government in the Sunshine Act, Public Law 94–409, that the Securities and Exchange Commission's Crypto Task Force will hold a public meeting on April 25, 2025, from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. (ET).

**PLACE:** The roundtable will be held in the Auditorium at the Commission's headquarters, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549.

STATUS: This Sunshine Act notice is being issued because a majority of the Commission may attend the meeting. The meeting will begin at 1 p.m. (ET) and will be open to the public. Seating will be on a first-come, first-served basis. Doors will open at 12 p.m. (ET). Visitors will be subject to security checks. The meeting will be webcast on the Commission's website at <a href="https://www.sec.gov">www.sec.gov</a>, and a recording will be posted at a later date.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED: The Crypto Task Force will host a roundtable on "Know Your Custodian: Key Considerations for Crypto Custody." The roundtable is open to the public, who must register at this link. This Sunshine Act notice is being issued because a majority of the Commission may attend the roundtable.

The agenda for the roundtable will focus on considerations for crypto custody. Members of the public are able to communicate directly on this and other topics and request a meeting with the Crypto Task Force.

# CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION:

For further information; please contact Vanessa A. Countryman from the Office of the Secretary at (202) 551–5400.

(Authority: 5 U.S.C. 552b)

Dated: April 1, 2025.

### Vanessa A. Countryman,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2025-05851 Filed 4-1-25; 4:15 pm]

BILLING CODE 8011-01-P

# SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Investment Company Act Release No. 35513]

# Deregistration Under Section 8(f) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

March 28, 2025.

**AGENCY:** Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission" or "SEC"). **ACTION:** Notice of applications for deregistration under section 8(f) of the Investment Company Act of 1940.

The following is a notice of applications for deregistration under section 8(f) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 for the month of March 2025. A copy of each application may be obtained via the Commission's website by searching for the applicable file number listed below, or for an applicant using the Company name search field, on the SEC's EDGAR system. The SEC's EDGAR system may be searched at https://www.sec.gov/edgar/searchedgar/ companysearch.html. You may also call the SEC's Office of Investor Education and Advocacy at (202) 551–8090. An order granting each application will be issued unless the SEC orders a hearing. Interested persons may request a hearing on any application by emailing the SEC's Secretary at Secretarys-Office@sec.gov and serving the relevant applicant with a copy of the request by email, if an email address is listed for the relevant applicant below, or personally or by mail, if a physical address is listed for the relevant applicant below. Hearing requests should be received by the SEC by 5:30 p.m. on April 22, 2025, and should be accompanied by proof of service on applicants, in the form of an affidavit or, for lawyers, a certificate of service.

Pursuant to Rule 0–5 under the Act, hearing requests should state the nature of the writer's interest, any facts bearing upon the desirability of a hearing on the matter, the reason for the request, and the issues contested. Persons who wish to be notified of a hearing may request notification by writing to the Commission's Secretary at Secretarys-Office@sec.gov.

**ADDRESSES:** The Commission: Secretarys-Office@sec.gov.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Shawn Davis, Assistant Director, at (202) 551–6413 or Chief Counsel's Office at (202) 551–6821; SEC, Division of Investment Management, Chief Counsel's Office, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549–8010.

### Alight Series Trust [File No. 811-08885]

Summary: Applicant seeks an order declaring that it has ceased to be an investment company. On October 17, 2024 and November 19, 2024, applicant made liquidating distributions to its shareholders based on net asset value. Expenses of approximately \$129,000 incurred in connection with the reorganization were paid by the applicant's administrator/sponsor, Alight Solutions, LLC. Applicant also has retained approximately \$75,000 for the purpose of paying outstanding liabilities.

Filing Dates: The application was filed on December 20, 2024 and amended on March 26, 2025.

Applicant's Address: 320 South Canal Street, 50th Floor—Suite 5000, Chicago, Illinois 60606.

# **Insight Select Income Fund [File No. 811–02201]**

Summary: Applicant, a closed-end investment company, seeks an order declaring that it has ceased to be an investment company. The applicant has transferred its assets to KKR Income Opportunities Fund, and on February 13, 2025 made a final distribution to its shareholders based on net asset value. Expenses of \$536,192 incurred in connection with the reorganization were paid by the applicant, the applicant's investment adviser, the acquiring fund, and the acquiring fund's investment manager.

Filing Date: The application was filed on March 7, 2025.

Applicant's Address: c/o Insight North America LLC, 200 Park Avenue, 7th Floor, New York, New York 10166.

# PPM Funds [File No. 811-23308]

Summary: Applicant seeks an order declaring that it has ceased to be an investment company. On November 18, 2024, November 21, 2024, November 22,

<sup>54 17</sup> CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

2024, December 10, 2024, December 11, 2024, December 18, 2024, and December 19, 2024, applicant made liquidating distributions to its shareholders based on net asset value. Expenses of \$37,916 incurred in connection with the liquidation were paid by the applicant's investment adviser.

Filing Dates: The application was filed on December 23, 2024 and amended on February 6, 2025.

Applicant's Address: 225 West Wacker Drive, Suite 1200, Chicago, Illinois 60606.

# Ready Assets U.S. Treasury Money Fund [File No. 811–06211]

Summary: Applicant seeks an order declaring that it has ceased to be an investment company. On February 13, 2020, applicant made a liquidating distribution to its shareholders based on net asset value. Expenses of \$39,000 incurred in connection with the liquidation were paid by the applicant's investment adviser and/or its affiliates.

Filing Date: The application was filed on March 13, 2025.

*Applicant's Address:* 100 Bellevue Parkway, Wilmington, Delaware 19809.

# Transparent Value Trust [File No. 811–22309]

Summary: Applicant seeks an order declaring that it has ceased to be an investment company. The applicant has transferred its assets to New Age Alpha Funds Trust, and on October 25, 2024, made a final distribution to its shareholders based on net asset value. Expenses of \$366,200 incurred in connection with the reorganization were paid by the applicant, the applicant's investment adviser, and the acquiring fund's investment advisers.

Filing Date: The application was filed on January 30, 2025 and amended on March 20, 2025.

Applicant's Address: 330 Madison Avenue, 10th Floor, New York, New York 10017.

For the Commission, by the Division of Investment Management, pursuant to delegated authority.

### Sherry R. Haywood,

Assistant Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2025–05710 Filed 4–2–25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8011-01-P

# SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Investment Company Act Release No. 35515; 812–15694]

RJ Private Credit Income Fund, Raymond James Investment Management and Carillon Fund Distributors, Inc.

March 28, 2025.

**AGENCY:** Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission" or "SEC").

**ACTION:** Notice.

Notice of an application under section 6(c) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the "Act") for an exemption from sections 18(a)(2), 18(c) and 18(i) of the Act, under sections 6(c) and 23(c) of the Act for an exemption from rule 23c–3 under the Act, and for an order pursuant to section 17(d) of the Act and rule 17d–1 under the Act.

**SUMMARY OF APPLICATION:** Applicants request an order to permit certain registered closed-end investment companies to issue multiple classes of shares and to impose early withdrawal charges and asset-based distribution and/or service fees.

**APPLICANTS:** RJ Private Credit Income Fund, Raymond James Investment Management and Carillon Fund Distributors, Inc.

**FILING DATES:** The application was filed on January 31, 2025, and amended on March 28, 2025.

HEARING OR NOTIFICATION OF HEARING: An order granting the requested relief will be issued unless the Commission orders a hearing. Interested persons may request a hearing on any application by emailing the SEC's Secretary at Secretarys-Office@sec.gov and serving the Applicants with a copy of the request by email, if an email address is listed for the relevant Applicant below, or personally or by mail, if a physical address is listed for the relevant Applicant below. Hearing requests should be received by the Commission by 5:30 p.m. on April 22, 2025, and should be accompanied by proof of service on the Applicants, in the form of an affidavit, or, for lawyers, a certificate of service. Pursuant to rule 0-5 under the Act, hearing requests should state the nature of the writer's interest, any facts bearing upon the desirability of a hearing on the matter, the reason for the request, and the issues contested. Persons who wish to be notified of a hearing may request notification by emailing the Commission's Secretary.

ADDRESSES: The Commission: Secretarys-Office@sec.gov. Applicants: Robert Morrison, Esq., RJ Private Credit Income Fund, Robert.Morrison@ RaymondJames.com, with copies to Rajib Chanda, Esq., Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP, rajib.chanda@stblaw.com, and Kenneth E. Burdon, Esq., Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP, kenneth.burdon@stblaw.com.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Trace W. Rakestraw, Senior Special Counsel, at (202) 551–6825 (Division of Investment Management, Chief Counsel's Office).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: For Applicants' representations, legal analysis, and conditions, please refer to Applicants' application, dated March 21, 2025, which may be obtained via the Commission's website by searching for the file number at the top of this document, or for an Applicant using the Company name search field on the SEC's EDGAR system. The SEC's EDGAR system may be searched at <a href="https://www.sec.gov/edgar/searchedgar/companysearch">https://www.sec.gov/edgar/searchedgar/companysearch</a>. You may also call the SEC's Office of Investor Education and Advocacy at (202) 551–8090.

For the Commission, by the Division of Investment Management, under delegated authority.

# Sherry R. Haywood,

Assistant Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2025-05709 Filed 4-2-25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8011-01-P

### DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

# **Federal Aviation Administration**

# Noise Compatibility Program for Laredo International Airport, Webb County, Texas

**AGENCY:** Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice of receipt and request for review of noise compatibility program.

SUMMARY: The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) announces the start of its review of the noise compatibility program for Laredo International Airport submitted by City of Laredo and the availability of this program for public review and comment. The Laredo International Airport noise compatibility program will be approved or disapproved 180 days from date of publication in the Federal Register.

**DATES:** The effective date of the start of the FAA review of the noise compatibility program (NCP) is March 31, 2025. The public comment period for the proposed NCP ends June 2, 2025.

# FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Sana Drissi, 10101 Hillwood Parkway,

Fort Worth, Texas 76177, 817–222–5418. Comments on the proposed noise compatibility program should be submitted to the above office.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In accordance with title 49, United States Code (U.S.C.) 47503 of the Aviation Safety and Noise Abatement Act, an airport operator may submit to the FAA, noise exposure maps (NEM) depicting non-compatible uses and other information as of the date the map was submitted. In accordance with 49 U.S.C. 47504, an airport operator that submits an NEM the FAA determined complied with statutory and regulatory requirements, may submit for FAA approval, an NCP identifying measures the airport operator has taken or proposes to take to reduce existing noncompatible land uses and prevents the introduction of additional noncompatible uses.

On March 31, 2025, City of Laredo submitted noise exposure maps (NEMs), descriptions and other supporting documentation for Laredo International Airport, for FAA's review and acceptance. An NEM must include a description of estimated aircraft operations during a forecast period that is at least five years in the future and how those operations will affect the map and other information. The FAA completed its review of the NEMs and supporting documentation and determined the NEMs comply with the applicable statutory and regulatory requirements. That determination was effective on August 25, 2022. FAA's determinations for the NEMs submitted by City of Laredo is limited to a finding that the maps were developed in accordance with 49 U.S.C. 47503 and the procedures in Appendix A of 14 CFR part 150. FAA's determination does not constitute approval of the City of Laredo data, information or plans, or constitute a commitment to approve a noise compatibility program or to fund the implementation of that program. If questions arise concerning the precise relationship of specific properties to noise exposure contours depicted on an NEM associated with this NCP it should be noted the FAA is not involved in any way in determining the relative locations of specific properties with regard to the depicted noise contours, or in interpreting the NEMs to resolve questions concerning, for example, which properties should be covered by the provisions of 49 U.S.C. 47506. These functions are inseparable from the land use control and planning responsibilities of local government. These local responsibilities are not changed in any way under 14 CFR part

150 or through FAA's review of NEMs. Therefore, the responsibility for the detailed overlaying of noise exposure contours onto the map depicting properties on the surface rests exclusively with the City of Laredo that submitted the NEMs or with those public agencies and planning agencies with which consultation is required. The FAA relied on the certification by the City of Laredo this required consultation was accomplished per 14 CFR 150.21 and 49 U.S.C. 47503.

The FAA formally received the proposed noise compatibility program (NCP) for City of Laredo for review on March 31, 2025. The formal review period, limited by law to a maximum of 180 days will be completed on or before 180 days from date of publication in the Federal Register.

Preliminary review of the submitted material indicates that it conforms to the requirements for submittal of an NCP, but further review will be necessary prior to approval or disapproval of the program. The primary considerations in the evaluation process are whether the proposed measures may reduce the level of aviation safety, create an undue burden on interstate or foreign commerce, or be reasonably consistent with obtaining the goal of reducing existing non-compatible land uses and preventing the introduction of additional non-compatible land uses.

Interested persons are invited to comment on the proposed program with specific reference to these factors. All comments relating to these factors, other than those properly addressed to local land use authorities, will be considered by the FAA to the extent practicable. Copies of the noise exposure maps and the proposed noise compatibility program are available for examination at the following location: Laredo International Airport, 5210 Bob Bullock Loop, Laredo, TX 78041, Phone: 956-795-2000, https://flylaredotexas.com/ business/development-plans-andprojects/.

Questions regarding this notice may be directed to the individual named above under the heading, **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

Issued in Fort Worth, Texas, on March 31, 2025.

### D. Cameron Bryan,

Director (A), Airports Division, Southwest Regional Office.

[FR Doc. 2025-05726 Filed 4-2-25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-13-P

#### **DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY**

### Office of Foreign Assets Control

#### **Notice of OFAC Sanctions Actions**

**AGENCY:** Office of Foreign Assets Control, Treasury.

**ACTION:** Notice

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) is publishing the names of one or more persons that have been placed on OFAC's Specially Designated Nationals and Blocked Persons List (SDN List) based on OFAC's determination that one or more applicable legal criteria were satisfied. All property and interests in property subject to U.S. jurisdiction of these persons are blocked, and U.S. persons are generally prohibited from engaging in transactions with them.

**DATES:** This action was issued on March 27, 2025. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section for relevant dates.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

OFAC: Associate Director for Global Targeting, 202–622–2420; Assistant Director for Sanctions Compliance, 202–622–2490; or https://ofac.treasury.gov/contact-ofac.

# SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

### **Electronic Availability**

The SDN List and additional information concerning OFAC sanctions programs are available on OFAC's website: https://ofac.treasury.gov.

# **Notice of OFAC Action**

On March 27, 2025, OFAC determined that the persons identified below meet one or more of the criteria for the imposition of sanctions set forth in section 1(a)–(c) of Executive Order 14059 of December 15, 2021, "Imposing Sanctions on Foreign Persons Involved in the Global Illicit Drug Trade," 86 FR 71549 (E.O. 14059). OFAC has selected to impose blocking sanctions pursuant to section 2(a)(i) of E.O. 14059 on the persons identified below.

OFAC further determined that the persons identified below meet one or more of the criteria for designation pursuant to Executive Order 13224 of September 23, 2001, "Blocking Property and Prohibiting Transactions With Persons Who Commit, Threaten to Commit, or Support Terrorism," 66 FR 49079, as amended by Executive Order 13886 of September 9, 2019, "Modernizing Sanctions To Combat Terrorism," 84 FR 48041 (E.O. 13224, as

amended).

As a result, the property and interests in property subject to U.S. jurisdiction

of the following persons are blocked under the relevant sanctions authorities listed below.

### **Individuals**

1. ESPARRAGOZA ROSAS, Enrique Dann (a.k.a. "GUERO"), Culiacan, Sinaloa, Mexico; DOB 22 Jul 1985; POB Sinaloa, Mexico; nationality Mexico; Gender Male; Secondary sanctions risk: section 1(b) of Executive Order 13224, as amended by Executive Order 13886; C.U.R.P. EARE850722HSLSSN03 (Mexico) (individual) [SDGT] [ILLICIT—DRUGS—EO14059] (Linked To: SINALOA CARTEL).

Designated pursuant to section 1(b)(i)(B) of E.O. 14059 for having provided, or attempted to provide, financial, material, or technological support for, or goods or services in support of, the Sinaloa Cartel, a person whose property and interests in property are blocked pursuant to E.O. 14059.

Designated pursuant to section 1(a)(iii)(C) of E.O. 13224, as amended, for having materially assisted, sponsored, or provided financial, material, or technological support for, or goods or services to or in support of, the Sinaloa Cartel, a person whose property and interests in property are blocked pursuant to E.O. 13224, as amended.

2. AMADOR VALENZUELA, Christian Noe, Mexicali, Baja California, Mexico; DOB 25 Jul 1988; POB Baja California, Mexico; nationality Mexico; Gender Male; Secondary sanctions risk: section 1(b) of Executive Order 13224, as amended by Executive Order 13886; C.U.R.P. AAVC880725HBCMLH00 (Mexico) (individual) [SDGT] [ILLICIT—DRUGS—EO14059] (Linked To: SINALOA CARTEL).

Designated pursuant to section 1(b)(iii) of E.O. 14059 for having been owned, controlled, or directed by, or has acted or purported to act for or on behalf of, directly or indirectly, Alberto David Benguiat Jimenez, a person whose property and interests in property are proposed to be blocked pursuant to E.O. 14059.

Designated pursuant to section 1(a)(iii)(A) of E.O. 13224, as amended, for having been owned, controlled, or directed by, or has acted or purported to act for or on behalf of, directly or indirectly, Alberto David Benguiat Jimenez, a person whose property and interests in property are proposed to be blocked pursuant to E.O. 13224, as amended.

3. DIAZ RODRIGUEZ, Salvador (a.k.a. "Chava"), Mexicali, Baja California, Mexico; DOB 29 Jul 1985; POB Baja California, Mexico; nationality Mexico; Gender Male; Secondary sanctions risk: section 1(b) of Executive Order 13224, as amended by Executive Order 13886; C.U.R.P. DIRS850729HBCZDL02 (Mexico) (individual) [SDGT] [ILLICIT-DRUGS-EO14059] (Linked To: SINALOA CARTEL).

Designated pursuant to section 1(b)(iii) of E.O. 14059 for having been owned, controlled, or directed by, or has acted or purported to act for or on behalf of, directly or indirectly, the Sinaloa Cartel, a person whose property and interests in property are blocked pursuant to E.O. 14059.

Designated pursuant to section 1(a)(iii)(A) of E.O. 13224, as amended, for having been owned, controlled, or directed by, or has

acted or purported to act for or on behalf of, directly or indirectly, the Sinaloa Cartel, a person whose property and interests in property are blocked pursuant to E.O. 13224, as amended.

