

RECORD OF PUBLIC COMMENTS

NOTICE OF INQUIRY— [Docket No. 170802716–7716–01] National Defense Stockpile Market Impact Committee

Request for Public Comments on the Potential Market Impact of the Proposed Fiscal Year 2020 Annual Materials Plan

Publication in the Federal Register: September 11, 2018

Comments due October 11, 2018

	Organization	Submitter	Date Received	No. of Pages
1	Electron Energy Corporation	Michael Walmer	09/25/2018	1
Total				1

production approvals are not being sought at this time. Such requests would be made to the FTZ Board on a case-by-case basis.

In accordance with the FTZ Board's regulations, Camille Evans of the FTZ Staff is designated examiner to evaluate and analyze the facts and information presented in the application and case record and to report findings and recommendations to the FTZ Board.

Public comment is invited from interested parties. Submissions shall be addressed to the FTZ Board's Executive Secretary at the address below. The closing period for their receipt is November 13, 2018. Rebuttal comments in response to material submitted during the foregoing period may be submitted during the subsequent 15-day period to November 26, 2018.

A copy of the application will be available for public inspection at the Office of the Executive Secretary, Foreign-Trade Zones Board, Room 21013, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20230-0002, and in the "Reading Room" section of the FTZ Board's website, which is accessible via www.trade.gov/ftz.

For further information, contact Camille Evans at Camille.Evans@trade.gov or (202) 482-2350.

Dated: September 5, 2018.

Andrew McGilvray,
Executive Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2018-19701 Filed 9-10-18; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Bureau of Industry and Security

[Docket No. 170802716-7716-01]

National Defense Stockpile Market Impact Committee Request for Public Comments on the Potential Market Impact of the Proposed Fiscal Year 2020 Annual Materials Plan

AGENCY: Bureau of Industry and Security, Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of inquiry; request for comments.

SUMMARY: The purpose of this notice is to advise the public that the National Defense Stockpile Market Impact Committee, co-chaired by the Departments of Commerce and State, is seeking public comments on the potential market impact of the proposed Fiscal Year 2020 National Defense Stockpile Annual Materials Plan. The role of the Market Impact Committee is to advise the National Defense Stockpile

Manager on the projected domestic and foreign economic effects of all acquisitions, conversions, and disposals involving the stockpile and related material research and development projects. Public comments are an important element of the Committee's market impact review process.

DATES: To be considered, written comments must be received by October 11, 2018.

ADDRESSES: Address all comments concerning this notice to Eric Longnecker, U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Industry and Security, Office of Strategic Industries and Economic Security, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW, Room 3876, Washington, DC 20230, fax: (202) 482-5650 (Attn: Eric Longnecker), email: MIC@bis.doc.gov; and Matthew McManus, Deputy Director, Office of Policy Analysis and Public Diplomacy, U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Energy Resources, 2201 C Street NW, Washington, DC 20520, fax: (202) 647-7431 (Attn: Matthew McManus), email: McManusMT@state.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Parya Fenton, Office of Strategic Industries and Economic Security, Bureau of Industry and Security, U.S. Department of Commerce, telephone: (202) 482-8228, fax: (202) 482-5650 (Attn: Parya Fenton), email: MIC@bis.doc.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Under the authority of the Strategic and Critical Materials Stock Piling Revision Act of 1979, as amended (the Stock Piling Act) (50 U.S.C. 98 *et seq.*), the Department of Defense's Defense Logistics Agency (DLA), as National Defense Stockpile Manager, maintains a stockpile of strategic and critical materials to supply the military, industrial, and essential civilian needs of the United States for national defense. Section 9(b)(2)(G)(ii) of the Stock Piling Act (50 U.S.C. 98h(b)(2)(H)(ii)) authorizes the National Defense Stockpile Manager to fund material research and development projects to develop new materials for the stockpile.

