

In the Matter of: Kabba & Amir Investments, Inc., d.b.a. International Freight Forwarders, 73 FR 25649, 25652 (May 7, 2008), aff'd at 73 FR 25648 (imposing a monetary penalty of \$6,000 and a conditional denial of export privileges for three years against a freight forwarder that aided and abetted an attempted export of medical equipment to Cuba).

The terms of the export privileges denial against the Respondents should be consistent with the standard language used by BIS in such orders with modifications as necessary to comply with the conditional nature of the denial of export privileges described above:

Wherefore,
[REDACTED SECTION]
[REDACTED SECTION]
[REDACTED SECTION]
[REDACTED SECTION]

This Order, which constitutes the final agency action in this matter, is effective upon publication in the **Federal Register**.

Accordingly, I am referring this Recommended Decision and Order to the Under Secretary of Commerce for Industry and Security for review and final action for the agency, without further notice to the Respondents, as provided in Section 766.7 of the Regulations.

Within thirty (30) days after receipt of this Recommended Decision and Order, the Under Secretary will issue a written order affirming, modifying or vacating the Recommended Decision and Order. See 15 CFR 766.22(c). A copy of the Agency's regulations for Review by the Under Secretary is attached as Appendix B.

Done and dated this 15th day of October, 2008 at New York, New York.

HON. Walter J. Brudzinski,
Administrative Law Judge.

APPENDIX A

List Of Exhibits

A. Agency's Exhibits

Exhibit A Letter to Michele Geslin dated April 24, 2003, with copy of certified mail receipt signed by Michele Geslin. (3 pages)

Exhibit B Letter to race participants from BIS Special Agent dated April 22, 2003. (1 page)

Exhibit C Letter to All Third Annual Conch Republic Cup Race Participants dated May 23, 2003; letter to race participants, dated May 23, 2003. (2 pages)

Exhibit D Letter to Peter Goldsmith dated April 10, 2003, with copy of certified mail receipt initialed by Peter Goldsmith. (3 pages)

Exhibit E Charging Letter addressed to Michele Geslin dated December 18, 2007. (3 pages)

Exhibit F Charging Letter addressed to Peter Goldsmith dated December 18, 2007. (3 pages)

Exhibit G Michele Geslin's Answer to Charging Letter dated February 10, 2008. (1 page)

Exhibit H Peter Goldsmith's Answer to Charging Letter dated February 10, 2008. (1 page)

Exhibit I BIS Interrogatories and Requests for Production of Documents, with certificate of service dated May 14, 2008. (14 pages)

Exhibit J BIS Requests for Admission, with certificate of service dated May 14, 2008. (9 pages)

Exhibit K Certified Licensing Determination dated September 4, 2008. (2 pages)

Exhibit L Certified copy of letter indicating results of BIS's search of its electronic licensing database for records of export licenses or applications related to the transactions in question. (2 pages)

B. Respondents' Exhibits

Respondents did not file any exhibits.

APPENDIX B

NOTICE TO THE PARTIES REGARDING REVIEW BY UNDER SECRETARY

TITLE 15—COMMERCE AND FOREIGN TRADE

SUBTITLE B—REGULATIONS RELATING TO COMMERCE AND FOREIGN TRADE CHAPTER VII—BUREAU OF INDUSTRY AND SECURITY, DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

SUBCHAPTER C—EXPORT ADMINISTRATION REGULATIONS

PART 766—ADMINISTRATIVE ENFORCEMENT PROCEEDINGS

15 CFR 766.22

Section 766.22 Review by Under Secretary.

(a) Recommended decision. For proceedings not involving violations relating to part 760 of the EAR, the administrative law judge shall immediately refer the recommended decision and order to the Under Secretary. Because of the time limits provided under the EAA for review by the Under Secretary, service of the recommended decision and order on the parties, all papers filed by the parties in response, and the final decision of the Under Secretary must be by personal delivery, facsimile, express mail or other overnight carrier. If the Under Secretary cannot act on a recommended decision and order for any reason, the Under Secretary will designate another Department of Commerce official to receive and act on the recommendation.

(b) Submissions by parties. Parties shall have 12 days from the date of issuance of the recommended decision and order in which to submit simultaneous responses. Parties thereafter shall have eight days from receipt of any response(s) in which to submit replies. Any response or reply must be received within the time specified by the Under Secretary.