4. PAEZ VARGAS, Israel Daniel (a.k.a. "Tommy"), Mexicali, Baja California, Mexico; DOB 31 Jan 1980; POB Mexico City, Mexico; nationality Mexico; Gender Male; Secondary sanctions risk: section 1(b) of Executive Order 13224, as amended by Executive Order 13886; C.U.R.P. PAVl800131HDFZRS02 (Mexico) (individual) [SDGT] [IILLICIT—DRUGS—EO14059] (Linked To: SINALOA CARTEL).

Designated pursuant to section 1(b)(iii) of E.O. 14059 for having been owned, controlled, or directed by, or has acted or purported to act for or on behalf of, directly or indirectly, the Sinaloa Cartel, a person whose property and interests in property are blocked pursuant to E.O. 14059.

Designated pursuant to section 1(a)(iii)(A) of E.O. 13224, as amended, for having been owned, controlled, or directed by, or has acted or purported to act for or on behalf of, directly or indirectly, the Sinaloa Cartel, a person whose property and interests in property are blocked pursuant to E.O. 13224, as amended.

5. BENGUIAT JIMENEZ, Alberto David, Mexico City, Mexico; DOB 01 Feb 1982; POB Baja California, Mexico; nationality Mexico; Gender Male; Secondary sanctions risk: section 1(b) of Executive Order 13224, as amended by Executive Order 13886; C.U.R.P. BEJA820201HBCNMLOO (Mexico) (individual) [SDGT] [ILLICIT-DRUGS-EO14059] (Linked To: SINALOA CARTEL).

Designated pursuant to section 1(b)(i)(B) of E.O. 14059 for having provided, or attempted to provide, financial, material, or technological support for, or goods or services in support of, the Sinaloa Cartel, a person whose property and interests in property are blocked pursuant to E.O. 14059.

Designated pursuant to section 1(a)(iii)(C) of E.O. 13224, as amended, for having materially assisted, sponsored, or provided financial, material, or technological support for, or goods or services to or in support of, the Sinaloa Cartel, a person whose property and interests in property are blocked pursuant to E.O. 13224, as amended.

6. VIRAMONTES SESTEAGA, Alan (a.k.a. "Cochito"), Sonora, Mexico; DOB 18 Dec 1977; POB Sonora, Mexico; nationality Mexico; Gender Male; Secondary sanctions risk: section 1(b) of Executive Order 13224, as amended by Executive Order 13886; C.U.R.P. VISA771218HSRRSL03 (Mexico) (individual) [SDGT] [ILLICIT-DRUGS-EO14059] (Linked To: SINALOA CARTEL).

Designated pursuant to section 1(b)(i)(B) of E.O. 14059 for having provided, or attempted to provide, financial, material, or technological support for, or goods or services in support of, the Sinaloa Cartel, a person whose property and interests in property are blocked pursuant to E.O. 14059.

Designated pursuant to section 1(a)(iii)(C) of E.O. 13224, as amended, for having materially assisted, sponsored, or provided financial, material, or technological support for, or goods or services to or in support of, the Sinaloa Cartel, a person whose property

and interests in property are blocked pursuant to E.O. 13224, as amended.

#### Entities

1. TAPGAS MEXICO S.A. DE C.V., Culiacan, Sinaloa, Mexico; Secondary sanctions risk: section 1(b) of Executive Order 13224, as amended by Executive Order 13886; Organization Established Date 15 Jan 2018; Organization Type: Other information technology and computer service activities; R.F.C. TME180115UD6 (Mexico) [SDGT] [ILLICIT—DRUGS—EO14059] (Linked To: ESPARRAGOZA ROSAS, Enrique Dann).

Designated pursuant to section 1(b)(iii) of E.O. 14059 for having been owned, controlled, or directed by, or has acted or purported to act for or on behalf of, directly or indirectly, Enrique Dann Esparragoza Rosas, a person whose property and interests in property are proposed to be blocked pursuant to E.O. 14059.

Designated pursuant to section 1(a)(iii)(A) of E.O. 13224, as amended, for having been owned, controlled, or directed by, or has acted or purported to act for or on behalf of, directly or indirectly, Enrique Dann Esparragoza Rosas, a person whose property and interests in property are proposed to be blocked pursuant to E.O. 13224, as amended.

2. GRŪPO UNTER EMPRESARIAL S.A. DE C.V., Cuautitlan Izcalli, Estado de Mexico, Mexico; Secondary sanctions risk: section 1(b) of Executive Order 13224, as amended by Executive Order 13886; Organization Established Date 03 Jul 2015; Organization Type: Advertising; Folio Mercantil No. 24550 (Mexico) [SDGT] [ILLICIT-DRUGS-EO14059] (Linked To: BENGUIAT JIMENEZ, Alberto David).

Designated pursuant to section 1(b)(iii) of E.O. 14059 for having been owned, controlled, or directed by, or has acted or purported to act for or on behalf of, directly or indirectly, Alberto David Benguiat Jimenez, a person whose property and interests in property are proposed to be blocked pursuant to E.O. 14059.

Designated pursuant to section 1(a)(iii)(A) of E.O. 13224, as amended, for having been owned, controlled, or directed by, or has acted or purported to act for or on behalf of, directly or indirectly, Alberto David Benguiat Jimenez, a person whose property and interests in property are proposed to be blocked pursuant to E.O. 13224, as amended.

3. GRÜPO VINDENDE S.A. DE C.V., Naucalpan de Juarez, Estado de Mexico, Mexico; Secondary sanctions risk: section 1(b) of Executive Order 13224, as amended by Executive Order 13886; Organization Established Date 26 Feb 2019; Organization Type: Construction of other civil engineering projects; Folio Mercantil No. N–2019041033 (Mexico) [SDGT] [ILLICIT-DRUGS-EO14059] (Linked To: BENGUIAT JIMENEZ, Alberto David).

Designated pursuant to section 1(b)(iii) of E.O. 14059 for having been owned, controlled, or directed by, or has acted or purported to act for or on behalf of, directly or indirectly, Alberto David Benguiat Jimenez, a person whose property and interests in property are proposed to be blocked pursuant to E.O. 14059.

Designated pursuant to section 1(a)(iii)(A) of E.O. 13224, as amended, for having been

owned, controlled, or directed by, or has acted or purported to act for or on behalf of, directly or indirectly, Alberto David Benguiat Jimenez, a person whose property and interests in property are proposed to be blocked pursuant to E.O. 13224, as amended.

4. GRŪPO ZIPFEL DE MEXICO S.A. DE C.V., Naucalpan de Juarez, Estado de Mexico, Mexico; Secondary sanctions risk: section 1(b) of Executive Order 13224, as amended by Executive Order 13886; Organization Established Date 21 May 2019; Organization Type: Wholesale and retail trade; Folio Mercantil No. N–2019048659 (Mexico) [SDGT] [ILLICIT—DRUGS—EO14059] (Linked To: BENGUIAT JIMENEZ, Alberto David).

Designated pursuant to section 1(b)(iii) of E.O. 14059 for having been owned, controlled, or directed by, or has acted or purported to act for or on behalf of, directly or indirectly, Alberto David Benguiat Jimenez, a person whose property and interests in property are proposed to be blocked pursuant to E.O. 14059.

Designated pursuant to section 1(a)(iii)(A) of E.O. 13224, as amended, for having been owned, controlled, or directed by, or has acted or purported to act for or on behalf of, directly or indirectly, Alberto David Benguiat Jimenez, a person whose property and interests in property are proposed to be blocked pursuant to E.O. 13224, as amended.

5. PERSONAS UNIDAS HOAS, S.A.P.I. DE C.V., Mexico City, Mexico; Secondary sanctions risk: section 1(b) of Executive Order 13224, as amended by Executive Order 13886; Organization Established Date 13 Apr 2021; Organization Type: Wholesale and retail trade; Folio Mercantil No. N–2021029609 (Mexico) [SDGT] [ILLICIT–DRUGS–EO14059] (Linked To: BENGUIAT JIMENEZ, Alberto David).

Designated pursuant to section 1(b)(iii) of E.O. 14059 for having been owned, controlled, or directed by, or has acted or purported to act for or on behalf of, directly or indirectly, Alberto David Benguiat Jimenez, a person whose property and interests in property are proposed to be blocked pursuant to E.O. 14059.

Designated pursuant to section 1(a)(iii)(A) of E.O. 13224, as amended, for having been owned, controlled, or directed by, or has acted or purported to act for or on behalf of, directly or indirectly, Alberto David Benguiat Jimenez, a person whose property and interests in property are proposed to be blocked pursuant to E.O. 13224, as amended.

6. PRODUCTIONS PIPO S. DÉ R.L. DE C.V., Ecatepec de Morelos, Estado de Mexico, Mexico; Secondary sanctions risk: section 1(b) of Executive Order 13224, as amended by Executive Order 13886; Organization Established Date 28 Nov 2019; Organization Type: Other amusement and recreation activities; Folio Mercantil No. N–2019095423 (Mexico) [SDGT] [ILLICIT–DRUGS–EO14059] (Linked To: BENGUIAT JIMENEZ, Alberto David).

Designated pursuant to section 1(b)(iii) of E.O. 14059 for having been owned, controlled, or directed by, or has acted or purported to act for or on behalf of, directly or indirectly, Alberto David Benguiat Jimenez, a person whose property and interests in property are proposed to be blocked pursuant to E.O. 14059.

Designated pursuant to section 1(a)(iii)(A) of E.O. 13224, as amended, for having been owned, controlled, or directed by, or has acted or purported to act for or on behalf of, directly or indirectly, Alberto David Benguiat Jimenez, a person whose property and interests in property are proposed to be blocked pursuant to E.O. 13224, as amended.

7. SCATMAN AND HATMAN CORP, S.A.P.I. DE C.V. (a.k.a. SCATMAN & HATMAN CORP, S.A.P.I. DE C.V.), Mexico City, Mexico; Secondary sanctions risk: section 1(b) of Executive Order 13224, as amended by Executive Order 13886; Organization Established Date 04 Dec 2021; Organization Type: Wholesale and retail trade; Folio Mercantil No. N–2021024996 (Mexico) [SDGT] [ILLICIT-DRUGS-EO14059] (Linked To: BENGUIAT JIMENEZ, Alberto David).

Designated pursuant to section 1(b)(iii) of E.O. 14059 for having been owned, controlled, or directed by, or has acted or purported to act for or on behalf of, directly or indirectly, Alberto David Benguiat Jimenez, a person whose property and interests in property are proposed to be blocked pursuant to E.O. 14059.

Designated pursuant to section 1(a)(iii)(A) of E.O. 13224, as amended, for having been owned, controlled, or directed by, or has acted or purported to act for or on behalf of, directly or indirectly, Alberto David Benguiat Jimenez, a person whose property and interests in property are proposed to be blocked pursuant to E.O. 13224, as amended.

#### Lisa M. Palluconi,

Acting Director, Office of Foreign Assets Control.

[FR Doc. 2025–05744 Filed 4–2–25; 8:45 am] BILLING CODE 4810–AL–P

### **DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY**

# **Internal Revenue Service**

Superfund Tax on Chemical Substances; Request To Modify List of Taxable Substances; Notice of Filing for Ethylene Vinyl Acetate (VA  $\geq$  50%) (n=75.42, m=24.58)

**AGENCY:** Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

**ACTION:** Notice of filing and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** This notice of filing announces that a petition has been filed requesting that ethylene vinyl acetate (VA  $\geq$  50%) ((C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>)<sub>n</sub>-(C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>6</sub>O<sub>2</sub>)<sub>m</sub>; n=75.42, m=24.58) be added to the list of taxable substances. This notice of filing also requests comments on the petition. This notice of filing is not a determination that the list of taxable substances is modified.

**DATES:** Written comments and requests for a public hearing must be received on or before June 2, 2025.

**ADDRESSES:** Commenters are encouraged to submit public comments or requests

for a public hearing relating to this petition electronically via the Federal eRulemaking Portal at http:// www.regulations.gov (indicate public docket number IRS-2025-0034 or ethylene vinyl acetate (VA ≥ 50%)  $((C_2H_4)_n-(C_4H_6O_2)_m; n=75.42, m=24.58)$ by following the online instructions for submitting comments. Comments cannot be edited or withdrawn once submitted to the Federal eRulemaking Portal. Alternatively, comments and requests for a public hearing may be mailed to: Internal Revenue Service, Attn: CC:PA:01:PR (Notice of Filing for Ethylene Vinyl Acetate (VA ≥ 50%)  $((C_2H_4)_n-(C_4H_6O_2)_m; n=75.42, m=24.58),$ Room 5203, P.O. Box 7604, Ben Franklin Station, Washington, DC 20044. All comments received are part of the public record and subject to public disclosure. All comments received will be posted without change to www.regulations.gov, including any personal information provided. You should submit only information that you wish to make publicly available. If a public hearing is scheduled, notice of the time and place for the hearing will be published in the **Federal Register**.

## FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Camille Edwards Bennehoff at (202) 317–6855 (not a toll-free number).

# SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

# Request To Add Substance to the List

- (a) Overview. A petition was filed pursuant to Rev. Proc. 2022-26 (2022-29 I.R.B. 90), as modified by Rev. Proc. 2023-20 (2023-15 I.R.B. 636), requesting that ethylene vinyl acetate  $(VA \ge 50\%) ((C_2H_4)_n - (C_4H_6O_2)_m;$ n=75.42, m=24.58) be added to the list of taxable substances under section 4672(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (List). The petition requesting the addition of ethylene vinyl acetate (VA ≥ 50%) (( $C_2H_4$ )<sub>n</sub>-( $C_4H_6O_2$ )<sub>m</sub>; n=75.42, m=24.58) to the List is based on weight and contains the information detailed in paragraph (b) of this document. The information is provided for public notice and comment pursuant to section 9 of Rev. Proc. 2022–26. The publication of petition information in this notice of filing is not a determination and does not constitute Treasury Department or IRS confirmation of the accuracy of the information published.
  - (b) Petition Content.
- (1) Substance name: Ethylene vinyl acetate (VA  $\geq$  50%) ((C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>)<sub>n</sub>-(C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>6</sub>O<sub>2</sub>)<sub>m</sub>; n=75.42, m=24.58).
- (2) Petitioners: Arlanxeo USA LLC and Arlanxeo Canada Inc., importers and exporters of ethylene vinyl acetate (VA  $\geq$  50%) ((C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>)<sub>n</sub>-(C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>6</sub>O<sub>2</sub>)<sub>m</sub>; n=75.42, m=24.58).

- (3) Proposed classification numbers:
- (i) HTSUS number: 3905.29.0000.
- (ii) Schedule B number: 3905.29.0000.
- (iii) CAS number: 24937-78-8.
- (4) Petition filing dates:
- (i) Petition filing date for purposes of making a determination: February 7, 2025.
- (ii) Petition filing date for purposes of section 11.02 of Rev. Proc. 2022–26, as modified by section 3 of Rev. Proc. 2023–20: July 1, 2022.
- (5) Description from petition: Ethylene vinyl acetate (VA ≥ 50%)  $((C_2H_4)_n-(C_4H_6O_2)_m; n=75.42, m=24.58),$ also known as ethylene vinyl acetate  $(VA \ge 50\%)$ , is the copolymer of ethylene and vinyl acetate. It is an elastomeric polymer that produces materials which are "rubber-like" in softness and flexibility. Ethylene vinyl acetate (VA ≥ 50%) has good clarity and gloss, low-temperature toughness, stress-crack resistance, hotmelt adhesive waterproof properties, and resistance to UV radiation. It is used in footwear components, flexible hoses, automobile bumpers, toys, athletic goods, molded automotive parts, flexible packaging, and films.

Ethylene vinyl acetate (VA  $\geq$  50%) is made from ethylene and methane. Taxable chemicals constitute 62.91 percent by weight of the materials used to produce this substance.

- (6) Process identified in petition as predominant method of production of substance: The predominant method of producing ethylene vinyl acetate (VA  $\geq$  50%) is through a solution polymerization employing the monomers of ethylene and vinyl acetate in tert-butanol as solvent and a radical polymerization initiator.
- (7) Stoichiometric material consumption equation, based on process identified as predominant method of production:
- $\begin{array}{l} n \; C_2H_4 \; (ethylene) + m \; [C_2H_4 \; (ethylene) \\ + \; {}^{1\!\!/_{\!\! 2}} \; CH_4 \; (methane) + 2 \; CO + \; {}^{1\!\!/_{\!\! 2}} \; O_2] \\ \to \; (C_2H_4)_n (C_4H_6O_2)_m \; (ethylene \; vinylacetate \; (VA \geq 50\%)) + \; {}^{1\!\!/_{\!\! 2}} m \; CO_2 \end{array}$
- (8) Tax rate calculated by Petitioner, based on Petitioner's conversion factors for taxable chemicals used in production of substance:
  - (i) *Tax rate:* \$6.77 per ton.
- (ii) Conversion factors: 0.66 for ethylene, 0.05 for methane.
- (9) Public docket number: IRS-2025-0034.

# Michael Beker,

Senior Counsel (Energy, Credits, and Excise Tax), IRS Office of Chief Counsel.

[FR Doc. 2025–05619 Filed 4–2–25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4830-01-P

### **DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY**

#### **Internal Revenue Service**

Superfund Tax on Chemical Substances; Request To Modify List of Taxable Substances; Notice of Filing for Acrylonitrile-butadiene Rubber (n=13.44, m=25.54)

**AGENCY:** Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

**ACTION:** Notice of filing and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** This notice of filing announces that a petition has been filed requesting that acrylonitrile-butadiene rubber ( $(C_4H_6)_n$ - $(C_3H_3N)_m$ ; n=13.44, m=25.54) be added to the list of taxable substances. This notice of filing also requests comments on the petition. This notice of filing is not a determination that the list of taxable substances is modified.

**DATES:** Written comments and requests for a public hearing must be received on or before June 2, 2025.

**ADDRESSES:** Commenters are encouraged to submit public comments or requests for a public hearing relating to this petition electronically via the Federal eRulemaking Portal at http:// www.regulations.gov (indicate public docket number IRS-2025-0019 or acrylonitrile-butadiene rubber ((C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>6</sub>)<sub>n</sub>- $(C_3H_3N)_m$ ; n=13.44, m=25.54)) by following the online instructions for submitting comments. Comments cannot be edited or withdrawn once submitted to the Federal eRulemaking Portal. Alternatively, comments and requests for a public hearing may be mailed to: Internal Revenue Service, Attn: CC:PA:01:PR (Notice of Filing for Acrylonitrile-butadiene Rubber ((C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>6</sub>)<sub>n</sub>- $(C_3H_3N)_m$ ; n=13.44, m=25.54)), Room 5203, P.O. Box 7604, Ben Franklin Station, Washington, DC 20044. All comments received are part of the public record and subject to public disclosure. All comments received will be posted without change to www.regulations.gov, including any personal information provided. You should submit only information that you wish to make publicly available. If a public hearing is scheduled, notice of the time and place for the hearing will be published in the **Federal Register**. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

# Andrew Clark at (202) 317–6855 (not a toll-free number).

# SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

# Request To Add Substance to the List

(a) Overview. A petition was filed pursuant to Rev. Proc. 2022–26 (2022–29 I.R.B. 90), as modified by Rev. Proc.

2023-20 (2023-15 I.R.B. 636), requesting that acrylonitrile-butadiene rubber  $((C_4H_6)_n-(C_3H_3N)_m; n=13.44,$ m=25.54) be added to the list of taxable substances under section 4672(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (List). The petition requesting the addition of acrylonitrile-butadiene rubber ((C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>6</sub>)<sub>n</sub>- $(C_3H_3N)_m$ ; n=13.44, m=25.54) to the List is based on weight and contains the information detailed in paragraph (b) of this document. The information is provided for public notice and comment pursuant to section 9 of Rev. Proc. 2022–26. The publication of petition information in this notice of filing is not a determination and does not constitute Treasury Department or IRS confirmation of the accuracy of the information published.

- (b) Petition Content.
- (1) Substance name: Acrylonitrile-butadiene rubber ( $(C_4H_6)_n$ - $(C_3H_3N)_m$ ; n=13.44, m=25.54).
- (2) Petitioner: Arlanxeo USA LLC and Arlanxeo Canada Inc., importers and exporters of acrylonitrile-butadiene rubber ( $(C_4H_6)_n$ - $(C_3H_3N)_m$ ; n=13.44, m=25.54).
  - (3) Proposed classification numbers:
  - (i) HTSUS number: 4002.59.0000.
  - (ii) Schedule B number: 4002.59.0000.
  - (iii) CAS number: 9003-18-3.
  - (4) Petition filing dates:
- (i) Petition filing date for purposes of making a determination: February 7, 2025.
- (ii) Petition filing date for purposes of section 11.02 of Rev. Proc. 2022–26, as modified by section 3 of Rev. Proc. 2023–20: July 1, 2022.
- (5) Description from petition: Acrylonitrile-butadiene rubber is an oilresistant synthetic rubber produced from a copolymer of acrylonitrile and butadiene. Its main applications are in fuel hoses, gaskets, rollers, and other products in which oil resistance is required.

Acrylonitrile-butadiene rubber is made from butadiene, propylene, and ammonia. Taxable chemicals constitute 64.59 percent by weight of the materials used to produce this substance.

- (6) Process identified in petition as predominant method of production of substance: The predominant method of producing acrylonitrile-butadiene rubber is through a radical polymerization of acrylonitrile and butadiene in an emulsion process. Acrylonitrile monomer is produced by the SOHIO process (i.e., catalytic ammoxidation of propylene).
- (7) Stoichiometric material consumption equation, based on process identified as predominant method of production:

- n C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>6</sub> (butadiene) + m [C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>6</sub> (propylene) + NH<sub>3</sub> (ammonia) +  $\frac{3}{2}$ O<sub>2</sub>]  $\rightarrow$  (C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>6</sub>)<sub>n</sub>-(C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>3</sub>N)<sub>m</sub> (acrylonitrile-butadiene rubber) + 3m H<sub>2</sub>O
- (8) Tax rate calculated by Petitioner, based on Petitioner's conversion factors for taxable chemicals used in production of substance:
- (i) Tax rate: \$9.58 per ton.
- (ii) Conversion factors: 0.35 for butadiene, 0.52 for propylene, and 0.21 for ammonia.
- (9) *Public docket number:* IRS–2025–

#### Michael Beker,

Senior Counsel (Energy, Credits, and Excise Tax), IRS Office of Chief Counsel.

[FR Doc. 2025-05632 Filed 4-2-25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4830-01-P

### **DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY**

### **Internal Revenue Service**

Superfund Tax on Chemical Substances; Request To Modify List of Taxable Substances; Notice of Filing for Hydrogenated Acrylonitrile-Butadiene Rubber (x=2,783.05, y=1,907.27, a=5.74)

**AGENCY:** Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

**ACTION:** Notice of filing and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** This notice of filing announces that a petition has been filed requesting that hydrogenated acrylonitrile-butadiene rubber (( $C_4H_8$ )<sub>x</sub>-( $C_3H_3N$ )<sub>y</sub>-( $C_{15}H_{24}O$ )<sub>a</sub>; x=2,783.05, y=1,907.27, a=5.74) be added to the list of taxable substances. This notice of filing also requests comments on the petition. This notice of filing is not a determination that the list of taxable substances is modified.

**DATES:** Written comments and requests for a public hearing must be received on or before June 2, 2025.

**ADDRESSES:** Commenters are encouraged to submit public comments or requests for a public hearing relating to this petition electronically via the Federal eRulemaking Portal at http:// www.regulations.gov (indicate public docket number IRS-2025-0033 or hydrogenated acrylonitrile-butadiene rubber  $((C_4H_8)_x-(C_3H_3N)_y-(C_{15}H_{24}O)_a;$ x=2,783.05, y=1,907.27, a=5.74)) by following the online instructions for submitting comments. Comments cannot be edited or withdrawn once submitted to the Federal eRulemaking Portal. Alternatively, comments and requests for a public hearing may be

mailed to: Internal Revenue Service, Attn: CC:PA:01:PR (Notice of Filing for Hydrogenated Acrylonitrile-Butadiene Rubber  $((C_4H_8)_x-(C_3H_3N)_y-(C_{15}H_{24}O)_a;$ x=2,783.05, y=1,907.27, a=5.74)), Room 5203, P.O. Box 7604, Ben Franklin Station, Washington, DC 20044. All comments received are part of the public record and subject to public disclosure. All comments received will be posted without change to www.regulations.gov, including any personal information provided. You should submit only information that you wish to make publicly available. If a public hearing is scheduled, notice of the time and place for the hearing will be published in the **Federal Register**.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Camille Edwards Bennehoff at (202) 317–6855 (not a toll-free number).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

# Request To Add Substance to the List

(a) Overview. A petition was filed pursuant to Rev. Proc. 2022-26 (2022-29 I.R.B. 90), as modified by Rev. Proc. 2023-20 (2023-15 I.R.B. 636), requesting that hydrogenated acrylonitrile-butadiene rubber ((C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>8</sub>)<sub>x</sub>- $(C_3H_3N)_v$ -  $(C_{15}H_{24}O)_a$ ; x=2,783.05, y=1,907.27, a=5.74) be added to the list of taxable substances under section 4672(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (List). The petition requesting the addition of hydrogenated acrylonitrilebutadiene rubber ((C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>8</sub>)<sub>x</sub>-(C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>3</sub>N)<sub>y</sub>- $(C_{15}H_{24}O)_a$ ; x=2,783.05, y=1,907.27, a=5.74) to the List is based on weight and contains the information detailed in paragraph (b) of this document. The information is provided for public notice and comment pursuant to section 9 of Rev. Proc. 2022–26. The publication of petition information in this notice of filing is not a determination and does not constitute Treasury Department or IRS confirmation of the accuracy of the information published.

(b) Petition Content.

(1) Substance name: hydrogenated acrylonitrile-butadiene rubber ( $(C_4H_8)_x$ - $(C_3H_3N)_y$ - $(C_{15}H_{24}O)_a$ ; x=2,783.05, y=1,907.27, a=5.74).

(2) Petitioner: Zeon Chemicals L.P., an importer and exporter of hydrogenated acrylonitrile-butadiene rubber  $((C_4H_8)_x-(C_3H_3N)_y-(C_{15}H_{24}O)_a; x=2,783.05, y=1,907.27, a=5.74)$ .

(3) Proposed classification numbers: (i) HTSUS number: 4002.59.000.

- (ii) Schedule B number: 4002.59.000.
- (iii) CAS number: 88254–10–8.
- (4) Petition filing dates:
- (i) Petition filing date for purposes of making a determination: February 14, 2025.
- (ii) Petition filing date for purposes of section 11.02 of Rev. Proc. 2022–26, as

modified by section 3 of Rev. Proc. 2023–20: March 1, 2023.

(4) Description from petition: According to the petition, hydrogenated acrylonitrile-butadiene rubber (( $C_4H_8$ )<sub>x</sub>-( $C_3H_3N$ )<sub>y</sub>-( $C_{15}H_{24}O$ )<sub>a</sub>; x=2,783.05, y=1,907.27, a=5.74), also referred to as HNBR, is an oil-resistant synthetic rubber produced by hydrogenation of nitrile rubber. It offers heat and abrasion resistance over long term exposure. Typical applications include gaskets and seals, especially for the oil and gas industry, accumulator bladders, and diaphragms.

 $\dot{\rm Hydrogenated}$  acrylonitrile-butadiene rubber ( $(C_4H_8)_x$ - $(C_3H_3N)_y$ - ( $C_{15}H_{24}O)_a$ ; x=2,783.05, y=1,907.27, a=5.74) is made from butadiene, propylene, ammonia, methane, butylene, toluene, sulfuric acid, and sodium hydroxide. Taxable chemicals constitute 67.01 percent by weight of the materials used to produce this substance.

(6) Process identified in petition as predominant method of production of substance: The predominant method of producing hydrogenated acrylonitrilebutadiene rubber  $((C_4H_8)_x-(C_3H_3N)_y$ - $(C_{15}H_{24}O)_a$ ; x=2,783.05, y=1,907.27, a=5.74) is via catalytic hydrogenation of acrylonitrile-butadiene rubber ("NBR") in a solution of acetone and in the presence of a catalyst. NBR is derived from the emulsion polymerization of butadiene and acrylonitrile. Acrylonitrile monomer is produced by the SOHIO process (i.e., catalytic ammoxidation of propylene). Hydrogen is made from steam-methane reforming. Butylated hydroxytoluene is produced from the reaction of *p*-cresol with butylene. p-Cresol is prepared by a twostep route beginning with the sulfonation of toluene, followed by basic hydrolysis.

(7) Stoichiometric material consumption equation, based on process identified as predominant method of production:

 $x \, \mathrm{C_4H_6}$  (butadiene) +  $y \, \mathrm{C_3H_6}$  (propylene) +  $y \, \mathrm{NH_3}$  (ammonia) +  $3/2y \, \mathrm{O_2}$  +  $1/2x \, \mathrm{CH_4}$  (methane) +  $x \, \mathrm{H_2O}$  +  $a \, \mathrm{C_7H_8}$ (toluene) +  $a \, \mathrm{H_2SO_4}$  (sulfuric acid) +  $2a \, \mathrm{NaOH}$  (sodium hydroxide) +  $2a \, \mathrm{C4H8}$  (butylene)]  $\rightarrow (\mathrm{C_4H_8})_x$ - $(\mathrm{C_3H_3N})_y$ -  $(\mathrm{C_{15}H_{24}O})_a \, (\mathrm{HNBR})$  +  $1/2x \, \mathrm{CO_2}$  +  $(3y + 2a) \, \mathrm{H_2O}$  +  $a \, \mathrm{Na_2SO_3}$ 

(8) Tax rate calculated by Petitioner, based on Petitioner's conversion factors for taxable chemicals used in production of substance:

(i) Tax rate: \$10.02 per ton.
(ii) Conversion factors: 0.58 for butadiene, 0.31 for propylene, 0.13 for ammonia, 0.09 for methane, 0.002 for butylene, 0.002 for toluene, 0.002 for sulfuric acid, and 0.002 for sodium hydroxide.

(9) Public docket number: IRS–2025– 0033.

#### Michael Beker,

Senior Counsel (Energy, Credits, and Excise Tax), IRS Office of Chief Counsel.

[FR Doc. 2025–05635 Filed 4–2–25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4830-01-P

### **DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY**

#### **Internal Revenue Service**

Superfund Tax on Chemical Substances; Request To Modify List of Taxable Substances; Notice of Filing for Emulsion Styrene-butadiene Rubber (m=15.83; n=2.53)

**AGENCY:** Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

**ACTION:** Notice of Filing and Request for Comments.

SUMMARY: This notice of filing announces that a petition has been filed requesting that emulsion styrenebutadiene rubber ( $(C_4H_6)_m$ - $(C_8H_8)_n$ ; m=15.83; n=2.53) be added to the list of taxable substances. This notice of filing also requests comments on the petition. This notice of filing is not a determination that the list of taxable substances is modified.

**DATES:** Written comments and requests for a public hearing must be received on or before June 2, 2025.

ADDRESSES: Commenters are encouraged to submit public comments or requests for a public hearing relating to this petition electronically via the Federal eRulemaking Portal at http:// www.regulations.gov (indicate public docket number IRS-2025-0026 or emulsion styrene-butadiene rubber  $((C_4H_6)_m-(C_8H_8)_n; m=15.83; n=2.53))$  by following the online instructions for submitting comments. Comments cannot be edited or withdrawn once submitted to the Federal eRulemaking Portal. Alternatively, comments and requests for a public hearing may be mailed to: Internal Revenue Service, Attn: CC:PA:01:PR (Notice of Filing for Emulsion Styrene-butadiene Rubber  $((C_4H_6)_m-(C_8H_8)_n; m=15.83; n=2.53)),$ Room 5203, P.O. Box 7604, Ben Franklin Station, Washington, DC 20044. All comments received are part of the public record and subject to public disclosure. All comments received will be posted without change to www.regulations.gov, including any personal information provided. You should submit only information that you wish to make publicly available. If a public hearing is scheduled, notice of the time and place for the hearing will be published in the Federal Register.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Andrew Clark at (202) 317–6855 (not a

toll-free number).

# SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

# Request To Add Substance to the List

- (a) Overview. A petition was filed pursuant to Rev. Proc. 2022-26 (2022-29 I.R.B. 90), as modified by Rev. Proc. 2023-20 (2023-15 I.R.B. 636), requesting that emulsion styrenebutadiene rubber  $((C_4H_6)_m-(C_8H_8)_n;$ m=15.83; n=2.53) be added to the list of taxable substances under section 4672(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (List). The petition requesting the addition of emulsion styrene-butadiene rubber  $((C_4H_6)_m-(C_8H_8)_n; m=15.83;$ n=2.53) to the List is based on weight and contains the information detailed in paragraph (b) of this document. The information is provided for public notice and comment pursuant to section 9 of Rev. Proc. 2022–26. The publication of petition information in this notice of filing is not a determination and does not constitute Treasury Department or IRS confirmation of the accuracy of the information published.
  - (b) Petition Content.
- (1) Substance name: Emulsion styrene-butadiene rubber ( $(C_4H_6)_m$ - $(C_8H_8)_n$ ; m=15.83; n=2.53).
- (2) Petitioner: Arlanxeo USA LLC and Arlanxeo Canada Inc., importers and exporters of emulsion styrene-butadiene rubber ( $(C_4H_6)_m$ - $(C_8H_8)_n$ ; m=15.83; n=2.53).
  - (3) Proposed classification numbers:
- (i) HTŜUS number: 4002.19.0015 (rubber), 4002.11.0000 (latex).
- (ii) *Schedule B number*: 4002.19.9000 (rubber), 4002.11.0000 (latex).
  - (iii) CAS number: 9003-55-8.
  - (4) Petition filing dates:
- (i) Petition filing date for purposes of making a determination: February 7, 2025.
- (ii) Petition filing date for purposes of section 11.02 of Rev. Proc. 2022–26, as modified by section 3 of Rev. Proc. 2023–20: July 1, 2022.
- (5) Description from petition:
  Emulsion styrene-butadiene rubber is a
  general-purpose synthetic rubber
  derived from butadiene and styrene.
  Emulsion styrene-butadiene rubber is
  used in the production of pneumatic
  tires, shoe heels/soles, gaskets,
  adhesives, haul-off pads, conveyor belts,
  and various other molded rubber goods.

Emulsion styrene-butadiene rubber is made from butadiene, benzene, and ethylene. Taxable chemicals constitute 100 percent by weight of the materials used to produce this substance.

(6) Process identified in petition as predominant method of production of substance: The predominant method of

producing emulsion styrene-butadiene rubber is through the emulsion polymerization of butadiene and styrene initiated by free radicals. Styrene monomer is produced by the dehydrogenation of ethylbenzene. Ethylbenzene is produced via a Friedel-Crafts reaction of benzene and ethylene.

- (7) Stoichiometric material consumption equation, based on process identified as predominant method of production:
- $\begin{array}{l} m \; C_4H_6 \; (butadiene) + n \; [C_6H_6 \; (benzene) \\ + \; C_2H_4 \; (ethylene)] \rightarrow (C_4H_6)_m \\ (C_8H_8)_n \; (emulsion \; styrene-butadiene \\ rubber) + n \; H_2 \end{array}$
- (8) Tax rate calculated by Petitioner, based on Petitioner's conversion factors for taxable chemicals used in production of substance:
  - (i) Tax raté: \$9.74 per ton.
- (ii) Conversion factors: 0.76 for butadiene, 0.18 for benzene, and 0.06 for ethylene.
- (9) Public docket number: IRS-2025-0026.

#### Michael Beker,

Senior Counsel (Energy, Credits, and Excise Tax), IRS Office of Chief Counsel.

[FR Doc. 2025–05624 Filed 4–2–25: 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4830-01-P

# **DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY**

# **Internal Revenue Service**

Superfund Tax on Chemical Substances; Request To Modify List of Taxable Substances; Notice of Filing for Hydrogenated Acrylonitrilebutadiene Rubber (n=22.28, m=38.86)

**AGENCY:** Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

**ACTION:** Notice of filing and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** This notice of filing announces that a petition has been filed requesting that hydrogenated acrylonitrile-butadiene rubber ( $(C_4H_8)_n$ - $(C_3H_3N)_m$ ; n=22.28, m=38.86) be added to the list of taxable substances. This notice of filing also requests comments on the petition. This notice of filing is not a determination that the list of taxable substances is modified.

