

instrument or apparatus of equivalent scientific value to the foreign instrument for the applicant's intended use.

We know of no other instrument or apparatus of equivalent scientific value to the foreign instrument which is being manufactured in the United States.

Frank W. Creel,

Director, Statutory Import Programs Staff.
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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

Quarterly Update to Annual Listing of Foreign Government Subsidies on Articles of Cheese Subject to an In-Quota Rate of Duty

AGENCY: Import Administration, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Publication of quarterly update to annual listing of foreign government subsidies on articles of cheese subject to an in-quota rate of duty.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce, in consultation with the Secretary of Agriculture, has prepared its quarterly update to the annual list of

foreign government subsidies on articles of cheese subject to an in-quota rate of duty during the period April 1, 1999 through June 30, 1999. We are publishing the current listing of those subsidies that we have determined exist.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 1999.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Russell Morris or Tipten Troidl, Office of AD/CVD Enforcement VI, Import Administration, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20230, telephone: (202) 482-2786.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 702(a) of the Trade Agreements Act of 1979 (as amended) (the Act) requires the Department of Commerce (the Department) to determine, in consultation with the Secretary of Agriculture, whether any foreign government is providing a subsidy with respect to any article of cheese subject to an in-quota rate of duty, as defined in section 702(g)(b)(4) of the Act, and to publish an annual list and quarterly updates of the type and amount of those subsidies. We hereby provide the Department's quarterly update of subsidies of cheeses that were imported during the period April 1, 1999 through June 30, 1999.

The Department has developed, in consultation with the Secretary of Agriculture, information on subsidies (as defined in section 702(g)(b)(2) of the Act) being provided either directly or indirectly by foreign governments on articles of cheese subject to an in-quota rate of duty. The appendix to this notice lists the country, the subsidy program or programs, and the gross and net amounts of each subsidy for which information is currently available.

The Department will incorporate additional programs which are found to constitute subsidies, and additional information on the subsidy programs listed, as the information is developed.

The Department encourages any person having information on foreign government subsidy programs which benefit articles of cheese subject to an in-quota rate of duty to submit such information in writing to the Assistant Secretary for Import Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230.

This determination and notice are in accordance with section 702(a) of the Act.

Dated: September 24, 1999.

Robert S. LaRussa,
Assistant Secretary for Import Administration.

APPENDIX.—SUBSIDY PROGRAMS ON CHEESE SUBJECT TO AN IN-QUOTA RATE OF DUTY

County	Program(s)	Gross ¹ Subsidy (\$/lb)	Net ² Subsidy (\$/lb)
Austria	European Union Restitution Payments	\$0.18	\$0.18
Belgium	EU Restitution Payments	0.07	0.07
Canada	Export Assistance on Certain Types of Cheese	0.24	0.24
Denmark	EU Restitution Payments	0.17	0.17
Finland	EU Restitution Payments	0.26	0.26
France	EU Restitution Payments	0.15	0.15
Germany	EU Restitution Payments	0.18	0.18
Greece	EU Restitution Payments	0.00	0.00
Ireland	EU Restitution Payments	0.11	0.11
Italy	EU Restitution Payments	0.13	0.13
Luxembourg	EU Restitution Payments	0.07	0.07
Netherlands	EU Restitution Payments	0.10	0.10
Norway	Indirect (Milk) Subsidy	0.32	0.32
	Consumer Subsidy	0.14	0.14
Total		0.46	0.46
Portugal	EU Restitution Payments	0.10	0.10
Spain	EU Restitution Payments	0.11	0.11
Switzerland	Deficiency Payments	0.12	0.12
U.K.	EU Restitution Payments	0.19	0.19

¹ Defined in 19 U.S.C. 1677(5).

² Defined in 19 U.S.C. 1677(6).

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**International Trade Administration**

[C-357-004]

**Final Results of Full Sunset Review:
Carbon Steel Wire Rod From Argentina**

AGENCY: Import Administration, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of Final Results of Full Sunset Review: Carbon Steel Wire Rod from Argentina.

SUMMARY: On May 28, 1999, the Department of Commerce ("the Department") published a notice of preliminary results of the full sunset review of the suspended countervailing duty investigation on carbon steel wire rod from Argentina (64 FR 28978) pursuant to section 751(c) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended ("the Act"). We provided interested parties an opportunity to comment on our preliminary results. We received comments from both domestic and respondent interested parties. As a result of this review, the Department finds that termination of this suspended investigation would be likely to lead to continuation or recurrence of a countervailable subsidy at the levels indicated in the Final Results of Review section of this notice.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Scott E. Smith or Melissa G. Skinner, Office of Policy for Import Administration, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20230; telephone: (202) 482-6397 or (202) 482-1560, respectively.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 1999.

Statute and Regulations

This review was conducted pursuant to sections 751(c) and 752 of the Act. The Department's procedures for the conduct of sunset reviews are set forth in *Procedures for Conducting Five-year ("Sunset") Reviews of Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Orders*, 63 FR 13516 (March 20, 1998) ("*Sunset Regulations*") and in 19 CFR Part 351 (1998) in general. Guidance on methodological or analytical issues relevant to the Department's conduct of sunset reviews is set forth in the Department's Policy Bulletin 98:3—*Policies Regarding the Conduct of Five-year ("Sunset") Reviews of Antidumping and Countervailing Duty*

Orders; Policy Bulletin, 63 FR 18871 (April 16, 1998) ("*Sunset Policy Bulletin*").

Scope

The merchandise subject to this suspended countervailing duty investigation is carbon steel wire rod, both high carbon and low carbon, manufactured in Argentina and exported, directly or indirectly from Argentina to the United States. The term "carbon steel wire rod" covers a coiled, semi-finished, hot-rolled carbon steel product of approximately round solid cross section, not under 0.02 inches nor over 0.74 inches in diameter, not tempered, not treated, and not partly manufactured, and valued at over 4 cents per pound. As of the publication of the last administrative review,¹ the merchandise subject to this order was classifiable under item numbers 7213.20.00, 7213.31.30, 7213.39.00, 7213.41.30, 7213.49.00, and 7213.50.00 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States ("HTSUS"). Although the HTSUS subheadings are provided for convenience and customs purposes, the written description remains dispositive.

Background

On May 28, 1999, the Department issued the *Preliminary Results of Full Sunset Review: Carbon Steel Wire Rod from Argentina* (64 FR 28978) ("*Preliminary Results*"). In our preliminary results, we found that termination of the suspended investigation would be likely to lead to continuation or recurrence of a countervailable subsidy. Further, we found that the net countervailable subsidy likely to prevail if the suspended investigation were terminated is 5.36 percent ad valorem, the subsidy rate determined in the suspended investigation. Additionally, we found that each of the three programs (the reembo, pre-export financing, and post-export financing) fall within the definition of an export subsidy under Article 3.1(a) of the 1994 WTO Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures ("*Subsidies Agreement*").

On July 12, 1999, within the deadline specified in 19 CFR 351.309(c)(1)(i), we received comments on behalf of Co-Steel (formerly Raritan River Steel), GS Industries, and North Star Steel Company (collectively, the "domestic interested parties"), the domestic participants in this review, and on

¹ See *Carbon Steel Wire Rod from Argentina; Final Results of Countervailing Duty Administrative Review*, 56 FR 40309 (August 14, 1991).

behalf of Acindar Industria Argentina de Aceros S.A. ("Acindar"), the respondent in this review. On July 15, 1999, within the deadline specified in 19 CFR 351.309(d), the Department received rebuttal comments from the domestic interested parties. We have addressed the comments received below.

Comments

Comment 1: In its July 12, 1999, case brief, Acindar states that it disagrees with the Department's *Preliminary Results* in this sunset proceeding. Acindar states that, in the Department's *Preliminary Results*, we noted that Communique A-1807 "totally suspended" pre-export (as well post-export) financing as of March 8, 1991. Acindar argues that a suspension of this duration can hardly be considered temporary and that the Department should conclude that the subsidy attributable to pre- and post-export financing is zero and, consequently, reduce its final net countervailable subsidy rate to zero.

In their July 12, 1999, case brief, the domestic interested parties state that they agree with the Department's *Preliminary Results* in this proceeding. With respect to Acindar's assertion, the domestic interested parties argue that Acindar and the Government of Argentina have presented no evidence that pre- and post-export financing subsidy programs have been terminated. According to the domestic interested parties, because the programs are in place, their temporary suspension strongly suggests that subsidies would recur if the suspended investigation were terminated.

Department Position: The Department agrees with the domestic interested parties. Acindar and the Government of Argentina have presented no evidence to indicate that pre- and post-export financing programs have been eliminated. The Statement of Administrative Action accompanying the Uruguay Round Agreements Act, H.R. Doc. 103-316, vol. I ("SAA"), at 888, states that temporary suspension or partial termination of a subsidy program will be probative of continuation or recurrence of countervailable subsidies. We acknowledge that, as a result of the suspension agreement, as amended, the pre-export and post-export financing programs have been suspended for producers of subject merchandise since 1982 and 1986, respectively. However, the Department notes that the suspension of a program is not the same as the termination of a program. Programs which have been suspended, and not officially terminated through legislative action, are more likely to be