restaurants to inquire about garbage-disposal methods, in favor of allowing inspectors to spend more time interacting with and educating swine producers and conducting inspections. The regular presence of APHIS inspectors in U.S. garbage feeding facilities provides opportunities to educate operators on disease signs and reporting requirements and to conduct direct observation of animals for signs of illness. APHIS believes, therefore, that the presence of animal products infected with FMD or other reportable conditions entering the United States would be detected more quickly in these types of premises than in other, unregulated premises.

Environmental Assessment

The commenters noted that the environmental assessment (EA) provided with this rulemaking was the May 2011 EA for the importation of swine and swine commodities from Slovakia. They also noted that APHIS provided a supporting document that was an amended finding of no significant impact (FONSI) from importation of swine and swine commodities from Croatia that uses the EA from Slovakia as the basis for the amended finding related to Croatia. The commenters requested that APHIS expand on how it is justifiable to use an EA prepared for other countries and apply it to Croatia.

APHIS has conducted animal health status evaluations for multiple EU Member States for swine diseases. Since 2006 we have recognized the CSF, FMD, SVD, and/or rinderpest status for EU Member States Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Slovenia, Estonia, and Hungary, and for certain countries that have entered into agricultural equivalence agreements with the EU. In each case, we determined that measures are in place to mitigate the risk of CSF, SVD, FMD, and/or rinderpest introduction into the United States through importation of swine, swine commodities, ruminants, and ruminant commodities from countries or regions that we recognize as low risk for CSF and free of SVD, FMD, and rinderpest.

Given that the EU applies and ensures enforcement of the same disease mitigation requirements across all EU Member States, we recognized that the single-state evaluations we were conducting were redundant and thus unnecessary with respect to meeting the requirements of the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA). After we consulted with Agency specialists on NEPA, we did an environmental impact analysis comparison of the 2011 Slovakia EA analysis in regards to the proposed action of this notice for the EU Member State Croatia and determined that the environmental analyses of the Slovakia EA were similar and sufficient to cover the proposed action for Croatia. The 2011 Slovakia EA stated that for any like/similar future regionalization actions proposed for EU Member States, APHIS would incorporate the Slovakia EA by reference in a new FONSI issued for a proposed new action for an EU Member State. That is what we have done for this proposed action for Croatia.

Additionally, we determined that future proposed actions of this nature pose negligible environmental impacts to each EU Member State or country that has entered into an agricultural equivalency agreement with the EU, provided that a disease assessment finds them to be free of or a low risk for relevant diseases. As Croatia is an EU Member State and because we have determined that Croatia is free of SVD, FMD, and rinderpest, and at low risk for CSF, we believe that the “like/similar action” environmental analyses approach as presented in the 2011 Slovakia EA/FONSI is appropriate to use for the proposed action for Croatia.

Based on the evaluation and the reasons given in this document in response to comments, we are recognizing Croatia as free of FMD, rinderpest, and SVD, and low risk for CSF. The lists of regions recognized as free or at low risk of these diseases can be found by visiting the APHIS Web site at http://www.aphis.usda.gov/wps/portal/aphis/ourfocus/importexport and following the link to “Animal or Animal Product.” Copies of the lists are also available via postal mail, fax, or email upon request to the Regionalization Evaluation Services, National Import Export Services, Veterinary Services, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, 4700 River Road Unit 39, Riverdale, Maryland 20737.


Done in Washington, DC, this 19th day of October 2015.
Kevin Shea,
Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.
[FR Doc. 2015–27092 Filed 10–22–15; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 3410–34–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
International Trade Administration
[A–570–928]
Uncovered Innerspring Units From the People’s Republic of China: Affirmative Preliminary Determination of Circumvention of the Antidumping Duty Order

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

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce (“the Department”) preliminarily determines that uncovered innersprings units (“innersprings units”) completed or assembled in China by Goldon Bedding Manufacturing Sdn. Bhd. (“Goldon”) using components from the People’s Republic of China (“PRC”), and exported to the United States, are circumventing the antidumping duty order on innersprings from the PRC, as provided in section 781(b) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (“the Act”).

DATES: Effective Date: October 23, 2015.


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On December 31, 2014, the Department initiated an anticircumvention inquiry on imports of innersprings from the PRC exported by Goldon. On January 12, 2015, the Department issued a circumvention inquiry questionnaire. On January 22, 2015, we placed information on the record confirming Goldon’s receipt of the questionnaire. The Department has,
to date, not received any responses to our requests for information from Goldon.

Because Goldon failed to respond to the questionnaire, the record does not contain complete information regarding the factors set forth in section 781(b) of the Tariff Act of 1930 (the “Act”). Accordingly, we have based our determination on facts otherwise available, pursuant to sections 776(a)(2)(A) and (C) of the Act, applying an adverse inference, pursuant to section 776(b) of the Act.5

Scope of the Antidumping Duty Order

The merchandise subject to the order is uncovered innerspring units. The product is currently classified under subheading 9404.29.9010 and has also been classified under subheadings 9404.10.0000, 7326.20.0070, 7320.20.5010, 7320.90.5010, or 7326.20.0071 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (“HTSUS”). The HTSUS subheadings are provided for convenience and customs purposes only; the written product description of the scope of the order is dispositive.6

Scope of the Anticircumvention Inquiry

The products covered by this inquiry are innerspring units, as described above, that are manufactured in Malaysia by Goldon with PRC-origin components and other direct materials, such as helical wires, and that are subsequently exported from Malaysia to the United States.

