

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648–XD825

Marine Mammals; File Nos. 17278 and 17557

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

ACTION: Notice; receipt of applications for permit amendments.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that James Shine, Ph.D., Harvard University School of Public Health, 401 Park Drive, 404H West, Boston, Massachusetts 02215, and the NMFS Forensics Office, 219 Fort Johnson Road, Charleston, SC 29412, have applied for amendments to their respective permits, Scientific Research Permit Nos. 17278 and 17557.

DATES: Written, telefaxed, or email comments must be received on or before April 20, 2015.

ADDRESSES: The applications and related documents are available for review by selecting “Records Open for Public Comment” from the “Features” box on the Applications and Permits for Protected Species home page, <https://apps.nmfs.noaa.gov>, and then selecting File No. 17278 or 17557 from the list of available applications.

These documents are also available upon written request or by appointment in the Permits and Conservation Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13705, Silver Spring, MD 20910; phone (301) 427–8401; fax (301) 713–0376.

Written comments on these applications should be submitted to the Chief, Permits and Conservation Division, at the address listed above. Comments may also be submitted by facsimile to (301) 713–0376, or by email to NMFS.Pr1Comments@noaa.gov. Please include the File No. in the subject line of the email comment.

Those individuals requesting a public hearing should submit a written request to the Chief, Permits and Conservation Division at the address listed above. The request should set forth the specific reasons why a hearing would be appropriate.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jennifer Skidmore, Amy Sloan, or Malcolm Mohead; phone: (301) 427–8401.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The subject amendments to these permits are requested under the authority of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972,

as amended (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*), the regulations governing the taking and importing of marine mammals (50 CFR part 216), the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*), and the regulations governing the taking, importing, and exporting of endangered and threatened species (50 CFR parts 222–226).

Permit No. 17278, issued on August 29, 2012 (77 FR 54902), authorizes Dr. Shine to import and receive parts from subsistence-collected long-finned pilot whales (*Globicephala melas*) archived at the Faroese Museum of Natural History, Foroe Islands. The permit holder is requesting the permit be amended to increase the number of samples imported from 15 to 100 animals annually, as well as authorization to conduct analyses of chlorinated and fluorinated organic chemicals using the same samples. No live takes from the wild would be authorized. The permit expires on August 28, 2017.

Permit No. 17557, issued on August 9, 2013 (78 FR 50395), authorizes the NMFS Forensics Office to receive, import, export, transfer, archive, and conduct analyses marine mammal and endangered species parts. Species include all those covered under the MMPA and ESA under NMFS jurisdiction. Samples are archived at the lab and used to support law enforcement actions, research studies (primarily genetics), and outreach education. The permit holder is requesting the permit be amended to include scalloped hammerhead sharks (*Sphyrna lewini*) recently listed under the ESA. No live takes from the wild would be authorized. The permit expires on August 9, 2018.

In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), an initial determination has been made that the activity proposed is categorically excluded from the requirement to prepare an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement.

Concurrent with the publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**, NMFS is forwarding a copy of the amendment submitted for Permit No. 17278 to the Marine Mammal Commission and its Committee of Scientific Advisors.

Dated: March 16, 2015.

Julia Harrison,

Chief, Permits and Conservation Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 2015–06391 Filed 3–19–15; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[C–580–877]

Welded Line Pipe From the Republic of Korea: Preliminary Negative Countervailing Duty Determination and Alignment of Final Determination With Final Antidumping Duty Determination

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

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce (the Department) preliminarily determines that *de minimis* countervailable subsidies are being provided to producers and exporters of welded line pipe from the Republic of Korea (Korea). The period of investigation is January 1, 2013, through December 31, 2013. Interested parties are invited to comment on this preliminary determination.

DATES: Effective March 20, 2015.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Rebecca Trainor or Reza Karamloo, AD/CVD Operations, Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482–4007 or (202) 482–4470, respectively.

Alignment of Final Countervailing Duty (CVD) Determination With Final Antidumping Duty (AD) Determination

On the same day the Department initiated this CVD investigation, the Department also initiated a CVD investigation of welded line pipe from the Republic of Turkey (Turkey) and AD investigations of welded line pipe from Korea and Turkey.¹ The CVD and AD investigations cover the same merchandise. On February 27, 2015, in accordance with section 705(a)(1) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (Act), the petitioners² requested alignment of the final CVD determination with the final AD determination of welded line pipe from Korea. Therefore, in accordance with section 705(a)(1) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.210(b)(4), we are aligning the

¹ See *Welded Line Pipe From the Republic of Korea and the Republic of Turkey: Initiation of Countervailing Duty Investigations*, 79 FR 67419 (November 13, 2014). See also *Welded Line Pipe From the Republic of Korea and the Republic of Turkey: Initiation of Less-Than-Fair-Value Investigations*, 79 FR 68213 (November 14, 2014).

² The petitioners in this investigation are American Cast Iron Pipe Company, Energex (a division of JMC Steel Group), Maverick Tube Corporation, Northwest Pipe Company, Stupp Corporation (a division of Stupp Bros., Inc.), Tex-Tube Company, TMK IPSCO, and Welspun Tubular LLC USA.

final CVD determination with the final AD determination. Consequently, the final CVD determination will be issued on the same date as the final AD determination, which is currently scheduled to be issued no later than July 28, 2015, unless postponed.

