Continuation of Suspension of Liquidation

In accordance with section 735(c)(1)(B) of the Act, for all other producers/exporters we will instruct CBP to suspend liquidation on all entries of subject merchandise from the PRC effective on the date of publication of the ITC’s notice of final determination in the Federal Register. We will also instruct CBP to require, at the same time as importers would normally deposit estimated customs duties on this merchandise, cash deposits for the subject merchandise equal to the estimated weighted-average antidumping margins listed below. See section 736(a)(3) of the Act. The estimated dumping margins for imports of subject merchandise from the PRC will be adjusted for export subsidies found in the final determination of the companion countervailing duty investigation of this merchandise imported from the PRC. See Drill Pipe From the People’s Republic of China: Final Affirmative Countervailing Duty Determination, Final Affirmative Critical Circumstances Determination, 76 FR 1971 (January 11, 2011). Specifically, for cash deposit purposes, we are subtracting from the antidumping cash deposit rate applicable to DP–Master Manufacturing Co., Ltd. and Jiangyin Liangda Drill Pipe Co., Ltd. (“collectively the DP–Master Group”) and for the separate-rate companies, the rate attributable to the export subsidies calculated in the affirmative countervailing duty determination on drill pipe from the PRC for the DP–Master Group, the sole respondent in that investigation. See Final Determination. The all others rate or PRC-wide rate, as applicable, apply to all producers or exporters not specifically listed.

In accordance with section 736 of the Act, the Department will also direct CBP to assess antidumping duties on all unliquidated entries of subject merchandise from the PRC entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after the date on which the ITC publishes its notice of final determination of threat of material injury in the Federal Register.

This order is issued and published in accordance with section 736(a) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.211(b). Dated: February 25, 2011.

Paul Piquado,
Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Import Administration.

[FR Doc. 2011–4792 Filed 3–2–11; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 3510–DS–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
International Trade Administration
[C–570–966]

Drill Pipe From the People’s Republic of China: Countervailing Duty Order

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

SUMMARY: Based on affirmative final determinations by the Department and the International Trade Commission (ITC), the Department is issuing a countervailing duty order on drill pipe from the People’s Republic of China (PRC).

DATES: Effective Date: March 3, 2011.


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On January 11, 2011, the Department published its final determination that countervailable subsidies are being provided to producers and exporters of drill pipe from the PRC. See Drill Pipe from the People’s Republic of China: Final Affirmative Countervailing Duty Determination, Final Affirmative Critical Circumstances Determination, 76 FR 1971 (January 11, 2011).
On February 24, 2011, the ITC notified the Department of its final determination pursuant to sections 705(b)(1)(A)(i) and 705(d) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act), that an industry in the United States is threatened with material injury by reason of subsidized imports of subject merchandise from the PRC. The ITC also determined that critical circumstances do not exist. See Drill Pipe and Drill Collars from China, Investigation Nos. 701–TA–474 and 731–TA–1176 (Final), USITC Publication 4213 (February 2011). Pursuant to section 706(a) of the Act, the Department is publishing a countervailing duty order on the subject merchandise.

Scope of the Order

The products covered by this order are steel drill pipe and steel drill collars, whether or not conforming to American Petroleum Institute (API) or non-API specifications. Included are finished drill pipe and drill collars without regard to the specific chemistry of the steel (i.e., carbon, stainless steel, or other alloy steel), and without regard to length or outer diameter. Also included are unfinished drill collars (including all drill collar green tubes) and unfinished drill pipe (including drill pipe green tubes, which are tubes meeting the following description: seamless tubes with an outer diameter of less than or equal to 6 5/8 inches (168.28 millimeters), containing between 0.16 and 0.75 percent molybdenum, and containing between 0.75 and 1.45 percent chromium). The scope does not include tool joints not attached to the drill pipe, nor does it include unfinished tubes for casing or tubing covered by any other antidumping or countervailing duty order.

The subject products are currently classified in the following Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) categories: 7304.22.0030, 7304.22.0045, 7304.22.0060, 7304.23.3000, 7304.23.6040, 7304.23.6060, 8431.43.0010 and may also enter under 8431.43.0010, 8431.43.0025, 8431.43.0032, 8431.43.0044, 8431.43.0048, 8431.43.0050, 8431.43.0052, 8431.43.0054, 8431.43.0056, 8431.49.0015, 8431.49.0020, 8431.49.0025, 8431.49.0030, 8431.49.0035, 8431.49.0040, 8431.49.0045, 8431.49.0050, and 8431.49.0055. The HTSUS subheadings are provided for convenience and customs purposes only. The written description of the scope of this order is dispositive.

