

governments; Federal Government; and Universities.

- *Estimated Number of Respondents:* 2,001,550.

- *Estimated Time per Response:* Varied, dependent upon the data collection method used. The possible response time to complete a questionnaire or survey may be 3 minutes or up to 1.5 hours to participate in an interview.

- *Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:* 101,125.

- *Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public:* \$0.

C. Public Comments

The Department of State invites comments on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection; they also will become a matter of public record.

Zachary Parker,
Director.

[FR Doc. 2020-15285 Filed 7-14-20; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710-24-P

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

Notice of Product Exclusion Amendments: China's Acts, Policies, and Practices Related to Technology Transfer, Intellectual Property, and Innovation

AGENCY: Office of the United States Trade Representative.

ACTION: Notice of product exclusion amendments.

SUMMARY: In September 2018, the U.S. Trade Representative imposed additional duties on goods of China with an annual trade value of approximately \$200 billion as part of the action in the Section 301 investigation of China's acts, policies, and practices related to technology

transfer, intellectual property, and innovation. The U.S. Trade Representative initiated a product exclusion process in June 2019, and interested persons have submitted requests for the exclusion of specific products. This notice announces the U.S. Trade Representative's determination to make technical amendments to previously announced exclusions.

DATES: The amendments announced in this notice are retroactive to the date of publication of the original exclusions.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For general questions about this notice, contact Associate General Counsel Philip Butler, Assistant General Counsel Megan Grimboll, or Director of Industrial Goods Justin Hoffmann at (202) 395-5725. For specific questions on customs classification or implementation of the product exclusions identified in the Annex to this notice, contact traderemedy@cbp.dhs.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

A. Background

For background on the proceedings in this investigation, please see prior notices including 82 FR 40213 (August 24, 2017), 83 FR 14906 (April 6, 2018), 83 FR 28710 (June 20, 2018), 83 FR 33608 (July 17, 2018), 83 FR 38760 (August 7, 2018), 83 FR 47974 (September 21, 2018), 83 FR 49153 (September 28, 2018), 83 FR 65198 (December 19, 2018), 84 FR 7966 (March 5, 2019), 84 FR 20459 (May 9, 2019), 84 FR 29576 (June 24, 2019), 84 FR 38717 (August 7, 2019), 84 FR 46212 (September 3, 2019), 84 FR 49591 (September 20, 2019), 84 FR 57803 (October 28, 2019), 84 FR 61674 (November 13, 2019), 84 FR 65882 (November 29, 2019), 84 FR 69012 (December 17, 2019), 85 FR 549 (January 6, 2020), 85 FR 6674 (February 5, 2020), 85 FR 9921 (February 20, 2020), 85 FR 15015 (March 16, 2020), 85 FR 17158 (March 26, 2020), 85 FR 23122 (April 24, 2020), 85 FR 27489 (May 8, 2020), 85 FR 32094 (May 28, 2020), and 85 FR 38000 (June 24, 2020).

Effective September 24, 2018, the U.S. Trade Representative imposed additional 10 percent *ad valorem* duties on goods of China classified in 5,757 full and partial subheadings of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS), with an approximate annual trade value of \$200 billion. See 83 FR 47974, as modified by 83 FR 49153. In May 2019, the U.S. Trade Representative increased the additional duty to 25 percent. See 84 FR 20459. On June 24, 2019, the U.S. Trade

Representative established a process by which stakeholders could request exclusion of particular products classified within an eight-digit HTSUS subheading covered by the \$200 billion action from the additional duties. See 84 FR 29576 (June 24 notice).

Under the June 24 notice, requests for exclusion had to identify the product subject to the request in terms of the physical characteristics that distinguish the product from other products within the relevant eight-digit HTSUS subheading covered by the \$200 billion action. Requestors also had to provide the ten-digit HTSUS subheading most applicable to the particular product requested for exclusion, and could submit information on the ability of U.S. Customs and Border Protection to administer the requested exclusion. Requestors were asked to provide the quantity and value of the Chinese-origin product that the requestor purchased in the last three years. With regard to the rationale for the requested exclusion, requestors had to address the following factors:

- Whether the particular product is available only from China and specifically whether the particular product and/or a comparable product is available from sources in the United States and/or third countries.
- Whether the imposition of additional duties on the particular product would cause severe economic harm to the requestor or other U.S. interests.
- Whether the particular product is strategically important or related to "Made in China 2025" or other Chinese industrial programs.

