

**SUMMARY:** The International Trade Administration (ITA) of the Department of Commerce seeks individual comments from industry on government programs aimed at catalyzing U.S. private sector participation in commercial opportunities in energy and other infrastructure in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC). Through this notice, ITA announces a request for written public comments and announces a roundtable discussion with industry representatives and U.S. government staff. This notice serves as an initial step in improving ITA's understanding of private sector interests and programmatic and policy needs in energy and other infrastructure sectors in the LAC region under the new *America Crece* initiative. This notice further sets forth topics for discussion and comment.

**DATES:**

*Event:* The roundtable will be held on February 20, 2020 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., Eastern Daylight Time.

*Written Comments:* To be ensured of consideration, written public comments must be received on or before February 28, 2020. Comments should not include any business confidential information.

*Event Registration:* ITA will evaluate registrations based on the submitted information (see below) and inform applicants of selection decisions, which will be made on a rolling basis until 30 participants have been selected.

**ADDRESSES:**

*Event:* The roundtable will be held at the Department of Commerce, Commerce Research Library, 1401 Constitution Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20230.

*Comments:* Written comments should be sent by electronic mail addressed to [AmericaCreceOutreach@trade.gov](mailto:AmericaCreceOutreach@trade.gov). Comments may also be submitted by mail addressed to: Attn: America Crece, Deputy Assistant Secretary for the Western Hemisphere, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Ave. NW, Room 30019, Washington, DC 20230. Although comments may be submitted by mail, ITA prefers to receive comments via electronic mail.

For alternatives to online or mail submissions, please contact Christian Herman, International Trade Specialist, ITA, at (202) 482-5430

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

[AmericaCreceOutreach@trade.gov](mailto:AmericaCreceOutreach@trade.gov) or Christian Herman, International Trade Specialist, ITA, at (202) 482-5430

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** In 2018, the government of the United States launched the *America Crece* (Growth in the Americas) initiative to foster

coordinated, whole-of-government efforts in support of all U.S. energy and infrastructure engagement in the LAC region. This request for comment and event notification seeks public comment on priorities and strategies to enhance commercial engagement in energy and other infrastructure in the LAC region through programs under the umbrella of the *America Crece* initiative.

The Department seeks individual input and views at the February 20, 2020 roundtable regarding the LAC region, including the following topics:

- The principal foreign regulatory and policy barriers to growing sales and exports to the LAC region and how to prioritize these barriers for USG engagement.

- The principal foreign barriers to investment in the energy and infrastructure sectors in LAC countries.

- The challenges U.S. companies face in seeking and/or providing competitive financing for projects in the LAC region.

- Proactive solutions or actions that the U.S. government could pursue that would have an impact on catalyzing U.S. private sector participation in commercial opportunities in LAC.

- Insights from working with USG agencies—such as State, Commerce, Treasury, Energy, USTDA, EXIM, OPIC, USAID—in doing business in LAC, including assessments of the strengths and weaknesses of the U.S. government tools to promote U.S. businesses in the energy and infrastructure sectors in LAC countries.

*Event:* The February 20, 2020 roundtable will provide an overview of the *America Crece* initiative and will include a discussion session during which participants will provide insights and feedback related to the initiative and energy and infrastructure in the LAC region. Due to limited space, the event is closed to press and observers. Industry participation is limited to 30 qualifying industry representatives.

**Selection**

To attend, participants should submit the below information to [AmericaCreceOutreach@trade.gov](mailto:AmericaCreceOutreach@trade.gov) by February 18, 2020. I&A will evaluate registrations based on the submitted information (and based on the criteria below) on a rolling basis until 30 participants have been selected and inform applicants of selection decisions.

Applicants are encouraged to send representatives at a sufficiently senior level to be knowledgeable about their organization's capabilities, interests and challenges in the LAC region.

Registrations should include the following information in their registration email:

- Name of attendee and short bio.
- Organization and brief organization description.
- A statement self-certifying how the organization meets each of the following criteria:

1. It is not majority owned by a foreign government entity (or entities).
2. Its existing products or services are either produced in the United States, or, if not, marketed under the name of a U.S. firm and have demonstrable U.S. content as a percentage of the value of the finished product or service and/or it is a major investor in projects in LAC in which companies with such products may compete.
3. It has already exported from the United States to or invested in the LAC region.

4. In the case of a trade association, academic or research institution, the applicant will only be representing companies during the roundtable that satisfy each of the criteria above.

Selection will be based on the following criteria:

- Suitability of the company's (or in the case of another organization, represented companies' or constituents') existing products or services to commercial opportunities in the energy and infrastructure sectors in the LAC region.

