

Laboratory feeding experiments would be conducted on American lobster to determine the trophic levels from which they feed. The isotope $^{948,15}\text{N}$ would be measured, with the theoretical basis that the higher the trophic level an animal feeds, the higher the level of the isotope. Exemptions from lobster restrictions at §§ 697.7(c)(1)(xxiii) and 697.17(a) are necessary to collect specimens for laboratory research.

Samples for the laboratory research would be collected aboard the same seven fishing vessels participating in the Otter Trawl study fleet, which intend to fish on GB from the date of issuance through April 2010, with a minimum of two trips per month and an average trip duration of 7 days. All vessels would utilize otter trawl gear, with gear configuration and mesh size dictated by current fishery regulations.

Based on preliminary review of this project, and in accordance with NOAA Administrative Order 216–6, a Categorical Exclusion from requirements to prepare either an Environmental Impact Statement or an Environmental Assessment under the National Environmental Policy Act appears to be justified. The applicant may request minor modifications and extensions to the EFP throughout the year. EFP modifications and extensions may be granted without further notice if they are deemed essential to facilitate completion of the proposed research and have minimal impacts that do not change the scope or impact of the initially approved EFP request.

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

Dated: September 8, 2009.

Emily H. Menashes,
Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.
[FR Doc. E9–21981 Filed 9–11–09; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

(C–570–953)

Narrow Woven Ribbons With Woven Selvage From the People's Republic of China: Postponement of Preliminary Determination in the Countervailing Duty Investigation

AGENCY: Import Administration, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

EFFECTIVE DATE: September 14, 2009.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Scott Holland or Shelly Atkinson, AD/CVD Operations, Import

Administration, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482–1279 and (202) 482–0166, respectively.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On August 6, 2009, the Department of Commerce (the “Department”) initiated an investigation of narrow woven ribbons with woven selvage from the People's Republic of China (“PRC”). See *Narrow Woven Ribbons With Woven Selvage From the People's Republic of China: Initiation of Countervailing Duty Investigation*, 74 FR 39298 (August 6, 2009). Currently, the preliminary determination is due no later than October 2, 2009.

Postponement of Due Date for Preliminary Determination

Under section 703(c)(1)(B) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the “Act”), the Department may extend the period for reaching a preliminary determination in a countervailing duty investigation until no later than the 130th day after the date on which the investigation is initiated, if the Department determines that the parties are cooperating and the case is extraordinarily complicated. The Department finds that the instant case is extraordinarily complicated by reason of the number and complexity of the alleged countervailable subsidy practices, the need to determine the extent to which particular countervailable subsidies are used by individual manufacturers, producers, and exporters, and the number of firms whose activities must be investigated. Accordingly, we are fully extending the due date for the preliminary determination to no later than 130 days after the day on which the investigation was initiated (i.e., December 6, 2009). As December 6, 2009, is a Sunday, we will issue the preliminary determination no later than the next business day (i.e., December 7, 2009).

This notice is issued and published pursuant to section 703(c)(2) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.205(f)(1).

Dated: September 8, 2009.

Ronald K. Lorentzen,
Acting Assistant Secretary for Import Administration.

[FR Doc. E9–22046 Filed 9–11–09; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

Quarterly Update to Annual Listing of Foreign Government Subsidies on Articles of Cheese Subject to an In-Quota Rate of Duty

AGENCY: Import Administration, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

EFFECTIVE DATE: September 14, 2009.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Gayle Longest, AD/CVD Operations, Office 3, Import Administration, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20230, telephone: (202) 482–3338.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 702 of the Trade Agreements Act of 1979 (as amended) (“the Act”) requires the Department of Commerce (“the Department”) to determine, in consultation with the Secretary of Agriculture, whether any foreign government is providing a subsidy with respect to any article of cheese subject to an in-quota rate of duty, as defined in section 701(c)(1) of the Act, and to publish an annual list and quarterly updates to the type and amount of those subsidies. We hereby provide the Department's quarterly update of subsidies on articles of cheese that were imported during the period April 1, 2009, through

June 30, 2009.

The Department has developed, in consultation with the Secretary of Agriculture, information on subsidies (as defined in section 702(h)(2) of the Act and section 771(5) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (“Tariff Act”), being provided either directly or indirectly by foreign governments on articles of cheese subject to an in-quota rate of duty.

The appendix to this notice lists the country, the subsidy program or programs, and the gross and net amounts of each subsidy for which information is currently available. The Department will incorporate additional programs which are found to constitute subsidies, and additional information on the subsidy programs listed, as the information is developed.

The Department encourages any person having information on foreign government subsidy programs which benefit articles of cheese subject to an in-quota rate of duty to submit such information in writing to the Assistant Secretary for Import Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th

Street and Constitution Ave., NW,
Washington, DC 20230.

This determination and notice are in
accordance with section 702(a)(2) of the
Act.

Dated: September 8, 2009.
Ronald K. Lorentzen,
*Acting Assistant Secretary for Import
Administration.*

APPENDIX

SUBSIDY PROGRAMS ON CHEESE SUBJECT TO AN IN-QUOTA RATE OF DUTY

Country	Program(s)	Gross ¹ Subsidy (\$/lb)	Net ² Subsidy (\$/lb)
27 European Union Member States ³	European Union Restitution Payments	\$ 0.00	\$0.00
Canada	Export Assistance on Certain Types of Cheese	\$ 0.29	\$ 0.29
Norway	Indirect (Milk) Subsidy	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
.....	<i>Consumer Subsidy Total</i>	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
.....	<i>Total</i>	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Switzerland	Deficiency Payments	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00

¹ Defined in 19 U.S.C. 1677(5).

² Defined in 19 U.S.C. 1677(6).

³ The 27 member states of the European Union are: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, and the United Kingdom.

[FR Doc. E9-22066 Filed 9-11-09; 8:45 am]
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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Foreign-Trade Zones Board

Revised Proposal for Changes to the Format of Annual Reports Submitted to the Foreign-Trade Zones Board

Summary: On May 15, 2009, the Foreign-Trade Zones (FTZ) Board published a notice seeking comments on proposed revisions to the format of annual reports that are submitted by grantees to the FTZ Board. Based on comments received, the FTZ Board has made further revisions to the proposed annual report format. The most significant revision is a proposed shift from reporting on a Federal fiscal year basis to reporting on a calendar-year basis. The Board is inviting public comment on the latest proposal. Comments and questions regarding the original proposal are summarized and addressed below by general topic. The revised format follows the discussion of the comments.

Summary of Comments Received

Comments on Terminology

(1) One comment requested that the term “inactive” be removed from the report format and replaced with the terms “never activated” or “deactivated”. The comment noted that this revision would harmonize the language in the report with that used by CBP. This change has been made.

(2) Comments were also received on specific terminology in the section of the report for oil refinery operators. As a result, questions regarding indirect

exports, tank storage capacity and shipments to affiliated plants have been modified.

(3) One comment requested that clarification be added to the FTZ Board’s Annual Report to Congress on the treatment of zone-to-zone transfers. That comment will be considered separately as the proposal below is specific to the information submitted to the Board by grantees.

(4) A comment was received suggesting that part 1, Question 2 be modified to remove the phrase “promotion and marketing” and better reflect the full integration that should exist between the zone and local economic development plans. While it is noted that the zone should be incorporated into the overall economic development plan of a region, as written the question should provide the latitude that a grantee needs to include all efforts that have been taken regarding the zone.

Comments on Employment Numbers

(1) One comment requested that employment numbers be collected for both approved and activated zone space. Currently, the annual report requests information on the number of full-time equivalent employees within activated FTZ sites. There are currently a significant number of approved zone sites where no FTZ related activity is occurring, as grantees have sought to include sites in their zone project where future zone activity may arise. Including employment numbers for companies located within those sites in a report on FTZ activity would increase the reporting burden on grantees while not providing an accurate reflection of the employment related to FTZ activity within a zone. For similar reasons, the movement of merchandise in approved

zone sites that have no zone activity is not requested.

(2) One comment included suggested criteria for calculating the employment numbers. The suggested criteria would essentially have defined employees as those engaged in zone activity with foreign status merchandise within the active zone operation. In many instances, however, companies will comele domestic and foreign status merchandise within the zone, with employees handling either status of merchandise, and the percent of foreign and domestic merchandise changing throughout the year. As a result, calculating the suggested employment criteria could be overly burdensome for many operations. In addition, although a portion of the activity may involve domestic status merchandise, the FTZ savings could be impacting the viability of the facility as a whole, and as such, the employment related to the domestic status merchandise is then tied to the use of the zone. On balance, the current policy of requesting employment numbers for the active portions of the zone provides a number that is useful to the FTZ Board while not overly burdensome to zone users.

(3) One comment also suggested that temporary and contract employees be reported on a full-time equivalent basis. This clarification on reporting employment numbers had been included in part 1, and has now also been added to Part 2.

Comments on Value-Added

(1) One comment suggested that the request for value-added activity in part 2 be broken down by each category of merchandise forwarded (exports, entries for consumption and zone-to-zone transfers). The revised annual report