

these environmental safety hazards would be likely to exceed \$1,000,000, depending on the time of year and fire hazard conditions. Damages to highways and other facilities, as well as liability for human injuries, could also exceed this amount. In accordance with the regulations under 43 CFR 2883.1-4, this potential for a foreseeable risk or hazard to the United States requires that the MLA amended ROW grant offered to TransColorado be subject to the following strict liability stipulation:

The holder shall be liable for damage or injury to the United States to the extent provided by 43 CFR 2883.1-4. The holder shall be held to a standard of strict liability for damage or injury to the United States resulting from fire, explosion or soil movement (including land slides, slumps and rockfalls, as well as wind and water-caused movement of particles) caused or substantially aggravated by any of the following within the ROW or permit area:

- (a) Activities of the holder, including but not limited to construction, operation, maintenance, and termination of the facility.
- (b) Activities of other parties including but not limited to:
 - (i) Land clearing and logging.
 - (ii) Earth-disturbing and earth-moving work.
 - (iii) Blasting.
 - (iv) Vandalism and sabotage.
 - (c) Acts of God.

The maximum limitation for such strict liability damages shall not exceed one million dollars (\$1,000,000) for any one event, and any liability in excess of such amount shall be determined by the ordinary rules of negligence of the jurisdiction in which the damage or injury occurred.

This requirement shall not impose strict liability for damage or injuries resulting primarily from an act of war or from the negligent acts or omissions of the United States.

The strict liability stipulation contained in MLA amended ROW grant COC-51280 offered to TransColorado will be applied only to the locations on Federal lands managed by the San Juan National Forest described in the ROD in Attachment 5 of the ROD.

15. Steep Slopes Mitigation

All steep slope mitigation and construction measures and environmental protection measures contained in Appendix D, "Steep Slopes Construction Plan" of the Supplement will be followed. On these designated steep slope locations on the San Juan National Forest and on the Grand Mesa Slopes (see Appendix D-2, Supplement), these measures will take precedence over general mitigation measures. TUPs issued on these designated steep slopes of the San Juan National Forest (Attachment 5), will be stipulated such that TUAs will not be

used for the storage of merchantable timber. NTPs for these same TUAs on the San Juan National Forest will also contain this stipulation.

16. Visual Resource Mitigation

In the visually sensitive areas of the Grand Mesa Slopes Area and the Grand Valley, and the Dolores River Canyon crossing, the BLM Authorized Officer or delegated representative, at his/her discretion will require the implementation of some or all of the visual resource mitigation requirements stated in Attachment 2 of the ROD (Revised Tables 2-12 and 2-13 of the 1992 FEIS) and Appendix D of the Supplement to the 1992 FEIS. Additionally, for the Dolores River Canyon crossing and steep slopes, the final determination of visual resource mitigation measures will be at the discretion of the Authorized Officer, following construction. Design holes for tree planting shall be installed in quantity and dimension as directed by the Authorized Officer.

The decisions in the 1998 ROD may be appealed to the Interior Board of Land Appeals (IBLA), Office of the Secretary, in accordance with the regulations contained in 43 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Part 4 and the enclosed Form 1842-1. If an appeal is taken, your notice of appeal must be filed with the Bureau of Land Management, District Manager, Montrose District, 2465 South Townsend Avenue, Montrose, Colorado 81401 within 30 days from the date of publication of this Notice of Availability in the **Federal Register**. The appellant has the burden of showing that the decision appealed from is in error.

The decision(s) in the ROD may be appealed to the Interior Board of Land Appeals (IBLA), Office of the Secretary, in accordance with the regulations contained in 43 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Part 4. If an appeal is taken, your notice of appeal must be filed with the Bureau of Land Management, Montrose District Manager, 2465 South Townsend Avenue, Montrose, Colorado 81401, within 30 days after the date of publication in the **Federal Register**. The appellant has the burden of showing that the decision appealed from is in error.

If you wish to file a petition pursuant to regulations at 43 CFR 4.21 (58 FR 4939, January 19, 1993) for a stay of the effectiveness of this decision during the time that your appeal is being reviewed by the IBLA, the petition for a stay must accompany your notice of appeal. A petition for a stay is required to show sufficient justification based on the

standards listed below. Copies of the notice of appeal and petition for a stay must also be submitted to each party named in this decision and to the IBLA and to the appropriate Office of the Solicitor (see 43 CFR 4.413) at the same time the original documents are filed with this office. If you request a stay, you have the burden of proof to demonstrate that a stay should be granted.

Standards for Obtaining a Stay

Except as otherwise provided by law or other pertinent regulation, a petition for a stay of a decision pending appeal shall show sufficient justification based on the following standards:

- (1) The relative harm to the parties if the stay is granted or denied,
- (2) The likelihood of the appellant's success on the merits,
- (3) The likelihood of immediate and irreparable harm if the stay is not granted, and
- (4) Whether the public interest favors granting the stay.

Adverse parties of record who must be served with a copy of the appeal and statement of reasons are: Mr. C. Kim Blair, TransColorado Gas Transmission Company, 79 South State St., P. O. Box 11450, Salt Lake City, Utah 84147.

Dated: June 4, 1998.

Mark W. Stiles,

District Manager, Montrose District, Bureau of Land Management.

Dated: June 4, 1998.

Robert L. Storch,

Forest Supervisor, Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre, and Gunnison National Forests, Forest Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[OR-130-1020-00; GP8-0216]

Eastern Washington Resource Advisory Council Tour and Meeting

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Spokane District.

