DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
International Trade Administration

[A–570–090]

Certain Steel Nails from the People’s Republic of China: Extension of Time Limit for Preliminary Results of the First Antidumping Duty Administrative Review

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

EFFECTIVE DATE: March 26, 2010.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Emeka Chukwudebe or Matthew Renkey, AD/CVD Operations, Office 9, Import Administration, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482–0413 and (202) 482–0219 or (202) 482–2312, respectively.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On September 22, 2009, the Department of Commerce (“Department”) initiated the first administrative review of the antidumping duty order on certain steel nails from the PRC encompassing 158 companies for the period, January 23, 2008, to July 31, 2009. See Initiation of Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Administrative Reviews and Request for Revocation in Part, 74 FR 48224, (September 22, 2009) (“Initiation Notice”). On February 16, 2010, the Department issued a memorandum that tolled the deadlines for all Import Administration cases by seven calendar days due to the recent Federal Government closure. See Memorandum for the Record from Ronald Lorentzen, DAS for Import Administration, Tolling of Administrative Deadlines as a Result of the Government Closure During the Recent Snowstorm, dated February 12, 2010. As a result, the preliminary results are currently due on May 10, 2010.

Extension of Time Limits for Preliminary Results

Section 751(a)(3)(A) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (“Act”), and 19 CFR 351.213(h)(1) direct the Department to issue the preliminary results in an administrative review of an antidumping duty order 245 days after the last day of the anniversary month of the order for which the administrative review was requested. The Department may, however, extend the deadline for completion of the preliminary results of an administrative review to 365 days if it determines it is not practicable to complete the review within the foregoing time period. See section 751(a)(3)(A) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.214(h)(2).

The Department finds that it is not practicable to complete the preliminary results within this time limit. The Department is extending the deadline because the Department twice had to select an additional respondent for individual examination, which has significantly delayed the receipt of the original questionnaire responses. Additionally, the Department requires further time to issue and receive responses to supplemental questionnaires as well as to receive and analyze surrogate country and surrogate value comments. We are therefore extending the time for the completion of the preliminary results of this review by 120 days to September 7, 2010. The final results continue to be due 120 days after the publication of the preliminary results.

This notice is published in accordance with section 751(a)(3)(A) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.213(h)(2).


John M. Andersen, Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Operations.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
International Trade Administration

[A–570–098]

First Antidumping Duty Administrative Review of Sodium Hexametaphosphate from the People’s Republic of China: Extension of Time Limit for the Preliminary Results

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

EFFECTIVE DATE: March 26, 2010.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Paul Walker, AD/CVD Operations, Office 9, Import Administration, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482–0413.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On April 27, 2009, the Department of Commerce (“Department”) published in the Federal Register a notice of initiation of an administrative review of sodium hexametaphosphate from the People’s Republic of China (“PRC”), covering the period September 14, 2007 to February 28, 2009. See Initiation of Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Administrative Reviews and Request for Revocation in Part, 74 FR 19042 (April 27, 2009). From May 26, 2009 to October 28, 2009, the respondent in this review, Hubei Xingfa Chemical Group Co., Ltd. (“Hubei Xingfa”), submitted responses to the Department’s antidumping duty questionnaires. From November 9–13, 2009, the Department conducted verification of Hubei Xingfa. On November 25, 2009, the Department extended the time period for issuing the preliminary results of review until January 30, 2010. See First Antidumping Duty Administrative Review of Sodium Hexametaphosphate from the People’s Republic of China: Extension of Time Limit for the Preliminary Results, 74 FR 61656 (November 25, 2009). On February 5, 2010, the Department published a notice extending the time period for issuing the preliminary results by 41 days to March 12, 2010. See First Antidumping Duty Administrative Review of Sodium Hexametaphosphate from the People’s Republic of China: Extension of Time Limit for the Preliminary Results, 75 FR 5946 (February 5, 2010). As explained in the memorandum from the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Import Administration, the Department has exercised its discretion to toll deadlines for the duration of the closure of the Federal Government from February 5, through February 12, 2010. See Memorandum to the Record regarding “Tolling of Administrative Deadlines As a Result of the Government Closure During the Recent Snowstorm,” dated February 12, 2010. Thus, all deadlines in this segment of the proceeding have been extended by seven days. The revised deadline for the preliminary results of this review is now March 19, 2010.

Extension of Time Limit for the Preliminary Results

Section 751(a)(3)(A) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (“Act”), requires the Department to issue the preliminary results of an administrative review within 245 days after the last day of the anniversary month of an order for
which a review is requested. If it is not practicable to complete the review within the time period, section 751(a)(3)(A) of the Act allows the Department to extend this deadline to a maximum of 365 days.

