

this review was initiated, or within 45 days if all parties agree to our preliminary determination. See section 351.216(e) of the Department's regulations.

If final revocation occurs, we will instruct the U.S. Customs Service to end the suspension of liquidation for the merchandise covered by the revocation effective on or after January 4, 1999, the date of publication of the Department's preliminary LTFV determination (64 FR 108) and to release any cash deposit or bond. See section 351.222(g)(4) of the Department's regulations. The current requirement for a cash deposit of estimated antidumping duties on all subject merchandise will continue unless and until it is modified pursuant to the final results of this changed circumstance review.

This initiation of review and notice are in accordance with sections 751(b) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.216, 351.221, and 351.222.

Dated: October 19, 2000.

**Troy H. Cribb,**

*Acting Assistant Secretary for Import Administration.*

[FR Doc. 00-27685 Filed 10-26-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-DS-P

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### International Trade Administration

[A-557-810, A-570-859]

#### Notice of Postponement of Final Antidumping Duty Determinations: Steel Wire Rope From Malaysia and the People's Republic of China

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

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** October 27, 2000.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** James Kemp or Tracy Levstik, AD/CVD Enforcement, Office 5, Group II, Import Administration, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20230; telephone (202) 482-1276 and (202) 482-2815, respectively.

#### *Postponement of Final Determinations*

The Department of Commerce (the Department) is postponing the final determinations in the antidumping duty investigations of steel wire rope from Malaysia and the People's Republic of China (PRC).

On March 17, 2000, the Department initiated antidumping investigations of steel wire rope from India, Malaysia, the

PRC, and Thailand.<sup>1</sup> See *Initiation of Antidumping Duty Investigations: Steel Wire Rope from India, Malaysia, the People's Republic of China, and Thailand*, 65 FR 16173 (March 27, 2000). On September 25, 2000, we issued the preliminary determinations of these investigations. See *Notice of Preliminary Determinations of Sales at Less Than Fair Value: Steel Wire Rope from India and the People's Republic of China; Notice of Preliminary Determination of Sales at Not Less Than Fair Value: Steel Wire Rope from Malaysia*, 65 FR 58736 (October 2, 2000). The notice stated that the Department would issue its final determinations for the Malaysian and PRC cases no later than 75 days after the date of the preliminary determinations. The notice also stated that we extended the deadline for issuance of the final determination in the Indian case to no later than 135 days after the date of publication of the preliminary determination.

On September 27, 2000, the Committee of Domestic Steel Wire Rope and Specialty Cable Manufacturers (the petitioners) requested that the Department postpone the issuance of the final determination in the investigation of steel wire rope from Malaysia. On October 4, 2000, Fasten Group Import and Export Co., Ltd. (Fasten), a respondent in the PRC case, accounting for a significant proportion of exports of the merchandise subject to the investigation, requested that the Department postpone the issuance of the final determination in the investigation of steel wire rope from the PRC. Fasten also requested an extension to the imposition of provisional measures.<sup>2</sup> The petitioners' and Fasten's requests for postponement were timely, and the Department finds no compelling reason to deny them.

Therefore, in accordance with section 735(a)(2) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended, we are postponing the deadline for issuing these determinations until February 14, 2001, which is 135 days after the date of the publication of the preliminary determinations.

<sup>1</sup> The International Trade Commission issued a negative preliminary determination in the case involving Thailand, on April 20, 2000. Therefore, that case was terminated.

<sup>2</sup> It was unnecessary to extend the provisional measures for the Malaysian case because Kiswire received a *de minimis* margin at the preliminary determination, and, therefore, liquidation has not been suspended for subject merchandise from Malaysia.

Dated: October 23, 2000.

**Troy H. Cribb,**

*Acting Assistant Secretary for Import Administration.*

[FR Doc. 00-27686 Filed 10-26-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-DS-P

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### International Trade Administration

[C-475-815]

#### Seamless Carbon and Alloy Steel Standard, Line and Pressure Pipe From Italy; Preliminary Results of Sunset Review of Countervailing Duty Order

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

**ACTION:** Notice of Preliminary Results of Full Sunset Review: Seamless Carbon and Alloy Steel Standard, Line and Pressure Pipe from Italy.

