

Client Alert

International Trade & Litigation Practice Group

January 11, 2017

ITC Solicits Public Comments On MTB Petitions 45-Day Comment Period Open Until February 24, 2017

The U.S. International Trade Commission (“ITC”) is now accepting public comments on Miscellaneous Tariff Bill (“MTB”) petitions for duty suspensions and reductions that timely were filed with the agency by December 12, 2016, pursuant to the American Manufacturing Competitiveness Act of 2016. More than 3,000 MTB petitions were filed regarding articles ranging from chemicals to golf bags. A complete list is accessible [here](#).

The ITC already has released interim regulations and has disseminated detailed public guidance on preparing and filing public comments. As we [reported previously](#), the ITC also created an Internet-based MTB portal for submission of all petitions and related public comments.

Although new petitions no longer are being accepted, the ITC will be considering public comments when preparing its preliminary and final reports to Congress concerning the timely-filed petitions. In order to submit comments, interested parties or their representatives must first create an account on the ITC’s MTB Petition System. Public comments allow interested parties to support, object, or otherwise comment on a petition. The ITC also [has clarified](#) that comments may be filed by petitioners, themselves, to supply additional information, although ITC’s guidance states that “petitioners may not seek to change or correct (amend) a petition through the comment process; comments seeking to amend a petition will not be accepted.” Commenters are permitted to request non-disclosure of confidential business information (“CBI”). Commenters are also permitted to upload information to supplement any comments, but any attachment is limited to 5 pages or less and cannot contain CBI. All comments will be made available to the public via the ITC’s website (excluding CBI portions).

It is important to understand that even if your company is contacted by ITC staff (or by staff from other agencies involved with the MTB process), any information or views communicated through those interactions will not be considered a formal comment filed with the ITC. In sum, public comments are designed to perform an important function as the MTB process moves forward in 2017.

For more information, contact:

J. Michael Taylor
+1 202 626 2385
jmtaylor@kslaw.com

Mark Wasden
+1 202 626 5529
mwasden@kslaw.com

Bonnie B. Byers
+1 202 626 5507
bbyers@kslaw.com

Patrick J. Togni
+1 202 626 2958
ptogni@kslaw.com

Clinton R. Long
+1 202 626 2622
clong@kslaw.com

King & Spalding
Washington, D.C.
1700 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20006-4707
Tel: +1 202 737 0500
Fax: +1 202 626 3737

www.kslaw.com

Celebrating more than 130 years of service, King & Spalding is an international law firm that represents a broad array of clients, including half of the Fortune Global 100, with 900 lawyers in 18 offices in the United States, Europe, the Middle East and Asia. The firm has handled matters in over 160 countries on six continents and is consistently recognized for the results it obtains, uncompromising commitment to quality and dedication to understanding the business and culture of its clients. More information is available at www.kslaw.com.

This alert provides a general summary of recent legal developments. It is not intended to be and should not be relied upon as legal advice. In some jurisdictions, this may be considered "Attorney Advertising."