

merchandise selected for individual examination in this investigation.⁸

Commerce assigned a rate based entirely on facts otherwise available with an adverse inference pursuant to section 776 of the Act to Ligas de Alumínio S.A.—LIASA (LIASA).

Section 705(c)(5)(A) of the Act provides that in the final determination, Commerce shall determine an estimated all-others rate for companies not individually examined. This rate shall be an amount equal to the weighted average of the estimated subsidy rates established for those companies individually examined, excluding any zero and *de minimis* rates and any rates based entirely under section 776 of the Act.

The only rate for an individually-examined respondent that is not zero, *de minimis* or based entirely on adverse facts otherwise available is the rate calculated for Palmyra do Brasil. Consequently, the rate calculated for Palmyra do Brasil is also assigned as the rate for all-other producers and exporters, pursuant to section 705(c)(5)(A)(i) of the Act.

Commerce determines that the following estimated countervailable subsidy rates exist:

Company	Subsidy rate (percent)
Palmyra do Brasil Indústria e Comércio de Silício Metálico e Recursos Naturais Ltda. ⁹	2.44
Ligas de Alumínio S.A.—LIASA	52.51
All-Others	2.44

Disclosure

We intend to disclose to parties in this proceeding the calculations performed for this final determination within five days of the date of publication of our final determination, in accordance with 19 CFR 351.224(b).

Continuation of Suspension of Liquidation

As a result of our *Preliminary Determination* and pursuant to section 703(d)(1)(B) and (d)(2) of the Act, Commerce instructed U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to suspend liquidation of entries of subject

merchandise as described in the scope of the investigation section entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after the date of publication of the *Preliminary Determination* in the **Federal Register**. In accordance with section 703(d) of the Act, we issued instructions to CBP to discontinue the suspension of liquidation for countervailing duty (CVD) purposes for subject merchandise entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, on or after December 12, 2017, but to continue the suspension of liquidation of all entries from August 14, 2017, through December 11, 2017.

If the U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC) issues a final affirmative injury determination, we will issue a CVD order, will reinstate the suspension of liquidation under section 706(a) of the Act, and will require a cash deposit of estimated countervailing duties for such entries of subject merchandise in the amounts indicated above. If the ITC determines that material injury, or threat of material injury, does not exist, this proceeding will be terminated and all estimated duties deposited or securities posted as a result of the suspension of liquidation will be refunded or canceled.

International Trade Commission Notification

In accordance with section 705(d) of the Act, Commerce will notify the ITC of its determination. In addition, we are making available to the ITC all non-privileged and non-proprietary information related to this investigation. We will allow the ITC access to all privileged and business proprietary information in our files, provided the ITC confirms that it will not disclose such information, either publicly or under an administrative protective order (APO), without the written consent of the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance.

Notification Regarding Administrative Protective Orders

In the event that the ITC issues a final negative injury determination, this notice will serve as the only reminder to parties subject to an APO of their responsibility concerning the destruction of proprietary information disclosed under APO in accordance with 19 CFR 351.305(a)(3). Timely written notification of the return/destruction of APO materials or conversion to judicial protective order is hereby requested. Failure to comply with the regulations and terms of an APO is a violation which is subject to sanction.

This determination is issued and published pursuant to sections 705(d) and 777(i) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.210(c).

Dated: February 27, 2018.

Christian Marsh,

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance.

Appendix I—Scope of the Investigation

The scope of this investigation covers all forms and sizes of silicon metal, including silicon metal powder. Silicon metal contains at least 85.00 percent but less than 99.99 percent silicon, and less than 4.00 percent iron, by actual weight. Semiconductor grade silicon (merchandise containing at least 99.99 percent silicon by actual weight and classifiable under Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) subheading 2804.61.0000) is excluded from the scope of these investigations.

