

The Commission transmitted its determinations in these investigations to the Secretary of Commerce on November 26, 1997. The views of the Commission are contained in USITC Publication 3075 (November 1997), entitled "Certain Steel Wire Rod from Canada, Germany, Trinidad and Tobago, and Venezuela: Investigations Nos. 701-TA-368-371 (Final)."

Issued: November 28, 1997.

By order of the Commission.

Donna R. Koehnke,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 97-31717 Filed 12-2-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7020-02-P

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Notice of Lodging of Consent Decrees Pursuant to the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act and the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act

In accordance with Departmental policy, 28 CFR 50.7, Section 122(d) (2) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act ("CERCLA"), 42 U.S.C. 9622(d)(2), and Section 7003(d) of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act ("RCRA"), 42 U.S.C. 6973(d), notice is hereby given that proposed consent decrees in *United States, et al. v. Alcan Aluminum, Inc., et al.*, Civil Action No. 88-4970, and in *United States v. Air Products and Chemicals, Inc., et al.*, Civil Action No. 97-7140, were lodged on November 21, 1997, with the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania. The proposed consent decrees, which together are intended to comprise a global settlement with respect to remaining issues involving the Kline Township location of the Site, would settle actions that the United States brought on behalf of the United States Environmental Protection Agency under Sections 106 and 107(a) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act, as amended ("CERCLA"), 42 U.S.C. 9606, 9607(a), to compel environmental response actions to be taken and for recovery of response costs incurred by the United States in connection with the McAdoo Associates Superfund Site, located in Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania, in or near the Borough of McAdoo ("the Site"). The consent decrees would also resolve the claims of some of the settling defendants against other of the settling defendants arising out of this and an earlier settlement related to the Site in *United States and*

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania v. Air Products and Chemicals, Inc., et al., Civil Action No. 87-7352 (E.D. Pa.) (consent decree entered June 3, 1988) ("the 1988 decree"). Under the terms of the proposed consent decrees, (1) the United States will recover on behalf of the EPA Hazardous Substance Superfund, from those settling defendants that did not settle with the United States under the 1988 decree ("the Alcan parties"), the sum of \$970,000, plus a designated share of interest that has accrued on funds that the Alcan parties paid into an escrow account pending finalization of a 1992 consent decree, whose entry was vacated by the United States Court of Appeals in *United States v. Alcan Aluminum, Inc.*, 25 F. 3d 1174 (3d Cir. 1994); (2) those settling defendants that settled under the 1988 decree ("the Air Products parties") will receive \$1.2 million from the Alcan parties and from the escrow account to resolve the Air Products parties' claims for contribution against the Alcan parties (\$170,000), and to resolve the Air Products parties' reauthorized claim for reimbursement from the EPA Hazardous Substance Superfund under the 1988 decree (\$1.03 million); (3) the Air Products parties will perform a groundwater monitoring remedy selected by EPA under a Record of Decision for the Site issued on September 30, 1991 for Operable Unit Two (OU2) at the Site; and (4) the settling defendants will pay the United States and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's past costs relating to OU2 at the Site (totaling \$75,000 and \$5,000, respectively).

The consent decrees include a covenant not to sue by the United States under Sections 106 and 107 of CERCLA, and under Section 7003 of RCRA.

The Department of Justice will receive, for a period of thirty (30) days from the date of this publication, comments relating to the proposed consent decrees. Comments should be addressed to the Assistant Attorney General of the Environment and Natural Resources Division, Department of Justice, Washington, D.C. 20530, and should refer to *United States v. Alcan Aluminum, Inc., et al.*, DOJ Ref. Nos. 90-11-3-142A and 90-11-3-142E. Commenters may request an opportunity for a public meeting in the affected area, in accordance with Section 7003(d) of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. 6973(d).

The proposed consent decrees may be examined at the office of the United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, 615 Chestnut Street, Suite 1250, Philadelphia, PA 19106; the Region III Office of the Environmental

Protection Agency, 841 Chestnut Building, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107; and at the Consent Decree Library, 1120 G Street, N.W., 4th Floor, Washington, D.C. 20005, (202) 624-0892. A copy of the proposed consent decrees may be obtained in person or by mail from the Consent Decree Library, 1120 G Street, N.W., 4th Floor, Washington, D.C. 20005. In requesting a copy, please refer to the referenced case and enclose a check in the amount of \$33.50 (25 cents per page reproduction costs) payable to the Consent Decree Library (or \$89.75 for a copy that includes all signature pages and exhibits).

Walker Smith,

Deputy Chief, Environmental Enforcement Section, Environment and Natural Resources Division.

[FR Doc. 97-31722 Filed 12-2-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4410-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Antitrust Division

Notice Pursuant to the National Cooperative Research and Production Act of 1993—Petroleum Environmental Research Forum

Notice is hereby given that, on November 12, 1997, pursuant to Section 6(a) of the National Cooperative Research and Production Act of 1993, 15 U.S.C. § 4301, *et seq.* ("the Act"), the Petroleum Environmental Research Forum ("PERF") has filed written notifications simultaneously with the Attorney General and with the Federal Trade Commission disclosing a change in its membership. The notifications were filed for the purpose of extending the Act's provisions limiting the recovery of antitrust plaintiffs to actual damages under specified circumstances. Specifically, the notifications stated that Sun Company, Inc., has terminated its membership in PERF.

No other changes have been made in either the membership or planned activities of PERF. Membership in PERF remains open, and PERF intends to file additional written notification disclosing all changes in membership.

On February 10, 1986, PERF filed its original notification pursuant to Section 6(a) of the Act. The Department of Justice published a notice in the **Federal Register** pursuant to Section 6(b) of the Act on March 14, 1986 (51 FR 8903).

The last notification was filed with the Department on February 15, 1996. A notice was published in the **Federal Register** pursuant to Section 6(b) of the

Act on March 27, 1996 (61 FR 13517-18).

Constance K. Robinson,

Director of Operations, Antitrust Division.

[FR Doc. 97-31721 Filed 12-2-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4410-11-M

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Labor Advisory Committee for Trade Negotiations and Trade Policy; Meeting Notice

Pursuant to the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (P.L. 92-463 as amended), notice is hereby given of a meeting of the Steering Subcommittee of the Labor Advisory Committee for Trade Negotiations and Trade Policy.

Date, time and place: December 11, 1997, 10:00 am, U.S. Department of Labor, Seminar Room 5, 200 Constitution Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20210.

Purpose: The meeting will include a review and discussion of current issues which influence U.S. trade policy. Potential U.S. negotiating objectives and bargaining positions in current and anticipated trade negotiations will be discussed. Pursuant to section 9(B) of the Government in the Sunshine Act, 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(9)(B) it has been determined that the meeting will be concerned with matters the disclosure of which would seriously compromise the Government's negotiating objectives or bargaining positions. Accordingly, the meeting will be closed to the public.

For further information, contact: Jorge Perez-Lopez, Director, Office of International Economic Affairs, Phone: (202) 219-7597.

Signed at Washington, D.C., this 25th day of November 1997.

Andrew J. Samet,

Acting Deputy Under Secretary, International Affairs.

[FR Doc. 97-31672 Filed 12-2-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510-28-M

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employment and Training Administration

Federal-State Unemployment Compensation Program: Unemployment Insurance Program Letters Interpreting Federal Unemployment Insurance Law

The Employment and Training Administration interprets Federal law requirements pertaining to unemployment compensation (UC) as part of its role in the administration of the Federal-State UC program. These interpretations are issued in Unemployment Insurance Program Letters (UIPLs) to the State Employment

Security Agencies. The UIPL described below is published in the **Federal Register** in order to inform the public.

UIPL 39-97

UIPL 39-97, dated September 12, 1997, advises States of the Department of Labor's interpretation of the Reed Act provisions of Title IX of the Social Security Act and transmits updated instructions and requirements related to the use of "Reed Act" funds as transferred to State accounts in the Unemployment Trust Fund.

