

should contact the Office of the Secretary at 202-205-2000.

By order of the Commission.

Issued: January 9, 1998.

Donna R. Koehnke,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98-966 Filed 1-14-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7020-02-P

INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

[Investigation No. 753-TA-35]

Steel Wire Rope From Thailand

AGENCY: United States International Trade Commission.

ACTION: Initiation and scheduling of a countervailing duty investigation.

SUMMARY: The Commission hereby gives notice of the initiation of countervailing duty investigation No. 753-TA-35 under section 753(a) of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. § 1675b(a)) (the Act) to determine whether an industry in the United States is likely to be materially injured by reason of imports from Thailand of steel wire rope, provided for in subheading 7312.10.90 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States, if the countervailing duty order on such merchandise is revoked.

For further information concerning the conduct of this investigation and rules of general application, consult the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, part 201, subparts A through E (19 CFR part 201), and part 207 (19 CFR part 207).

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 5, 1998.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jim McClure (202-205-3191), Office of Investigations, U.S. International Trade Commission, 500 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20436. Hearing-impaired persons can obtain information on this matter by contacting the Commission's TDD terminal on 202-205-1810. Persons with mobility impairments who will need special assistance in gaining access to the Commission should contact the Office of the Secretary at 202-205-2000. General information concerning the Commission may also be obtained by accessing its internet server (<http://www.usitc.gov> or <ftp://ftp.usitc.gov>).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Section 753(a) of the Act provides that, in the case of a countervailing duty order issued under section 303 of the Act with respect to which the requirement of an affirmative

determination of material injury under section 303(a)(2) was not applicable at the time the order was issued, interested parties may request that the Commission initiate an investigation to determine whether an industry in the United States is likely to be materially injured by reason of imports of the subject merchandise if the order is revoked. Such a request concerning the countervailing duty order on steel wire rope from Thailand was filed on June 30, 1995, by the Committee of Domestic Steel Wire Rope and Specialty Cable Manufacturers of Washington, DC.

Participation in the Investigation and Public Service List

Persons wishing to participate in the investigation as parties must file an entry of appearance with the Secretary to the Commission, as provided in section 201.11 of the Commission's rules, no later than 21 days prior to the hearing date specified in this notice. Industrial users and (if the merchandise under investigation is sold at the retail level) representative consumer organizations have the right to appear as parties in Commission countervailing duty investigations. The Secretary will prepare a public service list containing the names and addresses of all persons, or their representatives, who are parties to this investigation upon the expiration of the period for filing entries of appearance. Copies of draft questionnaires will be sent for comment to parties who filed an entry of appearance by February 6, 1998.

Limited Disclosure of Business Proprietary Information (BPI) Under an Administrative Protective Order (APO) and BPI Service List

Pursuant to section 207.7(a) of the Commission's rules, the Secretary will make BPI gathered in this investigation available to authorized applicants representing interested parties (as defined in 19 U.S.C. § 1677(9)) who are parties to the investigation under the APO issued in the investigation, provided that the application is made not later than 21 days prior to the hearing date specified in this notice. A separate service list will be maintained by the Secretary for those parties authorized to receive BPI under the APO.

Staff Report

The prehearing staff report in this investigation will be placed in the nonpublic record on May 6, 1998, and a public version will be issued thereafter, pursuant to section 207.22 of the Commission's rules.

Hearing

The Commission will hold a hearing in connection with this investigation beginning at 9:30 a.m. on May 21, 1998, at the U.S. International Trade Commission Building. Requests to appear at the hearing should be filed in writing with the Secretary to the Commission on or before May 12, 1998. A nonparty who has testimony that may aid the Commission's deliberations may request permission to present a short statement at the hearing. All parties and nonparties desiring to appear at the hearing and make oral presentations should attend a prehearing conference to be held at 9:30 a.m. on May 14, 1998, at the U.S. International Trade Commission Building. Oral testimony and written materials to be submitted at the public hearing are governed by sections 201.6(b)(2), 201.13(f), and 207.24 of the Commission's rules. Parties must submit any request to present a portion of their hearing testimony *in camera* no later than 7 days prior to the date of the hearing.

Written Submissions

Each party who is an interested party shall submit a prehearing brief to the Commission. Prehearing briefs must conform with the provisions of section 207.23 of the Commission's rules; the deadline for filing is May 13, 1998. Parties may also file written testimony in connection with their presentation at the hearing, as provided in section 207.24 of the Commission's rules, and posthearing briefs, which must conform with the provisions of section 207.25 of the Commission's rules. The deadline for filing posthearing briefs is May 29, 1998; witness testimony must be filed no later than three days before the hearing. In addition, any person who has not entered an appearance as a party to the investigation may submit a written statement of information pertinent to the subject of the investigation on or before May 29, 1998. On June 24, 1998, the Commission will make available to parties all information on which they have not had an opportunity to comment. Parties may submit final comments on this information on or before June 26, 1998, but such final comments must not contain new factual information and must otherwise comply with section 207.30 of the Commission's rules. All written submissions must conform with the provisions of section 201.8 of the Commission's rules; any submissions that contain BPI must also conform with the requirements of sections 201.6, 207.3, and 207.7 of the Commission's rules.

