

Public Hearing

A public hearing in connection with this investigation is scheduled to begin at 9:30 a.m. on February 2, 2000, at the U.S. International Trade Commission Building, 500 E Street SW., Washington, D.C. All persons have the right to appear by counsel or in person, to present information, and to be heard. Persons wishing to appear at the public hearing should file a letter asking to testify with the Secretary, United States International Trade Commission, 500 E St., SW., Washington, DC 20436, not later than the close of business (5:15 p.m.) January 18, 2000. In addition, persons testifying should file prehearing briefs (original and 14 copies) with the Secretary by the close of business on January 20, 2000. Posthearing briefs should be filed with the Secretary by close of business on February 11, 2000. In the event that no requests to appear at the hearing are received by the close of business January 18, 2000, the hearing will be canceled. Any person interested in attending the hearing as an observer or non-participant may call the Secretary to the Commission (202-205-1816) after January 20, 2000, to determine whether the hearing will be held.

Written Submissions

In lieu of or in addition to appearing at the public hearing, interested persons are invited to submit written statements concerning the investigation. Written statements should be received by the close of business on February 11, 2000. Commercial or financial information which a submitter desires the Commission to treat as confidential must be submitted on separate sheets of paper, each clearly marked "Confidential Business Information" at the top. All submissions requesting confidential treatment must conform with the requirements of section 201.6 of the Commission's *Rules of Practice and Procedure* (19 CFR 201.6). Persons submitting business confidential information should be aware that the Commission may include such information in the confidential version of its report to the USTR. All written submissions, except for confidential business information, will be made available for inspection by interested persons. All submissions should be addressed to the Secretary at the Commission's office in Washington, D.C. The Commission's rules do not authorize filing of submissions with the Secretary by facsimile or electronic means. Hearing-impaired individuals are advised that information on this

matter can be obtained by contacting our TDD terminal on (202) 205-1810.

Issued: December 23, 1999.

By order of the Commission.

Donna R. Koehnke,
Secretary.

Attachment Annex I (HTS Subheadings) ¹

A. Petitions to add products to the list of eligible articles for the GSP.

7202.99.10 ²

8104.19.00

8104.30.00

B. Petitions to remove duty-free status from beneficiary developing countries for products on the list of eligible articles for the GSP.

2905.42.00 (Brazil)

C. Petitions to determine whether products like or directly competitive with an eligible article were being produced in the United States on January 1, 1995.

3817.10.50

D. Petitions for waiver of competitive need limits for products on the list of eligible products for the specified country.

2905.11.20 (Chile)

7202.50.00 (Russia)

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INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

[Investigation No. TA-201-70]

Circular Welded Carbon Quality Line Pipe

Determination

On the basis of the information in the investigation, the Commission—(1) Determines, pursuant to section 202(b) of the Trade Act of 1974, that circular welded carbon quality line pipe (hereinafter line pipe) ¹ is being

¹ See USTR **Federal Register** notice of December 23, 1999 (64 F.R. 246) for article description.

² The petitioner also requests a waiver of the competitive need limits specified in section 503(c)(2)(A) of the 1974 Act for Brazil on the articles provided for in subheading 7202.99.10.

³ The imported article covered by this investigation is welded carbon quality line pipe of circular cross section, of a kind used for oil and gas pipelines, whether or not stencilled. For purposes of this investigation, "carbon quality" is defined to mean: products in which (1) iron predominates, by weight, over each of the other contained elements, (2) the carbon content is 2 percent or less, by weight, and (3) none of the elements listed below exceeds the quantity, by weight, respectively indicated: 1.80 percent of manganese, or 2.25 percent of silicon, or 1.00 percent of copper, or 0.50 percent of aluminum, or 1.25 percent of chromium, or 0.30 percent of cobalt, or 0.40 percent of lead,

imported into the United States in such increased quantities as to be a substantial cause of serious injury or the threat of serious injury ² to the domestic industry producing an article like or directly competitive with the imported article; and (2) makes negative findings, pursuant to section 311(a) of the North American Free-Trade Agreement (NAFTA) Implementation Act (19 U.S.C. 3371(a)), with respect to imports of line pipe from Canada and Mexico.³

Recommendations with Respect to Remedy⁴

The Commission⁵ (Vice Chairman Miller and Commissioners Hillman and Koplan) recommends:

(1) That the President impose a tariff-rate quota for a 4-year period on imports of line pipe, with the in-quota amount set at 151,124 short tons in the first year, and with that amount to be increased by

or 1.25 percent of nickel, or 0.30 percent of tungsten, or 0.10 percent of molybdenum, or 0.10 percent of niobium, or 0.15 percent of vanadium, or 0.15 percent of zirconium.

