



**Megan Beeler**  
Vice-Chairman



**Sandy Leitheiser**  
(County Clerk)



**Evan Young, Chairman**  
**Megan Beeler, Vice-Chairman**  
**Montgomery County Board**  
#1 Courthouse Square, Room 202  
Hillsboro, Illinois 62049  
Phone # (217) 532-9577

November 30, 2017

Ms. Robbie Williams  
America's Central Port District  
1635 W. First Street  
Granite City, IL 62040

Dear Robbie:

The purpose of this letter is to document the support of this County for inclusion within the Service Area of Foreign-Trade Zone (FTZ) No. 31. We understand that this means that the grantee, America's Central Port District, 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.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 217-532-9577.

Sincerely,

Evan Young, Chairman  
Montgomery County Board



## AMERICA'S CENTRAL PORT

November 29, 2017

The Honorable Evan Young  
Montgomery County Board Chairman  
12123 E. 20th Road  
Fillmore, IL 62032

RE: Foreign Trade Zone No. 31 – Alternative Site Framework (ASF) Reorganization

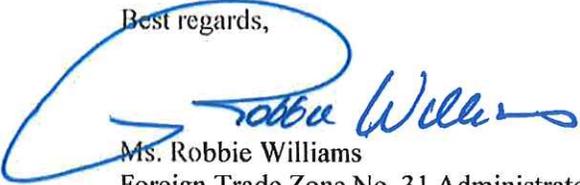
Dear Chairman Young:

This letter is intended to provide information to you pertaining to America's Central Port District'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 No. 31 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 Montgomery as well as Bond, Calhoun, Clinton, Greene, Jersey, Macoupin, Madison, Monroe, Randolph, St. Clair and Washington.

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, America's Central Port District 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.

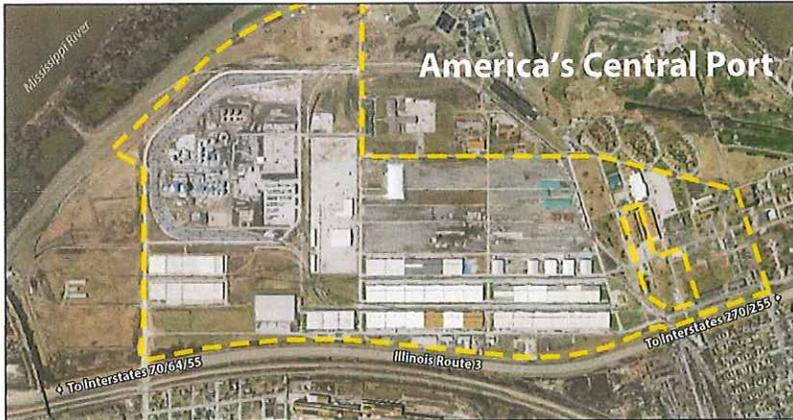
If you have questions about the America's Central Port District's application to the FTZ Board, please contact Ms. Robbie Williams at 618-452-8440 or via email at [rwilliams@americascentralport.com](mailto:rwilliams@americascentralport.com). If you have comments you would like the FTZ Board to consider regarding the proposed inclusion of Montgomery in the proposed service area of FTZ No. 31, please provide your comments to the staff of the FTZ Board by December 29, 2017. The FTZ Board staff also welcomes any questions you may have – the staff can be reached at 202-482-2862 or [ftz@trade.gov](mailto:ftz@trade.gov).

Best regards,



Ms. Robbie Williams  
Foreign Trade Zone No. 31 Administrator

# Foreign Trade Zone No. 31



## Foreign Trade Zone Benefits

- Goods may be: Received, Stored, Manipulated, Exhibited, Re-Labeled, Tested, Destroyed, Sampled, Exported, Repacked or Mixed with Domestic Goods with **NO** Duties paid going into the Zone.
- Weekly Entry – Merchandise Processing Fee (MPF) Cost Savings – Rather than paying multiple MPFs per week, a customer can file a “weekly entry” (no matter how many shipments they receive in a week) and pay the single entry MPF.
- **Deferral of Duties** – Customs duties are paid only **WHEN** and **IF** the merchandise is transferred into US Customs territory. Eliminate payment of inventory tax and delay payment of excise tax while storing merchandise.
- **Reduction of Duties** – Many times, duties are higher for parts than for the finished product. Users may import parts, duty-free, assemble the product and then only pay the duty on the final product.
- **Elimination of Duties** – Customs duties are not paid on goods that are brought into a zone and then re-exported.
- **Elimination of Duties** – Generally, Customs duties are also eliminated for merchandise that is scrapped, wasted, destroyed or consumed in a zone.
- Relief from state and/or local ad valorem taxes – Foreign merchandise stored in a foreign trade zone, or merchandise held in a zone for export, is not subject to any state or local ad valorem taxes.
- FTZs help the U.S. economy by allowing companies to source component products from around the world at competitive prices, while keeping important value-added activities, such as manufacturing, within the United States.
- Enable businesses to stay more competitive through cost savings.

## Foreign Trade Zone Description

America's Central Port has the Grant of Authority for Foreign Trade Zone No. 31. Grants of Authority are given by the Foreign Trade Zones Board to state and local government agencies or non-profit corporations which are then empowered to establish and maintain “Zone Projects” in their communities as a public utility.

Foreign Trade Zones (FTZs) are areas within the geographic limits of the United States, but are considered outside of U.S. customs' territory. These designated sites allow domestic activity involving foreign items to take place prior to formal customs entry.

At the present time, Foreign Trade Zone No. 31 has four designated FTZ sites. Two of these sites are located at America's Central Port. The Business and Industrial Campus has over 1.7 million square feet of warehouse space and 500 acres of developable industrial land. America's Central Port also has a designated area in the Port's North Harbor consisting of approximately 47 acres. The other two sites are located nearby at the Gateway Commerce Center with a designated area of approximately 2,250 acres and MidAmerica St. Louis Airport with approximately 3,850 of designated acres.



AMERICA'S CENTRAL PORT

For more information, contact:  
Ms. Robbie Williams, Foreign Trade Zone Administrator  
(618) 452-8440 or [rwilliams@americascentralport.com](mailto:rwilliams@americascentralport.com)

# Proposed FTZ No. 31 ASF Service Area

