

Notices

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This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains documents other than rules or proposed rules that are applicable to the public. Notices of hearings and investigations, committee meetings, agency decisions and rulings, delegations of authority, filing of petitions and applications and agency statements of organization and functions are examples of documents appearing in this section.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Farm Service Agency

Advisory Committee on Beginning Farmers and Ranchers

AGENCY: Farm Service Agency, USDA.

ACTION: Notice requesting nominations.

SUMMARY: The Secretary of Agriculture intends to renew the charter of the Advisory Committee on Beginning Farmers and Ranchers (Committee). The Committee provides advice to the Secretary on ways to encourage Federal and State beginning farmer programs to provide joint financing to beginning farmers and ranchers. Nominations of persons to serve on the Committee are invited.

DATES: Nominations will be accepted through September 25, 2000, and should be submitted to Mark Falcone, Designated Federal Official (DFO) for the Committee, at the address below.

ADDRESSES: Mark Falcone, DFO for the Advisory Committee on Beginning Farmers and Ranchers, Farm Service Agency, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Room 5438-S, STOP 0522, Washington, DC 20250-0522; telephone (202) 720-1632; FAX (202) 690-1117; e-mail mark_falcone@wdc.fsa.usda.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Mark Falcone at (202) 720-1632.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 5 of the Agricultural Credit Improvement Act of 1992 (Pub. L. 102-554) required the Secretary of Agriculture to establish the Committee for the purpose of advising the Secretary on the following:

(1) the development of a program of coordinated financial assistance to qualified beginning farmers and ranchers under section 309(i) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (Federal and State beginning farmer programs provide joint financing to beginning farmers and

ranchers); (2) methods of maximizing the number of new farming and ranching opportunities created through the program; (3) methods of encouraging States to participate in the program; (4) the administration of the program; and (5) other methods of creating new farming or ranching opportunities.

The law requires that members include representatives from the following groups: (1) The Farm Service Agency (FSA); (2) State beginning farmer programs (as defined in section 309(i)(5) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act); (3) commercial lenders; (4) private nonprofit organizations with active beginning farmer or rancher programs; (5) the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service; (6) Community colleges or other educational institutions with demonstrated experience in training beginning farmers or ranchers; and (7) other entities or persons providing lending or technical assistance to qualified beginning farmers or ranchers. The Secretary has also appointed farmers and ranchers to the Committee.

Departmental Regulation 1042-119 dated November 25, 1998, formally established the Committee and designated FSA to provide support. FSA is now accepting nominations of individuals to serve for a 2-year term on the Committee, which is comprised of 18 individuals. One-third of the existing Committee membership will be replaced when the Committee charter expires on November 25, 2000. The Committee will be reestablished with the 12 old and six new members thereafter. Reappointments are made to assure effectiveness and continuity of operations. The duration of the Committee is indefinite. No member, other than a USDA employee, can serve for more than 6 consecutive years.

Appointments to the Committee will be made by the Secretary of Agriculture. Equal opportunity practices, in line with USDA policies, will be followed in all appointments to the Committee. To ensure that the recommendations of the Committee have taken into account the needs of the diverse groups served by the Department, membership should include, to the extent practicable, individuals with demonstrated ability to represent minorities, women, persons with disabilities, and senior citizens.

The Committee meets at least once a year and all meetings are open to the public. Committee meetings provide an opportunity for members to exchange ideas on ways to increase opportunities for beginning farmers and ranchers through Federal-State partnerships. Members discuss various issues and draft numerous recommendations, which are submitted to the Secretary in writing.

Signed in Washington, D.C. on August 18, 2000.

Parks Shackleford,

Acting Administrator, Farm Service Agency.

[FR Doc. 00-21645 Filed 8-23-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

North American Free-Trade Agreement, Article 1904 NAFTA Panel Reviews; Request for Panel Review

AGENCY: NAFTA Secretariat, United States Section, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of First Request for Panel Review.

SUMMARY: On August 11, 2000, Whirlpool Corporation filed a First Request for Panel Review with the Canadian Section of the NAFTA Secretariat pursuant to Article 1904 of the North American Free Trade Agreement. Panel review was requested of the final determination made by the Canada Customs and Revenue Agency, respecting Certain Top-Mount Electric Refrigerators, Electric Household Dishwashers, and Gas or Electric Laundry, Dryers, Originating in or Exported from the United States of America and Produced by, or on Behalf of, White Consolidated Industries, Inc. and Whirlpool Corporation, Their Respective Affiliates, Successors and Assigns. This determination was published in the *Canada Gazette*, Part I, (Vol. 134, No. 29, pp. 2229-2230) on July 15, 2000. The NAFTA Secretariat has assigned Case Number CDA-USA-00-1904-03 to this request.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Caratina L. Alston, United States Secretary, NAFTA Secretariat, Suite 2061, 14th and Constitution Avenue,

Washington, D.C. 20230, (202) 482-5438.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Chapter 19 of the North American Free-Trade Agreement ("Agreement") establishes a mechanism to replace domestic judicial review of final determinations in antidumping and countervailing duty cases involving imports from a NAFTA country with review by independent binational panels. When a Request for Panel Review is filed, a panel is established to act in place of national courts to review expeditiously the final determination to determine whether it conforms with the antidumping or countervailing duty law of the country that made the determination.