**SUMMARY:** On July 3, 2000, the Department of Commerce ("the Department") initiated a sunset review of the countervailing duty order on seamless carbon and alloy steel standard, line and pressure pipe ("seamless pipe") from Italy (65 FR 41053) pursuant to section 751(c) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended ("the Act"). On the basis of substantive responses filed by domestic and respondent interested parties, the Department determined to conduct a full review. As a result of this review, the Department preliminarily finds that revocation of the countervailing duty order would likely lead to continuation or recurrence of subsidies at the levels indicated in the Preliminary Results of Review section of this notice.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** October 27, 2000.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Kathryn B. McCormick or James Maeder, Office of Policy for Import Administration, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482-1930 or (202) 482-3330, respectively.

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

##### **Statute and Regulations**

This review is being conducted pursuant to sections 751(c) and 752 of the Act. The Department's procedures for the conduct of sunset reviews are set forth in *Procedures for Conducting Five-year ("Sunset") Reviews of Countervailing and Countervailing Duty Orders*, 63 FR 13516 (March 20, 1998)

("Sunset Regulations") and in 19 CFR part 351 (2000) in general. Guidance on methodological or analytical issues relevant to the Department's conduct of sunset reviews is set forth in the Department's Policy Bulletin 98.3—*Policies Regarding the Conduct of Five-year ("Sunset") Reviews of Countervailing and Countervailing Duty Orders*; Policy Bulletin, 63 FR 18871 (April 16, 1998) ("Sunset Policy Bulletin").

### Background

On July 3, 2000, the Department initiated a sunset review of the countervailing duty order on seamless pipe from Italy (65 FR 41053), pursuant to section 751(c) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended, ("the Act"). The Department received a notice of intent to participate on behalf of U.S. Steel Group, a unit of USX Corporation, and Vision Metals, Inc. (collectively, "domestic interested parties"), within the applicable deadline (July 18, 2000) specified in section 351.218(d)(1)(i) of the *Sunset Regulations*. Domestic interested parties claimed interested-party status under section 771(9)(C) of the Act, as U.S. manufacturers of the domestic like product. Vision Metals, Inc., formerly the Gulf States Tube Division of Quanex Corporation, was a petitioner in the investigation and has been involved in this proceeding since its inception (see August 2, 2000, Substantive Response of domestic interested parties at 3).

On August 1, 2000, we received a response from the European Union Delegation of the European Commission ("EC") expressing its willingness to participate in this review as the authority responsible for defending the interest of the Member States of the European Union ("EU") (see August 1, 2000, Response of the EC at 2). On August 2, 2000, we received a response from the Government of Italy ("GOI") expressing its willingness to participate in this review as the government of a country in which subject merchandise is produced and exported. The GOI and EC note that they have in the past participated in this proceeding (see August 1, 2000, Response of the EC at 2, and the August 2, 2000, Response of the GOI at 2).

On August 2, 2000, we received a complete substantive response from domestic interested parties, within the 30-day deadline specified in the *Sunset Regulations* under section 351.218(d)(3)(i), and a complete substantive response from Dalmine S.p.A. ("Dalmine"), a foreign producer and exporter of the subject merchandise,

and a respondent interested party under section 771(9)(A) of the Act.

We received rebuttal comments from domestic interested parties and Dalmine, on August 8, 2000, and August 7, 2000, respectively. Pursuant to 19 CFR 351.218(e)(2)(i), the Department determined to conduct a full (240-day) sunset review of this order.<sup>1</sup>

### Scope of Review

See Appendix.

### Analysis of Comments Received

All issues raised in the substantive responses and rebuttals by parties to this sunset review are addressed in the "Issues and Decision Memorandum" ("Decision Memorandum") from Jeffrey A. May, Director, Office of Policy, Import Administration, to Troy H. Cribb, Acting Assistant Secretary for Import Administration, dated October 23, 2000, which is hereby adopted by this notice. The issues discussed in the attached Decision Memorandum include the likelihood of continuation or recurrence of countervailable subsidies and the net subsidy likely to prevail were the order revoked. Parties can find a complete discussion of all issues raised in this review and the corresponding recommendations in this public memorandum which is on file in the Central Records Unit, room B-099, of the main Commerce building.

