

Dated: June 7, 2017.

Ronald K. Lorentzen,

Acting Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance.

Appendix I—Issues and Decision Memorandum

1. Whether the Department Should Rescind the Review of Harmoni and Jinxiang Jinma
2. Whether Hejia is Eligible for a Separate Rate
3. Yuting's No Shipment Status
4. Whether the Application of AFA to QTF-Entity was Warranted, and Whether the QTF-Entity is Eligible for a Separate Rate
5. The Department's Application of the \$4.71 per kilogram AFA Rate
6. Whether the Department Properly Calculated Xinboda's EP
7. Whether the Department Should Rely on Total AFA in Assigning a Dumping Margin to Xinboda
8. Whether the Department Correctly Selected Romania as the Surrogate Country and Whether Mexico has the Highest Quality of Data Available

Appendix II—List of Companies Under Review Subject to the PRC-Wide Rate

1. Jining Yongjia Trade Co., Ltd.
2. Jinxiang Hejia Co., Ltd.
3. The QTF-entity
4. Shandong Zhifeng Foodstuffs Co., Ltd.
5. Zhong Lian Farming Product (Qingdao) Co., Ltd.

Appendix III—Companies That Have Certified No Shipments

1. Jining Yifa Garlic Produce Co., Ltd.
2. Jining Shengtai Fruits & Vegetables Co., Ltd.
3. Jining Shunchang Import & Export Co., Ltd.
4. Jinxiang Guihua Food Co., Ltd.
5. Jinxiang Richfar Fruits & Vegetables Co., Ltd.
6. Qingdao Maycarrier Import & Export Co., Ltd.
7. Qingdao Sea-Line International Trading Co., Ltd.
8. Shandong Chenhe International Trading Co., Ltd.
9. Shijiazhuang Goodman Trading Co., Ltd.
10. Yantai Jinyan Trading, Inc.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[A-201-844]

Steel Concrete Reinforcing Bar From Mexico: Final Results of Antidumping Duty Administrative Review; 2014–2015

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

SUMMARY: On December 9, 2016, the Department of Commerce (the Department) published the *Preliminary Results* of the administrative review of the antidumping duty order on steel concrete reinforcing bar from Mexico (rebar). The period of review (POR) is April 24, 2014, through October 31, 2015. The review covers two mandatory respondents, Deacero S.A.P.I. de C.V. (Deacero) and Grupo Simec S.A.B. de C.V. (Grupo Simec). For these final results, we find that Deacero made sales of subject merchandise at less than normal value, while Grupo Simec did not make sales of subject merchandise at less than normal value. See the “Final Results of the Review” section below.

DATES: Effective June 14, 2017.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Stephanie Moore (for Deacero) or Patricia Tran (for Grupo Simec), AD/CVD Operations, Office III, Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482-3692 or (202) 482-1503, respectively.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On December 9, 2016, the Department published the *Preliminary Results*.¹ On January 31, 2017, the petitioner,² Grupo Simec, and Deacero timely submitted their case briefs.³ On January 9, 2017, the petitioner and Grupo Simec submitted requests for a hearing.⁴ On February 7, 2017, the petitioner, Grupo Simec, and Deacero submitted their rebuttal briefs.⁵ On February 8, 2017,

¹ See *Steel Concrete Reinforcing Bar from Mexico: Preliminary Results of Antidumping Duty Administrative Review; 2014–2015*, 81 FR 89053 (December 9, 2016) (*Preliminary Results*).

² The petitioner is the Rebar Trade Action Coalition, whose individual members are Nucor Corporation, Gerdau Ameristeel US Inc., Commercial Metals Company, Cascade Steel Rolling Mills, Inc., and Byer Steel Corporation.

³ See the petitioner's letter titled, “Steel Concrete Reinforcing Bar from Mexico—Case Brief,” dated January 31, 2017; see also Deacero's letter titled, “Steel Concrete Reinforcing Bar from Mexico—Case Brief,” dated January 31, 2017; Grupo Simec's letter titled, “Antidumping Duty Administrative Review of Steel Concrete Reinforcing Bar from Mexico—Case Brief,” dated January 31, 2017.

⁴ See letter from the petitioner titled, “Steel Concrete Reinforcing Bar from Mexico: Request for Hearing,” dated January 9, 2017. See also letter from Grupo Simec titled, “Steel Concrete Reinforcing Bar from Mexico: Hearing Request,” dated January 9, 2017.