- Suitability of the company's (or in the case of another organization, represented companies' or constituents') experience pursuing commercial opportunities in the LAC region.

- Suitability of the representative's position and biography to be able to engage in the conversation.

Dated: January 23, 2020.

**Man Cho,**

*Deputy Director, Office of Energy and Environmental Industries.*

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**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

**International Trade Administration**

[C-489-819]

**Steel Concrete Reinforcing Bar From the Republic of Turkey: Final Results of the Expedited First Sunset Review of the Countervailing Duty Order**

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

**SUMMARY:** As a result of this expedited sunset review, the Department of Commerce (Commerce) finds that revocation of the countervailing duty order on steel concrete reinforcing bar

(rebar) from the Republic of Turkey (Turkey) would be likely to lead to continuation or recurrence of countervailable subsidies at the levels as indicated in the “Final Results of Sunset Review” section of this notice.

**DATES:** Applicable January 28, 2020.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Charlotte Baskin-Gerwitz, AD/CVD Operations, Office VII, Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482-4880.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Background**

On November 6, 2014, Commerce published the countervailing duty order on rebar from Turkey in the **Federal Register**.<sup>1</sup> On October 1, 2019, Commerce published the notice of initiation of the first five-year (sunset) review of the *Order*, pursuant to section 751(c) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act).<sup>2</sup> On October 16, 2019, Commerce received a notice of intent to participate from the Rebar Trade Action Coalition (RTAC) and its individual members<sup>3</sup> (collectively, the domestic interested parties), within the deadline specified in 19 CFR 351.218(d)(1)(i).<sup>4</sup> The domestic interested parties claimed interested party status under section 771(9)(F) of the Act as an association, a majority of whose members are composed of interested parties within the meaning of section 771(9)(C)—a manufacturer of the domestic like product.<sup>5</sup>

On October 30, 2019, Commerce received adequate substantive responses

to the *Notice of Initiation* from the domestic interested parties and the Government of Turkey (GOT) within the 30-day deadline specified in 19 CFR 351.218(d)(3)(i).<sup>6</sup> Commerce received no substantive response from any respondent interested parties.

On November 22, 2019, Commerce notified the U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC) that it did not receive an adequate substantive response from respondent interested parties.<sup>7</sup> Accordingly, pursuant to section 751(c)(3)(B) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.218(e)(1)(ii)(C)(2), Commerce conducted an expedited (120-day) sunset review of the *Order*.

**Scope of the Order**

The merchandise covered by the *Order* is steel concrete reinforcing bar imported in either straight length or coil form (rebar) regardless of metallurgy, length, diameter, or grade. The subject merchandise is classifiable in the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) primarily under item numbers 7213.10.0000, 7214.20.0000, and 7228.30.8010.

The subject merchandise may also enter under other 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. Specifically excluded are plain rounds (*i.e.*, non-deformed or smooth rebar). Also excluded from the scope is deformed steel wire meeting ASTM A1064/A1064M with no bar markings (*e.g.*, mill mark, size, or grade)

and without being subject to an elongation test. HTSUS numbers are provided for convenience and customs purposes; however, the written description of the scope remains dispositive.

**Analysis of Comments Received**

All issues raised in this sunset review are addressed in the Issues and Decision Memorandum, including the likelihood of continuation or recurrence of countervailable subsidies and the net countervailable subsidy likely to prevail if the order were revoked.<sup>8</sup> 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 Services System (ACCESS). ACCESS is available to registered users at <http://access.trade.gov>, and to all parties in the Central Records Unit in Room B8024 of the main Commerce building. In addition, a complete version of the Issues and Decision Memorandum can be accessed directly at <https://enforcement.trade.gov/frn/index.html>. The signed and electronic versions of the Issues and Decision Memorandum are identical in content. A list of the issues discussed in the decision memorandum is attached at the Appendix to this notice.

**Final Results of Sunset Review**

Pursuant to sections 751(c)(1) and 752(b) of the Act, Commerce determines that revocation of the *Order* would be likely to lead to continuation or recurrence of countervailable subsidies at the following rates:

| Manufacturer/producer/exporter  | Net countervailable subsidy (%)  |
|---|----------------------------------|
| Icdas Celik Enerji Tersane ve Ulasim Sanayi A.S. ....   | 4.02.                            |
| Kaptan Demir Celik Endustrisi ve Ticaret A.S. and Kaptan Metal Dis Ticaret ve Nakliyat A.S. (collectively, Kaptan) <sup>9</sup> | 1.25.                            |
| Colakoglu Dis Ticaret A.S. and Colakoglu Metalurji A.S. (collectively, Colakoglu) <sup>10</sup> .....                           | 1.25.                            |
| Produced and Exported by Habas Sinai ve Tibbi Gazlar Istihsal Endustrisi A.S. (Habas) <sup>11</sup> .....                       | Excluded from the <i>Order</i> . |
| All Others .....  | 1.25.                            |

<sup>1</sup> See *Steel Concrete Reinforcing Bar from the Republic of Turkey: Countervailing Duty Order*, 79 FR 65926, 65927 (November 6, 2014) (*Order*).

