DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
International Trade Administration


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

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce (the Department) is rescinding the administrative review of the antidumping duty order on granular polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE) resin from Italy, for the period of review (POR) August 1, 2015, through July 18, 2016, based on the timely withdrawal of request for review by Polis S.r.l. (Polis).


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On August 5, 2016, the Department published the notice of opportunity to request an administrative review of the antidumping order on granular PTFE resin from Italy for the POR August 1, 2015, through July 31, 2016. On August 31, 2016, Polis, an Italian exporter of granular PTFE resin requested that the Department conduct an administrative review of itself. On October 14, 2016, the Department initiated an administrative review for the POR August 1, 2015, through July 18, 2016, pursuant to Polis’ request. On October 14, 2016, Polis timely withdrew its request for an administrative review.

Recission of Review

Pursuant to 19 CFR 351.213(d)(1), the Department will rescind an administrative review, in whole or in part, if the party or parties that requested a review withdraws the request within 90 days of the publication date of the notice of initiation of the requested review. As noted above, Polis withdrew its request for review within the 90-day period. No other party requested a review and, therefore, the Department is rescinding this administrative review.

Assessment

The Department will instruct U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to assess antidumping duties on all appropriate entries of granular PTFE resin from Italy. For Polis, antidumping duties shall be assessed at rates equal to the cash deposit of estimated antidumping duties required at the time of entry, or withdrawal from warehouse, for consumption in accordance with 19 CFR 351.212(c)(1)(i). The Department intends to issue appropriate assessment instructions to CBP 15 days after the date of publication of this notice in the Federal Register.

Notifications

This notice also serves as a final reminder to parties subject to administrative protective order (APO) of their responsibility concerning the return or destruction of propriety information disclosed under an APO in accordance with 19 CFR 351.305(a)(3). Timely written notification of the 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.

This notice is issued and published in accordance with sections 751(i)(1) and 777(i)(1) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended, and 19 CFR 351.213(d)(4).

Dated: January 9, 2017.

Gary Taverman,
Associate Deputy Assistant Secretary for Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Operations.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
International Trade Administration

Certain Pasta From Italy: Final Results of Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Changed Circumstances Reviews

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

SUMMARY: On June 22, 2016, the Department of Commerce (the Department) published its initiation and preliminary results in these changed circumstances reviews. Based on our analysis of the comments submitted by interested parties, our final results remain unchanged from the preliminary results.


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:
Background

On June 22, 2016, the Department published a notice of Initiation and Preliminary Results of Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Changed Circumstances Reviews on certain pasta from Italy (1) in furtherance of the International Trade Data System (ITDS) initiative and U.S. Customs and Border Protection’s (CBP) efforts to modernize the electronic submission of import documents using the Automated Commercial Environment (ACE), and (2) to align the scope language regarding certifications accompanying imports of organic pasta across the AD/CVD Italy Pasta Orders.

Specifically, the Department preliminarily determined to: (1) Convert the organic pasta certification submission requirement to a record-keeping requirement and to adjust the scope exclusion language to reflect this change, (2) authorize electronic submission of the certification when the certificate is requested by CBP or the Department, (3) update the scope language to remove the reference to the National Organic Program certificate, and (4) to align the certification language across the AD/CVD Italy Pasta Orders to reflect that the same certification authority (or authorities) is acceptable for purposes of both orders. Since the publication of the Initiation and Preliminary Results of Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Changed Circumstances Reviews, the Department received a single case brief, filed on July 6, 2016, on behalf of American Italian Pasta Company, Dakota Growers Pasta Company and New World Pasta Company (Petitioners). No interested party submitted a rebuttal brief.

Scope of the Orders

The scope of these orders covers shipments of certain non-egg dry pasta in packages of five pounds four ounces or less, whether or not enriched or fortified or containing milk or other optional ingredients such as chopped vegetables, vegetable purees, milk, gluten, diastasis, vitamins, coloring and flavorings, and up to two percent egg white. The pasta covered by the scope of these Orders is typically sold in the retail market, in fiberboard or cardboard cartons, or polyethylene or polypropylene bags of varying dimensions.3

The merchandise subject to the AD/CVD Italy Pasta Orders is currently classifiable under items 1901.90.90.95 and 1902.19.20 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS). Although the HTSUS subheadings are provided for convenience and Customs purposes, the written description of the merchandise subject to these Orders is dispositive.

