

notifications were filed for the purpose of extending the Act's provisions limiting the recovery of antitrust plaintiffs to actual damages under specified circumstances. Specifically, Tormach, Inc., Waunakee, WI, has withdrawn as a party to this venture.

No other changes have been made in either the membership or planned activity of the group research project. Membership in this group research project remains open and RIC-Americas intends to file additional written notifications disclosing all changes in membership.

On April 30, 2014, RIC-Americas filed its original notification pursuant to Section 6(a) of the Act. The Department of Justice published a notice in the **Federal Register** pursuant to Section 6(b) of the Act on June 9, 2014 (79 FR 32999).

The last notification was filed with the Department on February 6, 2020. A notice was published in the **Federal Register** pursuant to Section 6(b) of the Act on February 27, 2020 (85 FR 11393).

**Suzanne Morris,**

*Chief, Premerger and Division Statistics Unit, Antitrust Division.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

### Antitrust Division

#### Notice Pursuant to the National Cooperative Research and Production Act of 1993—UHD Alliance, Inc.

Notice is hereby given that, on March 10, 2020, pursuant to Section 6(a) of the National Cooperative Research and Production Act of 1993, 15 U.S.C. 4301 *et seq.* ("the Act"), UHD Alliance, Inc. ("UHD Alliance") filed written notifications simultaneously with the Attorney General and the Federal Trade Commission disclosing changes in its membership. The notifications were filed for the purpose of extending the Act's provisions limiting the recovery of antitrust plaintiffs to actual damages under specified circumstances. Specifically, Kaleidescape, Inc., Mountain View, CA have been added as a party to this venture.

No other changes have been made in either the membership or planned activity of the group research project. Membership in this group research project remains open and UHD Alliance intends to file additional written notifications disclosing all changes in membership.

On June 17, 2015, UHD Alliance filed its original notification pursuant to

Section 6(a) of the Act. The Department of Justice published a notice in the **Federal Register** pursuant to Section 6(b) of the Act on July 17, 2015 (80 FR 42537).

The last notification was filed with the Department on January 2, 2020. A notice was published in the **Federal Register** pursuant to Section 6(b) of the Act on January 27, 2020 (85 FR 4705).

**Suzanne Morris,**

*Chief, Premerger and Division Statistics Unit, Antitrust Division.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

### Employment and Training Administration

#### Labor Certification Process for the Temporary Employment of H-2A and H-2B Foreign Workers in the United States: Annual Update to Allowable Charges for Agricultural Workers' Meals and for Travel Subsistence Reimbursement, Including Lodging

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Department of Labor's (DOL) Employment and Training Administration (ETA) is issuing this annual notice to announce the updated allowable charges employers of H-2A workers, in occupations other than herding or production of livestock on the range, may charge these workers when the employer provides three meals per day. This notice also announces the maximum travel subsistence meal reimbursement a worker with receipts may claim, under the H-2A and H-2B programs. In addition, this notice includes a reminder regarding employers' obligations with respect to overnight lodging costs as part of required subsistence.

**APPLICABLE:** This notice is effective on March 20, 2020.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Brian Pasternak, Acting Administrator, Office of Foreign Labor Certification, Employment and Training Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, by telephone 202-513-7350 (this is not a toll-free number) or, for individuals with hearing or speech impairments, TTY 1-877-889-5627 (this is not a toll-free number), or by email at [ETA.OFLC.Forms@dol.gov](mailto:ETA.OFLC.Forms@dol.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security will not approve an employer's

petition for the admission of H-2A or H-2B nonimmigrant temporary workers in the United States unless the petitioner has received from DOL an H-2A or H-2B labor certification. *See* 8 CFR 214.2(h)(5) and (h)(6). H-2A and H-2B labor certifications generally provide that: (1) There are not sufficient U.S. workers who are qualified and who will be available to perform the labor or services involved in the petition; and (2) the employment of the foreign worker(s) in such labor or services will not adversely affect the wages and working conditions of workers in the U.S. similarly employed. *See* 20 CFR 655.1(a) and 655.100.

### Allowable Meal Charge

H-2A agricultural employers of workers in occupations other than herding or production of livestock on the range must offer and provide each worker three meals per day or provide the workers free and convenient cooking facilities.<sup>1</sup> *See* § 655.122(g). Where the employer provides the meals, the job offer must state the charge, if any, to the worker for such meals. *Id.* The amount of meal charges is governed by § 655.173.

By regulation, DOL has established the methodology for determining the maximum amount that H-2A agricultural employers may charge workers for providing them with three meals per day. *See* § 655.173(a). This methodology allows for annual adjustments of the previous year's maximum allowable charge based on the updated Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers for Food (CPI-U for Food), not seasonally adjusted. *Id.* The maximum amount employers may charge workers for providing meals is adjusted annually by the 12-month percentage change in the CPI-U for Food for the prior year (*i.e.*, between December of the year just concluded and December of the prior year). *Id.* The Office of Foreign Labor Certification (OFLC) Certifying Officer may also permit an employer to charge workers a higher amount for providing them with three meals a day if the higher amount is justified and sufficiently documented by the employer, as set forth in § 655.173(b).

The percentage change in the CPI-U for Food between December 2018 and December 2019 was 1.8 percent.<sup>2</sup> Thus,

<sup>1</sup> H-2A employers must provide workers engaged in herding or the production of livestock on the range meals or food to prepare meals without charge or deposit charge. *See* 20 CFR 655.210(e).

<sup>2</sup> Consumer Price Index—December 2019, published January 14, 2020 at <https://www.bls.gov/news.release/cpi.nr0.htm>.