

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[A-570-814]

Certain Carbon Steel Butt-Weld Pipe Fittings From the People's Republic of China: Notice of Court Decision Not in Harmony With Final Covered Merchandise Determination and Notice of Amended Covered Merchandise Determination Pursuant to Court Decision

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

SUMMARY: On July 29, 2026, the U.S. Court of International Trade (CIT) issued its final judgment in *Tube Forgings of America, Inc. and Mills Iron Works, Inc. v. United States*, Consol. Court No. 23-00231, sustaining the U.S. Department of Commerce (Commerce)'s second remand redetermination pertaining to the covered merchandise inquiry (CMI) for the antidumping duty (AD) order on certain carbon steel butt-weld pipe fittings (butt-weld pipe fittings) from the People's Republic of China (China). Commerce is notifying the public that the CIT's final judgment is not in harmony with Commerce's CMI determination, and that Commerce is amending the CMI determination to find that products cut to length and formed into the rough shape of a butt-weld pipe fitting in China represent "unfinished" fittings, which are covered by the scope of the *Order*, and that when such products are further processed in the Socialist Republic of Vietnam (Vietnam), they remain subject to the AD order on butt-weld pipe fittings from China.

DATES: Applicable August 8, 2026.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Miranda Bourdeau, AD/CVD Operations, Office V, Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482-2021.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On October 20, 2023, Commerce found that products formed in the rough shape of a butt-weld pipe fitting in China, and then further processed in Vietnam into either an unfinished butt-weld pipe fitting (*i.e.*, referred to as the "second stage" of production) or a finished butt-weld pipe fitting (*i.e.*, referred to as the "third stage" of production), to be excluded from the scope of the *Order* because such

products are not yet considered "unfinished" fittings, as contemplated by the *Order*.¹ In the same determination, Commerce also found that rough shapes from China that undergo the second stage of production in China and that then undergo the third and final stage of production in Vietnam are subject to the scope *Order*.²

Tube Forgings of America, Inc. and Mills Iron Works, Inc. appealed Commerce's *Final Determination* with respect to the exclusion of rough shapes transformed into unfinished and/or finished butt-weld pipe fittings in Vietnam. On January 2, 2025, the CIT remanded the *Final Determination* to Commerce, finding that Commerce's *Final Determination* was not supported by substantial evidence and that Commerce deviated from its prior practice of considering products in the rough shape of a fitting, which were not heated or formed, to be in-scope butt-weld pipe fittings.³

In its first remand redetermination, issued in May 2025, Commerce continued to find rough shapes formed in China and then further processed in Vietnam into unfinished or finished butt-weld pipe fittings to be excluded from the scope of the *Order*, based on an analysis under 19 CFR 351.225(k)(1).⁴

In April 2026, the CIT remanded Commerce's determination for a second time, finding that the sources enumerated in 19 CFR 351.225(k)(1) were non-dispositive and directing Commerce to perform an analysis of the factors in 19 CFR 351.225(k)(2).⁵ In its second remand redetermination, Commerce found, based on an analysis of the factors in 19 CFR 351.225(k)(2), rough shapes formed in China and then further processed in Vietnam to be included in the scope of the *Order*.⁶ The

¹ See *Certain Carbon Steel Butt-Weld Pipe Fittings from the People's Republic of China: Final Determination of Covered Merchandise Inquiry*, 88 FR 69909 (October 10, 2023) (*Final Determination*); see also *Antidumping Duty Order and Amendment to the Final Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value: Certain Carbon Steel Butt-Weld Pipe Fittings from the People's Republic of China*, 57 FR 29702 (July 6, 1992) (*Order*). We hereinafter refer to these products as "rough shapes."

² See *Final Determination*, 91 FR at 69909.

³ See *Tube Forgings of America, Inc. and Mills Iron Works, Inc. v. United States*, 750 F.Supp.3d 1364, 1383 (CIT 2025).

⁴ See *Final Results of Redetermination Pursuant to Court Remand in Tube Forgings of America, Inc. and Mills Iron Works, Inc. v. United States*, Court No. 23-00231, Slip Op. 25-1 (CIT January 2, 2025), dated May 2, 2025.

⁵ See *Tube Forgings of America, Inc. and Mills Iron Works, Inc. v. United States*, 813 F.Supp.3d 1304, 1318 (CIT 2025).

⁶ See *Final Results of Redetermination Pursuant to Court Remand in Tube Forgings of America, Inc. and Mills Iron Works, Inc. v. United States*, Court

CIT sustained Commerce's final redetermination.⁷

Timken Notice

In its decision in *Timken*,⁸ as clarified by *Diamond Sawblades*,⁹ the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit held that, pursuant to sections 516A(c) and (e) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act), Commerce must publish a notice of court decision that is not "in harmony" with a Commerce determination and must suspend liquidation of entries pending a "conclusive" court decision. The CIT's July 29, 2026, judgment constitutes a final decision of the CIT that is not in harmony with Commerce's *Final Determination*. Thus, this notice is published in fulfillment of the publication requirements of *Timken*.

Amended Final Determination

In accordance with the CIT's July 26, 2026, final judgment, Commerce is amending its *Final Determination* and finds that the scope of the *Order* covers rough shapes of butt-weld pipe fittings that were formed in China and which constitute unfinished butt-weld pipe fittings within the meaning of the scope of the *Order*. We also find that these unfinished butt-weld pipe fittings which were further processed in Vietnam are within the scope of the *Order*.