⁵ See the petitioner's letter titled, “Steel Concrete Reinforcing Bar from Mexico—Rebuttal Brief,” dated February 7, 2017; see also Deacero's letter titled, “Steel Concrete Reinforcing Bar from Mexico—Rebuttal Brief,” dated February 7, 2017; Grupo Simec's letter titled, “Antidumping Duty Administrative Review of Steel Concrete

Grupo Simec withdrew its request for a hearing.⁶ Both Grupo Simec and the petitioner agreed to meetings with the Department in lieu of a hearing. Department officials met with Grupo Simec and the petitioner on May 3, and 10, 2017, respectively.⁷ On May 4, 2017, the Department postponed the final results until June 7, 2017.⁸

Scope of the Order

Imports covered by the order are shipments of steel concrete reinforcing bar imported in either straight length or coil form (rebar) regardless of metallurgy, length, diameter, or grade. The merchandise subject to review is currently classifiable under items 7213.10.0000, 7214.20.0000, and 7228.30.8010. The subject merchandise may also enter under other Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) numbers including 7215.90.1000, 7215.90.5000, 7221.00.0015, 7221.00.0030, 7221.00.0045, 7222.11.0001, 7222.11.0057, 7222.11.0059, 7222.30.0001, 7227.20.0080, 7227.90.6085, 7228.20.1000, and 7228.60.6000. Although the HTSUS subheadings are provided for convenience and customs purposes, the written description of the merchandise subject to the order is dispositive.⁹

Analysis of Comments Received

All issues raised in the case and rebuttal briefs by parties to this administrative review are addressed in the Issues and Decision Memorandum. A list of the issues that parties raised and to which we responded is attached to this notice as an Appendix. The Issues and 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).

Reinforcing Bar from Mexico—Rebuttal Case Brief,” dated February 7, 2017.

⁶ See letter from Grupo Simec titled “Steel Concrete Reinforcing Bar from Mexico: Withdrawal of Hearing Request,” dated February 8, 2017.

⁷ See Memorandum to the File from Stephanie Moore, Case Analyst titled, “Steel Concrete Reinforcing Bar from Mexico: Meeting with Respondents,” dated May 10, 2017. See also Memorandum to the File from Stephanie Moore, Case Analyst titled, “Steel Concrete Reinforcing Bar from Mexico: Meeting with Petitioner,” dated May 16, 2017.

⁸ See Memorandum titled “Steel Concrete Reinforcing Bar from Mexico: Extension of Deadline for Final Results of Antidumping Duty Administrative Review,” dated May 4, 2017.

⁹ For a full description of the scope of the order, see the “Decision Memorandum for the Final Results of Antidumping Duty Administrative Review: Steel Concrete Reinforcing Bar from Mexico; 2014–2015,” dated concurrently with this notice (Issues and Decision Memorandum).

ACCESS is available to registered users at <https://access.trade.gov> and in the Central Records Unit (CRU), room B8024 of the main Department of Commerce building. In addition, a complete version of the Issues and Decision Memorandum can be accessed directly on the Internet at <http://enforcement.trade.gov/frn/index.html>. The signed Issues and Decision Memorandum and the electronic versions of the Issues and Decision Memorandum are identical in content.

Changes Since the Preliminary Results

Based on a review of the record and comments received from interested parties regarding our *Preliminary Results*, we have made company-specific changes to Deacero's final margin calculation with respect to the SAS Comparison Market for affiliated purchases of electricity, and we revised the general and administrative (G&A) expense ratio. However, despite these changes, the weighted-average dumping margin for Deacero has not changed.

For Grupo Simec, we have changed the final margin calculation with respect to the SAS Comparison Market for fixed overhead costs, G&A, and financial expense ratio. However, despite these changes, the weighted-average dumping margin for Grupo Simec has not changed.

Final Results of the Review

As a result of this review, we determine the following weighted-average dumping margins for the period April 24, 2014, through October 31, 2015:

| Producer and/or exporter | Weighted-average dumping margins (percent) |
|---|--|
| Deacero S.A.P.I. de C.V. | 0.56 |
| Grupo Simec S.A.B. de C.V. ¹⁰ | 0.00 |

Disclosure

We will disclose the calculations performed to parties in this proceeding within five days of the date of

¹⁰ Pursuant to section 771(33)(B), (F) and (G) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act), the Department found Grupo Simec S.A.B. de C.V. affiliated with the following producers: Orge S.A. de C.V.; Compania Siderurgica del Pacifico S.A. de C.V.; Grupo Chant S.A.P.I. de C.V.; RRLC S.A.P.I. de C.V.; Siderurgica del Occidente y Pacifico S.A. de C.V.; Simec Internacional 6 S.A. de C.V.; Simec Internacional 7 S.A. de C.V.; and Simec Internacional 9 S.A. de C.V. The Department collapsed and treated as a single entity Grupo Simec S.A.B. de C.V. and these producers for purposes of this administrative review pursuant to 19 CFR 351.401(f). The collective entity is Grupo Simec.

publication of this notice, in accordance with 19 CFR 351.224(b).

Duty Assessment

The Department shall determine and Customs and Border Protection (CBP) shall assess antidumping duties on all appropriate entries.¹¹ For Deacero, because its weighted-average dumping margin is not zero or *de minimis* (i.e., less than 0.5 percent), the Department has calculated importer-specific antidumping duty assessment rates. We calculated importer-specific *ad valorem* antidumping duty assessment rates by aggregating the total amount of dumping calculated for the examined sales of each importer and dividing each of these amounts by the total entered value associated with those sales. We will instruct CBP to assess antidumping duties on all appropriate entries covered by this review where an importer-specific assessment rate is not zero or *de minimis*. Pursuant to 19 CFR 351.106(c)(2), we will instruct CBP to liquidate without regard to antidumping duties any entries for which the importer-specific assessment rate is zero or *de minimis*. Because we calculated a zero margin for Grupo Simec in the final results of this review, we intend to instruct CBP to liquidate the appropriate entries without regard to antidumping duties.¹²

We intend to issue assessment instructions directly to CBP 41 days after publication of the final results of this review.

Cash Deposit Requirements

The following cash deposit requirements will be effective upon publication of the notice of final results of administrative review for all shipments of subject merchandise entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after the publication of the final results of this administrative review, as provided by section 751(a)(2)(C) of the Act: (1) The cash deposit rate for respondents noted above will be the rate established in the final results of this administrative review, except if the rate is less than 0.50 percent and, therefore, *de minimis* within the meaning of 19 CFR

¹¹ In these final results, the Department applied the assessment rate calculation method adopted in *Antidumping Proceedings: Calculation of the Weighted-Average Dumping Margin and Assessment Rate in Certain Antidumping Proceedings: Final Modification*, 77 FR 8101 (February 14, 2012) (*Final Modification for Reviews*).

¹² See *Antidumping Proceeding: Calculation of the Weighted-Average Dumping Margin and Assessment Rate in Certain Antidumping Duty Proceedings: Final Modification*, 77 FR 8101, 8103 (February 14, 2012).

351.106(c)(I), in which case the cash deposit rate will be zero; (2) for merchandise exported by producers or exporters not covered in this administrative review but covered in a prior segment of the proceeding, the cash deposit rate will continue to be the company-specific rate published for the most recently completed segment of this proceeding; (3) if the exporter is not a firm covered in this review, a prior review, or the original investigation, but the producer is, the cash deposit rate will be the rate established for the most recently completed segment of this proceeding for the producer of the subject merchandise; and (4) the cash deposit rate for all other producers or exporters will continue to be 20.58 percent, the all-others rate established in the antidumping investigation.¹³ These cash deposit requirements, when imposed, shall remain in effect until further notice.

Notification to Importers Regarding the Reimbursement of Duties

This notice also serves as a final reminder to importers of their responsibility under 19 CFR 351.402(f) to file a certificate regarding the reimbursement of antidumping duties prior to liquidation of the relevant entries during the POR. Failure to comply with this requirement could result in the Department's presumption that reimbursement of antidumping duties occurred and the subsequent assessment of doubled antidumping duties.

Administrative Protective Order

This notice also serves as a reminder to parties subject to administrative protective orders (APO) of their responsibility concerning the return or destruction of proprietary information disclosed under APO in accordance with 19 CFR 351.305(a)(3), which continues to govern business proprietary information in this segment of the proceeding. Timely written notification of the return/destruction of APO materials, or conversion to judicial protective order, is hereby requested. Failure to comply with the regulations and the terms of an APO is a sanctionable violation.

We are issuing and publishing this notice in accordance with sections 751(a)(1) and 777(i)(1) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.213(h) and 19 CFR 351.221(b)(5).

¹³ See *Steel Concrete Reinforcing Bar from Mexico: Final Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value and Final Affirmative Determination of Critical Circumstances*, 79 FR 54967 (September 15, 2014).

Dated: June 7, 2017.

Ronald K. Lorentzen,

Acting Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance.

