

Draft Agenda of the January 16 and 17 Meeting

A. Welcome to Phoenix, Arizona
 1. Arizona State Official
 B. Approve minutes of the Denver, Colorado, July 18–19, 2001, AAQTF meeting.
 C. EPA Update
 • National Academy of Sciences Scientific Assessment update
 • Confined Animal Feeding
 Operation issues
 • Status of residue burning issues
 • Status of Agricultural Voluntary Compliance policy
 D. Subcommittee Business
 Research Priorities and Oversight Subcommittee
 • Report on re-evaluation of research priorities
 Emissions Factors Subcommittee
 • Emission Factor Survey results
 Concentrated Animal Feeding
 Operation Subcommittee
 • Update on Action Plan
 Voluntary/Incentive Based Program Subcommittee
 Follow-up Subcommittee
 Agricultural Burning Subcommittee
 E. New Topics
 • Farm Bill status
 • Carbon credits trading
 • Update on selected legal actions
 F. Next Meeting, time/place
 G. Public Input (time will be reserved before lunch and at the close of each daily session to receive public comment. Individual presentations will be limited to 5 minutes).

Procedural

This meeting is open to the public. At the discretion of the Chair, members of the public may present oral presentations during the meeting. Persons wishing to make oral presentations should notify Beth Sauerhaft no later than January 7, 2002. If a person submitting material would like a copy distributed to each member of the committee in advance of the meeting, that person should submit 25 copies to Beth Sauerhaft no later than January 7, 2002.

Information on Services for Individuals With Disabilities

For information on facilities or services for individuals with disabilities or to request special assistance at the meeting, contact Beth Sauerhaft.

USDA prohibits discrimination in its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, sexual orientation, or disability. Additionally, discrimination on the basis of political beliefs and marital or family status is also

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Signed at Washington, DC, on December 11, 2001.

Pearlie S. Reed,

Chief, Natural Resources Conservation Service.

[FR Doc. 01–31381 Filed 12–21–01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–16–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**Rural Business—Corporate Service****Notice of Request for Extension of a Currently Approved Information Collection**

AGENCY: Rural Business-Cooperative Service, USDA.

ACTION: Proposed collection; Comments requested.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the Rural Business-Cooperative Service's (RBS) intention to request an extension for a currently approved information collection in support of the program for the Business and Industry Loan Program.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by February 25, 2002 to be assured of consideration.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Rick Bonnet, Senior Commercial Loan Specialist, RBS, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Stop 3221, telephone (202) 720–1804 or email

rick.bonnet@usda.gov. The Federal Information Relay Service on (800) 887–8339 is available for TDD users.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Business and Industry Loan Program.

OMB Number: 0570–0014.

Expiration Date of Approval: March 31, 2002.

Type of Request: Extension of a currently approved information collection and recordkeeping requirements.

Abstract: The B&I Program is authorized under Section 310B of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, as amended. The purpose of the Business and Industry (B&I) Guaranteed and Direct Loan Programs is to improve, develop, or finance businesses, industry and employment and improve the economic and environmental climate in rural communities, including pollution control abatement and control. This purpose is achieved through bolstering the existing private credit structure, either through the guaranteeing of quality loans made by lending institutions, or making direct loans, thereby providing lasting community benefits. B&I program authority is composed of direct loan authority and loan guarantee authority. The program is administered by the Agency through a State Director serving the State.

All reporting and recordkeeping burden estimates for making and servicing B&I Guaranteed Loans have been moved to the new B&I Guaranteed Loan Program regulations which are at 7 CFR 4279–A and B and 4287–B. The only burden associated with 7 CFR 1980–E is a small portion of B&I Direct loanmaking. 7 CFR 1951–E is used for servicing B&I Direct and Community Facility Loans.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting for this collection of information is estimated to average 8 hours per response.

Respondents: Individuals, rural businesses, for profit businesses, non-profit businesses, Indian tribes, public bodies, cooperatives.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 200.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 3.

Estimated Number of Responses: 586.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 4,545 hours.

Copies of this information collection can be obtained from Cheryl Thompson, Regulations and Paperwork Management Branch, Support Services Division at (202) 692–0043.

Comments

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of RBS, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of RBS 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 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. Comments may be sent to Cheryl Thompson, Regulations and Paperwork Management Branch, Support Services Division, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, STOP 0742, 1400 Independence Ave. SW., Washington, DC 20250. All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will also become a matter of public record.

Dated: December 14, 2001.

John Rosso,

Acting Administrator, Rural Business-Cooperative Service.

