

threatened to separate a significant number or proportion of workers at the subject facility during the relevant period (January–December 2004).

In the request for reconsideration, the petitioner alleged that the subject facility supported an affiliated production facility, Lawson-Hemphill, Inc., Central Falls, Rhode Island.

A careful review of previously-submitted documents revealed that a significant number of the workers at the South Carolina facility were separated or threatened with separation during the relevant period and that the primary function of the South Carolina facility is to sell textile testing instruments produced at the Rhode Island facility.

Even if the subject worker group supported production at the Rhode Island facility, they could not be certified for TAA under this petition because the Rhode Island facility was not affected by loss of business as a supplier, assembler, or finisher of products or components produced for the TAA-certified firms identified in the petition: Globe Manufacturing, Fall River, Massachusetts (TA–W–38,840); Cavalier Specialty Yarn, Gastonia, North Carolina (TA–W–53,226); Cone Mills Corporation, Cliffside, North Carolina (TA–W–53,291A); Pillowtex Corporation, Kannapolis, North Carolina (TA–W–39,416); Burlington Industries, Greensboro, North Carolina (TA–W–40,205); and Spartan Mills, Spartanburg, South Carolina (TA–W–37,126).

Lawson-Hemphill, Inc. cannot be considered a secondarily-affected company because textile testing instruments is not a component of textiles and the company neither assembles nor finishes an article produced by the above-identified companies.

Since the workers are denied eligibility to apply for TAA, the workers cannot be certified eligible for ATAA.

Conclusion

After careful reconsideration, I affirm the original notice of negative determination of eligibility to apply for worker adjustment assistance for workers and former workers of Lawson-Hemphill Sales, Inc., Spartanburg, South Carolina.

Signed at Washington, DC, this 30th day of June, 2005.

Elliott S. Kushner,

Certifying Officer, Division of Trade Adjustment Assistance.

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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employment and Training Administration

[[TA–W–56,782]

FC Meyer Packaging, LLC/Millen Industries, Inc.; Lawrence, MA; Notice of Negative Determination Regarding Application for Reconsideration

By application of May 20, 2005, a petitioner requested administrative reconsideration of the Department's negative determination regarding eligibility to apply for Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA), applicable to workers and former workers of the subject firm. The denial notice was signed on May 6, 2005, and published in the **Federal Register** on May 25, 2005 (70 FR 30145).

Pursuant to 29 CFR 90.18(c) reconsideration may be granted under the following circumstances:

- (1) If it appears on the basis of facts not previously considered that the determination complained of was erroneous;
- (2) If it appears that the determination complained of was based on a mistake in the determination of facts not previously considered; or
- (3) If in the opinion of the Certifying Officer, a mis-interpretation of facts or of the law justified reconsideration of the decision.

The petition for the workers of FC Meyer Packaging, LLC/Millen Industries, Inc., Lawrence, Massachusetts engaged in production of shoe boxes was denied because the “contributed importantly” group eligibility requirement of Section 222 of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended, was not met, nor was there a shift in production from that firm to a foreign country. The “contributed importantly” test is generally demonstrated through a survey of the workers’ firm’s customers. The survey revealed that imports of shoe boxes were minimal during the relevant period and imports did not contribute importantly to separations at the subject firm. The subject firm did not import shoe boxes nor did it shift production to a foreign country during the relevant period.

The petitioner alleges that the subject firm lost its business due to the customers shifting their production of shoes abroad and buying shoe boxes overseas.

The petitioner concludes that, because the production of shoes occurs abroad, the subject firm workers producing shoe boxes are import impacted.

In order to establish import impact, the Department must consider imports

that are like or directly competitive with those produced at the subject firm. The Department conducted a survey of the subject firm’s major declining customer regarding their purchases of shoe boxes. The survey revealed that the declining customers did not import shoe boxes during the relevant period.

The petitioner further cites a list of customers which shifted their production overseas and imported shoe boxes back to the United States.

Some of these customers were already surveyed by the Department during the original investigation. A review of the survey responses confirms import purchases of shoe boxes were minimal and did not contribute importantly to the layoffs at the subject plant during the relevant period.

A company official was contacted to verify the allegations regarding the customers which were not surveyed during the initial investigation. The official stated that all of these companies were customers of the subject firm in the years prior to 2001, which is outside of the relevant time period.

Conclusion

After review of the application and investigative findings, I conclude that there has been no error or misinterpretation of the law or of the facts which would justify reconsideration of the Department of Labor’s prior decision. Accordingly, the application is denied.

Signed at Washington, DC day 22nd of June, 2005.

Elliott S. Kushner,

Certifying Officer, Division of Trade Adjustment Assistance.

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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employment and Training Administration

[[TA–W–51,750]

Federated Merchandising Group, a Part of the Federated Department Stores, New York, NY; Notice of Negative Determination on Remand

By Order dated February 7, 2005, the United States Court of International Trade (USCIT) directed the Department of Labor (Department) to further investigate *Former Employees of Federated Merchandising Group, a Part of Federated Department Stores v. United States* (Court No. 03–00689).

The Department’s denial of eligibility to apply for worker adjustment