Countervailing Duty Order

According to section 706(b)(2) of the Act, duties shall be assessed on subject merchandise entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after the date of publication of the ITC’s notice of final determination if that determination is based upon the threat of material injury, Section 706(b)(1) of the Act states, “[i]f the Commission, in its final determination under section 705(b), finds material injury or threat of material injury which, but for the imposition of suspension of liquidation under section 703(d)(2), would have led to a finding of material injury, then entries of the merchandise subject to the countervailing duty order, the liquidation of which has been suspended under section 703(d)(2), shall be subject to the imposition of countervailing duties under section 701(a)." In addition, section 706(b)(2) of the Act requires U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to refund any cash deposits or bonds of estimated countervailing duties posted before the date of publication of the ITC’s final affirmative determination, if the ITC's final determination is based on threat other than the threat described in section 706(b)(1) of the Act. Because the ITC’s final determination in this case is based on the threat of material injury and is not accompanied by a finding that injury would have resulted but for the imposition of suspension of liquidation of entries since the Department’s Preliminary Determination was published in the Federal Register, section 706(b)(2) of the Act is applicable.

As a result of the ITC’s determination and in accordance with section 706(a)(1) of the Act, the Department will direct CBP to assess, upon further instruction by the Department, countervailing duties equal to the amount of the net countervailable subsidy for all relevant entries of drill pipe from the PRC. In accordance with section 706 of the Act, the Department will direct CBP to reinstate suspension of liquidation,2 effective on the date of publication of the ITC’s notice of final determination in the Federal Register, and to require a cash deposit for each entry of subject merchandise in an amount equal to the net countervailable subsidy rates listed below. See section 706(a)(3) of the Act. The all others rate applies to all producers and exporters of subject merchandise not specifically listed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Producer/Exporter</th>
<th>Net subsidy ad valorem rate (percent)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DP Master Manufacturing Co., Ltd. (DP Master), Jiangyin Sanliang Petroleum Machinery Co., Ltd. (SPM); Jiangyin Liangda Drill Pipe Co., Ltd. (Liangda); Jiangyin Sanliang Steel Pipe Trading Co., Ltd. (SSP), and Jiangyin Chuangxin Oil Pipe Fittings Co., Ltd. (Chuangxin) (collectively, DP Master Group)</td>
<td>18.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Others</td>
<td>18.18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Termination of the Suspension of Liquidation

As a result of our affirmative critical circumstances finding on the DP Master Group and all other companies, CBP suspended liquidation and collected cash deposits or bonds on all entries by these companies made 90 days prior to our affirmative Preliminary Determination.

The Department will instruct CBP to terminate the suspension of liquidation for entries of drill pipe from the PRC, entered or withdrawn from warehouse, in accordance with section 706(b)(2) of the Act. Section 703(d)(2) states that the suspension of liquidation pursuant to a preliminary determination may not remain in effect for more than four months. Entries of drill pipe from the PRC made on or after October 9, 2010, and prior to the date of publication for consumption prior to the publication of the ITC’s notice of final determination. The Department will also instruct CBP to refund any cash deposits made and release any bonds with respect to entries of drill pipe entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, of the ITC’s final determination in the Federal Register are not liable for the assessment of countervailing duties because of the Department’s discontinuation, effective October 9, 2010, of the suspension of liquidation.

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1 See Drill Pipe From the People’s Republic of China: Preliminary Affirmative Countervailing Duty Determination, 75 FR 33245 (June 11, 2010) [Preliminary Determination].

2 The Department instructed CBP to discontinue the suspension of liquidation on October 9, 2010, because critical circumstances did not exist.
for consumption on or after March 13, 2010 (i.e., 90 days prior to the date of publication of the Preliminary Determination), but before the date of publication of the ITC’s final determination in the Federal Register.

This notice constitutes the countervailing duty order with respect to drill pipe from the PRS, pursuant to section 706(a) of the Act. Interested parties may contact the Department’s Central Records Unit, Room 7046 of the main Commerce Building, for copies of an updated list of countervailing duty orders currently in effect.

This order is issued and published in accordance with section 706(a) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.211(b).

Dated: February 25, 2011.

Paul Piquado,
Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Import Administration.