Appendix

List of Topics Discussed in the Final Decision Memorandum

- I. Summary
- II. List of Comments
- III. Background
- IV. Scope of the Order
- V. Analysis of Comments
 - Comments Concerning Deacero*
 - Comment 1: Whether to Apply Total Adverse Inferences to Deacero
 - Comment 2: Treatment of Scrap Values Reported by Deacero
 - Comment 3: Treatment of Non-prime Merchandise Reported by Deacero
 - Comment 4: Treatment of Affiliated Electricity Purchases Reported by Deacero
 - Comment 5: Treatment of G&A and Interest Expense Ratios Reported by Deacero
 - Comment 6: Treatment of Reconciling Items Reported by Deacero
 - Comment 7: Treatment of Rebar Costs Relating to Non-Subject Merchandise
 - Comment 8: Inventory Adjustments
 - Comment 9: Method Used to Calculate Deacero's Final Margin
 - Comment 10: Sales Passing the Cohen's *d* Test Based on Time
 - Comment Concerning Grupo Simec*
 - Comment 11: Whether to Apply Adverse Facts Available to Grupo Simec
 - Comment 12: Whether to Adjust Grupo Simec's Reported Costs
 - Comment 13: Whether to Revise the Department's Collapsing Analysis
 - Comment 14: Clerical Errors
- VI. Recommendation

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

District Export Council Nomination Opportunity

AGENCY: International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of opportunity for appointment to serve as a District Export Council member.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce is currently seeking nominations of individuals for consideration for appointment by the Secretary of Commerce to serve as members of one of the 60 District Export Councils (DECs) nationwide. DECs are closely affiliated with the U.S. Export Assistance Centers (USEACs) of the U.S. and Foreign Commercial Service (US&FCS), and play a key role in the

planning and coordination of export activities in their communities.

DATES: Nominations for individuals to a DEC must be received by the local USEAC Director by 5:00 p.m. local time on July 28, 2017.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Please contact the Director of your local USEAC for more information on DECs and the nomination process. You may identify your local USEAC by entering your zip code online at <http://export.gov/usoffices/index.asp>. For general program information, contact Laura Barmby, National DEC Liaison, US&FCS, at (202) 482-2675.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: District Export Councils support the mission of US&FCS by facilitating the development of an effective local export assistance network, supporting the expansion of export opportunities for local U.S. companies, serving as a communication link between the business community and US&FCS, and assisting in coordinating the activities of trade assistance partners to leverage available resources. Individuals appointed to a DEC become part of a select corps of trade experts dedicated to providing international trade leadership and guidance to the local business community and assistance to the Department of Commerce on export development issues.

Nomination Process: Each DEC has a maximum membership of 35. Approximately half of the positions are open on each DEC for the four-year term that begins on January 1, 2018, and runs through December 31, 2021. All potential nominees must complete an online nomination form and consent to sharing of the information on that form with the DEC Executive Committee for its consideration, and consent, if appointed, to sharing of their contact information with other partners.

Eligibility and Appointment Criteria: Appointment is based upon an individual's international trade leadership in the local community, ability to influence the local environment for exporting, knowledge of day-to-day international operations, interest in export development, and willingness and ability to devote time to DEC activities. Members must be employed as exporters or export service providers or in a profession which supports U.S. export promotion efforts. Members include exporters, export service providers and others whose profession supports U.S. export promotion efforts. DEC member appointments are made without regard to political affiliation. DEC membership is open to U.S. citizens and permanent

residents of the United States. As representatives of the local exporting community, DEC Members must reside in, or conduct the majority of their work in, the territory that the DEC covers. DEC membership is not open to federal government employees, or individuals representing foreign governments, including individuals registered with the Department of Justice under the Foreign Agents Registration Act.

Selection Process: Nominations of individuals who have applied for DEC membership will be forwarded to the local USEAC Director for the respective DEC for that Director's consideration. The local USEAC Director ensures that all nominees meet the membership criteria outlined below. The local USEAC Director then, in consultation with the local DEC Executive Committee, evaluates all nominations to determine their interest, commitment, and qualifications. In reviewing nominations, the local USEAC Director strives to ensure a balance among exporters from a manufacturing or service industry and export service providers. A fair representation should be considered from companies and organizations that support exporters, representatives of local and state government, and trade organizations and associations. Membership should reflect the diversity of the local business community, encompass a broad range of businesses and industry sectors, and be distributed geographically across the DEC service area.

For current DEC members seeking reappointment, the local USEAC Director, in consultation with the DEC Executive Committee, also carefully considers the nominee's activity level during the previous term and demonstrated ability to work cooperatively and effectively with other DEC members and US&FCS staff. As appointees of the Secretary of Commerce in high-profile positions, though volunteers, DEC Members are expected to actively participate in the DEC and support the work of local US&FCS offices. Those that do not support the work of the office or do not actively participate in DEC activities will not be considered for re-nomination.

The Executive Secretary determines which nominees to forward to the US&FCS Office of U.S. Operations for further consideration for recommendation to the Secretary of Commerce in consultation with the local DEC Executive Committee. A candidate's background and character are pertinent to determining suitability and eligibility for DEC membership. Since DEC appointments are made by