

of the box. Polypropylene corrugated boxes may be printed with ink or digital designs.

The subject merchandise includes polypropylene corrugated boxes with or without handles, with or without lids or tops, with or without reinforcing wire, whether in a one-piece, two-piece, or multi-piece configuration, and whether folded into shape or in an unfolded form. The subject merchandise includes all polypropylene corrugated boxes regardless of size, shape, or dimension. The subject merchandise also includes polypropylene corrugated box lids or tops when imported separately from polypropylene corrugated boxes.

The products subject to this investigation are currently classified in the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) under statistical reporting number 3923.10.9000. Although the HTSUS statistical reporting number is provided for convenience and customs purposes, the written description of the merchandise is dispositive.

Appendix II

List of Topics Discussed in the Issues and Decision Memorandum

- I. Summary
- II. Background
- III. Changes Since the *Preliminary Determination*
- IV. Application of Facts Available and Use of Adverse Inference
- V. Final Affirmative Determination of Critical Circumstances
- VI. Discussion of the Issue
 - Comment: Whether Commerce Should Apply AFA and Treat Jia Bao Rui as a Part of the Vietnam-wide Entity
- VII. Recommendation

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[A–533–942]

Crystalline Silicon Photovoltaic Cells, Whether or Not Assembled Into Modules From India: Postponement of Final Determination of Sales at Less-Than-Fair-Value Investigation and Extension of Provisional Measures

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

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of Commerce (Commerce) is postponing the deadline for issuing the final determination in the less-than-fair-value (LTFV) investigation of crystalline silicon photovoltaic cells, whether or not assembled into modules (solar cells) from India until September 10, 2026, and is extending the provisional measures from a four-month period to a period of not more than six months.

DATES: Applicable May 20, 2026.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jonathan Schueler or Noah Wetzel, AD/CVD Operations, Office VIII, Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482–9175 or (202) 482–7466, respectively.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On August 12, 2025, Commerce initiated an LTFV investigation of solar cells from India.¹ The period of investigation is July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025. On April 28, 2026, Commerce published its *Preliminary Determination* in this LTFV investigation of solar cells from India.²

Postponement of Final Determination

Section 735(a)(2) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act), and 19 CFR 351.210(b)(2) provide that a final determination may be postponed until not later than 135 days after the date of the publication of the preliminary determination if, in the event of an affirmative preliminary determination, a request for such postponement is made by the exporters or producers who account for a significant proportion of exports of the subject merchandise, or in the event of a negative preliminary determination, a request for such postponement is made by the petitioners. Further, 19 CFR 351.210(e)(2) requires that such postponement requests by exporters be accompanied by a request for extension of provisional measures from a four-month period to a period of not more than six months, in accordance with section 733(d) of the Act.

On April 22, 2026, Mundra Solar Energy Limited and Mundra Solar PV Limited (collectively, Mundra Solar), two mandatory respondents in this investigation, requested that Commerce postpone the deadline for the final determination until no later than 135 days from the publication of the *Preliminary Determination*, and extend the application of the provisional

¹ See *Crystalline Silicon Photovoltaic Cells, Whether or Not Assembled Into Modules, from India, Indonesia, and the Lao People's Democratic Republic: Initiation of Less-Than-Fair-Value Investigations*, 90 FR 38736 (August 12, 2025) (*Initiation Notice*).

² See *Crystalline Silicon Photovoltaic Cells, Whether or Not Assembled into Modules from India: Preliminary Affirmative Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value, and Preliminary Affirmative Determination of Critical Circumstances, in Part*, 91 FR 22798 (April 28, 2026) (*Preliminary Determination*).

measures from a four-month period to a period of not more than six months.³

In accordance with section 735(a)(2)(A) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.210(b)(2)(ii), because: (1) the *Preliminary Determination* was affirmative; (2) the request was made by the exporters and producers who account for a significant proportion of exports of the subject merchandise; and (3) no compelling reasons for denial exist, Commerce is postponing the final determination until no later than 135 days after the date of the publication of the *Preliminary Determination*, and extending the provisional measures from a four-month period to a period of not more than six months. Accordingly, Commerce will make its final determination no later than September 10, 2026.

This notice is issued and published pursuant to 19 CFR 351.210(g).

Dated: May 15, 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 Institute of Standards and Technology

[Docket Number: NIST–2026–0067]

MEP Pilot Program

AGENCY: National Institute of Standards and Technology, U.S. Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of intent (NOI).