(c) Final decision. Within 30 days after receipt of the recommended decision and order, the Under Secretary shall issue a written order affirming, modifying or vacating the recommended decision and

order of the administrative law judge. If he/she vacates the recommended decision and order, the Under Secretary may refer the case back to the administrative law judge for further proceedings. Because of the time limits, the Under Secretary's review will ordinarily be limited to the written record for decision, including the transcript of any hearing, and any submissions by the parties concerning the recommended decision.

(d) Delivery. The final decision and implementing order shall be served on the parties and will be publicly available in accordance with § 766.20 of this part.

(e) Appeals. The charged party may appeal the Under Secretary's written order within 15 days to the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia pursuant to 50 U.S.C. app. § 2412(c)(3).

[FR Doc. E8-27160 Filed 11-17-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-DT-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

Notice and call for applications for the Environmental and Clean Energy Technologies Trade Mission to Croatia, Italy, and Greece, March 30 to April 5, 2009

AGENCY: International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice and call for applications for the Environmental and Clean Energy Technologies Trade Mission to Croatia, Italy, and Greece, March 30 to April 5, 2009.

Mission Description

The United States Department of Commerce, International Trade Administration, U.S. and Foreign Commercial Service (USFCS) is organizing an Environmental and Clean Energy Technologies Trade Mission to Zagreb, Croatia; Milan, Italy; and Athens, Greece, from March 30 to April 4, 2009. All three fast growing markets hold promising potential for U.S. firms offering equipment, services, and technologies in the target sectors. The mission will introduce participating U.S. firms to prospective representatives, distributors, end-users, and partners through one-on-one appointments in all three cities and will include participation in the EcoTec Environmental Tradeshow (EcoTec 2009) in Athens, where the USFCS will provide entry to the trade show, manage a booth, and organize meetings with business and industry contacts for each of the mission participants.

Commercial Setting

Greece

Environmental protection is a priority issue in Greece, where the market for environmental equipment and services is expected to far outstrip local capacity in the future. The Greek Ministry of Environment estimates the country's environmental market to be about US\$2.2 billion, or 1.5 percent of GDP. Investment in environmental infrastructure through European Union (EU) and national programs has been the centerpiece of environmental progress in Greece. These investments have been used to construct numerous wastewater and solid waste treatment facilities, as well as new recycling plants, composting facilities, and treatment plants for industrial and hazardous waste materials.

The implementation of EU environmental legislation in national laws has created the institutional basis for successfully facing environmental protection challenges. In January 2007, the Minister of Environment announced a US\$6.3 billion investment plan for 2007–2013 for the upgrading, modernization and maintenance of environmental projects in waste management, recycling, and water treatment, to be implemented under the "Environment and Sustainable Development" program.

Following EU directives and practices, Greece is committed to introducing the necessary legislative framework for promoting the use of "clean" or "green" technologies. Renewable energy will play a major role in these initiatives. Furthermore, in an effort to catch up with commitments under the Kyoto Protocol, Greece's Minister of Environment has approved a National Allocation Plan for Emission Trading for 2008–2012, which aims to bring about a 16.6 percent reduction in greenhouse gas emissions.

Areas holding the greatest potential for U.S. firms in the Greek environmental market include waste management, recycling and biomass facilities; hazardous waste treatment and disposal; water treatment; air and sea pollution control; clean coal plants; "green" building materials; emissions monitoring and reduction; and photovoltaic plants.

At the EcoTec Environmental Tradeshow, to be held April 3–6, 2009, mission members will have opportunities to meet with business and industry contacts in a range of sectors, including renewable energy, recycling, ecoconstruction, waste management, wastewater treatment, environmental restoration, energy conservation, and

alternative fuels. EcoTec 2009 is expected to attract technical experts, local and national management councils, large commercial entities, construction companies, government procurement executives, investors, researchers, and various business representatives from all over Greece and neighboring countries (for details, see: http://www.EcoTec.gr/Site%20EcoTec%20final/Hekthesh_eng.html).

