

threatened or endangered species or other organisms, such as bees, that are beneficial to agriculture. Therefore, APHIS has concluded that the subject soybean line and any progeny derived from crosses with other soybean varieties will be as safe to grow as soybeans that are not subject to regulation under 7 CFR part 340.

Since APHIS has determined that event GU262 soybean does not pose a plant pest risk and is similar to the antecedent organisms, AgrEvo's event GU262 soybean is no longer considered a regulated article under APHIS' regulations in 7 CFR part 340. Therefore, the requirements pertaining to regulated articles under those regulations no longer apply to the field testing, importation, or interstate movement of the subject soybean line or its progeny. However, importation of the subject soybean line or seeds capable of propagation are still subject to the restrictions found in APHIS' foreign quarantine notices in 7 CFR part 319.

National Environmental Policy Act

An environmental assessment (EA) has been prepared to examine the potential environmental impacts associated with this determination. The EA was prepared in accordance with: (1) The National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (NEPA) (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), (2) regulations of the Council on Environmental Quality for implementing the procedural provisions of NEPA (40 CFR parts 1500–1508), (3) USDA regulations implementing NEPA (7 CFR part 1b), and (4) APHIS' NEPA Implementing Procedures (7 CFR part 372). Based on that EA, APHIS has reached a finding of no significant impact (FONSI) with regard to its determination that AgrEvo's event GU262 soybean and lines developed from it are no longer regulated articles under its regulations in 7 CFR part 340. Copies of the EA and the FONSI are available upon request from the individual listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

Done in Washington, DC, this 16th day of October 1998.

Joan M. Arnoldi,

Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[FR Doc. 98–28283 Filed 10–21–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–34–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Madan Environmental Impact Statement

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement.

SUMMARY: The Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, will prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to provide timber for the Stikine Area timber sale program. The Record of Decision will disclose how the Forest Service has decided to provide harvest units, roads, and associated timber harvesting facilities. The proposed action is to harvest up to an estimated 20–25 million board feet (mmbf) of timber on an estimated 1,600–2,500 acres in one or more timber sales. A range of alternatives responsive to significant issues will be developed and will include a no-action alternative. The proposed timber harvest is located within the Tongass Forest Plan Value Comparison Units 502 and 504 on the Southeast Alaska mainland, Wrangell Ranger District, Stikine Area of the Tongass National Forest.

DATES: Comments concerning the scope of this project should be received by November 20, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Please send written comments to Wrangell Ranger District; Attn: Madan EIS; P.O. Box 51, Wrangell, AK 99929.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Questions about the proposal and EIS should be directed to Steve Brady, District Ranger, or Dick Cozby, TMA, Wrangell Ranger District, Tongass National Forest, P.O. Box 51, Wrangell, AK 99929, telephone (907) 874–2323.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Public participation will be an integral component of the study process and will be especially important at several points during the analysis. The first is during the scoping process. The Forest Service will be seeking information, comments, and assistance from Federal, State, local agencies, individuals and organizations that may be interested in, or affected by, the proposed activities. The scoping process will include: (1) identification of potential issues; (2) identification of issues to be analyzed in depth; and, (3) elimination of insignificant issues or those which have been covered by a previous environmental review. Written scoping comments are being solicited through a scoping package that will be sent to the project mailing list. For the Forest Service to best use the scoping input,

comments should be received by November 20, 1998. Tentative issues identified for analysis in the EIS include the potential effects of the project on and the relationship of the project to: Old-growth ecosystem management and the maintenance of habitat for viable populations of wildlife species, timber supply and sale economics, scenery, road construction/access management, and karst topography.

Based on results of scoping and the resource capabilities within the project area, alternatives including a “no action” alternative will be developed for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (Draft EIS). The Draft EIS is projected to be filed with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in April 1999. The final EIS is anticipated by December 1999.

The comment period on the draft environmental impact statement will be 45 days from the date the Environmental Protection Agency publishes the notice of availability in the **Federal Register**.

The Forest Service believes it is important to give reviewers notice of several court rulings related to public participation in the environmental review process. First, reviewers of draft environmental impact statements must structure their participation in the environmental review of the proposal so that it is meaningful and alerts an agency to the reviewer's position and contentions. *Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corp. v. NRDC*, 435 U.S. 519, 553, (1978). Environmental objections that could have been raised at the draft environmental impact statement stage may be waived or dismissed by the courts. *City of Angoon v. Hodel*, 803 F.2d 1016, 1022 (9th Cir. 1986) and *Wisconsin Heritages, Inc. v. Harris*, 490 F. Supp. 1334, 1338 (E.D. Wis. 1980). Because of these court rulings, it is very important that those interested in this proposed action participate by the close of the 45-day comment period so that substantive comments and objections are made available to the Forest Service at a time when it can meaningfully consider them and respond to them in the final environmental impact statement.

To assist the Forest Service in identifying and considering issues and concerns of the proposed action, comments during scoping and comments on the draft environmental impact statement should be as specific as possible. It is also helpful if comments refer to specific pages or chapters of the draft statement. Comments may also address the adequacy of the draft environmental impact statement or the merits of the

alternatives formulated and discussed in the statement. Reviewers may wish to refer to the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations for implementing the procedural provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act at 40 CFR 1503.3 in addressing these points. Comments received in response to this solicitation, including names and addresses of those who comment, will be considered part of the public record on this proposed action and will be available for public inspection. Comments submitted anonymously will be accepted and considered; however, those who submit anonymous comments will not have standing to appeal the subsequent decision under 36 CFR Parts 215 or 217. Additionally, pursuant to 7 CFR 1.27(d), any person may request the agency to withhold a submission from the public record by showing how the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) permits such confidentiality. Requesters should be aware that, under FOIA, confidentiality may be granted in only very limited circumstances, such as to protect trade secrets. The Forest Service will inform the requester of the agency's decision regarding the request for confidentiality, and where the request is denied, the agency will return the submission and notify the requester that the comments may be resubmitted with or without name and address within 7 days.

Permits: Permits required for implementation include the following:

1. U.S. Army Corp of Engineers
 - Approval of discharge of dredged or fill material into the waters of the United States under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act;
 - Approval of the construction of structures or work in navigable waters of the United States under Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899;
2. Environmental Protection Agency
 - National Pollutant Discharge Elimination system (402) Permit;
 - Review Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasure Plan;
3. State of Alaska, Department of Natural Resources
 - Tideland Permit and Lease or Easement;
4. State of Alaska, Department of Environmental Conservation
 - Solid Waste Disposal Permit;
 - Certification of Compliance with Alaska Water Quality Standards (401 Certification)

Responsible Official: Carol J. Jorgensen, Assistant Forest Supervisor, Stikine Area, Tongass National Forest,

P.O. box 309, Petersburg, Alaska 99833, is the responsible official. The responsible official will consider the comments, response, disclosure of environmental consequences, and applicable laws, regulations, and policies in making the decision and stating the rationale in the Record of Decision.

Dated: October 10, 1998.

Carol J. Jorgensen,

Assistant Forest Supervisor.

[FR Doc. 98-28292 Filed 10-21-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

U.S. ARCTIC RESEARCH COMMISSION

U.S. Arctic Research Commission

October 15, 1998.

Notice is hereby given that the U.S. Arctic Research Commission will hold its 52nd Meeting in Fairbanks, AK on October 29, and 30, 1998.

The Meeting will be held in the Globe Room of the University of Alaska and will convene at 8:45 AM on Thursday the 29th and 8:30 AM on Friday the 30th. Parking on the University Campus is restricted.

Topics for the meeting include Federal and State Agency reports, Congressional liaison reports and a series of briefings on various aspects of research in Alaska.

Any person planning to attend the Tuesday meeting who requires special accessibility features and/or auxiliary aids, such as sign language interpreters must inform the Commission in advance of those needs.

Contact Person for More Information: Dr. Garrett W. Brass, Executive Director, Arctic Research Commission, 703-525-0111 or TDD 703-306-0090.

Garrett W. Brass,

Executive Director.

[FR Doc. 98-28293 Filed 10-21-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

September 1998 Sunset Reviews: Final Results and Revocations

AGENCY: Import Administration, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of Final Results of Sunset Reviews and Revocation of Antidumping Findings and Countervailing Duty Orders:

Cotton Yarn from Brazil (C-351-037)

Animal Glue from Germany (A-428-062)
Railway Track Equipment from Austria (A-433-064)

Impression Fabric from Japan (A-588-066)
Rayon Staple Fiber from Finland (A-405-071)

Rayon Staple Fiber from Sweden (C-401-056)

SUMMARY: On September 1, 1998, the Department of Commerce ("the Department") initiated sunset reviews of the antidumping findings of animal glue from Germany, railway track equipment from Austria, impression fabric from Japan, and rayon staple fiber from Finland. On this date, the Department also initiated sunset reviews of the countervailing duty orders on cotton yarn from Brazil and rayon staple fiber from Sweden. Because no domestic interested party responded to the sunset review notice of initiation by the applicable deadline, the Department is revoking these findings and orders.

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 1, 2000.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Martha V. Douthit, Scott E. Smith, or Melissa G. Skinner, Import Administration, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, Pennsylvania Avenue and 14th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20230; telephone: (202) 482-3207, (202) 482-6397, or (202) 482-1560 respectively.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The Treasury Department issued antidumping findings on animal glue from Germany (42 FR 64116, December 22, 1977), railway track equipment from Austria (43 FR 6937, February 17, 1978), impression fabric from Japan (43 FR 22344, May 25, 1978), and rayon staple fiber from Finland (44 FR 17156, March 21, 1979). In addition, the Treasury Department issued countervailing duty orders on cotton yarn from Brazil (42 FR 14089, March 15, 1977) and rayon staple fiber from Sweden (44 FR 28319, May 15, 1979). Pursuant to section 751(c) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended ("the Act"), the Department initiated sunset reviews of these findings and orders by publishing notice of the initiation in the **Federal Register** (63 FR 46410, September 1, 1998). In addition, as a courtesy to interested parties, the Department sent letters, via certified and registered mail, to each party listed on the Department's most current service list for these proceedings to inform them of the automatic initiation of a sunset review on these findings and orders.

No domestic interested parties in any of the sunset reviews of these findings