Section 3314 of the Fiscal Year (FY) 1993 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) (50 U.S.C. 98h-1) formally established a Market Impact Committee (the Committee) to "advise the National Defense Stockpile Manager on the projected domestic and foreign economic effects of all acquisitions and disposals of materials from the stockpile. . . ." The Committee must also balance market impact concerns

with the statutory requirement to protect the U.S. Government against avoidable loss.

The Committee is comprised of representatives from the Departments of Commerce, State, Agriculture, Defense, Energy, Interior, the Treasury, and Homeland Security, and is co-chaired by the Departments of Commerce and State. The FY 1993 NDAA directs the Committee to consult with industry representatives that produce, process, or consume the materials stored in or of interest to the National Defense Stockpile Manager.

As the National Defense Stockpile Manager, the DLA must produce an Annual Materials Plan proposing the maximum quantity of each listed material that may be acquired, disposed of, upgraded, converted, recovered, or sold by the DLA in a particular fiscal year. In Attachment 1, the DLA lists the quantities and types of activity (potential disposals, potential acquisitions, potential conversions (upgrade, rotation, reprocessing, etc.) or potential recovery from government sources) associated with each material in its proposed FY 2020 Annual Materials Plan ("AMP"). The quantities listed in Attachment 1 are not acquisition, disposal, upgrade, conversion, recovery, reprocessing, or sales target quantities, but rather a statement of the proposed maximum quantity of each listed material that may be acquired, disposed of, upgraded, converted, recovered, or sold in a particular fiscal year by the DLA, as noted. The quantity of each material that will actually be acquired or offered for sale will depend on the market for the material at the time of the acquisition or offering, as well as on the quantity of each material approved for acquisition, disposal, conversion (upgrade, rotation, reprocessing, etc.), or recovery by Congress.

The Committee is seeking public comments on the potential market impact associated with the proposed FY 2020 AMP as enumerated in Attachment 1. Public comments are an important element of the Committee's market impact review process.

Submission of Comments

The Committee requests that interested parties provide written comments, supporting data and documentation, and any other relevant information on the potential market impact of the quantities associated with the proposed FY 2020 AMP. All comments must be submitted to the addresses indicated in this notice. All comments submitted through email must include the phrase "Market Impact

Committee Notice of Inquiry” in the subject line.

The Committee encourages interested persons who wish to comment to do so at the earliest possible time. The period for submission of comments will close on October 11, 2018. The Committee will consider all comments received before the close of the comment period. Comments received after the end of the comment period will be considered, if possible, but their consideration cannot be assured.

All comments submitted in response to this notice will be made a matter of

public record and will be available for public inspection and copying. Anyone submitting business confidential information should clearly identify the business confidential portion of the submission and also provide a non-confidential submission that can be placed in the public record. The Committee will seek to protect such information to the extent permitted by law.

The Office of Administration, Bureau of Industry and Security, U.S. Department of Commerce, displays public comments on the BIS Freedom of

Information Act (FOIA) website at <https://efoia.bis.doc.gov/>. This office does not maintain a separate public inspection facility. If you have technical difficulties accessing this website, please call BIS's Office of Administration at (202) 482-1900 for assistance.

Dated: September 5, 2018.

Richard Ashooh,

Assistant Secretary for Export Administration.

