

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

## National Park Service

**Request for Comments on the National Park Service Franchise Fee Determination Guideline**

**SUMMARY:** The National Park Service (NPS) is considering revising that portion of its concession management guideline (NPS-48) that concerns the franchise fees to be charged NPS concessioners. This portion of NPS-48 (Chapter 24, Section D) was adopted on December 31, 1986, after receipt and consideration of public comment solicited by an August 7, 1985 **Federal Register** notice. It was amended on July 20, 1995, after consideration of public comment received in response to a January 17, 1995, **Federal Register** notice. It was clarified on August 11, 1997, after consideration of public comment received in response to a May 28, 1997, **Federal Register** notice.

NPS invites further public comment on Section D, Chapter 24, or NPS-48 in order to assist it in considering possible revisions to the document. Comments may suggest, among other matters, specific proposed changes to Section D as it now exists or alternative methods, in concept or in detail, for dealing with concession contract franchise fees. All written comments received will be duly considered by NPS.

**COMMENT DATE:** Comments on this notice must be received no later than January 5, 1998 to be assured of consideration.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** NPS notes that NPS-48 is an agency staff manual and as such is not required to be published in the **Federal Register** pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552 nor promulgated as a rule after public notice and comment pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 553. In addition, NPS notes that the rulemaking requirements of 5 U.S.C. 553, even if otherwise applicable to an agency staff manual such as NPS-48, are expressly not applicable to matters relating to agency management or personnel or to public property, loans, grants, benefits or contracts. NPS-48, as a matter concerning the administration of public property and contracts, falls within this exemption to the extent it may be considered a rule or regulation within the meaning of 5 U.S.C. 553. Nonetheless, NPS, as a matter of policy, seeks further public comment on Section D of Chapter 24, NPS-48, for the reasons stated above.

Dated: November 14, 1997.

**Robert K. Yearout,**

*Concession Program Manager.*

[FR Doc. 97-31890 Filed 12-4-97; 8:45 am]

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## INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

[Investigation 332-387]

**North American Free Trade Agreement: Probable Economic Effect on U.S. Industries and Consumers of Accelerated Elimination of U.S. Tariffs on Certain Articles From Mexico, Round Two**

**AGENCY:** United States International Trade Commission.

**ACTION:** Amendment to scope of the investigation.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** December 1, 1997.

**SUMMARY:** Following receipt on November 25, 1997, of a request from the Office of the United States Trade Representative (USTR), the Commission amended the scope of its investigation No. 332-387, North American Free Trade Agreement: Probable Economic Effect on U.S. Industries and Consumers of Accelerated Elimination of U.S. Tariffs on Certain Articles from Mexico, Round Two, to add three subheadings of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTS), 2918.90.05, 2918.90.43, and 2918.90.47, to the list of articles for which the USTR is seeking the Commission's advice. The purpose of the investigation, conducted under section 332(g) of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1332(g)), is to provide the President, with respect to specified articles, of the Commission's judgment as to the probable economic effect of the immediate elimination of the U.S. tariff under the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) on domestic industries producing like or directly competitive articles and on consumers.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** General information may be obtained from the project leader, Carl Seastrum (202-205-3493), Minerals, Metals, Machinery, and Miscellaneous Manufactures Division, Office of Industries, U.S. International Trade Commission, Washington, DC 20436. For information on the products listed in this expanded scope notice, contact Elizabeth Howlett (202-205-3365) of the Energy, Chemicals, and Textiles Division of the Office of Industries. For information on the legal aspects of this investigation, contact William Gearhart of the Office of the General Counsel (202-205-3091). The media should contact Margaret O'Laughlin, Office of External Relations (202-205-1819). Hearing impaired individuals are advised that information on this matter can be obtained by contacting the TDD terminal on (202) 205-1810.

## Background

The Commission's notice of institution of the investigation and the scheduling of a public hearing was published in the **Federal Register** of November 6, 1997 (62 FR 60100). As stated by the USTR in her letter of October 20, 1997, requesting the investigation, the Governments of the United States, Mexico, and Canada have agreed to enter into consultations to consider accelerated elimination of the import duty on certain articles. The accelerated elimination of tariffs in this second round of negotiations between the United States and Mexico will be pursued on a reciprocal basis in response to petitions submitted to the Governments of Canada, Mexico, and the United States. The USTR included with its original request a list of products to be considered for immediate reciprocal elimination of tariffs. The Commission will submit its report no later than February 17, 1998. USTR has indicated that it may classify all or part of the Commission's report as Confidential.

## Public Hearing

A public hearing will be held on January 7, 1998, and continuing, if necessary on January 8, 1998, as announced in the notice published on November 6, 1997. Persons wishing to appear at the public hearing to offer testimony concerning the probable economic effect of the immediate elimination of the U.S. tariffs on HTS subheadings 2918.90.05, 2918.90.43, and 2918.90.47 should file a request to testify with the Secretary, United States International Trade Commission, 500 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20436, not later than 5:15 p.m., December 18, 1997. Any prehearing briefs (original and 14 copies) should be filed not later than 5:15 p.m., December 19, 1997. For all other articles subject to this investigation, all the dates announced in the notice published on November 6, 1997, will remain the same.

