

the Pacific Basin and Caribbean Areas. NRCS State Conservationists and Directors for the Pacific Basin and Caribbean Areas who choose to adopt these practices for use within their States/areas will incorporate them into Section IV of their Field Office Technical Guides. These practices may be used in resource management systems that treat highly erodible land, or on land determined to be wetland.

EFFECTIVE DATES: Comments will be received for a 30-day period, starting on the date of this publication. This series of new or revised conservation practice standards will be adopted after the close of the 30-day period.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Single copies of these standards are available from NRCS—CED in Washington, DC. Submit individual inquiries and return any comments in writing to William Hughey, National Agricultural Engineer, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Post Office Box 2890, Room 6139—S, Washington, DC 20013—2890. The telephone number is (202) 720—5023. The standards are also available, and can be downloaded from the Internet at: http://www.ftw.nrcs.usda.gov/practice_stds.html.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 343 of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 requires NRCS to make available, for public review and comment, proposed revisions to conservation practice standards used to carry out the highly erodible land and wetland provisions of the law. For the next 30 days, NRCS will receive comments on the proposed changes. Following that period, a determination will be made by NRCS regarding disposition of those comments, and a final determination of change will be made.

Signed in Washington, DC, on September 4, 2003.

Bruce I. Knight,

Chief, Natural Resources Conservation Service.

[FR Doc. 03—23576 Filed 9—15—03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410—16—P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Bureau of the Census

[Docket Number 030527134—3220—02]

Data Sharing Activity

AGENCY: Bureau of the Census, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of determination.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of the Census (Census Bureau) conducts the Survey of Industrial Research and Development (R&D). The National Science Foundation (NSF) provides the funding for this data collection. The Census Bureau will provide data collected from the 1997 and 1999 R&D surveys to the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) for statistical purposes exclusively. In accordance with the requirement of section 524(d) of the Confidential Information Protection and Statistical Efficiency Act of 2002 (CIPSEA), we provided the opportunity for public comment on this data-sharing action (see the June 3, 2003, edition of the **Federal Register** (68 FR 33094)).

Through the use of these shared data, the BEA will augment its existing R&D-related data, identify data quality issues arising from reporting differences in the BEA and Census Bureau surveys, and improve its survey sample frames. The NSF will be provided non-confidential aggregate data (public use) and reports that have cleared Census Bureau disclosure review. Disclosure review is a process conducted to verify that the data to be released do not reveal any confidential information.

DATES: The Census Bureau will make the data collected from the 1997 and 1999 Survey of Industrial Research and Development available to BEA on September 16, 2003.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information on this program should be directed to Kimberly Moore, Assistant Division Chief for Special Studies and M3 Programs, Manufacturing and Construction Division, U.S. Census Bureau, 4700 Silver Hill Road, Washington, DC 20233—6900, by phone on (301) 763—7643 or by fax (301) 457—4583.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

CIPSEA (Pub. L. 107—347, Subtitle V) allows the Census Bureau and the BEA to share certain business data for statistical purposes exclusively. Section 524(d) of the Act required a **Federal Register** notice announcing the intent to share data (allowing 60 days for public comment).

On June 3, 2003 (68 FR 33094), the Census Bureau published in the **Federal Register** a notice of this proposed data-sharing activity and request for comment on the subject. The Census Bureau did not receive any public comments.

Shared Data

The Census Bureau will provide the BEA with data collected from the 1997 and 1999 R&D surveys. The BEA also will share data from its 1997 Foreign Direct Investment in the United States and 1999 U.S. Direct Investment Abroad surveys with the Census Bureau. The BEA issued a separate notice addressing this issue.

The BEA will use these data for statistical purposes exclusively. Through record linkage, the BEA will augment its existing R&D-related data, identify data quality issues arising from reporting differences in the BEA and Census Bureau surveys, and improve its survey sample frames.

