

Orleans, LA, April 1, 1997 (OCS Oil RIK); and New Orleans, LA, April 2, 1997 (OCS Gas RIK). The meetings will commence at 9:30 a.m. on these respective dates and should end by 4:30 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** The meetings will be held at the following locations:

Minerals Management Service, Houston Area Audit Office, 4141 N. Sam Houston Parkway, Houston, Texas 77032-3843, (281) 987-6805;

Hilton Inn Casper, 800 N. Poplar Rd., Casper, Wyoming 82601, (307) 266-6000;

Minerals Management Service, Gulf of Mexico Regional Office, Elmwood Towers Building, Conference Rooms 111-115, 1201 Elmwood Park Boulevard, Jefferson, Louisiana 70123, (504) 736-2949.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Greg Smith, Minerals Management Service, P.O. Box 25165, Mail Stop 9130, Denver, CO, 80401, telephone number (303) 275-7102, fax (303) 275-7124; e-mail

Greg\_Smith@SMTP.MMS.GOV or contact Mr. Jim McNamee at the same address and fax, telephone number (303) 275-7126, e-mail

James\_McNamee@SMTP.MMS.GOV.

**COMMENTS:** Written comments on the meetings or the issues discussed below should be addressed to Mr. Greg Smith at the address given in the **FURTHER INFORMATION** section.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** MMS conducted a Royalty Gas Marketing Pilot in 1995 in the Gulf of Mexico. The MMS sold its royalty gas to competitively selected gas marketers. The MMS had two objectives in conducting the pilot: (1) streamline royalty collections, and (2) test a process which could result in increased efficiency and greater certainty in valuation.

MMS' assessment of the gas RIK pilot indicated that it was an operational success, proving that the concept of MMS taking and selling royalty gas in-kind is feasible. However, MMS' analysis of the gas RIK revenues, as compared to in-value royalties paid and administrative savings realized, was not favorable to MMS.

Congress has directed MMS to consider additional projects for taking oil and/or gas in-kind. MMS is currently considering a variety of RIK scenarios that would build on lessons learned from the 1995 Royalty Gas Marketing Pilot. Any further RIK projects undertaken by MMS would be intended to address specific operational and revenue issues necessary before any longer-term implementation. The

objectives of the proposed RIK options are to:

- Simplify the royalty collection process;
- Decrease administrative costs for both MMS and industry;
- Realize fair and equitable market value for the products;
- Provide certainty in royalty valuation;
- Decrease audit burden and appeal actions; and
- Provide MMS with alternative sources of data for use for in-value product valuation.

MMS is developing several options for taking Federal oil and gas in-kind. However, any new RIK programs will be separate from the current program of providing royalty oil in-kind to small refiners and will not involve production from Indian lands. The following are the general options being considered:

- Take OCS and onshore oil production in-kind; and
- Take OCS gas in-kind.

At the public meetings, MMS will present one or several specific options for taking royalties in-kind on a project/test basis. MMS will solicit public input at the meetings on the workability of these option(s). The issues that MMS would like to discuss at the meetings are presented below. The listing of issues is not necessarily complete but will be used as a starting point for the meetings.

1. Mandatory or voluntary participation;
2. Areas/leases to be selected for royalty in-kind projects;
3. Delivery points for RIK production: at the lease or various points away from the lease (e.g., first mainline interconnect, gas plant/refinery inlet, gas plant tailgate);
4. Transportation responsibility away from the lease (e.g., MMS, marketer, or lessee);
5. Aggregation of royalty volumes;
6. Pricing indicators to be used to assure a fair and equitable price for RIK production as well as certainty of price to industry;
7. Requirements to be placed on lessees (e.g., marketable condition, data submitted to MMS, coordination with purchasers); and
8. Requirements to be placed on purchasers (e.g., transportation of product away from the lease, data required by MMS, coordination with lessees, balancing, contract provisions concerning breach, payment terms).

MMS will more fully develop the RIK option(s) before the public meetings. Interested parties may request this information from the contacts listed in the **FURTHER INFORMATION** section.

Dated: February 14, 1997.

Robert E. Brown,

*Acting Associate Director, Policy and Management Improvement.*

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## INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

[Investigation No. 332-379]

### Likely Impact of Providing Quota-Free and Duty-Free Entry To Textiles and Apparel From Sub-Saharan Africa

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

**ACTION:** Institution of investigation and scheduling of hearing.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** February 10, 1997.

**SUMMARY:** Following receipt on January 14, 1997 of a request from the Committee on Ways and Means of the U.S. House of Representatives for an investigation under section 332(g) of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1332 (g)), the Commission instituted Investigation No. 332-379, Likely Impact of Providing Quota-Free and Duty-Free Entry to Textiles and Apparel from Sub-Saharan Africa. As requested by the Committee, the Commission will provide the following in its report—

- (1) A review of any relevant literature on this issue prepared by governmental and non-governmental organizations;
- (2) An assessment of the competitiveness of the textile and apparel industries in Sub-Saharan African countries, to the extent possible;
- (3) A qualitative and quantitative assessment of the economic impact on U.S. producers, workers, and consumers of quota-free entry for imports of textiles and apparel from Sub-Saharan Africa. This assessment will address the potential shifting of global textile and apparel production facilities to Sub-Saharan Africa that might occur as a result of the changes contained in proposed legislation [H.R. 4198, African Growth and Opportunity: The End of Dependency Act of 1996, introduced in the 104th Congress by Messrs. Crane, Rangel and McDermott]; and
- (4) A qualitative and quantitative assessment of the economic impact on U.S. producers, workers, and consumers of an elimination of the exclusion of textile and apparel products from Sub-Saharan African countries, from coverage under the Generalized System of Preferences in addition to quota-free entry for imports from these same countries.