Italy

Italy's US\$6 billion environmental market—of which machinery and equipment account for approximately US\$1 billion—offers significant opportunities to U.S. firms providing innovative technologies. Waste management is a major issue driving Italy's environmental policy. While the practices of waste minimization and separate waste collection, waste re-use, recycling, and recovery are growing, urban and industrial waste disposal in Italy still depends largely on landfills. Investments of several billion dollars are expected over the next few years to adopt innovative recycling technologies and to build near-to-zero emission waste-to-energy plants. Recent implementation of the EU directive on waste and electronic equipment recycling of is expected to expand opportunities for U.S. firms offering technological innovation.

Italy's water collection and distribution systems, as well as its urban wastewater sewage and purification systems, are also inadequate. Measures to encourage more sustainable use of water resources include new legislation for water reuse and investments in innovative technologies to prevent and detect water losses. The total investment to implement an integrated water system comprising aqueducts, sewage systems and treatment services could reach US\$55 billion countrywide in the next ten years.

With regard to soil remediation, specific legislation has established the criteria, procedures, and methods for safety and clean-up actions for environmental restoration of contaminated sites. The Italian Government has identified 40 Italian sites of "National Interest" in need of urgent clean up. It is estimated that at least 15,000 areas in Italy are currently subject to environmental investigation and/or remediation actions. Innovative technologies in this sector are in high demand.

Italy has implemented restrictive air pollution control legislation in compliance with stringent EU regulations to cut greenhouse gas

emissions by 20 percent. The environmental impact of private and public transportation remains a major problem. Italy's major municipalities have implemented a large number of projects, and the Italian Government is offering incentives to substitute older vehicles with new vehicles with lower environmental impact, but there is still much to be done.

As far as energy is concerned, Italy depends on foreign suppliers for about 80 percent of its needs. Interest in renewable energy has become an important issue on the Italian Government's agenda, and there is substantial effort in research and development to expand the use of alternative sources of energy, especially biomass, geothermal, solar (both photovoltaic and solar thermal), and wind energy.

Green building also represents an increasingly promising market, as European and local norms steer builders in that direction. Italy lags behind other European countries, but the trend is positive, and green building represents a very dynamic market niche.

While competition in Italy is fierce, U.S. environmental and energy technologies are highly regarded there. Moreover, Italy's strategic Mediterranean location makes it an ideal gateway to the emerging markets of Eastern Europe, North Africa, and the Middle East. Several Italian firms specializing in turnkey operations have strengthened their position in foreign markets. The right Italian partner could assist U.S. firms not only in penetrating the Italian market, but also in effectively entering other foreign markets.

Croatia

EU accession is the primary force affecting planning and procurement in the Croatian environmental sector. Croatia's Ministry of Environmental Protection, Physical Planning and Construction and the World Bank estimate that Croatia needs to invest more than US\$10 billion in the environmental sector prior to accession, including about US\$2.2 billion for waste management, US\$5 billion for wastewater treatment, and US\$56 million for air protection. So far, less than US\$35 million has been directly invested in environmental protection in Croatia. Expected increases in these investments, in addition to over US\$186 million from EU Pre-Accession Funds delivered over the next three years, make Croatia an attractive market for U.S. suppliers of environmental equipment and services.

Four primary environmental subsectors—waste management,

wastewater treatment, air protection and renewable energy—hold opportunities for U.S. firms. Waste management is currently the largest challenge in Croatia's environmental sector. Key issues are increases in solid waste, very limited recycling, unreliable data on waste flows and quantities, and lack of organized disposal sites. According to plans, by 2025 most of the population will be included in an organized municipal waste collection system; recycling and waste treatment will grow significantly; and municipal and biodegradable waste will be significantly reduced. To meet these goals, Croatia is organizing four regional and 21 county waste management centers with treatment plants and landfills. Remediation of 176 landfills is also underway, and two upcoming tenders offer possibilities for U.S. firms. The first, the Zagreb Waste Management Center, will include an incinerator, recycling yard, and heat and electricity generating plants at an approximate cost of US\$580 million. The incinerator will be constructed next to the central wastewater treatment plant, and the resultant sewage sludge, together with municipal waste, will be used for energy generation. The second, a hazardous waste incinerator, is estimated to cost US\$22 million.

Wastewater management is a key concern in Croatia, particularly in coastal municipalities. While water supply coverage, 73 percent, is high compared to other countries in the region, coverage for sewage is only about 40 percent, and less than 12 percent of all collected wastewater is being treated. Objectives for bringing Croatian water management in line with EU regulations include creating a Water Information System; extending public water supply to 90 percent of the population; providing wastewater collection, treatment and disposal systems for 10.5 million people; and implementing flood control and multi-purpose projects. Other opportunities include three large wastewater projects currently underway: The US\$250 million Coastal Cities Pollution Control project, sponsored by the World Bank; the US\$38 million Karlovac Wastewater Management Project, financed by the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development; and the US\$18 million Inland Waters Project, financed by the World Bank.