Dated: November 26, 1997.

Raymond J. Uhalde,

Acting Assistant Secretary of Labor.

Classification: UI

Correspondence Symbol: TEUFA

Date: September 12, 1997.

Directive: Unemployment Insurance Program Letter No. 39-97

To: All State Employment Security Agencies

From: Grace A. Kilbane, Director, Unemployment Insurance Service
Subject: The Reed Act Provisions of Title IX of the Social Security Act

1. *Purpose.* To transmit updated instructions and requirements related to the use of "Reed Act" funds as transferred to State accounts in the Unemployment Trust Fund (UTF).

2. *References.* Sections 303(a)(2), 303(a)(4), 303(a)(5), 303(a)(8), 901(c), 903, 904 and 1201 of the Social Security Act (SSA); the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 (BBA), P.L. 105-33; Sections 3304(a)(3), 3304(a)(4) and 3306(f) of the Federal Unemployment Tax Act (FUTA); 29 CFR Part 97; OMB Circular No. A-87; Part IV, Sections 3000-3040 of the *Employment Security Manual (ES Manual)*; UIPL Nos. 5-90, 11-90 and 12-91; GAL Nos. 4-83, 5-94 and 2-96; and Section III, Chapter 2 of *ET Handbook No. 401*.

3. *Background.* The Unemployment Insurance Service (UIS) is issuing "basic" program letters for certain program areas to provide comprehensive instructions to States in a single document. This program letter provides guidance to States in accounting for their use of Reed Act funds in accordance with standards established by the Secretary of Labor. This directive is a consolidation of instructions from the *ES Manual* and previous UI program and administration letters related to Reed Act funds and now supersedes the *ES Manual* sections referenced above. These instructions may later be included as a part of a Handbook issuance.

4. *Action Required.* SESA administrators are requested to provide

these instructions to the appropriate staff.

5. *Inquires.* Inquires should be directed to your Regional Office.

6. *Rescission.* Part IV, Sections 3000-3040 of the *Employment Security Manual*.

7. *Attachments.*

I. The Reed Act Provisions of Title IX of the Social Security Act;

II. Draft Language for State Laws.

Attachment I—The Reed Act Provisions of Title IX of the Social Security Act

A. Introduction

1. *Definition—Background.* The term "Reed Act" refers to a part of the Employment Security Financing Act of 1954, and is used in honor of Congressman Daniel A. Reed of New York, chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee at the time. This legislation amended Titles IX and XII of the Social Security Act (SSA) and established the basic structure of the Unemployment Trust Fund (UTF). The amendments to Title IX, among other things, provided, under certain conditions, for the transfer of excess funds in the Employment Security Administration Account (ESAA) in the UTF to the individual State accounts in the UTF (Section 903(a)(1), SSA). These transferred funds are commonly referred to as "Reed Act" funds. To date, only three Reed Act distributions—in 1956, 1957, and 1958—totalling \$138 million, have been made to State accounts.

Under the SSA, the primary purpose of Reed Act funds is the payment of "cash benefits to individuals with respect to their unemployment, exclusive of expenses of administration" (Section 903(c)(1), SSA). However, subject to conditions specified in Section 903(c)(2), SSA, a State is permitted, at its discretion, to use Reed Act funds for "the administration of its unemployment compensation law and public employment offices". (See Part E. for exception for use of Reed Act amounts allocated for fiscal years 2000, 2001, and 2002.)

Title III, SSA, governs the use of Federal grant funds for the administration of the unemployment compensation (UC) programs by States. Section 302(a), SSA, addresses the uses of UC granted funds as follows:

The Secretary of Labor shall from time to time certify to the Secretary of the Treasury for payment to each State which has an unemployment compensation law approved by the Secretary of Labor under the Federal Unemployment Tax Act, such amounts as the Secretary of Labor determines to