

current merger rules. The Board has just shown how effective and forward leaning applying the new rules can be in protecting the network's public interest. Why then the insistence to continue to rely on the waiver that removes consideration of the public interest in this voting trust agreement?

The topic of railroad consolidation has long been a public concern. Past efforts to consolidate have been viewed as both necessary and disruptive to our national rail network. In the 1990s, as the number of Class Is quickly shrank, concern over consolidation grew. The Board's resulting adoption of the current merger rules in 2001 was the appropriate response to this concern—in particular, its insistence that the public interest be a major component in the consideration of any voting trust and merger application. Now, twenty years later, the Board is once again front and center in the debate over consolidation and the future of the network. In the interest of the public good and for the well-being of the national rail network, any further consolidation of the Class Is should be subjected to the current merger rules which call for the Board to consider whether the public interest is best served by a merger agreement's proposed voting trust. For these reasons, I respectfully dissent.

Aretha Laws-Byrum,
Clearance Clerk.

[FR Doc. 2021-21795 Filed 10-5-21; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915-01-P

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

Determinations and Ongoing Monitoring: Investigation Concerning Vietnam's Acts, Policies and Practices Related to Illegal Timber

AGENCY: Office of the United States Trade Representative (USTR).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Based on an agreement reached between the United States of America and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam (the Parties) regarding illegal logging and timber trade, the U.S. Trade Representative has determined that no action is warranted at this time because the subject matter of this investigation has been resolved satisfactorily. The U.S. Trade Representative will monitor Vietnam's implementation of the commitments it has agreed to.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For questions concerning the investigation, contact David Lyons, Assistant General Counsel, 202-395-9446; Kimberly

Reynolds, Assistant General Counsel, 202-395-6336; Marta Prado, Deputy Assistant U.S. Trade Representative for Southeast Asia and the Pacific, 202-395-6216; or Joseph Johnson, Senior Director for Environment and Natural Resources, 202-395-2464.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Proceedings in the Investigation

On October 2, 2020, the U.S. Trade Representative initiated an investigation of Vietnam's acts, policies and practices related to the import and use of illegal timber pursuant to Section 301(b)(1)(A) of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended (the Trade Act). See 85 FR 63639 (Oct. 8, 2020) (notice of initiation). On the same date, USTR requested consultations with Vietnam, which were held on January 7, 2021. The Section 301 Committee solicited comments and held a public hearing on December 28, 2020. See 85 FR 75398 (Nov. 25, 2020).

USTR initiated the investigation to examine reports that Vietnam's wood processing industry relies upon imported timber that may have been illegally harvested or traded. The notice of initiation indicated that the investigation would initially focus on three issues: (1) That certain timber imports may be inconsistent with Vietnam's domestic laws, the laws of exporting countries, or international rules, (2) the adequacy of Vietnam's enforcement measures at the border with respect to imported timber, and (3) other acts, policies and practices of Vietnam relating to the import and use of illegally harvested or traded timber. Investigating these issues has involved an examination of Vietnam's ongoing implementation of its new, risk-based "timber legality assurance system" and potential improvements to that system.

During the last several months of the investigation, USTR has engaged with Vietnam in an effort to reach an agreement that would resolve U.S. concerns with Vietnam's import and use of illegal timber. As described below, these efforts have been successful.

II. Agreement With Vietnam and Associated Determinations

On October 1, 2021, the U.S. Trade Representative and the Minister for the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development of Vietnam signed the *Agreement between the Governments of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and the United States of America on Illegal Logging and Timber Trade* (the Agreement). The Agreement is publicly available on USTR's website at <https://ustr.gov/issue-areas/enforcement/section-301-investigations/section-301-vietnam-timber>.

The Agreement reflects the Parties' shared understanding of the importance of combating illegal logging and associated trade. It contains multiple commitments on issues related to illegal timber, including:

- Vietnam's treatment of confiscated timber.
- Financial incentives related to illegal timber.
- Customs inspections and clearance.
- Entities covered by Vietnam's timber legality assurance system.
- The criteria used to classify a third country as a "positive geographical area exporting timber to Vietnam".
- The verification of domestically harvested timber.
- The implementation of certain licensing schemes.
- Cooperation with the governments of third-country sources of imported timber.
- Illegal timber activities in third countries or involving third-country nationals.
- Verification and enforcement measures.
- Cooperation between the Parties' respective law enforcement agencies to combat the harvest and trade of illegal timber.
- Creation of a timber working group under the U.S.-Vietnam Trade and Investment Framework Agreement Council.
- Public information and participation on matters related to the implementation of the Agreement.
- Cooperation on technical assistance and initiatives to promote sustainable forest management and to combat illegal logging and associated trade.

The U.S. Trade Representative has found that the Agreement satisfactorily resolves the matter subject to investigation. Therefore, the U.S. Trade Representative has determined that the investigated acts, policies, and practices are not actionable in light of the Agreement and that no action is appropriate at this time.

