I. Abstract

The Census Bureau conducts the Quarterly Summary of State and Local Government Tax Revenue, using the F–71 (Quarterly Survey of Property Tax Collections), F–72 (Quarterly Survey of State Tax Collections), and F–73 (Quarterly Survey of Non-Property Taxes) forms. The Quarterly Summary of State and Local Government Tax Revenue provides quarterly estimates of state and local government tax revenue at the national level, as well as detailed tax revenue data for individual states. The information contained in this survey is the most current information available on a nationwide basis for government tax collections.

The Census Bureau needs state and local tax data to publish benchmark statistics on taxes, to provide data to the Bureau of Economic Analysis for Gross Domestic Product (GDP) calculations and other economic indicators, and to provide data for economic research and comparative studies of governmental finances.

Tax collection data are used to measure economic activity for the Nation as a whole, as well as for comparison among the various states. Economists and public policy analysts use the data to assess general economic conditions and state and local government financial activities.

The Census Bureau is requesting a revision to the F–73 form, which surveys local governments on the non-property taxes they collect. The current form will be reduced from eleven questions to three questions on the revised form which will cover only general sales and gross receipts taxes, personal income taxes, and corporate income taxes; eliminating: motor fuels, public utilities, alcohol sales, tobacco sales, motor vehicle licenses and operator’s licenses, and all other non-property taxes.

The Quarterly Survey of Non-Property Taxes (Form F–73) will be mailed to a sample of approximately 1,800 local tax collection agencies known to have substantial collections of non-property taxes. The Quarterly Survey of Property Tax Collections (Form F–72) will be sent to each of the 50 state governments.

II. Method of Collection

F–71 and F–73 survey data will be collected via mail-out/mail-back questionnaires, which are also available on the Internet. Respondents may choose to mail, fax, or report their data online. Data for the F–72 survey are collected via form or compilation of data in coordination with the state government revenue office. In addition to reporting current quarter data, respondents may report data for the previous eight quarters or submit revisions to their previously submitted data.

In those instances when we are not able to obtain a response, we conduct follow-up operations using email and phone calls.

Nonresponse weighting adjustments are used to adjust for any unreported units in the sample from the latest available data.

III. Data


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 or other forms of information technology.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection; they also will become a matter of public record.

Dated: April 17, 2013.

Glenna Mickelson, Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
International Trade Administration
[45x70]A–588–869]

Diffusion-Annealed, Nickel-Plated Flat-Rolled Steel Products From Japan: Initiation of Antidumping Duty Investigation

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

DATES: Effective Date: April 23, 2013.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dena Crossland or David Cordell at (202) 482–3362 or (202) 482–0408, respectively, AD/CVD Operations, Office 7, Import Administration, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20230.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

The Petition

On March 27, 2013, the Department of Commerce (the “Department”) received an antidumping duty (“AD”) petition concerning imports of diffusion-annealed, nickel-plated flat-rolled steel products from Japan ("certain nickel-plated, flat-rolled steel"). The Department finds that Petitioner filed this Petition on behalf of the domestic industry because it is an interested party as defined in section 771(9)(C) of the Act and has demonstrated sufficient industry support with respect to the initiation of the AD investigation that Petitioner is requesting. See the “Determination of Industry Support for the Petition” section below.

Period of Investigation

Because the Petition was filed on March 27, 2013, the period of investigation (“POI”) is January 1, 2012, through December 31, 2012.6

Scope of the Investigation

The product covered by this investigation is certain nickel-plated, flat-rolled steel from Japan. For a full description of the scope of the investigation, see the “Scope of the Investigation,” in Appendix I of this notice.

Comments on Scope of Investigation

During our review of the Petition, we discussed the scope with Petitioner to ensure that it is an accurate reflection of the products for which the domestic industry is seeking relief. Moreover, as discussed in the preamble to the regulations (Antidumping Duties; Countervailing Duties; Final Rule, 62 FR 27296, 27323 (May 19, 1997)), we are setting aside a period for interested parties to raise issues regarding product coverage. The Department encourages all interested parties to submit such comments by May 6, 2013, 5:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time, 20 calendar days from the signature date of this notice. All comments and submissions to the Department must be filed electronically using Import Administration’s Antidumping Countervailing Duty Centralized Electronic Service System (“IA ACCESS”).8 An electronically filed document must be received successfully in its entirety by the Department’s electronic records system, IA ACCESS, by the time and date noted above. Documents excepted from the electronic submission requirements must be filed manually (i.e., in paper form) with Import Administration’s APO/Dockets Unit, Room 1870, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20230, and stamped with the date and time of receipt by the deadline noted above.

The period for scope comments is intended to provide the Department with ample opportunity to consider all comments and to consult with parties prior to the issuance of the preliminary determination.

Comments on Product Characteristics for Antidumping Duty Questionnaire

The Department requests comments from interested parties regarding the appropriate physical characteristics of certain nickel-plated, flat-rolled steel to be reported in response to the Department’s AD questionnaire. This information will be used to identify the key physical characteristics of the subject merchandise in order to develop appropriate product-comparison criteria and to allow respondent to report the relevant costs of production, if necessary.

Interested parties may provide any information or comments that they feel are relevant to the development of an accurate list of physical characteristics. Specifically, they may provide comments as to which characteristics are appropriate to use as (1) general product characteristics and (2) the product-comparison criteria. We find that it is not always appropriate to use all product characteristics as product-comparison criteria. We base product-comparison criteria on meaningful commercial differences among products. In other words, while there may be some physical product characteristics utilized by manufacturers to describe certain nickel-plated, flat-rolled steel, it may be that only a select few product characteristics take into account commercially meaningful physical differences.

1 See Antidumping Duty Petition on Diffusion-Annealed, Nickel-Plated Steel Flat-Rolled Products from Japan, dated March 27, 2013 ("Petition").
3 See First Department Supplemental Questionnaire issued on April 2, 2013.
4 See Second Supplement to the Petition dated April 5, 2013 ("Second Petition Supplement").
5 See Memorandum to the File from Dena Crossland, dated April 12, 2013.
6 See 19 CFR 351.204(b)(1).