Methodology

The Department has conducted this preliminary determination of circumvention in accordance with section 781(b) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.225(h). For a full description of the methodology underlying our conclusions, see the Preliminary Decision Memorandum. 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, the signed Preliminary Decision Memorandum can be accessed directly at http://enforcement.trade.gov/fm/index.html. The signed Preliminary Decision Memorandum and the electronic version of the Preliminary Decision Memorandum are identical in content. The Preliminary Decision Memorandum is hereby adopted by this notice.

Affirmative Preliminary Determination of Circumvention

As detailed in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum, the Department preliminarily determines, based on facts available with an adverse inference pursuant to sections 776(a) and (b) of the Act, that innerspring units completed and assembled in Malaysia by Goldon using components from the PRC and exported from Malaysia to the United States are circumventing the Order. Moreover, because we are unable to distinguish between those innerspring units that Goldon is exporting to the United States which contain PRC-origin components and those that do not, the Department has preliminarily determined that it is appropriate to instruct U.S. Customs and Border Protection (“CBP”) to suspend liquidation of all entries of innerspring units from Malaysia produced by Goldon as subject to the Order.

Suspension of Liquidation

In accordance with 19 CFR 351.225(h)(2), the Department will direct CBP to suspend liquidation and to require a cash deposit of estimated duties at the rate applicable to the exporter, on all unliquidated entries of innerspring units produced by Goldon that were entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after December 22, 2014, the date of initiation of the anticircumvention inquiry. Should the Department conduct an administrative review in the future, and determine in the context of that review that Goldon did not produce for export innerspring units using PRC-origin innerspring components, the Department will consider initiating a changed circumstances review pursuant to section 751(b) of the Act to determine if the continued suspension of all innerspring units produced by Goldon is warranted.7

Notification to the International Trade Commission

The Department, consistent with section 781(e)(1)(B) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.225(f)(7)(i)(B), has notified the International Trade Commission (“ITC”) of this preliminary determination to include the merchandise subject to this anticircumvention inquiry within the Order. Pursuant to section 781(e)(2) of the Act, the ITC may request consultations concerning the Department’s proposed inclusion of the subject merchandise. If, after consultations, the ITC believes that a significant injury issue is presented by the proposed inclusion, it will have 15 days to provide written advice to the Department.8

Public Comment

Interested parties may submit case briefs within 15 days after the date of publication of these preliminary results of review in the Federal Register. Rebuttals to case briefs, which are limited to issues raised in the case briefs, must be filed within five days after the time limit for filing case briefs. Parties who submit case or rebuttal briefs are requested to submit with the argument (a) a statement of the issue, (b) a brief summary of the argument, and (c) a table of authorities. Parties submitting briefs should do so using the Department’s electronic filing system, ACCESS.

Pursuant to 19 CFR 351.310(c), interested parties who wish to request a hearing must submit a written request to the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance, U.S. Department of Commerce, filed electronically using ACCESS. An electronically filed document must be received successfully in its entirety by the Department’s electronic records system, ACCESS, by 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time, within 30 days after the date of publication of this notice.9 Hearing requests should contain the party’s name, address, and telephone number, the number of participants, and a list of the issues parties intend to present at the hearing. If a request for a hearing is made, the Department intends to hold the hearing at the U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20230, at a time and location to be determined. Prior to the date of the hearing, the Department will contact all parties that submitted case or rebuttal brief to determine if they wish to participate in the hearing.

Footnotes:

5 For more information, see Department Memorandum, “Anticircumvention Inquiry Regarding the Antidumping Duty Order on Uncovered Innerspring Units from the People’s Republic of China: Preliminary Determination Decision Memorandum for Goldon Bedding Manufacturing Sdn. Bhd.,” dated concurrently with these results (“Preliminary Decision Memorandum”).

6 See Preliminary Decision Memorandum for a complete description of the scope of the Order.


8 See section 781(e)(2) of the Act.

9 See 19 CFR 351.310(c).
The Department will then distribute a hearing schedule to the parties prior to the hearing and only those parties listed on the schedule may present issues raised in their briefs.

Final Determination

Pursuant to section 781(f) of the Act, the final determination with respect to this anticircumvention inquiry, including the results of the Department’s analysis of any written comments, will be issued no later than December 2, 2015, unless extended.

This preliminary affirmative circumvention determination is published in accordance with section 781(b) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.225.

Dated: October 19, 2015.

Ronald K. Lorentzen,
Acting Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance.

[FR Doc. 2015–27089 Filed 10–22–15; 8:45 am]