

2025, the date of the publication of the *Preliminary Determination* in the **Federal Register**.⁸ 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Act, we instructed CBP to discontinue the suspension of liquidation of all entries of subject merchandise entered or withdrawn from warehouse, on or after January 24, 2026, the first day provisional measures were no longer in effect, but to continue the suspension of liquidation of all entries of subject merchandise on or before January 23, 2026.

If the U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC) issues a final affirmative injury determination, we will issue a 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 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/or exporters of silicon metal from Thailand. Because the 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 imports of silicon metal from Thailand. In addition, we are making available to the ITC all non-privileged and non-proprietary 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. 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 from warehouse, for consumption on or after the effective date of the suspension of liquidation, as discussed above in the "Suspension Liquidation" section.

Administrative Protective Order

In the event that 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 violation which is subject to sanction.

Notification to Interested Parties

This determination is issued and published pursuant to sections 705(d) and 777(i)(1) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.205(c).

Dated: February 17, 2026.

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 scope of the investigation covers all forms and sizes of silicon metal, including silicon metal powder. Silicon metal contains at least 85.00 percent but less than 99.99 percent silicon, and less than 4.00 percent iron, by actual weight. Semiconductor grade silicon (merchandise containing at least 99.99 percent silicon by actual weight and classifiable under Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) subheading 2804.61.0000) is excluded from the scope of the investigation. Silicon metal is currently classifiable under subheadings 2804.69.1000 and 2804.69.5000 of the HTSUS. While the HTSUS numbers are provided for convenience and customs purposes, the written description of the scope remains dispositive.

Appendix II

List of Topics Discussed in the Issues and Decision Memorandum

- I. Summary
 - II. Background
 - III. Changes Since the *Preliminary Determination*
 - IV. Use of Facts Otherwise Available and Application of Adverse Inferences
 - V. Analysis of Programs
 - VI. Discussion of the Issue
- Comment: Whether Commerce Should Apply AFA to the Royal Thai Government With Respect to the "Duty

Reduction Privileges for Certain Exporters" Program
VII. Recommendation

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for Review and Approval; Comment Request; Self-Certifications Under the Data Privacy Framework Program

AGENCY: International Trade Administration, Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of information collection, request for comment.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce, in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), invites the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on proposed and continuing information collections, which helps us assess the impact of our information collection requirements and minimize the public's reporting burden. The purpose of this notice is to allow for 60 days of public comment preceding submission of the collection to OMB.

DATES: To ensure consideration, comments regarding this proposed information collection must be received on or before April 24, 2026.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons are invited to submit written comments to David Ritchie, Senior Policy Advisor, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce by email to dpf.program@trade.gov or PRA@trade.gov. Please reference OMB Control Number 0625-0280 in the subject line of your comments. Do not submit Confidential Business Information or otherwise sensitive or protected information.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or specific questions related to collection activities should be directed to David Ritchie, Senior Policy Advisor, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce by email to dpf.program@trade.gov or PRA@trade.gov, or by phone at 202-482-1512.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

The United States, the European Union (EU), the United Kingdom (UK), and Switzerland share a commitment to enhancing privacy protection, the rule of law, and a recognition of the

⁸ See *Preliminary Determination*, 90 FR at 46388.

importance of transatlantic data flows to our respective citizens, economies, and societies, but take different approaches to doing so. Given those differences, the Department of Commerce (DOC) developed the EU–U.S. Data Privacy Framework (EU–U.S. DPF), the UK Extension to the EU–U.S. Data Privacy Framework (UK Extension to the EU–U.S. DPF), and the Swiss–U.S. Data Privacy Framework (Swiss–U.S. DPF) in consultation with the European Commission, the UK Government, the Swiss Federal Administration, industry, and other stakeholders. These arrangements were respectively developed to provide U.S. organizations reliable mechanisms for personal data transfers to the United States from the European Union/European Economic Area, the United Kingdom (and, as applicable, Gibraltar), and Switzerland while ensuring data protection that is consistent with EU, UK, and Swiss law.

