

occur upon publication of this notification. The Forest Service will be seeking information, comments and assistance from Federal, State and local agencies and other individuals or organizations that may be interested in or affected by the proposed action. The proposed project will be presented at an Open House in the local area, where representatives from the WMNF and the State of New Hampshire will be available to discuss the project and provide additional information. In addition, interested parties are encouraged to visit with Forest Service officials at any time during the analysis and prior to the decision.

Comments from the public and other agencies will be used in preparation of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS). Please note that comments will be regarded as public information. The scoping process will be used to:

1. Identify potential issues.
2. Identify major issues to be analyzed in depth.
3. Eliminate minor issues or those which have been covered by a relevant previous environmental analysis, such as the Forest Plan EIS for the WMNF.
4. Identify alternatives to the proposed action.
5. Identify potential environmental effects of the proposed action and its alternatives, including direct, indirect and cumulative effects.
6. Determine potential cooperating agencies and task assignments.

No significant issues associated with the proposed land exchange or the Special Use Permit for the Tucker Brook Trail have been identified to date. Issues commonly associated with land exchanges of public lands are usually specific to the lands involved but often include methods of determining appropriate values of the parcels involved and potential impacts to threatened, endangered or sensitive species.

In preparing the DEIS, the Forest Service will consider a range of alternatives to meet the objectives of this proposal. One of these will be the "no action" alternative, in which none of the proposed activities would be implemented. Additional alternatives may involve issuance of a Special Use Permit instead of a land exchange and/or evaluation of parcels of land other than that already identified that might better meet the management objectives for the WMNF.

The DEIS will analyze the direct, indirect and cumulative environmental effects of the alternatives. Past present and foreseeable future activities on private, State and National Forest System lands will be considered. The

DEIS will also discuss site-specific mitigation measures, if necessary, that may be required to implement the project and their anticipated effectiveness.

It is expected at this time that the DEIS will be filed with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and made available for public review in December 1999. At that time, the EPA will publish a Notice of Availability of the DEIS in the **Federal Register**. The comment period on the DEIS will be 45 days from the date the EPA's notice of availability appears in the **Federal Register**. It is very important that those interested in management of the WMNF and Cannon Mountain participate during this review and comment period. To be most helpful, comments on the DEIS should be as specific as possible. The Final EIS (FEIS) is expected to be released in March of 2000.

The Forest Service believes, at this early stage, that it is important to give reviewers notice of several court rulings related to public participation in the environmental review process. First, reviewers of draft environmental impact statements must structure their participation in the environmental review of the proposal so that it is meaningful and alerts an agency to the reviewer's position and contentions. *Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corp. v. Natural Resources Defense Council*, 435 US 519, 558 (1978). Also, environmental objections that could be raised at the draft environmental impact stage but that are not raised until after completion of the final environmental impact statement may be waived or dismissed by the courts. *City of Angoon v. Hodel*, 803 F.2d 1016, 1022 (9th Cir. 1986) and *Wisconsin Heritages, Inc. v. Harris*, 490 F. Supp. 1334, 1338 (E.D. Wis. 1980). Because of these court rulings, it is very important that those interested in this proposed action participate by the close of the scoping and 45-day DEIS comment periods so that substantive comments and objections are made available to the Forest Service at a time when it can meaningfully consider them and respond to them in developing issues and alternatives.

To assist the Forest Service in identifying and considering issues on the proposed action, comments should be as specific as possible. Reviewers may wish to refer to the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations for implementing the procedural provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act at 40 CFR 1503.3 in addressing these points.

Dated: April 13, 1999.

Donna Hepp,

Forest Supervisor.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration

Designation for the Central Illinois (IL) Area

AGENCY: Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA).

ACTION: Notice; correction.

SUMMARY: The Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration published a document in the **Federal Register** of April 1, 1999, announcing designation of Central Illinois Grain Inspection, Inc. (Central Illinois), to provide official services under the United States Grain Standards Act. The document contained an incorrect date.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Janet M. Hart, 202-720-8525.

Correction

In the **Federal Register** of April 1, 1999, in FR Doc. 99-7995, on page 15723, in the third column, correct the fifth paragraph to read:

Effective June 1, 1999, and ending March 31, 2002, Central Illinois is designated to provide official services in the Central Illinois geographic area specified in the October 1, 1998, **Federal Register**.

Authority: Pub. L. 94-582, 90 Stat. 2867, as amended (7 U.S.C. 71 *et seq.*).

Dated: April 13, 1999.

Neil E. Porter,

Director, Compliance Division.