In accordance with sections 201.16(c) and 207.3 of the Commission's rules, each document filed by a party to the investigation must be served on all other parties to the investigation (as identified by either the public or BPI service list), and a certificate of service must be timely filed. The Secretary will not accept a document for filing without a certificate of service.

Authority: This investigation is being conducted under authority of title VII of the Tariff Act of 1930; this notice is published pursuant to section 207.46 of the Commission's rules.

By order of the Commission.

Issued: January 8, 1998.

Donna R. Koehnke,

Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Civil Rights Division

Agency Information Collection Activities Proposed Collection; Comment Request

ACTION: Request OMB Emergency Approval of a Reinstatement, without change, of a previously approved collection for which approval has expired. Procedures for the Administration of Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

The Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division, has submitted the following information collection request utilizing emergency review procedures, to OMB for review and clearance in accordance with sections 1320.13(a)(1)(ii) and (a)(2)(iii) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. The Civil Rights Division has determined that it cannot reasonably comply with the normal clearance procedures under this Part of the Act because normal clearance procedures are reasonably likely to prevent or disrupt the collection of information.

Therefore, OMB emergency approval has been requested by January 27, 1998. If granted the emergency approval is only valid for 180 days. All comments and questions pertaining to this pending request for emergency approval *must* be directed to OMB, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attention: Department of Justice Desk Officer (Ms. Victoria Wassmer), Washington, DC, 20503. Comments regarding the emergency submission of this information collection may also be submitted to OMB via facsimile at 202-395-7285.

During the first 60 days of this same review period, a regular review of this information collection is also being undertaken. All comments and suggestions, or questions regarding additional information, to include obtaining a copy of the proposed information collection instrument with instructions, should be directed to: Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division, Voting Section, Attention: David H. Hunter, (202) 307-2898, P.O. Box 66128, Washington, DC 20035. Comments are encouraged and will be accepted until March 16, 1998. Your comments should address one or more of the following four points:

1. evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;
2. evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and the assumptions used;
3. enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
4. evaluate whether the data collection instrument will minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

Overview of this information collection.

1. Type of Information Collection. Reinstatement, without change, of a previously approved collection for which approval has expired.

2. Title of the Form/Collection: Procedures for the Administration of Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

3. Agency form number, if any, and the applicable component of the department of Justice sponsoring the collection: Form Number: None. Civil Rights Division, United States Department of Justice.

4. Affected public who will be asked or required to respond, as well as a brief abstract: Primary: State, Local, and Tribal Government. Other: None. Jurisdictions specifically covered under the Voting Rights Act are required to obtain preclearance from the Attorney General before instituting changes affecting voting. They must convince the Attorney General that voting changes are not racially discriminatory. The procedures facilitate the provision

of information that will enable the Attorney General to make the required determination.

5. An estimate of the total number of respondents and the amount of time estimated for an average respondent to respond: 10,103 respondents with the average response at 10.021 hours.

6. An estimate of the total public burden (in hours) associated with the collection: 47,365 annual burden hours.

If additional information is required contact: Mr. Robert B. Briggs, Clearance Officer, Information Management and Security Staff, Justice Management Division, United States Department of Justice, Suite 850, Washington Center Building, 1001 G Street, NW, Washington, DC, 20530.

Dated: January 12, 1998.

Robert B. Briggs,

Clearance Officer, United States Department of Justice.

[FR Doc. 98-1013 Filed 1-14-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Justice Management Division; Agency Information Collection Activities: Existing Collection: Common Request

ACTION: Notice of Information Collection Under Review: Extension of Previously Approved Collection, Department of Justice Procurement Blanket Clearance.

Office of Management and Budget approval is being sought for the information collection listed below. This collection was previously published in the **Federal Register** on October 31, 1997, allowing for a 60-day public comment period. No comments were received by the management and Planning Staff.

The purpose of this notice is to allow an additional 30 days for public comments. Comments are encouraged and will be accepted until February 17, 1998. This process is conducted in accordance with a 5 CFR 3120.10.

Written comments and/or suggestions regarding the items contained in this notice, especially regarding the estimated public burden and associated response time, should be directed to the Office of Management and Budget, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs: Attention: Ms. Victoria Wassmer, 202-395-5871, Department of Justice Desk Officer, Washington, DC 20503. Additionally, comments may be submitted to OMB via facsimile on 202-395-7285.

Written comments and suggestions from the public and affected agencies concerning this collection of