

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jane E. Hardisty, 317-290-3200.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 343 of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 states that after enactment of the law, revisions made to NRCS state technical guides used to carry out highly erodible land and wetland provisions of the law, shall be made available for public review and comment. For the next 30 days, the NRCS in Indiana will receive comments relative to the proposed changes. Following that period, a determination will be made by the NRCS in Indiana regarding disposition of those comments and a final determination of changes will be made.

Dated: December 10, 2001.

Jane E. Hardisty,

State Conservationist, Indianapolis, Indiana.
[FR Doc. 02-912 Filed 1-14-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-16-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Bureau of Export Administration

Sensors and Instrumentation Technical Advisory Committee; Notice of Partially Closed Meeting

The Sensors and Instrumentation Technical Advisory Committee will meet on February 12, 2002, 9:30 a.m., in the Herbert C. Hoover Building, Room 3884, 14th Street between Constitution and Pennsylvania Avenues, NW., Washington, DC. The Committee advises the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Export Administration on technical questions that affect the level of export controls applicable to sensors and instrumentation equipment and technology.

Agenda

Public Session

1. Opening remarks and introductions.
2. Committee Annual Report for 2001.
3. Goals for 2002.
4. Status on Wassenaar Arrangement proposals.
5. Update on implementation of regulations.
6. Committee's proposed change to 6A002 (Optical sensors).
7. Update on Wassenaar Arrangement negotiating cycle.
8. Review of status on Uncooled IR licensing.

Closed Session

9. Discussion of matters properly classified under Executive Order 12958, dealing with the U.S. export control program and strategic criteria related thereto.

A limited number of seats will be available during the public session of the meeting.

Reservations are not accepted. To the extent that time permits, members of the public may present oral statements to the Committee. The public may submit written statements at any time before or after the meeting. However, to facilitate distribution of public presentation materials to the Committee members, the Committee suggests that presenters forward the public presentation materials prior to the meeting date to the following address: Ms. Lee Ann Carpenter, OSIES/EA/BXA MS: 3876, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th St. & Constitution Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20230.

The Assistant Secretary for Administration, with the concurrence of the General Counsel, formally determined on November 29, 2001, pursuant to section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended, that the series of meetings of the Committee and of any Subcommittees thereof, dealing with the classified materials listed in 5 U.S.C., 552b(c)(1) shall be exempt from the provisions relating to public meetings found in section 10(a)(1) and 10(a)(3), of the Federal Advisory Committee Act. The remaining series of meetings or portions thereof will be open to the public.

A copy of the Notice of Determination to close meetings or portions of meetings of the Committee is available for public inspection and copying in the Central Reference and Records Inspection Facility, Room 6020, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20230. For more information contact Lee Ann Carpenter on (202) 482-2583.

Dated: January 9, 2002.

Lee Ann Carpenter,

Committee Liaison Officer.

[FR Doc. 02-1016 Filed 1-14-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-JT-M

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Bureau of Export Administration

[Docket No. 010412092-1296-04]

Report on the Effect of Imports of Iron Ore and Semi-Finished Steel on the National Security

AGENCY: Bureau of Export Administration, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Publication of Executive Summary of Report from the Secretary of Commerce to the President on the Effect of Imports of Iron Ore and Semi-Finished Steel on the National Security/ Notice of availability of full report.

SUMMARY: On October 29, 2001, the Secretary of Commerce ("Secretary") submitted a report to the President summarizing the findings of an investigation conducted by the Department pursuant to Section 232 of the Trade Expansion Act of 1962, into the effect of imports of iron ore and semi-finished steel on the national security of the United States. Based on

the evidence gathered in that investigation, the Secretary was unable to conclude that imports of iron ore and semi-finished steel threaten to impair the national security of the United States, or to recommend to the President that he take action under Section 232 to adjust the level of imports of these items. Included herein is the Executive Summary of the Secretary's report to the President.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the Secretary's report and certain records related to this investigation (with any business confidential information redacted) are accessible in accordance with the regulations published in part 4 of title 15 of the Code of Federal Regulations (15 CFR 4.1 *et seq.*). Specifically, the above documents are maintained on the Bureau of Export Administration's Web page, which can be found at <http://www.bxa.doc.gov> (see Freedom of Information Act ("FOIA") heading). Alternatively, any person may request that a copy of the Secretary's report be sent to him by calling (202) 482-0500.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Daniel O. Hill, Director, Office of Strategic Industries and Economic Security, Bureau of Export Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, (202) 482-4506.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

On February 1, 2001, the Secretary initiated an investigation under Section 232 to determine the effects on the national security of imports of iron ore and semi-finished steel. This investigation was conducted at the request of Representative James Oberstar of Minnesota and Representative Bart Stupak of Michigan. For further details on this investigation, see the **Federal Register** notices of February 6, 2001 (66 FR 9067), April 18, 2001 (66 FR 19917), June 14, 2001 (66 FR 32315), and July 10, 2001 (66 FR 35927).

On October 29, 2001, the Secretary concluded his investigation and submitted a report to the President. Based on the evidence gathered in that investigation, the Secretary was unable to conclude that imports of iron ore and semi-finished steel threaten to impair the national security of the United States, or to recommend to the President that he take action under Section 232 to adjust the level of imports of these items. The Executive Summary of the Secretary's October 2001 report to the President, titled "The Effect of Imports of Iron Ore and Semi-Finished Steel on the National Security," is reproduced below in accordance with 15 CFR 705.10.

Dated: January 10, 2002.

James J. Jochum,

Assistant Secretary for Export Administration.