Such line pipe is currently classified in subheadings 7306.10.10 and 7306.10.50 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTS). Although the HTS categories are provided for convenience and Customs purposes, the written description of the merchandise under investigation is dispositive. The investigation excludes certain merchandise described as arctic grade line pipe, defined as welded line pipe that (1) has an outer diameter of 4.5 inches or more and a wall thickness equal to or less than 0.75 inches; and (2) when subjected to a Charpy V-notch test performed at minus 50 degrees Fahrenheit or below applied to three specimens taken from the well area, has a ft-lbs rating of no less than 17 ft-lbs for each sample, with an average for all three at no less than 19 ft-lbs; and (3) using at least three samples, has a minimum average shear area of 85 percent in the base metal and 50 percent in the weld; and (4) when subjected to a hydrogen induced cracking test to be performed as per NACE (National Association of Corrosion Engineers) TM0284 test with solution A, has a crack length ratio that does not exceed 15 percent, a crack sensibility ratio that does not exceed 2 percent, and a crack thickness ratio that does not exceed 5 percent.

² Vice Chairman Marcia E. Miller and Commissioners Jennifer A. Hillman and Stephen Koplan found serious injury. Chairman Lynn M. Bragg and Commissioner Thelma J. Askey found a threat of serious injury. Commissioner Carol T. Crawford made a negative determination.

³ Chairman Bragg dissenting with respect to Mexico. Chairman Bragg finds that imports of welded line pipe from Mexico account for a substantial share of total imports and contribute importantly to the threat of serious injury to the domestic industry.

⁴ Commissioner Crawford, having made a negative determination on injury, was not eligible to vote on remedy. In light of her negative determination, Commissioner Crawford does not believe any import relief is appropriate in this investigation.

⁵ The Commission notes that, pursuant to section 330(d)(2) of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1330(d)(2)), the remedy recommendation of Vice Chairman Miller and Commissioners Hillman and Koplan in this investigation is to be treated as the remedy finding of the Commission for purposes of section 203 of the Trade Act.

10 percent in each of the second, third, and fourth years, with over-quota imports to be subject to a duty of 30 percent ad valorem in addition to current U.S. tariffs;

(2) That the President, if he determines to allocate the overall quota, recognize the disproportionate growth and impact of the imports from Korea;

(3) That the President initiate international negotiations with Korea to address the underlying cause of the import surge and the serious injury to the domestic industry;

(4) Having made negative findings with respect to imports of line pipe from Canada and Mexico under section 311(a) of the NAFTA Implementation Act, that such imports be excluded from the tariff-rate quota; and

(5) That the tariff-rate quota not apply to imports of line pipe from Israel, or to any imports of line pipe entered duty-free from beneficiary countries under the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act or the Andean Trade Preference Act.

Chairman Bragg and Commissioner Askey recommend:

(1) That the President impose a duty, in addition to the current rate of duty, for a 4-year period, on imports of line pipe that are within the scope of this investigation as follows: 12.5 percent ad valorem in the first year of relief, 11 percent ad valorem in the second year of relief, 9.5 percent ad valorem in the third year of relief, and 8 percent ad valorem in the fourth year of relief;

(2) That the increased rates of duty not apply to imports of line pipe from Canada, Israel, or to any imports of line pipe that entered duty-free from beneficiary countries under the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act or the Andean Trade Preference Act;

(3) Commissioner Askey, having made a negative finding with respect to imports of line pipe from Mexico under section 311(a) of the NAFTA Implementation Act, recommends that such imports from Mexico be excluded from the increased duty. Chairman Bragg, having made an affirmative finding under section 311(a) of the NAFTA Implementation Act, recommends that imports of line pipe from Mexico be subject to the duty increase.