The DOC issued the EU–U.S. DPF Principles and the Swiss–U.S. DPF Principles, including the respective sets of Supplemental Principles (collectively the Principles) and Annex I of the Principles, as well as the UK Extension to the EU–U.S. DPF under its statutory authority to foster, promote, and develop international commerce (15 U.S.C. 1512). The International Trade Administration (ITA) administers and supervises the Data Privacy Framework program, including by maintaining and making publicly available the Data Privacy Framework List, an authoritative list of U.S. organizations that have self-certified to the DOC and declared their commitment to adhere to the Principles pursuant to the EU–U.S. DPF and, as applicable, the UK Extension to the EU–U.S. DPF, and/or the Swiss–U.S. DPF. On the basis of the Principles, Executive Order 14086, 28 CFR part 201, and accompanying letters and materials, including ITA’s commitments regarding the administration and supervision of the Data Privacy Framework program, the European Commission, the UK Government, and the Swiss Federal Administration have respectively recognized the adequacy of the protection provided by the EU–U.S. DPF, the UK Extension to the EU–U.S. DPF, and the Swiss–U.S. DPF thereby enabling personal data transfers from each respective jurisdiction to U.S. organizations participating in the relevant part of the Data Privacy Framework program.

In order to participate in the EU–U.S. DPF and, as applicable, the UK Extension to the EU–U.S. DPF, and/or the Swiss–U.S. DPF an organization must (a) be subject to the investigatory

and enforcement powers of the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), the Department of Transportation (DOT), or another statutory body that will effectively ensure compliance with the Principles; (b) publicly declare its commitment to comply with the Principles; (c) publicly disclose its privacy policies in line with the Principles; and (d) fully implement them.

While the decision by an organization to self-certify its compliance pursuant to the EU–U.S. DPF and, as applicable, the UK Extension to the EU–U.S. DPF, and/or the Swiss–U.S. DPF and by extension participate in the Data Privacy Framework program is voluntary; effective compliance is compulsory: organizations that self-certify to the DOC and publicly declare their commitment to adhere to the Principles must comply fully with the Principles. Organizations that only wish to self-certify their compliance pursuant to the EU–U.S. DPF and/or the Swiss–U.S. DPF may do so; however, organizations that wish to participate in the UK Extension to the EU–U.S. DPF must participate in the EU–U.S. DPF. Such organizations’ commitment to comply with the Principles with regard to transfers of personal data from the European Union and, as applicable, the United Kingdom, and/or Switzerland must be reflected in their self-certification submissions to the DOC, and in their privacy policies. An organization’s failure to comply with the Principles after its self-certification is enforceable by the FTC under Section 5 of the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) Act prohibiting unfair or deceptive acts in or affecting commerce (15 U.S.C. 45); by the DOT under 49 U.S.C. 41712 prohibiting a carrier or ticket agent from engaging in an unfair or deceptive practice in air transportation or the sale of air transportation; or under other laws or regulations prohibiting such acts.

To rely on the EU–U.S. DPF and, as applicable, the UK Extension to the EU–U.S. DPF, and/or the Swiss–U.S. DPF for transfers of personal data from the European Union and, as applicable, the United Kingdom, and/or Switzerland an organization must self-certify its adherence to the Principles to the DOC, and both be placed and remain on the Data Privacy Framework List. The DOC will update the Data Privacy Framework List on the basis of annual re-certification submissions made by participating organizations and by removing organizations when they voluntarily withdraw, fail to complete the annual re-certification in accordance with the DOC’s procedures, or are found to persistently fail to comply. The DOC

will also maintain and make available to the public an authoritative record of U.S. organizations that have been removed from the Data Privacy Framework List and will identify the reason each organization was removed. The aforementioned authoritative list and record will remain available to the public on the DOC’s Data Privacy Framework program website. Any organization removed from the Data Privacy Framework List must cease making claims that it participates in or complies with the EU–U.S. DPF and, as applicable, the UK Extension to the EU–U.S. DPF, and/or the Swiss–U.S. DPF and that it may receive personal information pursuant to same. Such an organization must nevertheless continue to apply the Principles to such personal information that it received while it participated in the EU–U.S. DPF and, as applicable, the UK Extension to the EU–U.S. DPF, and/or the Swiss–U.S. DPF for as long as it retains such personal information.

To initially self-certify or subsequently re-certify for the EU–U.S. DPF and, as applicable, UK Extension to the EU–U.S. DPF, and/or the Swiss–U.S. DPF, an organization must on each occasion provide to the DOC a submission that contains the relevant information specified in the Principles. The submission must be made via the DOC’s Data Privacy Framework program website by an individual within the organization who is authorized to make representations on behalf of the organization and any of its covered U.S. entities regarding its adherence to the Principles. Such an organization must respond promptly to inquiries and other requests for information from the DOC relating to the organization’s adherence to the Principles.