In addition, a complete version of the Decision Memorandum can be accessed directly on the Web at <http://ia.ita.doc.gov/frn>, under the heading "Italy." The paper copy and electronic version of the Decision Memorandum are identical in content.

### Preliminary Results of Review

We preliminarily determine that revocation of the countervailing duty order on seamless pipe from Italy would be likely to lead to continuation or recurrence of countervailable subsidy at the rate listed below:

Producers/exporters	Net countervailable subsidy (percent)
All producers/exporters from Italy .....	1.47

Any interested party may request a hearing within 30 days of publication of this notice in accordance with 19 CFR 351.310(c). Any hearing, if requested, will be held on December 17, 2000, in accordance with 19 CFR 351.310(d).

<sup>1</sup> See August 22, 2000, Memorandum for Jeffrey A. May, Re: Seamless Pipe from Italy; Adequacy of Respondent Interested Party Response to the Notice of Initiation.

Interested parties may submit case briefs no later than December 11, 2000, in accordance with 19 CFR 351.309(c)(1)(i). Rebuttal briefs, which must be limited to issues raised in the case briefs, may be filed not later than December 18, 2000. The Department will issue a notice of final results of this sunset review, which will include the results of its analysis of issues raised in any such briefs, no later than February 28, 2001.

This five-year ("sunset") review and notice are in accordance with sections 751(c), 752, and 777(i)(1) of the Act.

Dated: October 23, 2000.

**Troy H. Cribb,**

*Acting Assistant Secretary for Import Administration.*

### Appendix

The scope of this order includes small diameter seamless carbon and alloy standard, line and pressure pipes ("seamless pipes") produced to the American Society for Testing and Materials ("ASTM") standards A-335, A-106, A-53, and American Petroleum Institute ("API") standard API 5L specifications and meeting the physical parameters described below, regardless of application. The scope of this review also includes all products used in standard, line, or pressure pipe applications and meeting the physical parameters below, regardless of specification. For purposes of this review, seamless pipes are seamless carbon and alloy (other than stainless) steel pipes, of circular cross-section, not more than 114.3 mm (4.5 inches) in outside diameter, regardless of wall thickness, manufacturing process (hot-finished or cold-drawn), end finish (plain end, beveled end, upset end, threaded, or threaded and coupled), or surface finish. These pipes are commonly known as standard pipe, line pipe, or pressure pipe, depending upon the application. They may also be used in structural applications. Pipes produced in non-standard wall thicknesses are commonly referred to as tubes. The seamless pipes subject to this review are currently classifiable under subheadings 7304.10.10.20, 7304.10.50.20, 7304.31.60.50, 7304.39.00.16, 7304.39.00.20, 7304.39.00.24, 7304.39.00.28, 7304.39.00.32, 7304.51.50.05, 7304.51.50.60, 7304.59.60.00, 7304.59.80.10, 7304.59.80.15, 7304.59.80.20, and 7304.59.80.25 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States ("HTSUS").

The following information further defines the scope of this review, which covers pipes meeting the physical parameters described above: Specifications, Characteristics and Uses: Seamless pressure pipes are intended for the conveyance of water, steam, petrochemicals, chemicals, oil products, natural gas, and other liquids and gasses in industrial piping systems. They may carry these substances at elevated pressures and temperatures and may be subject to the application of external heat. Seamless carbon steel pressure pipe meeting the ASTM standard A-106 may be used in temperatures of up to 1000 degrees Fahrenheit, at various