III. Ongoing Monitoring

Pursuant to Section 306(a) of the Trade Act, the U.S. Trade Representative will monitor Vietnam's implementation of its commitments under the Agreement and associated measures. Pursuant to Section 306(b) of the Trade Act, if the U.S. Trade Representative determines that Vietnam is not satisfactorily implementing the Agreement or associated measures, then the U.S. Trade Representative will

consider further action under Section 301.

Greta Peisch,

General Counsel, Office of the United States Trade Representative.

[FR Doc. 2021–21809 Filed 10–5–21; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3290–F1–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Office of Foreign Assets Control

Notice of OFAC Sanctions Actions

AGENCY: Office of Foreign Assets Control, Department of the 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 whose property and interests in property have been unblocked and removed from the list of Specially Designated Nationals and Blocked Persons.

DATES: See Supplementary Information section for effective date.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

OFAC: Associate Director for Global Targeting, tel.: 202–622–2420; Assistant Director for Licensing, tel.: 202–622–2480; Assistant Director for Regulatory Affairs, tel.: 202–622–4855; Assistant Director for Sanctions Compliance & Evaluation, tel.: 202–622–2490; or the Department of the Treasury's Office of the General Counsel: Office of the Chief Counsel (Foreign Assets Control), tel.: 202–622–2410.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Electronic Availability

The Specially Designated Nationals and Blocked Persons List (SDN List) and additional information concerning OFAC sanctions programs are available on OFAC's website (www.treasury.gov/ofac).

Notice of OFAC Action

On September 30, 2021, OFAC determined that the property and interests in property of the following persons are unblocked and removed from the SDN List.

Entities

1. ABIF INVESTMENT, S.A., Panama; RUC # 2022799–1–743641 (Panama) [SDNTK].

2. GRUPO LA RIVIERA PANAMA, S.A., Panama; RUC # 2038708–1–745998 (Panama) [SDNTK].

3. SOHO PANAMA, S.A.; RUC # 2422734–1–808115 (Panama) [SDNTK].

4. WAKED INTERNACIONAL PANAMA, S.A., Panama; RUC # 197517–1–394851 (Panama) [SDNTK].

Dated: September 30, 2021.

Gregory T. Gatjanis,

Associate Director, Office of Global Targeting, Office of Foreign Assets Control, U.S. Department of the Treasury.

[FR Doc. 2021–21751 Filed 10–5–21; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4810–AL–P

UNITED STATES INSTITUTE OF PEACE

Notice of Board of Directors Meeting

AGENCY: United States Institute of Peace (USIP) and Endowment of the United States Institute of Peace.

ACTION: Announcement of meeting.

SUMMARY: Meeting of the Board of Directors: Chair's Report; Vice Chair's Report; President's Report; Approval of Minutes; Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Endowment of the U.S. Institute of Peace; USIP Key Current Initiatives: *Afghanistan*; *Countering Violent Extremism*; and *Youth*; Reports from USIP Board Committees: Governance and Compliance; Strategy and Program; Audit and Finance; Security and Facilities; and Talent and Culture.

DATES: Friday, October 15, 2021 (10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.).

ADDRESSES: Virtual Board Meeting Information: Join by video: <https://usip-org.zoomgov.com/j/1600200755?pwd=TGJMbzNrQ2dVR3B3ZVJIZUxpQThVZz09>; Dial-in option: +1–646–828–7666; Meeting ID: 160 020 0755/ Passcode: 741347.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Megan O'Hare, 202–429–4144, mohare@usip.org.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Open Session—Portions may be closed pursuant to Subsection (c) of Section 552(b) of Title 5, United States Code, as provided in subsection 1706(h)(3) of the United States Institute of Peace Act, Public Law 98–525.

Authority: 22 U.S.C. 4605(h)(3).

Dated: September 30, 2021.

Megan O'Hare,

Chief of Staff.

[FR Doc. 2021–21834 Filed 10–5–21; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6820–AR–P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900–0491]

Agency Information Collection Activity Under OMB Review: Community Residential Care (CRC) Recordkeeping Requirements

AGENCY: Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, this notice announces that the Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs, will submit the collection of information abstracted below to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and comment. The PRA submission describes the nature of the information collection and its expected cost and burden and it includes the actual data collection instrument.

DATES: Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain. Find this particular information collection by selecting “Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments” or by using the search function. Refer to “OMB Control No. 2900–0491.”

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Maribel Aponte, Office of Enterprise and Integration, Data Governance Analytics (008), 1717 H Street NW, Washington, DC 20006, (202) 266–4688 or email maribel.aponte@va.gov. Please refer to “OMB Control No. 2900–0491” in any correspondence.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Authority: 44 U.S.C. 3501–21.

Title: Community Residential Care (CRC) Recordkeeping Requirements.

OMB Control Number: 2900–0491.

Type of Review: Reinstatement of a previously approved collection.

Abstract: One of the standards a Community Residential Care (CRC) facility must meet is the requirement that the CRC must maintain records on each resident in a secure place. Facility records must include emergency notification procedures and a copy of all signed agreements with the resident. 38 CFR 17.63(i). These records must be maintained by the CRC, and the CRC must make those records available for VA inspection upon request. A Medical Foster Home is a subtype of CRC and is required to comply with the record keeping requirements of 38 CFR