

transformation process. Expression of the added genes is controlled in part by gene sequences from the plant pathogen *A. tumefaciens*, and the *A. tumefaciens* method was used to transfer the added genes into the parental Norlin commercial flax variety.

The CDC Triffid flax line has been considered a regulated article under the regulations in 7 CFR part 340 because it contains gene sequences from a plant pathogen. The subject flax line was extensively field tested under confined conditions in Canada in Saskatchewan, Manitoba, and Alberta between 1989 and 1995, and grown under unconfined conditions in Canada since 1996. Field test data and site monitoring indicate no risk of plant pest introduction or dissemination and no negative environmental impacts from the field testing or unconfined release of this flax line. The CDC Triffid flax line was cleared for variety registration, unrestricted environmental release, and use as animal feed in 1996 by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, and Health Canada granted human food approval in 1998.

In the Federal Plant Pest Act, as amended (7 U.S.C. 150aa *et seq.*), "plant pest" is defined as "any living stage of: Any insects, mites, nematodes, slugs, snails, protozoa, or other invertebrate animals, bacteria, fungi, other parasitic plants or reproductive parts thereof, viruses, or any organisms similar to or allied with any of the foregoing, or any infectious substances, which can directly or indirectly injure or cause disease or damage in any plants or parts thereof, or any processed, manufactured or other products of plants." APHIS views this definition very broadly. The definition covers direct or indirect injury, disease, or damage not just to agricultural crops, but also to plants in general, for example, native species, as well as to organisms that may be beneficial to plants, for example, honeybees, rhizobia, etc.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is responsible for the regulation of pesticides under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA), as amended (7 U.S.C. 136 *et seq.*). FIFRA requires that all pesticides, including herbicides, be registered prior to distribution or sale, unless exempt by EPA regulation. In cases in which genetically modified plants allow for a new use of an herbicide or involve a different use pattern for the herbicide, EPA must approve the new or different use. When the use of the herbicide on the genetically modified plant would result in an increase in the residues of the herbicide in a food or feed crop for

which the herbicide is currently registered, or in new residues in a crop for which the herbicide is not currently registered, establishment of a new tolerance or a revision of the existing tolerance would be required. Residue tolerances for pesticides are established by EPA under the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act (FFDCA), as amended (21 U.S.C. 301 *et seq.*), and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) enforces tolerances set by EPA under the FFDCA. Sulfonylurea herbicides are not registered for use on flax in either the United States or Canada.

FDA published a statement of policy on foods derived from new plant varieties in the **Federal Register** on May 29, 1992 (57 FR 22984-23005). The FDA statement of policy includes a discussion of FDA's authority for ensuring food safety under the FFDCA, and provides guidance to industry on the scientific considerations associated with the development of foods derived from new plant varieties, including those plants developed through the techniques of genetic engineering. CDC/Saskatchewan completed consultation with FDA in 1998 on the subject flax line.

In accordance with § 340.6(d) of the regulations, we are publishing this notice to inform the public that APHIS will accept written comments regarding the Petition for Determination of Nonregulated Status from any interested person for a period of 60 days from the date of this notice. The petition and any comments received are available for public review, and copies of the petition may be ordered from the individual listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

After the comment period closes, APHIS will review the data submitted by the petitioner, all written comments received during the comment period, and any other relevant information. Based on the available information, APHIS will furnish a response to the petitioner, either approving the petition in whole or in part, or denying the petition. APHIS will then publish a notice in the **Federal Register** announcing the regulatory status of the CDC/Saskatchewan CDC Triffid flax line and the availability of APHIS' written decision.

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 150aa-150jj, 151-167, and 1622n; 31 U.S.C. 9701; 7 CFR 2.22, 2.80, and 371.2(c).

Done in Washington, DC, this 26th day of February 1999.

Joan M. Arnoldi,

Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[FR Doc. 99-5360 Filed 3-3-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-34-P

COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

Agenda and Notice of Public Meeting of the Maryland Advisory Committee

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the provisions of the rules and regulations of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, that a meeting of the Maryland Advisory Committee to the Commission will convene at 10:00 a.m. and adjourn at 2:00 p.m. on March 24, 1999, at the Montgomery County Human Relations Commission, 164 Rollins Avenue, The Blue Conference Room, Rockville, Maryland 20852. The purpose of the meeting is to update project activity and orient the newly appointed members.

Persons desiring additional information, or planning a presentation to the Committee, should contact Ki-Taek Chun, Director of the Eastern Regional Office, 202-376-7533 (TDD 202-376-8116). Hearing-impaired persons who will attend the meeting and require the services of a sign language interpreter should contact the Regional Office at least ten (10) working days before the scheduled date of the meeting.

The meeting will be conducted pursuant to the provisions of the rules and regulations of the Commission.

Dated at Washington, DC, February 23, 1999.

Carol-Lee Hurley,

Chief, Regional Programs Coordination Unit.