The Air Protection Act (2005) governs air quality management in line with the EU Framework Directive 96/62/EC on ambient air quality assessment and management. Although Croatia ratified the Kyoto Protocol in May 2007, efforts are still needed to limit the growth of

greenhouse gas emissions in order to meet Croatia's Kyoto target for the period of 2008 through 2012. Another priority is reduction of acid and other polluting gaseous emissions from major industrial premises such as refineries, petrochemical plants, cement factories, and large combustion plants.

In 2007, Croatia adopted important regulations to support development of renewable energy projects required to meet the goal of the minimal 5.8 percent renewable energy share in the total electric energy supply by 2010. The overall size of the renewable electric energy projects is about 330 megawatts of new capacity in the next three years, estimated to cost approximately US\$700 million. Numerous private sector investors have submitted over a hundred projects for preliminary approval to the Ministry of Economy, 90 percent of which are for wind farms. Other renewable energy best prospects include biomass cogeneration plants, solar thermal collectors, and bio-fuel plants.

While the Croatian environmental and clean energy markets are relatively small on the global scale, EU accession has strengthened emphasis on these sectors, pointing to opportunities for U.S. firms that are able to offer specialized equipment and services in the near term to help alleviate Croatia's existing environmental challenges and thereby position themselves for long-term market access.

Mission Goals

The goals of the Environmental and Clean Energy Technologies Trade Mission to Italy, Croatia, and Greece are threefold: (1) To help U.S. firms explore supplier opportunities under various environmental programs; (2) to help U.S. firms initiate or expand their exports to these markets by providing business-to-business introductions and market access information; and (3) to facilitate an effective U.S. presence at EcoTec in Athens.

Mission Scenario

The mission will stop in Zagreb, proceed to Milan, and conclude in Athens, at EcoTec 2009. The USFCS in Athens will provide entry to the trade show, manage a booth, and organize meetings with business and industry contacts for each of the mission participants. Activities at all stops will include market briefings; pre-scheduled appointments with potential partners, distributors, representatives, and end users; networking receptions; and meetings with USFCS environmental technology specialists. The USFCS in Athens will continue to maintain a

presence at EcoTec Sunday, April 5, and will assist any mission members wishing to remain to take advantage of visitor traffic at the show, expected to be highest that day. This assistance is offered to the delegation at no additional cost.

Proposed Timetable

Monday, March 30—Zagreb: Briefing, one-on-one appointments, evening reception.
 Tuesday, March 31—Morning, conclude appointments/Depart for Milan.
 Wednesday, April 1—Milan: Briefing, appointments, evening reception.
 Thursday, April 2—Appointments, site visits/Depart for Athens.
 Friday, April 3—Athens: Briefing, appointments, trade show opening, late afternoon reception.
 Saturday, April 4—Appointments, show activities/Mission concludes.
 Sunday, April 5—Bonus day.

Participation Requirements

All parties interested in participating in the Environmental and Clean Energy Technologies Trade Mission to Italy, Croatia and Greece must complete and submit an application for consideration by the Department of Commerce. All applicants will be evaluated on their ability to meet certain conditions and best satisfy the selection criteria as outlined below. The mission will open on a first come first served basis to minimum of seven and maximum of 10 qualified U.S. companies.

Fees and Expenses

After a company has been selected to participate on the mission, a payment to the Department of Commerce in the form of a participation fee is required. The fee for participation in the entire mission will be US\$5,400 for large firms and US\$3,975 for a small or medium-sized enterprise (SME), which includes one principal representative.* The fee for each additional firm representative (large firm or SME) is \$450. Expenses for lodging, some meals, incidentals, and travel (except for in-country arrangements previously noted) will be the responsibility of each mission participant. While priority will be given to firms applying to take part in all three cities on the mission itinerary, firms

