

The proposed Final Judgment, therefore, should not be reviewed under a standard of whether it is certain to eliminate every anticompetitive effect of a particular practice or whether it mandates certainty of free competition in the future. Court approval of a final judgment requires a standard more flexible and less strict than the standard required for a finding of liability. "[A] proposed decree must be approved even if it falls short of the remedy the court would impose on its own, as long as it falls within the range of acceptability or is 'within the reaches of public interest.'" (citations omitted).<sup>5</sup>

#### VIII. Determinative Documents

There are no determinative materials or documents within the meaning of the APPA that were considered by the United States in formulating the proposed Final Judgment.

Dated: January 30, 1996.

Respectfully submitted,

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#### Notice Pursuant to the National Cooperative Research and Production Act of 1993—Intelligent Processing of Materials-Physical Vapor Deposition Consortium (IPM-PVD)

Notice is hereby given that, on October 26, 1995, pursuant to section 6(a) of the National Cooperative Research and Production Act of 1993, 15 U.S.C. 4301 *et seq.* ("the Act"), United Technologies Corporation and General Electric Company filed written notifications simultaneously with the Attorney General and the Federal Trade Commission disclosing (1) the identities of the parties and (2) the nature and objectives of the venture. The notifications were filed for the purpose of invoking the Act's provisions limiting the recovery of antitrust plaintiffs to actual damages under specified circumstances. Pursuant to section 6(b) of the Act, the identities of the parties are: United Technologies Corporation

decree are] so inconsonant with the allegations charged as to fall outside of the 'reaches of the public interest.'" (citations omitted).

<sup>5</sup> *United States v. American Tel. and Tel Co.*, 552 F. Supp. 131, 150 (D.D.C. 1982), *aff'd sub nom. Maryland v. United States*, 460 U.S. 1001 (1983), *quoting United States v. Gillette Co.*, *supra*, 406 F. Supp. at 716; *United States v. Alcan Aluminum, Ltd.*, 605 F. Supp. 619, 622 (W.D. Ky. 1985).

acting by and through its Pratt & Whitney Government Engines and Space Propulsion, Pratt & Whitney Corporation, acting by and through its United Technologies Research Center, East Hartford, CT; and the General Electric Company, acting by and through its GE Aircraft Engines (GEAE), and through its GE Cooperative Research and Development (GE-CRD) Center, Evendale, OH.

The objective of the program being pursued by the IPM-PVD is to conduct the development of a sensor package aimed at reducing processing costs, manufacturing variability and to enable implementation of advanced TBC architectures.

Constance K. Robinson,

*Director of Operations, Antitrust Division.*

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#### DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

##### Employment and Training Administration

##### Labor Certification Process for the Temporary Employment of Aliens in Agriculture and Logging in the United States: 1996 Adverse Effect Wage Rates and Allowable Charges for Agricultural and Logging Workers' Meals

**AGENCY:** U.S. Employment Service, Employment and Training Administration, Labor.

**ACTION:** Notice of adverse effect wage rates (AEWRs) and allowable charges for meals for 1996.

**SUMMARY:** The Director, U.S. Employment Service, announces 1996 adverse effect wage rates (AEWRs) for employers seeking nonimmigrant alien (H-2A) workers for temporary or seasonal agricultural labor or services and the allowable charges employers seeking nonimmigrant alien workers for temporary or seasonal agricultural labor or services or logging work may levy upon their workers when they provide three meals per day.

AEWRs are the minimum wage rates which the Department of Labor has determined must be offered and paid to U.S. and alien workers by employers of nonimmigrant alien agricultural workers (H-2A visaholders). AEWRs are established to prevent the employment of these aliens from adversely affecting wages of similarly employed U.S. workers.

The Director also announces the new rates which covered agricultural and

logging employers may charge their workers for three daily meals.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** February 8, 1996.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. John M. Robinson, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Employment and Training, U.S. Department of Labor, Room N-4700, 200 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20210. Telephone: 202-219-5257 (this is not a toll-free number).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Attorney General may not approve an employer's petition for admission of temporary alien agricultural (H-2A) workers to perform agricultural labor or services of a temporary or seasonal nature in the United States unless the petitioner has applied to the Department of Labor (DOL) for an H-2A labor certification. The labor certification must show that: (1) there are not sufficient U.S. workers who are able, willing, and qualified and who will be available at the time and place needed to perform the labor or services involved in the petition; and (2) the employment of the alien in such labor or services will not adversely affect the wages and working conditions of workers in the United States similarly employed. 8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(15)(H)(ii)(a), 1184(c), and 1188.

DOL's regulations for the H-2A program require that covered employers offer and pay their U.S. and H-2A workers no less than the applicable hourly adverse effect wage rate (AEWR). 20 CFR 655.102(b)(9); see also 20 CFR 655.107. Reference should be made to the preamble to the July 5, 1989, final rule (54 FR 28037), which explains in great depth the purpose and history of AEWRs, DOL's discretion in setting AEWRs, and the AEWR computation methodology at 20 CFR 655.107(a). See also 52 FR 20496, 20502-20505 (June 1, 1987).

A. Adverse Effect Wage Rates (AEWRs) for 1996

Adverse effect wage rates (AEWRs) are the minimum wage rates which DOL has determined must be offered and paid to U.S. and alien workers by employers of nonimmigrant (H-2A) agricultural workers. DOL emphasizes, however, that such employers must pay the highest of the AEWR, the applicable prevailing wage or the statutory minimum wage, as specified in the regulations. 20 CFR 655.102(b)(9). Except as otherwise provided in 20 CFR Part 655, Subpart B, the regionwide AEWR for all agricultural employment (except those occupations deemed inappropriate under the special circumstances provisions of 20 CFR

655.93) for which temporary alien agricultural labor (H-2A) certification is being sought, is equal to the annual weighted average hourly wage rate for field and livestock workers (combined) for the region as published annually by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA does not provide data on Alaska). 20 CFR 655.107(a).

