

segments moved independently of each other. Even though growth in the chemical-use segment of the market has been substantial, such growth does not appear to have significantly changed the structure of the market.

Changes in Competition Within the Industry

During the original investigations, the Commission considered that the market for silicon metal was segmented into chemical-use and metallurgical-use segments. In the original investigations, the record reflected that domestic producers, while selling to both segments, focused greater efforts on the chemical-use market. Thus, the requester's assertion of the existence of a new competitive environment is not a changed circumstance, but rather represents an issue previously considered by the Commission in the original determinations. Moreover, even with the existence of a greater concentration of domestic sales in the chemical-use market, the requester has failed to provide persuasive evidence that the Commission's original finding of significant price competition among market segments has changed.

Changes in Economic Conditions in the Industry

While the economic condition of the domestic silicon metal industry appears to have improved since the original investigations, such improvements coincide with a general improvement in the overall economy. Moreover, the domestic industry's capacity was substantially below overall consumption in the silicon metal market during the original investigations. Given this, the inability of the domestic producers to supply all of the market is not a circumstance that has changed since the original investigations.

Alleged Price-Fixing Activity

The request asserts that key data and information provided to the Commission by the U.S. industry during the original investigations may have been distorted and misleading due to the alleged involvement of several U.S. producers in a price-fixing conspiracy. Despite making allegations of price-fixing activities among domestic producers, the requester and other interested parties in support of a review have failed to provide the Commission with any positive evidence of the existence of a price-fixing scheme within the silicon metal industry. As parties in support of a review, they bear the burden of providing such evidence—evidence that goes beyond mere conjecture and speculation.

Moreover, the circumstances of these investigations are significantly different from those underlying the Commission's recent decision to institute changed circumstance reviews on ferrosilicon. Unlike the 751(b) request on ferrosilicon which provided the Commission with clear evidence of a conspiracy to fix prices among three U.S. producers (two companies pled guilty and one was found guilty), none of the silicon metal producers has pled guilty to or been convicted of fixing silicon metal prices or of participating in a conspiracy to fix silicon metal prices.⁸

In light of the above analysis, the Commission determines that institution of a review investigation under section 751(b) of the Act concerning the Commission's affirmative determinations in investigations Nos. 731-TA-470-472 (Final): Silicon Metal from Argentina, Brazil, and China, is not warranted.

Issued: September 22, 1998.

By order of the Commission.

Donna R. Koehnke,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98-26217 Filed 9-29-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Office of Community Oriented Policing Service; Agency Information Collection Activities: Extension of a Currently Approved Collection; Comment Request

ACTION: Notice of information collection under review; (Reinstatement, without change, of a previously approved collection for which approval has expired) Grantee Satisfaction Survey.

The Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, has submitted the following information collection request for review and clearance in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. Office of Management and Budget approval is being sought for the information collection listed below. This proposed information collection was previously published in the **Federal Register** on July 9, 1998, allowing for a 60-day public comment period.

The purpose of this notice is to allow an additional 30 days for public comment until October 30, 1998. This

⁸SKW Metals & Alloys, Inc. (SKW), which was found guilty of conspiracy to fix prices on ferrosilicon, was acquitted of charges involving silicon metal. A federal judge found no preponderance of evidence showing the existence of a silicon metal conspiracy. See, brief of domestic producers at pp. 13-15 and exhibit 2.

process is conducted in accordance with 5 CFR 1320.10.

Written comments and/or suggestions regarding the item(s) 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: Department of Justice Desk Officer, Washington, DC 20530. Additionally, comments may be submitted to OMB via facsimile to (202) 395-7285. Comments may also be submitted to the Department of Justice (DOJ), Justice Management Division, Information Management and Security Staff, Attention: Department Deputy Clearance Officer, Suite 850, 1001 G Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20530.

Written comments and/or suggestions from the public and affected agencies concerning the proposed collection of information 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 function 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 the information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
- (3) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
- (4) Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through 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

(1) *Type of information collection:* Extension of previously approved collection.

(2) *The title of the form:/collection:* Grantee Satisfaction Survey.

(3) *The agency form number, if any, and the applicable component of the Department sponsoring the collection:* The form number is 27/01, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, 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 or Tribal Government.

Other: none.

The Grantee Satisfaction Survey will allow the COPS Office to set performance goals that are consistent

with the level of service that is desired by the law enforcement field and to adjust its provision of customer service as necessary to better service its grantees.

(5) *An estimate of the total number of respondents and the amount of time estimated for an average respondent to respond/reply:* The Grantee Satisfaction Survey will be administered two times per year: Approximately 2,600 respondents per year, at 30 minutes per respondent (including record keeping).

(6) *An estimate of the total public burden (in hours) associated with the collection:* Approximately 1,300 hours.

If additional information is required contact: Ms. Brenda E. Dyer, Deputy Clearance Officer United States Department of Justice, Information Management and Security Staff, Justice Management Division, Suite 850, Washington Center, 1001 G Street, NW, Washington, DC 20530.

Dated: September 24, 1998.

Brenda E. Dyer,

Department Deputy Clearance Officer, United States Department of Justice.

[FR Doc. 98-26123 Filed 9-29-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4410-AT-M

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Notice of Lodging of Consent Decree Pursuant to the Clean Air Act, Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act, and Emergency Response and Community Right-To-Know Act

In accordance with Departmental policy, 28 CFR 50.7, notice is hereby given that a proposed consent decree in *United States v. Shell Oil Company, Shell Wood River Refining Company, Equilon Enterprises LLC, and Wood River Refining Company, a Division of Equilon Enterprises LLC*, Civil Action No. 98-652-GPM, was lodged with the United States District Court for the Southern District of Illinois on September 9, 1998 contemporaneously with the filing of a complaint. This proposed consent decree would resolve the United States' civil claims against Shell Oil Company, Shell Wood River Refining Company, Equilon Enterprises LLC, and Wood River Refining Company, a Division of Equilon Enterprises LLC ("Defendants") for violations at the Wood River Refinery in Roxana, Illinois, under the Clean Air Act, 42 U.S.C. 7401 *et seq.*, the Resource

Conservation and Recovery Act, 42 U.S.C. 6901 *et seq.*, the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act, 42 U.S.C. 9601 *et seq.*, and the Emergency Response and Community Right to Know Act, 42 U.S.C. 11001 *et seq.* The proposed consent decree would also resolve claims brought by the State of Illinois, which has intervened in this action.

Under the terms of the proposed consent decree, Defendants will pay a civil penalty of \$1.5 million (\$500,000 of which will go to the State of Illinois) and certify compliance with the above-referenced environmental laws. Defendants also will perform six environmental projects as part of the proposed settlement, including a project that will reduce emissions of sulfur dioxide by 7,700 tons per year and nitrogen oxides by 940 tons per year and a project that will require Defendants to arrange for the transfer of land along the Mississippi River (valued at \$500,000) to the State of Illinois for wetlands preservation and water quality protection purposes. The total cost of the environmental projects will exceed \$10 million.

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 decree. Comments should be addressed to the Assistant Attorney General for the Environment and Natural Resources Division, Department of Justice, Washington, DC 20530, and should refer to *United States v. Shell Oil Company, Shell Wood River Refining Company, Equilon Enterprises LLC, and Wood River Refining Company, a Division of Equilon Enterprises LLC*, Civil Action No. 98-652-GPM, and Department of Justice Reference No. 90-7-1-818.

The proposed consent decree may be examined at the Office of the United States Attorney, Southern District of Illinois, 9 Executive Drive, Fairview Heights, Illinois 62208; the Region 5 Office of the Environmental Protection Agency, 77 West Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois 60604-3590; and at the Consent Decree Library, 1120 G Street, NW, 4th Floor, Washington, DC 20005, 202-624-0892. A copy of the proposed consent decree may be obtained in person or by mail from the Consent Decree Library, 1120 G Street, NW, 4th Floor, Washington, DC 20005. In requesting a copy, please refer to the referenced case and enclose a check in

the amount of \$10.50 (25 cents per page reproduction costs), payable to the Consent Decree Library.

Joel M. Gross,

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

[FR Doc. 98-26175 Filed 9-29-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4410-15-M

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Antitrust Division

Notice Pursuant to the National Cooperative Research and Production Act of 1993—Bethlehem Steel Corporation and U.S. Steel Group, a Unit of USX Corporation

Notice is hereby given that, on March 25, 1998, pursuant to Section 6(a) of the National Cooperative Research and Production Act of 1993, 15 U.S.C. 4301 *et seq.* ("the Act"), Bethlehem Steel Corporation and U.S. Steel Group, A Unit of USX Corporation, has filed written notifications simultaneously with the Attorney General and the Federal Trade Commission disclosing changes in its project status. 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 venture has been extended for an additional year.

No other changes have been made in either the membership or planned activity of the group research project. Bethlehem Steel Corporation and U.S. Steel Group, A Unit of USX Corporation intends to file additional written notification disclosing all changes in membership.

On July 15, 1994, Bethlehem Steel Corporation and U.S. Steel Group, A Unit of USX Corporation, 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 August 31, 1994 (59 FR 45009).

The last notification was filed with the Department on May 23, 1997. A notice was published in the **Federal Register** pursuant to Section 6(b) of the Act on July 16, 1997 (62 FR 38120).

Constance K. Robinson,

Director of Operations, Antitrust Division.

[FR Doc. 98-26178 Filed 9-29-98; 8:45 am]

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