DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[F–533–876, C–570–061]

Fine Denier Polyester Staple Fiber From the People’s Republic of China and India: Postponement of Preliminary Determinations in the Countervailing Duty Investigations

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

DATES: Applicable August 8, 2017.


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On June 20, 2017, the Department of Commerce (the Department) initiated countervailing duty (CVD) investigations of imports of fine denier polyester fiber (fine denier PSF) from the PRC and India.1 Currently, the preliminary determinations are due no later than August 24, 2017.

Postponement of Preliminary Determinations

Section 703(b)(1) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act), requires the Department to issue the preliminary determination in a countervailing duty investigation within 65 days after the date on which the Department initiated the investigation. However, section 703(c)(1)(A) of the Act permits the Department to postpone the preliminary determination until no later than 130 days after the date on which the Department initiated the investigation if: (A) The petitioners make a timely request for a postponement; or (B) the Department concludes that the parties concerned are cooperating, and determines that the investigation is extraordinarily complicated, and that additional time is necessary to make a preliminary determination. Under 19 CFR 351.205(e), the petitioner must submit a request for postponement 25 days before the scheduled date of the preliminary determination and must state the reasons for the request. The Department will grant the request unless it finds compelling reasons to deny the request.

On July 26, 2017, the petitioners submitted a timely request that the Department postpone the preliminary CVD determinations.2 The petitioners state that they request postponement of the preliminary determinations because the current deadline for initial questionnaire responses is August 30, 2017, in the India investigation and September 1, 2017, in the PRC investigation. According to the petitioners, postponement of the preliminary determination deadline in each case would allow sufficient time for the Department and interested parties to analyze questionnaire responses and permit the issuance of supplemental questionnaires, if necessary.

In accordance with 19 CFR 351.205(e), the petitioners have stated the reasons for requesting a postponement of the preliminary determinations, and the Department finds no compelling reason to deny the request. Therefore, in accordance with section 703(c)(1)(A) of the Act, the Department is postponing the deadline for the preliminary determinations to no later than 130 days after the dates on which these investigations were initiated, i.e., October 30, 2017.4 Pursuant to section 705(a)(1) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.210(b)(1), the deadline for the final determinations of these investigations will continue to be 75 days after the date of the preliminary determinations.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:


DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[C–570–063]

Cast Iron Soil Pipe Fittings From the People’s Republic of China: Initiation of Countervailing Duty Investigation

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


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

The Petition

On July 13, 2017, the Department of Commerce (the Department) received a countervailing duty (CVD) petition concerning imports of cast iron soil pipe fittings (soil pipe fittings) from the People’s Republic of China (PRC), filed in proper form, on behalf of the Cast Iron Soil Pipe Institute (the petitioner).1 The petitioner is a trade association, whose members are all domestic producers of soil pipe fittings.2 The CVD petition was accompanied by an antidumping duty (AD) petition for soil pipe fittings from the PRC.3

On July 17, 2017, the petitioner filed an amendment to Volume I of the Petition.4 On July 18, 2017, the Department requested additional information and clarification of certain areas of the Petition.5 The petitioner filed responses to these requests on July 20, 2017.6

1 See Letter to the Secretary of Commerce from the petitioner re: Cast Iron Pipe Fittings from the People’s Republic of China—Petition for the Imposition of Antidumping and Countervailing Duties, dated July 13, 2017 (the Petition).

2 See Volume I of the Petition, at 2. The individual members of the Cast Iron Soil Pipe Institute are AB&I Foundry, Charlotte Pipe & Foundry, and Tyler Pipe.

3 See Volume II of the Petition.


6 See Letters from the petitioner “Cast Iron Soil Pipe Fittings from the People’s Republic of China: Response to Supplemental Questions—General