

**Verification**

Because the examined respondents in this investigation did not provide information requested by Commerce, and Commerce preliminarily determines that the examined respondent has been uncooperative, we will not conduct verification.

**Public Comment**

Case briefs or other written comments may be submitted to the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance no later than 50 days after the date of publication of the preliminary determination, unless the Secretary alters the time limit. Rebuttal briefs, limited to issues raised in case briefs, may be submitted no later than five days after the deadline date for case briefs.<sup>9</sup> Pursuant to 19 CFR 351.309(c)(2) and (d)(2), parties who submit case briefs or rebuttal briefs in this investigation are encouraged to submit with each argument: (1) A statement of the issue; (2) a brief summary of the argument; and (3) a table of authorities.

Pursuant to 19 CFR 351.310(c), interested parties who wish to request a hearing, limited to issues raised in the case and rebuttal briefs, must submit a written request to the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance, U.S. Department of Commerce, within 30 days after the date of publication of this notice. Requests should contain the party's name, address, and telephone number, the number of participants, whether any participant is a foreign national, and a list of the issues to be discussed. If a request for a hearing is made, Commerce intends to hold the hearing at the U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20230, at a time and date to be determined. Parties should confirm by telephone the date, time, and location of the hearing two days before the scheduled date.

**Final Determination**

Section 735(a)(1) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.210(b)(1) provide that Commerce will issue the final determination within 75 days after the date of its preliminary determination. Accordingly, Commerce will make its final determination no later than 75 days after the signature date of this preliminary determination.

<sup>9</sup> See 19 CFR 351.309; see also 19 CFR 351.303 (for general filing requirements).

**International Trade Commission Notification**

In accordance with section 733(f) of the Act, Commerce will notify the International Trade Commission (ITC) of its preliminary determination. If the final determination is affirmative, the ITC will determine before the later of 120 days after the date of this preliminary determination or 45 days after the final determination whether these imports are materially injuring, or threaten material injury to, the U.S. industry.

**Notification to Interested Parties**

This determination is issued and published in accordance with sections 733(f) and 777(i)(1) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.205(c).

Dated: July 30, 2019.  
**Jeffrey I. Kessler,**  
*Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance.*

**Appendix I—Scope of the Investigation**

The merchandise covered by the scope of these investigations is carbon and alloy steel threaded rod. Steel threaded rod is certain threaded rod, bar, or studs, of carbon or alloy steel, having a solid, circular cross section of any diameter, in any straight length. Steel threaded rod is normally drawn, cold-rolled, threaded, and straightened, or it may be hot-rolled. In addition, the steel threaded rod, bar, or studs subject to these investigations are non-headed and threaded along greater than 25 percent of their total actual length. A variety of finishes or coatings, such as plain oil finish as a temporary rust protectant, zinc coating (*i.e.*, galvanized, whether by electroplating or hot-dipping), paint, and other similar finishes and coatings, may be applied to the merchandise.

Steel threaded rod is normally produced to American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) specifications ASTM A36, ASTM A193 B7/B7m, ASTM A193 B16, ASTM A307, ASTM A320 L7/L7M, ASTM A320 L43, ASTM A354 BC and BD, ASTM A449, ASTM F1554–36, ASTM F1554–55, ASTM F1554 Grade 105, American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) specification ASME B18.31.3, and American Petroleum Institute (API) specification API 20E. All steel threaded rod meeting the physical description set forth above is covered by the scope of these investigations, whether or not produced according to a particular standard.

Subject merchandise includes material matching the above description that has been finished, assembled, or packaged in a third country, including by cutting, chamfering, coating, or painting the threaded rod, by attaching the threaded rod to, or packaging it with, another product, or any other finishing, assembly, or packaging operation that would not otherwise remove the merchandise from the scope of the investigations if performed in the country of manufacture of the threaded rod.

Carbon and alloy steel threaded rod are also included in the scope of these

investigations whether or not imported attached to, or in conjunction with, other parts and accessories such as nuts and washers. If carbon and alloy steel threaded rod are imported attached to, or in conjunction with, such non-subject merchandise, only the threaded rod is included in the scope.

Excluded from the scope of these investigations are: (1) Threaded rod, bar, or studs which are threaded only on one or both ends and the threading covers 25 percent or less of the total actual length; and (2) stainless steel threaded rod, defined as steel threaded rod containing, by weight, 1.2 percent or less of carbon and 10.5 percent or more of chromium, with or without other elements.

Excluded from the scope of the antidumping investigation on steel threaded rod from the People's Republic of China is any merchandise covered by the existing antidumping order on Certain Steel Threaded Rod from the People's Republic of China. See *Certain Steel Threaded Rod from the People's Republic of China: Notice of Antidumping Duty Order*, 74 FR 17154 (April 14, 2009).

Specifically excluded from the scope of these investigations is threaded rod that is imported as part of a package of hardware in conjunction with a ready-to-assemble piece of furniture.

