DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration
Manufacturing Council

AGENCY: International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of an Opportunity to Apply for Membership on the Manufacturing Council.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce is currently seeking applications from representatives of the U.S. manufacturing industry to fill five vacant positions on the Manufacturing Council (Council). The purpose of the Council is to advise the Secretary of Commerce on government policies and programs that affect U.S. manufacturing and to provide a forum for regular communication between the U.S. Government and the manufacturing sector.

ADDRESSES: Please submit application information via email to oacie@trade.gov or by mail to Elizabeth Emanuel, Office of Advisory Committees, Manufacturing Council Executive Secretariat, U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 4043, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20230.

DATES: All applications for immediate consideration for appointment must be received by the Office of Advisory Committees by close of business on December 6, 2013. After that date, the Office of Advisory Committees will continue to accept applications under this notice until July 31, 2014 to fill any new vacancies that may arise.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Elizabeth Emanuel, Manufacturing Council Executive Secretariat, Room 4043, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20230.


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Office of Advisory Committees is accepting applications from representatives of the U.S. manufacturing industry for five vacant positions on the Council for the current member appointment terms that run through November 30, 2014. The Council was rechartered most recently on April 5, 2012. For the remainder of the current charter term, the Department is expanding the scope of entities eligible for representation on the Council to include U.S. businesses in the manufacturing industry that are controlled directly or indirectly by a foreign parent company (i.e., U.S. subsidiaries of foreign companies).

The Department previously had limited eligibility to U.S. entities incorporated in the United States (or an unincorporated firm with its principal place of business in the United States) that are controlled by U.S. citizens or another U.S. entity, as determined by direct or indirect control of the entity’s stock or ownership interests. The Department is expanding the eligibility criteria for the remainder of this charter term to allow for appointment to the Council of representatives of U.S. businesses that are controlled directly or indirectly by foreign companies. U.S. businesses that are controlled directly or indirectly by foreign companies play an important role in the U.S. economy, including in the U.S. manufacturing
firm incorporated in the United States or with its principal place of business in the United States that is (a) majority controlled (more than 50% ownership interest and/or voting stock) by U.S. citizens or by another U.S. entity or (b) majority controlled (more than 50% ownership interest and/or voting stock) directly or indirectly by a foreign parent company.

As noted above, Council members serve in a representative capacity, expressing the views and interests of a U.S. entity; they are, therefore, not Special Government Employees. Council members receive no compensation for their participation in Council activities. Members participating in Council meetings and events are responsible for their travel, living and other personal expenses. Meetings are held regularly and not less than annually, usually in Washington, DC. Members are required to attend a majority of the Council’s meetings. To be considered for membership, please provide the following:

1. Name and title of the individual requesting consideration.
2. A sponsor letter from the applicant on his or her entity’s letterhead or, if the applicant is to represent an entity other than his or her employer, a letter from the entity to be represented, containing a brief statement of why the applicant should be considered for membership on the Council. This sponsor letter should also address the applicant’s manufacturing-related experience, including any manufacturing trade policy experience.
3. The applicant’s personal resume.
4. An affirmative statement that the applicant meets all eligibility criteria.
5. An affirmative statement that the applicant is not required to register as a foreign agent under the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, as amended.
6. An affirmative statement that the applicant is not a federally registered lobbyist, and that the applicant understands that, if appointed, the applicant will not be allowed to continue to serve as a Council member if the applicant becomes a federally registered lobbyist.
7. Information regarding the control of the entity to be represented, including the governing structure and stock holdings, as appropriate, demonstrating compliance with the criteria set forth above.
8. The entity’s size, place of incorporation or principal place of business, ownership, product or service line and major markets in which the entity operates.
9. Please include all relevant contact information such as mailing address, fax, email, phone number, and support staff information where relevant.

Dated: November 4, 2013.

Elizabeth Emanuel,
Executive Secretary, Manufacturing Council.
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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Institute of Standards and Technology
[Docket No. 130712613–3613–01]
Notice of Limited, Program-Wide, Public Interest Waivers of Section 1605(a) (Buy American Requirement) of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009

AGENCY: National Institute of Standards and Technology, U.S. Department of Commerce (Commerce).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) is hereby providing notice of two, program-wide, limited public interest waivers of the Buy American requirements set forth in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). The two limited, program-wide, public interest waivers set forth in this Notice apply to projects constructed by recipients receiving financial assistance awards (grants) pursuant to the NIST ARRA Construction Grant Program to which the ARRA Buy American requirements apply.

The first limited, program-wide, public interest waiver applies to a grant recipient’s use of a de minimis amount of non-domestic iron, steel or manufactured goods that, in the aggregate, comprises no more than five percent of the total cost of the iron, steel and manufactured goods used in a grant recipient’s ARRA construction project. The second limited, program-wide, public interest waiver applies to a grant recipient’s use of non-domestic manufactured goods where such non-domestic goods are necessary for the integration and operation of the recipient’s construction project into the recipient’s existing safety and security systems. Both program-wide, public interest waivers of the Buy American requirements apply over the entire award period of the grant projects. The two, limited, public interest Buy American waivers set forth in this Notice do not apply to procurement contracts issued pursuant to the NIST ARRA Construction of Research Facilities program.