**DATES:** Written comments and requests for a public hearing must be received on or before June 2, 2025.

ADDRESSES: Commenters are encouraged to submit public comments or requests for a public hearing relating to this petition electronically via the Federal eRulemaking Portal at http://www.regulations.gov (indicate public docket number IRS-2025-0023 or

hydrogenated acrylonitrile-butadiene rubber  $((C_4H_8)_n-(C_3H_3N)_m; n=22.28,$ m=38.86)) by following the online instructions for submitting comments. Comments cannot be edited or withdrawn once submitted to the Federal eRulemaking Portal. Alternatively, comments and requests for a public hearing may be mailed to: Internal Revenue Service, Attn: CC:PA:01:PR (Notice of Filing for Hydrogenated Acrylonitrile-butadiene Rubber  $((C_4H_8)_n-(C_3H_3N)_m; n=22.28,$ m=38.86)), Room 5203, P.O. Box 7604, Ben Franklin Station, Washington, DC 20044. All comments received are part of the public record and subject to public disclosure. All comments received will be posted without change to www.regulations.gov, including any personal information provided. You should submit only information that you wish to make publicly available. If a public hearing is scheduled, notice of the time and place for the hearing will be published in the Federal Register.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Andrew Clark at (202) 317–6855 (not a toll-free number).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

### Request To Add Substance to the List

- (a) Overview. A petition was filed pursuant to Rev. Proc. 2022-26 (2022-29 I.R.B. 90), as modified by Rev. Proc. 2023-20 (2023-15 I.R.B. 636), requesting that hydrogenated acrylonitrile-butadiene rubber ((C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>8</sub>)<sub>n</sub>- $(C_3H_3N)_m$ ; n=22.28, m=38.86) be added to the list of taxable substances under section 4672(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (List). The petition requesting the addition of hydrogenated acrylonitrilebutadiene rubber  $((C_4H_8)_n-(C_3H_3N)_m;$ n=22.28, m=38.86) to the List is based on weight and contains the information detailed in paragraph (b) of this document. The information is provided for public notice and comment pursuant to section 9 of Rev. Proc. 2022-26. The publication of petition information in this notice of filing is not a determination and does not constitute Treasury Department or IRS confirmation of the accuracy of the information published.
  - (b) Petition Content.
- (1) Substance name: Hydrogenated acrylonitrile-butadiene rubber ( $(C_4H_8)_n$ - $(C_3H_3N)_m$ ; n=22.28, m=38.86).
- (2) Petitioner: Arlanxeo USA LLC and Arlanxeo Canada Inc., importers and exporters of hydrogenated acrylonitrile-butadiene rubber ( $(C_4H_8)_n$ - $(C_3H_3N)_m$ ; n=22.28, m=38.86).
  - (3) Proposed classification numbers:
  - (i) HTSUS number: 4002.59.0000.
  - (ii) Schedule B number: 4002.59.0000.

- (iii) CAS number: 308068-83-9.
- (4) Petition filing dates:
- (i) Petition filing date for purposes of making a determination: February 7, 2025.
- (ii) Petition filing date for purposes of section 11.02 of Rev. Proc. 2022–26, as modified by section 3 of Rev. Proc. 2023–20: July 1, 2022.
- (5) Description from petition:
  Hydrogenated acrylonitrile-butadiene
  rubber is an oil resistant synthetic
  rubber produced by hydrogenation of
  nitrile rubber. It offers heat and abrasion
  resistance over long term exposure.
  Typical applications include gaskets
  and seals, especially for the oil and gas
  industry, and accumulator bladders, and
  diaphragms.

Hydrogenated acrylonitrile-butadiene rubber is made from butadiene, propylene, ammonia, and methane. Taxable chemicals constitute 63.48 percent by weight of the materials used to produce this substance.

- (6) Process identified in petition as predominant method of production of substance: The predominant method of producing hydrogenated acrylonitrile-butadiene rubber is via catalytic hydrogenation of acrylonitrile-butadiene rubber which is derived from the emulsion polymerization of butadiene and acrylonitrile.
- (7) Stoichiometric material consumption equation, based on process identified as predominant method of production:
- n C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>6</sub> (butadiene) + m [C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>6</sub> (propylene) + NH<sub>3</sub> (ammonia) +  $^{3}$ /<sub>2</sub> O<sub>2</sub>] + n [ $^{1}$ /<sub>4</sub> CH<sub>4</sub> (methane) +  $^{1}$ /<sub>2</sub> H<sub>2</sub>O]  $\rightarrow$  (C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>8</sub>)<sub>n</sub>-(C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>3</sub>N)<sub>m</sub> (hydrogenated acrylonitrile-butadiene rubber) + 3m H<sub>2</sub>O +  $^{1}$ /<sub>4</sub>n CO<sub>2</sub>
- (8) Tax rate calculated by Petitioner, based on Petitioner's conversion factors for taxable chemicals used in production of substance:
  - (i) Tax rate: \$9.54 per ton.
- (ii) *Conversion factors:* 0.36 for butadiene, 0.49 for propylene, 0.20 for ammonia, and 0.03 for methane.
- (9) Public docket number: IRS-2025-0023.

#### Michael Beker,

Senior Counsel (Energy, Credits, and Excise Tax), IRS Office of Chief Counsel. [FR Doc. 2025–05626 Filed 4–2–25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4830-01-P

### **DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY**

#### **Internal Revenue Service**

Superfund Tax on Chemical Substances; Request To Modify List of Taxable Substances; Notice of Filing for Acrylonitrile Butadiene Styrene (a=0.16, b=0.10, s=0.74)

**AGENCY:** Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

**ACTION:** Notice of filing and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** This notice of filing announces that a petition has been filed requesting that acrylonitrile butadiene styrene ( $(C_3H_3N)_a$ - $(C_4H_6)_b$ - $(C_8H_8)_s$ ; a = 0.16, b = 0.10, s=0.74) be added to the list of taxable substances. This notice of filing also requests comments on the petition. This notice of filing is not a determination that the list of taxable substances is modified.

**DATES:** Written comments and requests for a public hearing must be received on or before June 2, 2025.

ADDRESSES: Commenters are encouraged to submit public comments or requests for a public hearing relating to this petition electronically via the Federal eRulemaking Portal at http:// www.regulations.gov (indicate public docket number IRS-2025-0030 or acrylonitrile butadiene styrene  $((C_3H_3N)_a-(C_4H_6)_b-(C_8H_8)_s; a=0.16,$ b=0.10, s=0.74)) by following the online instructions for submitting comments. Comments cannot be edited or withdrawn once submitted to the Federal eRulemaking Portal. Alternatively, comments and requests for a public hearing may be mailed to: Internal Revenue Service, Attn: CC:PA:01:PR (Notice of Filing for Acrylonitrile Butadiene Styrene  $((C_3H_3N)_a-(C_4H_6)_b-(C_8H_8)_s; a = 0.16, b =$ 0.10, s=0.74)), Room 5203, P.O. Box 7604, Ben Franklin Station, Washington, DC 20044. All comments received are part of the public record and subject to public disclosure. All comments received will be posted without change to www.regulations.gov, including any personal information provided. You should submit only information that you wish to make publicly available. If a public hearing is scheduled, notice of the time and place for the hearing will be published in the Federal Register. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Camille Edwards Bennehoff at (202) 317–6855 (not a toll-free number).

# SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

# Request To Add Substance to the List

(a) *Overview.* A petition was filed pursuant to Rev. Proc. 2022–26 (2022–

29 I.R.B. 90), as modified by Rev. Proc. 2023-20 (2023-15 I.R.B. 636), requesting that acrylonitrile butadiene styrene  $((C_3H_3N)_a-(C_4H_6)_b-(C_8H_8)_s; a =$ 0.16, b = 0.10, s=0.74) be added to the list of taxable substances under section 4672(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (List). The petition requesting the addition of acrylonitrile butadiene styrene  $((C_3H_3N)_a-(C_4H_6)_b-(C_8H_8)_s; a =$ 0.16, b = 0.10, s=0.74) to the List is based on weight and contains the information detailed in paragraph (b) of this document. The information is provided for public notice and comment pursuant to section 9 of Rev. Proc. 2022–26. The publication of petition information in this notice of filing is not a determination and does not constitute Treasury Department or IRS confirmation of the accuracy of the information published.

(b) Petition Content.

(1) Substance name: acrylonitrile butadiene styrene ( $(C_3H_3N)_a$ - $(C_4H_6)_b$ - $(C_8H_8)_s$ ; a = 0.16, b = 0.10, s=0.74).

(2) Petitioner: Trinseo LLC, an importer and exporter of acrylonitrile butadiene styrene ( $(C_3H_3N)_a$ - $(C_4H_6)_b$ - $(C_8H_8)_s$ ; a = 0.16, b = 0.10, s=0.74).

- (3) Proposed classification numbers:
- (i) HTSUS number: 3903.30.0000 (Pellets).
- (ii) *Schedule B number:* 3903.30.0000 (Pellets).
  - (iii) CAS number: 9003-56-9.
  - (4) Petition filing dates:
- (i) Petition filing date for purposes of making a determination: February 14, 2025.
- (ii) Petition filing date for purposes of section 11.02 of Rev. Proc. 2022–26, as modified by section 3 of Rev. Proc. 2023–20: March 1, 2024.
- (5) Description from petition: According to the petition, acrylonitrile butadiene styrene ( $(C_3H_3N)_a$ - $(C_4H_6)_b$ - $(C_8H_8)_s$ ; a = 0.16, b = 0.10, s=0.74), also referred to as ABS, is a thermoplastic terpolymer of acrylonitrile, butadiene, and styrene. It is used for injection molding and thermoforming into plastic articles.

Acrylonitrile butadiene styrene  $((C_3H_3N)_a-(C_4H_6)_b-(C_8H_8)_s; a = 0.16, b = 0.10, s=0.74)$  is made from propylene, ammonia, butadiene, benzene, and ethylene. Taxable chemicals constitute 92.40 percent by weight of the materials used to produce this substance.

(6) Process identified in petition as predominant method of production of substance: The predominant method of producing acrylonitrile butadiene styrene ( $(C_3H_3N)_a$ - $(C_4H_6)_b$ - $(C_8H_8)_s$ ; a = 0.16, b = 0.10, s=0.74) is through free radical, random copolymerization of 100% of the acrylonitrile, butadiene, and styrene monomers. Low levels of

unreacted monomers remain bound within the polymer matrix as "residual" components of the product as sold or imported.

(7) Stoichiometric material consumption equation, based on process identified as predominant method of production:

- a  $C_3H_6$  (propylene) + a  $NH_3$  (ammonia) + 3/2a  $O_2$  + b  $C_4H_6$  (butadiene) + s  $C_6H_6$  (benzene) + s  $C_2H_4$  (ethylene)  $\rightarrow$  ( $C_3H_3N$ )<sub>a</sub>-( $C_4H_6$ )<sub>b</sub>-( $C_8H_8$ )<sub>s</sub> (ABS) + 3a  $H_2O$  + s  $H_2$
- (8) Tax rate calculated by Petitioner, based on Petitioner's conversion factors for taxable chemicals used in production of substance:
  - (i) *Tax rate:* \$9.90 per ton.
- (ii) Conversion factors: 0.07 for propylene, 0.03 for ammonia, 0.06 for butadiene, 0.64 for benzene, and 0.23 for ethylene.
- (9) Public docket number: IRS-2025-0030.

#### Michael Beker,

Senior Counsel (Energy, Credits, and Excise Tax), IRS Office of Chief Counsel.

[FR Doc. 2025–05623 Filed 4–2–25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4830-01-P

# **DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY**

#### **Internal Revenue Service**

Superfund Tax on Chemical Substances; Request To Modify List of Taxable Substances; Notice of Filing for Ethylene Vinyl Acetate (VA < 50%) (n=78.95, m=21.05)

**AGENCY:** Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

**ACTION:** Notice of filing and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** This notice of filing announces that a petition has been filed requesting that ethylene vinyl acetate (VA < 50%) (( $C_2H_4$ )<sub>n</sub>-( $C_4H_6O_2$ )<sub>m</sub>; n=78.95, m=21.05) be added to the list of taxable substances. This notice of filing also requests comments on the petition. This notice of filing is not a determination that the list of taxable substances is modified.

**DATES:** Written comments and requests for a public hearing must be received on or before June 2, 2025.

**ADDRESSES:** Commenters are encouraged to submit public comments or requests for a public hearing relating to this petition electronically via the Federal eRulemaking Portal at http://www.regulations.gov (indicate public docket number IRS-2025-0035 or ethylene vinyl acetate (VA < 50%) (( $C_2H_4$ )<sub>n</sub>-( $C_4H_6O_2$ )<sub>m</sub>; n=78.95, m=21.05))

by following the online instructions for submitting comments. Comments cannot be edited or withdrawn once submitted to the Federal eRulemaking Portal. Alternatively, comments and requests for a public hearing may be mailed to: Internal Revenue Service, Attn: CC:PA:01:PR (Notice of Filing for Ethylene Vinyl Acetate (VA < 50%)  $((C_2H_4)_n-(C_4H_6O_2)_m; n=78.95, m=21.05)),$ Room 5203, P.O. Box 7604, Ben Franklin Station, Washington, DC 20044. All comments received are part of the public record and subject to public disclosure. All comments received will be posted without change to www.regulations.gov, including any personal information provided. You should submit only information that you wish to make publicly available. If a public hearing is scheduled, notice of the time and place for the hearing will be published in the **Federal Register**.

# FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Camille Edwards Bennehoff at (202) 317–6855 (not a toll-free number).

### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

# Request To Add Substance to the List

(a) Overview. A petition was filed pursuant to Rev. Proc. 2022-26 (2022-29 I.R.B. 90), as modified by Rev. Proc. 2023-20 (2023-15 I.R.B. 636), requesting that ethylene vinyl acetate  $(VA < 50\%) ((C_2H_4)_n - (C_4H_6O_2)_m;$ n=78.95, m=21.05) be added to the list of taxable substances under section 4672(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (List). The petition requesting the addition of ethylene vinyl acetate (VA < 50%) ( $(C_2H_4)_n$ - $(C_4H_6O_2)_m$ ; n=78.95, m=21.05) to the List is based on weight and contains the information detailed in paragraph (b) of this document. The information is provided for public notice and comment pursuant to section 9 of Rev. Proc. 2022-26. The publication of petition information in this notice of filing is not a determination and does not constitute Treasury Department or IRS confirmation of the accuracy of the information published.

- (b) Petition Content.
- (1) Substance name: Ethylene vinyl acetate (VA < 50%) (( $C_2H_4$ )<sub>n</sub>-( $C_4H_6O_2$ )<sub>m</sub>; n=78.95, m=21.05).
- (2) Petitioners: Arlanxeo USA LLC and Arlanxeo Canada Inc., importers and exporters of ethylene vinyl acetate (VA < 50%) ((C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>)<sub>n</sub>-(C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>6</sub>O<sub>2</sub>)<sub>m</sub>; n=78.95, m=21.05).
  - (3) Proposed classification numbers:
  - (i) HTSUS number: 3901.30.6000.
  - ${\rm (ii)}\ Schedule\ B\ number: 3901.30.6000.$
  - (iii) CAS number: 24937–78–8.
  - (4) Petition filing dates:
- (i) Petition filing date for purposes of making a determination: February 7, 2025.
- (ii) Petition filing date for purposes of section 11.02 of Rev. Proc. 2022–26, as

modified by section 3 of Rev. Proc. 2023–20: July 1, 2022.

(5) Description from petition: Ethylene vinyl acetate (VA < 50%) (( $C_2H_4$ ) $_n$ -( $C_4H_6O_2$ ) $_m$ ; n=78.95, m=21.05), also known as ethylene vinyl acetate (VA < 50%), is the copolymer of ethylene and vinyl acetate. It is an elastomeric polymer that produces materials which are "rubber-like" in softness and flexibility. Ethylene vinyl acetate (VA < 50%) has good clarity and gloss, low-temperature toughness, stress-crack resistance, hotmelt adhesive waterproof properties, and resistance to UV radiation. It is used in footwear components, flexible hoses, automobile bumpers, toys, athletic goods, molded automotive parts, flexible packaging, and films.

Ethylene vinyl acetate (VA < 50%) is made from ethylene and methane. Taxable chemicals constitute 66.23 percent by weight of the materials used to produce this substance.

- (6) Process identified in petition as predominant method of production of substance: The predominant method of producing ethylene vinyl acetate (VA. > 50%) is through a solution polymerization employing the monomers of ethylene and vinyl acetate in tert-butanol as solvent and a radical polymerization initiator.
- (7) Stoichiometric material consumption equation, based on process identified as predominant method of production:
- $\begin{array}{l} n~C_2H_4~(ethylene) + m~[C_2H_4~(ethylene) + {}^{1}\!/_2\\ CH_4~(methane) + 2~CO + {}^{1}\!/_2~O_2] \rightarrow \\ (C_2H_4)_n(C_4H_6O_2)_m~(ethylene~vinyl~acetate\\ (VA < 50\%)) + 1/2m~CO_2 \end{array}$
- (8) Tax rate calculated by Petitioner, based on Petitioner's conversion factors for taxable chemicals used in production of substance:
  - (i) Tax rate: \$7.09 per ton.
- (ii) Conversion factors: 0.70 for ethylene, 0.04 for methane.
  - (9) Public docket number: IRS-2025-0035.

#### Michael Beker,

Senior Counsel (Energy, Credits, and Excise Tax), IRS Office of Chief Counsel.

[FR Doc. 2025-05620 Filed 4-2-25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4830-01-P

# DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

# **Internal Revenue Service**

Superfund Tax on Chemical Substances; Request To Modify List of Taxable Substances; Notice of Filing for Isobutene-isoprene Rubber (n=99.10, m=0.90)

**AGENCY:** Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

**ACTION:** Notice of filing and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** This notice of filing announces that a petition has been filed requesting that isobutene-isoprene rubber ((C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>8</sub>)<sub>n</sub>-(C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>8</sub>)<sub>m</sub>; n=99.10, m=0.90) be added to the list of taxable substances. This notice of filing also

requests comments on the petition. This notice of filing is not a determination that the list of taxable substances is modified.

**DATES:** Written comments and requests for a public hearing must be received on or before June 2, 2025.

**ADDRESSES:** Commenters are encouraged to submit public comments or requests for a public hearing relating to this petition electronically via the Federal eRulemaking Portal at http:// www.regulations.gov (indicate public docket number IRS-2025-0024 or isobutene-isoprene rubber ((C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>8</sub>)<sub>n</sub>- $(C_5H_8)_m$ ; n=99.10, m=0.90)) by following the online instructions for submitting comments. Comments cannot be edited or withdrawn once submitted to the Federal eRulemaking Portal. Alternatively, comments and requests for a public hearing may be mailed to: Internal Revenue Service, Attn: CC:PA:01:PR (Notice of Filing for Isobutene-Isoprene Rubber ((C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>8</sub>)<sub>n</sub>- $(C_5H_8)_m$ ; n=99.10, m=0.90)), Room 5203, P.O. Box 7604, Ben Franklin Station, Washington DC 20044. All comments received are part of the public record and subject to public disclosure. All comments received will be posted without change to www.regulations.gov, including any personal information provided. You should submit only information that you wish to make publicly available. If a public hearing is scheduled, notice of the time and place for the hearing will be published in the Federal Register.

# FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Andrew Clark at (202) 317–6855 (not a toll-free number).

# SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

# Request To Add Substance to the List

(a) Overview. A petition was filed pursuant to Rev. Proc. 2022-26 (2022-29 I.R.B. 90), as modified by Rev. Proc. 2023-20 (2023-15 I.R.B. 636), requesting that isobutene-isoprene rubber  $((C_4H_8)_n-(C_5H_8)_m; n=99.10,$ m=0.90) be added to the list of taxable substances under section 4672(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (List). The petition requesting the addition of isobutene-isoprene rubber ((C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>8</sub>)<sub>n</sub>- $(C_5H_8)_m$ ; n=99.10, m=0.90) to the List is based on weight and contains the information detailed in paragraph (b) of this document. The information is provided for public notice and comment pursuant to section 9 of Rev. Proc. 2022–26. The publication of petition information in this notice of filing is not a determination and does not constitute Treasury Department or IRS confirmation of the accuracy of the information published.

- (b) Petition Content.
- (1) Substance name: Isobuteneisoprene rubber ( $(C_4H_8)_n$ - $(C_5H_8)_m$ ; n=99.10, m=0.90).
- (2) Petitioner: Arlanxeo USA LLC and Arlanxeo Canada Inc., importers and exporters of isobutene-isoprene rubber ((C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>8</sub>)<sub>n</sub>-(C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>8</sub>)<sub>m</sub>; n=99.10, m=0.90).
  - (3) Proposed classification numbers:
  - (i) HTSUS number: 4002.31.0000.
  - (ii) Schedule B number: 4002.31.0000.
  - (iii) CAS number: 9010-85-9.
  - (4) Petition filing dates:
- (i) Petition filing date for purposes of making a determination: February 7, 2025.
- (ii) Petition filing date for purposes of section 11.02 of Rev. Proc. 2022–26, as modified by section 3 of Rev. Proc. 2023–20: July 1, 2022.
- (5) Description from petition:
  Isobutene-isoprene rubber is a synthetic rubber used primarily for its air retention, low permeability to gas and moisture, broad damping characteristics, and heat and ozone resistance. It is used in tire inner liners, tire inner tubes, tire curing bladders, window sealants, damping mounts, hoses, and seals.

Isobutene-isoprene rubber is made from butylene. Taxable chemicals constitute 98.91% of the materials used to produce this substance.

- (6) Process identified in petition as predominant method of production of substance: The predominant method of producing isobutene-isoprene rubber is via the cationic copolymerization of butylene with isoprene in the presence of a Friedel-Crafts catalyst at low temperature, around -100°C. The final product contains 0.7 wt% of additives.
- (7) Stoichiometric material consumption equation, based on process identified as predominant method of production:
- n  $C_4H_8$  (butylene) + m  $C_5H_8$  (isoprene)  $\rightarrow$  ( $C_4H_8$ )<sub>n</sub>( $C_5H_8$ )<sub>m</sub> (isobuteneisoprene rubber)
- (8) Tax rate calculated by Petitioner, based on Petitioner's conversion factors for taxable chemicals used in production of substance:
  - (i) *Tax rate:* \$9.64 per ton.
- (ii) *Conversion factors:* 0.99 for butylene.
- (9) Public docket number: IRS-2025-0024.

#### Michael Beker.

Senior Counsel (Energy, Credits, and Excise Tax), IRS Office of Chief Counsel.

[FR Doc. 2025–05627 Filed 4–2–25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4830-01-P

### **DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY**

#### Internal Revenue Service

Superfund Tax on Chemical Substances; Request To Modify List of Taxable Substances; Notice of Filing for Solution Styrene-butadiene Rubber (m=67.16; n=32.85)

**AGENCY:** Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

**ACTION:** Notice of filing and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** This notice of filing announces that a petition has been filed requesting that solution styrenebutadiene rubber ( $(C_4H_6)_m$ - $(C_8H_8)_n$ ; m=67.16; n=32.85) be added to the list of taxable substances. This notice of filing also requests comments on the petition. This notice of filing is not a determination that the list of taxable substances is modified.

**DATES:** Written comments and requests for a public hearing must be received on or before June 2, 2025.

**ADDRESSES:** Commenters are encouraged to submit public comments or requests for a public hearing relating to this petition electronically via the Federal eRulemaking Portal at http:// www.regulations.gov (indicate public docket number IRS-2025-0027 or solution styrene-butadiene rubber  $((C_4H_6)_m-(C_8H_8)_n; m=67.16; n=32.85))$  by following the online instructions for submitting comments. Comments cannot be edited or withdrawn once submitted to the Federal eRulemaking Portal. Alternatively, comments and requests for a public hearing may be mailed to: Internal Revenue Service, Attn: CC:PA:01:PR (Notice of Filing for Solution Styrene-butadiene Rubber  $((C_4H_6)_m-(C_8H_8)_n; m=67.16; n=32.85)),$ Room 5203, P.O. Box 7604, Ben Franklin Station, Washington, DC 20044. All comments received are part of the public record and subject to public disclosure. All comments received will be posted without change to www.regulations.gov, including any personal information provided. You should submit only information that you wish to make publicly available. If a public hearing is scheduled, notice of the time and place for the hearing will be published in the **Federal Register**.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Andrew Clark at (202) 317–6855 (not a toll-free number).

# SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

### Request To Add Substance to the List

(a) Overview. A petition was filed pursuant to Rev. Proc. 2022–26 (2022–29 I.R.B. 90), as modified by Rev. Proc.

2023-20 (2023-15 I.R.B. 636), requesting that solution styrenebutadiene rubber  $((C_4H_6)_m-(C_8H_8)_n;$ m=67.16; n=32.85) be added to the list of taxable substances under section 4672(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (List). The petition requesting the addition of solution styrene-butadiene rubber  $((C_4H_6)_m-(C_8H_8)_n; m=67.16;$ n=32.85) to the List is based on weight and contains the information detailed in paragraph (b) of this document. The information is provided for public notice and comment pursuant to section 9 of Rev. Proc. 2022–26. The publication of petition information in this notice of filing is not a determination and does not constitute Treasury Department or IRS confirmation of the accuracy of the information published.

- (b) Petition Content.
- (1) Substance name: Solution styrenebutadiene rubber ( $(C_4H_6)_m$ - $(C_8H_8)_n$ ; m=67.16; n=32.85).
- (2) Petitioner: Arlanxeo USA LLC and Arlanxeo Canada Inc., importers and exporters of solution styrene-butadiene rubber ( $(C_4H_6)_m$ - $(C_8H_8)_n$ ; m=67.16; n=32.85).
  - (3) Proposed classification numbers:
  - (i) HTŜUS number: 4002.19.0016.
  - (ii) Schedule B number: 4002.19.1600.
  - (iii) CAS number: 9003-55-8.
  - (4) Petition filing dates:
- (i) Petition filing date for purposes of making a determination: February 7, 2025.
- (ii) Petition filing date for purposes of section 11.02 of Rev. Proc. 2022–26, as modified by section 3 of Rev. Proc. 2023–20: July 1, 2022.
- (5) Description from petition: Solution styrene-butadiene rubber is a general-purpose synthetic rubber derived from butadiene and styrene. Solution styrene-butadiene rubber is used in the production of pneumatic tires, shoe heels/soles, gaskets, adhesives, haul-off pads, conveyor belts, and various other molded rubber goods.

Solution styrene-butadiene rubber is made from butadiene, benzene, and ethylene. Taxable chemicals constitute 100 percent by weight of the materials used to produce this substance.

- (6) Process identified in petition as predominant method of production of substance: The predominant method of producing solution styrene-butadiene rubber is through the anionic polymerization of butadiene and styrene initiated by alkyl lithium compounds in hexanes as solvent. Styrene monomer is produced by the dehydrogenation of ethylbenzene. Ethylbenzene is produced via a Friedel-Crafts reaction of benzene and ethylene.
- (7) Stoichiometric material consumption equation, based on

process identified as predominant method of production:

- $\begin{array}{l} m \; C_4H_6 \; (butadiene) + n \; [C_6H_6 \; (benzene) \\ + \; C_2H_4 \; (ethylene)] \rightarrow (C_4H_6)_m \\ (C_8H_8)_n \; (solution \; styrene-butadiene \\ rubber) + n \; H_2 \end{array}$
- (8) Tax rate calculated by Petitioner, based on Petitioner's conversion factors for taxable chemicals used in production of substance:
  - (i) Tax rate: \$9.74 per ton.
- (ii) Conversion factors: 0.51 for butadiene, 0.36 for benzene, and 0.13 for ethylene.
- (9) Public docket number: IRS-2025-0027.

#### Michael Beker,

Senior Counsel (Energy, Credits, Excise Tax), IRS Office of Chief Counsel.

[FR Doc. 2025-05629 Filed 4-2-25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4830-01-P

### **DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY**

#### **Internal Revenue Service**

Superfund Tax on Chemical Substances; Request To Modify List of Taxable Substances; Notice of Filing for Poly(ethylene-propylene) Rubber (m=59.04, n=40.96)

**AGENCY:** Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

**ACTION:** Notice of filing and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** This notice of filing announces that a petition has been filed requesting that poly(ethylene-propylene) rubber (( $C_2H_4$ )<sub>m</sub>-( $C_3H_6$ )<sub>n</sub>; m=59.04, n=40.96) be added to the list of taxable substances. This notice of filing also requests comments on the petition. This notice of filing is not a determination that the list of taxable substances is modified.

**DATES:** Written comments and requests for a public hearing must be received on or before June 2, 2025.

**ADDRESSES:** Commenters are encouraged to submit public comments or requests for a public hearing relating to this petition electronically via the Federal eRulemaking Portal at http:// www.regulations.gov (indicate public docket number IRS-2025-0025 or poly(ethylene-propylene) rubber  $((C_2H_4)_m - (C_3H_6)_n; m=59.04, n=40.96))$  by following the online instructions for submitting comments. Comments cannot be edited or withdrawn once submitted to the Federal eRulemaking Portal. Alternatively, comments and requests for a public hearing may be mailed to: Internal Revenue Service, Attn: CC:PA:01:PR (Notice of Filing for

Poly(ethylene-propylene) Rubber  $((C_2H_4)_m-(C_3H_6)_n; m=59.04, n=40.96))$ , Room 5203, P.O. Box 7604, Ben Franklin Station, Washington, DC 20044. All comments received are part of the public record and subject to public disclosure. All comments received will be posted without change to www.regulations.gov, including any personal information provided. You should submit only information that you wish to make publicly available. If a public hearing is scheduled, notice of the time and place for the hearing will be published in the **Federal Register**.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Andrew Clark at (202) 317–6855 (not a toll-free number).

## SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

## Request To Add Substance to the List

- (a) Overview. A petition was filed pursuant to Rev. Proc. 2022-26 (2022-29 I.R.B. 90), as modified by Rev. Proc. 2023-20 (2023-15 I.R.B. 636), requesting that poly(ethylenepropylene) rubber  $((C_2H_4)_m-(C_3H_6)_n;$ m=59.04, n=40.96) be added to the list of taxable substances under section 4672(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (List). The petition requesting the addition of poly(ethylene-propylene) rubber  $((C_2H_4)_m-(C_3H_6)_n; m=59.04,$ n=40.96) to the List is based on weight and contains the information detailed in paragraph (b) of this document. The information is provided for public notice and comment pursuant to section 9 of Rev. Proc. 2022–26. The publication of petition information in this notice of filing is not a determination and does not constitute Treasury Department or IRS confirmation of the accuracy of the information published.
  - (b) Petition Content.
- (1) Substance name: Poly(ethylenepropylene) rubber ( $(C_2H_4)_m$ - $(C_3H_6)_n$ ; m=59.04, n=40.96).
- (2) Petitioner: Arlanxeo USA LLC and Arlanxeo Canada Inc., importers and exporters of poly(ethylene-propylene) rubber ((C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>)<sub>m</sub>-(C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>6</sub>)<sub>n</sub>; m=59.04, n=40.96).
  - (3) Proposed classification numbers:
  - (i) HTSUS number: 3901.40.0000.
  - (ii) Schedule B number: 3901.40.0000.
  - (iii) CAS number: 9010-71-1.
  - (4) Petition filing dates:
- (i) Petition filing date for purposes of making a determination: February 7, 2025.
- (ii) Petition filing date for purposes of section 11.02 of Rev. Proc. 2022–26, as modified by section 3 of Rev. Proc. 2023–20: July 1, 2022.
- (5) Description from petition: Poly(ethylene-propylene) rubber is a synthetic rubber produced from a

combination of ethylene and propylene. Poly(ethylene-propylene) rubber has a low compression set, good resistance to heat, cold, and chemicals. Poly(ethylene-propylene) rubber is a good choice for a sealing material. Poly(ethylene-propylene) rubber is also used to produce hoses, diaphragms, and profiles (door and window seals). Poly(ethylene-propylene) rubber is also found in safety-related parts of vehicle

Poly(ethylene-propylene) rubber is made from ethylene and propylene. Taxable chemicals constitute 100 percent by weight of the materials used to produce this substance.

braking systems.

- (6) Process identified in petition as predominant method of production of substance: The predominant method of producing poly(ethylene-propylene) rubber is through the catalytic polymerization of ethylene and propylene monomers in a solution using various catalysts.
- (7) Stoichiometric material consumption equation, based on process identified as predominant method of production:
- m  $C_2H_4$  (ethylene) + n  $C_3H_6$  (propylene)  $\rightarrow (C_2H_4)_m$ - $(C_3H_6)_n$ (poly(ethylenepropylene) rubber)
- (8) Tax rate calculated by Petitioner, based on Petitioner's conversion factors for taxable chemicals used in production of substance:
  - (i) *Tax rate:* \$9.74 per ton.
- (ii) *Conversion factors:* 0.49 for ethylene, 0.51 for propylene.
- (9) Public docket number: IRS-2025-0025.

## Michael Beker,

Senior Counsel (Energy, Credits, and Excise Tax), IRS Office of Chief Counsel.

[FR Doc. 2025–05628 Filed 4–2–25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4830-01-P

## **DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY**

## Internal Revenue Service

Superfund Tax on Chemical Substances; Request To Modify List of Taxable Substances; Notice of Filing for Chloroprene Rubber

**AGENCY:** Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

**ACTION:** Notice of filing and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** This notice of filing announces that a petition has been filed requesting that chloroprene rubber be added to the list of taxable substances. This notice of filing also requests comments on the petition. This notice of

filing is not a determination that the list of taxable substances is modified.

**DATES:** Written comments and requests for a public hearing must be received on or before June 2, 2025.

ADDRESSES: Commenters are encouraged to submit public comments or requests for a public hearing relating to this petition electronically via the Federal eRulemaking Portal at http:// www.regulations.gov (indicate public docket number IRS-2025-0021 or chloroprene rubber) by following the online instructions for submitting comments. Comments cannot be edited or withdrawn once submitted to the Federal eRulemaking Portal. Alternatively, comments and requests for a public hearing may be mailed to: Internal Revenue Service, Attn: CC:PA:01:PR (Notice of Filing for Chloroprene Rubber), Room 5203, P.O. Box 7604, Ben Franklin Station, Washington, DC 20044. All comments received are part of the public record and subject to public disclosure. All comments received will be posted without change to www.regulations.gov, including any personal information provided. You should submit only information that you wish to make publicly available. If a public hearing is scheduled, notice of the time and place for the hearing will be published in the Federal Register.

## FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Camille Edwards Bennehoff or Mckenzie Mixon at (202) 317–6855 (not a toll-free number).

## SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

## Request To Add Substance to the List

- (a) Overview. A petition was filed pursuant to Rev. Proc. 2022-26 (2022-29 I.R.B. 90), as modified by Rev. Proc. 2023-20 (2023-15 I.R.B. 636), requesting that chloroprene rubber be added to the list of taxable substances under section 4672(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (List). The petition requesting the addition of chloroprene rubber to the List is based on weight and contains the information detailed in paragraph (b) of this document. The information is provided for public notice and comment pursuant to section 9 of Rev. Proc. 2022-26. The publication of petition information in this notice of filing is not a determination and does not constitute Treasury Department or IRS confirmation of the accuracy of the information published.
  - (b) Petition Content.
- (1) *Substance name:* Chloroprene rubber.
- (2) Petitioner: Arlanxeo USA LLC and Arlanxeo Canada Inc., importers and exporters of chloroprene rubber.

- (3) Proposed classification numbers.
- (i) HTSUS number: 4002.49.0000 and 4002.99.0000.
- (ii) Schedule B number: 4002.49.0000 and 4002.99.0000.
  - (iii) CAS number: 9010-98-4.
  - (4) Petition filing dates:
- (i) Petition filing date for purposes of making a determination: February 7, 2025.
- (ii) Petition filing date for purposes of section 11.02 of Rev. Proc. 2022–26, as modified by section 3 of Rev. Proc. 2023–20: July 1, 2022.
- (5) Description from petition: According to the petition, chloroprene rubber is a high-performance material with a wide variety of applications, including moldings and extrudates of all kinds.

Chloroprene rubber is made from butadiene, chlorine, and sodium hydroxide. Taxable chemicals constitute 100.00 percent by weight of the materials used to produce this substance.

- (6) Process identified in petition as predominant method of production of substance: The predominant method of producing chloroprene rubber is through polymerization of chloroprene initiated by a radical initiator in an emulsion process. Chloroprene monomer is made from butadiene, by first reacting it with chlorine in the gas phase at ca 500 K to form 3,4-dichlorobut-1-ene and 1,4-dichlorobut-2-ene. The former, on reaction with sodium hydroxide, yields chloroprene monomer.
- (7) Stoichiometric material consumption equation, based on process identified as predominant method of production:
- n [ $C_4H_6$  (butadiene) +  $Cl_2$  (chlorine) + NaOH (sodium hydroxide)]  $\rightarrow$  ( $C_4H_5Cl)_n$  (chloroprene rubber) + n NaCl + n  $H_2O$
- (8) Tax rate calculated by Petitioner, based on Petitioner's conversion factors for taxable chemicals used in production of substance:
  - (i) Tax rate: \$10.51 per ton.
- (ii) *Conversion factors*: 0.61 for butadiene, 0.80 for chlorine, and 0.45 for sodium hydroxide.
- (9) Public docket number: IRS-2025-0021.

## Michael Beker,

Senior Counsel (Energy, Credits, and Excise Tax), IRS Office of Chief Counsel.

[FR Doc. 2025–05621 Filed 4–2–25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4830-01-P

## **DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY**

#### **Internal Revenue Service**

Superfund Tax on Chemical Substances; Request To Modify List of Taxable Substances; Notice of Filing for Emulsion Styrene Butadiene Rubber (m=14.14; n=2.26)

**AGENCY:** Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

**ACTION:** Notice of filing and request for comments.

SUMMARY: This notice of filing announces that a petition has been filed requesting that emulsion styrene butadiene rubber ( $(C_4H_6)_m$ - $(C_8H_8)_n$ ; m=14.14; n=2.26) be added to the list of taxable substances. This notice of filing also requests comments on the petition. This notice of filing is not a determination that the list of taxable substances is modified.