Analysis of Comments Received

In their July 6, 2016, case brief, Petitioners agree with the Department’s revision of the organic pasta exclusion to harmonize scope language regarding certifications concerning imports of organic pasta across the AD/CVD Italy Pasta Orders. Petitioners, however, express concern regarding the Department’s proposal to replace the requirement to file the organic certification at entry with a record-keeping requirement. Petitioners argue that because organic pasta is an excluded product, an exporter or importer dealing exclusively with organic pasta might never become subject to the Department’s jurisdiction in an administrative review or other segment and would therefore, never be required to produce the certification. Additionally, Petitioners note that, at the outset of the Initiation and Preliminary Results of Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Changed Circumstances Reviews, the Department indicated it was initiating a changed circumstances review to change the requirement to submit an organic certification at entry to a record-keeping requirement and to allow for electronic submission of the document. However, the Department did not further discuss the possible electronic submission requirement or how it would work. Petitioners suggest that in lieu of, or in addition to, the record-keeping requirement, the Department should require importers to scan electronically and submit the organic certification using the Document Imaging System (DIS) in ACE so that the certification will be attached to each relevant entry. Petitioners conclude that the Department would have access to the certifications if the Department obtained copies of entry packages from CBP.

1 See Certain Pasta from Italy: Initiation and Preliminary Results of Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Changed Circumstances Reviews, 81 FR 40659 (June 22, 2016) (Initiation and Preliminary Results of Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Changed Circumstances Reviews).
2 See Notice of Antidumping Duty Order and Amended Final Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value: Certain Pasta from Italy, 61 FR 38547 (July 24, 1996); and Notice of Countervailing Duty Order and Amended Final Affirmative Countervailing Duty Determination: Certain Pasta (“Pasta”) from Italy, 61 FR 38544 (July 24, 1996) (collectively, AD/CVD Italy Pasta Orders).
3 For a full description of the scope of these AD/CVD Italy Pasta Orders, see the Appendix to this Notice.

Department’s Position

The Department considered the comments submitted by Petitioners and continues to find that it is appropriate to convert the current requirement to submit the organic certification at entry to a record-keeping requirement. Petitioners have not provided any information to indicate that enforcement of the AD/CVD Italy Pasta Orders would be compromised by such a change. Under the record keeping requirement described in the preliminary results, both the exporter and the importer would be required to maintain a copy of the original certification in their respective records, as well as documentation supporting the certification, that would be subject to verification by the U.S. Government.4

With respect to our statement in the summary of the Initiation and Preliminary Results of Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Changed Circumstances Reviews regarding authorization for electronic submission of the certification, this was meant to refer to one manner through which a party could submit a certification, once requested by the Department or CBP. CBP or the Department may request that the certification and/or supporting documentation be submitted electronically, through the DIS component of ACE or in some other form or manner as required by the requesting agency. As further discussed in the Initiation and Preliminary Results of Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Changed Circumstances Reviews, should the Department or CBP have concerns about entries of pasta, either agency, or both agencies, may require submission of the certifications to substantiate a party’s claim that the imported pasta meets the requirements of the organic pasta exclusion. As such, the importer, or the party filing on its behalf, would be required to submit the organic pasta certification upon request by CBP or the Department.

Absent evidence that the organic pasta certification record-keeping requirement undermines the enforcement of the AD/CVD Italy Pasta Orders, and because this change furthers the ITDS initiative and CBP’s efforts to modernize the electronic submission of import documents using ACE, we find that it is appropriate to adopt the organic pasta certification record-keeping requirement. However, this Notice should not be construed as an indication that the Department relinquishes its ability to require the

4 See Initiation and Preliminary Results of Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Changed Circumstances Reviews, 81 FR at 40660.
filing of the organic certification for each entry of pasta subject to the AD/CVD Italy Pasta Orders. If, at any time, either CBP or the Department becomes aware of evidence indicating that the elimination of the requirement to file the organic certification with each entry is undermining the enforcement of the AD/CVD Italy Pasta Orders, the Department can reconsider whether to require that the organic certification be filed with each entry, using the DIS for entries filed in ACE or through other means as appropriate.

Final Results of Changed Circumstances Review

After an analysis of the comments submitted, we continue to find that the organic pasta certification submission requirement should be converted to a record-keeping requirement. Under this record-keeping requirement, both the exporter and the importer are required to maintain a copy of the original EU authorized body certification in their respective records, as well as documentation supporting the certification, that would be subject to verification by the U.S. Government. Because this certification requirement will now be a record-keeping requirement, the exporter and importer are required to submit the certification in response to a request from CBP or the Department, in the form or manner required by the requesting agency (i.e., electronically or otherwise). Additionally, the certification must be issued, signed, and dated prior to the entry into commerce from Italy. Entries for which an exporter or importer is unable to produce the required certification and/or documentation supporting the certification upon the request of CBP or the Department may be subject to antidumping or countervailing duties.