American Society of Mechanical Engineers ("ASME") code stress levels. Alloy pipes made to ASTM standard A-335 must be used if temperatures and stress levels exceed those allowed for A-106 and the ASME codes. Seamless pressure pipes sold in the United States are commonly produced to the ASTM A-106 standard. Seamless standard pipes are most commonly produced to the ASTM A-53 specification and generally are not intended for high temperature service. They are intended for the low temperature and pressure conveyance of water, steam, natural gas, air and other liquids and gasses in plumbing and heating systems, air conditioning units, automatic sprinkler systems, and other related uses. Standard pipes (depending on type and code) may carry liquids at elevated temperatures but must not exceed relevant ASME code requirements. Seamless line pipes are intended for the conveyance of oil and natural gas or other fluids in pipe lines. Seamless line pipes are produced to the API 5L specification. Seamless pipes are commonly produced and certified to meet ASTM A-106, ASTM A-53 and API 5L specifications. Such triple certification of pipes is common because all pipes meeting the stringent ASTM A-106 specification necessarily meet the API 5L and ASTM A-53 specifications. Pipes meeting the API 5L specification necessarily meet the ASTM A-53 specification. However, pipes meeting the A-53 or API 5L specifications do not necessarily meet the A-106 specification. To avoid maintaining separate production runs and separate inventories, manufacturers triple-certify the pipes. Since distributors sell the vast majority of this product, they can thereby maintain a single inventory to service all customers. The primary application of ASTM A-106 pressure pipes and triple-certified pipes is in pressure piping systems by refineries, petrochemical plants and chemical plants. Other applications are in power generation plants (electrical-fossil fuel or nuclear), and in some oil field uses (on shore and off shore) such as for separator lines, gathering lines and metering runs. A minor application of this product is for use as oil and gas distribution lines for

commercial applications. These applications constitute the majority of the market for the subject seamless pipes. However, A-106 pipes may be used in some boiler applications. The scope of this review includes all seamless pipe meeting the physical parameters described above and produced to one of the specifications listed above, regardless of application, and whether or not also certified to a non-covered specification. Standard, line and pressure applications and the above-listed specifications are defining characteristics of the scope of this review. Therefore, seamless pipes meeting the physical description above, but not produced to the ASTM A-335, ASTM A-106, ASTM A-53, or API 5L standards shall be covered if used in a standard, line or pressure application. For example, there are certain other ASTM specifications of pipe which, because of overlapping characteristics, could potentially be used in A-106 applications. These specifications generally include A-162, A-192, A-210, A-333, and A-524. When such pipes are used in a standard, line or pressure pipe application, such products are covered by the scope of this review. Specifically excluded from this review are boiler tubing and mechanical tubing, if such products are not produced to ASTM A-335, ASTM A-106, ASTM A-53 or API 5L specifications and are not used in standard, line or pressure applications. In addition, finished and unfinished oil country tubular goods ("OCTG") are excluded from the scope of this review, if covered by the scope of another antidumping duty order from the same country. If not covered by such an OCTG order, finished and unfinished OCTG are included in this scope when used in standard, line or pressure applications. Finally, also excluded from this review are redraw hollows for cold-drawing when used in the production of cold-drawn pipe or tube. Although the HTSUS subheadings are provided for convenience and customs purposes, our written description of the scope of this order is dispositive.

[FR Doc. 00-27688 Filed 10-26-00; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-DS-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### International Trade Administration

#### Notice of Assignment and the Reaffirmation of Authority to Make Initial Denials Under the Freedom of Information Act

**AGENCY:** International Trade Administration, Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice of assignment and the reaffirmation of authority to make initial denials under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

**SUMMARY:** This assigns or reaffirms the authority of Department of Commerce, International Trade Administration officials listed in the attachment to make initial decisions with respect to public requests for ITA records under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Peter Han, Department of Commerce, International Trade Administration, Office of Organization and Management Support, 14th & Constitution Ave., NW., Room 4001, Washington, DC 20230.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The officials listed in the October 19, 2000 memorandum from Timothy J. Hauser, Deputy Under Secretary for International Trade, will be responsible for making initial decisions for records in accordance with FOIA.

Dated: October 20, 2000.

**Peter Han,**

*ITA Freedom of Information Officer, Office of Organization and Management Support.*

**BILLING CODE 3510-25-P**