Silicon metal is currently classifiable under subheadings 2804.69.1000 and 2804.69.5000 of the HTSUS. While HTSUS numbers are provided for convenience and customs purposes, the written description of the scope remains dispositive.

Appendix II—List of Topics Discussed in the Issues and Decision Memorandum

- I. Summary
- II. Background
- III. Use of Facts Otherwise Available and Adverse Inferences
- IV. Subsidies Valuation
- V. Analysis of Programs
- VI. Analysis of Comments
 - Comment 1: Whether the Tax Incentives in the State of Pará (ICMS) Program Is Countervailable
 - Comment 2: Whether the Predominantly Exporting Companies (PEC) Program Is Countervailable
 - Comment 3: Whether Palmyra do Brasil Received Reintegra Benefits During the Period of Investigation (POI)
 - Comment 4: Whether the Forest Fee Reduction Program Is Countervailable
- VII. Recommendation

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[A–602–810]

Silicon Metal From Australia: Affirmative Final Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value and Final Affirmative Determination of Critical Circumstances in Part

AGENCY: Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce (Commerce) determines that imports of silicon metal from Australia are being,

⁸ Palmyra do Brasil reported that it changed its name from Dow Corning Silício do Brasil Indústria e Comércio Ltda. (DC Silício) on June 30, 2017. Commerce verified this name change. See Issues and Decision Memorandum at 2.

⁹ As discussed in the *Preliminary Determination*, Commerce has found the following companies to be cross-owned with Palmyra do Brasil, previously known as Dow Corning Silício do Brasil Indústria e Comércio Ltda. (DC Silício): Palmyra Recursos Naturais Exploração e Comércio Ltda. and Dow Corning Metais do Pará IND.

or are likely to be, sold in the United States at less than fair value (LTFV). In addition, we determine that critical circumstances exist with respect to certain imports of the subject merchandise. The period of investigation (POI) is January 1, 2016, through December 31, 2016. The final dumping margins of sales at LTFV are listed below in the “Final Determination” section of this notice.

DATES: Applicable March 8, 2018.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Brian Smith or Denisa Ursu, AD/CVD Operations, Office VIII, Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482-1766 and (202) 482-2285, respectively.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On October 12, 2017, Commerce published the *Preliminary Determination* of sales at LTFV of silicon metal from Australia.¹ Commerce exercised its discretion to toll all deadlines affected by the closure of the Federal Government from January 20 through 22, 2018. If the new deadline falls on a non-business day, in accordance with Commerce’s practice, the deadline will become the next business day. The revised deadline for the final determination of this investigation is now February 27, 2018.²

A summary of the events that occurred since Commerce published the *Preliminary Determination*, as well as a full discussion of the issues raised by parties for this final determination, may be found in the Issues and Decision Memorandum, which is adopted by this notice.³

¹ See *Silicon Metal from Australia: Preliminary Affirmative Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value, Preliminary Affirmative Determination of Critical Circumstances, Postponement of Final Determination, and Extension of Provisional Measures*, 82 FR 47471 (October 12, 2017) (*Preliminary Determination*), and accompanying Preliminary Decision Memorandum.

² See Memorandum for The Record from Christian Marsh, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance, performing the non-exclusive functions and duties of the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance, “Deadlines Affected by the Shutdown of the Federal Government” (Tolling Memorandum), dated January 23, 2018. All deadlines in this segment of the proceeding have been extended by 3 days.

³ See Memorandum, “Issues and Decision Memorandum for the Final Affirmative Determination in the Less-Than-Fair-Value Investigation of Silicon Metal from Australia,” dated concurrently with, and hereby adopted by, this notice (Issues and Decision Memorandum).

Scope of the Investigation

The product covered by this investigation is silicon metal from Australia. For a full description of the scope of this investigation, see the “Scope of the Investigation” in Appendix I of this notice.