**DATES:** Written comments and requests for a public hearing must be received on or before June 2, 2025.

**ADDRESSES:** Commenters are encouraged to submit public comments or requests for a public hearing relating to this petition electronically via the Federal eRulemaking Portal at http:// www.regulations.gov (indicate public docket number IRS-2025-0028 or emulsion styrene butadiene rubber  $((C_4H_6)_m-(C_8H_8)_n; m=14.14; n=2.26))$  by following the online instructions for submitting comments. Comments cannot be edited or withdrawn once submitted to the Federal eRulemaking Portal. Alternatively, comments and requests for a public hearing may be mailed to: Internal Revenue Service, Attn:CC:PA:01:PR (Notice of Filing for Emulsion Styrene Butadiene Rubber  $((C_4H_6)_m-(C_8H_8)_n; m=14.14; n=2.26)),$ Room 5203, P.O. Box 7604, Ben Franklin Station, Washington, DC 20044. All comments received are part of the public record and subject to public disclosure. All comments received will be posted without change to www.regulations.gov, including any personal information provided. You should submit only information that you wish to make publicly available. If a public hearing is scheduled, notice of the time and place for the hearing will be published in the **Federal Register**. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Camille Edwards Bennehoff at (202) 317-6855 (not a toll-free number).

## SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Request To Add Substance to the List

(a) Overview. A petition was filed pursuant to Rev. Proc. 2022–26 (2022– 29 I.R.B. 90), as modified by Rev. Proc.

2023-20 (2023-15 I.R.B. 636), requesting that emulsion styrene butadiene rubber  $((C_4H_6)_m-(C_8H_8)_n;$ m=14.14; n=2.26)) be added to the list of taxable substances under section 4672(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (List). The petition requesting the addition of emulsion styrene butadiene rubber  $((C_4H_6)_m-(C_8H_8)_n; m=14.14;$ n=2.26)) to the List is based on weight and contains the information detailed in paragraph (b) of this document. The information is provided for public notice and comment pursuant to section 9 of Rev. Proc. 2022–26. The publication of petition information in this notice of filing is not a determination and does not constitute Treasury Department or IRS confirmation of the accuracy of the information published.

(b) Petition Content.

(1) Substance name: Emulsion styrene butadiene rubber ( $(C_4H_6)_m$ - $(C_8H_8)_n$ ; m=14.14; n=2.26)

(2) Petitioner: Michelin North America, Inc., an importer of emulsion styrene butadiene rubber ( $(C_4H_6)_m$ - $(C_8H_8)_n$ ; m=14.14; n=2.26)

(3) Proposed classification numbers:

(i) HTSUS number: 4002.19.0015.

(ii) Schedule B number: 4002.19.9000.

(iii) CAS number: 9003-55-8.

(4) Petition filing dates:

(i) Petition filing date for purposes of making a determination: February 7,

(ii) Petition filing date for purposes of section 11.02 of Rev. Proc. 2022–26, as modified by section 3 of Rev. Proc. 2023–20: July 1, 2022.

(5) Description from petition: According to the petition, emulsion styrene butadiene rubber ( $(C_4H_6)_{m^-}(C_8H_8)_n$ ; m=14.14; n=2.26)) is a general-purpose synthetic rubber derived from butadiene and styrene. It is used in the production of pneumatic tires, shoe heels/soles, gaskets, adhesives, haul-off pads, conveyor belts, and various other molded rubber goods.

Emulsion styrene butadiene rubber  $((C_4H_6)_m \cdot (C_8H_8)_n; m=14.14; n=2.26))$  is made from butadiene, benzene, and ethylene. Taxable chemicals constitute 100.00 percent by weight of the materials used to produce this substance.

(6) Process identified in petition as predominant method of production of substance: The predominant method of producing emulsion styrene butadiene rubber ( $(C_4H_6)_m$ - $(C_8H_8)_n$ ; m=14.14; n=2.26) is through a low temperature, emulsion copolymerization of butadiene and styrene, using fatty and rosin acid soaps as an emulsifier, and organic hydroperoxides as an initiator. Styrene monomer is produced by the dehydrogenation of ethylbenzene.

Ethylbenzene is produced via a Friedel-Crafts reaction of benzene and ethylene.

- (7) Stoichiometric material consumption equation, based on process identified as predominant method of production:
- m  $C_4H_6$  (butadiene) + n  $[C_6H_6$  (benzene) +  $C_2H_4$  (ethylene)]  $\rightarrow$   $(C_4H_6)_m$ - $(C_8H_8)_n$  (emulsion styrene butadiene rubber) + n  $H_2$
- (8) Tax rate calculated by Petitioner, based on Petitioner's conversion factors for taxable chemicals used in production of substance:
  - (i) *Tax rate*: \$9.74 per ton.
- (ii) *Conversion factors*: 0.76 for butadiene, 0.18 for benzene, and 0.06 for ethylene.
- (9) Public docket number: IRS-2025-0028.

#### Michael Beker.

Senior Counsel (Energy, Credits, and Excise Tax), IRS Office of Chief Counsel.

[FR Doc. 2025-05622 Filed 4-2-25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4830-01-P

## **DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY**

#### Internal Revenue Service

Superfund Tax on Chemical Substances; Request To Modify List of Taxable Substances; Notice of Filing for Styrene-Acrylonitrile (a=0.26, s=0.74)

**AGENCY:** Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

**ACTION:** Notice of filing and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** This notice of filing announces that a petition has been filed requesting that styrene-acrylonitrile  $((C_3H_3N)_a-(C_8H_8)_s; a=0.26, s=0.74)$  be added to the list of taxable substances. This notice of filing also requests comments on the petition. This notice of filing is not a determination that the list of taxable substances is modified.

**DATES:** Written comments and requests for a public hearing must be received on or before June 2, 2025.

ADDRESSES: Commenters are encouraged to submit public comments or requests for a public hearing relating to this petition electronically via the Federal eRulemaking Portal at <a href="http://www.regulations.gov">http://www.regulations.gov</a> (indicate public docket number IRS-2025-0031 or styrene-acrylonitrile ((C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>3</sub>N)<sub>a</sub>-(C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>8</sub>)<sub>s</sub>; a=0.26, s=0.74) by following the online instructions for submitting comments. Comments cannot be edited or withdrawn once submitted to the Federal eRulemaking Portal.

Alternatively, comments and requests

for a public hearing may be mailed to: Internal Revenue Service, Attn: CC:PA:01:PR (Notice of Filing for Styrene-Acrylonitrile  $((C_3H_3N)_a-(C_8H_8)_s;$ a=0.26, s=0.74)) Room 5203, P.O. Box 7604, Ben Franklin Station, Washington, DC 20044. All comments received are part of the public record and subject to public disclosure. All comments received will be posted without change to www.regulations.gov, including any personal information provided. You should submit only information that you wish to make publicly available. If a public hearing is scheduled, notice of the time and place for the hearing will be published in the Federal Register.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Camille Edwards Bennehoff at (202) 317–6855 (not a toll-free number).

## SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

## Request To Add Substance to the List

- (a) Overview. A petition was filed pursuant to Rev. Proc. 2022-26 (2022-29 I.R.B. 90), as modified by Rev. Proc. 2023-20 (2023-15 I.R.B. 636), requesting that styrene-acrylonitrile  $((C_3H_3N)_a-(C_8H_8)_s; a=0.26, s=0.74)$  be added to the list of taxable substances under section 4672(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (List). The petition requesting the addition of styreneacrylonitrile  $((C_3H_3N)_a-(C_8H_8)_s; a=0.26,$ s=0.74) to the List is based on weight and contains the information detailed in paragraph (b) of this document. The information is provided for public notice and comment pursuant to section 9 of Rev. Proc. 2022–26. The publication of petition information in this notice of filing is not a determination and does not constitute Treasury Department or IRS confirmation of the accuracy of the information published.
  - (b) Petition Content.
- (1) Substance name: Styrene-acrylonitrile  $((C_3H_3N)_a-(C_8H_8)_s; a=0.26, s=0.74)$ .
- (2) Petitioner: Trinseo LLC, an importer and exporter of styrene-acrylonitrile  $((C_3H_3N)_a-(C_8H_8)_s; a=0.26, s=0.74)$ .
  - (3) Proposed classification numbers:
- (i) HTSUS number: 3903.20.0000 (Pellets).
- (ii) Schedule B number: 3903.20.0000 (Pellets).
  - (iii) CAS number: 9003-54-7.
  - (4) Petition filing dates:
- (i) Petition filing date for purposes of making a determination: February 14, 2025.
- (ii) Petition filing date for purposes of section 11.02 of Rev. Proc. 2022–26, as modified by section 3 of Rev. Proc. 2023–20: March 1, 2024.
- (5) Description from petition: According to the petition, styrene-

acrylonitrile ( $(C_3H_3N)_a$ - $(C_8H_8)_s$ ; a=0.26, s=0.74), also referred to as SAN, is a thermoplastic copolymer of acrylonitrile and styrene. It is used for injection molding and thermoforming into plastic articles.

Styrene-acrylonitrile (( $C_3H_3N$ )<sub>a</sub>- $(C_8H_8)_s$ ; a=0.26, s=0.74) is made from propylene, ammonia, benzene, and ethylene. Taxable chemicals constitute 88.27 percent by weight of the materials used to produce this substance.

(6) Process identified in petition as predominant method of production of substance: The predominant method of producing styrene-acrylonitrile (( $C_3H_3N$ )<sub>a</sub>-( $C_8H_8$ )<sub>s</sub>; a=0.26, s=0.74), is through free radical, random copolymerization of 100% of the acrylonitrile and styrene monomers. Low levels of unreacted monomers remain bound within the polymer matrix as "residual" components of the product as sold or imported.

(7) Stoichiometric material consumption equation, based on process identified as predominant method of production:

- a  $C_3H_6$  (propylene) + a NH<sub>3</sub> (ammonia) + 3/2a  $O_2$  + s  $C_6H_6$  (benzene) + s  $C_2H_4$  (ethylene)  $\rightarrow$  ( $C_3H_3N$ )<sub>a</sub>-( $C_8H_8$ )<sub>s</sub> (SAN) + 3a  $H_2O$  + s  $H_2$
- (8) Tax rate calculated by Petitioner, based on Petitioner's conversion factors for taxable chemicals used in production of substance:
  - (i) Tax rate: \$9.91 per ton.
- (ii) Conversion factors: 0.12 for propylene, 0.05 for ammonia, 0.64 for benzene, and 0.23 for ethylene.
- (9) Public docket number: IRS-2025-0031.

## Michael Beker.

Senior Counsel (Energy, Credits, and Excise Tax), IRS Office of Chief Counsel.

[FR Doc. 2025–05631 Filed 4–2–25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4830-01-P

## **DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY**

## Internal Revenue Service

Superfund Tax on Chemical Substances; Request To Modify List of Taxable Substances; Notice of Filing for Solution Styrene-Butadiene Rubber (m=13.31; n=2.50)

**AGENCY:** Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

**ACTION:** Notice of filing and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** This notice of filing announces that a petition has been filed requesting that solution styrenebutadiene rubber ( $(C_4H_6)_m$ - $(C_8H_8)_n$ ; m=13.31; n=2.50) be added to the list of

taxable substances. This notice of filing also requests comments on the petition. This notice of filing is not a determination that the list of taxable substances is modified.

**DATES:** Written comments and requests for a public hearing must be received on or before June 2, 2025.

ADDRESSES: Commenters are encouraged to submit public comments or requests for a public hearing relating to this petition electronically via the Federal eRulemaking Portal at http:// www.regulations.gov (indicate public docket number IRS-2025-0029 or solution styrene-butadiene rubber  $((C_4H_6)_m-(C_8H_8)_n; m=13.31; n=2.50))$  by following the online instructions for submitting comments. Comments cannot be edited or withdrawn once submitted to the Federal eRulemaking Portal. Alternatively, comments and requests for a public hearing may be mailed to: Internal Revenue Service, Attn: CC:PA:01:PR (Notice of Filing for Solution Styrene-Butadiene Rubber  $((C_4H_6)_m-(C_8H_8)_n; m=13.31; n=2.50)),$ Room 5203, P.O. Box 7604, Ben Franklin Station, Washington, DC 20044. All comments received are part of the public record and subject to public disclosure. All comments received will be posted without change to www.regulations.gov, including any personal information provided. You should submit only information that you wish to make publicly available. If a public hearing is scheduled, notice of the time and place for the hearing will be published in the Federal Register.

## FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Camille Edwards Bennehoff at (202) 317–6855 (not a toll-free number).

## SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

## Request To Add Substance to the List

(a) Overview. A petition was filed pursuant to Rev. Proc. 2022-26 (2022-29 I.R.B. 90), as modified by Rev. Proc. 2023-20 (2023-15 I.R.B. 636), requesting that solution styrenebutadiene rubber  $((C_4H_6)_m-(C_8H_8)_n$ ; m=13.31; n=2.50) be added to the list of taxable substances under section 4672(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (List). The petition requesting the addition of solution styrene-butadiene rubber  $((C_4H_6)_m-(C_8H_8)_n; m=13.31;$ n=2.50) to the List is based on weight and contains the information detailed in paragraph (b) of this document. The information is provided for public notice and comment pursuant to section 9 of Rev. Proc. 2022–26. The publication of petition information in this notice of filing is not a determination and does not constitute Treasury Department or

IRS confirmation of the accuracy of the information published.

- (b) Petition Content.
- (1) Substance name: Solution styrenebutadiene rubber ( $(C_4H_6)_m$ - $(C_8H_8)_n$ ; m=13.31; n=2.50).
- (2) Petitioner: Michelin North America, Inc., an importer of solution styrene-butadiene rubber ( $(C_4H_6)_m$ - $(C_8H_8)_n$ ; m=13.31; n=2.50).
  - (3) Proposed classification numbers:
  - (i) HTSUS number: 4002.19.0016.
  - (ii) Schedule B number: 4002.19.1600.
  - (iii) CAS number: 9003–55–8.
  - (4) Petition filing dates:
- (i) Petition filing date for purposes of making a determination: February 7, 2025
- (ii) Petition filing date for purposes of section 11.02 of Rev. Proc. 2022–26, as modified by section 3 of Rev. Proc. 2023–20: July 1, 2022.
- (5) Description from petition: According to the petition, solution styrene-butadiene rubber ( $(C_4H_6)_m$ - $(C_8H_8)_n$ ; m=13.31; n=2.50) is a general-purpose synthetic rubber derived from butadiene and styrene. It is used in the production of pneumatic tires, shoe heels/soles, gaskets, adhesives, haul-off pads, conveyor belts, and various other molded rubber goods.

Solution styrene-butadiene rubber  $((C_4H_6)_m \cdot (C_8H_8)_n; m=13.31; n=2.50)$  is made from butadiene, benzene, and ethylene. Taxable chemicals constitute 100.00 percent by weight of the materials used to produce this substance.

- (6) Process identified in petition as predominant method of production of substance: The predominant method of producing solution styrene-butadiene rubber ((C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>6</sub>)<sub>m</sub>-(C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>8</sub>)<sub>n</sub>; m=13.31; n=2.50) is through the continuous polymerization of butadiene and styrene initiated by alkyl lithium compounds in toluene or CMHC (cyclohexane and methylhexane) as solvents. Styrene monomer is produced by the dehydrogenation of ethylbenzene. Ethylbenzene is produced via a Friedel-Crafts reaction of benzene and ethylene.
- (7) Stoichiometric material consumption equation, based on process identified as predominant method of production:
- $\begin{array}{l} m \; C_4H_6 \; (butadiene) + n \; [C_6H_6 \; (benzene) \\ + \; C_2H_4 \; (ethylene)] \rightarrow (C_4H_6)_m \text{-} \\ (C_8H_8)_n \; (solution \; styrene \; butadiene \\ rubber) + n \; H_2 \end{array}$
- (8) Tax rate calculated by Petitioner, based on Petitioner's conversion factors for taxable chemicals used in production of substance:
  - (i) *Tax rate:* \$9.74 per ton.
- (ii) Conversion factors: 0.73 for butadiene, 0.20 for benzene, and 0.07 for ethylene.

(9) Public docket number: IRS-2025-

#### Michael Beker,

Senior Counsel (Energy, Credits, and Excise Tax), IRS Office of Chief Counsel. [FR Doc. 2025–05630 Filed 4–2–25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4830-01-P

## **DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY**

## **Internal Revenue Service**

Superfund Tax on Chemical Substances; Request To Modify List of Taxable Substances; Notice of Filing for Bromo-isobutene-isoprene Rubber (n=98.20, m=1.80)

**AGENCY:** Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

**ACTION:** Notice of filing and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** This notice of filing announces that a petition has been filed requesting that bromo-isobutene-isoprene rubber ( $(C_4H_8)_n$ - $(C_5H_{7.5}Br_{0.5})_m$ ; n=98.20, m=1.80) be added to the list of taxable substances. This notice of filing also requests comments on the petition. This notice of filing is not a determination that the list of taxable substances is modified.

