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Canfor Southern Pine Workers May Be Eligible for Benefits

FULTON – Workers of Canfor Southern Pine in Fulton, Alabama, who were engaged in activities related to the production of softwood lumber products, may be eligible for benefits under the federal Trade Adjustment Assistance Reauthorization Act of 2015 (TAARA 2015). A petition filed on behalf of workers of Canfor Southern Pine was certified by the U.S. Department of Labor on December 27, 2018, according to Secretary Fitzgerald Washington, Alabama Department of Labor.

The International Trade Commission found that Canfor Southern Pine was as a member of a domestic industry in an investigation resulting in an affirmative final determination of material injury or threat thereof. The petition covers periods of unemployment occurring on or after December 28, 2016 through December 28, 2018. Under the TAARA 2015, displaced workers may be eligible for benefits such as training, job search and relocation assistance, and Health Coverage Tax Credit (HCTC). For additional information on the HCTC, they can visit the IRS website at www.irs.gov/HCTC.

If workers have exhausted their cash benefits under other state and federal unemployment compensation programs, they could be eligible for additional weekly benefits equivalent to the amount they were receiving under other programs. To receive Trade Readjustment Allowance benefits, workers must enroll in training within 26 weeks of the certification date or their last qualifying separation or a waiver of the training requirement must be granted by the state Employment Service Division of the Alabama Department of Labor.

Canfor Southern Pine was also certified for Reemployment Trade Adjustment Assistance (RTAA). Employees who are 50 years of age and older, who obtain full time employment after their separation from the affected employer, may be eligible for training and allowances under the RTAA program.

Washington stated that potentially eligible individuals will be notified individually as soon as they are identified.

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