

rail line extending from at or near milepost 403.20, in Ventura, Cal., eastward to milepost 435.07, east of Piru, Cal. (the Line).

According to SNR, the Line has been leased and operated by Fillmore & Western Freight Service, LLC, since 2002. See *Fillmore & W. Freight Serv., LLC—Lease & Operation Exemption—Ventura Cnty. Transp. Comm'n*, FD 34173 (STB served May 3, 2002). SNR states that it has been selected as the new operator of the Line and has reached an agreement with VCTC that will allow SNR to lease and operate the Line upon the exemption's effective date.<sup>1</sup>

SNR states that the proposed transaction does not involve any provision or agreement that would limit future interchange with a third-party connecting carrier. Further, SNR certifies that its projected annual revenue resulting from the proposed transaction will not exceed \$5 million and will not result in the creation of a Class I or II rail carrier.

The earliest this transaction may be consummated is December 31, 2021, the effective date of the exemption (30 days after the verified notice was filed).

If the verified notice contains false or misleading information, the exemption is void ab initio. Petitions to revoke the exemption under 49 U.S.C. 10502(d) may be filed at any time. The filing of a petition to revoke will not automatically stay the effectiveness of the exemption. Petitions for stay must be filed no later than December 23, 2021 (at least seven days before the exemption becomes effective).

All pleadings, referring to Docket No. FD 36570, should be filed with the Surface Transportation Board via e-filing on the Board's website. In addition, a copy of each pleading must be served on SNR's representative: William A. Mullins, Baker & Miller PLLC, 2401 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 300, Washington, DC 20037.

According to SNR, this action is categorically excluded from environmental review under 49 CFR 1105.6(c) and from historic preservation reporting requirements under 49 CFR 1105.8(b).

Board decisions and notices are available at [www.stb.gov](http://www.stb.gov).

Decided: December 14, 2021.

<sup>1</sup> According to the verified notice, Union Pacific Railroad Company (UP) currently provides freight railroad services to one shipper over a portion of the Line from milepost 415.0 to milepost 403.2 (Western Portion). SNR states that UP's operating rights over the Western Portion will continue pursuant to the terms of UP's agreement with VCTC.

By the Board, Scott M. Zimmerman, Acting Director, Office of Proceedings.

**Aretha Laws-Byrum,**  
*Clearance Clerk.*

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## OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

### Determination of Trade Surplus in Certain Sugar and Syrup Goods and Sugar-Containing Products of Chile, Morocco, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Peru, Colombia, and Panama

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

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS), the Office of the United States Trade Representative (USTR) is providing notice of its determination of the trade surplus in certain sugar and syrup goods and sugar-containing products of Chile, Morocco, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Peru, Colombia, and Panama. The level of a country's trade surplus in these goods relates to the quantity of sugar and syrup goods and sugar-containing products for which the United States grants preferential tariff treatment under (i) the United States-Chile Free Trade Agreement (Chile FTA); (ii) the United States-Morocco Free Trade Agreement (Morocco FTA); (iii) the Dominican Republic-Central America-United States Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA-DR); (iv) the United States-Peru Trade Promotion Agreement (Peru TPA); (v) the United States-Colombia Trade Promotion Agreement (Colombia TPA); and (vi) the United States-Panama Trade Promotion Agreement (Panama TPA).

**DATES:** This notice is applicable on January 1, 2022.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Erin H. Nicholson, Office of Agricultural Affairs, (202) 395-6095 or [Erin.H.Nicholson@ustr.eop.gov](mailto:Erin.H.Nicholson@ustr.eop.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

#### I. Chile FTA

Pursuant to section 201 of the United States-Chile Free Trade Agreement Implementation Act (Pub. L. 108-77; 19 U.S.C. 3805 note), Presidential Proclamation No. 7746 of December 30, 2003 (68 FR 75789) implemented the Chile FTA on behalf of the United States

and modified the HTSUS to reflect the tariff treatment provided for in the Chile FTA.