In addition, we continue to find that the scope language relating to the organic pasta exclusion should be updated to: (1) Reflect the conversion to a record-keeping requirement; (2) remove the reference to the National Organic Program Certificate; and (3) align the certification language across the AD/CVD Italy Pasta Orders to reflect that the same certification authority is acceptable for purposes of both orders. Based on the foregoing, the Department adopts the revised scope of the AD/CVD Italy Pasta Orders to reflect the aforementioned changes. The full text of the revised scopes is found in the Appendix to this document.

Notification to Parties

This notice is the only reminder to parties subject to 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 the 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. These final results are being issued and published in accordance with sections 751(b)(1) and 777(i) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended and 19 CFR 351.216 and 351.221(b)(5).

Dated: January 6, 2017.

Paul Piquado,
Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance.

Appendix

Scope of the AD Order on Certain Pasta From Italy

Imports covered by this Order are shipments of certain non-egg dry pasta in packages of five pounds four ounces or less, whether or not enriched or fortified or containing milk or other optional ingredients such as chopped vegetables, vegetable purees, milk, gluten, diastasis, vitamins, coloring and flavorings, and up to two percent egg white. The pasta covered by the scope of the Order is typically sold in the retail market, in fiberboard or cardboard cartons, or polyethylene or polypropylene bags of varying dimensions. Excluded from the scope of this Order are refrigerated, frozen, or canned pastas, as well as all forms of egg pasta, with the exception of non-egg dry pasta containing up to two percent egg white. Multicolored pasta, imported in kitchen display bottles of decorative glass that are sealed with cork or paraffin and bound with raffia, is excluded from the scope of the Order. Note 1. Pursuant to the Department’s May 12, 2011, changed circumstances review, effective January 1, 2009, gluten free pasta is also excluded from the scope of the Order. Note 2. Effective January 1, 2012, ravioli and tortellini filled with cheese and/or vegetables are also excluded from the scope of the Order. Note 3.

Also excluded are imports of organic pasta from Italy that are certified by an EU authorized body in accordance with the United States Department of Agriculture’s National Organic Program for organic products. The organic pasta certification must be retained by exporters and importers and made available to U.S. Customs and Border Protection or the Department of Commerce upon request. The merchandise subject to this order is currently classifiable under items 1901.90.90.95 and 1902.19.20 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS). Although the HTSUS subheadings are provided for convenience and Customs purposes, the written description of the merchandise subject to the Order is dispositive.

Note 1. See Memorandum to Richard Moreland, dated August 25, 1997, which is on file in the Central Records Unit.


Scope of the CVD Order on Certain Pasta From Italy

Imports covered by this Order are shipments of certain non-egg dry pasta in packages of five pounds four ounces or less, whether or not enriched or fortified or containing milk or other optional ingredients such as chopped vegetables, vegetable purees, milk, gluten, diastasis, vitamins, coloring and flavorings, and up to two percent egg white. The pasta covered by the scope of the Order is typically sold in the retail market, in fiberboard or cardboard cartons, or polyethylene or polypropylene bags of varying dimensions. Excluded from the scope of this Order are refrigerated, frozen, or canned pastas, as well as all forms of egg pasta, with the exception of non-egg dry pasta containing up to two percent egg white. Multicolored pasta, imported in kitchen display bottles of decorative glass that are sealed with cork or paraffin and bound with raffia, is excluded from the scope of the Order. Note 1. Pursuant to the Department’s May 12, 2011, changed circumstances review, effective January 1, 2009, gluten free pasta is also excluded from the scope of the Order. Note 2. Effective January 1, 2012, ravioli and tortellini filled with cheese and/or vegetables are also excluded from the scope of the Order. Note 3.

Also excluded are imports of organic pasta from Italy that are certified by an EU authorized body in accordance with the United States Department of Agriculture’s National Organic Program for organic products. The organic pasta certification must be retained by exporters and importers and made available to U.S. Customs and Border Protection or the Department of Commerce upon request. The merchandise subject to this order is currently classifiable under items 1901.90.90.95 and 1902.19.20 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS). Although the HTSUS subheadings are provided for convenience and Customs purposes, the written description of the merchandise subject to the Order is dispositive.

