

meaningful and alert an agency to the reviewer's position and contentions. *Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corp v. NRDC*, 435 U.S. 519, (1978). Also, environmental objections that could be raised at the draft environmental impact statement stage but are not raised until after completion of the final environmental impact statement may be waived or dismissed by the courts. *City of Angoon v. Hodel*, 803 F.2d 1016, 1022 (9th Cir. 1986) and *Wisconsin Heritages, Inc. v. Harris*, 490 F. Supp. 1334, 1338 (E.D. Wis. 1980). Because of these court rulings, it is very important that those interested in this proposed action participate by the close of the 45-day comment period of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement so that substantive comments and objections are made available to the Forest Service at a time when it can meaningfully consider them and respond to them in the Final Environmental Impact Statement. Agency representatives and other interested people are invited to visit with Forest Service officials at any time during the EIS process.

To assist the Forest Service in identifying and considering issues and concerns on the proposed action, comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement should be as specific as possible. It is also helpful if comments refer to specific pages or chapters of the Draft. Comments may also address the adequacy of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement or the merits of the alternatives formulated and discussed in the statement. Reviewers may wish to refer to the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations for implementing the procedural provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act at 40 CFR 1503.3 in addressing these points. Comments received in response to this solicitation, including names and addresses of those who comment, will be considered part of the public record on this proposed action and will be available for public inspection. Comments submitted anonymously will be accepted and considered; however, those who submit anonymous comments will not have standing to appeal the subsequent decision under 36 CFR 215 or 217. Additionally, pursuant to 7 CFR 1.27(d), any person may request the agency to withhold a submission from the public record by showing how the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) permits such confidentiality.

Persons requesting such confidentiality should be aware that, under the FOIA, confidentiality may be granted in only limited circumstances, such as to protect trade secrets. The

Forest Service will inform the requester of the agency's decision regarding the request for confidentiality, and where the request is denied, the agency will return the submission and notify the requester that the comments may be resubmitted with or without name and address within 10 days.

Dated: June 14, 1999.

Jerry B. Reese,

Forest Supervisor, Caribou National Forest, Intermountain Region, USDA Forest Service.
[FR Doc. 99-15885 Filed 6-22-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Housing Service

Request for Extension of a Currently Approved Information Collection

AGENCY: Rural Housing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Proposed collection; comments requested.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the Rural Housing Service's (RHS) intention to request an extension for a currently approved information collection in support of the program for "Self-Help Technical Assistance Grants" (RD Instruction 1944-I).

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by August 23, 1999 to be assured of consideration.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Lucia A. McKinney, Senior Loan Specialist, Single Family Housing Direct Loan Division, Rural Housing Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Ag Box 0783, Washington, DC 20250, Telephone (202) 720-1457.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Self-Help Technical Assistance Grants.

OMB Number: 0575-0043.

Expiration Date of Approval: September 30, 1999.

Type of Request: Extension of a currently approved information collection.

Abstract: This subpart set forth the policies and procedures and delegates authority for providing Technical Assistance funds to eligible applicants to finance programs of technical and supervisory assistance for self-help housing, as authorized under Section 523 of the Housing Act of 1949 loan program under 42 U.S.C. 1472. This financial assistance may pay part of all of the cost of developing, administering or coordinating program of technical and supervisory assistance to aid very low- and low-income families in

carrying out self-help housing efforts in rural areas. The primary purpose is to fund organizations that are willing to locate and work with families that otherwise do not qualify as homeowners, are below the 50 percent of median incomes, and living in substandard housing.

RHS will be collecting information from non-profit organizations to enter into grant agreements. These non-profit organizations will give technical and supervisory assistance, and in doing so, they must develop a final application for Section 523 grant funds. This application includes Agency forms that contain essential information for making a determination of eligibility.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting for this collection of information is estimated to average .91 hours per response.

Respondents: Individual or households.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 100.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 34.35.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 3,121 hours.

Copies of this information collection can be obtained from Jean Mosley, Regulations and Paperwork Management Branch at (202) 692-0041.

Comments: Comments are invited on:

(a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of Rural Housing Service, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of Rural Housing Service's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Comments may be sent to Jean Mosley, Regulations and Paperwork Management Branch, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Ag Box 0742, Washington, D.C. 20250. All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will also become a matter of public record.

Dated: June 7, 1999.

Eileen M. Fitzgerald,

Acting Administrator, Rural Housing Service.

[FR Doc. 99-16015 Filed 6-22-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-XV-U

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[A-580-840]

Initiation of Antidumping Duty Investigation: Acrylonitrile Butadiene Rubber From the Republic of Korea

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

EFFECTIVE DATE: June 23, 1999.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Marian Wells, Annika O'Hara, or Ryan Langan, Office One, AD/CVD Enforcement, Import Administration, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 3099, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20230; telephone: (202) 482-6309, 482-3798, and 482-1279, respectively.