Note 12(a) to subchapter XI of HTSUS chapter 99 requires USTR to publish annually a determination of the amount of Chile's trade surplus, by volume, with all sources for goods in Harmonized System (HS) subheadings 1701.11, 1701.12, 1701.91, 1701.99, 1702.20, 1702.30, 1702.40, 1702.60, 1702.90, 1806.10, 2101.12, 2101.20, and 2106.90, except that Chile's imports of goods classified under HS subheadings 1702.40 and 1702.60 that qualify for preferential tariff treatment under the Chile FTA are not included in the calculation of Chile's trade surplus. Proclamation 8771 of December 29, 2011 (77 FR 413) reclassified HS subheading 1701.11 as 1701.13 and 1701.14.

Note 12(b) to subchapter XI of HTSUS chapter 99 provides duty-free treatment for certain sugar and syrup goods and sugar-containing products of Chile entered under subheading 9911.17.05 in any calendar year (CY) (beginning in CY2015) is the quantity of goods equal to the amount of Chile's trade surplus in subdivision (a) of the note. During CY2020, the most recent year for which data are available, Chile's imports of the sugar and syrup goods and sugar-containing products described above exceeded its exports of those goods by 571,108 metric tons according to data published by its customs authority, the *Servicio Nacional de Aduana*. Based on this data, USTR has determined that Chile's trade surplus is negative. Therefore, in accordance with U.S. Note 12(b) to subchapter XI of HTSUS chapter 99, goods of Chile are not eligible to enter the United States duty-free under subheading 9911.17.05 in CY2022.

#### II. Morocco FTA

Pursuant to section 201 of the United States-Morocco Free Trade Agreement Implementation Act (Pub. L. 108-302; 19 U.S.C. 3805 note), Presidential Proclamation No. 7971 of December 22, 2005 (70 FR 76651) implemented the Morocco FTA on behalf of the United States and modified the HTSUS to reflect the tariff treatment provided for in the Morocco FTA.

Note 12(a) to subchapter XII of HTSUS chapter 99 requires USTR to publish annually a determination of the amount of Morocco's trade surplus, by volume, with all sources for goods in HS subheadings 1701.11, 1701.12, 1701.91, 1701.99, 1702.40, and 1702.60, except that Morocco's imports of U.S. goods classified under HS subheadings 1702.40 and 1702.60 that qualify for

preferential tariff treatment under the Morocco FTA are not included in the calculation of Morocco's trade surplus. Proclamation 8771 of December 29, 2011 (77 FR 413) reclassified HS subheading 1701.11 as 1701.13 and 1701.14.

Note 12(b) to subchapter XII of HTSUS chapter 99 provides duty-free treatment for certain sugar and syrup goods and sugar-containing products of Morocco entered under subheading 9912.17.05 in an amount equal to the lesser of Morocco's trade surplus or the specific quantity set out in that note for that calendar year.

Note 12(c) to subchapter XII of HTSUS chapter 99 provides preferential tariff treatment for certain sugar and syrup goods and sugar-containing products of Morocco entered under subheading 9912.17.10 through 9912.17.85 in an amount equal to the amount by which Morocco's trade surplus exceeds the specific quantity set out in that note for that calendar year.

During CY2020, the most recent year for which data are available, Morocco's imports of the sugar and syrup goods and sugar-containing products described above exceeded its exports of those goods by 647,161 metric tons according to data published by its customs authority, *the Office des Changes*. Based on this data, USTR has determined that Morocco's trade surplus is negative. Therefore, in accordance with U.S. Note 12(b) and U.S. Note 12(c) to subchapter XII of HTSUS chapter 99, goods of Morocco are not eligible to enter the United States duty-free under subheading 9912.17.05 or at preferential tariff rates under subheadings 9912.17.10 through 9912.17.85 in CY2022.

