

owned banks

As part of their Government Policy Lending allegation, petitioners include loan guarantees. To support this allegation, they point to a provincial guarantee program. However, the supporting evidence indicates that this program is for small and medium size enterprises, a non-specific group under our regulations. See 19 C.F.R. 351.502(e). Accordingly, we do not plan to investigate loan guarantees from government-owned banks.

7. Program to rebate antidumping legal fees in Shenzhen province

Petitioners allege that the GOC is reimbursing legal fees to local companies located in the Shenzhen province that are facing antidumping duty investigations abroad. However, petitioners did not demonstrate that producers of LWR pipe and tube are located in the Shenzhen Province or explain why such information is unavailable. Therefore, we do not recommend investigating the program to rebate antidumping legal fees in the Shenzhen province.

8. Export interest subsidy funds for enterprises located in Shenzhen province

Petitioners allege that producers of LWR pipe and tube with specific export volumes are eligible for export interest subsidies for merchandise produced in the Shenzhen province. However, petitioners did not demonstrate that producers of LWR pipe and tube are located in the Shenzhen province, or explain why such information is unavailable. Therefore, we do not recommend investigating the program for export interest subsidy funds for enterprises located in Shenzhen province.

9. Funds for "outward expansion" of industries in Guangdong province

Petitioners allege that eligible LWR pipe and tube producers in the Guangdong province may apply for special funding for the development of export activities. However, Petitioners did not demonstrate that producers of LWR pipe and tube are located in the Guangdong province or explain why such information is unavailable. Therefore, we do not recommend investigating the program of the funds for outward expansion of industries in Guangdong province.

10. Domestic VAT refunds for companies located in the Hainan economic development zone

This program was found to be preliminarily countervailable in CFS Investigation. See *Coated Free Sheet Paper from the People's Republic of China; Amended Preliminary Affirmative Countervailing Duty*

*Determination*, 72 FR 17484, 17496 (April 9, 2007) ("*CFS Investigation*"). However, petitioners did not demonstrate that producers of LWR pipe and tube are located in the Hainan economic development zone or explain why such information is unavailable. Therefore, we do not recommend investigating the program on domestic VAT refunds for companies located in the Hainan economic development zone.

For further information explaining why the Department is not initiating an investigation of these programs, see *China Initiation Checklist*.

#### Application of the Countervailing Duty Law to the PRC

Petitioners argue that the Department recently concluded that CVD law may be applied to the present-day Chinese economy and, thus, the Department should continue to find that the countervailing duty law applies to the PRC in this investigation. See Petition, Volume III, at page 2 (citing *CFS Investigation*, 72 FR 17484, 17486; and Memorandum for David M. Spooner, Assistant Secretary for Import Administration, entitled "Countervailing Duty Investigation of Coated Free Sheet Paper from The People's Republic of China - Whether the Analytic Elements of the Georgetown Steel Opinion are Applicable to China's Present-Day Economy," (March 29, 2007) (citing *Georgetown Steel Corp. v. United States*, 801 F.2d 1308 (Fed. Cir. 1986) ("*Georgetown Steel*") ("*Georgetown Steel Memorandum*").

The Department has treated the PRC as a non-market economy ("NME") country in all past antidumping duty investigations and administrative reviews. In accordance with section 771(18)(C)(i) of the Act, any determination that a country is an NME country shall remain in effect until revoked by the administering authority. See *Tapered Roller Bearings and Parts Thereof, Finished and Unfinished, ("TRBs") From the People's Republic of China: Preliminary Results of 2001-2002 Administrative Review and Partial Rescission of Review*, 68 FR 7500, 7500-1 (February 14, 2003), unchanged in *TRBs from the People's Republic of China: Final Results of 2001-2002 Administrative Review*, 68 FR 70488, 70488-89 (December 18, 2003). In the *CFS Investigation*, the Department preliminarily determined that the current nature of China's economy does not create obstacles to applying the necessary criteria in the CVD law. As such, the Department determined that the policy that gave rise to the

*Georgetown Steel* litigation does not prevent us from concluding that the PRC government has bestowed a countervailable subsidy upon a Chinese producer. See *Georgetown Steel Memorandum*. Therefore, because petitioners have provided sufficient allegations and support for their allegations to meet the statutory criteria for initiating a countervailing duty investigation of LWR pipe and tube from the PRC, we continue to find that *Georgetown Steel* does not preclude us from initiating this investigation. For further information, see *China Initiation Checklist*.

#### Distribution of Copies of the Petition

In accordance with section 702(b)(4)(A)(i) of the Act, a copy of the public version of the petition has been provided to the Government of the PRC. As soon as and to the extent practicable, we will attempt to provide a copy of the public version of the petition to each exporter named in the petition, consistent with 19 CFR 351.203(c)(2).

#### ITC Notification

We have notified the ITC of our initiation, as required by section 702(d) of the Act.

#### Preliminary Determination by the ITC

The ITC will preliminarily determine, within 25 days after the date on which it receives notice of the initiation, whether there is a reasonable indication that imports of subsidized LWR pipe and tube from the PRC are causing material injury, or threatening to cause material injury, to a U.S. industry. See section 703(a)(2) of the Act. A negative ITC determination will result in the investigation being terminated; otherwise, the investigation will proceed according to statutory and regulatory time limits.

