

I. Background

On October 2, 2020 the U.S. Trade Representative initiated an investigation pursuant to Section 301 of the Trade Act of 1974, of whether Vietnam's acts, policies, and practices related to the import and use of illegal timber are unreasonable or discriminatory and burden or restrict U.S. commerce. See 85 FR 63639. USTR invited interested persons to submit written comments by November 12, 2020, regarding the issues in the investigation.

II. Hearing and Rebuttal Comments

USTR will hold a virtual public hearing in this investigation on Monday, December 28, 2020. To be assured of consideration, you must submit requests to testify at the virtual hearing, and summaries of your testimony, by December 10, 2020, at 11:59 p.m. Because the hearing will be public, your testimony should not include any confidential information.

USTR will post information regarding access to the virtual public hearing at <https://ustr.gov/issue-areas/enforcement/section-301-investigations/section-301-vietnam>. In addition, USTR will contact persons who are testifying at the hearing regarding the procedures for participation.

You may request to testify on the issues covered by the investigation. See 85 FR 63639. In particular, USTR invites hearing testimony regarding:

- The extent to which illegal timber is imported into Vietnam.
- The extent to which Vietnamese producers, including producers of wooden furniture, use illegal timber.
- The extent to which products of Vietnam made from illegal timber, including wooden furniture, are imported into the United States.
- Vietnam's acts, policies, or practices relating to the import and use of illegal timber.
- The nature and level of the burden or restriction on U.S. commerce caused by Vietnam's import and use of illegal timber.
- The determinations required under section 304 of the Trade Act, including what action, if any, should be taken in the investigation.

USTR will offer a further opportunity for public comment in the event actions affecting specific products or services are considered in the investigation. Accordingly, the upcoming hearing will not involve testimony regarding specific products or services that might be affected by an action in the investigation.

USTR will consider rebuttal comments submitted by January 6, 2021.

Rebuttal comments should be strictly limited to demonstrating errors of fact or analysis not pointed out in the written submissions or hearing testimony and should be as concise as possible.

III. Submission Procedures

Requests to appear and summaries of testimony, as well as rebuttal comments, must be submitted on *Regulations.gov*. To make a submission via *Regulations.gov*, enter docket number USTR-2020-0036 in the 'search for' field on the home page and click 'search.' The site will provide a search results page listing all documents associated with this docket. Find a reference to this notice by selecting 'notice' under 'document type' in the 'filter results by' section on the left side of the screen and click on the link entitled 'comment now.'

When submitting a request to appear and a summary of your testimony, provide in the 'comment' field on the next page the full name, address, email address, and telephone number of the person who wishes to present the testimony. To submit a written statement or summary, *Regulations.gov* allows users to provide comments by filling in a 'type comment' field or by attaching a document using the 'upload file(s)' field. USTR prefers that you provide submissions in an attached document. The file name should include the name of the person who will be presenting the testimony, or if not testifying, the name of the person submitting the statement. The name of the presenter also should be clear in the content of the file itself. All submissions must be in English and be prepared in (or be compatible with) Microsoft Word (.doc) or Adobe Acrobat (.pdf) formats. Include any data attachments to the submission in the same file as the submission itself, and not as separate files. For additional information on using *Regulations.gov*, please consult the resources provided on the website by clicking on 'how to use this site' on the left side of the home page.

For any rebuttal comments that contain business confidential information (BCI), the file name of the business confidential version should begin with the characters 'BCI.' You must clearly mark any page containing BCI by including 'BUSINESS CONFIDENTIAL' on the top of that page and clearly indicating, via brackets, highlighting, or other means, the specific information that is BCI. If you request business confidential treatment, you must certify in writing that disclosure of the information would endanger trade secrets or profitability, and that you would not customarily

release the information to the public. Filers of submissions containing BCI also must submit a public version of their comments. The file name of the public version should begin with the character 'P.' Follow the 'BCI' and 'P' with the name of the person or entity submitting the comments. If these procedures are not sufficient to protect BCI or otherwise protect business interests, please contact the Section 301 line at (202) 395-5725 to discuss whether alternative arrangements are possible.

USTR will post submissions in the docket for public inspection, except for submissions properly designated BCI. You can view submissions on *Regulations.gov* by entering docket number USTR-2020-0036 in the search field on the home page.

Joseph Barloon,

General Counsel, Office of the United States Trade Representative.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Highway Administration

[Docket No. FHWA-2020-0030]

Agency Information Collection Activities: Notice of Request for Extension of Currently Approved Information Collection

AGENCY: Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of request for extension of currently approved information collection.