Scope Comments

During the course of this investigation, Commerce received numerous scope comments from interested parties. Prior to the *Preliminary Determination*, Commerce issued a Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum⁴ to address these comments. Since the *Preliminary Determination*, Globe Specialty Metals, Inc. (the petitioner), submitted a case brief and interested parties submitted rebuttal briefs concerning the limits to silicon content as specified in the scope.⁵

Commerce reviewed these briefs, considered the arguments therein, and is not making any additional changes to the scope of the investigation. For further discussion, see Commerce’s Final Scope Decision Memorandum.⁶ The scope in Appendix I reflects the final scope language.

Analysis of Comments Received

All issues raised in the petitioner’s case briefs⁷ are addressed in either the Final Scope Decision Memorandum or the Issues and Decision Memorandum accompanying this notice, which is hereby adopted by this notice. A list of the issues addressed in the Issues and Decision Memorandum is attached to this notice at Appendix II. The Issues and Decision Memorandum is a public document and is on file electronically via Enforcement and Compliance’s Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Centralized Electronic Service System (ACCESS). ACCESS is available to registered users at <http://access.trade.gov>, and it is available to all parties in the Central Records Unit, Room B-8024 of the main Department of Commerce building. In addition, a complete version of the Issues and Decision Memorandum can be accessed directly at <http://enforcement.trade.gov/>

⁴ See Memorandum, “Silicon Metal from Australia, Brazil, Kazakhstan, and Norway: Scope Comments Decision Memorandum for the Preliminary Determinations,” dated June 29, 2017 (Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum).

⁵ These parties include Wacker Chemicals Norway A.S., Elkem AS, and the petitioner.

⁶ See Memorandum, “Silicon Metal from Australia, Brazil, Kazakhstan, and Norway: Final Scope Comments Decision Memorandum,” dated February 27, 2018 (Final Scope Decision Memorandum).

⁷ Only the petitioner submitted case briefs in this investigation.

[frn/index.html](#). The signed and electronic versions of the Issues and Decision Memorandum are identical in content.

Verification

As provided in section 782(i) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act), we informed Simcoa Operations Pty Ltd. (Simcoa),⁸ that we intended to verify its submitted sales and cost information.⁹ However, on October 12, 2017, Simcoa notified Commerce that it will no longer participate in this investigation.¹⁰ As a result, Commerce was unable to verify Simcoa’s information as required under section 782(i)(1) of the Act.

Changes Since the Preliminary Determination

Based on Simcoa’s decision to no longer participate in this investigation and our analysis of the comments received, we find that Simcoa has been uncooperative in this investigation and that facts available with an adverse inference with respect to Simcoa is warranted in the final determination in accordance with sections 776(a) and (b) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.308. For further discussion, see “Use of Adverse Facts Available” section below and the Issues and Decision Memorandum.

Final Affirmative Determination of Critical Circumstances in Part

In accordance with section 733(e)(1) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.206, we preliminarily found that critical circumstances exist with respect to imports of silicon metal from Simcoa, and do not exist with respect to companies covered by the “all others” rate.¹¹ Commerce received no comments regarding this issue after the Preliminary Determination. Therefore, for the final determination, we continue to find that, in accordance with section 735(a)(3) of the Act, and 19 CFR 351.206, critical circumstances exist with respect to subject merchandise produced or exported by Simcoa, but do

⁸ Simcoa is the sole mandatory respondent in this case.

⁹ See *Preliminary Determination*, 82 FR at 47472.

¹⁰ See Letter from Simcoa to the U.S. Secretary of Commerce, “Silicon Metal from Australia: Withdrawal from Participation as a Respondent,” dated October 12, 2017.

¹¹ See Preliminary Decision Memorandum, at 14–16. Note: the *Preliminary Determination*, at 82 FR 47472, incorrectly stated that critical circumstances exist for imports of the subject merchandise produced or exported by Simcoa and all others. It should have stated that critical circumstances exist for imports of the subject merchandise produced or exported by Simcoa only, consistent with the analysis in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum, at 14–16.

not exist with respect to companies covered by the “all others” rate.