[FR Doc. 2011–4796 Filed 3–2–11; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–06–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
International Trade Administration

Request for Public Comments Concerning Regulatory Cooperation Activities That Would Help Eliminate or Reduce Unnecessary Regulatory Divergences in North America That Disrupt U.S. Exports

AGENCY: International Trade Administration, Commerce.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Government recognizes that economic recovery and job creation will depend significantly on its ability to work collaboratively with key trading partners to promote free and open trade and investment. In our trade and investment relationships with Mexico and Canada, and within North America as a whole, the main impediments to greater trade and investment—and more open foreign markets for U.S. exporters and investors—are not tariffs or quotas, but rather unnecessary differences in product regulations that increase costs for producers and consumers in the United States, Canada, and Mexico. With this Notice, the Commerce Department, on behalf of the Administration, is seeking public input to help identify such divergences in North America, so that the U.S. Government can work cooperatively with Mexico and Canada to address them.

President Obama explicitly linked trade to job creation when he announced the National Export Initiative in his 2010 State of the Union address, and set the ambitious goal of doubling U.S. exports in the next five years to support millions of jobs here at home. The President has focused particularly on efforts to remove unnecessary divergences in regulations with Canada and Mexico, our first and second largest export markets, respectively, and officials from the three countries have discussed strengthening regulatory cooperation to promote better regulation and facilitate trade, both bilaterally and trilaterally. President Obama met with President Felipe Calderón of Mexico and Prime Minister Stephen Harper of Canada at the the North American Leaders’ Summit on August 10, 2009, in Guadalajara, Mexico. In the joint statement they issued at the end of that meeting they noted the progress that each of their governments had made in reducing unnecessary regulatory differences and they instructed their respective governments, “* * * to continue this work by building on the previous efforts, developing focused priorities and a specific timeline.” The United States Government is working with both Mexico and Canada to reduce unnecessary regulatory differences and to explore further regulatory cooperation activities aimed at reducing or eliminating such differences where they hinder trade and reduce competitiveness. In order to do so, the United States has established a High-Level Regulatory Cooperation Council with Mexico and a Regulatory Cooperation Council with Canada. While these councils are bilateral, regulatory divergences exist that have consequences for firms in all three countries. Therefore, with this Notice, the Department of Commerce’s International Trade Administration (ITA), in support of the National Export Initiative (NEI) and pursuant to the Secretary of Commerce’s role as the chair of Trade Promotion Coordinating Committee, is requesting stakeholders to assist the Administration to identify opportunities for cooperation between or among the United States, Canada, and Mexico to reduce or eliminate regulatory divergences that disrupt trade in goods in the region, as well as any existing or emerging sectors that may benefit from regulatory coordination between these countries. Canada has already solicited similar input from its stakeholders, and Mexico has committed to do the same.

DATES: The agency must receive comments on or before April 4, 2011.

ADDRESSES: Submissions should be made via the Internet at http://www.regulations.gov under docket ITA–2011–0003–0001. Please direct written submissions to Diana Hynek, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 6616, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20230. The public is strongly encouraged to file submissions electronically rather than by mail.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Questions regarding this notice should be directed to regcoop@trade.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In his January 2010 State of the Union address, President Obama announced the NEI to double U.S. exports over five years and support the creation of new jobs. As the President’s Export Promotion Cabinet has undertaken to implement the NEI, regional and sectoral plans are being developed to tailor the U.S. Government’s NEI efforts based on the realities of trade in certain regions. For example, the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) created the world’s largest free trade area, linking 444 million people and producing $17 trillion in goods and services. Trilateral trade among Canada, Mexico, and the United States was $944.6 billion in 2010. Despite this extensive trade among NAFTA partners, U.S. exporters indicate that they continue to encounter unnecessary divergences in regulatory measures in North America that disrupt trade.

ITA has developed a Mature Markets Initiative (MMI) to evaluate how best to grow exports, create jobs, and support U.S. business growth in areas where trade is robust. Regulatory cooperation is a key component of the MMI. Accordingly, ITA has identified Canada and Mexico as mature markets and will seek ways to ease or eliminate regulatory differences that hinder competitiveness and negatively impact trade for U.S. firms, including new-to-market and new-to-export businesses, particularly small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs).

Trade may be impeded, for example, because countries apply different standards or technical requirements to address common environmental, health, safety, or other concerns with respect to certain products or product categories. In some instances, such divergences may be arbitrary and can lead to delays, additional costs, and burdens on U.S. suppliers, particularly SMEs, and, in some cases, can make it difficult or impossible for U.S. suppliers to penetrate foreign markets. These divergences can also increase regulatory burdens for governments and costs for consumers. In other cases, regulatory