The Committee also requested that the Commission attempt to identify the

specific types of textiles and apparel products that are most likely to be produced in Sub-Saharan African countries, and which would have the most significant impact on U.S. producers, workers, and consumers. As requested by the Committee, the Commission will seek to provide its advice not later than September 2, 1997.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Lee Cook, Office of Industries (202-205-3471) or Mary Elizabeth Sweet, Office of Industries (202-205-3455), or William Gearhart, Office of the General Counsel (202-205-3091) for information on legal aspects. 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

Among the provisions in H.R. 4198 is one relating to increased U.S. market access for textiles and apparel from Sub-Saharan Africa. According to the Committee's request, Sub-Saharan Africa supplied less than 1 percent, or about \$400 million, of U.S. imports of textiles and apparel in 1995. H.R. 4198 provides that, until imports of these articles from Sub-Saharan Africa reach a much higher level, the transitional safeguards provided in Article 6 of the Uruguay Round Agreement on Textiles and Clothing should not apply. In addition, H.R. 4198 would eliminate existing U.S. quotas on imports of textiles and apparel from Sub-Saharan Africa. The Sub-Saharan African countries currently covered by U.S. textiles and apparel quotas are Kenya and Mauritius.

The Sub-Saharan African countries covered in this investigation include the following 48 countries: Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, The Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, São Tomé and Príncipe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Swaziland, Togo, Tanzania, Uganda, Zaire, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

#### Public Hearing

A public hearing in connection with this investigation is scheduled to begin at 9:30 a.m. on May 1, 1997, at the U.S. International Trade Commission Building, 500 E Street SW., Washington,

D.C. All persons have the right to appear by counsel or in person, to present information, and to be heard. Persons wishing to appear at the public hearing should file a letter asking to testify with the Secretary, U.S. International Trade Commission, 500 E Street SW., Washington, DC 20436, not later than the close of business (5:15 p.m.) on April 17, 1997. In addition, persons testifying should file prehearing briefs (original and 14 copies) with the Secretary by the close of business on April 17, 1997. In the event that no requests to appear at the hearing are received by the close of business on April 17, 1997, the hearing will be canceled. Any person interested in attending the hearing as an observer or non-participant may call the Secretary (202-205-1816) after April 17, 1997 to determine whether the hearing will be held. Posthearing briefs/statements and other written submissions should be filed not later than the close of business on May 8, 1997.

#### Written Submissions

In lieu of or in addition to appearing at the public hearing, interested persons are invited to submit written statements concerning the investigation. Written statements should be received by the close of business on May 8, 1997. Commercial or financial information which 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 for inspection by interested persons. All submissions should be addressed to the Secretary at the Commission's office in Washington, D.C.

Issued: February 10, 1997

By order of the Commission.

Donna R. Koehnke,

Secretary.

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## JUDICIAL CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED STATES

### Committee on Automation and Technology; Notice of Opportunity To Comment and of Public Hearing on the ABA Citation Resolution

**AGENCY:** Judicial Conference of the United States, Committee on Automation and Technology.

**ACTION:** Notice of opportunity to comment and of public hearing on the ABA Citation Resolution.

In August 1996, the American Bar Association (ABA) approved a resolution made by its Special Committee on Citation Issues calling for state and federal courts to develop a standard citation system and recommending a format that could be used by state and federal courts. That resolution calls for courts to identify the citation on each decision at the time it is made available to the public. The ABA resolution is available through the Internet (<http://www.ABANET.ORG/citation/home.html>).

The federal judiciary seeks written public comments from judges, court personnel, the bar, and the public as to:

(1) Whether the federal courts should adopt the form of official citation for court decisions recommended by the ABA resolution; and,

(2) The costs and benefits such a decision would have on the courts, the bar, and the public.

In addition, a public hearing will be held on Thursday, April 3, beginning at 9 a.m. in the ceremonial courtroom of the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia, 3rd and Constitution Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. to address issues (1) and (2) stated above.

Persons and organizations wishing to submit written comments should do so by sending them to: Appellate Court and Circuit Administration Division, ATTN: ABA Citation Resolution, Suite 4-512, Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, Washington, D.C. 20544, Fax (202) 273-1555. *Internet address:* [citation@ao.uscourts.gov](mailto:citation@ao.uscourts.gov).

Submission of written comments is preferred in electronic form and should be sent to [citation@ao.uscourts.gov](mailto:citation@ao.uscourts.gov) in ASCII or WordPerfect 6.1 or earlier versions. Alternatively, comments may be submitted in printed form through mail or facsimile. Persons without access to Internet may send a diskette. If printed comments are submitted, ten copies should be provided. Written comments are due no later than Friday, March 14, 1997. All comments received will be considered public information.

Anyone submitting written comments who also is interested in testifying at the