Use of Adverse Facts Available

The mandatory respondent Simcoa failed to allow its sales and cost data to be verified by Commerce. Therefore, we find that the application of facts available with an adverse inference with respect to Simcoa is warranted in the final determination. In applying total adverse facts available, Commerce has assigned to Simcoa’s exports of the subject merchandise the rate of 51.28 percent, which is the highest rate calculated in the Petition.¹² For further discussion, see the Issues and Decision Memorandum at Comments 1 and 2.

All-Others Rate

Section 735(c)(5)(B) of the Act provides where, as here, the estimated weighted-average dumping margins established for all exporters and producers individually investigated are zero or *de minimis* margins, or based entirely on facts available pursuant to section 776 of the Act, Commerce may use any reasonable method to establish the all others rate for exporters and producers not individually investigated. Where the sole individually investigated respondent’s margin is based on total AFA under section 776 of the Act, our practice under these circumstances has been to assign as the all others rate the simple average of the margins in the Petition,¹³ which we have done for this final determination.¹⁴

Final Determination

The final weighted-average dumping margins are as follows:

Exporter	Dumping margin (percent)
Simcoa Operations Pty Ltd.	51.28
All Others	41.73

¹² See Petitions for the Imposition of Antidumping and Countervailing Duties: Silicon Metal from Australia, Brazil, Kazakhstan, and Norway, dated March 8, 2017 (the Petition), Volume II at 5.

¹³ See, e.g., *Certain Uncoated Paper from Australia: Final Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value and Affirmative Final Determination of Critical Circumstances*, In Part, 81 FR 3108 (January 20, 2016), and *Notice of Preliminary Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value: Light-Walled Rectangular Pipe and Tube from Turkey*, 73 FR 5508 (January 30, 2008) (unchanged in *Notice of Final Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value: Light-Walled Rectangular Pipe and Tube from Turkey*, 73 FR 19814 (April 11, 2008)).

¹⁴ See the Petition, Volume II, at Exhibit AU–AD 1.

Disclosure

The weighted-average dumping margin assigned to Simcoa in the final determination of this investigation is the highest rate calculated in the Petition and the all others rate is the simple average of the margins in the Petition. Neither the dumping margin assigned to Simcoa nor the margins used to calculate the all others rate are proprietary in nature and they are considered to be public information (in both the Petition and in the Australia AD Initiation Checklist).¹⁵ As the rate assigned to Simcoa and the all others rate are based on margins in the Petition, no disclosure of calculations is necessary for this final determination.

Continuation of Suspension of Liquidation

In accordance with section 735(c)(1)(B) of the Act, for this final determination, we will direct U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to continue to suspend liquidation of all entries of silicon metal from Australia, as described in Appendix I of this notice, which are entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after October 12, 2017, the date of publication in the **Federal Register** of the affirmative *Preliminary Determination*.

For entries made by Simcoa, in accordance with section 735(c)(4)(A) of the Act, because we continue to find that critical circumstances exist, we will instruct CBP to continue to suspend liquidation of all appropriate entries of silicon metal from Australia which were entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after July 14, 2017, which is 90 days prior to the date of publication of the *Preliminary Determination*. Additionally, for entries made by companies covered by the “all others” rate, in accordance with section 735(c)(4)(B) of the Act, because we continue to find that critical circumstances do not exist with regard to imports from all other producers and exporters of silicon metal from Australia, we will instruct CBP to continue to suspend liquidation of all appropriate entries of silicon metal from Australia which were entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after October 12, 2017, which is the date of publication of the *Preliminary Determination*. Pursuant to section 735(c)(1) of the Act, we will instruct CBP to require a cash

¹⁵ See the Petition, Volume II at 5 and 48; see also *Initiation Notice* and accompanying Antidumping Duty Investigation Initiation Checklist: Silicon Metal from Australia (Australia AD Initiation Checklist), at pages 5–9.

deposit equal to the margins indicated in the chart above.¹⁶ These suspension of liquidation instructions will remain in effect until further notice.

