Canada to assess fees on any softwood lumber shipped from its four leading producing provinces in excess of 14.7 billion board feet in each of the next five years. The agreement establishes procedures for export licensing and information collection that will greatly facilitate scrutiny of cross-border lumber trade, and for expedited determinations of whether Canada is carrying out its obligations under the agreement. Copies of the agreement are available to the public in the USTR reading room.

The agreement is intended to provide a satisfactory resolution to the acts, policies and practices of Canada regarding the exportation of softwood lumber to the United States that were the subject of the investigation initiated under section 302(b)(1)(A) of the Trade Act and found to be unreasonable and to burden or restrict U.S. commerce pursuant to section 304(a) on October 4, 1991. Section 306 of the Trade Act (19 U.S.C. 2416) requires the USTR to monitor the implementation of each measure undertaken, or agreement that is entered into to provide a satisfactory resolution of a matter subject to a section 301 investigation. Section 306 further requires that, if the USTR considers that a country is not satisfactorily implementing a measure or agreement, the USTR shall determine what further action to take under section 301(a).

Adherence to the terms of the agreement is vital to the achievement of its objectives. USTR, the Department of Commerce, the U.S. Customs Service, and other agencies as appropriate, will carefully monitor and vigorously enforce this agreement. To that end, Customs will provide USTR and Commerce the data that Customs collects on imports (including province of origin and the type of permit) of softwood lumber from Canada. If data, including data provided by the domestic industry, reveal that export fees called for under the agreement are not being collected, or if other information, including information provided by the domestic industry, reveals that Canada is in material non-compliance with any other of its obligations under the agreement, USTR will invoke the dispute settlement provisions of the agreement. I have determined that if: (a) An audit under the agreement confirms that fees have not been collected, and that action has not been taken subsequently to collect the fees, (b) an arbitral panel finds that Canada is otherwise not in conformity with the agreement, such as by offsetting, reducing, or undercutting its obligations under the agreement, and that the situation has not been cured, or (c) Canada unilaterally suspends its performance of, or terminates, the agreement in a manner inconsistent with the agreement, the USTR pursuant to section 306(b) of the Trade Act will consider that Canada is not satisfactorily implementing the agreement. In response, the USTR will take prompt and effective action under section 301(a) of the Trade Act to remedy Canada's failure to comply with the agreement, including, in the case where the required export fees have not been collected and action has not subsequently been taken to collect the fees, the imposition of duties on softwood lumber from Canada commensurate with Canada's failure to collect the fees under the agreement and sufficient to ensure compliance with the agreement and, as appropriate, other action to enforce or ensure compliance with the agreement.

Ira S. Shapiro,

Ambassador, Senior Counselor and Negotiator.

[FR Doc. 96–13993 Filed 6–4–96; 8:45 am]

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POSTAL RATE COMMISSION

[Docket No. A96–15; Order No. 1113]

Lewiston, Nebraska 68380 (Lois Tegtmeier, Petitioner); Notice and Order Accepting Appeal and Establishing Procedural Schedule Under 29 U.S.C. 404(b)(5)

Issued May 30, 1996.

Docket Number: A96–15.
Name of Affected Post Office: Lewiston, Nebraska 68380.
Name(s) of Petitioner(s): Lois Tegtmeier.
Type of Determination: Consolidate.
Date of Filing of Appeal Papers: May 20, 1996.

Categories of Issues Apparently Raised:

1. Effect on postal services [39 U.S.C. 404(b)(2)(C)].
2. Effect on the community [39 U.S.C. 404(b)(2)(A)].

After the Postal Service files the administrative record and the Commission reviews it, the Commission may find that there are more legal issues than those set forth above. Or, the Commission may find that the Postal Service's determination disposes of one or more of those issues.

The Postal Reorganization Act requires that the Commission issue its decision within 120 days from the date this appeal was filed (39 U.S.C. 404 (b)(5)). In the interest of expedition, in light of the 120-day decision schedule, the Commission may request the Postal Service to submit memoranda of law on any appropriate issue. If requested, such memoranda will be due 20 days from the issuance of the request and the Postal Service shall serve a copy of its memoranda on the petitioners. The Postal Service may incorporate by reference in its briefs or motions, any arguments presented in memoranda it previously filed in this docket. If necessary, the Commission also may ask petitioners or the Postal Service for more information.

The Commission orders:

(a) The Postal Service shall file the record in this appeal by June 4, 1996.

(b) The Secretary of the Postal Rate Commission shall publish this Notice and Order and Procedural Schedule in the Federal Register.

By the Commission.

Margaret P. Crenshaw,

Secretary.

Appendix

May 20, 1996
Filing of Appeal letter
May 30, 1996
Commission Notice and Order of Filing of Appeal
June 14, 1996
Last day of filing of petitions to intervene [*see* 39 CFR § 3001.111(b)]
June 24, 1996
Petitioner's Participant Statement or Initial Brief [*see* 39 CFR § 3001.115 (a) and (b)]
July 15, 1996
Postal Service's Answering Brief [*see* 39 CFR § 3001.115(c)]
July 30, 1996
Petitioner's Reply Brief should Petitioner choose to file one [*see* 39 CFR § 3001.115(d)]
August 6, 1996
Deadline for motions by any party requesting oral argument. The Commission will schedule oral argument only when it is a necessary addition to the written filings [*see* 39 CFR § 3001.116]
September 17, 1996
Expiration of the Commission's 120-day decisional schedule [*see* 39 U.S.C. § 404(b)(5)]

[FR Doc. 96–14006 Filed 6–4–96; 8:45 am]

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Proposed Collection; Comment Request

Upon Written Request, Copies Available From: Securities and Exchange Commission, Office of Filings and Information Services, Washington, DC 20549.

Extension

Rule 19b–1—SEC File No. 270–312; OMB Control No. 3235–0354.