

barrels of oil equivalent). This system is authorized by section (8)(a)(1)(H) of the OCSLA, as amended. It has been chosen for blocks in water depths of 400 to 800 meters proposed for the Western Gulf of Mexico (Sale 171) to comply with Sec. 304 of the DWRRA. The 12½-percent royalty rate is used in deeper water because these blocks are expected to require substantially higher exploration, development, and production costs, as well as longer times before initial production, in comparison to shallow-water blocks. The use of a royalty suspension volume of 52.5 million barrels of oil equivalent for eligible fields provides an incentive for development and production appropriate for this water depth category.

b.(iii) *Bonus Bidding with a 12½-Percent Royalty and a Royalty Suspension Volume (87.5 million barrels of oil equivalent)*. This system is authorized by section (8)(a)(1)(H) of the OCSLA, as amended. It has been chosen for blocks in water depths of 800 meters or more proposed for the Western Gulf of Mexico (Sale 171) to comply with Sec. 304 of the DWRRA. The use of a royalty suspension volume of 87.5 million barrels of oil equivalent for eligible fields provides an incentive for development and production appropriate for these deep-water depths.

2. *Designation of Blocks*. The selection of blocks to be offered under the four systems was based on the following factors:

a. Royalty rates on adjacent, previously leased tracts were considered to enhance orderly development of each field.

b. Blocks in deep water were selected for the 12½-percent royalty system based on the favorable performance of this system in these high-cost areas in past sales.

c. The royalty suspension volumes were based on the water depth specific volumes mandated by the DWRRA.

The specific blocks to be offered under each system are shown on the "Lease Terms, Bidding Systems, and Royalty Suspension Areas, Sale 171" map for Western Gulf of Mexico Lease Sale 171. This map is available from the Public Information Unit, Minerals Management Service, 1201 Elmwood Park Boulevard, New Orleans, Louisiana 70123-2394.

Dated: July 20, 1998.

Cynthia L. Quarterman,

Director, Minerals Management Service.

Approved:

Bob Armstrong,

Assistant Secretary, Land and Minerals Management.

[FR Doc. 98-22800 Filed 8-24-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-MR-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Minerals Management Service

Outer Continental Shelf, Western Gulf of Mexico; Notice Regarding Sale 171

On August 17, 1998, the Minerals Management Service (MMS) became aware that the routine Notice of Leasing Systems for Sale 171, Western Gulf of Mexico, printed in full below, was not published in the **Federal Register** on July 24, 1998. The leasing systems in this Notice are specified in the Sale 171 Notice of Sale which MMS published in the **Federal Register** on July 24, 1998. The Sale 171 Notice of Sale identified the bidding systems used in the sale and identified the blocks offered under each system. This Notice of Leasing Systems states again the leasing and bidding terms and the reasons for selection of the specific bidding systems. These bidding systems and the reasons for their selection are the same as those published for each Gulf of Mexico OCS lease sale since Sale 157, held in April 1996 (See 61 FR 12086, March 25, 1996). The MMS sent this Notice of Leasing Systems to the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President of the Senate on July 20, 1998.

Dated: August 20, 1998.

Carolita U. Kallaur,

Associate Director for Offshore Minerals Management.

[FR Doc. 98-22801 Filed 8-24-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-MR-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Environmental Statements; Notice of Intent: Natchez Trace Parkway

AGENCY: National Park Service, DOI.

ACTION: Amendment to Notice of Intent to prepare a Supplement to the Final Environmental Impact Statement, Old Agency Road, Natchez Trace Parkway.

SUMMARY: On August 3, 1998, the National Park Service published a Notice of Intent to initiate a supplemental environmental impact analysis process for the construction of

a segment of the Natchez Trace Parkway motor road which would affect a portion of Old Agency Road in the city of Ridgeland, Mississippi. This notice serves to amend the scope of the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement analysis area to the 0.5 mile segment of the proposed Parkway motor road associated with Old Agency Road.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Jerry Belson, Regional Director, Southeast Region, National Park Service, 1924 Building, 100 Alabama Street, SW, Atlanta, Georgia 30303.

Dated: August 18, 1998.

Daniel W. Brown,

Regional Director, Southeast Region.

[FR Doc. 98-22722 Filed 8-24-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-70-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Notice of Availability of Draft Director's Order #77.1: Wetland Protection and Draft Procedural Manual #77.1: Wetland Protection

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: The National Park Service (NPS) is converting and updating its current system of internal instructions. When these documents contain new policy or procedural requirements that may affect parties outside the NPS, this information is being made available for public review and comment. Draft Director's Order #77.1: Wetland Protection revises NPS policies, standards, and requirements for implementing Executive Order 11990: Protection of Wetlands. Draft Procedural Manual #77.1: Wetland Protection establishes procedures for implementing the Director's Order. These documents update, streamline, and clarify existing NPS wetland protection policies and procedures for implementing the Executive Order, which were originally published in 1980 as part of the NPS Floodplain Management and Wetland Protection Guidelines (45 FR 35916, minor revisions in 47 FR 36718).

