

Environmental Technologies Trade Advisory Committee (ETTAC)
February 11, 2020; 9:15 am – 1:20 pm
U.S. Department of Commerce

The Environmental Technologies Trade Advisory Committee (ETTAC) convened the fifth in-person meeting under its 2018-2020 charter at 9:15 a.m. EDT on February 11, 2020 at the U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC.

ETTAC MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. Jack Adams	Ms. Vanessa Leiby	Ms. Pauli Undesser
Mr. Randy Baerg	Ms. Dana Murray	Mr. George Vorsheim
Mr. David Biderman	Ms. Ramola Musante	Ms. Debra Waggoner
Mr. David Cetola	Mr. Anthony Quinn	Mr. Timothy Williams
Mr. Chuck Chaitovitz	Mr. Gabriel Restrepo	Mr. Mike Witt
Mr. William Decker	Ms. Clare Schulzki	
Ms. Anne Germain	Mr. Bryan Stubbs	
Ms. Tasha Jamaluddin	Mr. Kevin Summ	

Department of Commerce, International Trade Administration (ITA) Officials Present

Adam O'Malley, Acting Designated Federal Officer, I&A Office of Energy and Environmental Industries
Elizabeth Goffi, I&A Office of Energy and Environmental Industries
Brian Lenihan, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Manufacturing, I&A
Man Cho, I&A Office of Energy and Environmental Industries
Michael Boyles, I&A Office of Standards and Investment Policy
Ryan Russell, Global Markets, Environmental Technologies Global Team Lead
Frances Selema, U.S. Commercial Service, North Carolina

MEETING MINUTES

Welcome and Introductions

Chair Decker called the meeting to order and welcomed the committee members. Acting DFO O'Malley then went through the agenda for the day and the materials provided to each participant in hard copy.

Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting

The committee approved the minutes from the November 19 meeting as written.

Review and Approval of Recommendation Letters

The Trade Policy and Trade Negotiations Subcommittee shared two draft recommendation letters with the ETTAC for input. The committee voted to approve with amendments one letter on including environmental trade as part of the Administration's G7 environment-related agenda for the U.S. host year in 2020. The committee also approved as written a letter on key objectives for a potential Free Trade Agreement (FTA) with the United Kingdom.

The Cooperation on Standards, Certifications and Regulations Subcommittee also shared a draft recommendation letter with the ETTAC. The committee voted to approve with amendments one letter on exporting requirements that either duplicate U.S. systems or otherwise place U.S. companies at a competitive disadvantage, most notably the EU TUV standards and Certificates of Free Sale.

SUBCOMMITTEE BREAKOUT SESSIONS

After approving the three outstanding recommendation letters, the committee moved to subcommittee breakouts to begin working on the presentations for the next meeting on May 12, 2020. Chair Decker informed the committee that the template for the presentation would remain the same as during the previous charter. With no objections, subcommittee breakout sessions proceeded from approximately 9:45 AM until 12:05 PM.

Standards, Certifications and Regulations

- The subcommittee began working on its presentation for the May meeting. The Standards, Certifications and Regulations presentation will address the recommendation on obstructive and duplicative export requirements (approved on February 11). The group agreed to continue working over e-mail and to schedule a coordination call with Acting DFO O'Malley.

Trade Policy and Trade Negotiations

- The subcommittee began working on its presentation for the May meeting. The presentation will address the committee's recommendations on several upcoming trade negotiations, Section 232 tariffs, end-of-life plastics and the related OECD incorporation of the Basel plastic waste amendments, as well as the environmental agenda for the U.S. host year of the G7. The group agreed to continue working over e-mail and to schedule a coordination call with Acting DFO O'Malley.

Trade Promotion and Export Market Development

- The subcommittee started the breakout session by reviewing the next steps from the January 15 subcommittee call. Noting the need to have all letters ready for committee vote by the end of the breakout session, Subcommittee Chair Tim Williams agreed to draft the supplemental recommendation letter on the multilateral procurement roundtable with the assistance of the subcommittee. The subcommittee discussed how they would identify the correct Multilateral Development Bank officials and selected the Vice Principal level at the recommendation of the ITA Commercial Service liaison at the World Bank. The subcommittee also sought to emphasize how few U.S. companies participate in bank-led procurements.

Review and Approval of Recommendation Letters

- The breakout sessions ended with a final opportunity to present recommendations to the full committee for approval. The Trade Promotion and Export Market Development subcommittee submitted its proposed supplemental letter to the committee. The committee approved the letter providing further guidance on the multilateral procurement roundtable as amended.

Discussion and Q/A with Deputy Assistant Secretary for Manufacturing Brian Lenihan

The committee was joined over lunch by ITA's Deputy Assistant Secretary for Manufacturing, Brian Lenihan. He began the discussion with some brief remarks, thanking the committee for its hard work and recommendations. He noted the need to make environmental technologies more of a priority, acknowledging that the Department has several clean energy initiatives, but does not sufficiently address environmental trade. He emphasized that despite being new to the industry, he was there to support and indicated he would do what he could to ensure that the environmental technologies sector gains the appropriate level of recognition and attention from senior leadership. This specifically included encouraging Assistant Secretary Nikakhtar and Secretary Ross to attend the upcoming meetings.

Public Comment

No issues were raised for public comment.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 1:20 P.M.

I hereby certify that, to the best of my knowledge, the foregoing minutes are accurate and complete.

Adam O'Malley
Designated Federal Officer (Acting)
Environmental Technologies Trade Advisory Committee

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bill Decker', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Bill Decker
Chair
Environmental Technologies Trade Advisory Committee