

Whistleblower Protection Laws

A Federal employee with authority to take, direct others to take, recommend or approve any personnel action must not use that authority to take or fail to take, or threaten to take or fail to take, a personnel action against an employee or applicant because of disclosure of information by that individual that is reasonably believed to evidence violations of law, rule or regulation; gross mismanagement; gross waste of funds; an abuse of authority; or a substantial and specific danger to public health or safety, unless disclosure of such information is specifically prohibited by law and such information is specifically required by Executive order to be kept secret in the interest of national defense or the conduct of foreign affairs.

Retaliation against an employee or applicant for making a protected disclosure is prohibited by 5 U.S.C. 2302(b)(8). If you believe that you have been the victim of whistleblower retaliation, you may file a written complaint (Form OSC-11) with the U.S. Office of Special Counsel, 1730 M Street, NW., Suite 218, Washington, DC 20036-4505, or online through the OSC Web site at <http://www.osc.gov>.

Retaliation for Engaging in Protected Activity

A Federal agency cannot retaliate against an employee or applicant because that individual exercised his or her rights under any of the Federal antidiscrimination or whistleblower protection laws listed above. If you believe that you are the victim of retaliation for engaging in protected activity, you must follow, as appropriate, the procedures described in the Antidiscrimination Laws and Whistleblower Protection Laws sections or, if applicable, the administrative or negotiated grievance procedures in order to pursue any legal remedy.

Disciplinary Actions

Under the existing laws, each agency retains the right, where appropriate, to discipline a Federal employee for conduct that is inconsistent with Federal antidiscrimination and whistleblower protection laws up to and including removal. If OSC has initiated an investigation under 5 U.S.C. 1214, however, according to 5 U.S.C. 1214(f), agencies must seek approval from the Special Counsel to discipline employees for, among other activities, engaging in prohibited retaliation. Nothing in the No FEAR Act alters existing laws or permits an agency to take unfounded disciplinary action against a Federal

employee or to violate the procedural rights of a Federal employee who has been accused of discrimination.

Additional Information

For further information regarding the No FEAR Act regulations, refer to 5 CFR part 724, as well as the appropriate offices within the ABMC (e.g., EEO or Personnel and Administration). Additional information regarding Federal antidiscrimination, whistleblower protection and retaliation laws can be found on the EEOC Web site at <http://www.eeoc.gov> and on the OSC Web site at <http://www.osc.gov>.

Existing Rights Unchanged

Pursuant to section 205 of the No FEAR Act, neither the Act nor this notice creates, expands or reduces any rights otherwise available to any employee, former employee or applicant under the laws of the United States, including the provisions of law specified in 5 U.S.C. 2302(d).

Theodore Gloukhoff,

Director, Personnel and Administration.

[FR Doc. E8-29405 Filed 12-11-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6120-01-M

ARCTIC RESEARCH COMMISSION

Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the U.S. Arctic Research Commission will hold its 88th meeting in San Francisco, CA on Dec 14-19, 2008. The Business Session, open to the public, will convene at 9:30 a.m. Tuesday, Dec 16, 2008 in San Francisco, CA. An Executive Session will follow adjournment of the Business Session.

The Agenda items include:

- (1) Call to order and approval of the Agenda.
- (2) Approval of the Minutes of the 87th Meeting.
- (3) Commissioners and Staff Reports.
- (4) Discussion of USARC Goals and Activities.

The focus of the meeting will be reports and updates on programs and research projects affecting the Arctic.

Any person planning to attend this meeting who requires special accessibility features and/or auxiliary aids, such as sign language interpreters, must inform the Commission in advance of those needs.

Contact Person for More Information:
John Farrell, Executive Director, U.S.

Arctic Research Commission, 703-525-0111 or TDD 703-306-0090.

John Farrell,

Executive Director.

[FR Doc. E8-29546 Filed 12-11-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555-01-P

BROADCASTING BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Sunshine Act Meeting

DATE AND TIME: Tuesday, December 9, 2008; 1 p.m.-2:15 p.m.

PLACE: Cohen Building, Room 3360, 330 Independence Ave., SW., Washington, DC 20237.

CLOSED MEETING: The members of the Broadcasting Board of Governors (BBG) will meet in a special session to review and discuss budgetary issues relating to U.S. Government-funded non-military international broadcasting. This meeting is closed because if open it likely would either disclose matters that would be properly classified to be kept secret in the interest of foreign policy under the appropriate executive order (5 U.S.C. 552b.(c)(1)) or would disclose information the premature disclosure of which would be likely to significantly frustrate implementation of a proposed agency action. (5 U.S.C. 552b.(c)(9)(B)) In addition, part of the discussion will relate solely to the internal personnel and organizational issues of the BBG or the International Broadcasting Bureau. (5 U.S.C. 552b.(c)(2) and (6))

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION: Persons interested in obtaining more information should contact Timi Nickerson Kenealy at (202) 203-4545.

Dated: December 9, 2008.

Timi Nickerson Kenealy,

Acting Legal Counsel.