The June 24 notice stated that the U.S. Trade Representative would take into account whether an exclusion would undermine the objective of the Section 301 investigation.

The June 24 notice required submission of requests for exclusion from the \$200 billion action no later than September 30, 2019, and noted that the U.S. Trade Representative periodically would announce decisions. In August 2019, the U.S. Trade Representative granted an initial set of exclusion requests. See 84 FR 38717. The U.S. Trade Representative granted additional exclusions in September, October, November and December 2019, and in January, February, March, April, May and June 2020. See 84 FR 49591; 84 FR 57803; 84 FR 61674; 84 FR 65882; 84 FR 69012; 85 FR 549; 85 FR 6674; 85 FR 9921; 85 FR 15015; 85 FR 17158; 85 FR 23122; 85 FR 27489; 85 FR 32094; and 85 FR 38000. The Office of the United States Trade Representative regularly updates the status of each

pending request on the Exclusions Portal at <https://exclusions.ustr.gov/s/docket?docketNumber=USTR-2019-0005>.

B. Technical Amendments to Exclusions

The Annex contains 14 technical amendments to U.S. notes 20(II)(24) and (25); U.S. notes 20(vv)(71) and (116); U.S. notes 20(xx)(20), (43), and (44); U.S. notes 20(yy)(75), (113), (116), (117), (118), and (138); and U.S. note 20(aaa)(47) to subchapter III of chapter 99 of the HTSUS, as set out in the Annexes of the notices published at 84 FR 57803 (October 28, 2019), 85 FR 17158 (Match 26, 2020), 85 FR 23122 (April 24, 2020), 85 FR 27489 (May 8, 2020), and 85 FR 32094 (May 28, 2020). The Annex also makes three additional amendments to accommodate conforming changes to the HTSUS: U.S. note 20(qq)(35), U.S. note 20(vv)(79), and U.S. note 20(aaa)(49) to subchapter III of chapter 99 of the HTSUS, published at 85 FR 6674 (February 5, 2020), 85 FR 17158 (Match 26, 2020), and 85 FR 32094 (May 28, 2020).

As stated in the September 20, 2019 notice, the exclusions apply from September 24, 2018 to August 7, 2020. U.S. Customs and Border Protection will issue instructions on entry guidance and implementation.

The U.S. Trade Representative will continue to issue determinations on pending requests on a periodic basis.

Annex

Effective with respect to goods entered for consumption, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, on or after 12:01 a.m. eastern daylight time on September 24, 2018, subchapter III of chapter 99 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) is modified:

1. U.S. note 20(II)(24) to subchapter III of chapter 99 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States is modified by deleting “valued not over \$0.10 per kg” and inserting “valued not over \$0.05 per piece” in lieu thereof.

2. U.S. note 20(II)(25) to subchapter III of chapter 99 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States is modified by deleting “valued not over \$0.10 per kg” and inserting “valued not over \$0.07 per piece” in lieu thereof.

3. U.S. note 20(vv)(71) to subchapter III of chapter 99 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States is modified by deleting “with adhesive on one side, in rectangular sheets having rounded corners, each measuring 55 mm by 120 mm but no more than 212 mm by 278 mm and at least 0.51 mm but no more than 0.55 mm in thickness”

and inserting “transparent, cut, and treated, with adhesive on one side, in rectangular sheets, each weighing at least 6 g but not more than 77 g, each measuring not less than 2.8 cm but not more than 28 cm in height, not less than 1.9 cm but not more than 21 cm in width, and not more than 0.1 cm in thickness” in lieu thereof.

4. U.S. note 20(vv)(116) to subchapter III of chapter 99 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States is modified by deleting “incorporating permanent split capacitors,” and inserting “whether or not incorporating permanent split capacitors,” in lieu thereof.

5. U.S. note 20(xx)(20) to subchapter III of chapter 99 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States is modified by deleting “without hydration systems,”.

6. U.S. note 20(xx)(43) to subchapter III of chapter 99 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States is modified by deleting “each measuring no less than 328 mm by 127 mm by 107 mm and no more than 352 mm by 209 mm by 162 mm” and inserting “each measuring no less than 323 mm by 122 mm by 102 mm and no more than 357 mm by 214 mm by 167 mm” in lieu thereof.