### III. CAFTA–DR

Pursuant to section 201 of the Dominican Republic-Central America-United States Free Trade Agreement Implementation Act (Pub. L. 109–53; 19 U.S.C. 4031), Presidential Proclamation No. 7987 of February 28, 2006 (71 FR 10827), Presidential Proclamation No. 7991 of March 24, 2006 (71 FR 16009), Presidential Proclamation No. 7996 of March 31, 2006 (71 FR 16971), Presidential Proclamation No. 8034 of June 30, 2006 (71 FR 38509), Presidential Proclamation No. 8111 of February 28, 2007 (72 FR 10025), Presidential Proclamation No. 8331 of December 23, 2008 (73 FR 79585), and Presidential Proclamation No. 8536 of June 12, 2010 (75 FR 34311), implemented the CAFTA–DR on behalf of the United States and modified the HTSUS to reflect the tariff treatment provided for in the CAFTA–DR.

Note 25(b)(i) to subchapter XXII of HTSUS chapter 98 requires USTR to publish annually a determination of the amount of each CAFTA–DR country's trade surplus, by volume, with all sources for goods in HS subheadings 1701.12, 1701.13, 1701.14, 1701.91, 1701.99, 1702.40, and 1702.60, except that each CAFTA–DR country's exports to the United States of goods classified under HS subheadings 1701.12, 1701.13, 1701.14, 1701.91, and 1701.99 and its imports of goods classified under HS subheadings 1702.40 and 1702.60 that qualify for preferential tariff treatment under the CAFTA–DR are not included in the calculation of that country's trade surplus.

U.S. Note 25(b)(ii) to subchapter XXII of HTSUS chapter 98 provides duty-free treatment for certain sugar and syrup goods and sugar-containing products of each CAFTA–DR country entered under subheading 9822.05.20 in an amount equal to the lesser of that country's trade surplus or the specific quantity set out in that note for that country and that calendar year.

#### *Costa Rica*

During CY2020, the most recent year for which data are available, Costa Rica's exports of the sugar and syrup goods and sugar-containing products described above exceeded its imports of those goods by 143,237 metric tons according to data published by the *Costa Rican Customs Department, Ministry of Finance*. Based on this data, USTR has determined that Costa Rica's trade surplus is 143,237 metric tons. The specific quantity set out in U.S. Note 25(b)(ii) to subchapter XXII of HTSUS chapter 98 for Costa Rica for CY2022 is 14,520 metric tons. Therefore, in accordance with that note, the aggregate quantity of goods of Costa Rica that may be entered duty-free under subheading 9822.05.20 in CY2022 is 14,520 metric tons (*i.e.*, the amount that is the lesser of Costa Rica's trade surplus and the specific quantity set out in that note for Costa Rica for CY2022).

#### *Dominican Republic*

During CY2020, the most recent year for which data are available, the Dominican Republic's imports of the sugar and syrup goods and sugar-containing products described above exceeded its exports of those goods by 11,254 metric tons according to data published by the *General Directorate of Customs (DGA)*. Based on this data, USTR has determined that the Dominican Republic's trade surplus is negative. Therefore, in accordance with U.S. Note 25(b)(ii) to subchapter XXII of HTSUS chapter 98, goods of the

Dominican Republic are not eligible to enter the United States duty-free under subheading 9822.05.20 in CY2022.

#### *El Salvador*

During CY2020, the most recent year for which data are available, El Salvador's exports of the sugar and syrup goods and sugar-containing products described above exceeded its imports of those goods by 482,476 metric tons according to data published by the *Central Bank of El Salvador*. Based on this data, USTR has determined that El Salvador's trade surplus is 482,476 metric tons. The specific quantity set out in U.S. Note 25(b)(ii) to subchapter XXII of HTSUS chapter 98 for El Salvador for CY2022 is 37,400 metric tons. Therefore, in accordance with that note, the aggregate quantity of goods of El Salvador that may be entered duty-free under subheading 9822.05.20 in CY2022 is 37,400 metric tons (*i.e.*, the amount that is the lesser of El Salvador's trade surplus and the specific quantity set out in that note for El Salvador for CY2022).