I. Executive Summary

This report summarizes the findings of an investigation conducted by the Secretary of Commerce ("Secretary") pursuant to Section 232 of the Trade Expansion Act of 1962, as amended, 19 U.S.C. 1862 ("Section 232"), into the effects of imports of iron ore and semi-finished steel on the national security of the United States. The conclusions of this report are as follows:

(1) Iron ore and semi-finished steel are important to U.S. national security. Specifically, iron ore and semi-finished steel—as raw and semi-finished materials consumed by certain segments of the steel industry in the production of finished steel products—are needed to satisfy the requirements for finished steel products of (i) the U.S. Department of Defense ("DoD"), and (ii) certain industries that are critical to the minimum operations of the U.S. economy and government.

(2) Imports of iron ore and semi-finished steel could threaten to impair U.S. national security in either of two ways: (i) through excessive domestic dependency on unreliable foreign suppliers, or (ii) if such imports fundamentally threaten to impair the capability of the U.S. iron ore and semi-finished steel industries to satisfy national security requirements.

(3) In fact, however, there is no probative evidence that imports of iron ore or semi-finished steel threaten to impair U.S. national security. There is neither evidence showing that the United States is dependent on imports of iron ore or semi-finished steel, nor evidence showing that such imports fundamentally threaten the ability of domestic producers to satisfy national security requirements. Specific findings supporting this conclusion include the following:

- National defense requirements, as communicated to the Department of Commerce ("Department") by DoD, for finished steel—and thus for iron ore and semi-finished steel as inputs—are very low and likely to remain flat over the next five years. DoD's current and projected demand for iron ore and steel can be readily satisfied by domestic production. Moreover, DoD already has established domestic preferences that apply to essentially all of the steel used in weapons systems; accordingly, no weapons system is dependent upon foreign steel. DoD has concluded that "imports of iron ore and semi-finished steel do not currently affect the national

security when assessed in terms of the ability to meet defense demands."

- The demand of critical industries for iron ore and semi-finished steel can be readily satisfied by domestic production, even assuming that all such demand were necessary to preserve the national security (which is not the case).

- Consideration of other relevant factors, as dictated by Section 232, does not demonstrate that imports of iron ore or semi-finished steel threaten to impair U.S. national security. U.S. industry currently has, and anticipates continuing to have in the future, sufficient human resources, products, raw materials, and other supplies and services needed for the production of iron ore and semi-finished steel.

- Imports of iron ore and semi-finished steel are from diverse and "safe" foreign suppliers, with the largest suppliers of these products being U.S. allies in the Western Hemisphere (Canada, Mexico, and Brazil).

- Although domestic manufacturers of iron ore and semi-finished steel clearly are enduring substantial economic hardship, there is no evidence that imports of these items (which account for approximately 20 and 7 percent of U.S. iron ore and semi-finished steel consumption, respectively) fundamentally threaten to impair the capability of U.S. industry to produce the quantities of iron ore and semi-finished steel needed to satisfy national security requirements, a modest proportion of total U.S. consumption.

- These conclusions take into account the campaign against terrorism resulting from the events of September 11, 2001, and the requirements of related military operations.

Accordingly, the Department is unable to conclude that imports of iron ore and semi-finished steel threaten to impair the national security of the United States, or to recommend to the President that he take action under Section 232 to adjust the level of imports.

[FR Doc. 02-977 Filed 1-14-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-33-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Foreign-Trade Zones Board

[Docket 2-2002]

Foreign-Trade Zone 143—Sacramento, California, Area Application for Expansion

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

Port District, grantee of Foreign-Trade Zone 143, requesting authority to expand its zone to include an additional site in the Sacramento, California, area, adjacent to the San Francisco 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 January 7, 2002.

FTZ 143 was approved on August 6, 1987 (Board Order 360, 52 FR 30698, 8/17/87) and expanded on December 15, 1997 (Board Order 944, 62 FR 67043, 12/23/97) and January 18, 2000 (Board Order 1074, 65 FR 5495, 2/4/00). The general-purpose zone project currently consists of the following sites: *Site 1* (686 acres)—within the Port of Sacramento, Industrial Blvd. and Boatman Ave., W. Sacramento; *Site 2* (1,280 acres)—Lincoln Airport Business Park, Aviation Blvd, Lincoln, some 25 miles northeast of Sacramento; and, *Site 3* (1,574 acres)—Chico Municipal Airport complex and adjacent industrial development area, Chico.

The applicant is now requesting authority to expand the general-purpose zone to include an additional site (Proposed Site 4) in Sacramento County. *Proposed Site 4* (976 acres)—McClellan Park (the former site of the McClellan Air Force Base), 3140 Peacekeeper Way, McClellan, California. The site is located in an unincorporated area of the County of Sacramento. The County of Sacramento selected McClellan Business Park, LLC to redevelop and manage the former 2,856-acre McClellan Air Force Base. The area to be included in the proposed zone is currently owned by the U.S. Air Force, but ownership is in the process of being conveyed to the County of Sacramento and McClellan Business Park LLC. (The property is currently leased to the County of Sacramento and McClellan Business Park, LLC as part of the conveyance process.) A variety of businesses are already established on the site performing activities including services, manufacturing and processing, and warehousing and distribution. No specific manufacturing requests are being made at this time. Such requests would be made to the Board on a case-by-case basis. The site contains certain historic properties which will be managed in accordance with the agreement between the United States Air Force and the California State Historic Preservation Officer.

In accordance with the Board's regulations, a member of the FTZ Staff has been designated examiner to