

identifying information from submissions. You should submit only information that you wish to make publicly available. All submissions should refer to File Number SR-BatsBZX-2017-34 and should be submitted on or before September 14, 2017. Rebuttal comments should be submitted by September 28, 2017.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.<sup>133</sup>

Robert W. Errett, Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2017-17909 Filed 8-23-17; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8011-01-P

**SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION**

[Disaster Declaration #15251 and #15252; Vermont Disaster Number VT-00033]

**Presidential Declaration of a Major Disaster for Public Assistance Only for the State of Vermont**

AGENCY: U.S. Small Business Administration.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This is a Notice of the Presidential declaration of a major disaster for Public Assistance Only for the State of Vermont (FEMA-4330-DR), dated August 16, 2017.

DATES: Issued on 08/16/2017.

Physical Loan Application Deadline Date: 10/16/2017.

Economic Injury (EIDL) Loan Application Deadline Date: 05/16/2018.

ADDRESSES: Submit completed loan applications to: U.S. Small Business Administration, Processing and Disbursement Center, 14925 Kingsport Road, Fort Worth, TX 76155.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: A. Escobar, Office of Disaster Assistance, U.S. Small Business Administration, 409 3rd Street SW., Suite 6050, Washington, DC 20416, (202) 205-6734.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Notice is hereby given that as a result of the President's major disaster declaration on 08/16/2017, Private Non-Profit organizations that provide essential services of a governmental nature may file disaster loan applications at the address listed above or other locally announced locations.

Incident: Severe Storms and Flooding. Incident Period: 06/29/2017 through 07/01/2017.

The following areas have been determined to be adversely affected by the disaster:

Primary Counties: Addison, Bennington, Caledonia, Orange, Rutland, Washington, Windsor

The Interest Rates are:

	Percent
<i>For Physical Damage:</i>	
Non-Profit Organizations With Credit Available Elsewhere ...	2.500
Non-Profit Organizations Without Credit Available Elsewhere .....	2.500
<i>For Economic Injury:</i>	
Non-Profit Organizations Without Credit Available Elsewhere .....	2.500

The number assigned to this disaster for physical damage is 15251B and for economic injury is 152520.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number 59008)

James E. Rivera, Associate Administrator for Disaster Assistance.

[FR Doc. 2017-17900 Filed 8-23-17; 8:45 am]

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**SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION**

[Disaster Declaration #15247 and #15248; Kentucky Disaster Number KY-00065]

**Administrative Declaration of a Disaster for the State of Kentucky**

AGENCY: U.S. Small Business Administration.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This is a notice of an Administrative declaration of a disaster for the State of KENTUCKY.

Dated: 08/15/2017.

DATES: Issued on: 08/15/2017.

Physical Loan Application Deadline Date: 10/16/2017.

Economic Injury (EIDL) Loan Application Deadline Date: 05/15/2018.

ADDRESSES: Submit completed loan applications to: U.S. Small Business Administration, Processing and Disbursement Center, 14925 Kingsport Road, Fort Worth, TX 76155.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: A. Escobar, Office of Disaster Assistance, U.S. Small Business Administration, 409 3rd Street SW., Suite 6050, Washington, DC 20416, (202) 205-6734.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Notice is hereby given that as a result of the Administrator's disaster declaration, applications for disaster loans may be filed at the address listed above or other locally announced locations.

Incident: Torrential Rains, Flash Flooding and Mudslides.

Incident Period: 07/23/2017.

The following areas have been determined to be adversely affected by the disaster:

Primary Counties: Mason

Contiguous Counties:

Kentucky: Bracken, Fleming, Lewis, Robertson

Ohio: Adams, Brown

The Interest Rates are:

	Percent
<i>For Physical Damage:</i>	
Homeowners With Credit Available Elsewhere .....	3.500
Homeowners Without Credit Available Elsewhere .....	1.750
Businesses With Credit Available Elsewhere .....	6.610
Businesses Without Credit Available Elsewhere .....	3.305
Non-Profit Organizations With Credit Available Elsewhere ...	2.500
Non-Profit Organizations Without Credit Available Elsewhere .....	2.500
<i>For Economic Injury:</i>	
Businesses & Small Agricultural Cooperatives Without Credit Available Elsewhere .....	3.305
Non-Profit Organizations Without Credit Available Elsewhere .....	2.500

The number assigned to this disaster for physical damage is 15247 B and for economic injury is 15248 0.

The States which received an EIDL Declaration # are Kentucky Ohio.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number 59008)

Dated: August 15, 2017.

Linda E. McMahan, Administrator.

[FR Doc. 2017-17917 Filed 8-23-17; 8:45 am]

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**SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION**

[Disaster Declaration #15224 and #15225; California Disaster Number CA-00275]

**Administrative Declaration Amendment of Disaster for the State of California**

AGENCY: U.S. Small Business Administration.

ACTION: Amendment 1.

SUMMARY: This is an amendment of the Administrative declaration of a disaster for the State of CALIFORNIA dated 08/11/2017.

DATES: Issued on 08/11/2017.

Physical Loan Application Deadline Date: 09/29/2017.

Economic Injury (EIDL) Loan Application Deadline Date: 05/01/2018.

<sup>133</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(57) and (58).