International Trade Commission Notification

In accordance with section 735(d) of the Act, we will notify the International Trade Commission (ITC) of the final affirmative determination of sales at LTFV. Because Commerce’s final determination is affirmative, in accordance with section 735(b)(2) of the Act, the ITC will make its final determination as to whether the domestic industry in the United States is materially injured, or threatened with material injury, by reason of imports, or sales (or the likelihood of sales) for importation of silicon metal from Australia no later than 45 days after this final determination. If the ITC determines that such injury does not exist, this proceeding will be terminated and all cash deposits posted will be refunded or canceled. If the ITC determines that such injury does exist, Commerce will issue an antidumping duty order directing CBP to assess, upon further instruction by Commerce, antidumping duties on all imports of the subject merchandise entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after the effective date of the suspension of liquidation, as discussed above in the “Continuation of Suspension of Liquidation” section.

Notification Regarding Administrative Protective Orders

This notice will serve as a reminder to parties subject to an administrative protective order (APO) of their responsibility concerning the disposition of proprietary information disclosed under APO in accordance with 19 CFR 351.305(a)(3). Timely written notification of return or destruction of APO materials, or conversion to judicial protective order, is hereby requested. Failure to comply with the regulations and terms of an APO is a sanctionable violation.

Notification to Interested Parties

This determination is issued and published in accordance with sections 735(d) and 777(i)(1) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.210(c).

¹⁶ See *Modification of Regulations Regarding the Practice of Accepting Bonds During the Provisional Measures Period in Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Investigations*, 76 FR 61042 (October 3, 2011).

Dated: February 27, 2018.

Christian Marsh,

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance.

Appendix I—Scope of the Investigation

The scope of this investigation covers all forms and sizes of silicon metal, including silicon metal powder. Silicon metal contains at least 85.00 percent but less than 99.99 percent silicon, and less than 4.00 percent iron, by actual weight. Semiconductor grade silicon (merchandise containing at least 99.99 percent silicon by actual weight and classifiable under Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) subheading 2804.61.0000) is excluded from the scope of this investigation.

Silicon metal is currently classifiable under subheadings 2804.69.1000 and 2804.69.5000 of the HTSUS. While HTSUS numbers are provided for convenience and customs purposes, the written description of the scope remains dispositive.

Appendix II—List of Topics Discussed in the Issues and Decision Memorandum

I. Summary

II. Background

III. Discussion of the Issues:

Comment 1: Application of Facts Available for Simcoa

Comment 2: Appropriate Rate for Use as Adverse Facts Available

IV. Recommendation

[FR Doc. 2018–04657 Filed 3–7–18; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[C–533–880]

Polytetrafluoroethylene Resin From India: Preliminary Affirmative Countervailing Duty Determination

AGENCY: Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce (Commerce) preliminarily determines that countervailable subsidies are being provided to producers and exporters of polytetrafluoroethylene resin (PTFE resin) from India. The period of investigation is April 1, 2016, through March 31, 2017.

DATES: Effective March 8, 2018.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Toby Vandall, Emily Halle, or Aimee Phelan, AD/CVD Operations, Office I, Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482–1664, (202) 482–0176, or (202) 482–0697, respectively.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