* An SME is defined as a firm with 500 or fewer employees or that otherwise qualifies as a small business under SBA regulations (see http://www.sba.gov/services/contracting_opportunities/sizestandardstoc/index.html). Parent companies, affiliates, and subsidiaries will be considered when determining business size. The dual pricing schedule reflects the Commercial Service's user fee schedule that became effective May 1, 2008 (for additional information see <http://www.export.gov/newsletter/march2008/initiatives.html>).

may opt to visit only one or two markets on the itinerary for the following fees:

| Option | SME | Large company |
|-----------------|-----------|---------------|
| One stop | US\$2,000 | US\$3,000 |
| Two stops | US\$3,000 | US\$4,000 |

Conditions for Participation

An applicant must submit a completed and signed mission application and supplemental application materials, including adequate information on the company's products and/or services, primary market objectives, and goals for participation.

- Each applicant must also certify that the products and services it seeks to export through the mission are either produced in the United States, or, if not, marketed under the name of a U.S. firm and have at least fifty-one percent U.S. content.

Selection Criteria for Participation

Selection will be based on the following criteria:

- Suitability of the company's products or services to the three target markets and sectors
- Applicant's potential for business in the target markets, including likelihood of exports resulting from the mission
- Consistency of the applicant's goals and objectives with the stated scope of the mission
- Applicant's stated intent to participate in all three markets on the mission itinerary

Referrals from political organizations and any documents containing references to partisan political activities (including political contributions) will be removed from an applicant's submission and not considered during the selection process.

Timeframe for Recruitment and Applications

Recruitment for this trade mission will be conducted in an open and public manner, including publication in the **Federal Register**, posting on the Commerce Department trade mission calendar (<http://www.ita.doc.gov/doctm/tmcal.html>) and other Internet Web sites, press releases to general and trade media, e-mail blasts, notices by industry trade associations and other multiplier groups, and publicity at industry meetings, symposia, conferences, and trade shows. Recruitment for the mission will begin immediately and conclude no later than February 12, 2009. Applications received after that date will be

considered only if space and scheduling constraints permit.

Contacts in the United States

Bill Cline, Director, U.S. Commercial Service, Reno, Team Leader, Global Environmental Team, U.S. Department of Commerce, *Tel:* 775.784.5203/*Fax:* 775.784.5343, *e-mail:* envirotechmission@mail.doc.gov.
 Jessica Arnold, Global Environmental Team Project Officer, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20004, *Tel:* (202) 482-2026/*Fax:* (202) 482-9000, *e-mail:* envirotechmission@mail.doc.gov.

Contacts in Europe

Milan, Italy: Nicoletta Postiglione, American Consulate General, *Tel:* 011-39-02-626-8851, *Fax:* 011-39-02-659-6561, *e-mail:* envirotechmission@mail.doc.gov.
 Zagreb, Croatia: Pamela Ward, American Embassy/Zagreb, *Tel:* 011-385-1-661-2224, *Fax:* 011-385-1-661-2446, *e-mail:* envirotechmission@mail.doc.gov.
 Athens, Greece: William Kutson, U.S. Embassy/Athens, *Tel:* 30/210/720-2303/720-2302, *Fax:* 30/210/721-8660, *e-mail:* envirotechmission@mail.doc.gov.

Jessica Arnold,

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; Application Form for Membership on a National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council

AGENCY: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before January 20, 2009.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Diana Hynek, Departmental

Paperwork Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 6625, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet at dHynek@doc.gov).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument and instructions should be directed to Karen M. Brubeck, 206-842-6084 or karen.brubeck@noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

Section 315 of the National Marine Sanctuaries Act (16 U.S.C. 1445a) allows the Secretary of Commerce to establish one or more advisory councils to provide advice to the Secretary regarding the designation and management of national marine sanctuaries. The councils are individually chartered for each sanctuary to meet the needs of the sanctuary. Once a council has been chartered, the sanctuary manager starts a process to recruit members for that Council by providing notice to the public and requesting interested parties to apply for the available seats.

II. Method of Collection

An application form and guidelines for a narrative submission must be submitted to the sanctuary manager. Submissions may be made electronically.

III. Data

OMB Control Number: 0648-0397.
Form Number: None.
Type of Review: Regular submission.
Affected Public: Individuals or households; business or other for-profit organizations; not-for-profit institutions.
Estimated Number of Respondents: 500.
Estimated Time per Response: 1 hour.
Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 500 hours.
Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public: \$0.

IV. Request for Comments

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information; (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 respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques