



UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20436

October 6, 2022

Dear Counsel:

Thank you for your patience and cooperation as the Commission proceeds with alternative solutions during the COVID-19 pandemic. I am providing information and guidance on this matter for Inv. Nos. 701-TA-682 and 731-TA-1592-1593 (Preliminary), *Certain Freight Rail Couplers and Parts Thereof from China and Mexico*.

With the reopening of the building to the public on September 29, 2022, the Commission will conduct its public Title VII preliminary staff conference via in-person format to include in-person and virtual attendance. The proceeding schedule for this hybrid conference is as follows (**all times EDT**):

- **Monday, October 17, 2022 by 5:15 p.m.:**
Parties submit requests to testify.
- Any requests to appear as a **witness via videoconference** must be included with your request to appear. Requests to appear via videoconference must include a statement explaining why the witness cannot appear in person; the Director of Investigations, or other person designated to conduct the investigation, may in their discretion for good cause shown, grant such a request.
- Requests to appear as a **witness via videoconference** due to illness or a positive COVID-19 test result may be submitted by 3pm the business day prior to the conference.
- If the District of Columbia community levels reach HIGH, the hearing will be virtual using the WebEx platform.
- **Tuesday, October 18, 2022 by 12:00 p.m.:**
Parties shall submit and serve witness/counsel testimony and presentation slides; these filings should be in the form of certified affidavits.
 - Petitioners have a 50-page limit for direct witness/counsel testimony, in total, not including presentation slides.
 - Respondents have a 50-page limit for direct witness/counsel testimony, in total, not including presentation slides.
 - This does not include opening/closing remarks.
 - Paper copies at the conference are not required. All presentations must be shown via Webex.

- **Wednesday, October 19, 2022 at 9:30 a.m.:**
Public conference via in-person format (see link below for videoconference information).
 1. Presiding Official's Opening Statement
 2. Opening Remarks by Those in Support of Imposition (**5 minutes**)
 3. Opening Remarks by Those in Opposition to Imposition (**5 minutes**)
 4. Direct Presentation by Those in Support of Imposition (**60 minutes**)
 5. Commission Staff Q&A with Those in Support of Imposition
 6. *****POSSIBLE BREAK*****
 7. Direct Presentation by Those in Opposition to Imposition (**60 minutes**)
 8. Commission Staff Q&A with Those in Opposition to Imposition
 9. Closing Remarks by Those in Support of Imposition (**10 minutes**)
 10. Closing Remarks by Those in Opposition to Imposition (**10 minutes**)
 11. Presiding Official's Closing Statement

- **Monday, October 24, 2022 by 5:15 p.m.:**
Parties submit and serve post conference briefs and responses to any additional questions (BPI versions on **Monday, October 24, 2022**; public versions on **Tuesday, October 25, 2022**).

Please note the Secretary's Office will accept only electronic filings during this time. Filings must be made through the Commission's Electronic Document Information System (EDIS, <https://edis.usitc.gov>). No in-person paper-based filings or paper copies of any electronic filings will be accepted until further notice. Please also note that parties who submit joint briefs should not also submit individual briefs.

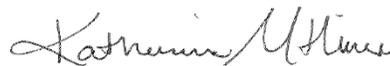
Information concerning joining the videoconference conference (via Webex) can be found on the Commission's Daily Calendar at:

https://usitc.gov/calendarpad/events/preliminary_conference_in_person_certain_freight_.htm

Please address any questions to preliminaryconferences@usitc.gov.

Again, thank you for your patience and cooperation.

Sincerely,



Katherine M. Hiner
Acting Secretary to the Commission