

Notification to Interested Parties

This determination is issued and published in accordance with sections 733(f) and 777(i)(1) of the Act, and 19 CFR 351.205(c).

Dated: April 27, 2026.

Christopher Abbott,

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy and Negotiations, performing the non-exclusive functions and duties of the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance.

Appendix I

Scope of the Investigation

The scope of this investigation covers certain freight railcar couplers (also known as “fits” or “assemblies”) and parts thereof. Freight rail couplers are composed of two main parts, namely knuckles and coupler bodies but may also include other items (*e.g.*, coupler locks, lock lift assemblies, knuckle pins, knuckle throwers, and rotors). The parts covered by this investigation include: (1) E coupler bodies; (2) E/F coupler bodies; (3) F coupler bodies; (4) E knuckles; and (5) F knuckles; as set forth by the Association of American Railroads (AAR). The freight rail coupler parts are included within the scope of this investigation when imported individually. Coupler locks, lock lift assemblies, knuckle pins, knuckle throwers, and rotors are covered merchandise when imported in an assembly but are not covered by the scope when imported separately.

Subject freight rail couplers and parts are included within the scope whether finished or unfinished, whether imported individually or with other subject or nonsubject parts, whether assembled or unassembled, whether mounted or unmounted, or if joined with nonsubject merchandise, such as other nonsubject parts or a completed railcar. Finishing includes, but is not limited to, arc washing, welding, grinding, shot blasting, heat treatment, machining, and assembly of various parts. When a subject coupler or subject parts are mounted on or to other nonsubject merchandise, such as a railcar, only the coupler or subject parts are covered by the scope.

The finished products covered by the scope of this investigation meet or exceed the AAR specifications of M-211, “Foundry and Product Approval Requirements for the Manufacture of Couplers, Coupler Yokes, Knuckles, Follower Blocks, and Coupler Parts,” and/or AAR M-215 “Coupling Systems,” or other equivalent domestic or international standards (including any revisions to the standard(s)).

The country of origin for subject couplers and parts thereof, whether fully assembled, unfinished or finished, or attached to a railcar, is the country where the subject coupler parts were cast or forged. Subject merchandise includes coupler parts as defined above that have been further processed or further assembled, including those coupler parts attached to a railcar in third countries. Further processing includes, but is not limited to, arc washing, welding, grinding, shot blasting, heat treatment, painting, coating, priming, machining, and

assembly of various parts. The inclusion, attachment, joining, or assembly of nonsubject parts with subject parts or couplers either in the country of manufacture of the in-scope product or in a third country does not remove the subject parts or couplers from the scope.

The couplers that are the subject of this investigation are currently classifiable in the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) statistical reporting number 8607.30.1010, 8607.30.1050, and 8607.30.1090. Subject merchandise attached to finished railcars may also enter under HTSUS statistical reporting numbers 7326.90.8688, 8606.10.0000, 8606.91.0000, 8606.92.0000, 8606.99.0130, or under subheading 8606.99.0160. Subject merchandise may also be imported under HTSUS statistical reporting number 7325.99.5000. These HTSUS subheadings are provided for convenience and customs purposes only; the written description of the scope of this investigation is dispositive.

Appendix II

List of Topics Discussed in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum

- I. Summary
- II. Background
- III. Period of Investigation
- IV. Application of Facts Available and Use of Adverse Inference
- V. Particular Market Situation
- VI. Discussion of the Methodology
- VII. Adjustments to Cash Deposit Rates for Export Subsidies in the Companion Countervailing Duty Investigation
- VIII. Currency Conversion
- IX. Recommendation

[FR Doc. 2026-08956 Filed 5-5-26; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[C-570-221, C-533-949]

Large Diameter Graphite Electrodes 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 May 6, 2026.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Joseph Molokwu at (202) 482-8043 (the People’s Republic of China (China)) and Nathan James and Olivia Woolverton (India) at (202) 482-5305 and (202) 482-7453, respectively, AD/CVD Operations, Offices IV and V, Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20230.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On March 16, 2026, the U.S. Department of Commerce (Commerce) initiated countervailing duty (CVD) investigations of imports of large diameter graphite electrodes from China and India.¹ Currently, the preliminary determinations are due no later than May 20, 2026.

Postponement of Preliminary Determinations

Section 703(b)(1) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act), requires Commerce to issue the preliminary determination in a CVD investigation within 65 days after the date on which Commerce initiated the investigation. However, section 703(c)(1) of the Act permits Commerce to postpone the preliminary determination until no later than 130 days after the date on which Commerce initiated the investigation if: (A) the petitioner makes a timely request for a postponement; or (B) Commerce concludes that the parties concerned are cooperating, that the investigation is extraordinarily complicated, and that additional time is necessary to make a preliminary determination.

