

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** December 14, 1999.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Jozlyn Kalchthaler (202-205-3457), 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**

The final phase of this investigation is being scheduled as a result of an affirmative preliminary determination by the Department of Commerce that imports of synthetic indigo from China are being sold in the United States at less than fair value within the meaning of section 733 of the Act (19 U.S.C. 1673b). The investigation was requested in a petition filed on June 30, 1999, by Buffalo Color Corp., Parsippany, NJ, and the United Steelworkers of America, AFL-CIO/CLC.

**Participation in the Investigation and Public Service List**

Persons, including industrial users of the subject merchandise and, if the merchandise is sold at the retail level, representative consumer organizations, wishing to participate in the final phase of this investigation as parties must file an entry of appearance with the Secretary to the Commission, as provided in section 201.11 of the Commission's rules, no later than 21 days prior to the hearing date specified in this notice. A party that filed a notice of appearance during the preliminary phase of the investigation need not file an additional notice of appearance during this final phase. The Secretary will maintain a public service list containing the names and addresses of all persons, or their representatives, who are parties to the investigation.

**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 the final phase of this investigation available to authorized applicants under the APO issued in the investigation, provided that the application is made no later

than 21 days prior to the hearing date specified in this notice. Authorized applicants must represent interested parties, as defined by 19 U.S.C. 1677(9), who are parties to the investigation. A party granted access to BPI in the preliminary phase of the investigation need not reapply for such access. A separate service list will be maintained by the Secretary for those parties authorized to receive BPI under the APO.

**Staff Report**

The prehearing staff report in the final phase of this investigation will be placed in the nonpublic record on April 19, 2000, and a public version will be issued thereafter, pursuant to section 207.22 of the Commission's rules.

**Hearing**

The Commission will hold a hearing in connection with the final phase of this investigation beginning at 9:30 a.m. on May 2, 2000, at the U.S. International Trade Commission Building. Requests to appear at the hearing should be filed in writing with the Secretary to the Commission on or before April 24, 2000. A nonparty who has testimony that may aid the Commission's deliberations may request permission to present a short statement at the hearing. All parties and nonparties desiring to appear at the hearing and make oral presentations should attend a prehearing conference to be held at 9:30 a.m. on April 27, 2000, at the U.S. International Trade Commission Building. Oral testimony and written materials to be submitted at the public hearing are governed by sections 201.6(b)(2), 201.13(f), and 207.24 of the Commission's rules. Parties must submit any request to present a portion of their hearing testimony *in camera* no later than 7 days prior to the date of the hearing.

**Written Submissions**

Each party who is an interested party shall submit a prehearing brief to the Commission. Prehearing briefs must conform with the provisions of section 207.23 of the Commission's rules; the deadline for filing is April 26, 2000. Parties may also file written testimony in connection with their presentation at the hearing, as provided in section 207.24 of the Commission's rules, and posthearing briefs, which must conform with the provisions of section 207.25 of the Commission's rules. The deadline for filing posthearing briefs is May 9, 2000; witness testimony must be filed no later than three days before the hearing. In addition, any person who has not entered an appearance as a party to the investigation may submit a

written statement of information pertinent to the subject of the investigation on or before May 9, 2000. On May 25, 2000, the Commission will make available to parties all information on which they have not had an opportunity to comment. Parties may submit final comments on this information on or before May 30, 2000, but such final comments must not contain new factual information and must otherwise comply with section 207.30 of the Commission's rules. All written submissions must conform with the provisions of section 201.8 of the Commission's rules; any submissions that contain BPI must also 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.

In accordance with sections 201.16(c) and 207.3 of the Commission's rules, each document filed by a party to the investigation must be served on all other parties to the investigation (as identified by either the public or BPI service list), and a certificate of service must be timely filed. The Secretary will not accept a document for filing without a certificate of service.

**Authority:** This investigation is being conducted under authority of title VII of the Tariff Act of 1930; this notice is published pursuant to section 207.21 of the Commission's rules.

Issued: December 22, 1999.

By order of the Commission.

**Donna R. Koehnke,**  
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 99-33904 Filed 12-29-99; 8:45 am]

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**INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION**

[Investigation 332-409]

**The Impact on the U.S. Economy of Including the United Kingdom in a Free Trade Arrangement with The United States, Canada, and Mexico**

**AGENCY:** International Trade Commission.

**ACTION:** Institution of investigation and scheduling of public hearing.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** December 21, 1999.

**SUMMARY:** Following receipt of a request on November 18, 1999, from the Senate Committee on Finance (Committee), the Commission instituted investigation No. 332-409, The Impact on the U.S. Economy of Including the United Kingdom in a Free Trade Arrangement

with the United States, Canada, and Mexico, under section 332(g) of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1332(g)). The Commission plans to submit its report by August 18, 2000.

As requested by the Committee, the Commission will provide to the extent possible:

- An overview of the current economic relationship among the United States, Canada, Mexico, and the United Kingdom in terms of trade and investment flows, including a discussion of the key industries and comparative advantages of each country.
- Identification of all existing barriers (tariff and non-tariff) to trade and investment among the United States, Canada, Mexico, and the United Kingdom.
- For the United States and the United Kingdom, the estimated effect of eliminating these barriers on:
  - The volume of trade in goods and services between the two countries;
  - Gross Domestic Product for each country resulting from increased trade and investment
  - Employment across industry sectors, with special attention to changes in the competitive position of industries, job creation and loss, productivity, and wages;
  - Balance of payments for each country as a result of new trade patterns;
  - Amount of foreign direct investment between the two countries;
  - Final prices paid by consumers in each country.
  - A discussion on any increase in quality or selection of goods, or other consumer benefits.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Information may be obtained from Kyle Johnson, Project Leader (202-205-3229) or Soamiely Andriamananjara, Deputy Project Leader (202-205-3252), Office of Economics, U.S. International Trade Commission, Washington, DC 20436. For information on the legal aspects of this investigation, contact William Gearhart of the Office of the General Counsel (202-205-3091). Hearing impaired individuals are advised that information on this matter can be obtained by contacting the TDD terminal on (202) 205-1810.

**Background**

In its letter to the Commission, the Committee stated that the U.S.-Canada Free Trade Agreement (CFTA) and the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) have significantly helped to expand the volume of trade between the United States and its North American trading partners, and that the Committee seeks an analysis in order to determine

whether the success of the CFTA and NAFTA can be replicated with other trading partners.

In estimating the effect of the elimination of barriers to trade and investment on the economies of the United States and the United Kingdom, the Commission will conduct a comparative statics analysis based on the most current data available on trade, investment, the barriers to these flows, and the trade and investment relationships between these countries and their other significant trading partners.

**Public Hearing**

A public hearing in connection with the investigation will be held at the U.S. International Trade Commission Building, 500 E Street SW, Washington, DC, beginning at 9:30 a.m. on April 11, 2000. All persons shall have the right to appear, by counsel or in person, to present information and to be heard. Requests to appear at the public hearing should be filed with the Secretary, United States International Trade Commission, 500 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20436, no later than 5:15 p.m., March 28, 2000. Any prehearing briefs (original and 14 copies) should be filed not later than 5:15 p.m., April 4, 2000; the deadline for filing post-hearing briefs or statements is 5:15 p.m., May 5, 2000. In the event that, as of the close of business on April 7, 2000, no witnesses are scheduled 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 of the Commission (202-205-1806) after April 7, 2000, to determine whether the hearing will be held.

**Written Submissions**

In lieu of or in addition to participating in the hearing, interested parties are invited to submit written statements (original and 14 copies) concerning the matters to be addressed by the Commission in its report on this investigation. Commercial or financial information that a submitter 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 C.F.R. 201.6). All written submissions, except for confidential business information, will be made available in the Office of the Secretary of the Commission for inspection by interested parties. To be

assured of consideration by the Commission, written statements relating to the Commission's report should be submitted to the Commission at the earliest practical date and should be received no later than the close of business on May 4, 2000. All submissions should be addressed to the Secretary, United States International Trade Commission, 500 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20436. The Commission's rules do not authorize filing submissions with the Secretary by facsimile or electronic means.

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>).

**List of Subjects**

NAFTA, United Kingdom, tariffs, investment, and imports.

Issued: December 22, 1999.

By order of the Commission.

**Donna R. Koehnke,**  
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 99-33905 Filed 12-29-99; 8:45 am]

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**DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**

**Notice of Lodging of Consent Decree Pursuant to the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act**

In accordance with Departmental policy, 28 CFR 50.7, and Section 122 of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. 9622, notice is hereby given that on December 16, 1999, a proposed Consent Decree in *United States v. Akzo Nobel Coatings, Inc., et al.*, Civil Action No. 95-71470, was lodged with the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan, Southern Division. This consent decree represents a settlement of claims of the United States against Gage products Company for reimbursement of response costs and injunctive relief in connection with the Metamora Landfill Superfund Site ("Site") pursuant to the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act, 42 U.S.C. 9601 *et seq.*

Under this settlement with the United States, Gage Products Company will pay \$187,020.49 in reimbursement of response costs incurred by the United States Environmental Protection Agency at the Site.

The Department of justice will receive for a period of thirty (30) days from the