
❖ SPC & B Update ❖

A Newsletter for Clients of Sharretts, Paley, Carter & Blauvelt, P.C.

August 6, 2013

APHIS Announces New Electronic Filing Method for Lacey Act Declarations



As discussed in previous Updates, the Lacey Act requires importers of certain products containing wood or paper to submit a declaration to U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) containing the genus and species of the plant material and if the species is unknown, a list of all possible species that may be present in the product.

APHIS has just announced that, starting in late 2013, importers of plants and plant products will be able to file Lacey Act Plant and Plant Product Declarations (PPQ Form 505) electronically via a new submission tool, the Lacey Act Web Governance System (LAWGS). Currently, many importers use the Automated Broker Interface (ABI) to file their Lacey Act declarations electronically. LAWGS will not replace the ABI, but provide an alternative means of electronic filing.

If you are interested in learning more about this tool, APHIS will be holding LAWGS introductory instructional webinars. Please contact Alli Baron at abaron@spcblaw.com or Donna Shira at dshira@spcblaw.com or call us at 212-425-0055, for further information about the Lacey Act requirements or about participating in the webinars.

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