Statistical Purposes for the Shared Data

The data collected from the R&D survey estimate the expenditures of research and development performed by United States-based industrial firms. The survey is conducted annually; however, the data to be shared are from the 1997 and 1999 surveys only. Statistics from the annual surveys are published in the NSF's annual publication series "Research and Development in Industry." Data collected by this survey include company characteristics and R&D spending information. Characteristics data include net sales, total employment, and employment of scientists and engineers. R&D spending data include the following: total spending; federally funded (total and by agency) spending for basic and applied R&D, for basic research by field, and for applied R&D by product group and energy and pollution abatement activities; R&D spending by state; and R&D financed by domestic firms but performed abroad. All data are collected under sections 131, 182, 224, and 225 of Title 13, United States Code (U.S.C.).

Data Access and Confidentiality

Title 13, U.S.C., protects the confidentiality of these data. These data may be seen only by persons sworn to uphold the confidentiality of the information. Access to the shared data will be restricted to specifically authorized personnel and will be provided for statistical purposes only. All BEA employees with access to these data will attain Census Bureau Special Sworn Status—meaning that they, under penalty of law, must uphold the data's confidentiality. Selected NSF employees will provide the BEA with expertise on the aspects of R&D performance in the United States and by U.S. companies abroad; these NSF consultants assisting with the work at the BEA also will

attain Census Bureau Special Sworn Status. No confidential data will be provided to the NSF. To further safeguard the confidentiality of these data, the Census Bureau will conduct an Information Technology security review of the BEA prior to sharing any data files. Any results of this research are subject to Census Bureau disclosure protection.

Dated: September 10, 2003.

Charles Louis Kincannon,

Director, Bureau of the Census.

[FR Doc. 03-23526 Filed 9-15-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-07-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Foreign-Trade Zones Board

[Docket 43-2003]

Proposed Foreign-Trade Zone— Alexandria, Louisiana; Application and Public Hearing

An application has been submitted to the Foreign-Trade Zones (FTZ) Board (the Board) by the Board of Commissioners of the England Economic and Industrial Development District, to establish a general-purpose foreign-trade zone at sites in Alexandria, Louisiana, adjacent to the Morgan City, Louisiana, Customs port of entry. The FTZ application was submitted pursuant to the provisions of the FTZ Act, as amended (19 U.S.C. 81a-81u), and the regulations of the Board (15 CFR part 400). It was formally filed on September 8, 2003. The applicant is authorized to make the proposal under Sections 61, 64 and 65 of Title 51 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, as amended.

The proposed zone would consist of three sites covering 1,828 acres in the Alexandria area: *Site 1* (1594 acres)—within the 2,351-acre England Airpark complex (owned by the applicant), 1611 Arnold Drive, Alexandria; *Site 2* (124 acres)—at the Port of Alexandria (owned by the Alexandria Regional Port Authority), 600 Port Road, Alexandria; and, *Site 3* (110 acres)—within the Central Louisiana Eco Business Park (owned by the Central Louisiana Chamber of Commerce), 7636 Highway 1, South, Alexandria. The England Airpark was formerly the England Air Force Base and is currently being developed for commercial use. The Alexandria International Airport and its fueling facilities are included within the Airpark.

The application indicates a need for zone services in the Alexandria, Louisiana, area. Several firms have

indicated an interest in using zone procedures for warehousing/distribution activities. Specific manufacturing approvals are not being sought at this time. Requests would be made to the Board on a case-by-case basis.

In accordance with the Board's regulations, a member of the FTZ Staff has been designated examiner to investigate the application and report to the Board.

As part of the investigation, the Commerce examiner will hold a public hearing on October 16, 2003, at 11 a.m., in the Board Room of the England Economic & Industrial Development District, 1611 Arnold Drive, Alexandria, Louisiana 71303.

Public comment on the application is invited from interested parties.

Submissions (original and 3 copies) shall be addressed to the Board's Executive Secretary at one of the following addresses:

1. Submissions via Express/Package Delivery Services: Foreign-Trade Zones Board, U.S. Department of Commerce, Franklin Court Building—Suite 4100W, 1099 14th Street NW., Washington, DC 20005; or

2. Submissions via the U.S. Postal Service: Foreign-Trade Zones Board, U.S. Department of Commerce, FCB—Suite 4100W, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20230.

The closing period for their receipt is November 17, 2003. Rebuttal comments in response to material submitted during the foregoing period may be submitted during the subsequent 15-day period (to December 1, 2003).

A copy of the application and accompanying exhibits will be available for public inspection at the Office of the Foreign-Trade Zones Board's Executive Secretary at the first address listed above, and at the Offices of the England Economic & Industrial Development District, 1611 Arnold Drive, Alexandria, Louisiana 71303.

Dated: September 8, 2003.

Dennis Puccinelli,

Executive Secretary.

[FR Doc. 03-23621 Filed 9-15-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-DS-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Foreign-Trade Zones Board

[Docket 44-2003]

Foreign-Trade Zone 40—Cleveland, Ohio, Area; Application for Expansion

An application has been submitted to the Foreign-Trade Zones (FTZ) Board (the Board), by the Cleveland-Cuyahoga

County Port Authority, grantee of Foreign-Trade Zone 40, requesting authority to expand its zone in the Cleveland, Ohio, area, within the Cleveland Customs port of entry. The application was submitted pursuant to the provisions of the Foreign-Trade Zones Act, as amended (19 U.S.C. 81a-81u), and the regulations of the Board (15 CFR part 400). It was formally filed on September 10, 2003.

FTZ 40 was approved on September 29, 1978 (Board Order 135, 43 FR 46886, 10/11/78) and expanded in June 1982 (Board Order 194, 47 FR 27579, 6/25/82); April 1992 (Board Order 574, 57 FR 13694, 4/17/92); February 1997 (Board Order 870, 62 FR 7750, 2/20/97); June 1999 (Board Order 1040, 64 FR 33242, 6/22/99); April 2002 (Board Order 1224, 67 FR 20087, 4/15/02); and, August 2003 (Board Order 1289, 68 FR 52384, 9/3/03; Board Order 1290, 68 FR 52384, 9/3/03; and, Board Order 1295, 68 FR 52383, 9/3/03).

The general-purpose zone project currently consists of the following sites in the Cleveland, Ohio, area: *Site 1* (1,339 acres)—Port of Cleveland complex, Cleveland Bulk Terminal and Tow Path Valley Business Park, Cleveland; *Site 2* (175 acres)—the IX Center (formerly the "Cleveland Tank Plant"), in Brook Park, adjacent to the Cleveland Hopkins International Airport; *Site 3* (1,942 acres)—Cleveland Hopkins International Airport complex and the adjacent Snow Road Industrial Park, Brook Park; *Site 4* (450 acres)—Burke Lakefront Airport, 1501 North Marginal Road, Cleveland; *Site 5* (298 acres)—Emerald Valley Business Park, Cochran Road and Beaver Meadow Parkway, Glenwillow; *Site 6* (30 acres)—Collinwood site, South Waterloo (South Marginal) Road and East 152nd Street, Cleveland; *Site 7* (47 acres)—Water Tower Industrial Park, Coit Road and East 140th Street, Cleveland; *Site 8* (174 acres)—Strongsville Industrial Park, Royalton Road (State Route 82), Strongsville; *Site 9* (13 acres)—East 40th Street between Kelley & Perkins Avenues (3830 Kelley Avenue), Cleveland; and, *Site 10* (15 acres)—Frane Industrial Park, Forman Road, Ashtabula. An application is pending with the FTZ Board to expand FTZ 40 to include a site at the Harbour Point Business Park in Vermilion, Ohio (Docket 33-2003).

The applicant is now requesting authority to expand existing Site 3 to include the Brook Park Road Industrial Park (322 acres), 17601 Brook Park Road, Brook Park (Cuyahoga County). The site is immediately adjacent to the Cleveland Hopkins International Airport and is being developed as an industrial