



WS 11-06

February 28, 2011

To: Workforce Solutions Contractors

From: Rodney Bradshaw
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Subject: Changes to Trade Adjustment Assistance

Purpose

Provide a new form and instructions for filing a petition for Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) and Alternative Trade Adjustment Assistance (ATAA) – and to provide information about potential changes to benefits and services for workers.

Background

The 2009 amendments to the Trade Act expired February 14, 2011. Congress may yet act to extend the 2009 amendments or it may take no further action.

- If Congress extends the 2009 amendments – there is no change to our current TAA Rules and Procedures.
- If Congress takes no further action – the customers covered under a future petition (numbered 80,000 or more) will be eligible for benefits and services in accordance with the rules under the 2002 amendments. **Changes will only affect customers covered under new petitions numbering 80,000 or more.**

New Procedures

Effective February 15, 2011, use the new petition form available as an electronic submission or as a paper download at www.doleta.gov/tradeact. We will also distribute the petition form with this issuance.

We will continue to encourage employers to file petitions for certification for layoffs of manufacturing businesses – and also for service or governmental business. If the law changes to exclude non-manufacturing businesses, DOL will deny the petition – and we will issue updated instructions to staff.

Action

Make sure that all office managers, supervisors, and other appropriate staff are aware of a potential change for petitions number 80,000 or more.

Make sure outplacement team staff use the attached form when providing information to employers.

Questions

Direct questions through the electronic Q&A posted with the policy on the website at <http://www.wrksolutions.com/staff/policiesandprocedures.html>.

Attachments

1. Revised U.S. Department of Labor Trade Adjustment Assistance petition (English)
2. Revised U.S. Department of Labor Trade Adjustment Assistance petition (Spanish)