



Filed Electronically: <http://www.regulations.gov>,  
Docket No. ITA-2010-0012.

May 26, 2011

Mr. Andrew McGilvray  
Executive Secretary  
Foreign-Trade Zones Board  
U.S. Department of Commerce  
Room 2111  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20230

**Re: Proposed Rule; Foreign-Trade Zones in the United States; Docket  
Number ITA-2010-0012; RIN 0625-AA81; Comments of The United  
Steelworkers**

Dear Mr. McGilvray:

In response to the request for comment published by the Foreign-Trade Zones Board (Board) and the notice extending the public comment period, the United Steel, Paper and Forestry, Rubber, Manufacturing, Energy, Allied Industrial and Service Workers International Union ("USW") submits these comments on the proposed amendments to the Board's regulations. The USW is the largest industrial union in North America. Our 850,000 active members work in nearly every sector of the economy, from steel, aluminum, industrial machinery, chemical and petroleum products, to paper and forestry products, health care and pharmaceuticals, mining, energy, and utilities.

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United Steel, Paper and Forestry, Rubber, Manufacturing, Energy, Allied Industrial and Service Workers International Union

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The USW greatly appreciates this opportunity to comment on the proposed rule. Our comments concern the proposed changes in the Board's regulations addressing the use of foreign-trade zones to avoid the payment of antidumping or countervailing duties (AD/CVD). Effective enforcement of U.S. trade laws is critically important to USW members, who disproportionately have suffered many thousands of job losses from unfairly traded imports.

It is the understanding of the USW that the proposed regulations require advance Board approval for all production activity in zones or subzones that would involve imports subject to valid AD or CVD orders if entered into U.S. customs territory. In addition, where a production operation had gained prior Board approval to operate, the proposed regulations require advance Board approval of production activity that would involve imports subject to AD/CVD orders but that were not in effect at the time of the original Board approval.

The preamble to the proposed regulations recognizes that this advance approval is necessary to adequately address the public interest in not having the FTZ program be a means to avoid payment of valid AD and CVD duties which could harm workers and domestic producers of the goods under order.

The USW commends the Board for imposing this new requirement. The U.S. trade remedy laws are intended to protect not only U.S. producers, but also their workers and the communities in which they live from unfair import competition. It is critically important that the Board not permit the FTZ program to be used in any manner that could undermine the trade relief intended by law and so critical to the viability of domestic industries and workers who so often have been injured by unfairly traded imports.

Comments of the USW on Proposed Rule; Foreign-Trade Zones in the United States;  
Docket Number ITA-2010-0012; RIN 0625-AA81;  
From U.S. Department of Commerce

The USW requests that the Board retain the advance approval requirement described the proposed rule in the final rule of the regulations. Also, we request the Board include in the final rule concrete reporting obligations and other specific procedures that will give all affected parties adequate notice of requests for approval of production activity involving AD/CVD in imports and that will fully ensure compliance and monitoring with the advance approval requirement.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Linda Andros".

Linda Andros  
Legislative Counsel  
United Steelworkers

HRH:ctl