Scope of the Investigation

The scope of the investigation covers welded line pipe, which is carbon and alloy steel pipe of a kind used for oil or gas pipelines, not more than 24 inches in nominal outside diameter. For a complete description of the scope of the investigation, see Appendix I.

Scope Comments

Certain interested parties commented on the scope of the investigation as it appeared in the *Initiation Notice*. For discussion of those comments, see the Preliminary Decision Memorandum.³

Methodology

The Department is conducting this countervailing duty (CVD) investigation in accordance with section 701 of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act). For a full description of the methodology underlying our preliminary conclusions, see the Preliminary Decision Memorandum. The Preliminary Decision Memorandum is a public document and is on file electronically via Enforcement and Compliance's Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Centralized Electronic Service System (ACCESS). ACCESS is available to registered users at <http://access.trade.gov>, and is available to all parties in the Central Records Unit, room 7046 of the main Department of Commerce building. In addition, a complete version of the Preliminary Decision Memorandum can be accessed directly on the Internet at <http://enforcement.trade.gov/frn/>. The signed Preliminary Decision Memorandum and the electronic version of the Preliminary Decision Memorandum are identical in content.

Preliminary Determination and Suspension of Liquidation

In accordance with section 703(d)(1)(A)(i) of the Act, we calculated a CVD rate for each individually investigated producer/exporter of the subject merchandise. Consistent with

section 703(b)(4)(A) of the Act, we have disregarded *de minimis* rates and preliminarily determine that countervailable subsidies are not being provided with respect to the manufacture, production or exportation of the subject merchandise. Consistent with section 703(d) of the Act, we have not calculated an all-others rate because we have not reached an affirmative preliminary determination. We preliminarily determine the countervailable subsidy rates to be:

Company	Subsidy rate
SeAH Steel Corporation.	0.52 percent (<i>de minimis</i>).
NEXTEEL Co., Ltd	0.47 percent (<i>de minimis</i>).

Because we preliminarily determine that the CVD rates in this investigation are *de minimis*, we will not direct U.S. Customs and Border Protection to suspend liquidation of entries of subject merchandise.

Verification

As provided in section 782(i)(1) of the Act, we intend to verify the information submitted by the respondents prior to making our final determination.

International Trade Commission

In accordance with section 703(f) of the Act, we will notify the International Trade Commission (ITC) of our determination. In addition, we are making available to the ITC all non-privileged and non-proprietary information relating to this investigation. We will allow the ITC access to all privileged and business proprietary information in our files, provided the ITC confirms that it will not disclose such information, either publicly or under an administrative protective order, without the written consent of the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance.

In accordance with section 705(b)(3) of the Act, if our final determination is affirmative, the ITC will make its final determination within 75 days after we make our final determination.

Disclosure and Public Comment

The Department intends to disclose to interested parties the calculations performed in connection with this preliminary determination within five days of its public announcement.⁴ Interested parties may submit case briefs, rebuttal briefs, and hearing requests.⁵ For a schedule of the deadlines for filing case briefs, rebuttal

briefs, and hearing requests, see the Preliminary Decision Memorandum.

This determination is issued and published pursuant to sections 703(f) and 777(i) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.205(c).

Dated: March 16, 2015.

Paul Piquado,

Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance.

Appendix I

Scope of the Investigation

The merchandise covered by this investigation is circular welded carbon and alloy steel (other than stainless steel) pipe of a kind used for oil or gas pipelines (welded line pipe), not more than 24 inches in nominal outside diameter, regardless of wall thickness, length, surface finish, end finish, or stenciling. Welded line pipe is normally produced to the American Petroleum Institute (API) specification 5L, but can be produced to comparable foreign specifications, to proprietary grades, or can be non-graded material. All pipe meeting the physical description set forth above, including multiple-stenciled pipe with an API or comparable foreign specification line pipe stencil is covered by the scope of this investigation.

The welded line pipe that is subject to this investigation is currently classifiable in the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) under subheadings 7305.11.1030, 7305.11.5000, 7305.12.1030, 7305.12.5000, 7305.19.1030, 7305.19.5000, 7306.19.1010, 7306.19.1050, 7306.19.5110, and 7306.19.5150. The subject merchandise may also enter in HTSUS 7305.11.1060 and 7305.12.1060. While the HTSUS subheadings are provided for convenience and customs purposes, 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. Scope Comments
- IV. Scope of the Investigation
- V. Injury Test
- VI. Use of Facts Otherwise Available
- VII. Subsidies Valuation
- VIII. Analysis of Programs
- IX. ITC Notification
- X. Disclosure and Public Comment
- XI. Verification
- XII. Conclusion

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³ See Memorandum from Gary Taverman, Associate Deputy Assistant Secretary for Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Operations, to Paul Piquado, Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance, regarding "Countervailing Duty Investigation of Welded Line Pipe from the Republic of Korea: Decision Memorandum for the Negative Preliminary Determination," dated concurrently with this notice (Preliminary Decision Memorandum).

⁴ See 19 CFR 351.224(b).

⁵ See 19 CFR 351.309(c)-(d), 19 CFR 351.310(c).