Attachment 1

PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2020 ANNUAL MATERIALS PLAN

Material	Unit	Quantity	Footnote
Potential Disposals			
Beryllium Metal	ST	8	.....
Chromium, Ferro	ST	23,500	.....
Chromium, Metal	ST	200	.....
Germanium Scrap	kg	3,000	.....
Manganese, Ferro	ST	50,000	.....
Manganese, Metallurgical Grade	SDT	322,025	.....
Nickel Based Alloys	Lbs	600,000	.....
Platinum	Tr Oz	8,380	.....
PGM—Iridium	Tr Oz	489	.....
Tantalum Carbide Powder	Lb Ta	3,777	.....
Tantalum Scrap	Lbs	190	.....
Titanium Based Alloys	Lbs	150,000	.....
Tungsten Metal Powder	LB W	275,738	.....
Tungsten Ores and Concentrates	LB W	3,000,000	.....
Zinc	ST	7,993	.....
Potential Acquisitions			
Antimony	MT	1,100	.....
Boron Carbide	MT	1,000	.....
High Modulus High Strength Carbon Fibers	MT	72	.....
Carbon Fibers	m ²	5,000	.....
Cerium	MT	900	.....
CZT (Cadmium Zinc Tellurium substrates)	cm ²	32,000	.....
Electrolytic Manganese Metal	MT	5,000	.....
Lanthanum	MT	4,100	.....
Potassium Nitrate	Lbs	100,000	.....
Rare Earth Magnet Feedstock	MT	100	.....
Rayon	MT	600	.....
RDX/HMX/IMX/TNT	Lbs	7,000,000	.....
Silicon Carbide Fibers	Lbs	875	.....
TATB (Triamino-Trinitrobenzene)	Lbs	48,000	.....
Tantalum	Lb Ta	33,990	.....
Tin	MT	40	.....
Tungsten Rhenium Metal	kg	5,000	.....
Potential Conversions (Upgrade, rotation, reprocessing, etc.)			
Beryllium Metal	ST	8	.....
CZT (Cadmium Zinc Tellurium substrates)	cm ²	32,000	.....
High Modulus High Strength Carbon Fibers	MT	72	.....
Dysprosium	MT	0.5	.....
Europium	MT	35	.....
Germanium (Scrap)	kg	5,000	.....
Iridium Catalyst	Lbs	50	.....
Lithium Ion Materials	MT	25	.....
Rare Earths Elements	MT	12	.....
Silicon Carbide Fibers	Lbs	875	.....
Tin	MT	804	.....
Potential Recovery from Government Sources			
Bearing Steel	MT	50	.....

PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2020 ANNUAL MATERIALS PLAN—Continued

Material	Unit	Quantity	Footnote
E-Waste	MT	50	(1)
Gadolinium Oxide	MT	4	
Germanium (Scrap)	kg	5,000	
Iridium Catalyst (Scrap)	Lbs	50	
Lithium Ion Materials	MT	25	
Magnesium Metal	MT	25	
Rhenium Metal	kg	500	
Super Alloys	Lbs	1,500,000	
Tantalum	MT	10	
Yttrium Aluminum Garnet Rods (Scrap)	kg	250	
Zirconia Oxide	MT	4	

Footnote Key:

¹ Strategic and Critical Materials collected from E-Waste (Strategic Materials collected from electronics waste).

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Bureau of Industry and Security

**Proposed Information Collection;
Comment Request; Procedures for
Submitting Requests for Expedited
Relief From Quantitative Limits—
Existing Contract: Section 232 National
Security Investigations of Steel
Imports**

AGENCY: Bureau of Industry and
Security, Commerce.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of
Commerce, as part of its continuing
effort to reduce paperwork and
respondent burden, invites the general
public and other Federal agencies to
take this opportunity to comment on
proposed and/or continuing information
collections, as required by the
Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

DATES: To ensure consideration, written
comments must be submitted on or
before November 13, 2018.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments
to Jennifer Jessup, Departmental
Paperwork Clearance Officer,
Department of Commerce, 1401
Constitution Avenue NW, Room 6616,
Washington, DC 20230 (or via the
internet at docpra@doc.gov.)

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Requests for additional information or
copies of the information collection
instrument and instructions should be
directed to Mark Crace, BIS ICB Liaison,
(202) 482–8093 or at mark.crace@bis.doc.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

In the Proclamation of August 29,
President Trump directed that as soon

as practicable, the Secretary of
Commerce shall issue procedures for
requests for exclusions described in
clause 2 to allow for exclusion requests
for countries subject to quantitative
limitations. The U.S. Department of
Commerce will create an exclusion
process for clause 2 by posting the
newly created form on the Commerce
website. Requesters will complete this
form and send the form, the required
certification, and any needed
attachments to the U.S. Department of
Commerce at the email address
steel232-exp@bis.doc.gov. The posting
of this exclusion procedure on the
Commerce website will fulfill the
Presidential directive included in the
most recent Proclamation, as well as the
earlier Proclamations that directed the
Secretary of Commerce to create an
exclusion process to ensure users of
steel in the United States would
continue to have access to the steel that
they may need.