The regulation at 20 CFR 655.107(a) requires the Director, U.S. Employment Service, to publish USDA field and livestock worker (combined) wage data as AEWRs in a Federal Register notice. Accordingly, the 1996 AEWRs for work performed on or after the effective date of this notice, are set forth in the table below:

TABLE.—1996 ADVERSE EFFECT WAGE RATES (AEWRs)

State	1996 AEWR
Alabama	\$5.40
Arizona	5.87
Arkansas	5.27
California	6.26
Colorado	5.64
Connecticut	6.36
Delaware	5.97
Florida	6.54
Georgia	5.40
Hawaii	8.60
Idaho	5.76
Illinois	6.23
Indiana	6.23
Iowa	5.90
Kansas	6.29
Kentucky	5.54
Louisiana	5.27
Maine	6.36
Maryland	5.97
Massachusetts	6.36
Michigan	6.19
Minnesota	6.19
Mississippi	5.27
Missouri	5.90
Montana	5.76
Nebraska	6.29
Nevada	5.64
New Hampshire	6.36
New Jersey	5.97
New Mexico	5.87
New York	6.36
North Carolina	5.80
North Dakota	6.29
Ohio	6.23
Oklahoma	5.50
Oregon	6.82
Pennsylvania	5.97
Rhode Island	6.36
South Carolina	5.40
South Dakota	6.29
Tennessee	5.54
Texas	5.50
Utah	5.64
Vermont	6.36
Virginia	5.80
Washington	6.82
West Virginia	5.54
Wisconsin	6.19
Wyoming	5.76

#### B. Allowable Meal Charges

Among the minimum benefits and working conditions which DOL requires employers to offer their alien and U.S. workers in their applications for temporary logging and H-2A agricultural labor certification is the provision of three meals per day or free and convenient cooking and kitchen facilities. 20 CFR 655.102(b)(4) and 655.202(b)(4). Where the employer provides meals, the job offer must state the charge, if any, to the worker for meals.

DOL has published at 20 CFR 655.102(b)(4) and 655.111(a) the methodology for determining the maximum amounts covered H-2A agricultural employers may charge their U.S. and foreign workers for meals. The same methodology is applied at 20 CFR 655.202(b)(4) and 655.211(a) to covered H-2B logging employers. These rules provide for annual adjustments of the previous year's allowable charges based upon Consumer Price Index (CPI) data.

Each year the maximum charges allowed by 20 CFR 655.102(b)(4) and 655.202(b)(4) are changed by the same percentage as the twelve-month percent change in the CPI for all Urban Consumers for Food (CPI-U for Food) between December of the year just past and December of the year prior to that. Those regulations and 20 CFR 655.111(a) and 655.211(a) provide that the appropriate Regional Administrator (RA), Employment and Training Administration, may permit an employer to charge workers no more than a higher maximum amount for providing them with three meals a day, if justified and sufficiently documented. Each year, the higher maximum amounts permitted by 20 CFR 655.111(a) and 655.211(a) are changed by the same percentage as the twelve-month percent change in the CPI-U for Food between December of the year just past and December of the year prior to that. The regulations require the Director, U.S. Employment Service, to make the annual adjustments and to cause a notice to be published in the Federal Register each calendar year, announcing annual adjustments in allowable charges that may be made by covered agricultural and logging employers for providing three meals daily to their U.S. and alien workers. The 1995 rates were published in a notice on February 7, 1995 at 60 FR 7215.

DOL has determined the percentage change between December of 1994 and December of 1995 for the CPI-U for Food was 2.8 percent.

Accordingly, the maximum allowable charges under 20 CFR 655.102(b)(4), 655.202(b)(4), 655.111, and 655.211 were adjusted using this percentage change, and the new permissible charges for 1996 are as follows: (1) for 20 CFR 655.102(b)(4) and 655.202(b)(4), the charge, if any, shall be no more than \$7.17 per day, unless the RA has approved a higher charge pursuant to 20 CFR 655.111 or 655.211(b); for 20 CFR 655.111 and 655.211, the RA may permit an employer to charge workers up to \$8.95 per day for providing them with three meals per day, if the employer justifies the charge and submits to the RA the documentation required to support the higher charge.

Signed at Washington, D.C., this 1st day of February, 1996.

John M. Robinson,

*Deputy Assistant Secretary for Employment and Training, U.S. Employment Service.*

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#### NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION

##### Records Schedules; Availability and Request for Comments

**AGENCY:** National Archives and Records Administration, Office of Records Administration.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability of proposed records schedules; request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) publishes notice at least once monthly of certain Federal agency requests for records disposition authority (records schedules). Records schedules identify records of sufficient value to warrant preservation in the National Archives of the United States. Schedules also authorize agencies after a specified period to dispose of records lacking administrative, legal, research, or other value. Notice is published for records schedules that (1) propose the destruction of records not previously authorized for disposal, or (2) reduce the retention period for records already authorized for disposal. NARA invites public comments on such schedules, as required by 44 USC 3303a(a).

**DATES:** Request for copies must be received in writing on or before March 25, 1996. Once the appraisal of the records is completed, NARA will send a copy of the schedule. The requester will be given 30 days to submit comments.