DATES: Written comments will be accepted on or before September 24, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Draft Director's Order #77.1: Wetland Protection and draft Procedural Manual #77.1: Wetland Protection are available on the Internet at: <http://www.nps.gov/refdesk/DOrders/index.htm> Requests for copies and written comments should be sent to: Joel Wagner, National Park Service,

Water Resources Division, P.O. Box 25287, Denver, CO, 80225.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Joel Wagner at (303) 969-2955.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The NPS is revising the policies and procedures for implementing Executive Order 11990: Protection of Wetlands in conformance with the new system of NPS internal guidance documents. These updated policies and procedures will be published as Director's Order #77.1: Wetland Protection and Procedural Manual #77.1: Wetland Protection. Upon final approval of this Director's Order and the procedural manual, the existing NPS wetland protection guidance (1980 NPS Floodplain Management and Wetland Protection Guidelines), will be rescinded.

Dated: August 19, 1998.

Michael Soukup,

Associate Director, Natural Resource Stewardship and Science.

[FR Doc. 98-22724 Filed 8-24-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-70-P

INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

[Investigation No. 701-TA-383 (Preliminary) and Investigation No. 731-TA-805 (Preliminary)]

Elastic Rubber Tape From India

AGENCY: United States International Trade Commission.

ACTION: Institution of countervailing duty and antidumping investigations and scheduling of preliminary phase investigations.

SUMMARY: The Commission hereby gives notice of the institution of investigations and commencement of preliminary phase countervailing duty investigation No. 701-TA-383 (Preliminary) and antidumping investigation No. 731-TA-805 (Preliminary) under sections 703(a) and 733(a), respectively, of the Tariff Act of 1930 (the Act) (19 U.S.C. 1671b(a) and 19 U.S.C. 1673b(a)) to determine whether there is a reasonable indication that an industry in the United States is materially injured or threatened with material injury, or the establishment of an industry in the United States is materially retarded, by reason of imports from India of elastic rubber tape, provided for in subheading 4008.21.00 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States, that are alleged to be subsidized by the Government of India and sold in the United States at less than fair value (LTFV). Unless the Department of

Commerce extends the time for initiation pursuant to section 702(c)(1)(B) or 732(c)(1)(B) of the Act (19 U.S.C. 1671a(c)(1)(B) or 19 U.S.C. 1673a(c)(1)(B)), the Commission must reach a preliminary determination in these investigations in 45 days, or in this case by October 2, 1998. The Commission's views are due at the Department of Commerce within five business days thereafter, or by October 9.

For further information concerning the conduct of these investigations 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, subparts A and B (19 CFR part 207).

EFFECTIVE DATE: August 18, 1998.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Larry Reavis (202-205-3185), 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>).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

These investigations are being instituted in response to a petition filed on August 18, 1998, by Fulflex, Inc., Middletown, RI; Elastomer Technologies Group, Inc., Stuart, VA; and RM Engineered Products, Inc., North Charleston, SC.

Participation in the Investigations and Public Service List

Persons (other than petitioners) wishing to participate in the investigations as parties must file an entry of appearance with the Secretary to the Commission, as provided in sections 201.11 and 207.10 of the Commission's rules, not later than seven days after publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**. 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 and antidumping investigations. The Secretary will prepare a public service list containing the names and addresses of all persons, or their representatives,

who are parties to these investigations upon the expiration of the period for filing entries of appearance.

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 these investigations available to authorized applicants representing interested parties (as defined in 19 U.S.C. § 1677(9)) who are parties to the investigations under the APO issued in the investigations, provided that the application is made not later than seven days after the publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**. A separate service list will be maintained by the Secretary for those parties authorized to receive BPI under the APO.

Conference

The Commission's Director of Operations has scheduled a conference in connection with these investigations for 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, September 8, 1998, at the U.S. International Trade Commission Building, 500 E Street SW, Washington, DC. Parties wishing to participate in the conference should contact Larry Reavis (202-205-3185) not later than September 4, 1998, to arrange for their appearance. Parties in support of the imposition of countervailing or antidumping duties in these investigations and parties in opposition to the imposition of such duties will each be collectively allocated one hour within which to make an oral presentation at the conference. A nonparty who has testimony that may aid the Commission's deliberations may request permission to present a short statement at the conference.

Written Submissions

As provided in sections 201.8 and 207.15 of the Commission's rules, any person may submit to the Commission on or before September 11, 1998, a written brief containing information and arguments pertinent to the subject matter of the investigations. Parties may file written testimony in connection with their presentation at the conference no later than three days before the conference. If briefs or written testimony contain BPI, they must conform with the requirements of sections 201.6, 207.3, and 207.7 of the Commission's rules. The Commission's rules do not authorize filing of submissions with the Secretary by facsimile or electronic means.