[FR Doc. 01-31618 Filed 12-21-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-XY-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[A-570-873 and A-791-815]

Notice of Initiation of Antidumping Duty Investigations: Ferrovandium From the People's Republic of China and the Republic of South Africa

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

ACTION: Initiation of Antidumping Duty Investigations.

EFFECTIVE DATE: December 26, 2001.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mark Manning or Chris Brady at (202) 482-5253 and (202) 482-4406, respectively; Import Administration, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20230.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Initiation of Investigations

The Applicable Statute and Regulations

Unless otherwise indicated, all citations to the statute are references to the provisions effective January 1, 1995, the effective date of the amendments made to the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act), by the Uruguay Round Agreements Act (URAA). In addition, unless otherwise indicated, all citations to the Department of Commerce's (the Department's) regulations are references to the provisions codified at 19 CFR Part 351 (2000).

The Petition

On November 26, 2001, the Department received a petition filed in proper form by the Ferroalloys Association Vanadium Committee and its members: Bear Metallurgical Company, Shieldalloy Metallurgical Corporation, Gulf Chemical & Metallurgical Corporation, U.S. Vanadium Corporation, and CS Metals of Louisiana LLC (collectively, the petitioners). The Department received information supplementing the petition on December 7, 2001.

In accordance with section 732(b) of the Act, the petitioners allege that imports of ferrovanadium from the People's Republic of China (PRC) and the Republic of South Africa (South Africa) are being, or are likely to be, sold in the United States at less than fair value within the meaning of section 731 of the Act, and that such imports are materially injuring, or are threatening to materially injure, an industry in the United States.

The Department finds that the petitioners filed this petition on behalf of the domestic industry because they are interested parties as defined in sections 771(9)(C) and 771(9)(D) of the Act and have demonstrated sufficient industry support with respect to each of the antidumping investigations that they are requesting the Department to initiate (*see the Determination of Industry Support for the Petition* section below).

Scope of Investigations

The scope of these investigations covers all ferrovanadium produced in the PRC and South Africa, regardless of grade, chemistry, form, shape or size. Ferrovandium is an alloy of iron and vanadium that is used chiefly as an additive in the manufacture of steel. The merchandise is commercially and scientifically identified as ferrovanadium. The scope of this investigation specifically excludes vanadium additives other than ferrovanadium, such as nitrated vanadium, vanadium-aluminum master alloys, vanadium chemicals, vanadium oxides, vanadium waste and scrap, and vanadium-bearing raw materials such as slag, boiler residues and fly ash. Merchandise under the following Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) headings are specifically excluded:

- 2850.00.2000 Hydrides, nitrides, azides, silicides and borides, whether or not chemically defined, other than compounds which are also carbides of heading 2849: * * * Of vanadium.
- 8112.40.3000 Beryllium, * * * vanadium * * *, and articles of these

metals, including waste and scrap:

- * * * Vanadium: Waste and scrap
- 8112.40.6000 Beryllium, * * * vanadium * * *, and articles of these metals, including waste and scrap:
- * * * Vanadium: Other

Ferrovandium is classified under HTSUS heading 7202.92.00. Although the HTSUS subheading is provided for convenience and Customs purposes, the Department's written description of the scope of this investigation remains dispositive.

During our review of the petitions, we discussed the scope with the petitioners to ensure that it accurately reflects the product for which the domestic industry is seeking relief. Moreover, as discussed in the preamble to the Department's regulations (62 FR 27323), we are setting aside a period for parties to raise issues regarding product coverage. The Department encourages all parties to submit such comments by January 7, 2002. Comments should be addressed to Import Administration's Central Records Unit at Room 1870, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20230. The period of scope consultations is intended to provide the Department with ample opportunity to consider all comments and consult with parties prior to the issuance of the preliminary determinations.

Determination of Industry Support for the Petition

Section 771(4)(A) of the Act defines the "industry" as the producers of a domestic like product. Thus, to determine whether the petition has the requisite industry support, the statute directs the Department to look to producers and workers who produce the domestic like product. The United States International Trade Commission (ITC), which is responsible for determining whether "the domestic industry" has been injured, must also determine what constitutes a domestic like product in order to define the industry. While both the Department and the ITC must apply the same statutory definition regarding domestic like product (*see* section 771(10) of the Act), they do so for different purposes and pursuant to their separate and distinct authority. In addition, the Department's determination is subject to limitations of time and information. Although this may result in different definitions of the like product, such differences do not render the decision of either agency contrary to the law.¹

¹ See *Algoma Steel Corp. Ltd., v. United States*, 688 F. Supp. 639, 642-44 (CIT 1988); *High*