The Commissioners find that the respective actions that they have recommended will address the serious injury or threat of serious injury found to exist and be most effective in facilitating the efforts of the domestic industry to make a positive adjustment to import competition.

Background

Following receipt of a petition properly filed on June 30, 1999, by counsel on behalf of Geneva Steel, Vineyard, UT; IPSCO Tubulars, Inc., Camanche, IA; Lone Star Steel Company, Dallas, TX; LTV Steel Tubular Products Company, Youngstown, OH; ⁶ Maverick Tube Corporation, Chesterfield, MO; Newport Steel, Newport, KY; Northwest Pipe Company, Portland, OR; Stupp Corporation, Baton Rouge, LA; and the United Steelworkers of America, AFL-CIO, Pittsburgh, PA, the Commission instituted investigation No. TA-201-70, Circular Welded Carbon Quality Line Pipe, under section 202 of the Trade Act of 1974 to determine whether circular welded carbon quality line pipe is being imported into the United States in such increased quantities as to be a substantial cause of serious injury, or the threat thereof, to the domestic industry producing an article like or directly competitive with the imported article.

Notice of the institution of the Commission's investigation and of the scheduling of public hearings to be held in connection therewith was given by posting copies of the notice in the Office of the Secretary, U.S. International Trade Commission, Washington, DC, and by publishing the notice in the **Federal Register** of August 4, 1999 (64 FR 42414). The hearing in connection with the injury phase of the investigation was held on September 30, 1999, and the hearing on the question of remedy was held on November 10, 1999. Both hearings were held in Washington, DC; all persons who requested the opportunity were permitted to appear in person or by counsel.

The Commission transmitted its determination in this investigation to the President on December 22, 1999. The views of the Commission are contained in USITC Publication 3261 (December 1999), entitled Circular Welded Carbon Quality Line Pipe: Investigation No. TA-201-70.

Issued: December 23, 1999.

By order of the Commission.

Donna R. Koehnke,

Secretary.

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⁶Petitioners amended the petition on Sept. 14, 1999, to include LTV Steel.

INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

[Investigation No. 731-TA-677 (Review)]

Coumarin From China

AGENCY: United States International Trade Commission.

ACTION: Institution of a five-year review concerning the antidumping duty order on coumarin from China.

SUMMARY: The Commission hereby gives notice that it has instituted a review pursuant to section 751(c) of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1675(c)) (the Act) to determine whether revocation of the antidumping duty order on coumarin from China would be likely to lead to continuation or recurrence of material injury. Pursuant to section 751(c)(2) of the Act, interested parties are requested to respond to this notice by submitting the information specified below to the Commission; ¹ to be assured of consideration, the deadline for responses is February 22, 2000. Comments on the adequacy of responses may be filed with the Commission by March 20, 2000.

For further information concerning the conduct of this review and rules of general application, consult the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, part 201, subparts A through E (19 CFR part 201), and part 207, subparts A, D, E, and F (19 CFR part 207). The Rules may also be found on the Commission's World Wide Web site at <http://www.usitc.gov/rules.htm>.

EFFECTIVE DATE: December 30, 1999.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Mary Messer (202-205-3193) or Vera Libeau (202-205-3176), Office of Investigations, U.S. International Trade Commission, 500 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20436. Hearing-impaired persons can obtain information on this matter by contacting the Commission's TDD terminal on 202-205-1810. Persons with mobility impairments who will need special assistance in gaining access to the Commission should contact the Office of the Secretary at 202-205-2000. General information concerning the Commission may also be obtained by accessing its internet server (<http://www.usitc.gov>).

¹No response to this request for information is required if a currently valid Office of Management and Budget (OMB) number is not displayed; the OMB number is 3117-0016/USITC No. 00-5-050, expiration date July 31, 2002. Public reporting burden for the request is estimated to average 7 hours per response. Please send comments regarding the accuracy of this burden estimate to the Office of Investigations, U.S. International Trade Commission, 500 E Street, SW, Washington, DC 20436.