

March 24, 2004, 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, except to the extent permitted by section 201.8 of the Commission's rules, as amended, 67 FR 68036 (November 8, 2002).

In accordance with sections 201.16(c) and 207.3 of the rules, each document filed by a party to the investigations must be served on all other parties to the investigations (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: These investigations are being conducted under authority of title VII of the Tariff Act of 1930; this notice is published pursuant to section 207.12 of the Commission's rules.

By order of the Commission.

Issued: March 1, 2004.

Marilyn R. Abbott,

Secretary to the Commission.

[FR Doc. 04-5227 Filed 3-8-04; 8:45 am]

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INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

[Inv. Nos. TA-131-29 and TA-2104-12]

U.S.-Thailand Free Trade Agreement: Advice Concerning the Probable Economic Effect of Providing Duty-Free Treatment for Imports

AGENCY: International Trade Commission.

ACTION: Institution of investigations and scheduling of hearing.

EFFECTIVE DATE: March 3, 2004.

SUMMARY: Following receipt on February 19, 2004, of a request from the United States Trade Representative (USTR), the Commission instituted investigation Nos. TA-131-29 and TA-2104-12, *U.S.-Thailand Free Trade Agreement: Advice Concerning the Probable Economic Effect of Providing Duty-Free Treatment for Imports*, under section 131 of the Trade Act of 1974 and section 2104(b)(2) of the Trade Act of 2002.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Information specific to these investigations may be obtained from Tracy Quilter (202-205-3437; tracy.quilter@usitc.gov) or Falan Yinug (202-205-2160; falan.yinug@usitc.gov), Office of Industries, United States International Trade Commission, Washington, DC 20436. For information on the legal aspects of these investigations, contact William Gearhart of the Office of the General Counsel (202-205-3091; william.gearhart@usitc.gov). General information concerning the Commission may also be obtained by accessing its Internet server (<http://www.usitc.gov>).

Background

On February 12, 2004, the USTR notified the Congress of the President's intent to initiate free trade agreement negotiations with Thailand. Accordingly, the USTR, pursuant to section 131 of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2151), requested the Commission to provide a report including advice as to the probable economic effect of providing duty-free treatment for imports of products of Thailand (i) on industries in the United States producing like or directly competitive products, and (ii) on consumers. In preparing the advice, the Commission's analysis will consider each article in chapters 1 through 97 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States for which U.S. tariffs will remain after the United States fully implements its Uruguay Round tariff commitments. The import advice will be based on the 2004 Harmonized Tariff System nomenclature and 2003 trade data. The advice with respect to the removal of U.S. duties on imports from Thailand will assume that any known U.S. nontariff barrier will not be applicable to such imports. The Commission will note in its report any instance in which the continued application of a U.S. nontariff barrier to such imports would result in different advice with respect to the effect of the removal of the duty.

Also as requested, pursuant to section 2104(b)(2) of the Trade Act of 2002 (19 U.S.C. 3804(b)(2)), the Commission will provide advice as to the probable economic effect of eliminating tariffs on imports of certain agricultural products of Thailand on (i) industries in the United States producing the product concerned, and (ii) the U.S. economy as a whole.

The Commission expects to provide its report to the USTR by August 19, 2004. The USTR indicated that the Commission's report will be classified and that USTR considered it to be an

interagency memorandum containing pre-decisional advice and subject to the deliberative process privilege.

Public Hearing

A public hearing in connection with these investigations is scheduled to begin at 9:30 a.m. on April 20, 2004, at the U.S. International Trade Commission Building, 500 E Street, SW., Washington, DC. Requests to appear at the public hearing should be filed with the Secretary, no later than 5:15 p.m., April 2, 2004, in accordance with the requirements in the "Submissions" section below. In the event that, as of the close of business on April 2, 2004, no witnesses are scheduled to appear, the hearing will be canceled. Any person interested in attending the hearing as an observer or non-participant may call the Secretary (202-205-2000) after April 2, 2004, to determine whether the hearing will be held.

Statements and Briefs

In lieu of or in addition to participating in the hearing, interested parties are invited to submit written statements or briefs concerning these investigations in accordance with the requirements in the "Submissions" section below. Any prehearing briefs or statements should be filed not later than 5:15 p.m., April 6, 2004; the deadline for filing post-hearing briefs or statements is 5:15 p.m., April 27, 2004.

Submissions

All written submissions including requests to appear at the hearing, statements, and briefs should be addressed to the Secretary, United States International Trade Commission, 500 E Street, SW., Washington, DC 20436. All written submissions must conform with the provisions of section 201.8 of the *Commission's rules of practice and procedure* (19 CFR 201.8); any submissions that contain confidential business information must also conform with the requirements of section 201.6 of the *Commission's rules of practice and procedure* (19 CFR 201.6). Section 201.8 of the rules require that a signed original (or a copy designated as an original) and fourteen (14) copies of each document be filed.

In the event that confidential treatment of the document is requested, at least four (4) additional copies must be filed, in which the confidential information must be deleted. Section 201.6 of the rules requires that the cover of the document and the individual pages be clearly marked as to whether they are the "confidential" or "nonconfidential" version, and that the

confidential business information be clearly identified by means of brackets.

All written submissions, except for confidential business information, will be made available for inspection by interested parties. The Commission may include confidential business information submitted in the course of these investigations in the report it sends to the USTR. However, should the Commission publish a public version of this report, such confidential business information will not be published in a manner that would reveal the operations of the firm supplying the information.

The Commission's rules do not authorize filing submissions with the Secretary by facsimile or electronic means, except to the extent permitted by section 201.8 of the Commission's rules of practice and procedure (19 CFR 201.8) (*see Handbook for Electronic Filing Procedures, ftp://ftp.usitc.gov/pub/reports/electronic_filing_handbook.pdf*). Persons with questions regarding electronic filing should contact the Secretary (202-205-2000 or edis@usitc.gov).

The public record for these investigations may be viewed on the Commission's electronic docket (EDIS) at <http://edis.usitc.gov>. Hearing-impaired individuals are advised that information on this matter can be obtained by contacting our TDD terminal on (202) 205-1810. Persons with mobility impairments who will need special assistance in gaining access to the Commission should contact the Secretary at 202-205-2000.

List of Subjects

Thailand, tariffs, and imports.

By order of the Commission.

Issued: March 4, 2004.

Marilyn R. Abbott,

Secretary to the Commission.

[FR Doc. 04-5296 Filed 3-8-04; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employee Benefits Security Administration

[Application No. D-11203]

Proposed Class Exemption for the Establishment, Investment and Maintenance of Certain Individual Retirement Plans Pursuant to an Automatic Rollover of a Mandatory Distribution

AGENCY: Employee Benefits Security Administration.

ACTION: Correction.

SUMMARY: In 69 FR, published at page 9846, on March 2, 2004, make the following corrections:

1. On page 9849, in the second column in the 23rd line, delete "29 CFR 2550.401a-2" and insert therein "29 CFR 2550.404a-2."

2. On page 9851, in the third column in the 23rd line under section IV(e), delete "liquidity" and insert therein "liquidity."

Signed at Washington, DC, this 4th day of March, 2004.

Ivan L. Strasfeld,

Director, Office of Exemption Determinations, Employee Benefits Security Administration, U.S. Department of Labor.

[FR Doc. 04-5277 Filed 3-8-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510-29-M

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employment and Training Administration

Proposed Information Collection Request Submitted for Public Comment and Recommendations; Administrative Procedures

AGENCY: Employment and Training Administration, DOL.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Labor, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden conducts a preclearance consultation program to provide the general public and Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing collections of information in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). This program helps to ensure that requested data can be provided in the desired format, reporting burden (time and financial resources) is minimized, collection instruments are clearly understood, and the impact of collection requirements on respondents can be properly assessed. A copy of the proposed information collection request can be obtained by contacting the office listed below in the addressee section of this notice.

DATES: Submit comments on or before May 10, 2004.

ADDRESSES: Send comments to Robert Johnston, Room C-4512, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20210, telephone: (202) 693-3005 (this is not a toll-free number); Internet address: johnston.rob@dol.gov, fax: (202) 693-2874.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

Department of Labor Employment and Training Administration regulations, 20 CFR part 601, Administrative Procedures, contains collection of information requirements at §§ 601.2 and 601.3. Section 601.2 requires states to submit copies of their unemployment compensation laws for approval by the Secretary of Labor so that the Secretary may determine the status of state laws and plans of operation. Section 601.3 requires states to "submit all relevant state materials such as statutes, executive and administrative orders, legal opinions, rules, regulations, interpretations, court decisions, etc." These materials are used by the Secretary to determine whether the state law contains provisions required by section 3304(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. Grants of funds are made to states for the administration of their employment security laws if their unemployment compensation laws and their plans of operation for public employment offices meet required conditions of Federal laws. The information transmitted by Form MA 8-7 is used by the Secretary to make findings (as specified in the above cited Federal laws) required for certification to the Secretary of the Treasury for payment to states or for certification of the state law for purposes of additional tax credit. If this information is not available, the Secretary cannot make such certifications. To facilitate transmittal of required material, the Department prescribes the use of Form MA 8-7, Transmittal for Unemployment Insurance Materials. This simple check off form is used by the states to identify material being transmitted to the National Office and allows the material to be routed to appropriate staff for prompt action.

II. Desired Focus of Comments

Currently, the Employment and Training Administration is soliciting comments concerning the proposed extension of the MA 8-7, Transmittal for Unemployment Insurance Materials.

The Department of Labor is particularly interested in comments that:

- Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;
- Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;