Steel threaded rod is currently classifiable under subheadings 7318.15.5051, 7318.15.5056, and 7318.15.5090 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS). Subject merchandise may also enter under subheading 7318.15.2095 and 7318.19.0000 of the HTSUS. The HTSUS subheadings are provided for convenience and U.S. Customs purposes only. The written description of the scope is dispositive.

**Appendix II—List of Topics Discussed in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum**

- I. Summary
- II. Background
- III. Period of Investigation
- IV. Scope of the Investigation
- V. Scope Comments
- VI. Application of Facts Available and Use of Adverse Inference
- VII. All-Others Rate
- VIII. Preliminary Affirmative Determination of Critical Circumstances
- IX. Recommendation

[FR Doc. 2019–16888 Filed 8–6–19; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510–DS–P**

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

**National Institute of Standards and Technology**

**Proposed Information Collection; NIST Invention Disclosure and Inventor Information Collection**

**AGENCY:** National Institute of Standards and Technology, Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Commerce, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

**DATES:** Written comments must be submitted on or before October 7, 2019.

**ADDRESSES:** Direct all written comments to Elizabeth Reinhart, Management Analyst, National Institute of Standards and Technology, 100 Bureau Drive, Gaithersburg, MD 20889-1710, (or via the internet at [docpra@doc.gov](mailto:docpra@doc.gov)).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument and instructions should be directed to Technology Partnerships Office, 100 Bureau Ave. MS 2200, Gaithersburg, Maryland 301-975-2522, and [donald.archer@nist.gov](mailto:donald.archer@nist.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**I. Abstract**

The NIST DN-45 Invention Disclosure Form is used to collect information pertaining to inventions created by Federal employees or by non-Federally employed individuals who have created an invention using NIST laboratory facilities as NIST Associates. The collection of this information is required to protect the United States rights to inventions created using Federal resources. The information collected on the form allows the Government to determine: (1) If an invention has been created; (2) the status of any statutory bar that pertains to the potential invention or that may pertain to the invention in the future. The information collected may allow the Government to begin a patent application process.

The Inventor Information Sheet is used to collect from individuals who have been named as potential inventors on a NIST Invention Disclosure Form. The collection of this information is used for multiple purposes:

(1) Some of the information may be required to file a patent application, if NIST seeks to protect a federally owned invention, pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 207.

(2) The form, in part, is a statement made by the respondent declaring whether the respondent considers herself/himself to be an inventor.

(3) Some of the information is needed for NIST to determine potential assignees with which NIST would potentially negotiate consolidation of rights and other patent related matters.

(4) Some of the information helps NIST determine under which statutory authority NIST may consolidate rights in an invention with other potential assignees.

(5) Country citizenship information is required to determine whether a Scientific and Technology agreement or treaty with the respondent's country may impact the U.S. Government's rights to the invention.

The information is collected by the Technology Partnerships Office and shared with the Office of Chief Counsel at NIST. The information may also be shared with non-Governmental entities that may have ownership rights to the potential invention. The Government collects this information to execute the policy and objective of the Congress expressed at 35 U.S.C. 200. 35 U.S.C. 207 authorizes Federal agencies to apply for, obtain, and maintain patents or other forms of protection . . . on inventions in which the Federal Government owns a right, title, or interest. 35 U.S.C. 207 also authorizes each Federal agency to undertake all other suitable and necessary steps to protect and administer rights to federally owned inventions on behalf of the Federal government. The information collected through the NIST DN-45 is necessary for NIST to execute the authority granted at 35 U.S.C. 207.

**II. Method of Collection**

Information is collected by completing the NIST DN-45 form which is a template created in Microsoft Word.

**III. Data**

*OMB Control Number:* New Collection 0693-XXXX.

*Form Number(s):* NIST DN-45.

*Type of Review:* Regular submission.

*Affected Public:* Individuals.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* Invention Disclosure Form—10 per year. Inventor Information Form—100 per year.

*Estimated Time per Response:*

Invention Disclosure Form: 3 hours.

Inventor Information Form: 30 minutes.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden*

*Hours:* Invention Disclosure Form: 30 hours. Inventor Information Form: 50 hours.

*Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public:* \$500.

**IV. Request for Comments**

NIST invites comments on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will 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.

**Sheleen Dumas,**

*Departmental Lead PRA Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer, Commerce Department.*

[FR Doc. 2019-16882 Filed 8-6-19; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-13-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

**National Institute of Standards and Technology**

**Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; Baldrige Performance Excellence Program Team Leader Consensus and Site Visit Information Collections**

**AGENCY:** National Institute of Standards and Technology, Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice.

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**ADDRESSES:** Direct all written comments to Maureen O'Reilly, Management Analyst, National Institute of Standards and Technology, 100 Bureau Drive, Gaithersburg, MD 20889-1710, (or via the internet at [docpra@doc.gov](mailto:docpra@doc.gov)).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument and instructions should be directed to Dawn Bailey, Baldrige Performance Excellence Program, 100 Bureau Drive, Stop 1020, Gaithersburg, MD 20899, 301-975-3074, [dawn.bailey@nist.gov](mailto:dawn.bailey@nist.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**