SUMMARY: The Hollings Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) is initiating a competitive pilot program for existing MEP center(s) to accelerate the adoption and commercialization of advanced manufacturing technologies that enhance the competitiveness of the domestic industrial base. This program will target key sectors where MEP center(s) will lead the development and validation of shared technology frameworks to substantially accelerate the acceptance of advanced manufacturing methods or transform fragmented supply chains into a robust ecosystem. These frameworks will provide a foundation for small- and

³ See Mundra Solar's Letter, "Mundra Solar's Request to Postpone Final Determination," dated April 22, 2026.

medium-sized manufacturers to establish capabilities for future production needs or reduce barriers to entry into new markets. Two manufacturing technology topics have been identified for this pilot program: (1) additive manufacturing for aerospace components; and (2) a domestic critical minerals supply chain. This NOI is provided to allow potential applicants time to begin developing proposal strategies and establishing collaborations among industry, academic, Federal laboratory, and state/local government partners.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: All inquiries may be directed to Jyoti Malhotra or Jessie Zhang (301-975-5020) via email to mfg@nist.gov, with the subject line: "MEP Technology Accelerator Pilot Program." All answers, which will be provided at the sole discretion of NIST, will be posted on the NIST competition website at <https://www.nist.gov/mep/about-nist-mep/notice-funding-opportunities/open-notice-funding-opportunities>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Purpose

MEP intends to announce a pilot program to accelerate the adoption and commercialization of advanced manufacturing technologies that enhance the competitiveness of the domestic industrial base. This competition will focus on two goals: (1) accelerating the use of additive manufacturing for aerospace components; and (2) accelerating the establishment of a domestic critical minerals supply chain.

The pilot program will be established and will operate in accordance with 15 U.S.C. 278k-1. For general planning purposes, the expected NIST commitment will be approximately \$20 million per pilot project over a 2-year period using available funds appropriated in 2025 and 2026. The competition will be open only to current MEP Center primary awardees and to consortiums of current MEP Center primary awardees.

This NOI is provided to allow potential applicants time to begin developing proposal strategies and establishing collaborations among industry, academic, Federal laboratory, and state/local government partners. Details in this NOI should also inform discussions at two planned events: (1) a virtual public meeting to fulfill the requirements of 15 U.S.C. 278k-1(c)(1); and (2) a planned MEP Pilot Industry Day where NIST will share information

about the opportunity and landscape, convey timeline and next steps, and promote teaming. NIST expects to announce the competition via a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) on *Grants.gov* at: <https://www.grants.gov> in the second quarter of calendar year 2026. NIST reserves the right to refine eligibility, program structure, cost, and other program details in the eventual NOFO. In the event of any inconsistency between the NOI and the NOFO, the NOFO shall take precedence.

The proposed pilot program will not reduce the number of active MEP centers.

Background

Program Background

The MEP National Network™ is a public-private partnership that aims to deliver comprehensive solutions to U.S. manufacturers. Through collaborations at the Federal, state, and local levels, MEP centers work with manufacturers to improve production efficiency, develop new products and customers, expand and diversify markets, adopt new technologies, strengthen workforce strategies, and enhance value within supply chains. MEP centers are connected to the MEP National Network™ to learn and share distinctive practices.

Transformative technologies such as artificial intelligence, automation, and additive manufacturing are driving leaps in productivity that improve America's standing in both global economic competitiveness and national security. This pilot program aims to leverage the MEP National Network™, NIST's measurement science programs, the NIST-coordinated Manufacturing USA network, and partnerships with other Federal agencies to accelerate the adoption and commercialization of advanced manufacturing technologies that enhance the competitiveness of the domestic industrial base. To succeed, advanced technologies must be deployed throughout the full manufacturing ecosystem, from large manufacturing plants to component makers at all levels of the supply chain, especially small and medium-sized manufacturers (SMMs).

Applicants for this pilot program are expected to lead the development and validation of shared technology frameworks that can substantially accelerate the acceptance of advanced manufacturing methods or transform fragmented supply chains into a robust ecosystem. These frameworks can help

small and medium-sized manufacturers establish capabilities for future production needs and enter new markets. This competition will focus on two goals in furtherance of the interlinked national priorities: (1) accelerating the use of additive manufacturing for aerospace components; and (2) accelerating the establishment of a domestic critical minerals supply chain. The goal of this pilot program is to identify pathways for technology demonstration and transition to market to revolutionize industrial supply chains in the United States. This will reduce our dependency on foreign industrial capabilities, spur domestic competitiveness, and enable U.S. leadership in these critical areas of interest, thus meeting economic and national security priorities set forth by the Administration.

This pilot program will form hubs where government agencies, industry leaders, and academic researchers collaborate to deliver technical platforms that accelerate the adoption of manufacturing technologies, securing our nation's leadership position into the future.

Competition Information

Once the competition has been announced, further information may be found at <https://www.nist.gov/mep/about-nist-mep/notice-funding-opportunities/open-notice-funding-opportunities>.

Disclaimer

This NOI does not constitute a solicitation. No applications may be submitted in response to this NOI. In the future, NIST will post a NOFO on *Grants.gov* that will provide the full requirements for applying for an assistance award. When published, information within the NOFO will supersede in its entirety any information provided by this NOI. Any inconsistency between information within this NOI and the expected NOFO announcing the MEP Technology Accelerator Pilot Program shall be resolved in favor of the NOFO.

Authority

The statutory authority for the MEP Technology Accelerator Pilot Program is found at 15 U.S.C. 278k-1.

Alicia Chambers,

NIST Executive Secretariat.

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