[FR Doc. 99-5353 Filed 3-3-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6335-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[A-583-832]

Notice of Postponement of Preliminary Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value: Dynamic Random Access Memory Semiconductors of One Megabit and Above (DRAMs) From Taiwan

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

EFFECTIVE DATE: March 4, 1999.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Thomas Futtner or Alexander Amdur,

Import Administration, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20230; telephone: (202) 482-3814 or (202) 482-5346, respectively.

POSTPONEMENT OF PRELIMINARY

DETERMINATION: On November 18, 1998, the Department initiated the antidumping duty investigation of imports of DRAMs from Taiwan. The notice of initiation stated that we would issue our preliminary determination by April 1, 1999 (63 FR 60404, November 18, 1998).

On February 18, 1999, petitioner, Micron Technology, Inc., made a timely request pursuant to 19 CFR 351.205(e) of the Department's regulations for a postponement of the preliminary determination, pursuant to section 733(c)(1) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act). Petitioner requested a postponement in order to allow additional time for the Department to analyze the anticipated voluminous, and unusually complex, sales and cost of production issues in this investigation.

For the reasons identified by petitioner, we are postponing the preliminary determination under section 733(c)(1)(A) of the Act (See memorandum from Holly Kuga to Robert LaRussa, dated February 26, 1999). We will make our preliminary determination no later than May 21, 1999.

This notice is published pursuant to section 733(c)(2) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.205(f).

Dated: February 26, 1999.

Holly Kuga,

Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary, Group II, AD/CVD Enforcement, Import Administration.

[FR Doc. 99-5394 Filed 3-3-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-DS-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[A-588-837]

Large Newspaper Printing Presses and Components Thereof, Whether Assembled or Unassembled, From Japan: Postponement of Preliminary Results of the First and Second Administrative Reviews of Antidumping Duty Order

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

ACTION: Notice of extension of the time limit for the preliminary results in the first and second administrative reviews of the antidumping duty order on large newspaper printing presses from Japan.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce ("the Department") is extending the time limit for the preliminary results of the first and second administrative reviews of the antidumping duty order on large newspaper printing presses from Japan. These reviews cover the period September 5, 1996, through August 31, 1998 for Mitsubishi Heavy Industries ("MHI")¹ and for the period September 1, 1997, through August 31, 1998 for Tokyo Kikai Seisakusho ("TKS").²

EFFECTIVE DATE: March 4, 1999.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kate Johnson, at (202) 482-4929, or Dinah McDougall, at (202) 482-3773, Office of AD/CVD Enforcement, Import Administration, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C., 20230.

POSTPONEMENT OF PRELIMINARY RESULTS OF ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW: The Department initiated reviews of the antidumping duty order on LNPP from Japan on October 29, 1998 (63 FR 58009) for MHI, and on November 30, 1998 (63 FR 6548) for TKS. The current deadline for the preliminary results in these reviews is June 2, 1999. In accordance with section 751(a)(3)(A) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended, the Department finds that it is not practicable to complete the first and second administrative reviews of the antidumping order on large newspaper printing presses from Japan within this time limit. Specifically, the Department finds that additional time is needed to adequately consider the complexity of the issues involved in these reviews. (See memorandum from Holly Kuga to Robert LaRussa, dated February 26, 1999). Thus the Department is extending the time limit for completion of the preliminary results of these reviews until September 30, 1999, which is 365 days after the last day of the anniversary month of the order. The final determination will occur within

¹ The initiation of the first administrative review of this antidumping duty order on LNPPs from Japan with respect to MHI (covering the period September 5, 1996 through August 31, 1997) was deferred at the request of the petitioner, until the initiation of the second administrative review (covering the period September 1, 1997 through August 31, 1998). Thus both reviews with respect to MHI are being conducted concurrently.

² There was no request for an administrative review of the LNPP order with respect to TKS for the period September 5, 1996 through August 31, 1997.

120 days of the publication of the preliminary results.

Dated: February 26, 1999.

Holly A. Kuga,

Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Import Administration.

[FR Doc. 99-5395 Filed 3-3-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-DS-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[A-570-847]

Persulfates From the People's Republic of China: Postponement of Preliminary Results of Antidumping Duty Administrative Review

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

ACTION: Extension of time limits for preliminary results of antidumping duty administrative review.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce is extending by 120 days the time limit of the preliminary results of the antidumping duty administrative review of the antidumping duty order on persulfates from the People's Republic of China (PRC) covering the period December 27, 1996, through June 30, 1998, since it is not practicable to complete this review within the time limits mandated by the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended.

EFFECTIVE DATE: March 4, 1999.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Sunkyu Kim, at (202) 482-2613; or James M. Nunno II, at (202) 482-0783, Import Administration, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20230.

POSTPONEMENT OF PRELIMINARY RESULTS OF REVIEW: Section 751(a)(3)(A) of the Act requires the Department to make a preliminary determination in an administrative review within 245 days after the last day of the anniversary month of an order for which a review is requested and a final determination within 120 days after the date on which the preliminary determination is published. However, section 751(a)(3)(A) of the Act provides that when it is not practicable to complete the review within the specified time period, the Department may extend this time period by 120 days. We determine that it is not practicable to complete the preliminary results of this review within the original time frame. See Decision Memorandum from Holly A. Kuga,