

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[A-351-825; A-351-847]

Stainless Steel Bar From Brazil; and Certain Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut-to-Length Plate From Brazil: Correction to the Opportunity To Request Administrative Review Notice

AGENCY: Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Brenda E. Waters, AD/CVD Operations, Customs Liaison Unit, Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482-4735.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**Background**

On February 1, 2018, the Department published its opportunity to request administrative review of the antidumping duty orders and incorrectly listed the case number for stainless steel bar from Brazil and inadvertently listed the wrong period of review (POR) for certain carbon and alloy steel cut-to-length plate from Brazil. The correct case number for stainless steel bar from Brazil is A-351-825; and the correct POR for certain carbon and alloy steel cut-to-length plate from Brazil is September 22, 2016, through January 31, 2018.¹

This notice serves as a correction notice.

Dated: January 21, 2018.

James Maeder,

Associate Deputy Assistant Secretary for Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Operations performing the duties of Deputy Assistant Secretary for Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Operations.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[A-533-879, A-570-066]

Polytetrafluoroethylene Resin From India and the People's Republic of China: Postponement of Preliminary Determinations in the Less-Than-Fair-Value Investigations

AGENCY: Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

DATES: Applicable February 27, 2018.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Mark Kennedy at (202) 482-7883 (India), and Thomas Schauer at (202) 482-0410 (the People's Republic of China (China)), AD/CVD Operations, Office I, Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20230.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**Background**

On October 18, 2017, the Department of Commerce (Commerce) initiated less-than-fair-value (LTFV) investigations of imports of polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE) resin from India and the People's Republic of China.¹ Commerce exercised its discretion to toll all deadlines affected by the closure of the Federal Government from January 20 through 22, 2018. If the new deadline falls on a non-business day, in accordance with Commerce's practice, the deadline will become the next business day. The revised deadline for the preliminary results of these investigations is March 12, 2018.²

Postponement of Preliminary Determination

Section 733(b)(1)(A) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act), requires Commerce to issue the preliminary determination in a LTFV investigation within 140 days after the date on which Commerce initiated the investigation. However, section 733(c)(1)(A)(b)(1) of the Act permits Commerce to postpone the preliminary determination until no later than 190 days after the date on which Commerce initiated the

investigation if: (A) The petitioner³ makes a timely request for a postponement; or (B) Commerce concludes that the parties concerned are cooperating, that the investigation is extraordinarily complicated, and that additional time is necessary to make a preliminary determination. Under 19 CFR 351.205(e), the petitioner must submit a request for postponement 25 days or more before the scheduled date of the preliminary determination and must state the reasons for the request. Commerce will grant the request unless it finds compelling reasons to deny the request.

On February 12, 2018, the petitioner submitted a timely request that Commerce postpone the preliminary determination in the LTFV investigation.⁴ The petitioner stated that it requests postponement of the preliminary determinations of these investigations for the following reasons: the respondents selected for individual examination have requested and been granted extensions of time to file responses to the original questionnaire, which necessarily have delayed the filing of deficiency comments by the petitioner; and additionally, Commerce has only begun to issue supplemental questionnaires, and there will not be sufficient time for the petitioner to review and respond to these questionnaires prior to the current date of the preliminary determination.⁵

For the reasons stated above and because there are no compelling reasons to deny the request, Commerce, in accordance with section 733(c)(1)(A) of the Act, is postponing the deadline for the preliminary determination by 50 days (*i.e.*, 190 days after the date on which this investigation was initiated). As a result, Commerce will issue its preliminary determination no later than April 30, 2018. In accordance with section 735(a)(1) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.210(b)(1), the deadline for the final determination of this investigation will continue to be 75 days after the date of publication of the preliminary determination, unless postponed at a later date.

This notice is issued and published pursuant to section 733(c)(2) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.205(f)(1).

³ The petitioner is The Chemours Company FC LLC.

⁴ See Letters from the petitioner, "Polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE) Resin from India: Petitioner's Request to Postpone the Antidumping Investigation Preliminary Determination," dated February 12, 2018 and "Polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE) Resin from the People's Republic of China: Petitioner's Request to Postpone the Antidumping Investigation Preliminary Determination," dated February 12, 2018 (Requests for Postponement).

⁵ See Requests for Postponement at 2.

¹ See *Polytetrafluoroethylene Resin from India and the People's Republic of China: Initiation of Less-Than-Fair-Value Investigations*, 82 FR 49587 (October 26, 2017) (*Initiation Notice*).

² See Memorandum, "Deadlines Affected by the Shutdown of the Federal Government," dated January 23, 2018 (Tolling Memorandum). All deadlines in this segment of the proceeding have been extended by 3 days.

¹ See *Antidumping or Countervailing Duty Order, Finding, or Suspended Investigation; Opportunity To Request Administrative Review*, 83 FR 4639 (February 1, 2018).

Dated: February 20, 2018.

Christian Marsh,

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance.

[FR Doc. 2018-03921 Filed 2-26-18; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[A-570-069, A-542-802, and A-549-835]

Rubber Bands From the People's Republic of China, Sri Lanka, and Thailand: Initiation of Less-Than-Fair-Value Investigations

AGENCY: Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

DATES: Applicable February 20, 2018.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Paul Stolz at (202) 482-4474 and Stephanie Berger at (202) 482-2483 (the People's Republic of China (China)); Cindy Robinson at (202) 482-3797 (Sri Lanka); and Laurel LaCivita at (202) 482-4243 and Joseph Degreena at (202) 482-6030 (Thailand); AD/CVD Operations, Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20230.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

The Petitions

On January 30, 2018, the U.S. Department of Commerce (Commerce) received antidumping duty (AD) and countervailing duty (CVD) Petitions concerning imports of rubber bands from China, Sri Lanka, and Thailand filed in proper form on behalf of Alliance Rubber Co. (Alliance, the petitioner).¹ The petitioner is a domestic producer of rubber bands.²

On February 2 and February 12, 2018, Commerce requested supplemental information pertaining to certain areas of the AD Petitions.³ The petitioner filed

¹ See the petitioner's letter, "Petition for Imposition of Antidumping and Countervailing Duties on Rubber Bands from Thailand, China and Sri Lanka," dated January 30, 2018 (the Petitions). For the purposes of the instant notice, all mentions of 'the Petitions,' herein, refer specifically to the AD Petitions.

² See Volume I of the Petitions, at 5-6.

³ See Commerce's letters, "Petition for the Imposition of Antidumping and Countervailing Duties on Imports of Rubber Bands from the People's Republic of China, Sri Lanka, and Thailand: Supplemental Questions" (General Issues Supplemental Questionnaire); "Petition for the Imposition of Antidumping Duties on Imports of Rubber Bands from the People's Republic of China: Supplemental Questions" (China AD Supplemental Questionnaire); "Petition for the Imposition of Antidumping Duties on Imports of Rubber Bands

responses to these requests on February 8 and February 13, 2018.⁴ On February 16, 2018, based on a telephone conversation between Commerce and counsel to the petitioner, the petitioner agreed to certain clarifications to the scope.⁵

In accordance with section 732(b) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act), the petitioner alleges that imports of rubber bands from China, Sri Lanka, and Thailand are being, or are likely to be, sold in the United States at less than fair value within the meaning of section 731 of the Act, and that such imports are materially injuring, or threatening material injury to, the domestic industry producing rubber bands in the United States. Consistent with section 732(b)(1) of the Act, the Petitions are accompanied by information reasonably available to the petitioner supporting its allegations.

