

Quarterly Update to Annual Listing of Foreign Government Subsidies on Articles of Cheese Subject to an In-Quota Rate of Duty

AGENCY: Import Administration, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Publication of Quarterly Update to Annual Listing of Foreign Government Subsidies on Articles of Cheese Subject to an In-Quota Rate of Duty.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce (the Department), in consultation with the Secretary of Agriculture, has prepared a quarterly update to its annual list of foreign government subsidies on articles of cheese subject to an in-quota rate of duty. We are publishing the current listing of those subsidies that we have determined exist.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 1996.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Brian Albright or Maria MacKay, Office of Countervailing Compliance, Import

Administration, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20230, telephone: (202) 482-2786.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 702(a) of the Trade Agreements Act of 1979 (as amended)(the Act) requires the Department to determine, in consultation with the Secretary of Agriculture, whether any foreign government is providing a subsidy with respect to any article of cheese subject to an in-quota rate of duty, as defined in section 702(h)(4) of the Act, and to publish an annual list and quarterly updates of the type and amount of those subsidies.

The Department has developed, in consultation with the Secretary of Agriculture, information on subsidies (as defined in section 702(h)(2) of the Act) being provided either directly or indirectly by foreign governments on articles of cheese subject to an in-quota rate of duty. The appendix to this notice

lists the country, the subsidy program or programs, and the gross and net amounts of each subsidy for which information is currently available.

The Department will incorporate additional programs which are found to constitute subsidies, and additional information on the subsidy programs listed, as the information is developed.

The Department encourages any person having information on foreign government subsidy programs which benefit articles of cheese subject to an in-quota rate of duty to submit such information in writing to the Assistant Secretary for Import Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20230.

This determination and notice are in accordance with section 702(a) of the Act.

Dated: June 25, 1996.

Robert S. LaRussa,

Acting Assistant Secretary for Import Administration.

APPENDIX.—SUBSIDY PROGRAMS ON CHEESE SUBJECT TO AN IN-QUOTA RATE OF DUTY

Country	Program(s)	Gross ¹ Subsidy (cents per pound)	Net ² Subsidy (cents per pound)
Austria	European Union (EU) Restitution Payments	32.6	32.6
Belgium	EU Restitution Payments	29.4	29.4
Canada	Export Assistance on Certain Types of Cheese	25.5	25.5
Denmark	EU Restitution Payments	30.5	30.5
Finland	EU Restitution Payments	30.4	30.4
France	EU Restitution Payments	28.5	28.5
Germany	EU Restitution Payments	32.2	32.2
Greece	EU Restitution Payments	0.00	0.00
Ireland	EU Restitution Payments	29.1	29.1
Italy	EU Restitution Payments	56.5	56.5
Luxembourg	EU Restitution Payments	29.4	29.4
Netherlands	EU Restitution Payments	27.6	27.6
Norway	Indirect (Milk) Subsidy	19.1	19.1
	Consumer Subsidy	42.3	42.3
		61.4	61.4
Portugal	EU Restitution Payments	28.1	28.1
Spain	EU Restitution Payments	28.9	28.9
Switzerland	Deficiency Payments	182.2	182.2
U.K.	EU Restitution Payments	29.7	29.7

¹ Defined in 19 U.S.C. 1677(5).

² Defined in 19 U.S.C. 1677(6).

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[C-559-802]

Antifriction Bearings and Parts Thereof (AFBs.) From Singapore; Termination of Countervailing Duty Administrative Reviews

AGENCY: Import Administration, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of termination of countervailing duty administrative reviews.

SUMMARY: On June 15, 1995 (60 FR 31447), in response to a request from the Government of Singapore (GOS) and the Minebea group of companies (NMB Singapore Ltd., Pelmech Industries Pte. Ltd., Minebea Trading Pte. Ltd., and Minebea Company Limited Singapore Branch), the Department of Commerce (the Department) initiated administrative reviews of the countervailing duty orders on

antifriction bearings and parts thereof from Singapore for the Minebea group. In accordance with 19 CFR 355.22(a)(5) (Interim Regulations, 60 FR 25137, (May 11, 1995)), the Department is now terminating these reviews because the GOS and the Minebea group have withdrawn their request for reviews.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 1996.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Brian Albright or Norma Paola Hernández, Office of Countervailing Compliance, Import Administration, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th

Street and Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482-2786.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On May 31, 1995, the Department received a request for administrative reviews of these countervailing duty orders from the GOS and the Minebea group, producers and exporters of the subject merchandise from Singapore, for the period January 1, 1994, through December 31, 1994. No other interested party requested reviews of the countervailing duty order. On June 15, 1995, the Department published in the Federal Register (60 FR 31447) a notice of "Initiation of Countervailing Duty Administrative Reviews" initiating administrative reviews of the countervailing duty orders on the Minebea group for that period. On June 16, 1996, the GOS and the Minebea group withdrew their request for reviews.

