

set aside for public comments at the beginning of the meeting.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Forest Supervisor Stan Sylva, at (530) 233-8700; or Public Affairs Officer Nancy Gardner at (530) 233-8713.

Stanley G. Sylva,
Forest Supervisor.

[FR Doc. 03-30993 Filed 12-15-03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

RIN 0596-AB90

Forest Transportation System Analysis; Revisions to Road Management Policy

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of issuance of final agency directive.

SUMMARY: The Forest Service is issuing a final directive that incorporates direction previously issued in the Forest Service directive system as Interim Directive (ID) 7710-2001-3 and ID 7710-2001-1, with minor clarifications. This final directive provides internal administrative direction to guide Forest Service employees in the improvement of the analysis of and decisionmaking about the forest transportation system. The final directive is issued to the Forest Service Manual (FSM) Title 7700—Engineering, Chapter 7710—Transportation Atlas, Records, and Analysis, as Amendment 7700-2003-2. **EFFECTIVE DATE:** The final directive is effective December 16, 2003.

ADDRESSES: The final directive, which includes a digest of the summary of changes and the revised directive text in its entirety, is available electronically via the World Wide Web/Internet at <http://www.fs.fed.us/im/directives/fsm/7710>. Single paper copies of the directive also are available by contacting the USDA Forest Service, Engineering Staff (Mail Stop 1101), 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-1101.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Deborah Beighley or Nelson Hernandez, Engineering Staff, Forest Service, at (703) 605-4617 and (703) 605-4613, respectively.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

On January 12, 2001, the Forest Service concurrently adopted revised final regulations at 36 CFR part 212 (66 FR 3206) and revised agency directives in Forest Service Manual (FSM) Chapter 7700—Zero Code and Chapter 7710—

Transportation Atlas, Records, and Analysis (66 FR 3219) to guide transportation planning, analysis, and management, especially road management on National Forest System lands. These regulations and directives together comprise what is referred to as the Forest Service Road Management Strategy.

The final rule at 36 CFR part 212 directs the Responsible Official of each National Forest, Grassland, or other unit of the National Forest System to perform a comprehensive analysis of the road system within the unit and to document the overall forest transportation system in a transportation atlas.

The directive at FSM Chapter 7710 (Amendment 7700-2001-3) established standards for creation of the road atlas and for determining the scope and scale of roads analyses needed to inform road management decisions; that is, road construction, reconstruction, and decommissioning. Additionally, this revision of FSM Chapter 7710 included interim requirements that, rather than addressing the transportation atlas, record, or analysis, imposed a significant restriction on road construction or reconstruction in inventoried roadless areas and contiguous unroaded areas until a forest-scale roads analysis is completed and incorporated into the Forest plan.

Upon adoption of the road management final rule and directives in January 2001, the Department and the agency reviewed those documents to determine if there were impediments to implementation. These reviews led the agency to initiate several Interim Directives (IDs).

The first was ID 7710-2001-1, issued May 31, 2001 (66 FR 44590), which encouraged reliance on local expertise and authority over forest-level issues as much as possible. The next two IDs (7710-2001-2 and 2400-2001-3) issued July 27, 2001 (66 FR 44111), implemented the Chief's June 7, 2001, announcement to manage and protect inventoried roadless areas as an important component of the National Forest System and to reserve the authority to make decisions, except in specific circumstances, regarding road management activities and timber harvesting in those areas. In a letter to Regional Foresters dated June 12, 2001, the Deputy Chief for National Forest System, noting the Chief's June 7, announcement, asked Regional Foresters and Forest Supervisors to review the road management policy to identify any provisions that they believed should be revised.

Further review of the road management policy resulted in the

issuance of two new IDs (7710-2001-3 and 1920-2001-1) issued December 14, 2001 (66 FR 65796), which separated interim requirements related to road construction and reconstruction in inventoried roadless areas from the roads analysis direction in FSM Chapter 7710 and relocated the modified interim requirements to FSM Chapter 1920—Land and Resource Management Planning.

Over 72,000 responses in the form of letters, faxes, and e-mail messages were received on the three different **Federal Register** notices regarding the five IDs concerning the management of the forest transportation system analysis and roadless area protection. These comments came from private citizens, elected officials, and from groups and individuals representing businesses, private organizations, and Federal agencies. Responses consisted of over 9,500 original responses and over 62,500 form letters.

Public comment on the five IDs addressed a wide range of topics, many of which were directed at management of roadless areas and issues associated with the ID 1920-2001-1 to FSM Chapter 1920. Many people supported the IDs to FSM Chapter 7710, which provided for better inventory, analysis, and management of the Forest Service roads system, and separated direction for managing roads from direction on managing National Forest System land. Some respondents requested that the Forest Service revise the ID to FSM Chapter 7710 to clarify the definition of a road and the need for and content of a roads analysis.

This final directive to FSM 7710 represents the culmination of the agency's internal and public reviews of the practices concerning management of the forest transportation system. The agency has decided to incorporate the current ID direction into Amendment 7700-2003-2 to FSM 7710, with some minor clarifications. Comments regarding ID 1920-2001-1 to FSM Chapter 1920 on roadless area management will be addressed when the Amendment to that chapter is finalized.