## Written Submissions

In lieu of or in addition to participating in the hearing, interested parties are invited to submit written statements concerning the investigation. Written statements should be submitted by the close of business on January 14, 1998. Commercial or financial information that a submitter desires the

Commission to treat as confidential must be submitted on separate sheets of paper, each clearly marked "Confidential Business Information" at the top. All submissions requesting confidential treatment must conform with the requirements of section 201.6 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (19 CFR 201.6). All written submissions, except for confidential business information, will be made available in the Office of the Secretary to the Commission for inspection by the public. All submissions should be addressed to the Secretary, United States International Trade Commission, 500 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20436.

Persons with mobility impairments who will need special assistance in gaining access to the Commission should contact the Office of the Secretary at 202-205-2000. General information concerning the Commission may also be obtained by accessing its Internet server (<http://www.usitc.gov>).

Issued: December 2, 1997.

By order of the Commission.

**Donna R. Koehnke,**

*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 97-31924 Filed 12-4-97; 8:45 am]

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## INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

### Temporary Closure of the Law Library

**AGENCY:** United States International Trade Commission.

**ACTION:** Temporary closure to the public of the Commission's Law Library.

**SUMMARY:** Because of office relocations during painting and recarpeting, the Commission's Law Library will be closed to the public beginning Monday, December 15, 1997, and will be reopened to the public on Monday, January 5, 1998.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Steven J. Kover or Maureen E. Bryant, Law Librarians, Office of the General Counsel, U.S. International Trade Commission, 500 E Street, SW., Washington, DC 20436, telephone 202-205-3287.

Issued: December 2, 1997.

**Donna R. Koehnke,**

*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 97-31923 Filed 12-4-97; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

### Employment Standards Administration

#### Wage and Hour Division

#### Minimum wages for Federal and Federally Assisted Construction; General Wage Determination Decisions

General Wage determination decisions of the Secretary of Labor are issued in accordance with applicable law and are based on the information obtained by the Department of Labor from its study of local wage conditions and data made available from other sources. They specify the basic hourly wage rates and fringe benefits which are determined to be prevailing for the described classes of laborers and mechanics employed on construction projects of a similar character and in the localities specified therein.

The determinations in these decisions of prevailing rates and fringe benefits have been made in accordance with 29 CFR Part 1, by authority of the Secretary of Labor pursuant to the provisions of the Davis-Bacon Act of March 3, 1931, as amended (46 Stat. 1494, as amended, 40 U.S.C. 276a) and of other Federal statutes referred to in 29 CFR part 1, Appendix, as well as such additional statutes as may from time to time be enacted containing provisions for the payment of wages determined to be prevailing by the Secretary of Labor in accordance with the Davis-Bacon Act. The prevailing rates and fringe benefits determined in these decisions shall, in accordance with the provisions of the foregoing statutes, constitute the minimum wages payable on Federal and federally assisted construction projects to laborers and mechanics of the specified classes engaged on contract work of the character and in the localities described therein.

Good cause is hereby found for not utilizing notice and public comment procedure thereon prior to the issuance of these determinations as prescribed in 5 U.S.C. 553 and not providing for delay in the effective date as prescribed in that section, because the necessity to issue current construction industry wage determination frequently and in large volume causes procedures to be practical and contrary to the public interest.

General wage determination decisions, and modifications and supersedes decisions thereto, contain no expiration dates and are effective from their date of notice in the **Federal Register**, or on the date written notice is received by the agency, whichever is earlier. These decisions are to be used in accordance with the provisions of 29

CFR parts 1 and 5. Accordingly, the applicable decision, together with any modifications issued, must be made a part of every contract for performance of the described work within the geographic area indicated as required by an applicable Federal prevailing wage law and 29 CFR part 5. The wage rates and fringe benefits, notice of which is published herein, and which are contained in the Government Printing Office (GPO) document entitled "General Wage Determinations Issued Under The Davis-Bacon And Related Acts," shall be the minimum paid by contractors and subcontractors to laborers and mechanics.

Any person, organization, or governmental agency having an interest in the rates determined as prevailing is encouraged to submit wage rate and fringe benefit information for consideration by the Department. Further information and self-explanatory forms for the purpose of submitting this data may be obtained by writing to the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment Standards Administration, Wage and Hour Division, Division of Wage Determinations, 200 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Room S-3014, Washington, D.C. 20210.

#### Modifications to General Wage Determination Decisions

The number of decisions listed in the Government Printing Office document entitled "General Wage Determinations Issued Under the Davis-Bacon and Related Acts" being modified are listed by Volume and State. Dates of publication in the **Federal Register** are in parentheses following the decisions being modified.

##### Volume I

New York

NY970043 (Feb. 14, 1997)

##### Volume II

Maryland

MD970001 (Feb. 14, 1997)  
MD970002 (Feb. 14, 1997)  
MD970015 (Feb. 14, 1997)  
MD970023 (Feb. 14, 1997)  
MD970026 (Feb. 14, 1997)  
MD970031 (Feb. 14, 1997)  
MD970037 (Feb. 14, 1997)  
MD970046 (Feb. 14, 1997)  
MD970055 (Feb. 14, 1997)  
MD970056 (Feb. 14, 1997)  
MD970058 (Feb. 14, 1997)

Pennsylvania

PA970007 (Feb. 14, 1997)  
PA970008 (Feb. 14, 1997)  
PA970021 (Feb. 14, 1997)  
PA970023 (Feb. 14, 1997)  
PA970024 (Feb. 14, 1997)  
PA970040 (Feb. 14, 1997)  
PA970052 (Feb. 14, 1997)  
PA970054 (Feb. 14, 1997)  
PA970063 (Feb. 14, 1997)