**DATES:** Written comments and requests for a public hearing must be received on or before June 2, 2025.

**ADDRESSES:** Commenters are encouraged to submit public comments or requests for a public hearing relating to this petition electronically via the Federal eRulemaking Portal at http:// www.regulations.gov (indicate public docket number IRS-2025-0020 or bromo-isobutene-isoprene rubber  $((C_4H_8)_n-(C_5H_{7.5}Br_{0.5})_m; n=98.20,$ m=1.80)) by following the online instructions for submitting comments. Comments cannot be edited or withdrawn once submitted to the Federal eRulemaking Portal. Alternatively, comments and requests for a public hearing may be mailed to: Internal Revenue Service, Attn: CC:PA:01:PR (Notice of Filing for Bromo-isobutene-isoprene Rubber  $((C_4H_8)_n-(C_5H_{7.5}Br_{0.5})_m; n=98.20,$ m=1.80)), Room 5203, P.O. Box 7604, Ben Franklin Station, Washington, DC 20044. All comments received are part of the public record and subject to public disclosure. All comments received will be posted without change to www.regulations.gov, including any personal information provided. You should submit only information that you wish to make publicly available. If a public hearing is scheduled, notice of

the time and place for the hearing will be published in the **Federal Register**.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Andrew Clark at (202) 317–6855 (not a toll-free number).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

## Request To Add Substance to the List

- (a) Overview. A petition was filed pursuant to Rev. Proc. 2022-26 (2022-29 I.R.B. 90), as modified by Rev. Proc. 2023-20 (2023-15 I.R.B. 636), requesting that bromo-isobuteneisoprene rubber  $((C_4H_8)_n-(C_5H_{7.5}Br_{0.5})_m;$ n=98.20, m=1.80) be added to the list of taxable substances under section 4672(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (List). The petition requesting the addition of bromo-isobutene-isoprene rubber  $((C_4H_8)_n-(C_5H_{7.5}Br_{0.5})_m; n=98.20,$ m=1.80) to the List is based on weight and contains the information detailed in paragraph (b) of this document. The information is provided for public notice and comment pursuant to section 9 of Rev. Proc. 2022-26. The publication of petition information in this notice of filing is not a determination and does not constitute Treasury Department or IRS confirmation of the accuracy of the information published.
  - (b) Petition Content.
- (1) Substance name: Bromoisobutene-isoprene rubber ( $(C_4H_8)_n$ - $(C_5H_{7.5}Br_{0.5})_m$ ; n=98.20, m=1.80).
- (2) Petitioner: Arlanxeo USA LLC and Arlanxeo Canada Inc., importers and exporters of bromo-isobutene-isoprene rubber  $((C_4H_8)_n-(C_5H_{7.5}Br_{0.5})_m; n=98.20, m=1.80)$ .
  - (3) Proposed classification numbers:
  - (i) HTSUS number: 4002.39.0000.
  - (ii) Schedule B number: 4002.39.0000.
  - (iii) CAS number: 68441–14–5.
  - (4) Petition filing dates:
- (i) Petition filing date for purposes of making a determination: February 7, 2025.
- (ii) Petition filing date for purposes of section 11.02 of Rev. Proc. 2022–26, as modified by section 3 of Rev. Proc. 2023–20: April 1, 2023.
- (5) Description from petition: Bromoisobutene-isoprene rubber is a halogenated copolymer of butylene and isoprene. It offers a low permeability to gases and moisture, low glass transition temperature and a wide vulcanization versatility with fast cure rates. Bromoisobutene- isoprene rubber is used for tire inner tubes, hoses, seals, membranes, tank linings, conveyor belts, protective clothing, and for consumer products.

Bromo-isobutene-isoprene rubber is made from butylene, bromine, and sodium hydroxide. Taxable chemicals constitute 97.89 percent by weight of

- the materials used to produce this substance.
- (6) Process identified in petition as predominant method of production of substance: The predominant method of producing bromo-isobutene-isoprene rubber involves reacting a hexane solution of butyl rubber with elemental bromine. Butyl rubber is produced via the cationic copolymerization of butylene with isoprene in the presence of a Friedel-Crafts catalyst at low temperature, around -100°C.
- (7) Stoichiometric material consumption equation, based on process identified as predominant method of production:
- $\begin{array}{l} n \; C_4H_8 \; (butylene) + m \; C_5H_8 \; (isoprene) \\ + \; m/2 \; Br_2 \; (bromine) + m/2 \; NaOH \\ \; (sodium \; hydroxide) \rightarrow \\ \; (C_4H_8)_n (C_5H_{7.5}Br_{0.5})_m \; (bromoisobutene-isoprene \; rubber) + m/2 \\ \; NaBr + m/2 \; H_2O \end{array}$
- (8) Tax rate calculated by Petitioner, based on Petitioner's conversion factors for taxable chemicals used in production of substance:
  - (i) *Tax rate:* \$9.72 per ton.
- (ii) *Conversion factors:* 0.97 for butylene, 0.03 for bromine, and 0.01 for sodium hydroxide.
- (9) Public docket number: IRS-2025-0020.

## Michael Beker,

Senior Counsel (Energy, Credits, and Excise Tax), IRS Office of Chief Counsel.

[FR Doc. 2025–05633 Filed 4–2–25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4830-01-P

## DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

## **Internal Revenue Service**

Superfund Tax on Chemical Substances; Request To Modify List of Taxable Substances; Notice of Filing for Ethylene-propylene-ethylidene Norbornene Rubber (m=56.82, n=40.46, o=2.71)

**AGENCY:** Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

**ACTION:** Notice of filing and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** This notice of filing announces that a petition has been filed requesting that ethylene-propylene-ethylidene norbornene rubber (( $C_2H_4$ )<sub>m</sub>-( $C_3H_6$ )<sub>n</sub>( $C_9H_{12}$ )<sub>o</sub>; m=56.82, n=40.46, o=2.71) be added to the list of taxable substances. This notice of filing also requests comments on the petition. This notice of filing is not a determination that the list of taxable substances is modified.

**DATES:** Written comments and requests for a public hearing must be received on or before June 2, 2025.

**ADDRESSES:** Commenters are encouraged to submit public comments or requests for a public hearing relating to this petition electronically via the Federal eRulemaking Portal at http:// www.regulations.gov (indicate public docket number IRS-2025-0022 or ethylene-propylene-ethylidene norbornene rubber ((C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>)<sub>m</sub>- $(C_3H_6)_n(C_9H_{12})_0$ ; m=56.82, n=40.46, o=2.71)) by following the online instructions for submitting comments. Comments cannot be edited or withdrawn once submitted to the Federal eRulemaking Portal. Alternatively, comments and requests for a public hearing may be mailed to: Internal Revenue Service, Attn: CC:PA:01:PR (Notice of Filing for Ethylene-propylene-ethylidene Norbornene Rubber ((C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>)<sub>m</sub>- $(C_3H_6)_n(C_9H_{12})_o$ ; m=56.82, n=40.46, o=2.71)), Room 5203, P.O. Box 7604, Ben Franklin Station, Washington, DC 20044. All comments received are part of the public record and subject to public disclosure. All comments received will be posted without change to www.regulations.gov, including any personal information provided. You should submit only information that you wish to make publicly available. If a public hearing is scheduled, notice of the time and place for the hearing will be published in the **Federal Register**.

## FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Andrew Clark at (202) 317–6855 (not a toll-free number).

## SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

## Request To Add Substance to the List

(a) Overview. A petition was filed pursuant to Rev. Proc. 2022-26 (2022-29 I.R.B. 90), as modified by Rev. Proc. 2023-20 (2023-15 I.R.B. 636), requesting that ethylene-propyleneethylidene norbornene rubber ((C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>)<sub>m</sub>- $(C_3H_6)_n(C_9H_{12})_o$ ; m=56.82, n=40.46, o=2.71) be added to the list of taxable substances under section 4672(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (List). The petition requesting the addition of ethylene-propylene-ethylidene norbornene rubber ((C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>)<sub>m</sub>- $(C_3H_6)_n(C_9H_{12})_o$ ; m=56.82, n=40.46, o=2.71) to the List is based on weight and contains the information detailed in paragraph (b) of this document. The information is provided for public notice and comment pursuant to section 9 of Rev. Proc. 2022–26. The publication of petition information in this notice of filing is not a determination and does not constitute Treasury Department or

IRS confirmation of the accuracy of the information published.

(b) Petition Content.

- (1) Substance name: Ethylenepropylene-ethylidene norbornene rubber  $((C_2H_4)_m-(C_3H_6)_n(C_9H_{12})_o;$ m=56.82, n=40.46, o=2.71).
- (2) Petitioner: Arlanxeo USA LLC and Arlanxeo Canada Inc., importers and exporters of ethylene-propyleneethylidene norbornene rubber ((C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>)<sub>m</sub>- $(C_3H_6)_n(C_9H_{12})_o$ ; m=56.82, n=40.46, o=2.71).
  - (3) Proposed classification numbers: (i) HTSUS number: 4002.70.0000.

  - (ii) Schedule B number: 4002.70.0000.
  - (iii) CAS number: 25038-36-2.

- (4) Petition filing dates:(i) Petition filing date for purposes of making a determination: February 7, 2025
- (ii) Petition filing date for purposes of section 11.02 of Rev. Proc. 2022-26, as modified by section 3 of Rev. Proc. 2023-20: April 1, 2023.
- (5) Description from petition: Ethylene-propylene-ethylidene norbornene rubber is a synthetic rubber produced from a combination of ethylene, propylene, and nonconjugated dienes. Ethylene-propyleneethylidene norbornene rubber has a low

compression set, good resistance to heat, cold, and chemicals. The nonconjugated diene monomers provide cross-linking sites for vulcanization.

Ethylene-propylene-ethylidene norbornene rubber is a good choice for a sealing material. Ethylene-propyleneethylidene norbornene rubber is also used to produce hoses, diaphragms, and profiles (door and window seals). Ethylene-propylene-ethylidene norbornene rubber is also found in safety-related parts of vehicle braking systems.

Ethylene-propylene-ethylidene norbornene rubber is made from ethylene, propylene, and butadiene. Taxable chemicals constitute 95.05 percent by weight of the materials used to produce this substance.

(6) Process identified in petition as predominant method of production of substance: The predominant method of producing ethylene-propyleneethylidene norbornene rubber is through the catalytic polymerization of ethylene, propylene, and nonconjugated diene monomers in a solution using various catalysts. Non-conjugated diene monomers include ethylidene norbornene and dicyclopentadiene. The

- nonconjugated diene monomers are produced from cyclopentadiene and butadiene, and cyclopentadiene, respectively.
- (7) Stoichiometric material consumption equation, based on process identified as predominant method of production:
- $m C_2H_4$  (ethylene) +  $n C_3H_6$  (propylene) + o  $[C_5H_6$  (cyclopentadiene) +  $C_4H_6$ (butadiene)]  $\rightarrow$  (C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>)<sub>m</sub>- $(C_3H_6)_n(C_9H_{12})_o$  (ethylenepropylene-ethylidene norbornene rubber)
- (8) Tax rate calculated by Petitioner. based on Petitioner's conversion factors for taxable chemicals used in production of substance:
  - (i) *Tax rate:* \$9.25 per ton.
- (ii) Conversion factors: 0.44 for ethylene, 0.47 for propylene, 0.04 for butadiene.
- (9) Public docket number: IRS-2025-0022.

#### Michael Beker,

Senior Counsel (Energy, Credits, and Excise Tax), IRS Office of Chief Counsel.

[FR Doc. 2025-05625 Filed 4-2-25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4830-01-P



## FEDERAL REGISTER

Vol. 90 Thursday,

No. 63 April 3, 2025

## Part II

## The President

Executive Order 14254—Combating Unfair Practices in the Live Entertainment Market Executive Order 14255—Establishing the United States Investment Accelerator

## Federal Register

Vol. 90, No. 63

Thursday, April 3, 2025

## **Presidential Documents**

## Title 3—

## Executive Order 14254 of March 31, 2025

## The President

Combating Unfair Practices in the Live Entertainment Market

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, it is hereby ordered:

- **Section 1.** Purpose. (a) America's live concert and entertainment industry is the envy of the world. But it has become blighted by unscrupulous middlemen who sit at the intersection between artists and fans and impose egregious fees while providing minimal value. Ticket scalpers use bots and other unfair means to acquire large quantities of face-value tickets and then re-sell them at an enormous markup on the secondary market, price-gouging consumers and depriving fans of the opportunity to see their favorite artists without incurring extraordinary expenses. By some reports, fans have paid as much as 70 times face value to obtain a ticket. When this occurs, the artists do not receive any profit. All profits go solely to the scalper and the ticketing agency.
- (b) My Administration is committed to making as accessible as possible the arts and entertainment that enrich Americans' lives. The rent-seeking behaviors surrounding the ticketing industry are contrary to this goal. They are detrimental to consumers and capitalize on market distortions that must not be allowed to persist.
- **Sec. 2**. *Implementation*. My Administration shall use all lawful authority to address the conduct described in section 1 of this order. Accordingly, I direct that:
- (a) the Attorney General and the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) ensure that competition laws are appropriately enforced in the concert and entertainment industry, including where venues, ticketing agents, or combinations thereof operate to the detriment of artists and fans;
- (b) the FTC rigorously enforce the Better Online Tickets Sales Act, 15 U.S.C. 45c, and collaborate with State Attorneys General or other State consumer protection officers on enforcement of the Better Online Ticket Sales Act, including by providing such State officials with information or evidence obtained by the FTC when consistent with applicable law;
- (c) the FTC take appropriate action, including proposing regulations if necessary, to ensure price transparency at all stages of the ticket-purchase process, including the secondary ticketing market;
- (d) the FTC evaluate and, if appropriate, take enforcement action to prevent unfair, deceptive, and anti-competitive conduct in the secondary ticketing market; and
- (e) the Secretary of the Treasury and Attorney General ensure, as appropriate, that ticket scalpers are operating in full compliance with the Internal Revenue Code and other applicable law.
- **Sec. 3**. Report. Within 180 days of the date of this order, the Secretary of the Treasury, Attorney General, and Chairman of the FTC shall jointly submit a report to the Assistant to the President for Economic Policy and the Director of the Office and Management and Budget describing the actions they have taken to implement this order. The report shall also identify any recommendations for regulations or legislation necessary to protect consumers with respect to the live concert and entertainment industry.
- **Sec. 4.** General Provisions. (a) Nothing in this order shall be construed to impair or otherwise affect:

- (i) the authority granted by law to an executive department or agency, or the head thereof; or
- (ii) the functions of the Director of the Office of Management and Budget relating to budgetary, administrative, or legislative proposals.
- (b) This order shall be implemented consistent with applicable law and subject to the availability of appropriations.
- (c) This order is not intended to, and does not, create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity by any party against the United States, its departments, agencies, or entities, its officers, employees, or agents, or any other person.

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THE WHITE HOUSE, March 31, 2025.

[FR Doc. 2025–05906 Filed 4–2–25; 11:15 am] Billing code 3395–F4–P

## **Presidential Documents**

Executive Order 14255 of March 31, 2025

## **Establishing the United States Investment Accelerator**

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, it is hereby ordered:

**Section 1**. *Purpose*. The United States is the most powerful economy in the world, but slow, complex, and burdensome American regulatory processes at every stage of a company's development and operation make significant domestic and foreign investment harder than necessary. Regulations hamper investment, permitting, and site selection, and numerous overlapping Federal, State, and local legal regimes with complex and often duplicative requirements significantly delay construction. It is in the interest of the American people that the Federal Government dramatically expand its assistance to companies seeking to invest and build in the United States.

**Sec. 2.** *Policy.* It is the policy of the United States to modernize its processes to attract substantial domestic and foreign investment in the United States and to actively assist those building here for the benefit of our Nation's economic prosperity to unleash investment from our small businesses to the largest companies.

- Sec. 3. The United States Investment Accelerator. (a) Within 30 days of the date of this order, the Secretary of Commerce, in coordination with the Secretary of the Treasury and the Assistant to the President for Economic Policy, shall establish within the Department of Commerce an office named the United States Investment Accelerator (Investment Accelerator). The Investment Accelerator shall facilitate and accelerate investments above \$1 billion in the United States by assisting investors as they navigate United States Government regulatory processes efficiently, reduce regulatory burdens where consistent with applicable law, increase access to and use of our national resources where appropriate and consistent with applicable law, facilitate research collaborations with our national labs, and work with State governments in all 50 States to reduce regulatory barriers to, and increase, domestic and foreign investment in the United States.
- (b) The Investment Accelerator shall be headed by an Executive Director and staffed with legal, transactional, operational, and support staff as directed by the Secretary of Commerce. The Investment Accelerator shall be responsible for the CHIPS Program Office within the Department of Commerce, which shall focus on delivering the benefit of the bargain for taxpayers by negotiating much better deals than those of the previous administration.
- (c) The Investment Accelerator shall identify any existing mechanisms, exceptions, and opportunities in Federal law that can be used to assist foreign and domestic investors, consistent with the protection of national security.
- **Sec. 4.** General Provisions. (a) Nothing in this order shall be construed to impair or otherwise affect:
  - (i) the authority granted by law to an executive department or agency, or the head thereof; or
  - (ii) the functions of the Director of the Office of Management and Budget relating to budgetary, administrative, or legislative proposals.
- (b) This order shall be implemented consistent with applicable law and subject to the availability of appropriations.

(c) This order is not intended to, and does not, create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity by any party against the United States, its departments, agencies, or entities, its officers, employees, or agents, or any other person.

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THE WHITE HOUSE, March 31, 2025.

[FR Doc. 2025–05908 Filed 4–2–25; 11:15 am] Billing code 3395–F4–P



# FEDERAL REGISTER

Vol. 90 Thursday,

No. 63 April 3, 2025

## Part III

## The President

Proclamation 10908—Adjusting Imports of Automobiles and Automobile Parts Into the United States

## Federal Register

Vol. 90, No. 63

Thursday, April 3, 2025

## **Presidential Documents**

## Title 3—

## The President

Proclamation 10908 of March 26, 2025

## Adjusting Imports of Automobiles and Automobile Parts Into the United States

## By the President of the United States of America

## **A Proclamation**

- 1. On February 17, 2019, the Secretary of Commerce (Secretary) transmitted to me a report on his investigation into the effects of imports of passenger vehicles (sedans, sport utility vehicles, crossover utility vehicles, minivans, and cargo vans) and light trucks (collectively, automobiles) and certain automobile parts (engines and engine parts, transmissions and powertrain parts, and electrical components) (collectively, automobile parts) on the national security of the United States under section 232 of the Trade Expansion Act of 1962, as amended (19 U.S.C. 1862) (section 232). Based on the facts considered in that investigation, the Secretary found and advised me of his opinion that automobiles and certain automobile parts are being imported into the United States in such quantities and under such circumstances as to threaten to impair the national security of the United States.
- 2. In Proclamation 9888 of May 17, 2019 (Adjusting Imports of Automobiles and Automobile Parts Into the United States), I concurred with the Secretary's finding in the February 17, 2019, report that automobiles and certain automobile parts are being imported into the United States in such quantities and under such circumstances as to threaten to impair the national security of the United States. I also directed the United States Trade Representative (Trade Representative), in consultation with other executive branch officials, to pursue negotiation of agreements to address the threatened impairment of the national security of the United States with respect to imported automobiles and certain automobile parts from the European Union, Japan, and any other country the Trade Representative deems appropriate.
- 3. The Trade Representative's negotiations did not lead to any agreements of the type contemplated by section 232.
- 4. In Proclamation 9888, I also directed the Secretary to monitor imports of automobiles and certain automobile parts and inform me of any circumstances that, in the Secretary's opinion, might indicate the need for further action under section 232 with respect to such imports.
- 5. The Secretary has informed me that, since the February 17, 2019, report, the national security concerns remain and have escalated. The COVID—19 pandemic exposed critical vulnerabilities and choke points in global supply chains, undermining our ability to maintain a resilient domestic industrial base. In recent years, American-owned automotive manufacturers have experienced numerous supply chain challenges, including material and parts input shortages, labor shortages and strikes, and electrical-component shortages. Meanwhile, foreign automotive industries, propelled by unfair subsidies and aggressive industrial policies, have grown substantially. Today, only about half of the vehicles sold in the United States are manufactured domestically, a decline that jeopardizes our domestic industrial base and national security, and the United States' share of worldwide automobile production has remained stagnant since the February 17, 2019, report. The number of employees in the domestic automotive industry has also not improved since the February 17, 2019, report.