ACTION: Tour and meeting of the Eastern Washington Resource Advisory Council; June 25, 1998, beginning and ending in Spokane, Washington.

SUMMARY: A tour of Bureau of Land Management recreation sites and meeting of the Eastern Washington Resource Advisory Council will be held on June 25, 1998. The tour and meeting will convene at 8:00 a.m., at the Spokane District Office of the Bureau of

Land Management, 1103 N. Fancher, Spokane, Washington, 99212. The tour and meeting will conclude at 5:00 p.m. or upon completion of the tour at the Spokane BLM office. Public comments will be heard from 12:30 p.m. until 1:00 p.m. at BLM's Lakeview Ranch tour stop.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Richard Hubbard, Bureau of Land Management, Spokane District Office, 1103 N. Fancher Road, Spokane, Washington, 99212; or call 509-536-1200.

Dated: June 5, 1998.

Gary J. Yeager,

Acting District Manager.

[FR Doc. 98-15620 Filed 6-10-98; 8:45 am]

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INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

[Investigation 332-395]

Effects on U.S. Trade of the European Union's Association Agreements With Selected Central and Eastern European Partners

AGENCY: United States International Trade Commission.

ACTION: Institution of investigation, scheduling of public hearing, and notice of opportunity to submit comments.

EFFECTIVE DATE: June 2, 1998.

SUMMARY: Following receipt on April 15, 1998, of a request under section 332(g) of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1332(g)) from the United States Trade Representative (USTR), the U.S. International Trade Commission (Commission) instituted investigation No. 332-395, Effects on U.S. Trade of the European Union's Association Agreements with Selected Central and Eastern European Partners. The Commission plans to submit its report to the USTR by April 15, 1999.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Diane Manifold, Office of Economics (202-205-3271 or e-mail to dmanifold@usitc.gov). The media should contact Margaret O'Laughlin, Office of External Relations (202-205-1819). General information concerning the Commission may also be obtained by accessing its Internet server (<http://www.usitc.gov>).

Background

The European Union (EU) has signed a number of trade-liberalizing agreements with trading partners in Central and Eastern Europe and the Mediterranean. These agreements have

established the starting point for negotiations on EU membership, which will commence this year.

To help it better understand the implications for the United States of such agreements, USTR requested on April 15, 1998 that the Commission conduct a fact-finding investigation under section 332(g) of the Tariff Act of 1930 to assess the effects on U.S. trade flows, sector-by-sector (including agriculture) of the European Union's association agreements with selected Central and Eastern European partners. As requested by the USTR, the Commission in its report on the investigation will:

(1) Describe the trade and investment-related provisions of the association agreement, including trading partner tariff preferences for EU goods and estimate the percentage of trading partner imports of goods and services from the EU that are covered collectively by the provisions;

(2) Analyze the changes in access to the trading partner's market such provisions create for the United States;

(3) Identify the product sectors where notable changes have occurred or are likely to occur to imports from the United States as a result of the association agreements; and,

(4) After examining trends in trade by the partner countries, analyze the likely effects of the agreements on U.S. industries in the identified sectors.

In addition, as requested by USTR, the Commission will review, and compile a bibliography of, existing academic and other literature relating to this topic; solicit to the extent possible the views of U.S. firms having experience in the relevant markets; and discuss aggregate effects of all five agreements to the extent possible. USTR requested that these trends be placed in the context of other economic and policy developments that may also have had an impact on the country's trade and investment flows since entry-into-force of the agreements.

Public Hearing

A public hearing in connection with this investigation will be held in the Commission Hearing Room, 500 E Street, SW, Washington, DC 20436, beginning at 9:30 am on November 18, 1998. All persons will have the right to appear by counsel or in person, to present testimony, and to be heard. Requests to appear at the public hearing should be filed in writing with the Secretary, United States International Trade Commission, 500 E Street, SW, Washington, DC 20436, on or before noon November 6, 1998. Persons testifying at the hearing are encouraged

to file prehearing briefs or statements; the deadline for filing such briefs or statements (a signed original and 14 copies) is noon, November 6, 1998. The deadline for filing posthearing briefs or statements is November 25, 1998. Any confidential business information included in such briefs or statements to be submitted at the hearing must be submitted in accordance with the procedures set forth in section 201.6 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (19 CFR 201.6).

In the event that, as of COB November 6, 1998, no witnesses have filed a request to appear at the hearing, the hearing will be canceled. Any person interested in attending the hearing as an observer or non-participant may call the Secretary to the Commission (202-205-1816) after November 6, 1998, to determine whether the hearing will be held.

Written Submissions

In lieu of or in addition to participating in the hearing, interested persons are invited to submit written statements concerning the matters to be addressed in the report. Commercial or financial information that a party desires the Commission to treat as confidential must be submitted on separate sheets of paper, each clearly marked "Confidential Business Information" at the top. All submissions requesting confidential treatment must conform with the requirements of section 201.6 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (19 CFR 201.6). All written submissions, except for confidential business information, will be made available for inspection by interested persons in the Office of the Secretary to the Commission. To be assured of consideration by the Commission, written statements relating to the Commission's report should be submitted at the earliest practical date and should be received not later than COB November 25, 1998. All submissions should be addressed to the Secretary, United States International Trade Commission, 500 E Street SW, Washington, D.C. 20436.

Accessibility

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. Hearing-impaired persons are advised that information on this investigation can be obtained by contacting the Commission's TDD terminal on 202-205-1810. General information concerning the Commission may also be