[FR Doc. 99-9637 Filed 4-16-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-EN-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Nutrient Management Technical Assistance Activities Policy; Revision

AGENCY: Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), USDA

ACTION: Revision of the NRCS policy for nutrient management technical assistance activities. This revised policy impacts the NRCS national conservation practice standards for Nutrient Management (Code 590) and Waste Utilization (Code 633), which have been revised and reissued to reflect the new policy.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given of the decision of NRCS to adopt a revised policy for providing nutrient management technical assistance. This revised policy will be disseminated within the agency through updates of the agency's General Manual. This includes revision of existing policy in Title 450, Part 401, Subpart A Technical Guides, Policy and Responsibilities; and new policy in Title 190, Part 402, Ecological Sciences, Nutrient Management Policy. This policy will be implemented through revision of the agency's conservation practice standards for Nutrient Management (Code 590) and Waste Utilization (Code 633). These national conservation practice standards have been revised and reissued to reflect the new policy.

EFFECTIVE DATES: The new policy and revised conservation practice standards are effective upon the date of adoption by the agency. They will be implemented by NRCS State Conservationists as quickly as possible, but not more than 2 years after their date of adoption by NRCS.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Questions about this policy should be directed to Ecological Sciences Division, NRCS, Washington, D.C. Submit questions in writing to Charles H. Lander, Nutrient Management Specialist, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Post Office Box 2890, Room 6155-S, Washington, D.C. 20013-2890.

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. The policy supporting the revised conservation practice standard for Nutrient Management (Code 590) was published for comment in the **Federal Register** on Wednesday, April 22, 1998 (Vol. 163, No. 77, pgs. 19889-19893). Comments were received for 90 days. The revised standard for Waste Utilization (Code 633) was published for comment in the **Federal Register** on Wednesday, October 28, 1998 (Vol. 63, No. 208, pgs. 19889-19893). Comments were received for 60 days.

Signed in Washington, D.C., on March 30, 1999.

Pearlie S. Reed,

Chief, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Washington, D.C.

[FR Doc. 99-9704 Filed 4-16-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-16-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[A-533-815]

Notice of Final Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value and Final Affirmative Finding of Critical Circumstances: Elastic Rubber Tape From India

AGENCY: Import Administration, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

EFFECTIVE DATE: April 19, 1999.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Alysia Wilson or Cynthia Thirumalai, Office of AD/CVD Enforcement 1, Group I, Import Administration, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20230; telephone: (202) 482-0108 or (202) 482-4087, respectively.

The Applicable Statute

Unless otherwise indicated, all citations to the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended ("the Act"), are references to the provisions effective January 1, 1995, the effective date of the amendments made to the Act by the Uruguay Round Agreements Act ("URAA"). In addition, unless otherwise indicated, all citations to the Department of Commerce ("Department") regulations are to the regulations at 19 CFR Part 351 (April 1998).

Final Determination

We determine that elastic rubber tape ("ERT") from India is being sold in the United States at less than fair value ("LTFV"), as provided in section 735 of the Act. The estimated margins are shown in the "Suspension of Liquidation" section of this notice.

Case History

On February 5, 1999, after the publication of our preliminary determination in this investigation (see *Notice of Preliminary Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value and Preliminary Negative Critical Circumstances Determination: Elastic Rubber Tape from India*, 64 FR 5025 (February 2, 1999) (*Preliminary Determination*)), Garware Elastomerics Limited ("GEL") withdrew from the remainder of the proceeding. No interested parties provided comments on the *Preliminary Determination* and no request for a hearing was received by the Department.

Scope of the Investigation

For purposes of this investigation, the product covered is elastic rubber tape. Elastic rubber tape is defined as vulcanized, non-cellular rubber strips, of either natural or synthetic rubber, 0.006 inches to 0.100 inches (0.15 mm to 2.54 mm) in thickness and 1/8 inches to 1 5/8 inches (3 mm to 42 mm) in width. Such product is generally used in swim wear and underwear.

The merchandise subject to this investigation is classified in the *Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States* ("HTSUS") at subheading 4008.21.00. Although the HTSUS subheading is provided for convenience and customs purposes, the written description of the merchandise under investigation is dispositive.

Period of Investigation

The period of investigation ("POI") is July 1, 1997, through June 30, 1998.

Adverse Facts Available

Section 776(a)(2) of the Act provides that if an interested party or any other person (A) withholds information that has been requested by the administering authority; (B) fails to provide such information by the deadlines for the submission of the information or in the form and manner requested, subject to subsections (c)(1) and (e) of section 782 of the Act; (C) significantly impedes a proceeding under the antidumping statute; or (D) provides such information but the information cannot be verified as provided in section 782(i) of the Act, the administering authority shall, subject to section 782(d) of the Act, use the facts otherwise available in reaching the applicable determination.

GEL failed to respond to the Department's requests for information; namely, GEL withdrew from the investigation. Accordingly, since GEL has withheld necessary information and withdrawn from the proceeding, which prevented the Department from verifying any of GEL's responses and impeded the Department from further investigation, we have determined, under sections 776(a)(2)(A), (C) & (D) of the Act, that we must base our determination for that company on the facts available.

Section 776(b) of the Act further provides that adverse inferences may be used for a party that has failed to cooperate by not acting to the best of its ability to comply with a request for information (see also the Statement of Administrative Action ("SAA"), accompanying the URAA, H. Doc. No. 316, 103rd Cong., 2d Sess. 870). Given GEL's refusal to comply with the