Commerce finds that the petitioner filed the Petitions on behalf of the

from Sri Lanka: Supplemental Questions" (Sri Lanka AD Supplemental Questionnaire); and "Petition for the Imposition of Antidumping Duties on Imports of Rubber Bands from Thailand: Supplemental Questions" (Thailand AD Supplemental Questionnaire). All four of these documents are dated February 2, 2018. See also Commerce's memoranda, "Petitions for the Imposition of Antidumping and Countervailing Duties on Rubber Bands from the People's Republic of China, Sri Lanka, and Thailand: Phone Call with Counsel to the Petitioner" (Second General Issues Supplemental Questionnaire); "Petition for the Imposition of Antidumping Duties on Rubber Bands from the People's Republic of China: Phone Call with Counsel to the Petitioner" (China Second AD Supplemental Questionnaire); "Petition for the Imposition of Antidumping Duties on Rubber Bands from the Sri Lanka: Phone Call with Counsel to the Petitioner" (Sri Lanka Second AD Supplemental Questionnaire); and "Petition for the Imposition of Antidumping Duties on Rubber Bands from Thailand: Phone Call with Counsel to the Petitioner" (Thailand Second AD Supplemental Questionnaire). All four of these documents are dated February 12, 2018.

⁴ See the petitioner's separate letters regarding General Issues, China, Sri Lanka and Thailand, each entitled, "Petition for the Imposition of Antidumping and Countervailing Duties on Rubber Bands from Thailand, China and Sri Lanka—Responses to Supplemental Questionnaires" (respectively, General Issues Supplement, Sri Lanka AD Supplement, China AD Supplement, and Thailand AD Supplement). All four of these documents are dated February 8, 2018. See also the petitioner's separate letters regarding General Issues, China, Sri Lanka, and Thailand, each entitled, "Petition for the Imposition of Antidumping and Countervailing Duties on Rubber Bands from Thailand, China and Sri Lanka—Supplemental Responses to Supplemental Questionnaires: Responses of Petitioner Alliance Rubber Co. to Department of Commerce's February 12, 2018 General Issues Questionnaire" (respectively, Second General Issues Supplement, Second China AD Supplement, Second Sri Lanka AD Supplement, and Second Thailand AD Supplement). All four of these documents are dated February 13, 2018.

⁵ See memorandum, "Phone Call with Counsel to the Petitioner Regarding Scope Clarification," dated February 16, 2018 (Scope Clarification Memorandum).

domestic industry because the petitioner is an interested party as defined in section 771(9)(C) of the Act. Commerce also finds that the petitioner demonstrated sufficient industry support with respect to the initiation of the AD investigations that the petitioner is requesting.⁶

Periods of Investigation

Because the Petitions were filed on January 30, 2018, pursuant to 19 CFR 351.204(b)(1), the period of investigation (POI) for the Sri Lanka and Thailand investigations is January 1, 2017, through December 31, 2017. Because China is a non-market economy (NME) country, pursuant to 19 CFR 351.204(b)(1), the POI for the China investigation is July 1, 2017, through December 31, 2017.

Scope of the Investigations

The products covered by these investigations are rubber bands from China, Sri Lanka, and Thailand. For a full description of the scope of these investigations, see the Appendix to this notice.

Comments on Scope of the Investigations

During our review of the Petitions, Commerce issued questions to, and received responses from, the petitioner pertaining to the proposed scope to ensure that the scope language in the Petitions is an accurate reflection of the products for which the domestic industry is seeking relief.⁷ As a result of these exchanges, the scope of the Petitions was modified to clarify the description of merchandise covered by the Petitions. The description of the merchandise covered by this initiation, as described in the Appendix to this notice, reflects these clarifications.

As discussed in the preamble to Commerce's regulations, we are setting aside a period for interested parties to raise issues regarding product coverage (scope).⁸ Commerce will consider all comments received from interested parties and, if necessary, will consult with interested parties prior to the issuance of the preliminary determinations. If scope comments include factual information,⁹ all such factual information should be limited to

⁶ See the "Determination of Industry Support for the Petitions" section, *infra*.

⁷ See General Issues Supplemental Questionnaire, at 3-4 and Second General Issues Supplemental Questionnaire; see also General Issues Supplement at 4-6, and Second General Issues Supplement at 1; and Scope Clarification Memorandum.

⁸ See *Antidumping Duties; Countervailing Duties; Final Rule*, 62 FR 27296, 27323 (May 19, 1997).

⁹ See 19 CFR 351.102(b)(21) (defining "factual information").