Dated: December 8, 2003.

Dale N. Bosworth,
Chief.

[FR Doc. 03-30871 Filed 12-15-03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**International Trade Administration****[A-583-008]****Circular Welded Carbon Steel Pipe and Tubes From Taiwan**

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

ACTION: Notice of Extension of Time Limits.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce (the Department) is extending the time limits for the preliminary results of the 2002 - 2003 administrative review of the antidumping duty order on circular welded carbon steel pipe and tubes from Taiwan. This review covers one manufacturer/exporter of the subject merchandise to the United States, Yieh Hsing Enterprise Co., Ltd. (Yieh Hsing), and the period May 1, 2002 through April 30, 2003.

EFFECTIVE DATE: December 16, 2003.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Robert M. James at (202) 482-0649, AD/CVD Enforcement Office Eight, Import Administration, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20230.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**Background:**

On July 1, 2003, in response to a request from petitioners, Allied Tube & Conduit Corporation, IPSCO Tubulars, Inc., and Wheatland Tube Company, the Department published in the **Federal Register** our notice of initiation of this administrative review. See *Initiation of Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Administrative Reviews and Request for Revocation in Part*, 68 Fed. Reg. at 39,055. Pursuant to the time limits for administrative reviews established in section 751(a)(3)(A) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Tariff Act), the current deadlines for this review are January 31, 2004, for the preliminary results and May 30, 2004, for the final results.

Extension of Time Limits:

Section 751(a)(3)(A) of the Tariff Act and 351.213(h) of the Department's regulations require the Department to issue the preliminary results of an antidumping administrative review within 245 days after the last day of the month in which occurs the anniversary date of the publication of the order. These same sections, however, provide that if it is not practicable to complete

the review within those deadlines, the Department may extend the 245-day period to 365 days. We have determined it is not practicable for the Department to complete this review within the normal statutory time limit due to a number of significant case issues. These include, *inter alia*, the sale of Yieh Hsing's pipe making facilities in their entirety during this period of review to Yieh Phui, an "affiliated" (Yieh Hsing's characterization) company; the unknown nature of any affiliations between Yieh Hsing and other entities in Taiwan engaged in the steel- or pipe-making industry, such as Yieh United Steel Company; the extent, if any, to which affiliated companies supplied hot-rolled feed stock or other raw materials to Yieh Hsing's pipe mill; and a pending request for a changed circumstances administrative review to establish Yieh Phui's entitlement to Yieh Hsing's cash deposit rate.

Because it is not practicable to complete this review within the normal statutory time limit, the Department is extending the time limits for completion of the preliminary results until May 30, 2004, in accordance with section 751(a)(3)(A) of the Tariff Act and 351.213(h)(2) of the Department's regulations. The deadline for the final results of this review will continue to be 120 days after publication of the preliminary results.

This extension is in accordance with section 751(a)(3)(A) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (19 U.S.C. 1675(a)(3)(A)).

Dated: December 2, 2003.

Barbara E. Tillman,

Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Import Administration, Group III.

[FR Doc. 03-31019 Filed 12-15-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-DS-S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**International Trade Administration**

[A-602-805, A-484-802, A-419-802, A-588-864, A-791-818]

Notice of Postponement of Preliminary Antidumping Duty Determinations: Electrolytic Manganese Dioxide from Australia, Greece, Ireland, Japan, and South Africa.

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

SUMMARY: On August 20, 2003, the Department of Commerce (the Department) initiated these antidumping duty investigations of

Electrolytic Manganese Dioxide from Australia, Greece, Ireland, Japan, and South Africa, (68 FR 51551, dated August 27, 2003). The notice of initiation stated that the Department would issue preliminary determinations no later than January 7, 2004, 140 days after the date of initiation. See 68 FR 51551. The Department is now postponing the preliminary determinations in these antidumping duty investigations from January 7, 2004 until no later than February 26, 2004. These postponements are made pursuant to section 733(c)(1)(A) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended.

EFFECTIVE DATE: December 16, 2003.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Joe Welton, Import Administration, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482-0165.

Postponement of Preliminary Determinations

Pursuant to section 733(b)(1)(A) of the Act, the Department shall make a preliminary determination in an antidumping duty investigation within 140 days after the date on which the Department initiates the investigation. Section 733 (c)(1)(A) of the Act further provides, however, that the Department may extend the 140-day period to 190 days if the petitioner makes a timely request for an extension. On November 14, 2003 and November 26, 2003, Kerr-McGee Chemical, LLC ("petitioner") made timely requests pursuant to 19 CFR 351.205(e) for 30-day and 20-day postponements, respectively, for a total of 50 days, pursuant to section 733(c)(1)(A) of the Act. Therefore, in accordance with petitioner's requests for postponements, the Department is postponing the preliminary determinations in these investigations for 50 days. These preliminary determinations will now be due no later than February 26, 2004. Unless extended, the deadline for the final determinations will continue to be 75 days after the date of the preliminary determinations.

This notice is issued and published pursuant to section 733(c)(2) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.205(f).

Dated: December 9, 2003.

James J. Jochum,

Assistant Secretary for Import Administration.

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