This preliminary determination is made in accordance with section 703(b) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act). Commerce published the notice of initiation of this investigation on October 26, 2017.¹ On December 7, 2017, Commerce postponed the preliminary determination of this investigation to February 26, 2018.² Commerce exercised its discretion to toll deadlines for the duration of the closure of the Federal Government from January 20 through 22, 2018. As a result, the deadline for this preliminary determination became February 28, 2018.³ For a complete description of the events that followed the initiation of this investigation, *see* the Preliminary Decision Memorandum.⁴ A list of topics discussed in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum is included as Appendix II to this notice. The Preliminary Decision Memorandum is a public document and is on file electronically via Enforcement and Compliance's Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Centralized Electronic Service System (ACCESS). ACCESS is available to registered users at <http://access.trade.gov>, and is available to all parties in the Central Records Unit, room B8024 of the main Department of Commerce building. In addition, a complete version of the Preliminary Decision Memorandum can be accessed directly at <http://enforcement.trade.gov/frn/>. The signed and electronic versions of the Preliminary Decision Memorandum are identical in content.

Scope of the Investigation

The product covered by this investigation is PTFE resin from India. For a complete description of the scope of this investigation, *see* Appendix I.

¹ *See* *Polytetrafluoroethylene Resin from India: Initiation of Countervailing Duty Investigation*, 82 FR 49592 (October 26, 2017) (*Initiation Notice*).

² *See* *Polytetrafluoroethylene Resin from India: Postponement of Preliminary Determination in the Countervailing Duty Investigation*, 82 FR 57727 (December 7, 2017). The postponement of the preliminary determination to the 130th day after initiation of the investigation resulted in the deadline falling on Sunday, February 25, 2018. Consistent with Commerce's practice, the deadline became the next business day, Monday, February 26. *Id.* at footnote 6.

³ *See* Memorandum, “Deadlines Affected by the Shutdown of the Federal Government,” dated January 23, 2018. All deadlines in this segment of the proceeding have been extended by three days.

⁴ *See* Memorandum, “Decision Memorandum for the Preliminary Determination in the Countervailing Duty Investigation of Polytetrafluoroethylene Resin from India,” dated concurrently with, and hereby adopted by, this notice (Preliminary Decision Memorandum).

Scope Comments

In accordance with the preamble to Commerce's regulations,⁵ the *Initiation Notice* set aside a period of time for parties to raise issues regarding product coverage, (*i.e.*, scope).⁶ Certain interested parties commented on the scope of the investigation as it appeared in the *Initiation Notice*. For a summary of the product coverage comments and rebuttal responses submitted to the record for this preliminary determination, and accompanying discussion and analysis of all comments timely received, *see* the Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum.⁷ Commerce is preliminarily adopting the scope language as it appeared in the *Initiation Notice*.

Methodology

Commerce is conducting this investigation in accordance with section 701 of the Act. For each of the subsidy programs found countervailable, Commerce preliminarily determines that there is a subsidy, *i.e.*, a financial contribution by an “authority” that gives rise to a benefit to the recipient, and that the subsidy is specific.⁸

Commerce notes that, in making these findings, it relied, in part, on facts available and, because it finds that the government of India did not act to the best of its ability to respond to Commerce's requests for information, Commerce drew an adverse inference where appropriate in selecting from among the facts otherwise available.⁹ For further information, *see* “Use of Facts Otherwise Available and Adverse Inferences” in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum.

All-Others Rate

Sections 703(d) and 705(c)(5)(A) of the Act provide that in the preliminary determination, Commerce shall determine an estimated all-others rate for companies not individually examined. This rate shall be an amount equal to the weighted average of the estimated subsidy rates established for those companies individually examined, excluding any zero and *de*

⁵ *See* *Antidumping Duties; Countervailing Duties, Final Rule*, 62 FR 27296, 27323 (May 19, 1997).

⁶ *See* *Initiation Notice*.

⁷ *See* Memorandum, “Polytetrafluoroethylene Resin from India and the People's Republic of China: Scope Comments Decision Memorandum for the Preliminary Determinations,” dated concurrently with this notice (Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum).

⁸ *See* sections 771(5)(B) and (D) of the Act regarding financial contribution; section 771(5)(E) of the Act regarding benefit; and section 771(5A) of the Act regarding specificity.

⁹ *See* sections 776(a) and (b) of the Act.