

Asset Sales Program and to do and perform and to assent to the doing and performance of, all and every act and thing requisite and proper to effectuate the powers granted herein.

8. To certify true copies of any records, papers, documents or instruments in the possession of the Agency, to certify the nonexistence of records; and to cause the Seal of the Small Business Administration to be affixed to all such certifications.

9. The authority and powers delegated herein may not be re-delegated.

B. The Administrator of the Small Business Administration (the "Agency") Aida Alvarez pursuant to the authority vested in her by the Small Business Act, 72 Stat. 384, as amended and the Small Business Investment Act of 1958, 72 Stat. 689 as amended, hereby delegates to the Deputy Administrator the following authority:

To approve the selection of the successful bidder or bidders for any asset sale conducted by the Agency. The Deputy Administrator's approval of all bids will be based on the advice and recommendation of a committee consisting of the Chief Financial Officer, Chief Operating Officer, General Counsel, Associate Administrator for Financial Assistance, and the Associate Deputy Administrator for Capital Access.

**Aida Alvarez,**  
Administrator.

[FR Doc. 99-14715 Filed 6-9-99; 8:45 am]

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## OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

### Trade Policy Staff Committee; Public Comments on the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act: Report to Congress

**AGENCY:** Office of the United States Trade Representative.

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** Section 221(f) of the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Expansion Act of 1990 (19 U.S.C. 2702(f)) ("the Act") requires the Administration to submit a report to the Congress on or before October 1, 1999 regarding the operation of the program. All interested parties are invited to submit comments relevant to the issues to be examined in preparing such a report, including the considerations included in subsections 212(b) and (c) of the Act (19 U.S.C. 2702(b) and (c)).

**DATES:** Public comments are due by noon on Wednesday, June 30, 1999.

**ADDRESSES:** Office of the United States Trade Representative, 600 17th Street, NW., Room 523, Washington, DC 20508.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** James M. Roberts, Director for Central American and Caribbean Affairs, (202)-395-5190).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Section 212(f) (19 U.S.C. 2702(f)) of the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act states:

On or before October 1, 1993, and the close of each 3-year period thereafter, the President shall submit to the Congress a complete report regarding the operation of this title, including the results of a general review of beneficiary countries based on the consideration described in subsections (b) and (c).

The Chairman of the Trade Policy Staff Committee invites written comments from the public relevant to the program's operation, including the status of beneficiary countries under the criteria set out below. Interested parties may comment on any aspect of the program's operation. Issues to be examined include: The program's effect on the volume and composition of trade and investment between the United States and the region; its effect on economic growth and development of beneficiary countries; the effect on U.S. firms and consumers; the degree to which the Act has encouraged the trade and investment policies cited in the Act; and the administrative requirements for beneficiary exporters and U.S. importers.

Interested parties are also asked to comment on the following Act designation criteria as contained in sections 212(b) and (c) of the Act:

(b) \* \* \* In addition, the President shall not designate any country a beneficiary country under this title—

(1) If such country is a Communist country;

(2) If such country

(A) Has nationalized, expropriated or otherwise seized ownership or control of property owned by a United States citizen or by a corporation, partnership, or association which is 50 per centum or more beneficially owned by United States citizens,

(B) Has taken steps to repudiate or nullify—

(i) Any existing contract or agreement with, or

(ii) Any patent, trademark or other intellectual property of, a United States citizen or a corporation, partnership, or association which is 50 per centum or more beneficially owned by United States citizens, the effect of which is to nationalize, expropriate, or otherwise seize ownership or control of property so owned, or

(C) Has imposed or enforced taxes or other exactions, restrictive maintenance or operational conditions, or other measures with respect to property so owned, the effect of which is to nationalize, expropriate, or otherwise seize ownership or control of such property, unless the President determines that—

(i) Prompt, adequate, and effective compensation has been or is being made to such citizen, corporation, partnership, or association,

(ii) Good-faith negotiations to provide prompt, adequate, and effective compensation under the applicable provisions of international law are in progress, or such country is otherwise taking steps to discharge its obligations under international law with respect to such citizen, corporation, partnership, or association, or

(iii) A dispute involving such citizen, corporation, partnership, or association, over compensation for such a seizure has been submitted to arbitration under the provisions of the Convention for the Settlement of Investment Disputes, or in another mutually agreed upon forum, and promptly furnishes a copy of such determination to the Senate and House of Representatives;

(3) If such country fails to act in good faith in recognizing as binding or in enforcing arbitral awards in favor of United States citizens or a corporation, partnership or association which is 50 per centum or more beneficially owned by United States citizens, which have been made by arbitrators appointed for each case or by permanent arbitral bodies to which the parties involved have submitted their dispute;

(4) If such country affords preferential treatment to the products of a developed country, other than the United States, which has, or is likely to have, a significant adverse effect on United States commerce, unless the President has received assurances satisfactory to him that such preferential treatment will be eliminated or that action will be taken to assure that there will be no such significant adverse effect, and he reports those assurances to the Congress;

(5) If a government-owned entity in such country engages in the broadcast of copyrighted material, including films or television material, belonging to United States copyright owners without their express consent;

(6) Unless such country is a signatory to a treaty, convention, protocol, or other agreement regarding the extradition of United States citizens; and

(7) If such country has not or is not taking steps to afford internationally

recognized worker rights (as defined in section 502(a)(4) of the Trade Act of 1974) to workers in the country (including any designated zone in that country).