Under Article 1904 of the Agreement, which came into force on January 1, 1994, the Government of the United States, the Government of Canada and the Government of Mexico established *Rules of Procedure for Article 1904 Binational Panel Reviews* ("Rules"). These Rules were published in the **Federal Register** on February 23, 1994 (59 FR 8686).

A first Request for Panel Review was filed with the Canadian Section of the NAFTA Secretariat, pursuant to Article 1904 of the Agreement, on May 12, 2000, requesting panel review of the final determination described above.

The Rules provide that:

(a) A Party or interested person may challenge the final determination in whole or in part by filing a Complaint in accordance with Rule 39 within 30 days after the filing of the first Request for Panel Review (the deadline for filing a Complaint is September 11, 2000);

(b) A Party, investigating authority or interested person that does not file a Complaint but that intends to appear in support of any reviewable portion of the final determination may participate in the panel review by filing a Notice of Appearance in accordance with Rule 40 within 45 days after the filing of the first Request for Panel Review (the deadline for filing a Notice of Appearance is September 25, 2000); and

(c) the panel review shall be limited to the allegations of error of fact or law, including the jurisdiction of the investigating authority, that are set out in the Complaints filed in the panel review and the procedural and substantive defenses raised in the panel review.

Dated: August 15, 2000.

Caratina L. Alston,

United States Secretary, NAFTA Secretariat.
[FR Doc. 00-21588 Filed 8-23-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Institute of Standards and Technology

Public Meeting on U.S. Technical Participation in 11th Quadrennial Conference of the International Organization of Legal Metrology (OIML)

AGENCY: National Institute of Standards and Technology, Commerce.

ACTION: Meeting Announcement.

SUMMARY: The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) will hold a public meeting to discuss U.S. technical participation in the 11th Quadrennial Conference of the International Organization of Legal Metrology (OIML). The pre-conference public meeting is open to all interested parties.

The principal focus will be on 15 OIML Recommendations on legal measuring instruments that will be presented for ratification by the Conference. These Recommendations and OIML-member nations' technical comments on them will be reviewed with interested parties who will be given an opportunity to present their views on the Recommendations and other relevant issues of the Conference.

Participants with an expressed interest in particular topics may obtain copies of the OIML Conference technical agenda, including copies of the Recommendations to be ratified. Interested parties should schedule oral presentations for the pre-conference meeting, providing a written summary of comments, no later than 22 September 2000 with the NIST Technical Standards Activities Program. Written comments are welcome at any time.

DATES: Pre-conference meeting at the National Institute of Standards and Technology: 26 September 2000 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon; Eleventh OIML International Conference of Legal Metrology in London, England: 9-13 October 2000.

ADDRESSES: Pre-conference meeting: National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST North), Conference Room 152, 80 West Diamond Avenue, Gaithersburg, MD; International Conference: Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre, London, England.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Ralph Richter, Technical Standards Activities Program, Office of Standards Services, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Gaithersburg, MD 2099-2150; telephone: 301/975-4025; fax: 301/975-5414; e-mail:

ralph.richter@nist.gov; web site: www.ts.nist.gov/tsap and www.oiml.org

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The International Organization of Legal Metrology (OIML) is an intergovernmental treaty organization in which the United States and 56 other nations participate. Its principal purpose is to harmonize national laws and regulations pertaining to testing and verifying the performance of legal measuring instruments used for equity in commerce, for public and worker health and safety, and for monitoring and protecting the environment. The harmonized results promote the international trade of measuring instruments and products affected by measurement.

Fifteen Recommendations will be presented for ratification by the Conference in the following two categories: (1) Those already approved by the International Committee of Legal Metrology (CML) between 1997 and 1997; and (2) those that are expected to be submitted directly to the Conference for approval. These Recommendations and the OIML-member nations holding the responsible secretariat for their development are as follows:

Category 1

- R49 Water meters intended for the metering of cold potable water (United Kingdom)
- R60 Metrological regulation for load cells (USA)
- R65 Force measuring system of uniaxial material testing machines (USA)
- R81 Dynamic measuring devices and systems for cryogenic liquids (USA)
- R85 Automatic level gauges for measuring the level of liquid in fixed storage tanks (Austria)
- R93 Focimeters (Hungary)
- R99 Instruments for measuring exhaust emissions (Netherlands)
- R125 Measuring systems for the mass of liquids in tanks (Australia)
- R126 Evidential breath analyzers (France)
- R127 Radiochromic film dosimetry system for ionizing radiation processing of materials and products (USA)
- R128 Ergometers for foot crank work (Germany)
- R129 Multi-dimensional measuring instruments (Australia)

Category 2

- Draft OIML Recommendation: Octave-band and one-third octave-band filters (Germany)
- Draft OIML Recommendation: Polymethylmethacrylate dosimetry system for ionizing radiation