Liquidation of Suspended Entries

Commerce will instruct U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to suspend liquidation of finished and unfinished butt-weld pipe fittings which were: (1) formed in China from rough shapes of butt-weld pipe fittings; and (2) further processed in Vietnam and to require cash deposits at the appropriate rate.¹⁰ In the event that the CIT's ruling is not appealed or is upheld on appeal, Commerce will instruct CBP to liquidate entries of unfinished butt-weld pipe fittings formed in China that were further processed in Vietnam appropriately.

Notification to Interested Parties

This notice is issued and published in accordance with sections 516A(c) and (e) and 777(i)(1) of the Act.

No. 23-00231, Slip Op. 25-156 (CIT December 16, 2025), dated April 16, 2026.

⁷ See *Tube Forgings of America, Inc. and Mills Iron Works, Inc. v. United States*, Court No. 23-00231, Slip Op. 26-83 (CIT July 29, 2026).

⁸ See *Timken Co. v. United States*, 893 F.2d 337 (Fed. Cir. 1990) (*Timken*).

⁹ See *Diamond Sawblades Manufacturers Coalition v. United States*, 626 F.3d 1374 (Fed. Cir. 2010) (*Diamond Sawblades*).

¹⁰ See *Order*, 57 FR at 29703.

Dated: August 26, 2026.

Scot Fullerton,

*Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for
Antidumping and Countervailing Duty
Operations.*

[FR Doc. 2026–17621 Filed 8–27–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–DS–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Institute of Standards and Technology

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for Review and Approval; Comment Request; NIST MEP Client Impact Survey

AGENCY: National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of Information Collection, request for comment.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce, in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), invites the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on proposed, and continuing information collections, which helps us assess the impact of our information collection requirements and minimize the public's reporting burden. The purpose of this notice is to allow for 60 days of public comment preceding submission of the collection to OMB.

DATES: To ensure consideration, comments regarding this proposed information collection must be received on or before October 27, 2026.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons are invited to submit written comments by mail to Maureen O'Reilly, Management Analyst, NIST, 100 Bureau Drive, MS 1710, Gaithersburg, MD 20899 or by email to PRANIST@nist.gov. Please reference OMB Control Number 0693–0021 in the subject line of your comments. Do not submit Confidential Business Information or otherwise sensitive or protected information.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or specific questions related to collection activities should be directed to Melissa Davis, NIST MEP, by phone at 301.975.5039, or by email at melissa.davis@nist.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

Sponsored by NIST, the Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) is a national network of state-designated manufacturing extension centers working with small and

medium-sized manufacturers (SMMs) to assist them in developing new products and customers, expanding and diversifying markets, adopting new technologies, developing workforce strategies and solutions, and enhancing value within supply chains, ultimately improving SMM productivity and competitiveness. The information collected will provide the MEP Program with information and intelligence regarding outcomes associated with MEP Center technical assistance provided to U.S. based manufacturers. The collected information will assist in determining the performance of the MEP Centers at both local and national levels, provide information critical to monitoring and reporting on MEP programmatic performance, support a greater understanding of the effect of MEP Center technical assistance on U.S. SMMs, provide local insights on manufacturing trends, and assist management in policy decisions. Responses to the collection of information are voluntary. The information collected will include MEP client inputs regarding their sales, costs, investments, and employment, as well as inputs on client competitiveness challenges. MEP clients will take the survey online. Customers will only be surveyed once per year under this collection. Data collected in this survey is confidential.

II. Method of Collection

Information will be collected electronically.

III. Data

OMB Control Number: 0693–0021.

Form Number(s): None.

Type of Review: Extension of a current information collection.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit organizations.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 14,500.

Estimated Time per Response: 12 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 2,900.

Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public: 0.

Respondent's Obligation: Voluntary.

IV. Request for Comments

We are soliciting public comments to permit the Department/Bureau to: (a) Evaluate whether the proposed information collection is necessary for the proper functions of the Department, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) Evaluate the accuracy of our estimate of the time and cost burden for this proposed collection, including the validity of the

methodology and assumptions used; (c) Evaluate ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) Minimize the reporting burden on those who are to respond, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments that you submit in response to this notice are a matter of public record. We will include or summarize each comment in our request to OMB to approve this ICR. Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you may ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Sheleen Dumas,

Departmental PRA Compliance Officer, Office of the Under Secretary for Economic Affairs, Commerce Department.

[FR Doc. 2026–17569 Filed 8–27–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–13–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648–XF994]

Fisheries of the South Atlantic; Southeast Data, Assessment, and Review; Public Meeting

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

ACTION: Notice of webinar.

SUMMARY: The Southeast Data Assessment and Review (SEDAR) 90 assessment process of South Atlantic Red Snapper will consist of a Data Workshop, a series of Assessment Webinars, and a Review Workshop. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION.**

DATES: The SEDAR 90 Assessment Webinar 11 will be held from 9 a.m. until 12 p.m. EDT on October 2, 2026.

ADDRESSES:

SEDAR address: 4055 Faber Place Drive, Suite 201, North Charleston, SC 29405.

Meeting address: The SEDAR 90 Assessment Webinar 11 will be held via webinar. The webinar is open to members of the public. The established times may be adjusted as necessary to