Paragraphs (1), (2), (3), (5), and (7) shall not prevent the designation of any country as a beneficiary country under this Act if the President determines that such designation will be in the national economic or security interest of the United States and reports such determination to the Congress with his reasons therefor.

(c) In determining whether to designate any country a beneficiary country under this title, the President shall take into account—

(1) An expressions by such country of its desire to be so designated;

(2) The economic conditions in such country, the living standards of its inhabitants, and any other economic factors which he deems appropriate;

(3) The extent to which such country has assured the United States it will provide equitable and reasonable access to the markets and basic commodity resources of such country;

(4) The degree to which such country follows the accepted rules of international trade provided for under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, as well as applicable trade agreements approved under section 2(a) of the Trade Agreements Act of 1979;

(5) The degree to which such country uses export subsidies or imposes export performance requirements or local content requirements which distort international trade;

(6) The degree to which the trade policies of such country as they relate to other beneficiary countries are contributing to the revitalization of the region;

(7) The degree to which such country is undertaking self-help measures to promote its own economic development;

(8) Whether or not such country has taken or is taking steps to afford to workers in that country (including any designated zone in that country) internationally recognized worker rights.

(9) The extent to which such country provides under its law adequate and effective means for foreign nationals to secure, exercise, and enforce exclusive rights in intellectual property, including patent, trademark, and copyright rights;

(10) The extent to which such country prohibits its nationals from engaging in the broadcast of copyrighted material, including films or television material, belonging to United States copyright owners without their express consent; and

(11) The extent to which such country is prepared to cooperate with the United States in the administration of the provisions of this title.

Persons submitting written comments should provide a statement in twenty copies, by noon, Wednesday, June 30, 1999, to Gloria Blue, Executive Secretary, TPSC, Office of the U.S. Trade Representative, Room 501, 600 176th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20508. Non-confidential information received will be available for public inspection by appointment, in the USTR Reading Room, Room 101, Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 12 noon and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. For an appointment call Brenda Webb on 202-395-6186. Business confidential information will be subject to the requirements of 15 CFR 2003.6. Any business confidential material must be clearly marked as such on the cover letter or page and each succeeding page, and must be accompanied by a non-confidential summary thereof.

**Frederick L. Montgomery,**  
*Chairman, Trade Policy Staff Committee.*  
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## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Office of the Secretary

[OST-1999-5631]

#### The Interagency Task Force on the Roles and Missions of the U.S. Coast Guard

**AGENCY:** Office of the Secretary, DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice reopening public comment period.

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces that we are reopening until July 15, 1999, the period for submitting comments on the roles and missions of the U.S. Coast Guard. The original comment period ended on June 1, 1999.

**DATES:** Comments are now due July 15, 1999.

**ADDRESSES:** Your written comments must be signed and refer to docket number OST-199-5631. Send them to the Docket Clerk, U.S. DOT Dockets, Room PL-401, 400 7th Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590-0001. All comments received will be available for public examination at this address between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m., ET. Monday through Friday, except Federal Holidays. Persons who wish notification of the receipt of their comments must include a self-addressed, stamped envelope or postcard.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** John Crowley, Jr., Interagency Task Force on the Roles and Missions of the U.S. Coast Guard, 1111 Jefferson Davis Highway, Suite 502 West Tower, Arlington, VA 22302, telephone (703) 416-0192, facsimile (703) 416-6793.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The President has directed an independent study on the appropriate roles and missions of the U.S. Coast Guard through year 2020. The Interagency Task Force on the Roles and Missions of the U.S. Coast Guard will seek to identify and distinguish which Coast Guard roles, missions, and functions: (a) Might be added or enhanced; (b) might be maintained at current levels of performance; or (c) might be reduced or eliminated. The Task Force will also consider whether private organizations, public authorities, local or State governments, or other federal agencies might better perform current Coast Guard roles, missions, and functions. The Task Force will also consider the impact on Coast Guard roles, missions, and functions of future prospects in the areas of technology, demographics, the law of the sea, national security, etc.

On May 10, 1999, the Office of the Secretary of Transportation published a notice seeking public comment on the roles and missions of the U.S. Coast Guard to help the Task Force determine whether those roles and missions are still appropriate. The Coast Guard has received several requests for more time to comment.

This notice reopens the comment period until July 15, 1999, to provide the public with additional time to review and comment on the roles and missions of the U.S. Coast Guard. It should not disadvantage any person, and will give the Task Force the benefit of additional informed comments.

Issued in Washington, DC on June 3, 1999.

**Nancy McFadden,**  
*General Counsel.*

[FR Doc. 99-14773 Filed 6-9-99; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Highway Administration

#### Environmental Impact Statement: King County, WA

**AGENCY:** Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice of intent.

**SUMMARY:** The FHWA is issuing this notice to advise the public that an environmental impact statement will be prepared for proposed redevelopment of