#### *Guatemala*

During CY2020, the most recent year for which data are available, Guatemala's exports of the sugar and syrup goods and sugar-containing products described above exceeded its imports of those goods by 1,467,994 metric tons according to data published by the *Guatemalan Sugar Association (ASAZGUA) and Bank of Guatemala*. Based on this data, USTR has determined that Guatemala's trade surplus is 1,467,994 metric tons. The specific quantity set out in U.S. Note 25(b)(ii) to subchapter XXII of HTSUS chapter 98 for Guatemala for CY2022 is 51,700 metric tons. Therefore, in accordance with that note, the aggregate quantity of goods of Guatemala that may be entered duty-free under subheading 9822.05.20 in CY2022 is 51,700 metric tons (*i.e.*, the amount that is the lesser of Guatemala's trade surplus and the specific quantity set out in that note for Guatemala for CY2022).

#### *Honduras*

During CY2020, the most recent year for which data are available, Honduras' exports of the sugar and syrup goods and sugar-containing products described above exceeded its imports of those goods by 172,483 metric tons according to data published by the *Central Bank of Honduras*. Based on this data, USTR has determined that Honduras' trade surplus is 172,483 metric tons. The specific quantity set out in U.S. Note 25(b)(ii) to subchapter XXII of HTSUS chapter 98 for Honduras

for CY2022 is 10,560 metric tons. Therefore, in accordance with that note, the aggregate quantity of goods of Honduras that may be entered duty-free under subheading 9822.05.20 in CY2022 is 10,560 metric tons (*i.e.*, the amount that is the lesser of Honduras' trade surplus and the specific quantity set out in that note for Honduras for CY2022).

#### Nicaragua

During CY2020, the most recent year for which data are available, Nicaragua's exports of the sugar and syrup goods and sugar-containing products described above exceeded its imports of those goods by 357,945 metric tons according to data published by the *National Committee of Sugar Producers (CNPA)*. Based on this data, USTR has determined that Nicaragua's trade surplus is 357,945 metric tons. The specific quantity set out in U.S. Note 25(b)(ii) to subchapter XXII of HTSUS chapter 98 for Nicaragua for CY2022 is 29,040 metric tons. Therefore, in accordance with that note, the aggregate quantity of goods of Nicaragua that may be entered duty-free under subheading 9822.05.20 in CY2022 is 29,040 metric tons (*i.e.*, the amount that is the lesser of Nicaragua's trade surplus and the specific quantity set out in that note for Nicaragua for CY2022).

#### IV. Peru TPA

Pursuant to section 201 of the United States-Peru Trade Promotion Agreement Implementation Act (Pub. L. 110–138; 19 U.S.C. 3805 note), Presidential Proclamation No. 8341 of January 16, 2009 (74 FR 4105) implemented the Peru TPA on behalf of the United States and modified the HTSUS to reflect the tariff treatment provided for in the Peru TPA.

Note 28(c) to subchapter XXII of HTSUS chapter 98 requires USTR to publish annually a determination of the amount of Peru's trade surplus, by volume, with all sources for goods in HS subheadings 1701.12, 1701.13, 1701.14, 1701.91, 1701.99, 1702.40, and 1702.60, except that Peru's imports of U.S. goods classified under HS subheadings 1702.40 and 1702.60 that are originating goods under the Peru TPA and Peru's exports to the United States of goods classified under HS subheadings 1701.12, 1701.13, 1701.14, 1701.91, and 1701.99 are not included in the calculation of Peru's trade surplus.

Note 28(d) to subchapter XXII of HTSUS chapter 98 provides duty-free treatment for certain sugar goods of Peru entered under subheading 9822.06.10 in an amount equal to the lesser of Peru's trade surplus or the specific quantity set out in that note for that calendar year.

During CY2020, the most recent year for which data are available, Peru's imports of the sugar and syrup goods and sugar-containing products described above exceeded its exports of those goods by 325,050 metric tons according to data published by the *National Superintendence of Customs and Tax Administration (SUNAT)*.

Based on this data, USTR has determined that Peru's trade surplus is negative. Therefore, in accordance with U.S. Note 28(d) to subchapter XXII of HTSUS chapter 98, goods of Peru are not eligible to enter the United States duty-free under subheading 9822.06.10 in CY2022.