ITA has committed to follow up with organizations that have been or wish to be removed from the Data Privacy Framework List. ITA will direct organizations that allow their self-certifications to lapse to verify whether they intend to re-certify or instead intend to withdraw. An organization that intends to re-certify will be required to further verify to the DOC that during the lapse of its certification status it applied the Principles to relevant personal data received in reliance on its participation in the Data Privacy Framework program and clarify what steps it will take to address the outstanding issues that have delayed its re-certification. An organization that intends to withdraw will be required to further verify to the DOC what it will do and/or has done (as applicable) with the relevant personal data that it received in reliance on its participation in the Data

Privacy Framework program (*i.e.*, (a) retain such data, continue to apply the Principles to such data, and affirm to the DOC on an annual basis its commitment to apply the Principles to such data; (b) retain such data and provide “adequate” protection for such data by another authorized means; or (c) return or delete all such data by a specified date) and who within the organization will serve as an ongoing point of contact for Principles-related questions. Organizations will be required to provide such verification to the DOC by completing and submitting appropriate questionnaires to the DOC.

ITA has also committed to conduct compliance reviews on an ongoing basis, including, as appropriate, through sending detailed questionnaires to participating organizations. The DOC will require that a participating organization complete and submit to the DOC such a questionnaire when: (a) the DOC has received any specific, nonfrivolous complaints about the organization’s compliance with the Principles; (b) the organization does not respond satisfactorily to inquiries by the DOC for information relating to the organization’s adherence to the Principles; or (c) there is credible evidence that the organization does not comply with its commitments under the EU–U.S. DPF and, as applicable, the UK Extension to the EU–U.S. DPF, and/or the Swiss-U.S. DPF.

II. Method of Collection

Organizations would make their initial self-certification, as well as annual re-certification submissions under the Data Privacy Framework program (*i.e.*, the EU–U.S. DPF and, as applicable, the UK Extension to the EU–U.S. DPF, and/or the Swiss-U.S. DPF) to the DOC online via the DOC’s Data Privacy Framework program website (<https://www.dataprivacyframework.gov/>). Organizations would complete and submit Data Privacy Framework program questionnaires to the DOC online via the DOC’s Data Privacy Framework program website or via email at dpf.program@trade.gov (as applicable) in accordance with Data Privacy Framework program requirements.

The DOC previously requested and obtained approval of this information collection, which has allowed the DOC, as represented by ITA, to collect information from organizations in the United States to enable them to self-certify their commitment to comply with the Principles (OMB Control Number 0625–0280). More information on self-certification, including annual re-certification under the Data Privacy

Framework program is available on the DOC’s Data Privacy Framework program website (<https://www.dataprivacyframework.gov/>).

III. Data

OMB Control Number: 0625–0280.

Form Number(s): None.

Type of Review: Regular submission, extension of a current information collection.

Affected Public: Primarily businesses or other for-profit organizations.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 4,575.

Estimated Time per Response: 40 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 2,977.

Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public: \$7,783,710.

Respondent’s Obligation: Voluntary.

Legal Authority: The DOC’s statutory authority to foster, promote, and develop the foreign and domestic commerce of the United States (15 U.S.C. 1512).

IV. Request for Comments

We are soliciting public comments to permit the Department/Bureau to: (a) Evaluate whether the proposed information collection is necessary for the proper functions of the Department, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) Evaluate the accuracy of our estimate of the time and cost burden for this proposed collection, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) Evaluate ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) Minimize the reporting burden on those who are to respond, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments that you submit in response to this notice are a matter of public record. We will include or summarize each comment in our request to OMB to approve this information collection request (ICR). Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you may ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we

cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Sheleen Dumas,

Departmental PRA Compliance Officer, Office of the Under Secretary for Economic Affairs, Commerce Department.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for Review and Approval; Comment Request; Pacific Cod Trawl Cooperative Program

The Department of Commerce will submit the following information collection request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and clearance in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, on or after the date of publication of this notice. We invite the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on proposed, and continuing information collections, which helps us assess the impact of our information collection requirements and minimize the public’s reporting burden. Public comments were previously requested via the **Federal Register** on July 18, 2025, during a 60-day comment period. This notice allows for an additional 30 days for public comments.

Agency: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

Title: Pacific Cod Trawl Cooperative Program.

OMB Control Number: 0648–0811.

Form Number(s): None.

Type of Request: Regular submission (extension and revision of a current information collection).

Number of Respondents: 13 respondents.

Average Hours per Response: Application for PCTC Cooperative Quota: 2 hours; Application for Inter-Cooperative Transfer of CQ: 10 minutes; Application for Transfer of PCTC QS for Processors: 2 hours; and Notification of Intent to Process PCTC: 30 minutes.

Total Annual Burden Hours: 15 hours.

Needs and Uses: This is a renewal and revision of a previously approved collection for the Pacific Cod Trawl Cooperative Program (PCTC Program). This collection contains ongoing information collection requirements submitted by participating harvesters