



APRIL 9, 2024

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General Issues of Interest to the CCB:

USTR Announces Additional Hearings and Extended Comment Period on Supply Chain Resilience

- On April 4, the Office of the United States Trade Representative (USTR)
 <u>published</u> a notice of additional public hearings and an extension of the posthearing comment period on their request for feedback to inform objectives and
 strategies that advance U.S. supply chain resilience in trade negotiations,
 enforcement, and other trade-related initiatives (BCI Monitor 3-12-24).
- The additional hearings will be held on May 14, 23, and 28, as detailed in the Federal Register notice.
- The extended post-hearing comment period submission due date for any of the four public hearings is June 4, 2024.

EU Notifies WTO of Draft Commission Regulation on Plastic and Food Contact Materials

- On April 8, the EU <u>notified the WTO</u> of a draft Commission Regulation amending both <u>Regulation (EU) No 10/2011</u> on plastic food contact materials (FCM), and <u>Regulation (EC) No 2023/2006</u> on proper manufacturing practices for FCM (BCI Monitor 3-26-24).
- This amendment is intended to increase quality control by ensuring alignment with <u>Regulation (EU) 2022/1616</u> on recycled plastics and <u>Regulation (EU) No 528/2012</u> on biocidal products, by introducing purity requirements for substances obtained from waste and natural materials, and by adapting migration testing multi-layer materials and repeat testing. The amendment also adds quality control rules to <u>Regulation (EC) No 2023/2006</u>.
- The amendment is proposed to be adopted in mid-September 2024, and enter into force 20 days from publication in the Official Journal of the EU.
- Comments can be sent to the U.S. TBT Inquiry Point at <u>usatbtep@nist.gov</u>. The WTO comment deadline is June 7, 2024.

A REPORT FOR THE CALIFORNIA CHERRY BOARD

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