Commerce has determined that the parties involved in these proceedings are cooperating because the respondents have submitted portions of their questionnaire response or have requested extensions to respond and, further, finds that the investigations are extraordinarily complicated within the meaning of section 703(c)(1)(B)(i) of the Act and that Commerce requires additional time to make a preliminary determination.

Section 703(c)(1)(B)(i)(I) provides that “the number and complexity of the alleged countervailable subsidy practices” is a consideration in determining whether a case is extraordinarily complicated. In this case, Commerce is investigating an unusually high number of alleged subsidy programs in both China and India and Commerce will require additional time to analyze the questionnaire responses, once received, and to issue appropriate requests for clarification and additional information, particularly regarding questions of affiliation and cross-ownership and program use by the respondents. In accordance with section 703(c)(1)(B) of the Act, Commerce is postponing the deadline for the preliminary determinations of these investigations to

¹ See *Large Diameter Graphite Electrodes from the People’s Republic of China and India: Initiation of Countervailing Duty Investigations*, 91 FR 13577 (March 20, 2026).

130 days after the day on which the investigations were initiated, *i.e.*, July 24, 2026. Pursuant to section 705(a)(1) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.210(b)(1), the deadline for the final determinations in these investigations will continue to be 75 days after the date of the preliminary determinations.

Notification to Interested Parties

This notice is issued and published pursuant to section 703(c)(2) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.205(f)(1).

Dated: April 30, 2026.

Christopher Abbott,

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy and Negotiations, performing the non-exclusive functions and duties of the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648-XF672]

Magnuson-Stevens Act Provisions; General Provisions for Domestic Fisheries; Application for Exempted Fishing Permits

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice; request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Assistant Regional Administrator for Sustainable Fisheries, Greater Atlantic Region, NMFS, has made a preliminary determination that an Exempted Fishing Permit (EFP) application contains all of the required information and warrants further consideration. The EFP would allow federally permitted fishing vessels to fish outside fishery regulations in support of exempted fishing activities proposed by the Commercial Fisheries Research Foundation. Regulations under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act require publication of this notification to provide interested parties the

opportunity to comment on applications for proposed EFPs.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before May 21, 2026.

ADDRESSES: You may submit written comments by email: *nmfs.gar.efp@noaa.gov*. Include in the subject line “Bait Skate Utilization in the LAGC Scallop Fishery.” All comments received are a part of the public record and may be posted for public viewing without change. All personal identifying information (*e.g.*, name, address), confidential business information, or otherwise sensitive information submitted voluntarily by the sender will be publicly accessible. NMFS will accept anonymous comments (enter “anonymous” as the signature if you wish to remain anonymous).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ashley Trudeau, Fishery Resource Management Specialist, *ashley.trudeau@noaa.gov*, (978) 281-9252.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The applicant has submitted a complete application for an EFP to conduct commercial fishing activities that the regulations would otherwise restrict. This EFP would exempt the participating vessels from the following Federal regulations:

TABLE 1—REQUESTED EXEMPTIONS

CFR Citation	Regulation	Need for exemption
648.80(h)(3)(iii)(A)	Vessels fishing in the Scallop Dredge Fishery Exemption Areas may not fish for, possess, or land any species of fish other than scallops and monkfish..	Allowing Limited Access General Category (LAGC) scallop vessels to possess bait skate (<i>i.e.</i> , whole skates less than 23 inches (58.4 centimeter (cm)) total length) while dredging in the Northern Gulf of Maine (NGOM) Management Area, Scallop Dredge Fishery Exemption Areas, or the Mid-Atlantic Exemption Area.

TABLE 2—PROJECT SUMMARY

Project title	From Discards to Resource: Bait Skate Utilization in the LAGC Scallop Fishery.
Project start	Upon approval.
Project end	March 31, 2027.
Project objectives	Quantifying bait skate bycatch and identifying practical pathways for its utilization by LAGC Atlantic sea scallop vessels.
Project location	Georges Bank (GB), Gulf of Maine, Southern New England (SNE), Mid-Atlantic.
Number of vessels	12.
Number of trips	1,200.
Trip duration (days)	1–2 days.
Total number of days	1,200–2,400.
Gear type(s)	Dredge.
Number of tows or sets	10–20 per trip.
Duration of tows or sets	1–2 hours.

Project Narrative

The Commercial Fisheries Research Foundation (CFRF) is requesting an EFP in support of a study that would evaluate the feasibility of converting bait skate discards to landings in the

LAGC Atlantic sea scallop fishery by (1) quantifying bait skate bycatch, and (2) identifying practical pathways for its utilization, including sale to dealers and other vessels or retention for use in the lobster and/or crab fishery. Allowing the

landing of underutilized species that would normally be discarded could allow scallop vessels to supplement their income during times of reduced scallop abundance. These additional