“The Secretary shall, on an expedited
basis, grant relief from the quantitative
limitation set forth in Proclamation
9740 and Proclamation 9759 and their
accompanying annexes for any steel
article where (i) the party requesting
relief entered into a written contract for
production and shipment of such steel
article before March 8, 2018; (ii) such
contract specifies the quantity of such
steel article that is to be produced and
shipped to the United States consistent
with a schedule contained in such
contract; (iii) such steel article is to be
used to construct a facility in the United
States and such steel article cannot be
procured from a supplier in the United
States to meet the delivery schedule and
specifications contained in such
contract.”

II. Method of Collection

Exclusion requests described in the
procedures posted on the Commerce
website for clause 2 exclusion from the
Proclamation of August 29 will be

submitted to the U.S. Department of
Commerce by email. All exclusion
requests under clause 2 must be in
electronic form, but may be submitted at
any time. However, exclusion requests
requested under clause 2 if granted will
only be valid till March 31, 2019. All
submissions for exclusion requests are
entirely voluntary.

III. Data

OMB Control Number: 0694–0140.

Form Number(s): N/A.

Type of Review: Regular submission.

Affected Public: Private Sector.

Estimated Number of Respondents:
1,717.

Estimated Time per Response: 10
hours.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden
Hours:* 17,170.

*Estimated Total Annual Cost to
Public:* \$0. (This is not the cost of
respondents' time, but the indirect costs
respondents may incur for such things
as purchases of specialized software or
hardware needed to report, or
expenditures for accounting or records
maintenance services required
specifically by the collection.)

Respondent's Obligation: Voluntary.

Legal Authority: Section 232 of the
Trade Expansion Act of 1962 (19 U.S.C.
1862).

IV. Request for Comments

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether
the proposed collection of information
is necessary for the proper performance
of the functions of the agency, including
whether the information shall have
practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the
agency's estimate of the burden
(including hours and cost) of the
proposed collection of information; (c)
ways to enhance the quality, utility, and
clarity of the information to be
collected; and (d) ways to minimize the
burden of the collection of information
on respondents, including through the
use of automated collection techniques

25 September 2018

Mr. Eric Longnecker
U.S. Department of Commerce
Bureau of Industry and Security
Office of Strategic Industries and Economic Security
1401 Constitution Avenue NW
Room 3876
Washington, DC 20230

Re: Market Impact Committee Notice of Inquiry

Dear Mr. Longnecker,

Electron Energy Corporation is the only vertically integrated producer of rare earth magnets in the U.S. Our company, located in Pennsylvania, has supplied the Department of Defense with high-performance samarium-cobalt magnets since 1971. SmCo magnets are used in nuclear power propulsion systems on *Virginia*-class submarines, all military aircraft, and many land-based platforms.

We are encouraged by the decision of the National Defense Stockpile to seek to stockpile up to 100 tonnes of rare earth magnet feedstock. This will provide a solid stock of material for U.S. national security needs. We urge the NDS to strongly consider purchasing SmCo master alloy. SmCo magnets are the most commonly-used high-performance rare earth magnet for national security needs and can be procured from domestic sources. EEC therefore supports a strategy to stockpile an amount of samarium cobalt master alloy sufficient to supply national security requirements in future contingencies.

EEC is proud of our long history of support for the U.S. military. We look forward to working with the NDS to determine and produce the necessary materials to ensure national security requirements in the future.

Sincerely,



Michael Walmer, CEO