SUMMARY: The FHWA invites public comments about our intention to request the Office of Management and Budget's (OMB) approval for renewal of an existing information collection that is summarized below under **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**. We are required to publish this notice in the **Federal Register** by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

DATES: Please submit comments by January 25, 2021.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments identified by DOT Docket ID Number 2020-0030 by any of the following methods:

Website: For access to the docket to read background documents or comments received go to the Federal eRulemaking Portal: Go to <http://www.regulations.gov>.

Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.

Fax: 1-202-493-2251.

Mail: Docket Management Facility, U.S. Department of Transportation, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590-0001.

Hand Delivery or Courier: U.S.

Department of Transportation, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. ET, Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Michael Dougherty 202-366-9234, Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, Office of Highway Policy Information, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590, Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Certification of Enforcement of the Heavy Vehicle Use Tax.

OMB Control #: 2125-0541.

Background: Title 23 United States Code, Section 141(c), provides that a State's apportionment of funds under 23 U.S.C. 104(b)(1) shall be reduced in an amount up to 8 percent of the amount to be apportioned during any fiscal year beginning after September 30, 1984, if vehicles subject to the Federal heavy vehicle use tax are lawfully registered in the State without having presented proof of payment of the tax. The annual certification by the State Governor or designated official regarding the collection of the heavy vehicle use tax serves as the FHWA's primary means of determining State compliance. The FHWA has determined that an annual certification of compliance by each State is the least obtrusive means of administering the provisions of the legislative mandate. In addition, States are required to retain for 1 year a Schedule 1, IRS Form 2290, Heavy Vehicle Use Tax Return (or other suitable alternative provided by regulation). The FHWA conducts compliance reviews at least once every 3 years to determine if the annual certification is adequate to ensure effective administration of 23 U.S.C. 141(c).

The estimated annual reporting burden is 102 hours; the estimated recordkeeping burden is 510 hours for a total of 612 hours. The 50 States and the District of Columbia share this burden. Preparing and processing the annual certification is estimated to require 2 hours per State. Recordkeeping is estimated to require an average of 10 hours per State.

Respondents: 50 State Transportation Departments, and the District of Columbia for a total of 51 respondents.

Frequency: Annually.

Estimated Average Annual Burden per Response: The average burden to submit the certification and to retain required records is 12 hours per respondent.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: Total estimated average annual burden is 612 hours.

Public Comments Invited: You are asked to comment on any aspect of this information collection, including: (1) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the U.S. DOT's performance, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of the U.S. DOT's estimate of the burden of the proposed information collection; (3) ways to enhance the quality, usefulness, and clarity of the collected information; and (4) ways that the burden could be minimized, including the use of electronic technology, without reducing the quality of the collected information. The agency will summarize and/or include your comments in the request for OMB's clearance of this information collection.

Authority: The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995; 44 U.S.C. Chapter 35, as amended; and 49 CFR 1.48.

Issued On: November 20, 2020.

Michael Howell,

Information Collection Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Highway Administration

[Docket No. FHWA-2020-0028]

Agency Information Collection

Activities: Request for Comments for a New Information Collection

AGENCY: Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: FHWA invites public comments about our intention to request the Office of Management and Budget's (OMB) approval for a new information collection, which is summarized below under **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**. We are required to publish this notice in the **Federal Register** by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

DATES: Please submit comments by January 25, 2021.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments identified by DOT Docket ID 2020-0028 by any of the following methods:

Website: For access to the docket to read background documents or comments received; go to the Federal eRulemaking Portal: Go to <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.

Fax: 1-202-493-2251.

Mail: Docket Management Facility, U.S. Department of Transportation, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590-0001.

Hand Delivery or Courier: U.S.

Department of Transportation, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE Washington, DC 20590, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. ET, Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: John Moulden, 202-493-3470, Turner-Fairbank Highway Research Center, Office of Corporate Research, Technology, and Innovation Management, Federal Highway Administration, Department of Transportation, 6300 Georgetown Pike, McLean, VA 22101. Office hours are from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Federal Highway Administration Research, Development and Technology Portfolio website.

Background: Title 23, United States Code, Section 502(a)(5) requires that Federal surface transportation research and development activities address the needs of stakeholders, including "States, metropolitan planning organizations, local governments, the private sector, researchers, research sponsors, and other affected parties, including public interest groups." As part of its effort to ensure that Federal research, development and technology (RD&T) activities are addressing the most critical national challenges, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) is developing the RD&T Agenda website. This website will communicate FHWA's RD&T goals, objectives and strategies to its stakeholders and highlight notable initiatives or projects that illustrate FHWA's RD&T approach. The website will include an electronic mechanism for stakeholders to provide feedback on the overall RD&T Agenda, FHWA's approach to addressing national transportation challenges, and potential opportunities for FHWA to collaborate with stakeholders to address them.

Respondents: Approximately 1,000 annual respondents.

Frequency: Annually.

Estimated Average Burden per Response: Approximately 10 minutes per respondent per year.