

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

500 West Fourth Street
Davenport, Iowa 52801-1106
E-mail: planning@scottcountyiaowa.com
Office: (563) 326-8643 Fax: (563) 326-8257



Timothy Huey
Director

To: Dee F. Bruemmer, County Administrator

From: Timothy Huey, Planning & Development Director

Date: December 16, 2011

Re: Request for letter of support for Foreign Trade Zone

Doug Plank, on behalf of Quad Cities First, has requested a letter of support from Scott County for the regional foreign trade zone to take advantage of a more streamlined procedure to help companies access the benefits of being included in a FTZ. The ability to designate companies as part of our FTZ has been in place in this area since 1985. Previously the Quad Cities Development Group administered the local FTZ but those duties have been taken over by QC 1st. Recently, the administrative rules for FTZs have been changed to allow an alternative site framework. By making this change, QC 1st will be able to more easily assist companies to access and use our Foreign Trade Zone status. QC 1st will be able to designate local areas within the region as part of the FTZ in order for the companies located in those areas to reap the benefit of FTZ status.

FTZ status allows manufacturers that are importing parts for assembly of products that are then destined to be exported to not pay any Federal duties on those imported parts. I would recommend the requested letter of support be signed and submitted by the Board of Supervisors.

DEC 15 2011



December 13, 2011

Tom Sunderbruch
Scott County Administrative Center
600 W. 4th Street
Davenport, IA 52801

Dear Chairperson,

This letter is intended to provide information to you pertaining to the Quad-City Foreign Trade Zone, Inc., #133's application to the U.S. Foreign-Trade Zones (FTZ) Board for authority to use a new procedure (the "Alternative Site Framework") to provide quick and simple access to FTZ service for companies in our region. Our organization is the grantee of FTZ 133 and currently sponsors a limited number of FTZ sites in our region. The authority we are requesting from the FTZ Board would enable us to quickly bring FTZ designation to any company within our proposed "service area." Our proposed service area includes Scott County as well as Cedar County, Clinton County, Des Moines County, Dubuque County, Henry County, Jackson County, Johnson County, Jones County, Lee County, Louisa County, Muscatine County, Washington County in Iowa; and Carroll County, Jo Daviess County, Henderson County, Henry County, Knox County, Mercer County, Rock Island County, Warren County, and Whiteside County in Illinois.

FTZ designation can provide companies with customs duty savings and logistical benefits that can help encourage them to establish or maintain operations in the U.S. As such, access to FTZ benefits can be an important tool in economic development efforts. If the FTZ Board approves our application, Quad-City Foreign Trade Zone, Inc., #133 will be able to bring FTZ designation to companies anywhere in the proposed service area based on those companies' trade-related needs. We also note that FTZ access will be made available on a uniform basis to companies across the service area, in a manner consistent with the legal requirement that each FTZ be operated as a public utility.

If you have questions about the Quad-City Foreign Trade Zone, Inc., #133's application to the FTZ Board, please contact Doug Plank at 563-327-0164. If you have comments you would like the FTZ Board to consider regarding the proposed inclusion of Scott County in the proposed service area of FTZ 133, please provide your comments to the staff of the FTZ Board by January 13, 2012. The FTZ Board staff also welcomes any questions you may have – the staff can be reached at 202-482-2862 or ftz@trade.gov.

Sincerely,

Doug Plank

Enclosures

January 2012

Doug Plank
Quad-City Foreign Trade Zone, Inc., #133
331 W. 3rd St. Suite 100
Davenport, IA 52801

Dear Doug Plank:

The purpose of this letter is to document the support of this county for inclusion within the Service Area of Foreign-Trade Zone (FTZ) 133. We understand that this means that the grantee, Quad-City Foreign Trade Zone, Inc., #133, will be able to apply to the Foreign-Trade Zones Board for authority to serve sites located within this county based on businesses' trade-related needs. We also note that the zone will be made available on a uniform basis to companies within this county, in a manner consistent with the legal requirement that each FTZ be operated as a public utility.

Regarding state or local taxes for which collections may be affected by FTZ designation of sites, this letter is not intended to provide a position on state or local tax issues for any site within this jurisdiction. At the time that any specific site is proposed for FTZ designation, parties potentially affected by the site's proposed designation (such as a local school board) will need to provide their own correspondence indicating their views on the impact on tax collections related to the proposed designation.

Signature of county official

Title of county official