#### V. Colombia TPA

Pursuant to section 201 of the United States-Colombia Trade Promotion Agreement Implementation Act (Pub. L. 112–42; 19 U.S.C. 3805 note), Presidential Proclamation No. 8818 of May 14, 2012 (77 FR 29519) implemented the Colombia TPA on behalf of the United States and modified the HTSUS to reflect the tariff treatment provided for in the Colombia TPA.

Note 32(b) to subchapter XXII of HTSUS chapter 98 requires USTR to publish annually a determination of the amount of Colombia's trade surplus, by volume, with all sources for goods in HS subheadings 1701.12, 1701.13, 1701.14, 1701.91, 1701.99, 1702.40 and 1702.60, except that Colombia's imports of U.S. goods classified under subheadings 1702.40 and 1702.60 that are originating goods under the Colombia TPA and Colombia's exports to the United States of goods classified under subheadings 1701.12, 1701.13, 1701.14, 1701.91 and 1701.99 are not included in the calculation of Colombia's trade surplus.

Note 32(c)(i) to subchapter XXII of HTSUS chapter 98 provides duty-free treatment for certain sugar goods of Colombia entered under subheading 9822.08.01 in an amount equal to the lesser of Colombia's trade surplus or the specific quantity set out in that note for that calendar year.

During CY2020, the most recent year for which data are available, Colombia's exports of the sugar and syrup goods and sugar-containing products described above exceeded its imports of those goods by 313,846 metric tons according to data published by the *Colombian National Tax and Customs Directorate (DIAN)*. Based on this data, USTR has determined that Colombia's trade surplus is 313,846 metric tons. The specific quantity set out in U.S. Note 32(c)(i) to subchapter XXII of HTSUS chapter 98 for Colombia for CY2022 is 57,500 metric tons.

Therefore, in accordance with that note,

the aggregate quantity of goods of Colombia that may be entered duty-free under subheading 9822.08.01 in CY2022 is 57,500 metric tons (*i.e.*, the amount that is the lesser of Colombia's trade surplus and the specific quantity set out in that note for Colombia for CY2022).

#### VI. Panama TPA

Pursuant to section 201 of the United States-Panama Trade Promotion Agreement Implementation Act (Pub. L. 112–43; 19 U.S.C. 3805 note), Presidential Proclamation No. 8894 of October 29, 2012 (77 FR 66505) implemented the Panama TPA on behalf of the United States and modified the HTSUS to reflect the tariff treatment provided for in the Panama TPA.

Note 35(a) to subchapter XXII of HTSUS chapter 98 requires USTR to publish annually a determination of the amount of Panama's trade surplus, by volume, with all sources for goods in HS subheadings 1701.12, 1701.13, 1701.14, 1701.91, 1701.99, 1702.40 and 1702.60, except that Panama's imports of U.S. goods classified under subheadings 1702.40 and 1702.60 that are originating goods under the Panama TPA and Panama's exports to the United States of goods classified under subheadings 1701.12, 1701.13, 1701.14, 1701.91 and 1701.99 are not included in the calculation of Panama's trade surplus.

Note 35(c) to subchapter XXII of HTSUS chapter 98 provides duty-free treatment for certain sugar goods of Panama entered under subheading 9822.09.17 in an amount equal to the lesser of Panama's trade surplus or the specific quantity set out in that note for that calendar year.

During CY2020, the most recent year for which data are available, Panama's imports of the sugar and syrup goods and sugar-containing products described above exceeded its exports of those goods by 659 metric tons according to data published by the *National Institute of Statistics and Census, Office of the General Comptroller of Panama; and the Ministry of Commerce and Industry of Panama*. Based on this data, USTR has determined that Panama's trade surplus is negative. Therefore, in accordance with that note, goods of Panama are not eligible to enter the United States duty-free under subheading 9822.09.17 in CY2022.

#### Greta Peisch,

*General Counsel, Office of the United States Trade Representative.*

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