The Department determines that completion of the preliminary results of this review within the statutory time period is not practicable, given the extraordinarily complicated nature of the proceeding. The Department requires additional time to analyze the information gathered at verification concerning Hubei Xingfa’s corporate structure and ownership, sales practices, manufacturing methods, and to issue the verification report. Therefore, given the number and complexity of issues in this case, and in accordance with section 751(a)(3)(A) of the Act, we are extending the time period for issuing the preliminary results of review by 17 days until April 5, 2010. The final results continue to be due 120 days after the publication of the preliminary results.

This notice is published pursuant to sections 751(a)(3)(A) and 777(i)(1) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.213(h)(2).


John M. Andersen,
Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Import Administration, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce (the Department) has determined that imports of polyethylene retail carrier bags (PRCBs) from Taiwan are being, or are likely to be, sold in the United States at less than fair value (LTFV), as provided in section 733 of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act). The estimated margins of sales at LTFV are listed in the “Continuation of Suspension of Liquidation” section of this notice.

EFFECTIVE DATE: March 26, 2010.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dmitry Vladimirov or Minoo Hatten, AD/CVD Operations, Office 5, Import Administration, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230; telephone (202) 482–0665 or (202) 482–1690, respectively.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Case History

On October 27, 2009, the Department published in the Federal Register its preliminary determination in the antidumping duty investigation of PRCBs from Taiwan. See Polyethylene Retail Carrier Bags From Taiwan: Preliminary Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value and Postponement of Final Determination, 74 FR 55183 (October 27, 2009) (Preliminary Determination).

As explained in the memorandum from the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Import Administration, the Department has exercised its discretion to toll deadlines for the duration of the closure of the Federal Government from February 5, through February 12, 2010. Thus, all deadlines in this investigation have been extended by seven days. The revised deadline for the final determination in this investigation is now March 18, 2010. See Memorandum to the Record from Ronald Lorentzen, DAS for Import Administration, regarding “Tolling of Administrative Deadlines As a Result of the Government Closure During the Recent Snowstorm,” dated February 12, 2010.

As provided in section 782(i) of the Act, we conducted sales and cost verifications of the questionnaire responses submitted by the sole participating respondent, TCI Plastic Co., Ltd. (TCI). We used standard verification procedures, including examination of relevant accounting and production records, as well as original source documents provided by TCI. See Memorandum to the File entitled “Verification of the U.S. Sales Response of Interplast Group in the Antidumping Investigation of Polyethylene Retail Carrier Bags from Taiwan,” dated December 22, 2009, Memorandum to the File entitled “Verification of the Home–Market and Export–Price Sales Responses of TCI Plastic Co., Ltd., in the Antidumping Investigation of Polyethylene Retail Carrier Bags from Taiwan,” dated December 22, 2009, and Memorandum to the File entitled “Verification of the Cost Response of Tis Dis International Co. Ltd. in the Antidumping Investigation of Polyethylene Retail Carrier Bags from Taiwan,” dated January 11, 2010. All verification reports are on file and available in the Central Records Unit (CRU), Room 1117, of the main Department of Commerce building.

We received case briefs submitted by Hilex Poly Co., LLC, and Superbag Corporation (hereinafter, the petitioners) and TCI on January 21, 2010. The petitioners and TCI submitted rebuttal comments on January 26, 2010. Although a hearing was requested, the request was withdrawn and we did not hold a hearing.

Period of Investigation

The period of investigation is January 1, 2008, through December 31, 2008. This period corresponds to the four most recent fiscal quarters prior to the month of the filing of the petition. March 2009. See 19 CFR 351.204(b)(1).

Scope of the Investigation

The merchandise subject to this investigation is PRCBs, which also may be referred to as t-shirt sacks, merchandise bags, grocery bags, or checkout bags. The subject merchandise is defined as non–sealable sacks and bags with handles (including drawstrings), without zippers or integral extruded closures, with or without gussets, with or without printing, of polyethylene film having a thickness no greater than 0.035 inch (0.889 mm) and no less than 0.00035 inch (0.00889 mm), and with no length or width shorter than 6 inches (15.24 cm) or longer than 40 inches (101.6 cm). The depth of the bag may be shorter than 6 inches but not longer than 40 inches (101.6 cm).

PRCBs are typically provided without any consumer packaging and free of charge by retail establishments, e.g., grocery, drug, convenience, department, specialty retail, discount stores, and restaurants to their customers to package and carry their purchased products. The scope of this investigation excludes (1) polyethylene bags that are not printed with logos or store names and that are closeable with drawstrings made of polyethylene film and (2) polyethylene bags that are packed in consumer packaging with printing that refers to specific end–uses other than packaging and carrying merchandise from retail establishments, e.g., garbage bags, lawn bags, trash–can liners.

Imports of merchandise included within the scope of this investigation are currently classifiable under statistical category 3923.21.0085 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS). This subheading may also cover products that are outside the scope of this investigation. Furthermore, although the HTSUS subheading is provided for convenience and customs purposes, the written description of the scope of this investigation is dispositive.