

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**Foreign-Trade Zones Board****(Docket 19-2008)****Foreign-Trade Zone 122 – Corpus Christi, Texas, Application for Subzone, Haliburton Energy Services, Inc., (Barite Grinding and Milling), Corpus Christi, Texas**

An application has been submitted to the Foreign-Trade Zones Board (the Board) by the Port of Corpus Christi Authority, grantee of Foreign-Trade Zone (FTZ) 122, requesting special-purpose subzone status for the barite grinding and milling facility of Haliburton Energy Services, Inc. (HESI) located in Corpus Christi, Texas. The application was submitted pursuant to the provisions of the Foreign-Trade Zones Act, as amended (19 U.S.C. 81a-81u), and the regulations of the Board (15 CFR Part 400). It was formally filed on April 1, 2008.

The HESI facility (12 acres, 15 employees) is located at 2600 Navigation Boulevard, in Corpus Christi. The facility is used for the manufacturing, warehousing and distribution activities related to the processing of raw barite (HTSUS 2511.10.50) into ground barite (HTSUS 2511.10.10) (up to 160,000 tons annually). Ground barite is used in the production of drilling fluids (drilling mud) and various specialty chemicals for use by the oil and natural gas exploration industry. HESI sources the majority of its raw barite from abroad. The duty rate on the imported raw barite is \$1.25 per metric ton.

This application requests authority for HESI to conduct the activity under FTZ procedures, which would exempt the company from customs duty payments on the imported barite used in export production. Less than one percent of production is exported. On domestic sales, the company could choose the duty rate (duty-free) for the imported raw barite used in manufacturing that applies to the finished product. The majority of FTZ-related savings will come from the elimination of the duty on the finished product. HESI will also realize additional savings on the elimination of duties on materials that become scrap/waste during manufacturing. The application indicates that the FTZ-related savings would improve the plant's international competitiveness.

In accordance with the Board's regulations, Christopher Kemp of the FTZ staff is designated examiner to investigate the application and report to the Board.

Public comment is invited from interested parties. Submissions (original and 3 copies) shall be addressed to the Board's Executive Secretary at the address listed below. The closing period for their receipt is June 16, 2008. Rebuttal comments in response to material submitted during the foregoing period may be submitted during the subsequent 15-day period (to June 30, 2008).

A copy of the application and accompanying exhibits will be available at each of the following addresses: Port of Corpus Christi Authority, 222 Power Street, Corpus Christi, Texas 78401; and, Office of the Executive Secretary, Foreign-Trade Zones Board, Room 2111, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Ave, NW, Washington, D.C. 20230. For further information contact Christopher Kemp at christopher_kemp@ita.doc.gov or (202) 482-0862.

Dated: April 1, 2008.

Andrew McGilvray,*Executive Secretary.*

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BILLING CODE 3510-DS-S**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE****Foreign-Trade Zones Board****(Docket 22-2008)****Foreign-Trade Zone 2 New Orleans, Louisiana, Application for Subzone, Haliburton Energy Services, Inc. (Barite Grinding and Milling) New Orleans, Louisiana**

An application has been submitted to the Foreign-Trade Zones Board (the Board) by the Port of New Orleans, grantee of Foreign-Trade Zone (FTZ) 2, requesting special-purpose subzone status for the barite grinding and milling facility of Haliburton Energy Services, Inc. (HESI) located in New Orleans, Louisiana. The application was submitted pursuant to the provisions of the Foreign-Trade Zones Act, as amended (19 U.S.C. 81a-81u), and the regulations of the Board (15 CFR Part 400). It was formally filed on April 1, 2008.

The HESI facility (12 acres, 18 employees) is located within the 14-acre Port of New Orleans property located at 8000 Jourdan Road, in New Orleans. The facility is used for the manufacturing, warehousing and distribution activities related to the processing of raw barite (HTSUS 2511.10.50) into ground barite (HTSUS 2511.10.10) (up to 480,000 tons annually). Ground barite is used in the

production of drilling fluids (drilling mud) and various specialty chemicals for use by the oil and natural gas exploration industry. HESI sources the majority of its raw barite from abroad. The duty rate on the imported raw barite is \$1.25 per metric ton.

This application requests authority for HESI to conduct the activity under FTZ procedures, which would exempt the company from customs duty payments on the imported barite used in export production. Less than one percent of production is exported. On domestic sales, the company could choose the duty rate (duty-free) for the imported raw barite used in manufacturing that applies to the finished product. The majority of FTZ-related savings will come from the elimination of the duty on the finished product. HESI will also realize additional savings on the elimination of duties on materials that become scrap/waste during manufacturing. The application indicates that the FTZ-related savings would improve the plant's international competitiveness.

In accordance with the Board's regulations, Christopher Kemp of the FTZ staff is designated examiner to investigate the application and report to the Board.

Public comment is invited from interested parties. Submissions (original and 3 copies) shall be addressed to the Board's Executive Secretary at the address listed below. The closing period for their receipt is June 16, 2008. Rebuttal comments in response to material submitted during the foregoing period may be submitted during the subsequent 15-day period (to June 30, 2008).

A copy of the application and accompanying exhibits will be available at each of the following addresses: U.S. Department of Commerce Export Assistance Center, 2 Canal Street, Suite 2710, New Orleans, LA 70130; and, Office of the Executive Secretary, Foreign-Trade Zones Board, Room 2111, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Ave, NW, Washington, D.C. 20230. For further information contact Christopher Kemp at christopher_kemp@ita.doc.gov or (202) 482-0862.

Dated: April 1, 2008.

Andrew McGilvray,*Executive Secretary.*

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