Section 355.22(a)(5) of the Department's regulations stipulates that the Secretary may permit a party that requests a review to withdraw the request not later than 90 days after the date of publication of the notice of initiation of the requested review. This regulation also provides that the Secretary may extend the time limit for withdrawal of the request if it is reasonable to do so.

Based on a statement of no further interest in the orders filed by the petitioner, the Department completed changed circumstances reviews and revoked these orders effective January 1, 1995. (See Antifriction Bearings and Parts Thereof from Singapore; Final Results of Changed Circumstances Countervailing Duty Reviews and Revocation Countervailing Duty Orders, 61 FR 20796, May 8, 1996). Further, no other interested party requested reviews of the countervailing duty orders in this case, and we have received no submissions regarding the GOS and the Minebea group's withdrawal of their request for reviews. Therefore, under the circumstances presented in these reviews, we are waiving the 90-day requirement in section 355.22(a)(5) of the Department's regulations. Accordingly, we are terminating these reviews of the countervailing duty orders on antifriction bearings and parts thereof from Singapore.

This notice is published in accordance with 19 CFR 355.22(a)(5).

Dated: June 25, 1996.
Joseph A. Spetrini,
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Compliance.
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National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 062596A]

RIN 0648-AH58

Atlantic Coast Weakfish; Intent to Prepare a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare a supplemental environmental impact statement (SEIS); request for written comments.

SUMMARY: NMFS announces its intent to prepare an SEIS to assess the impact of Atlantic Coast weakfish harvests and possible proposed regulations on the natural and human environment. This notice of intent requests public input (written comments) on issues that NMFS should consider in preparing the SEIS. In addition, the SEIS will examine specific recommendations to the Secretary of Commerce (Secretary) by the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (Commission) in its Amendment 3 to the Fishery Management Plan For Weakfish (Plan) and new stock assessment information. Public hearings for the SEIS will be scheduled at a later date. This notice also references the published Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) information and announces that NMFS is considering measures for the 1996 fishing year and beyond for the Atlantic Coast weakfish fishery in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ).

DATES: Written comments on the intent to prepare the SEIS will be accepted until July 22, 1996. Public hearings will be announced in the Federal Register at a later date.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be sent to: Richard H. Schaefer, Director, Office of Fisheries Conservation and Management (F/CM), National Marine Fisheries Service, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Tom Meyer, telephone (301) 713-2339.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Section 804(b) of the Atlantic Coastal Fisheries Cooperative Management Act (ACFCMA) enacted in December 1993,

(Public Law 103-206) states that, in the absence of an approved and implemented fishery management plan (FMP) under the Magnuson Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson Act), 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*, and after consultation with the appropriate Fishery Management Council(s) (Council), the Secretary of Commerce (Secretary) may implement regulations to govern fishing in the EEZ that are:

1. Necessary to support the effective implementation of an Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (Commission) coastal fishery management plan (CFMP); and

2. Consistent with the national standards set forth in section 301 of the Magnuson Act (16 U.S.C. 1851).

These regulations may include measures recommended by the Commission to the Secretary that are necessary to support the provisions of a CFMP. Regulations issued by the Secretary to implement an approved FMP prepared by the appropriate Council(s) or the Secretary under the Magnuson Act shall supersede any conflicting regulations issued by the Secretary under section 804(b) of ACFCMA.

The provisions of sections 307 through 311 of the Magnuson Act (16 U.S.C. 1857 through 1861) regarding prohibited acts, civil penalties, criminal offenses, civil forfeitures, and enforcement shall apply with respect to regulations issued under section 804(b) of ACFCMA as if such regulations were issued under the Magnuson Act.

In accordance with the ACFCMA, the Secretary of Commerce (Secretary) implemented a final rule, after publishing an FEIS, to impose a moratorium on fishing for weakfish in the EEZ, Federal Register (60 FR 58246) on November 27, 1995. However, the rule was vacated by the U.S. Federal District Court, Norfolk, Virginia, on February 16, 1996. The basis for the court's decision was that the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission's (Commission) Fishery Management Plan For Weakfish (FMP) did not contain recommendations to the Secretary and, therefore, cannot be considered a valid FMP under the Act.

The regulations have not been enforced since the judge issued his order.

The Commission has recently adopted Amendment 3 to the FMP (Amendment 3); it includes the following specific recommendations for Secretarial action in the EEZ to support the Commission's FMP: