

The proposed amendment would make retroactive, from January 1, 1996, the reduced fee schedule for Odd-Lot Equity Transaction Charges and the Specialist Odd-Lot Charge that was published by the commission on July 12, 1996.<sup>4</sup> In that proposal, the NYSE incorporated odd-lot orders into its "no charge" policy for SuperDot equity public agency transactions, but excluded odd-lot orders of nonmember competing market makers from this policy. In addition, the NYSE lowered the Specialist Odd-Lot Charge from \$0.004 per share to \$0.00135 per share.

The Commission finds that the proposed rule change is consistent with the requirements of the Act and the rules and regulations thereunder applicable to a national securities exchange. Specifically, the Commission believes the proposal is consistent with Section 6(b)(4),<sup>5</sup> Section 6(b)(5),<sup>6</sup> and Section 6(b)(8).<sup>7</sup>

The Commission notes that the effect of the current proposal is to retroactively apply, from January 1, 1996, a fee schedule that has been in place since June 13, 1996.<sup>8</sup> Implementation of the fee will result in a rebate of fees to certain NYSE members. No additional fees will be collected as a result of this proposal. The Commission believes that rebating the covered charges in the manner provided is consistent with the Commission's findings and analysis articulated in the order approving a NYSE proposal to exclude orders of nonmember competing market makers from its "no charge" policy for orders of 100 to 2,099 shares.<sup>9</sup>

In addition, the Commission believes that rebating the Specialist Odd-Lot

Charge reduction is consistent with the Act because it will infuse capital into these specialist firms. This capital, in turn, could be used for increasing the depth and liquidity of the market.

*It is therefore ordered*, pursuant to Section 19(b)(2) of the Act,<sup>10</sup> that the proposed rule change (SR-NYSE-96-20) is approved.

For the Commission, by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.<sup>11</sup>

Margaret H. McFarland,

*Deputy Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 96-24992 Filed 9-27-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8010-01-M

## SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

[Declaration of Disaster Loan Area #2901]

### Arizona (And Contiguous County in California); Declaration of Disaster Loan Area

Maricopa and Yuma Counties and the contiguous counties of Gila, La Paz, Pima, Pinal, and Yavapai in the State of Arizona, and Imperial County in the State of California constitute a disaster area as a result of damages caused by monsoon rain and storm activity which occurred on August 14 and 15, 1996. Applications for loans for physical damage as a result of this disaster may be filed until the close of business on November 21, 1996 and for economic injury until the close of business on June 20, 1997 at the address listed below: U.S. Small Business Administration, Disaster Area 4 Office, 1825 Bell Street, Suite 208, Sacramento, CA 95825 or other locally announced locations.

The interest rates are:

	Percent
For Physical Damage:	
Homeowners With Credit Available Elsewhere .....	8.000
Homeowners Without Credit Available Elsewhere .....	4.000
Businesses With Credit Available Elsewhere .....	8.000
Businesses and Non-Profit Organizations Without Credit Available Elsewhere .....	4.000
Others (Including Non-Profit Organizations) With Credit Available Elsewhere .....	7.125
For Economic Injury:	
Businesses and Small Agricultural Cooperatives Without Credit Available Elsewhere .....	4.000

The numbers assigned to this disaster for physical damage are 290111 for

Arizona and 290211 for California. For economic injury the numbers are 919200 for Arizona and 919300 for California.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 59002 and 59008)

Dated: September 20, 1996.

Philip Lader,

*Administrator.*

[FR Doc. 96-25008 Filed 9-27-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8025-01-P

## OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

### Renewal of Treatment on Government Procurement of Products From Countries Designated Under the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act

Under the authority delegated to me by the President in section 1-201 of Executive Order 12269 of December 31, 1980, I hereby direct that products of countries listed below, designated by the President as beneficiaries under the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act (19 U.S.C. 2701, et. Seq.), shall continue to be treated as eligible products for purposes of section 1-101 of Executive Order 12260 until September 30, 1997. That the products of Panama shall continue to be treated as eligible products for purposes of section 1-101 of Executive order 12260 until September 30, 1998. Such treatment shall not apply to products originating in these countries that are excluded from duty free treatment under 19 U.S.C. 2703(b). Subsequent renewal of this treatment beyond September 30, 1997, will be subject to beneficiaries' support for the United States' WTO Singapore Ministerial initiative on an interim agreement on government procurement and efforts they make to accede to the GPA or to support continuing multilateral negotiations in the WTO in the future. Panama will be granted a two-year renewal in recognition of its commitment to accede to the GPA in its WTO protocol of accession. Countries making significant efforts to comply with these conditions will be considered for future multiple-year renewals of preferential procurement status.

Charlene Barshefsky,

*Acting United States Trade Representative.*

List of Countries Designated as Beneficiary Countries for Purposes of the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act (CBERA)

Antigua and Barbuda  
Aruba

<sup>4</sup> See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 37430 (July 12, 1996), 61 FR 37784 (publishing the notice and immediate effectiveness of File No. SR-NYSE-96-14).

<sup>5</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(4) (requiring, in short, that an exchange's rules provide for the equitable allocation of reasonable fees).

<sup>6</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5) (requiring, in pertinent part, an exchange's rules be designed to promote just an equitable principles of trade, perfect the mechanism of a free and open market, and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest; and not be designed to permit unfair discrimination between customers, issuers, brokers, or dealers).

<sup>7</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(8) (requiring the rules of an exchange not to impose unnecessary burdens on competition).

<sup>8</sup> See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 37430 (July 12, 1996), 61 FR 37784 (publishing the notice and immediate effectiveness of File No. SR-NYSE-96-14). The Commission notes that it did not receive any comment letters concerning this fee change.

<sup>9</sup> See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 37273 (June 4, 1996), 61 FR 29438 (approving File No. SR-NYSE-95-47). Hence, the Commission's views and conclusions contained in Securities Exchange Act Release No. 37273 are incorporated by reference into this order.

<sup>10</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2).

<sup>11</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

Bahamas, The  
Barbados  
Belize  
Costa Rica  
Dominica  
Dominican Republic  
El Salvador  
Grenada  
Guatemala  
Guyana  
Haiti  
Honduras  
Jamaica  
Nicaragua  
Panama  
Saint Lucia  
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines  
Trinidad and Tobago  
Montserrat  
Netherlands Antilles  
Saint Kitts-Nevis  
Virgin Islands, British

[FR Doc. 96-25010 Filed 9-27-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3190-01-M

### 1996-97 Allocation of the Tariff-rate Quotas for Raw and Refined Sugar

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

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Office of the United States Trade Representative (USTR) is providing notice of the allocation among supplying countries and customs areas for the period that begins October 1, 1996 and ends September 30, 1997, of the in-quota quantity of the tariff-rate quotas for imported raw cane and refined sugar.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** October 1, 1996.

**ADDRESSES:** Inquiries may be mailed or delivered to Audra Erickson, Senior Economist, Office of Agricultural Affairs (Room 421), Office of the United States Trade Representative, 600 17th Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20508.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Audra Erickson, Office of Agricultural Affairs, 202-395-6127.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Pursuant to Additional U.S. Note 5 to chapter 17 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTS), the United States maintains tariff-rate quotas for imports of raw cane and refined sugar. For the period October 1, 1996-September 30, 1997, the Secretary of Agriculture has initially established the in-quota quantity of the raw cane sugar tariff-rate quota at 1,700,000 metric tons, raw value (1,873,929 short tons) and has established the in-quota quantity of the refined sugar tariff-rate quota at 47,000 metric tons, raw value (51,808 short tons), of which the Secretary has reserved 1,656 metric tons for specialty sugars. The Secretary of Agriculture has

also proved for potential increases in the amount of raw cane sugar made available under the tariff-rate quota based on a determination by the Secretary of a certain stocks-to-use ratio for sugar. In the event of such an increase, USTR will provide notice of any allocation of that amount.

Section 404(d)(3) of the Uruguay Round Agreements Act (19 U.S.C. 3601 (d)(3)) authorizes the President to allocate the in-quota quantity of a tariff-rate quota for any agricultural product among supplying countries or customs areas. The President delegated this authority to the United States Trade Representative under paragraph (3) of Presidential Proclamation No. 6763 (60 FR 1007).

### Raw Cane Sugar Allocation

Accordingly, USTR is allocating the 1,700,000 metric tons for raw cane sugar currently available to the following countries or areas in metric tons, raw value:

Country	FY 1997 allocation
Argentina .....	69,774
Australia .....	134,681
Barbados .....	11,359
Belize .....	17,849
Bolivia .....	12,981
Brazil .....	235,286
Columbia .....	38,944
Congo .....	7,258
Cote d'Ivoire .....	7,258
Costa Rica .....	24,340
Dominican Republic .....	285,588
Ecuador .....	17,849
El Salvador .....	42,189
Fiji .....	14,604
Gabon .....	7,258
Guatemala .....	77,888
Guyana .....	19,472
Haiti .....	7,258
Honduras .....	16,227
India .....	12,981
Jamaica .....	17,849
Madagascar .....	7,258
Malawi .....	16,227
Mauritius .....	19,472
Mexico .....	25,000
Mozambique .....	21,095
Nicaragua .....	34,076
Panama .....	47,057
Papua New Guinea .....	7,258
Paraguay .....	7,258
Peru .....	66,529
Philippines .....	219,059
South Africa .....	37,321
St. Kitts & Nevis .....	7,258
Swaziland .....	25,963
Taiwan .....	19,472
Thailand .....	22,717
Trinidad-Tobago .....	11,359
Uruguay .....	7,258
Zimbabwe .....	19,472
Total .....	1,700,000

This allocation includes the following minimum-quota countries: Congo, Cote d'Ivoire, Gabon, Haiti, Madagascar, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, St. Kitts & Nevis, and Uruguay.

The 25,000 metric ton allocation to Mexico is subject to the condition that the total imports of raw and refined sugar from Mexico, combined, is not to exceed 25,000 metric tons, raw values. Furthermore, each allocation to a country that is a net importer of sugar is conditioned on compliance with the requirements of section 902(c)(1) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (7 U.S.C. 1446g note).

### Refined Sugar Allocation

With respect to the in-quota quantity of the refined sugar tariff-rate quota, USTR is allocating 25,000 metric tons to Mexico to fulfill obligations pursuant to the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). This allocation is subject to the condition that the total imports of raw and refined sugar from Mexico, combined, is not to exceed 25,000 metric tons raw value. Under the NAFTA, the United States is to provide total access for raw and refined sugar from Mexico of 25,000 metric tons, raw value, for this quota period because the United States and Mexico have jointly determined that Mexico is projected to be a net surplus producer of at least 25,000 metric tons, raw value, of sugar for the 1996-7 marketing year.

USTR is not allocating among supplying countries or customs areas the remainder of the in-quota quantity of the refined sugar tariff-rate quota, including the amount reserved for specialty sugars, for the period October 1, 1996 through September 30, 1997.

Charlene Barshefsky,

*Acting United States Trade Representative.*

[FR Doc. 96-25011 Filed 9-27-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3190-01-M

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Highway Administration

#### Environmental Impact Statement: Hardy County, West Virginia

**AGENCY:** Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice of intent.

**SUMMARY:** The FHWA is issuing this notice to advise the public that an Environmental Impact Statement will be prepared for the proposed Moorefield Bypass project in Hardy County, West Virginia.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**