7. U.S. note 20(xx)(44) to subchapter III of chapter 99 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States is modified by deleting “each measuring not less than 350 mm by 127 mm by 107 mm and not more than 350 mm by 168 mm by 140 mm, of an output of 115 W to 280 W, and weighing at least 1.85 kg and no more than 2.08 kg” and inserting “each measuring not less than 345 mm by 122 mm by 102 mm and not more than 355 mm by 173 mm by 145 mm, of an output of 100 W to 285 W, and weighing at least 1.80 kg but no more than 2.72 kg” in lieu thereof.

8. U.S. note 20(yy)(75) to subchapter III of chapter 99 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States is modified by deleting “with 89 mm pump and 11 gauge steel forks” and inserting “with a pump measuring between 89 mm and 105 mm and steel forks with a Gauge Range between 9–12” in lieu thereof.

9. U.S. note 20(yy)(113) to subchapter III of chapter 99 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States is modified by deleting “suitable for use in automatic transmission systems for passenger motor vehicles (described in statistical reporting number 8708.99.6890)” and inserting “(described in statistical reporting number 8708.40.7570)” in lieu thereof.

10. U.S. note 20(yy)(116) to subchapter III of chapter 99 of the

Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States is modified by deleting “suitable for use in automatic transmission systems for passenger motor vehicles (described in statistical reporting number 8708.99.6890)” and inserting “(described in statistical reporting number 8708.40.7570)” in lieu thereof.

11. U.S. note 20(yy)(117) to subchapter III of chapter 99 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States is modified by deleting “suitable for use in automatic transmission systems for passenger motor vehicles (described in statistical reporting number 8708.99.6890)” and inserting “(described in statistical reporting number 8708.40.7570)” in lieu thereof.

12. U.S. note 20(yy)(118) to subchapter III of chapter 99 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States is modified by deleting “suitable for use in automatic transmission systems for passenger motor vehicles (described in statistical reporting number 8708.99.6890)” and inserting “(described in statistical reporting number 8708.40.7570)” in lieu thereof.

13. U.S. note 20(yy)(138) to subchapter III of chapter 99 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States is modified by deleting “not more than 25.4 cm in height” and inserting “not more than 45 cm in height” in lieu thereof.

14. U.S. note 20(aaa)(47) to subchapter III of chapter 99 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States is modified by deleting “for assembly in cuplock configurations” and inserting “for assembly in ringlock or cuplock configurations” in lieu thereof.

15. U.S. note 20(qq)(35) to subchapter III of chapter 99 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States is modified by deleting “(described in statistical reporting number 4823.90.8600)” and inserting “(described in statistical reporting number 4823.90.8600 prior to July 1, 2020; described in statistical reporting number 4823.90.8680 effective July 1, 2020)” in lieu thereof.

16. U.S. note 20 (vv)(79) to subchapter III of chapter 99 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States is modified by deleting “(described in statistical reporting number 7310.10.0010)” and inserting “(described in statistical reporting number 7310.10.0010) prior to July 1, 2020; described in statistical reporting number 7310.10.0015 effective July 1, 2020)” in lieu thereof.

17. U.S. note 20(aaa)(49) to subchapter III of chapter 99 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States is modified by deleting “(described in statistical reporting number 7310.10.0010)” and inserting “(described in statistical reporting number 7310.10.0010 prior to July 1, 2020; described in statistical reporting number 7310.10.0015 effective July 1, 2020)” in lieu thereof.

Joseph Barloon,

General Counsel, Office of the U.S. Trade Representative.

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OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

Notice of Product Exclusion Amendment: China’s Acts, Policies, and Practices Related to Technology Transfer, Intellectual Property, and Innovation

AGENCY: Office of the United States Trade Representative.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Effective July 6, 2018, the U.S. Trade Representative imposed additional duties on goods of China with an annual trade value of approximately \$34 billion as part of the action in the Section 301 investigation of China’s acts, policies, and practices related to technology transfer, intellectual property, and innovation. The U.S. Trade Representative’s determination included a decision to establish a product exclusion process, which was initiated in July 2018. Stakeholders submitted requests for the exclusion of specific products and the U.S. Trade Representative has issued determinations to grant exclusion requests. This notice announces the U.S. Trade Representative’s determination to make a technical amendment to a previously granted exclusion.

