

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR**Employment and Training
Administration****20 CFR Part 655****RIN 1205-AB24****Labor Certification and Petition
Process for Temporary Agricultural
Employment of Nonimmigrant Workers
in the United States (H-2A Workers);
Modification of Fee Structure; Informal
Briefing****AGENCY:** Employment and Training
Administration, Labor.**ACTION:** Proposed rule; notice of
informal briefing; reopening and
extension of deadline for notices of
intention to appear.

SUMMARY: The Division of Foreign Labor Certification, Employment and Training Administration (ETA), Department of Labor (Department), is reopening and extending the deadline for notices of intention to appear at two informal briefings to allow agricultural workers and employers and other interested parties to communicate directly with the Department regarding proposed rule changes which would require employers to submit fees for temporary foreign agricultural labor certification and the associated H-2A petition with a consolidated application form at the time of filing. See proposed rule to amend 20 CFR part 655, published elsewhere in today's issue of the **Federal Register**. The proposed rule also would modify the fee structure for H-2A labor certification applications. These briefings are being held to allow the Department to solicit individual responses and experiences from interested persons and other entities. This notice extends the deadline for filing by the public of their intention to appear.

DATES: The briefing dates are:Thursday, November 8, 2001, 9:30 a.m.
to 4 p.m., Washington, DC.Friday, November 16, 2001, 9:30 a.m. to
4 p.m., Monterey, CA.Notices of intention to appear at the
briefing must be postmarked no later
than October 31, 2001.**ADDRESSES:** The briefing locations are:
U.S. Department of Labor, Francis
Perkins Building, 200 Constitution
Avenue, NW., Plaza Level
Auditorium, Washington, DC 20010.
Hilton Monterey, 1000 Oguajito Road,
Monterey, CA 93940.Send notices of intention to appear to:
Charlene Giles, U.S. Department of
Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW,Room C-4318, Washington, DC 20210.
Notices also may be faxed to Charlene
Giles at 202-693-2760 (this is not a toll-
free number), or submitted by e-mail at
dflc@uis.doleta.gov.**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**Charlene Giles; telephone 202-693-
2950. (This is not a toll-free number).**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The
informal public briefings will be chaired
by a senior official of the Employment
and Training Administration. Persons
appearing at the briefings will be
allowed to present their views and pose
questions to Department staff and other
parties presenting their views.Signed at Washington, DC, this 19th day of
October, 2001.**Emily Stover DeRocco,***Assistant Secretary for Employment and
Training.*

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BILLING CODE 4510-30-P**DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE****Drug Enforcement Administration****21 CFR Part 1310****[DEA-203P]****RIN 1117-AA52****Establishment of a Threshold for
Gamma-Butyrolactone****AGENCY:** Drug Enforcement
Administration (DEA), Justice.**ACTION:** Notice of proposed rulemaking
(NPRM).

SUMMARY: DEA is proposing a zero
kilogram threshold for domestic, export,
and import transactions of gamma-
butyrolactone (GBL), a List I chemical
and the precursor to gamma-
hydroxybutyric acid (GHB), a Schedule
I controlled substance. DEA is
concerned that GBL packaged in
individual containers is convenient to
traffickers and at risk of diversion.
Therefore, DEA is proposing to regulate
containers that can be easily
transported, stored, and generally dealt
with in clandestine settings.

However, most GBL produced is used
in captive markets or transported in
large quantities in single containers.
This material is less likely to be
diverted. Therefore, this NPRM
proposes to exempt from the definition
of a "regulated transaction" all
transactions of 16,000 kilograms (net
weight) or more in a single container.

Pub. L. 106-172, the "Hillory J. Farias
and Samantha Reid Date-Rape
Prohibition Act of 1999," made GBL a

List I chemical. Accordingly, DEA
published a Final Rule, on April 24,
2000, (65 FR 21645) conforming its
regulations to this Act and making GBL
a List I chemical. Because that Final
Rule did not establish a threshold, all
transactions in GBL are regulated
transactions as described by 21 CFR
1300.02(b)(28). The removal from the
definition of a "regulated transaction"
that DEA proposes in this NPRM for
large (i.e., over 16,000 kilograms)
transactions of GBL will help minimize
the potential impact of this rule on
legitimate industry while preventing
diversion.

DATES: Written comments must be
received on or before December 24,
2001.**ADDRESSES:** Comments should be
submitted to the Deputy Assistant
Administrator, Office of Diversion
Control, Drug Enforcement
Administration, Washington, DC 20537,
Attention: DEA Federal Register
Representative/CCR.**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**Frank L. Sapienza, Chief, Drug and
Chemical Evaluation Section, Office of
Division Control, Drug Enforcement
Administration, Washington, DC 20537.**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:****What Is GBL and Why Is It Being
Regulated Under the Controlled
Substances Act (CSA)?**

GBL is gamma-butyrolactone, the
precursor used in the clandestine
production of the Schedule I controlled
substance gamma-hydroxybutyric acid
(GHB). Since 1990, DEA has
documented over 15,600 overdoses and
law enforcement encounters in 46 states
with GHB. DEA has documented 71
GHB-related deaths. The GHB obtained
in the vast majority of these encounters
is by conversion of GBL.

GBL was placed in the CSA as a List
I chemical effective February 18, 2000,
by enactment of Pub. L. 106-172, the
"Hillory J. Farias and Samantha Reid
Date-Rape Prohibition Act of 1999" (65
FR 21645, April 24, 2000). That law,
however, did not establish a threshold.
As a result of the law not establishing
a threshold, all transactions in GBL are
regulated transactions as described in 21
CFR 1300.02(b)(28).

DEA has identified the source for
illicit GHB as being clandestinely
synthesized from GBL. Law enforcement
agencies have encountered GHB on at
least 1,700 occasions, including more
than 180 clandestine laboratories and
more than 750 seized and analyzed
laboratory exhibits. GHB has only
recently been scheduled in the CSA as