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Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services

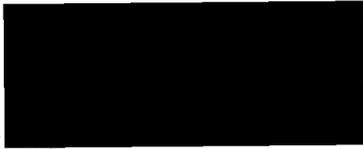
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ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS OFFICE

400 Eye Street N.W.

Room 3000, AAO, 20 Mass, 3/F

Washington, D.C. 20536



FILE: LIN 03 054 50527

Office: Nebraska Service Center

Date: **AUG 16 2003**

IN RE: Petitioner:
Beneficiary:



PETITION: Petition for a Nonimmigrant Worker Pursuant to Section 101(a)(15)(H)(ii)(b) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1101(a)(15)(H)(ii)(b)

ON BEHALF OF PETITIONER: Self-represented

INSTRUCTIONS:

This is the decision in your case. All documents have been returned to the office that originally decided your case. Any further inquiry must be made to that office.

If you believe the law was inappropriately applied or the analysis used in reaching the decision was inconsistent with the information provided or with precedent decisions, you may file a motion to reconsider. Such a motion must state the reasons for reconsideration and be supported by any pertinent precedent decisions. Any motion to reconsider must be filed within 30 days of the decision that the motion seeks to reconsider, as required under 8 C.F.R. § 103.5(a)(1)(i).

If you have new or additional information that you wish to have considered, you may file a motion to reopen. Such a motion must state the new facts to be proved at the reopened proceeding and be supported by affidavits or other documentary evidence. Any motion to reopen must be filed within 30 days of the decision that the motion seeks to reopen, except that failure to file before this period expires may be excused in the discretion of the Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services (Bureau) where it is demonstrated that the delay was reasonable and beyond the control of the applicant or petitioner. *Id.*

Any motion must be filed with the office that originally decided your case along with a fee of \$110 as required under 8 C.F.R. § 103.7.

Robert P. Wiemann, Director
Administrative Appeals Office

DISCUSSION: The nonimmigrant visa petition was denied by the Director, Nebraska Service Center, and is now before the Administrative Appeals Office (AAO) on appeal. The appeal will be dismissed.

The petitioner operates a nationwide trucking company. It desires to employ the beneficiary as a commercial truck driver for thirteen and one-half months. The petition was not accompanied by the required temporary labor certification, Form ETA-750. The director determined that, absent the certification, the petitioner failed to meet the regulatory requirements necessary for approval of the petition. The director also determined that the petitioner did not establish that its need for the service or labor is temporary.

On appeal, the petitioner submitted an Application for Alien Employment Certification (Form ETA 750).

The regulation at 8 C.F.R. § 214.2(h)(6)(iv)(A) requires that a petition for temporary employment in the United States be accompanied by a temporary labor certification from the Department of Labor, or notice detailing the reasons why such certification cannot be made.

The petition was filed on December 16, 2002 without a temporary labor certification, or notice detailing the reasons why such certification cannot be made. Absent such certification from the Department of Labor or notice detailing the reasons why such certification cannot be made, the petition cannot be approved.

On appeal, the petitioner submitted Form ETA 750 that had not been submitted to the Department of Labor for certification. The regulation requires that, prior to filing a petition with the director to classify an alien as an H-2B worker, the petitioner must apply for a temporary labor certificate with the Secretary of Labor for all areas in the United States, except the Territory of Guam. 8 C.F.R. § 214.2(h)(6)(iii)(A). In this case, the petitioner did not apply for a temporary labor certification prior to the filing of the petition.

Section 101(a)(15)(H)(ii) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (the Act), 8 U.S.C. § 1101(a)(15)(H)(ii), defines an H-2B temporary worker as:

an alien...having a residence in a foreign country which he has no intention of abandoning, who is coming temporarily to the United States to perform other temporary service or labor if unemployed persons capable of performing such service or labor cannot be found in this country, but this clause shall not apply to graduates of medical schools coming to the United States to perform services as members of the medical profession....

Matter of Artee Corp., 18 I&N Dec. 366 (Comm. 1982), codified in current regulations at 8 C.F.R. § 214.2(h)(6)(ii), specified that the test for determining whether an alien is coming "temporarily" to the United States to "perform temporary services or labor" is whether the need of the petitioner for the duties to be performed is temporary. It is the nature of the need, not the nature of the duties that is controlling. See 55 Fed. Reg. 2616 (1990).

As a general rule, the period of the petitioner's need must be a year or less, although there may be extraordinary circumstances where the temporary services or labor might last longer than one year. The petitioner's need for the services or labor must be a one-time occurrence, a seasonal need, a peakload need, or an intermittent need. 8 C.F.R. § 214.2(h)(6)(ii)(B).

The petition indicates that the employment is peakload and that the temporary need is unpredictable. The regulation at 8 C.F.R. § 214.2(h)(6)(ii)(B)(3) states that for the nature of the petitioner's need to be a peakload need, the petitioner must establish that it regularly employs permanent workers to perform the services or labor at the place of employment and that it needs to supplement its permanent staff at the place of employment on a temporary basis due to a seasonal or short-term demand and that the temporary additions to staff will not become a part of the petitioner's regular operation.

The regulation at 8 C.F.R. § 214.2(h)(6)(ii)(B)(2) states that for the nature of the petitioner's need to be seasonal, the petitioner must establish that the services or labor is traditionally tied to a season of the year by an event or pattern and is of a recurring nature. The petitioner shall specify the period(s) of time during each year in which it does not need the services or labor. The employment is not seasonal if the period during which the services or labor is not needed is unpredictable or subject to change or is considered a vacation period for the petitioner's permanent employees.

On the petition, the petitioner explains that its need for the beneficiary's services is due to the shortage of experienced over-the-road drivers. The dates of the intended employment for the beneficiary are from November 15, 2002 until December 31, 2003. The petitioner has not provided evidence of its need to supplement its permanent staff of 150 employees due to a seasonal or short-term demand. The petitioner has not established that the need for the services to be performed is a peakload need and temporary in nature.

The burden of proof in these proceedings rests solely with the petitioner. Section 291 of the Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1361. Here, the petitioner has not met that burden.

ORDER: The appeal is dismissed.