INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION


Carbon and Certain Alloy Steel Wire Rod From Brazil, Indonesia, Mexico, Moldova, and Trinidad and Tobago: Notice of Commission Determinations To Conduct Full Five-Year Reviews


ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Commission hereby gives notice that it will proceed with full reviews pursuant to the Tariff Act of 1930 to determine whether revocation of the countervailing duty order on carbon and certain alloy steel wire rod (“wire rod”) from Brazil and the antidumping duty orders on wire rod from Brazil, Indonesia, Mexico, Moldova, and Trinidad and Tobago would be likely to lead to continuation or recurrence of material injury within a reasonably foreseeable time. A schedule for the reviews will be established and announced at a later date.

DATES: September 6, 2019.


General information concerning the Commission may also be obtained by accessing its internet server (https://www.usitc.gov). The public record for these reviews and rules of general application, consult the Commission’s Rules of Practice and Procedure, part 201, subparts A through E (19 CFR part 201), and part 207, subparts A, D, E, and F (19 CFR part 207).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On September 6, 2019, the Commission determined that it should proceed to full reviews in the subject five-year reviews pursuant to section 751(c) of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1675(c)).\(^1\) The Commission found that the domestic interested party group response to its notice of institution (84 FR 25564, June 3, 2019) was adequate. The Commission also found that the respondent interested party group response concerning the countervailing duty order on wire rod from Mexico was adequate and, therefore, determined to proceed with a full review of that order. The Commission found that the respondent interested party group responses concerning the countervailing duty and antidumping duty orders on wire rod from Brazil and the antidumping duty orders on wire rod from Indonesia, Moldova, and Trinidad and Tobago were inadequate but determined to conduct full reviews of these orders in order to promote administratively efficiency in light of the determination to conduct a full review of the antidumping duty order on wire rod from Mexico. A record of the Commissioners’ votes, the Commission’s statement on adequacy, and any individual Commissioner’s statements will be available from the Office of the Secretary and at the Commission’s website.

Authority: These reviews are being conducted under authority of title VII of the Tariff Act of 1930; this notice is published pursuant to section 207.62 of the Commission’s rules.

By order of the Commission.


Lisa Barton, Secretary to the Commission.

[FR Doc. 2019–20799 Filed 9–24–19; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7020–02–P

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employment and Training Administration

Labor Surplus Area Classification

AGENCY: Employment and Training Administration, Labor.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The purpose of this notice is to announce the annual Labor Surplus Area (LSA) list for Fiscal Year (FY) 2020.

DATES: The annual LSA list is effective October 1, 2019, for all states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Samuel Wright, Office of Workforce Investment, Employment and Training Administration, 200 Constitution Avenue NW, Room C–4514, Washington, DC 20210. Telephone: (202) 693–2870 (This is not a toll-free number) or email wright.samuel.e@dol.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Department of Labor’s regulations implementing Executive Orders 12073 and 10582 are set forth at 20 CFR part 654, subpart A. These regulations require the Employment and Training Administration (ETA) to classify jurisdictions as LSAs pursuant to the criteria specified in the regulations, and to publish annually a list of LSAs. Pursuant to those regulations, ETA is hereby publishing the annual LSA list.

In addition, the regulations provide exceptional circumstance criteria for classifying LSAs when catastrophic events, such as natural disasters, plant closings, and contract cancellations are expected to have a long-term impact on labor market area conditions, discounting temporary or seasonal factors.

Eligible Labor Surplus Areas

A LSA is a civil jurisdiction that has a civilian average annual unemployment rate during the previous two calendar years of 20 percent or more above the average annual civilian unemployment rate for all states during the same 24-month reference period. ETA uses only official unemployment estimates provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics in making these classifications. The average unemployment rate for all states includes data for the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. The LSA classification criteria stipulate a civil jurisdiction must have a “floor unemployment rate” of 6 percent or higher to be classified a LSA. Any civil jurisdiction that has a “ceiling unemployment rate” of 10 percent or higher is classified a LSA.

Civil jurisdictions are defined as follows:

1. A city of at least 25,000 population on the basis of the most recently available estimates from the Bureau of the Census; or
2. A town or township in the States of Michigan, New Jersey, New York, or Pennsylvania of 25,000 or more population and which possess powers and functions similar to those of cities; or
3. All counties, except for those counties which contain any type of civil jurisdictions defined in “1” or “2” above; or
4. A “balance of county” consisting of a county less any component cities and townships identified in “1” or “2” above; or
5. A county equivalent which is a town in the States of Connecticut, Massachusetts, and Rhode Island, or a...
municipio in the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

