on or about February 28, 2005 in accordance with sections 751(c)(5)(B) and 751(c)(5)(C)(ii) of the Act.

Dated: September 20, 2004.

Jeffrey A. May,

Acting Assistant Secretary for Import Administration.

[FR Doc. E4–2390 Filed 9–24–04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–DS–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[A–449–804]

Steel Concrete Reinforcing Bars From Latvia: Extension of the Time Limit for the Final Results of Antidumping Duty Administrative Review

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

EFFECTIVE DATE: September 27, 2004.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Daniel O'Brien or Constance Handley at (202) 482–1376 or (202) 482–0631, respectively; Office 1 AD/CVD Enforcement, Import Administration, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20230.

Time Limits

Statutory Time Limits

Section 751(a)(3)(A) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act), requires the Department to complete the preliminary results of an administrative review within 245 days after the last day of the anniversary month of an order for which a review is requested and the final results within 120 days after the date on which the preliminary results are published. However, if it is not practicable to complete the review within these time periods, section 751(a)(3)(A) of the Act allows the Department to extend the time limit for the preliminary results to a maximum of 365 days and for the final results to 180 days from the date of publication of the preliminary results (or 300 days if the Department does not extend the time limit for the preliminary results).

Background

On September 17, 2003, Liepajas Metalurgs requested an administrative review. On September 30, 2003, the petitioners requested an administrative review of Liepajas Metalurgs. On October 24, 2003, the Department published the notice of initiation of this antidumping duty administrative review, covering the period September 1, 2002, through August 31, 2003 (the POR). *See Initiation of Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Administrative Reviews,* 68 FR 60910 (October 24, 2003). On June 10, 2004, the Department published the preliminary results of this antidumping duty administrative review. *See Notice of Preliminary Results of Antidumping Duty Administrative Review,* 69 FR 32508 (June 10, 2004).

Extension of Time Limit for Final Results of Review

We determine that it is not practicable to complete the final results of this review within the original time limit for the reasons stated in our memorandum from Susan Kuhbach, Director, Office 1, to Jeffrey May, Deputy Assistant Secretary, which is on file in the Central Records Unit, Room B–099 of the main Commerce building. Therefore, the Department is extending the time limit for completion of the final results by 60 days until no later than December 7, 2004.

This extension is in accordance with section 751(a)(3)(A) of the Act.

Dated: September 21, 2004.

Jeffrey A. May,

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Import Administration.

[FR Doc. E4–2391 Filed 9–24–04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–DR–S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

Oil and Gas Equipment and Services Trade Mission

AGENCY: International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice to announce Oil and Gas Equipment and Services Trade Mission to Malaysia, Singapore, and Vietnam, December 6–14, 2004.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of Commerce, International Trade Administration, U.S. Commercial Service, Office of Global Trade Programs, is organizing an Oil and Gas Equipment and Services Trade Mission to Malaysia, Singapore, and Vietnam, December 6–14, 2004. This event offers a timely opportunity for U.S. firms to tap into some of the world's fastest growing marketplaces for oil and gas equipment and services. The mission will target companies in all sectors of the oil and gas industry, with particular focus on pipeline and tubular goods, drilling machinery and equipment, surveying technology, and safety equipment.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Office of Global Trade Programs; Room 2012; Department of Commerce; Washington, DC 20230; tel: (202) 482–4457; Fax: (202) 482–0178.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Oil and Gas Equipment and Services Trade Mission

Malaysia, Singapore, and Vietnam, December 6–14, 2004.

Mission Statement

I. Description of the Mission

The U.S. Department of Commerce, International Trade Administration, U.S. Commercial Service, Office of Global Trade Programs, is organizing an Oil and Gas Equipment and Services Trade Mission to Malaysia, Singapore, and Vietnam, December 6–14, 2004. This event offers a timely opportunity for U.S. firms to tap into some of the world's fastest growing marketplaces for oil and gas equipment and services. The mission will target companies in all sectors of the oil, and gas industry, with particular focus on pipeline and tubular goods, drilling machinery and equipment, surveying technology, and safety equipment. In addition to receiving a personalized schedule of one-on-one appointments with qualified agents, distributors, representatives, licensees, and joint venture partners, mission delegates will visit Offshore South East Asia 2004 (OSEA 2004), the leading oil and gas trade show in Asia, and a U.S. Department of Commerce Certified Trade Fair. OSEA 2004, to be held in Singapore, will offer mission participants an extra venue to network and learn about business opportunities in South East Asia.

II. Commercial Setting for the Mission

Projections made by the International Energy Agency in its World Energy Outlook 2002 indicate that more than 60% of the increase in world primary energy demand between 2000 and 2030 will come from developing countries, especially in Asia. Critical to satisfying this demand is a move to develop South East Asia's massive gas resources; large reserves have been found in Indonesia (158 trillion cubic feet) and also in the Malaysian/Thailand Joint Development Zone (7.6 trillion cubic feet). Producing and exporting these reserves, particularly as LNG to South Korea, Japan and China, represents a huge export revenue generator. The World Offshore Drilling Report by analysts Douglas Westwood projected that some US $18.26 billion was to have been spent on offshore drilling in Asia in 2003, with the total investment between 2002 and 2007 set at US $38.62 billion.

Malaysia: Prospects for Malaysia's oil and gas industry are still bright and the sector should experience healthy growth rates. During the past five years, approximately US $6.6 billion has been spent on exploration and production. About fifty percent of Malaysia's crude reserves remain undeveloped. A total of about US $16.2 billion will be invested by the petroleum industry during the Eighth Malaysia Plan period (2001–2005), as stated in the Government of Malaysia's five-year plan. Of this, US $10.9 billion (67.5%) will be spent for exploration, development and production activities by Petronas (National Petroleum Corporation) and its production-sharing contractors.

Malaysis has a broad, shallow continental shelf (330,000 sq. km) and some deepwater prospective areas. In total, Malaysia has approximately 500,000 square kilometers available for oil and gas exploration, of which 205,000 square kilometers are currently covered by Production Sharing Contracts (PSC). The country's deeper offshore areas, with water depths of 200 meters or more, have only more recently been opened to oil and gas exploration. There are now 70 producing fields in Malaysia, 51 of which are oil fields. As of January 1, 2004, oil and gas reserves were estimated to be 4.84 billion barrels of crude oil and 87.0 trillion standard cubic feet (tscf) of natural gas. At current rates of production, oil reserves in Malaysia are expected to last 18 years and gas reserves, 34 years. Malaysia's current production of crude oil and condensates is about 750,000 barrels per day and about 2.20 tscf per year respectively.

Four new PSCs were concluded during the last 15 months, bringing the number of PSCs in operation in Malaysia to 49, the highest level so far. Petronas has estimated that the PSC contractors invested US $2.88 billion during the April 2003–March 2004 period, with most of the investments channeled into development projects.

Efforts to search for oil and gas have recently extended to some of the more unconventional areas, such as the deepwater acreage, where very limited exploration activities were carried out in the past due to technological constraints and high investment costs. Petronas recently introduced the Deepwater Production Sharing Contract (PSC) that provides added incentives to production sharing contractors to undertake exploration activities in the prospective deepwater areas. Since the 1993 signing of its first deepwater PSC with Mobil, Petronas has awarded 13 blocks under the Deepwater PSC terms to 11 multinational companies. The latest: two deepwater blocks were awarded to Murphy Oil in January 2003, and one deepwater block to Newfield Exploration Company (U.S.).

The Malaysian market for oil and gas equipment in 2003 was estimated at US$575 million. Malaysia's oil and gas equipment is supplied mostly through imports because local production is very small. It is expected that equipment needs will continue to be supplied through imports for the next several years. Malaysia uses primarily American made oil and gas equipment and tools, with at least 60% of the imports coming directly from the United States.

Singapore: Singapore is the world's third largest oil refining and trading center, and has long been a global hub for oil refining and a cost-competitive location for highly integrated, world-scale petrochemical plants. Jurong Island, created in the 1990s by merging some seven smaller islands, houses some of the world's biggest names in the petroleum and petrochemicals industries. Companies like ExxonMobil, Shell, Chevron Texaco, BASF, Sumitomo Chemical and Mitsui Chemical are based on Juorng Island. Singapore also plays a dominant role in the specialty chemicals industry, in the area of lube and fuel additives, consumer care specialities, electronic chemicals and materials, polymer additives, and coatings and inks. The chemical industry grew strongly in 2002 despite difficult conditions. Output grew by 7 percent to S$31.2 billion (Singaporean Dollars) and value-added grew 22 percent to S$4.9 billion. The petroleum sector accounted for slightly more than half, or S$17.6 billion, of the total output, with petrochemicals generating S$8.5 billion. Singapore also offers 12 research institutes and three universities which offer opportunities for R&D collaborations.

Amid Asia's strengthening economy and the implementation of the US-Singapore Free Trade Agreement, which further enhances Singapore's reputation as the gateway to South East Asia, U.S. companies on the mission can leverage their presence at Offshore South East Asia (OSEA) 2004, the region's premier oil and gas trade show, to tap the vast opportunities in the region.

Vietnam: Vietnam has so far discovered over 50 oil and gas fields with total estimated reserves of about 1.15 billion tons of proven crude oil equivalent, which include 540 million tons of oil and 640 billion cubic meters (cbms) of natural gas. The production of crude oil and gas in 2003 reached 17.16 million tons and 3.7 billion cbms respectively. It is estimated that Vietnam will produce about 16–18 million tons of crude oil from local operation, 3 million tons from foreign operation and 11–13 billion cmbs of gas by 1020.

The industry is expected to achieve the growth rate of 10–15 percent per year over the coming years. The total investment required to realize such a rapid growth is about US$19–20 billion by 2010, of which over US$10 billion may be funded by local sources and the remaining US$10 billion by foreign investors. According to Petro Vietnam, a state-owned monopoly in the sector, oil and gas exploration and exploitation will be increased in the coming years to raise the country's total discovered oil and gas reserves to 1.5–1.6 billion tons of crude oil equivalent by 2010.

In particular, upstream and mid-stream operation will need about US$900 million to 1.1 billion in new investment per year for exploration and production activities as well as the construction of two refinery facilities, in Dung Quat and Nghi Son, and possibly a third refinery in the South.

American technologies, expertise and experience are highly respected in the oil and gas industry in Vietnam. This presents significant opportunities for U.S. firms to export/transfer equipment,

Indonesia: The market for oil and gas equipment in Indonesia remains attractive and has a promising outlook for the long term. In 2003, the government awarded 15 new oil and gas concessions, receiving a total of $343.82 million in investment commitments. This was a significant improvement over 2001 and 2002 and when the government awarded only six contracts and one contract respectively.

In 2002, the total investment (for exploration, production, and administration) reached $3.4 billion, down 13 percent from 2001. In 2003 (preliminary figures), investment from production-sharing contractors (PSCs) reached $3.97 billion, including $1.13 billion for exploration, $2.5 billion for production and $329,000 for administration. The government expects to award another 17 new oil and gas contracts this year with a target of 50 new contracts over the next five years.

Total investment in 2004 is predicted to reach $7 billion, which in turn is expected to create significant market opportunities for U.S. oil and gas equipment and services. industry sources estimate that the market will increase by 20% in 2004, with U.S. market share increasing by 10%, given planned exploration and development of existing oil fields.

III. Scenario for the Mission

Timetable

Sunday, December 5—Arrive in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Monday, December 6—Market Briefing and Trade Mission Meetings
Tuesday, December 7—Trade Mission Meetings
Wednesday, December 8—Arrive in Singapore Market Briefing and Meetings at OSEA 2004
Thursday, December 9—Trade Mission Meetings at OSEA 2004
Friday, December 10—Trade Mission Meetings at OSEA 2004
Saturday, December 11—Free
Sunday, December 12—Arrive Hanoi, Vietnam
Monday, December 13—Market Briefing and Trade Mission Meetings
Tuesday, December 14—Trade Mission Meetings Conclusion of Trade Mission

V. Criteria for Participant Selection

- Relevance of the company's business line to mission goals;
- Potential for business in the selected markets;
- Timeless of the company's completed application and payment of the mission participation fee;
- Provision of adequate information on the company's products and/or services and communication of the company's primary objectives to facilitate appropriate matching with potential business partners;
- Certification that the company meets Departmental guidelines for participation, including certification that the company's products and/or services are manufactured or produced in the United States or if manufactured/produced and/or services are manufactured or produced in the United States or if manufactured/produced outside of the United States, the product/service must be marketed under the name of the U.S. firm and have U.S. content of at least fifty-one percent of the value of the finished good or service.

The mission will be promoted through the following venues: U.S. Export Assistance Centers and Teams; the **Federal Register**; relevant trade publications; relevant trade associations; post Commerce trade mission participants; various in-house and purchased industry lists; and the Commerce Department trade missions calendar—*http://www.ita.doc.gov/doctm/tmcal.html*—and other Internet Web sites.

Any partisan political activities of an applicant, including political contributions, will be entirely irrelevant to the selection process. The participation fee will be $3,500 for the trade mission. Participation fees do not include the cost of travel and lodging. Participation is open to the first 10 qualified U.S. companies. Recruitment will begin immediately and will close on Friday, October 29, 2004. Applications received after that date will be considered only if space and scheduling constraints permit.

Contact Information: Matthew H. Wright, International Trade Specialist, Global Trade Programs, U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 2012, Washington, DC 20230, tel: 202–482–2567/fax: 202–482–0178, e-mail: *Matthew.Wright@mail.doc.gov.*

Dated: August 26, 2004.

Donald Businger,

Director, Office of Trade Event Programs.

[FR Doc. 04–21606 Filed 9–24–04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–DR–M

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 092104D]

Magnuson-Stevens Act Provisions; General Provisions for Domestic Fisheries; Application for Exempted Fishing Permits

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notification of a proposal for EFPs to conduct experimental fishing; request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Assistant Regional Administrator for Sustainable Fisheries, Northeast Region, NMFS (Assistant Regional Administrator) has made a preliminary determination that the subject Exempted Fishing Permit (EFP) application contains all the required information and warrants further consideration. The Assistant Regional Administrator has also made a preliminary determination that the activities authorized under the EFP would be consistent with the goals and objectives of the Northeast (NE) Multispecies Fishery Management Plan (FMP). However, further review and consultation may be necessary before a final determination is made to issue the EFP. Therefore, NMFS announces that the Assistant Regional Administrator proposes to recommend that an EFP be issued that would allow commercial fishing vessels to conduct fishing operations that are otherwise restricted by the regulations governing the fisheries of the Northeastern United States. The EFP would allow for an exemption from the FMP as follows: Groundfish Closed Area I. Regulations under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act require publication of this notification to provide interested parties the opportunity to comment on applications for proposed EFPs.

DATES: Comments on this document must be received on or before October 12, 2004.

ADDRESSES: Comments on this notice may be submitted by e-mail. The mailbox address for providing e-mail comments is *DA640@noaa.gov*. Include in the subject line of the e-mail comment the following document identifier: ''Comments on URI Bycatch Reduction Study.'' Written comments should be sent to Patricia A. Kurkul, Regional Administrator, NMFS, Northeast Regional Office, 1 Blackburn Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930. Mark the outside of the envelope ''Comments on URI Bycatch Reduction Study.'' Comments may also be sent via facsimile (fax) to (978) 281–9135.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Brian Hooker, Fishery Policy Analyst, phone 978–281–9220.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The University of Rhode Island, Department of Fisheries, Animal and Veterinary Science (URI) submitted an initial application for an EFP on July 19, 2004. The experimental fishing application requests authorization for activities to conduct a bycatch reduction study of cod in the haddock bottom trawl fishery. The purpose of the study is to determine if the experimental trawl gear would achieve a reduction in cod bycatch significant enough to warrant consideration as a Special Access Program (SAP) under provisions in Amendment 13 to the FMP.

The proposed research would utilize three commercial fishing vessels to conduct a bycatch reduction study in the directed haddock bottom trawl fishery from November 2004 through November 2005, using side-by-side tows to compare the control net with one experimental large-mesh net. The control net would be a standard net with a 6–inch (15.24–cm) mesh body, and 8–inch (20.32–cm) mesh wings and jibs. The experimental net would utilize a graduated netting starting with 8–ft (2.44–m) mesh and ending in the standard 6–inch (15.24–cm) mesh. The mesh size in both nets is equal to or greater than the required minimum mesh size. The experiment would