This notice is issued and published pursuant to section 777(i) of the Act.

Dated: July 17, 2007.

**Joseph A. Spetrini,**

*Deputy Assistant Secretary for Import Administration.*

[FR Doc. E7-14277 Filed 7-19-07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-DS-S

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Institute of Standards and Technology

### Visiting Committee on Advanced Technology

**AGENCY:** National Institute of Standards and Technology, Department of Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice of Public Meeting.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. app. 2, notice is hereby given that the Visiting Committee on Advanced Technology (VCAT), National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), will meet Tuesday, August 14, from 8:10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Wednesday, August 15, from 8:45 a.m. to 12 p.m. The Visiting Committee on Advanced Technology is composed of fifteen members appointed by the Director of NIST who are eminent in such fields as business, research, new product development, engineering, labor, education, management consulting, environment, and international relations.

The purpose of this meeting is to review and make recommendations regarding general policy for the Institute, its organization, its budget, and its programs within the framework of applicable national policies as set forth by the President and the Congress. The agenda will include an update on NIST with an overview of its role in U.S. science and technology. Several laboratory tours also will be featured. The meeting will conclude with an extended discussion on the overall role NIST plays in the nation's innovation enterprise. The agenda may change to accommodate committee business. The final agenda will be posted on the NIST Web site at <http://www.nist.gov/director/vcat/agenda.htm>.

**DATES:** The meeting will convene on August 14, 2007 at 8:10 a.m. and will adjourn on August 15, 2007 at 12 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held in Building 1, Room 1107, at NIST, Boulder, Colorado. All visitors to the NIST site will have to pre-register to be admitted. Please submit your name, time of arrival, e-mail address and phone number to Denise Herbert no later than Thursday, August 9, and she will provide you with instructions for admittance. Ms. Herbert's e-mail address is [denise.herbert@nist.gov](mailto:denise.herbert@nist.gov) and her phone number is (301) 975-2300.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Denise Herbert, Visiting Committee on Advanced Technology, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Gaithersburg, Maryland 20899-1000, telephone number (301) 975-2300.

Dated: July 17, 2007.

**James M. Turner,**  
Deputy Director.

[FR Doc. E7-14334 Filed 7-23-07; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-13-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE****National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

**RIN 0648-XB16**

**Marine Mammals; File No. 814-1899**

**AGENCY:** National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice; issuance of permit.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that North Slope Borough Department of Wildlife Management, P.O. Box 69, Barrow, AK 99723 [Taulik Hepa, Responsible Party; Dr. Cheryl Rosa, Principal Investigator] has been issued a scientific research permit to collect and acquire marine mammal specimens from the following species: bearded seal (*Erignathus barbatus*), ringed seal (*Phoca hispida*), spotted seal (*Phoca largata*), and ribbon seal (*Phoca fasciata*), bowhead whale (*Balaena mysticetus*), beluga whale (*Delphinapterus leucas*), minke whale (*Balaenoptera acutorostrata*), and grey whale (*Eschrichtius robustus*).

**ADDRESSES:** The permit and related documents are available for review upon written request or by appointment in the following offices:

Permits, Conservation and Education Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13705, Silver Spring, MD 20910; phone (301)713-2289; fax (301)427-2521; and Alaska Region, NMFS, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, AK 99802-1668; phone (907)586-7221; fax (907)586-7249.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Jennifer Skidmore or Amy Sloan, (301)713-2289.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On April 27, 2007, notice was published in the **Federal Register** (72 FR 20994) that a request for a scientific research permit to the marine mammal species identified above had been submitted by the above-named organization. The requested permit has been issued under the authority of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*), the regulations governing the taking and importing of marine mammals (50 CFR part 216), the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*), and the regulations governing the taking, importing, and exporting of endangered and threatened species (50 CFR parts 222-226).

The tissues collected/acquired by the North Slope Borough Department of Wildlife Management under this permit

would be utilized in a variety of health-related analyses, including (but not limited to): tissue histology, contaminants analyses (elemental analyses, PAH/organochlorine analyses etc.), infectious disease research (culture, PCR analyses), parasitology studies and stable isotope work. Additionally, tissues would be collected to augment the Alaskan Marine Mammal Tissue Archival Project (AMMTAP). No animals would be killed for the purpose of providing samples under this permit. Locations of collections would be from the Northwest Arctic Borough (St. Lawrence Island, Diomede, Wales and Kivalina) and the North Slope Borough, Alaska. This effort would provide critical baseline data and would be part of a long-term monitoring project being undertaken by the North Slope Borough Department of Wildlife Management in response to public concerns about the safety and health of their subsistence species. This permit has been issued for a period of 5 years.

In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), a final determination has been made that the activity proposed is categorically excluded from the requirement to prepare an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement.

Issuance of this permit, as required by the ESA, was based on a finding that such permit: (1) was applied for in good faith; (2) will not operate to the disadvantage of such endangered species; and (3) is consistent with the purposes and policies set forth in section 2 of the ESA.

Dated: July 18, 2007.

**P. Michael Payne,**

Chief, Permits, Conservation and Education Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.

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**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE****National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

**RIN 0648-XB62**

**Caribbean Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting**

**AGENCY:** National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice of public meetings.