DATES: This technical amendment is retroactive to the date of publication of the original exclusion and does not extend the period for the original exclusion. U.S. Customs and Border Protection will issue instructions on entry guidance and implementation.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For general questions about this notice, contact Associate General Counsel Philip Butler or Director of Industrial Goods Justin Hoffmann at (202) 395–5725. For specific questions on customs classification or implementation of the product exclusions identified in the

Annex to this notice, contact traderemedy@cbp.dhs.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

A. Background

For background on the proceedings in this investigation, please see prior notices including 82 FR 40213 (August 24, 2017), 83 FR 14906 (April 6, 2018), 83 FR 28710 (June 20, 2018), 83 FR 33608 (July 17, 2018), 83 FR 38760 (August 7, 2018), 83 FR 40823 (August 16, 2018), 83 FR 47974 (September 21, 2018), 83 FR 65198 (December 19, 2018), 83 FR 67463 (December 28, 2018), 84 FR 7966 (March 5, 2019), 84 FR 11152 (March 25, 2019), 84 FR 16310 (April 18, 2019), 84 FR 21389 (May 14, 2019), 84 FR 25895 (June 4, 2019), 84 FR 32821 (July 9, 2019), 84 FR 49564 (September 20, 2019), 84 FR 52567 (October 2, 2019), 84 FR 69016 (December 17, 2019), 85 FR 7816 (February 11, 2020), 85 FR 28692 (May 13, 2020), and 85 FR 35158 (June 8, 2020).

Effective July 6, 2018, the U.S. Trade Representative imposed additional 25 percent duties on goods of China classified in 818 eight-digit subheadings of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS), with an approximate annual trade value of \$34 billion. *See* 83 FR 28710. The U.S. Trade Representative’s determination included a decision to establish a process by which U.S. stakeholders could request exclusion of particular products classified within an eight-digit HTSUS subheading covered by the \$34 billion action from the additional duties. The U.S. Trade Representative issued a notice setting out the process for the product exclusions and opened a public docket. *See* 83 FR 32181 (the July 11 notice).

Under the July 11 notice, requests for exclusion had to identify the product subject to the request in terms of the physical characteristics that distinguish the product from other products within the relevant eight-digit subheading covered by the \$34 billion action. Requestors also had to provide the ten-digit subheading of the HTSUS most applicable to the particular product requested for exclusion, and could submit information on the ability of U.S. Customs and Border Protection to administer the requested exclusion. Requestors were asked to provide the quantity and value of the Chinese-origin product that the requestor purchased in the last three years. With regard to the rationale for the requested exclusion, requestors had to address the following factors:

- Whether the particular product is available only from China and,

specifically, whether the particular product and/or a comparable product is available from sources in the United States and/or third countries.

- Whether the imposition of additional duties on the particular product would cause severe economic harm to the requestor or other U.S. interests.

- Whether the particular product is strategically important or related to “Made in China 2025” or other Chinese industrial programs.

The July 11 notice stated that the U.S. Trade Representative would take into account whether an exclusion would undermine the objective of the Section 301 investigation.

The July 11 notice required submission of requests for exclusion from the \$34 billion action no later than October 9, 2018, and noted that the U.S. Trade Representative periodically would announce decisions. In December 2018, the U.S. Trade Representative granted an initial set of exclusion requests. *See* 83 FR 67463. The U.S. Trade Representative announced additional determinations in March, April, May, June, July, September, October, and December 2019; and February, May, and June 2020. *See* 84 FR 11152; 84 FR 16310; 84 FR 21389; 84 FR 25895; 84 FR 32821; 84 FR 49564; 84 FR 52567; 84 FR 69016; 85 FR 7816; 85 FR 28692; and 85 FR 35158.

B. Technical Amendments to Exclusions

The Annex to this notice makes one technical amendment to U.S. note 20(x)(97) to subchapter III of chapter 99 of the HTSUS, as set out in the Annex of the notice published at 85 FR 7816 (February 11, 2020).

The U.S. Trade Representative will continue to issue determinations on a periodic basis as needed.

Annex

Effective with respect to goods entered for consumption, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, on or after 12:01 a.m. eastern daylight time on July 6, 2018, and before October 2, 2020:

1. U.S. note 20(x)(97) to subchapter III of chapter 99 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States, is modified by deleting “Multi-phase AC motors of an output of at least 5.8 kW but not exceeding 14.92 kW, each assembled with planetary gears and a gearbox (described in statistical reporting number 8501.52.4000).”

Joseph Barloon,

General Counsel, Office of the United States Trade Representative.

[FR Doc. 2020–15289 Filed 7–14–20; 8:45 am]

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