[FR Doc. E8-29551 Filed 12-10-08; 11:15 am]

BILLING CODE 8610-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

(A-475-818)

Certain Pasta from Italy: Notice of Extension of Final Results of Antidumping Duty Changed Circumstances Review

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

EFFECTIVE DATE: December 12, 2008.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Eric B. Greynolds, AD/CVD Operations,

Office 3, Import Administration, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 4014, 14th Street and Constitution Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20230, telephone: (202) 482-6071.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On November 19, 2007, the Department of Commerce (the Department) published its notice of initiation of antidumping duty (AD) changed circumstances review (CCR). *See Certain Pasta from Italy: Notice of Initiation of Antidumping Duty Changed Circumstances Review*, 72 FR 65010 (November 19, 2007). On February 22, 2008, the Department published its notice of preliminary results of AD CCR and intent to reinstate the AD order. *See Certain Pasta from Italy: Notice of Preliminary Results of Antidumping Duty Changed Circumstances Review and Intent to Reinstate the Antidumping Duty Order*, 73 FR 9769 (February 22, 2008). On August 12, 2008, the Department extended the due date of the final results of the AD CCR until October 6, 2008. *See Certain Pasta from Italy: Notice of Extension of Final Results of Antidumping Duty Changed Circumstances Review*, 73 FR 46871 (August 12, 2008). On September 29, 2008, the Department placed on the record of the AD CCR press releases from the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri and the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) regarding the American Italian Pasta Company (AIPC). *See the Memorandum to the File from Eric B. Greynolds, Program Manager, "Press Release from Office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri and the Securities and Exchange Commission Regarding the American Italian Pasta Company"* (September 29, 2008), a public document on file in the Central Records Unit (CRU), room 1117 of the main Department building. On October 8, 2008, David M. Spooner, the Assistant Secretary for Import Administration, along with other officials from the Department met with an official from AIPC and counsel to Lensi/AIPC to discuss issues pertaining to the ongoing AD CCR. On October 10, 2008, the Department extended the due date of the final results of the AD CCR until December 5, 2008. *See Certain Pasta from Italy: Notice of Extension of Final Results of Antidumping Duty Changed Circumstances Review*, 73 FR 60239 (October 10, 2008). On October 17, 2008, Lensi/AIPC submitted comments regarding the press release issued by the

SEC and the Office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri.

Extension of Time Limit for Final Results

Under 19 CFR 351.216(e), the Department will issue the final results of a CCR within 270 days after the date on which the Department initiates the changed circumstances review. Currently, the final results of the AD CCR, which cover Lensi, a producer/exporter of pasta from Italy, and AIPC, Lensi's corporate parent and importer of subject merchandise produced by Lensi, are due by December 5, 2008. As explained above, the Department has placed certain information regarding Lensi on the record of the AD CCR. In addition, in their October 17, 2008 submission, Lensi and AIPC placed new factual information and comments on the record of the AD CCR. In order to have sufficient time to review the new factual information placed on the record of the AD CCR, we are extending the due date of the final results of the AD CCR by 17 days in accordance with 19 CFR 351.302(b). Therefore, the final results of the AD CCR are now due no later than December 22, 2008.

This notice is issued and published in accordance with sections 751(b) and 777(i) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended.

Dated: December 5, 2008.

Gary Taverman,

Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Operations.

[FR Doc. E8-29490 Filed 12-11-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-DS-S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration (C-533-825)

Polyethylene Terephthalate Film, Sheet, and Strip from India: Final Results of Countervailing Duty Administrative Review

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

SUMMARY: On August 7, 2008, the Department of Commerce (Department) published in the **Federal Register** the preliminary results of administrative review of the countervailing duty order on polyethylene terephthalate film, sheet, and strip (PET film) from India for the period January 1, 2006 through December 31, 2006. *See Polyethylene Terephthalate Film, Sheet, and Strip from India: Preliminary Results of*

Countervailing Duty Administrative Review, 73 FR 45956 (August 7, 2008) (*Preliminary Results*). Based on the results of our analysis of the comments received, the Department has revised the subsidy rates for the respondent, MTZ Polyfilms, Ltd. (MTZ). The final subsidy rate for the reviewed company is listed below in the section entitled "Final Results of Review."

EFFECTIVE DATE: December 12, 2008.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Elfi Blum, AD/CVD Operations, Office 6, Import Administration, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482-0197.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Since the publication of the *Preliminary Results*, the following events have occurred. The Department issued its fifth supplemental questionnaire to the Government of India (GOI) and to MTZ on August 15, 2008. The GOI and MTZ filed their fifth supplemental responses on August 29, 2008 and on September 9, 2008, respectively. On September 4, 2008, the Department extended the briefing schedule to include MTZ's fifth supplemental response, and on September 12, 2008, the Department extended the deadline for interested parties to request a hearing. MTZ filed a case brief on September 15, 2008, and the petitioners, Dupont Teijin Films, Mitsubishi Polyester Film of America, and Toray Plastics (America), Inc., filed a rebuttal brief on September 22, 2008.¹ Based on a request by MTZ, a hearing, including a closed session, was held on October 6, 2008.

Scope of the Order

For purposes of the order, the products covered are all gauges of raw, pretreated, or primed Polyethylene Terephthalate Film, Sheet and Strip, whether extruded or coextruded. Excluded are metallized films and other finished films that have had at least one of their surfaces modified by the application of a performance-enhancing resinous or inorganic layer of more than 0.00001 inches thick. Imports of PET film are classifiable in the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) under item number

¹ Certain information referred to in MTZ's case brief was untimely. This information was inadvertently discussed in the hearing. On October 15, 2008, MTZ and petitioners re-filed their respective briefs with the information redacted. A copy of the official hearing transcript with the information redacted was placed on the record on October 23, 2008.