Procedures for Classifying Labor Surplus Areas

The Department of Labor (DOL) issues the LSA list on a fiscal year basis. The list becomes effective each October 1, and remains in effect through the following September 30. The reference period used in preparing the current list was January 2017 through December 2018. The national average unemployment rate (including Puerto Rico) during this period is rounded to 4.34 percent. Twenty percent higher than the national unemployment rate during this period is rounded to 5.21 percent. Since the calculated unemployment rate plus 20 percent (5.21 percent) is below the “floor” LSA unemployment rate of 6 percent, a civil jurisdiction must have a two-year unemployment rate of 6 percent or higher in order to be classified as a LSA. To ensure that all areas classified as labor surplus meet the requirements, when a city is part of a county and meets the unemployment qualifier as a LSA, that city is identified in the LSA list, the balance of county, not the entire county, will be identified as a LSA if the balance of county also meets the LSA unemployment criteria. The FY 2019 LSA list, statistical data on the current and previous years’ LSAs are available at http://www.doleta.gov/programs/lsa.cfm.

Petition for Exceptional Circumstance Consideration

The classification procedures also provide criteria for the designation of LSAs under exceptional circumstances criteria. These procedures permit the regular classification criteria to be waived when an area experiences a significant increase in unemployment which is not temporary or seasonal and which was not reflected in the data for the 2-year reference period. Under the program’s exceptional circumstance procedures, LSA classifications can be made for civil jurisdictions, Metropolitan Statistical Areas or Combined Statistical Areas, as defined by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget. In order for an area to be classified as a LSA under the exceptional circumstance criteria, the state workforce agency must submit a petition requesting such classification to the Department of Labor’s ETA. The current criteria for an exceptional circumstance classification are:

1. An area’s unemployment rate is at least 6% percent for each of the three most recent months;
2. A projected unemployment rate of at least 6% percent for each of the next 12 months because of an event; and
3. Documentation that the exceptional circumstance event has occurred. The state workforce agency may file petitions on behalf of civil jurisdictions, Metropolitan Statistical Areas, or Micropolitan Statistical Areas.

State Workforce Agencies may submit petitions in electronic format to wright.samuel@dol.gov, or in hard copy to the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration, Office of Workforce Investment, 200 Constitution Avenue NW, Room C-4514, Washington, DC 20210, Attention Samuel Wright. Data collection for the petition is approved under OMB 1205–0207, expiration date July 31, 2020.

Signed at Washington, DC.

John Pallasch, Assistant Secretary for Employment and Training Administration.

[FR Doc. 2019–20849 Filed 9–24–19; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4510–FN–P

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Employment and Training Administration

Agency Information Collection Activities; Comment Request; Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) Efforts To Improve Outcomes

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Labor’s (DOL’s) Employment and Training Administration (ETA) is soliciting comments concerning a proposed extension for the authority to conduct the information collection request (ICR) titled, “Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) Efforts to Improve Outcomes.” This comment request is part of continuing Departmental efforts to reduce paperwork and respondent burden in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA).

DATES: Consideration will be given to all written comments received by October 25, 2019.

ADDRESSES: A copy of this ICR with applicable supporting documentation, including a description of the likely respondents, proposed frequency of response, and estimated total burden, may be obtained free by contacting Robert Hoekstra, by telephone at 202–693–3522 (this is not a toll-free number), TTY 1–877–889–5627 (this is not a toll-free number), or by email at hoekstra.robert@dol.gov.

Submit written comments about, or requests for a copy of, this ICR by mail or courier to the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration, Office of Trade Adjustment Assistance, 200 Constitution Avenue NW, Room N–5428, Washington, DC 20210; by email: taa.reports@dol.gov; or by Fax 202–693–3584.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Robert Hoekstra by telephone at 202–693–3522 (this is not a toll-free number) or by email at hoekstra.robert@dol.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: DOL, as part of continuing efforts to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, conducts a pre-clearance consultation program to provide the general public and Federal agencies an opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing collections of information before submitting them to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for final approval. This program helps to ensure 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 can be properly assessed.

On June 28, 2015, the Trade Adjustment Assistance Reauthorization Act of 2015 was signed into law. Under Section 239(j)(1)(c) of Title II, Chapter 2 of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended (19 U.S.C. 2271 et seq.), the Secretary is required to collect “a description of efforts made to improve outcomes for workers . . . .” In addition to mandatory annual reporting, the Department collects these descriptions on a quarterly basis in order to track progress of efforts to improve outcomes and speed the identification of new state practices.

The Office of Trade Adjustment Assistance (OTAA) is revising the ICR for Trade Activity Participant Report (TAPR) (OMB control number 1205–0392). This ICR removes the collection requirement for the individual record reporting that constituted the bulk of the collection burden, but retains the quarterly reporting requirement of “efforts made to improve outcomes”. Correspondingly, the collection title will be changed to “Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) Efforts to Improve Outcomes.” Section 239(f)(1)(c) of Title II, Chapter 2 of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended (19 U.S.C. 2271 et seq.) authorizes this information collection. This collection is being modified significantly as to no longer require the submission of individual participant