- 6. I am also advised that agreements entered into before the issuance of Proclamation 9888, such as the revisions to the United States-Korea Free Trade Agreement and the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA), have not yielded sufficient positive outcomes. The threat to national security posed by imports of automobiles and certain automobile parts remains and has increased. Investments resulting from other efforts, such as legislation, have also not yielded sufficient positive outcomes to eliminate the threat to national security from such imports.
- 7. After considering the current information newly provided by the Secretary, among other things, I find that imports of automobiles and certain automobile parts continue to threaten to impair the national security of the United States and deem it necessary and appropriate to impose tariffs, as defined below, to adjust imports of automobiles and certain automobile parts so that such imports will not threaten to impair national security.
- 8. To ensure that the imposition of tariffs on automobiles and certain automobile parts in this proclamation are not circumvented and that the purpose of this action to eliminate the threat to the national security of the United States by imports of automobiles and certain automobile parts is not undermined, I also deem it necessary and appropriate to establish processes to identify and impose tariffs on additional automobile parts, as further described below.
- 9. Section 232 provides that, in this situation, the President shall take such other actions as the President deems necessary to adjust the imports of the relevant article so that such imports will not threaten to impair national security.
- 10. Section 604 of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended (19 U.S.C. 2483), authorizes the President to embody in the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) the substance of statutes affecting import treatment, and actions thereunder, including the removal, modification, continuance, or imposition of any rate of duty or other import restriction.
- NOW, THEREFORE, I, DONALD J. TRUMP, President of the United States of America, by the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, including section 301 of title 3, United States Code; section 604 of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended; and section 232 of the Trade Expansion Act of 1962, as amended, do hereby proclaim as follows:
- (1) Except as otherwise provided in this proclamation, all imports of articles specified in Annex I to this proclamation or in any subsequent annex to this proclamation, as set out in a subsequent notice in the *Federal Register*, shall be subject to a 25 percent tariff with respect to goods entered for consumption or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, on or after 12:01 a.m. eastern daylight time on April 3, 2025, for automobiles, and on the date specified in the *Federal Register* for automobile parts, but no later than May 3, 2025, and shall continue in effect, unless such actions are expressly reduced, modified, or terminated. The above ad valorem tariff is in addition to any other duties, fees, exactions, and charges applicable to such imported automobiles and certain automobile parts articles.
- (2) For automobiles that qualify for preferential tariff treatment under the USMCA, importers of such automobiles may submit documentation to the Secretary identifying the amount of U.S. content in each model imported into the United States. "U.S. content" refers to the value of the automobile attributable to parts wholly obtained, produced entirely, or substantially transformed in the United States. Thereafter, the Secretary may approve imports of such automobiles to be eligible to apply the ad valorem tariff of 25 percent in clause (1) of this proclamation exclusively to the value of the non-U.S. content of the automobile. The non-U.S. content of the automobile shall be calculated by subtracting the value of the U.S. content in an automobile from the total value of the automobile.

- (3) If U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) determines that the declared value of non-U.S. content of an automobile, as described in clause (2) of this proclamation, is inaccurate due to an overstatement of U.S. content, the 25 percent tariff shall apply to the full value of the automobile, regardless of the actual U.S. content of the automobile. In addition, the 25 percent tariff shall be applied retroactively (from April 3, 2025, to the date of the inaccurate overstatement) and prospectively (from the date of the inaccurate overstatement to the date the importer corrects the overstatement, as verified by CBP) to the full value of all automobiles of the same model imported by the same importer. This clause does not apply to or otherwise affect any other applicable fees or penalties.
- (4) The ad valorem tariff of 25 percent described in clause (1) of this proclamation shall not apply to automobile parts that qualify for preferential treatment under the USMCA until such time that the Secretary, in consultation with CBP, establishes a process to apply the tariff exclusively to the value of the non-U.S. content of such automobile parts and publishes notice in the *Federal Register*.
- (5) For avoidance of doubt, clause (4) of this proclamation does not apply to automobile knock-down kits or parts compilations. Clause (4) of this proclamation applies only to individual automobile parts as defined by Annex I to this proclamation that otherwise meet the requirements of clause (4) of this proclamation.
- (6) The Secretary, in consultation with the United States International Trade Commission and CBP, shall determine the modifications necessary to the HTSUS to effectuate this proclamation and shall make such modifications to the HTSUS through notice in the *Federal Register*.
- (7) Within 90 days of the date of this proclamation, the Secretary shall establish a process for including additional automobile parts articles within the scope of the tariffs described in clause (1) of this proclamation. In addition to inclusions made by the Secretary, this process shall provide for including additional automobile parts articles at the request of a domestic producer of an automobile or automobile parts article, or an industry association representing one or more such producers, where the request establishes that imports of additional automobile parts articles have increased in a manner that threatens to impair the national security or otherwise undermines the objectives set forth in any proclamation issued on the basis of the Secretary's February 17, 2019, report or any additional information submitted to the President under clause (3) of Proclamation 9888 or clause (9) of this proclamation. When the Secretary receives such a request from a domestic producer or industry association, the Secretary, after consultation with the United States International Trade Commission and CBP, shall issue a determination regarding whether to include the articles within 60 days of receiving the request. Any additional automobile parts articles that the Secretary has determined to be included within the scope of the tariffs described in clause (1) of this proclamation shall be so included on or after 12:01 a.m. eastern daylight time the day after a notice in the Federal Register describing the determination of the Secretary. The notice in the Federal Register shall be made as soon as practicable but no later than 14 days after the Secretary's determination.
- (8) Any automobile or automobile part, except those eligible for admission under "domestic status" as defined in 19 CFR 146.43, that is subject to the duty imposed by this proclamation and that is admitted into a United States foreign trade zone on or after the effective date of this proclamation, in accordance with clause (1) of this proclamation, must be admitted as "privileged foreign status" as defined in 19 CFR 146.41, and will be subject upon entry for consumption to any ad valorem rates of duty related to the classification under the applicable HTSUS subheading.
- (9) The Secretary shall continue to monitor imports of automobiles and automobile parts. The Secretary also shall, from time to time, in consultation with any senior executive branch officials the Secretary deems appropriate,

review the status of such imports with respect to national security. The Secretary shall inform the President of any circumstances that, in the Secretary's opinion, might indicate the need for further action by the President under section 232. The Secretary shall also inform the President of any circumstance that, in the Secretary's opinion, might indicate that the increase in duty rate provided for in this proclamation is no longer necessary.

- (10) No drawback shall be available with respect to the duties imposed pursuant to this proclamation.
- (11) The Secretary may issue regulations and guidance consistent with this proclamation, including to address operational necessity.
- (12) CBP may take any necessary or appropriate measures to administer the tariffs imposed by this proclamation.
- (13) Any provision of previous proclamations and Executive Orders that is inconsistent with the actions taken in this proclamation is superseded to the extent of such inconsistency.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-sixth day of March, in the year of our Lord two thousand twenty-five, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-ninth.

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## Annex I

- A. Effective with respect to goods entered for consumption, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, on or after 12:01 a.m. eastern daylight time on April 3, 2025:
  - a. The following new note 33 to subchapter III of chapter 99 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) is inserted in numerical order:

"33. (a) Except as provided for in headings 9903.94.02, 9903.94.03, and 9903.94.04, heading 9903.94.01 provides the ordinary customs duty treatment applicable to all entries of passenger vehicles (sedans, sport utility vehicles, crossover utility vehicles, minivans, and cargo vans) and light trucks (hereinafter, automobiles) from all countries classifiable in the headings or subheadings enumerated in subdivision (b) of this note.

Except as provided for in subdivision (d) to this note, for any such products that are eligible for special tariff treatment under any of the free trade agreements or preference programs listed in general note 3(c)(i) to the tariff schedule, the duty provided in heading 9903.94.01 shall be collected in addition to any special rate of duty otherwise applicable under the appropriate tariff subheading. Goods for which entry is claimed under a provision of chapter 98 and which are subject to the additional duties prescribed herein shall be eligible for and subject to the terms of such provision and applicable U.S. Customs and Border Protection ("CBP") regulations, except that duties under subheading 9802.00.60 shall be assessed based upon the full value of the imported article. No claim for entry or for any duty exemption or reduction shall be allowed for the passenger vehicles and light trucks enumerated in subdivision (b) of this note under a provision of chapter 99 that may set forth a lower rate of duty or provide duty-free treatment, taking into account information supplied by CBP, but any additional duty prescribed in any provision of this subchapter or subchapter IV of chapter 99 shall be imposed in addition to the duty in heading 9903.94.01. All antidumping, countervailing, or other duties and charges applicable to such goods shall continue to be imposed in addition to the duty in heading 9903.94.01.

(b) The rates of duty set forth in headings 9903.94.01, 9903.94.02, 9903.94.03, and 9903.94.04, apply to all imported products classifiable in the provisions of the HTSUS enumerated in this subdivision:

| 8703.22.01 | 8703.23.01 | 8703.24.01 |
|------------|------------|------------|
| 8703.31.01 | 8703.32.01 | 8703.33.01 |
| 8703.40.00 | 8703.50.00 | 8703.60.00 |
| 8703.70.00 | 8703.80.00 | 8703.90.01 |
| 8704.21.01 | 8704.31.01 | 8704.41.00 |
| 8704.51.00 | 8704.60.00 |            |

(c) Heading 9903.94.02 applies to:

(i) all entries of articles classifiable under provisions of the HTSUS enumerated in subdivision (b) of this note, but that are not passenger vehicles (sedans, sport utility

vehicles, crossover utility vehicles, minivans, and cargo vans) and light trucks; as well as

- (ii) the U.S. content of passenger vehicles and light trucks described in subdivision
- (d) of this note, upon approval from the Secretary of Commerce.

(d) Heading 9903.94.03 applies to passenger vehicles and light trucks described in this subdivision, upon approval from the Secretary of Commerce. For any passenger vehicle or light truck, as defined in subdivision (a) of this note, that is classified in one of the subheadings of the HTSUS listed in subdivision (b) of this note and eligible for special tariff treatment under the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA), importers of such passenger vehicles or light trucks may submit documentation to the Secretary of Commerce identifying the amount of U.S. content in each vehicle or light truck imported into the United States. U.S. content refers to the value of the automobile attributable to parts wholly obtained, produced entirely, or substantially transformed in the United States. Thereafter, the Secretary may approve imports of such passenger vehicles or light trucks to be eligible to apply the 25% ad valorem rates of duty exclusively to the value of the non-U.S. content of the vehicle or light truck shall be calculated by subtracting the value of the U.S. content in a vehicle or light truck from the total value of the vehicle or light truck.

Any importer entering the passenger vehicle or light truck covered by this note under headings 9903.94.03 shall provide any information that may be required, and in such form, as is deemed necessary by CBP in order to permit the administration of this heading.

Goods for which entry is claimed under a provision of chapter 98 and which are subject to the additional duties prescribed herein shall be eligible for and subject to the terms of such provision and applicable U.S. Customs and Border Protection ("CBP") regulations, except that duties under subheading 9802.00.60 shall be assessed based upon the full value of the imported article. No claim for entry or for any duty exemption or reduction shall be allowed for the passenger vehicles or light trucks enumerated in subdivision (b) of this note under a provision of chapter 99 that may set forth a lower rate of duty or provide duty-free treatment, taking into account information supplied by CBP, but any additional duty prescribed in any provision of this subchapter or subchapter IV of chapter 99 shall be imposed in addition to the duty in heading 9903.94.03. All antidumping, countervailing, or other duties and charges applicable to such goods shall continue to be imposed in addition to the duty in heading 9903.94.03."

- (e) Heading 9903.94.04 applies to all entries of passenger vehicles (sedans, sport utility vehicles, crossover utility vehicles, minivans, and cargo vans) and light trucks from all countries classifiable in the headings or subheadings enumerated in subdivision (b) of this note that were manufactured in a year at least 25 years prior to the year of the date of entry.
- b. Subchapter III of chapter 99 of the HTSUS is modified:

1. by inserting new headings 9903.94.01, 9903.94.02, 9903.94.03, and 9903.94.04 in numerical sequence, with the material in the new heading inserted in the columns of the HTSUS labeled "Heading/Subheading", "Article Description", "Rates of Duty 1-General", "Rates of Duty 1-Special" and "Rates of Duty 2", respectively:

| Tradinal               | ***************************************  |   | Rates of Duty   |  |
|------------------------|--|---|---|--|
| Heading/<br>Subheading | Article Description  | 1   |   | 2  |
|                        | Subheading   |   | Special   |  |
| "9903.94.01            | Except for 9903.94.02, 9903.94.03, and 9903.94.04, effective with respect to entries on or after April 3, 2025, passenger vehicles (sedans, sport utility vehicles, crossover utility vehicles, minivans, and cargo vans) and light trucks, as specified in note 33 to this subchapter, as provided for in subdivision (b) of U.S. note 33 to this subchapter. | The duty<br>provided in the<br>applicable<br>subheading +<br>25%                                      | The duty<br>provided in the<br>applicable<br>subheading +<br>25%                                      | The duty<br>provided in the<br>applicable<br>subheading +<br>25% |
| 9903.94.02             | Effective with respect to entries on or after April 3, 2025, articles as provided for in subdivision (c) of U.S. note 33 to this subchapter.   | The duty<br>provided in the<br>applicable<br>subheading   | The duty<br>provided in the<br>applicable<br>subheading   | The duty<br>provided in the<br>applicable<br>subheading          |
| 9903.94.03             | Effective with respect to entries on or after April 3, 2025, certain passenger vehicles and light trucks, as provided for in subdivision (d) of U.S. note 33 to this subchapter.   | The duty provided in the applicable subheading + a duty of 25% upon the value of the non-U.S. content | The duty provided in the applicable subheading + a duty of 25% upon the value of the non-U.S. content | No change  |
| 9903.94.04             | Effective with respect to entries on or after April 3, 2025, certain passenger vehicles and light trucks, as provided for in subdivision (e) of U.S. note 33 to this subchapter.   | The duty<br>provided in the<br>applicable<br>subheading   | The duty<br>provided in the<br>applicable<br>subheading   | The duty<br>provided in the<br>applicable<br>subheading"         |

- B. Effective with respect to goods entered for consumption, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, on or after 12:01 a.m. eastern daylight time on May 3, 2025:
  - a. The U.S. note 33 to subchapter III of chapter 99 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) is modified by inserting in numerical order:
    - "(f) Except as provided for in heading 9903.94.06, heading 9903.94.05 provides the ordinary customs duty treatment applicable to all entries of automobile parts from all countries classifiable in the headings or subheadings enumerated in subdivision (g) of this note. Automobile parts, for this purpose, include engines and engine parts, transmissions and powertrain parts, and electrical components, and parts of passenger vehicles (sedans, sport utility vehicles, crossover utility vehicles, minivans, and cargo vans) and light trucks classified under the HTS provisions enumerated in subdivision (g) of this note.

Except as provided for in subdivision (h) to this note, for any such products that are eligible for special tariff treatment under any of the free trade agreements or preference programs listed in general note 3(c)(i) to the tariff schedule, the duty provided in heading 9903.94.05 shall be collected in addition to any special rate of duty otherwise applicable under the appropriate tariff subheading. Goods for which entry is claimed under a provision of chapter 98 and which are subject to the additional duties prescribed herein shall be eligible for and subject to the terms of such provision and applicable U.S. Customs and Border Protection ("CBP") regulations, except that duties under subheading 9802.00.60 shall be assessed based upon the full value of the imported article. No claim for entry or for any duty exemption or reduction shall be allowed for the automobile parts in subdivision (g) of this note under a provision of chapter 99 that may set forth a lower rate of duty or provide dutyfree treatment, taking into account information supplied by CBP, but any additional duty prescribed in any provision of this subchapter or subchapter IV of chapter 99 shall be imposed in addition to the duty in heading 9903.94.05. All antidumping, countervailing, or other duties and charges applicable to such goods shall continue to be imposed in addition to the duty in heading 9903.94.05.

(g) The rates of duty set forth in heading 9903.94.05 applies to parts of passenger vehicles (sedans, sport utility vehicles, crossover utility vehicles, minivans, and cargo vans) and light trucks classifiable in the provisions of the HTSUS enumerated in this subdivision:

| 4009.12.0020 | 4009.22.0020 | 4009.32.0020 |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| 4009.42.0020 | 4011.10.10   | 4011.10.50   |
| 4011.20.10   | 4012.19.40   | 4012.19.80   |
| 4012.20.60   | 4013.10.0010 | 4013.10.0020 |
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- (h) Heading 9903.94.06 applies to all entries of articles classifiable under provisions of the HTSUS enumerated subdivision (g) of this note
  - (i) that are eligible for special tariff treatment under the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA), other than automobile knock-down kits or parts compilations; or
  - (ii) that are not parts of passenger vehicles (sedans, sport utility vehicles, crossover utility vehicles, minivans, and cargo vans) and light trucks."
- b. Subchapter III of chapter 99 of the HTSUS is modified:
  - by inserting new headings 9903.94.05 and 9903.94.06, in numerical sequence, with the
    material in the new heading inserted in the columns of the HTSUS labeled
    "Heading/Subheading", "Article Description", "Rates of Duty 1-General", "Rates of Duty 1Special" and "Rates of Duty 2", respectively:

| Heading     |   | Rates of Duty   |                 |                 |
|-------------|---|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Heading/    | Article Description                     | 1               | 1               | 2               |
| Subheading  | _                                       | General         | Special         |                 |
| "9903.94.05 | Except for 9903.94.06, effective with   | The duty        | The duty        | The duty        |
|             | respect to entries on or after May 3,   | provided in the | provided in the | provided in the |
|             | 2025, automobile parts, as provided for | applicable      | applicable      | applicable      |

|            | in subdivision (g) of U.S. note 33 to this subchapter   | subheading + 25%                               | subheading + 25%                               | subheading + 25%                                 |
|------------|---|--|--|--|
| 9903.94.06 | Effective with respect to entries on or after May 3, 2025, articles provided for in subdivision (h) of U.S. note 33 to this subchapter. | The duty provided in the applicable subheading | The duty provided in the applicable subheading | The duty provided in the applicable subheading." |

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