

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Foreign-Trade Zones Board

[B-12-2024]

Foreign-Trade Zone (FTZ) 49, Notification of Proposed Production Activity; Merck Sharp & Dohme LLC; (Pharmaceutical Products for Research and Development); Rahway, New Jersey

Merck Sharp & Dohme LLC submitted a notification of proposed production activity to the FTZ Board (the Board) for its facility in Rahway, New Jersey, within FTZ 49. The notification conforming to the requirements of the Board's regulations (15 CFR 400.22) was received on March 8, 2024.

Pursuant to 15 CFR 400.14(b), FTZ production activity would be limited to the specific foreign-status material(s)/ component(s) and specific finished product(s) described in the submitted notification (summarized below) and subsequently authorized by the Board. The benefits that may stem from conducting production activity under FTZ procedures are explained in the background section of the Board's website—accessible via www.trade.gov/ftz.

The proposed finished products for research and development include: drug products containing the following active pharmaceutical ingredients: MK-7962 Sotatercept, MK-3475A monoclonal antibody, MK-2060 monoclonal antibody, MK-6024 Efinopegdutide, and, MK-5475 hypertension; clinical placebos; and, blinded clinical trial kits (duty rate ranges from duty-free to 6.5%, and 40 cents/kg+10.4%).

The proposed foreign-status materials and components include: active pharmaceutical ingredients: MK-5475 Hypertension, MK-6024 Efinopegdutide, MK-7962 Sotatercept, MK-3475A monoclonal antibody, and MK-2060 monoclonal antibody; syringes and syringe parts: barrels, hubs, plungers, needles; autoinjectors and autoinjector subassemblies: casings and dosing mechanisms; and, empty gelatin capsules (duty rate ranges from duty-free to 6.5%). The request indicates that certain materials/components are subject to duties under section 301 of the Trade Act of 1974 (section 301), depending on the country of origin. The applicable section 301 decisions require subject merchandise to be admitted to FTZs in privileged foreign status (19 CFR 146.41).

Public comment is invited from interested parties. Submissions shall be addressed to the Board's Executive Secretary and sent to: ftz@trade.gov. The

closing period for their receipt April 29, 2024.

A copy of the notification will be available for public inspection in the "Online FTZ Information System" section of the Board's website.

For further information, contact Diane Finver at Diane.Finver@trade.gov.

Dated: March 12, 2024.

Elizabeth Whiteman,
Executive Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[A-489-849]

Certain Paper Shopping Bags From the Republic of Turkey: Final Affirmative Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value

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

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of Commerce (Commerce) determines that certain paper shopping bags (paper shopping bags) from the Republic of Turkey (Turkey) are being, or are likely to be, sold in the United States at less than fair value (LTFV) during the period of investigation (POI) April 1, 2022, through March 31, 2023.

DATES: Applicable March 18, 2024.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jeff Pedersen, AD/CVD Operations, Office IV, Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482-2769.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On January 3, 2024, Commerce published the preliminary determination in this LTFV investigation in the *Federal Register*.¹ Although we provided interested parties with an opportunity to comment on the *Preliminary Determination*, no interested party submitted comments on the *Preliminary Determination*, other than scope comments, which we have addressed in a Final Scope Decision Memorandum.² On March 5, 2024,

¹ See *Certain Paper Shopping Bags from the Republic of Turkey: Preliminary Affirmative Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value*, 89 FR 339 (January 3, 2024) (*Preliminary Determination*), and accompanying Preliminary Decision Memorandum.

² See Memorandum, "Final Scope Decision Memorandum," dated concurrently with this notice (Final Scope Decision Memorandum).

Commerce held a hearing regarding scope comments filed in the LTFV investigations of paper shopping bags from Cambodia, the People's Republic of China, Colombia, India, Malaysia, Portugal, Taiwan, Turkey, and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.³

Scope of the Investigation

The products covered by this investigation are paper shopping bags from Turkey. For a complete description of the scope of this investigation, see the appendix to this notice.

Scope Comments

During the course of this investigation, Commerce received scope comments from parties. Commerce issued a Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum to address these comments and set aside a period of time for parties to address scope issues in scope-specific case and rebuttal briefs.⁴ We received comments from parties on the Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum, which we address in the Final Scope Decision Memorandum. We did not make any changes to the scope of the investigation from the scope published in the *Preliminary Determination*.

Use of Adverse Facts Available (AFA)

Pursuant to section 776(a) and (b) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act), we have continued to assign the specific companies that are listed in the table below an estimated weighted-average dumping margin based on adverse facts available (AFA), because these companies failed to cooperate to the best of their ability in responding to Commerce's requests for information. For the reasons explained in the *Preliminary Determination*, and consistent with Commerce's practice, as AFA, we assigned these companies the highest corroborated dumping margin alleged in the petition.⁵

³ See Memorandum, "Hearing Schedule," dated February 21, 2024.

⁴ See Memorandum, "Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum," dated December 27, 2023 (Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum).

⁵ See, e.g., *Welded Stainless Pressure Pipe from Thailand: Final Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value*, 79 FR 31093 (May 30, 2014), and accompanying Issues and Decision Memorandum (IDM) at Comment 3; see also Checklist, "Antidumping Duty Investigation Initiation Checklist," dated June 20, 2023 (Initiation Checklist); and Petitioner's Letter, "Response of Petitioner to Volume IX Supplemental Questionnaire," dated June 12, 2023 at Exhibit IX-S9 (Petition Supplement). The petitioner consists of members of the Coalition for Fair Trade in Shopping Bags, which include Novolex Holdings, LLC and the United Steel, Paper and Forestry, Rubber, Manufacturing, Energy, Allied Industrial and Service Workers International Union.