**ADDRESSES:** Submit completed loan applications to: U.S. Small Business Administration, Processing And Disbursement Center, 14925 Kingsport Road, Fort Worth, TX 76155.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** A. Escobar, Office of Disaster Assistance, U.S. Small Business Administration, 409 3rd Street SW., Suite 6050, Washington, DC 20416, (202) 205-6734.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The notice of an Administrative declaration for the State of CALIFORNIA, dated 07/31/2017, is hereby amended to establish the incident closing date as 08/01/2017.

*Incident:* Detwiler Fire.

*Incident Period:* 07/16/2017 through 08/01/2017.

All other information in the original declaration remains unchanged.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number 59008)

**Linda E. McMahan,**  
*Administrator.*

[FR Doc. 2017-17915 Filed 8-23-17; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 8025-01-P**

## OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

[Docket No. USTR-2017-0016]

### Initiation of Section 301 Investigation; Hearing; and Request for Public Comments: China's Acts, Policies, and Practices Related to Technology Transfer, Intellectual Property, and Innovation

**AGENCY:** Office of the United States Trade Representative.

**ACTION:** Notice of initiation of investigation; hearing; and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** The United States Trade Representative has initiated an investigation pursuant to the Trade Act of 1974, as amended (the Trade Act), to determine whether acts, policies, and practices of the Government of China related to technology transfer, intellectual property, and innovation are actionable under the Trade Act. The inter-agency Section 301 Committee is holding a public hearing and seeking comments in connection with this investigation.

**DATES:** The United States Trade Representative initiated the investigation on August 18, 2017. The schedule and due dates are as follows:

To be assured of consideration, written comments and requests to appear at the hearing must be submitted by Thursday, September 28, 2017 at

11:59 p.m. The request to appear must include a summary of testimony.

Tuesday, October 10, 2017: The Section 301 Committee will convene a public hearing in the main hearing room of the U.S. International Trade Commission, 500 E Street SW., Washington, DC 20436, beginning at 9:30 a.m. If necessary, the hearing may continue on the next business day.

To be assured of consideration, post-hearing rebuttal comments must be submitted by Friday, October 20, 2017 at 11:59 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** You should submit written comments through the Federal eRulemaking Portal: <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments in section II below. For alternatives to on-line submissions, please contact Gwendolyn Diggs at (202) 395-3150 before transmitting a comment and in advance of the relevant deadline.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For procedural questions concerning written comments or participating in the public hearing, contact Gwendolyn Diggs at (202) 395-3150. Direct all other questions regarding this notice to William Busis, Deputy Assistant U.S. Trade Representative for Monitoring and Enforcement and Chair of the Section 301 Committee, or Katherine Linton and Arthur Tsao, Assistant General Counsels at (202) 395-3150.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

##### A. *The President's Memorandum*

On August 14, 2017, the President issued a Memorandum (82 FR 39007) to the United States Trade Representative stating *inter alia*:

China has implemented laws, policies, and practices and has taken actions related to intellectual property, innovation, and technology that may encourage or require the transfer of American technology and intellectual property to enterprises in China or that may otherwise negatively affect American economic interests. These laws, policies, practices, and actions may inhibit United States exports, deprive United States citizens of fair remuneration for their innovations, divert American jobs to workers in China, contribute to our trade deficit with China, and otherwise undermine American manufacturing, services, and innovation.

The Memorandum included the following instruction:

The United States Trade Representative shall determine, consistent with section 302(b) of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2412(b)), whether to investigate any of China's laws, policies, practices, or actions that may be unreasonable or discriminatory and that may be harming American intellectual property rights, innovation, or technology development.

Pursuant to the President's Memorandum, on August 18, 2017, the United States Trade Representative initiated an investigation under section 302(b) of the Trade Act (19 U.S.C. 2412(b)) to determine whether acts, policies, and practices of the Government of China related to technology transfer, intellectual property, and innovation are unreasonable or discriminatory and burden or restrict U.S. commerce.

##### B. *The Chinese Government's Acts, Policies and Practices*

The acts, policies and practices of the Government of China directed at the transfer of U.S. and other foreign technologies and intellectual property are an important element of China's strategy to become a leader in a number of industries, including advanced-technology industries, as reflected in China's "Made in China 2025" industrial plan, and other similar industrial policy initiatives. The Chinese government's acts, policies, and practices take many forms. The investigation initially will consider the following specific types of conduct:

First, the Chinese government reportedly uses a variety of tools, including opaque and discretionary administrative approval processes, joint venture requirements, foreign equity limitations, procurements, and other mechanisms to regulate or intervene in U.S. companies' operations in China, in order to require or pressure the transfer of technologies and intellectual property to Chinese companies. Moreover, many U.S. companies report facing vague and unwritten rules, as well as local rules that diverge from national ones, which are applied in a selective and non-transparent manner by Chinese government officials to pressure technology transfer.

Second, the Chinese government's acts, policies and practices reportedly deprive U.S. companies of the ability to set market-based terms in licensing and other technology-related negotiations with Chinese companies and undermine U.S. companies' control over their technology in China. For example, the Regulations on Technology Import and Export Administration mandate particular terms for indemnities and ownership of technology improvements for imported technology, and other measures also impose non-market terms in licensing and technology contracts.

Third, the Chinese government reportedly directs and/or unfairly facilitates the systematic investment in, and/or acquisition of, U.S. companies and assets by Chinese companies to obtain cutting-edge technologies and