Initiation of Investigation

The Applicable Statute and Regulations

Unless otherwise indicated, all citations to the statute are references to the provisions effective January 1, 1995, the effective date of the amendments made to the Tariff Act of 1930 as amended ("the Act") by the Uruguay Round Agreements Act ("URAA"). In addition, unless otherwise indicated, all citations to the Department's regulations are to the provisions codified at 19 CFR Part 351 (1998).

The Petition

On May 27, 1999, the Department of Commerce ("the Department") received a petition filed in proper form by Zeon Chemicals L.P. and Uniroyal Chemical Company, Inc., hereinafter collectively referred to as "the petitioners."

In accordance with section 732(b) of the Act, the petitioners allege that imports of acrylonitrile butadiene rubber from the Republic of Korea ("Korea") are being, or are likely to be, sold in the United States at less than fair value within the meaning of section 731 of the Act and that such imports are both materially injuring and threatening material injury to an industry in the United States.

The Department finds that the petitioners filed this petition on behalf of the domestic industry because they are interested parties as defined in section 771(9)(C) of the Act and because

the petitioners have demonstrated that they represent, at a minimum, the required proportion of the United States industry (see "Determination of Industry Support for the Petition" section, below).

Scope of the Investigation

The product covered by this investigation is commonly referred to as acrylonitrile butadiene rubber or nitrile rubber ("NBR"). NBR is a synthetic rubber produced by the copolymerization of butadiene and acrylonitrile. NBR is sold in bale, slab, crumb, powder and latex form. NBR in the latex form is excluded from the scope of this investigation. Also excluded from the scope of this investigation is NBR containing additives, NBR containing rubber processing chemicals, and NBR containing other materials used for further processing beyond the copolymerization process. The merchandise subject to this investigation is classified in the *Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States* ("HTSUS") at subheading 4002.59.00. Although the HTSUS subheading is provided for convenience and customs purposes, the written description of the merchandise under investigation is dispositive.

During our review of the petition, we discussed the scope of the investigation with the petitioners to ensure that the scope language accurately reflects the product for which the domestic industry is seeking relief. Moreover, as discussed in the preamble to our regulations (62 FR 27323), we are setting aside a period for parties to raise issues regarding product coverage. The Department encourages all parties to submit such comments within 20 days of publication of this notice. Comments should be addressed to Import Administration's Central Records Unit at Room 1870, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20230. The period of scope consultations is intended to provide the Department with ample opportunity to consider all comments and consult with parties prior to the issuance of its preliminary determination.

Determination of Industry Support for the Petition

Section 732(b)(1) of the Act requires that a petition be filed on behalf of the domestic industry. Section 732(c)(4)(A) of the Act provides that a petition meets this requirement if the domestic producers or workers who support the petition account for: (1) At least 25 percent of the total production of the

domestic like product; and (2) more than 50 percent of the production of the domestic like product produced by that portion of the industry expressing support for, or opposition to, the petition.

Section 771(4)(A) of the Act defines the "industry" as "the producers as a whole of a domestic like product." Thus, to determine whether the petition has the requisite industry support, the statute directs the Department to look to producers and workers who account for production of the domestic like product. The International Trade Commission ("ITC"), which is responsible for determining whether "the domestic industry" has been injured, must also determine what constitutes a domestic like product in order to define the industry. While both the Department and the ITC must apply the same statutory definition regarding the domestic like product, they do so for different purposes and pursuant to separate and distinct authority. In addition, the Department's determination is subject to limitations of time and information. Although this may result in different definitions of the domestic like product, such differences do not render the decision of either agency contrary to the law.¹ Section 771(10) of the Act defines the domestic like product as "a product which is like, or in the absence of like, most similar in characteristics and uses with, the article subject to an investigation under this title." Thus, the reference point from which the analysis of the domestic like product begins is "the article subject to an investigation," i.e., the class or kind of merchandise to be investigated, which normally will be the scope as defined in the petition.

The domestic like product identified in the petition is the single domestic like product defined in the "Scope of Investigation" section, above. The Department has no basis on the record to find this definition of the domestic like product to be inaccurate. Therefore, the Department has adopted this definition of the domestic like product.

In this case, the Department has determined that the petition contains evidence of sufficient industry support. Therefore, polling was not necessary. See Initiation Checklist dated June 16, 1999 (the public version is on file in the Central Records Unit of the Department of Commerce, Room B-099). Based on the record evidence, the producers who

¹ See *Algoma Steel Corp. Ltd., v. United States*, 688 F. Supp. 639, 642-44 (CIT 1988); *High Information Content Flat Panel Displays and Display Glass from Japan: Final Determination; Rescission of Investigation and Partial Dismissal of Petition*, 56 FR 32376, 32380-81 (July 16, 1991).