

**Environmental Technologies Trade Advisory Committee (ETTAC)**  
**July 18, 2017; 8:30 am – 3:30 pm**  
**U.S. Department of Commerce**

The Environmental Technologies Trade Advisory Committee (ETTAC) convened in-person meeting at 8:30 a.m. EST on July 18<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at the U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC.

**ETTAC MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Mr. Dean Amhaus	Mr. Michael Goo	Mr. Anthony Licata
Mr. Philip Benson Jr.	Mr. Lawrence Gottlieb	Ms. Ramola Musante
Mr. David Biderman	Mr. Jeff Grove	Mr. Joseph Pickard
Dr. Rasto Brezny	MS. Elizabeth Holst	Mr. Gabriel Restrepo
Mr. Richard Cawley	Mr. Brian Hoppy	Mr. John Robak
Mr. Michael Corvese	Ms. Jody Howard	Mr. Ron Swinko
Mr. William Decker	Ms. Tasha Jamaluddin	Ms. Susan Sylvester
Ms. Anne Ellis	MR. Alan Krause	Mr. Peter Tunncliffe
Dr. Aaron Fisher	Ms. Vanessa Leiby	Mr. George Vorsheim
Dr. Ryan Godfrey	Ms. Michelle Leonard	Ms. Debra Waggoner

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

Amy Kreps, Designated Federal Officer (Acting), ETTAC

Yolinda Qu, International Trade Specialist, Office of Energy and Environmental Industries

**MEETING MINUTES:**

**Welcome**

Acting DFO Kreps and Chairman Swinko briefly welcomed the Committee and provided an overview of upcoming ETTAC tasks and the July 18<sup>th</sup> meeting agenda.

**Environmental Technologies Toolkit Presentation**

*Amy Kreps, ITA Office of Energy and Environmental Industries*

Ms. Kreps gave an introduction to the updated U.S. Environmental Solutions Toolkit and discussed how it may be utilized, as well as the benefits it may provide exporters.

**ETWG Interagency Discussion**

*Ms. Sasha Koo-Oshima, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Water*

Ms. Koo-Oshima gave a general explanation of her role within the EPA and mentioned the agency's work within the context of the OECD, including the OECD Business Industry Advisory Committee.

*Mr. Bill McElnea, U.S. Trade Representative, Office of Environment and Natural Resources*

Mr. McElnea noted that USTR is highly focused on NAFTA renegotiations and welcomed ETTAC input.

*Mr. Craig O'Connor, U.S. Export-Import Bank*

Mr. O'Connor highlighted his work as Director of Business Development, Environmental and Sustainable Technology Exports.

*Ms. Rachel Kastenber, U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Oceans, Environment and Science*

Ms. Kastenber noted her work on environmental trade and cooperation with FTA partner countries, especially recently with Peru, Panama, and Colombia. She indicated that the State Department is working on increasing its overall capacity to help promote U.S. environmental exports overseas.

## **Discussion with Israel Hernandez, Deputy Chief of Staff for the Secretary of Commerce, and Ian Steff, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Manufacturing**

### **Industry Introduction by Chairman Swinko**

- Noted that industry growth is between four to six percent
- The industry for environmental technologies is a little over a trillion dollars globally
  - 330 billion dollar industry for the U.S., with U.S. market growth at 2.7%
- The scope of the industry has expanded significantly beyond water

### *Israel Hernandez, Deputy Chief of Staff for the Secretary of Commerce*

- Noted that specific points and comments are critical for NAFTA renegotiations
- He deferred to the USTR for information and updates on the Environmental Goods Agreement
  - He mentioned that NAFTA, TTIP, KORUS, and the U.S. China Economic Dialogue are all in the pipeline

### *Ian Steff, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Manufacturing*

- Indicated his desire to meet with companies individually
- He would like data on worldwide market share in order to track trends over time as well as an increased focus on strategic industries' growth over the long-term
- He intends to focus on IoT, smart cities, technology leadership, research and development spending, and defining a strategy/roadmap for the next ten years.

## **Subcommittee Meeting Readouts & Discussion of Next Steps**

### *Trade Policy and American Competitiveness*

- Highlighted key issues with NAFTA renegotiations
  - Standards and conformity
  - The environmental provisions need to be moved to the core of the objectives
    - This will ensure they are subject to dispute resolution mechanisms
  - Intellectual property rights
    - Requested greater deterrence and mitigation of copyright infringement and misappropriation
  - Tariff reduction on environmental technologies
- Noted the overall importance of the Environmental Goods Agreement (EGA) and reengagement

### *Trade Promotion and Export Market Development*

- Provided three areas of focus
  - Optimization of existing trade promotion services
    - Ought to leverage digital technology, regional cluster organizations
    - Need to upgrade U.S. pavilions at trade events to provide better production value and first impressions, especially for SMEs
  - Validation for selection of target markets
    - Need to review and refresh market opportunities
  - Targeted actions for export development
    - Want a focus on improving interagency resources to assist companies, especially in regards to communication and opportunities, cooperation, and salesforce.
- Noted that environmental technology is a 1 trillion dollar industry that supports 2 million jobs

### *Professional Services and Infrastructure Advancement*

- Specified U.S. manufacturing goods
- Discussed question of how to advance jobs with tied budget donor agencies
  - Want U.S. government agencies to use tied aid in global trade practices and provide greater procurement transparency

- Highlighted agencies such as the State Department, USAID, MCC
- NAFTA issues to address
  - Discrimination against professional services
  - Limitations due to localization requirements
  - ETTAC voted and approved a letter to the Secretary including recommendations for consideration during the NAFTA renegotiation

#### *General Comments*

- In regards to NAFTA, it was noted that companies appreciate the “Do no harm” comment by Secretary Ross. Many are concerned about potential effects on duty-free access and cross-border supply chains.
- U.S. government agencies’ digital platforms and local offices are on-track to increase promotion efforts
- There was an ‘ask’ in relation to the coal industry: companies would like the administration to rollback restrictions on financing for coal-related projects.
- There will be increased opportunities for U.S. companies as foreign environmental regulatory conditions mature.

#### **Public Comment**

There were no public comments during the allotted time.

#### **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

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

Amy Kreps  
Designated Federal Officer, Acting  
Environmental Technologies Trade Advisory Committee

Ron Swinko  
Chair  
Environmental Technologies Trade Advisory Committee

These minutes will be formally considered by the Committee and any corrections or notations will be incorporated.