Note 1. See Memorandum to Richard Moreland, dated August 25, 1997, which is on file in the Central Records Unit.


DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
International Trade Administration
Initiation of Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Administrative Reviews

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

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce ("the Department") has received requests to conduct administrative reviews of various antidumping and countervailing duty orders and findings with November anniversary dates. In accordance with the Department’s regulations, we are initiating those administrative reviews.


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background
The Department has received timely requests, in accordance with 19 CFR 351.213(b), for administrative reviews of various antidumping and countervailing duty orders and findings with November anniversary dates.

All deadlines for the submission of various types of information, certifications, or comments or actions by the Department discussed below refer to the number of calendar days from the applicable starting time.

Notice of No Sales
If a producer or exporter named in this notice of initiation had no exports, sales, or entries during the period of review ("POR"), it must notify the Department within 30 days of publication of this notice in the Federal Register. All submissions must be filed electronically at http://access.trade.gov in accordance with 19 CFR 351.303. Such submissions are subject to verification in accordance with section 782(i) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended ("the Act"). Further, in accordance with 19 CFR 351.303(f)(1)(i), a copy must be served on every party on the Department’s service list.

Respondent Selection
In the event the Department limits the number of respondents for individual examination for administrative reviews initiated pursuant to requests made for the orders identified below, the Department intends to select respondents based on U.S. Customs and Border Protection ("CBP") data for U.S. imports during the period of review. We intend to place the CBP data on the record within five days of publication of the initiation notice and to make our decision regarding respondent selection within 30 days of publication of the initiation Federal Register notice. Comments regarding the CBP data and respondent selection should be submitted seven days after the placement of the CBP data on the record of this review. Parties wishing to submit rebuttal statements should submit those comments five days after the deadline for the initial comments.

In the event the Department decides it is necessary to limit individual examination of respondents and conduct respondent selection under section 777A(c)(2) of the Act:

In general, the Department has found that determinations concerning whether particular companies should be "collapsed" (i.e., treated as a single entity for purposes of calculating antidumping duty rates) require a substantial amount of detailed information and analysis, which often require follow-up questions and analysis. Accordingly, the Department will not conduct collapsing analyses at the respondent selection phase of this review and will not collapse companies at the respondent selection phase unless there has been a determination to collapse certain companies in a previous segment of this antidumping proceeding (i.e., investigation, administrative review, new shipper review or changed circumstances review). For any company subject to this review, if the Department determined, or continued to treat, that company as collapsed with others, the Department will assume that such companies continue to operate in the same manner and will collapse them for respondent selection purposes. Otherwise, the Department will not collapse companies for purposes of respondent selection. Parties are requested to (a) identify which companies subject to review previously were collapsed, and (b) provide a citation to the proceeding in which they were collapsed. Further, if companies are requested to complete the Quantity and Value ("Q&V") Questionnaire for purposes of respondent selection, in general each company must report volume and value data separately for itself. Parties should not include data for any other party, even if they believe they should be treated as a single entity with that other party. If a company was collapsed with another company or companies in the most recently completed segment of this proceeding where the Department considered collapsing that entity, complete Q&V data for that collapsed entity must be submitted.

Deadline for Withdrawal of Request for Administrative Review
Pursuant to 19 CFR 351.213(d)(1), a party that has requested a review may withdraw that request within 90 days of the date of publication of the notice of initiation of the requested review. The regulation provides that the Department may extend this time if it is reasonable to do so. In order to provide parties additional certainty with respect to when the Department will exercise its discretion to extend this 90-day deadline, interested parties are advised that the Department does not intend to extend the 90-day deadline unless the requestor demonstrates that an extraordinary circumstance has prevented it from submitting a timely withdrawal request. Determinations by the Department to extend the 90-day deadline will be made on a case-by-case basis.

Separate Rates
In proceedings involving non-market economy ("NME") countries, the Department begins with a rebuttable presumption that all companies within the country are subject to government control and, thus, should be assigned a single antidumping duty deposit rate. It is the Department’s policy to assign all exporters of merchandise subject to an administrative review in an NME country this single rate unless an exporter can demonstrate that it is sufficiently independent so as to be entitled to a separate rate.

To establish whether a firm is sufficiently independent from government control of its export activities to be entitled to a separate rate, the Department analyzes each entity exporting the subject merchandise under a test arising from the Final Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value: Sparklers from the People’s Republic of China, 56 FR 20588 (May 6, 1991), as amplified by Final Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value: Silicon Carbide from the