<sup>2</sup> See *Initiation of Five-Year (Sunset) Review*, 84 FR 52067 (October 1, 2019) (*Notice of Initiation*).

<sup>3</sup> RTAC’s individual members are Nucor Corporation, Gerdau Ameristeel U.S. Inc., Commercial Metals Company, and Steel Dynamics, Inc.

<sup>4</sup> See Domestic Interested Parties’ Letter, “Steel Concrete Reinforcing Bars from the Republic of Turkey: Notice of Intent to Participate in Sunset Review,” dated October 16, 2019.

<sup>5</sup> *Id.* at 2.

<sup>6</sup> See Domestic Interested Parties’ Letter, “Steel Concrete Reinforcing Bar from the Republic of

Turkey: Substantive Response to Notice of Initiation,” dated October 30, 2019; and see also GOT’s Letter, “Substantive Response of the Government of the Republic of Turkey in the First Sunset Review of the Countervailing Duty Order on Steel Concrete Reinforcing Bar,” dated October 30, 2019.

<sup>7</sup> See Commerce’s Letter, “Sunset Review Initiated on October 1, 2019,” dated November 22, 2019.

<sup>8</sup> See Memorandum, “Issues and Decision Memorandum for the Expedited First Sunset Review of the Countervailing Duty Order on Drawn Stainless Steel Sinks from the People’s Republic of China,” dated concurrently with, and hereby

adopted by, this notice (Issues and Decision Memorandum).

<sup>9</sup> These companies were found to be cross-owned in a prior segment of this proceeding. See *Steel Concrete Reinforcing Bar from the Republic of Turkey: Final Results and Partial Rescission of Countervailing Duty Administrative Review; 2014*, 82 FR 26907 (June 12, 2017).

<sup>10</sup> These companies were found to be cross-owned in a prior segment of this proceeding. See *Steel Concrete Reinforcing Bar from the Republic of Turkey: Final Results and Partial Rescission of Countervailing Duty Administrative Review; 2015*, 83 FR 16051 (April 13, 2018).

<sup>11</sup> Merchandise either produced or exported by Habas (but not both) is subject to the all others rate.

**Administrative Protective Order (APO)**

This notice serves as the only reminder to parties subject to APO of their responsibility concerning the disposition of proprietary information disclosed under APO in accordance with 19 CFR 351.305(a). Timely written notification of the destruction of APO materials or conversion to judicial protective order is hereby requested. Failure to comply with the regulations and terms of an APO is a violation which is subject to sanction.

**Notification to Interested Parties**

Commerce is issuing and publishing the final results and notice in accordance with sections 751(c), 752(b), and 777(i)(1) of the Act.

Dated: January 22, 2019.

**Jeffrey I. Kessler,**

*Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance.*

**Appendix****List of Topics Discussed in the Issues and Decision Memorandum**

- I. Summary
- II. Background
- III. Scope of the Order
- IV. History of the Order
- V. Legal Framework
- VI. Discussion of the Issues
- VII. Final Results of Sunset Review
- VIII. Recommendation

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**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE****International Trade Administration**

[A-570-900]

**Diamond Sawblades and Parts Thereof From the People's Republic of China: Notice of Covered Merchandise Referral and Initiation of Scope Inquiry**

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

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to the Enforce and Protect Act of 2015 (EAPA), the Department of Commerce (Commerce) received a covered merchandise referral from U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) in connection with a CBP EAPA investigation concerning the antidumping duty order on diamond sawblades and parts thereof (diamond sawblades) from the People's Republic of China (China). In accordance with EAPA, Commerce intends to determine whether the merchandise subject to the referral is covered by the scope of this order and promptly transmit its determination to CBP. Commerce is providing notice of the referral and

inviting participation from interested parties.

**DATES:** Applicable January 28, 2020.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Yang Jin Chun, AD/CVD Operations, Office I, Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20230, telephone: (202) 482-5760.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:****Background**

On February 24, 2016, the Trade Facilitation and Trade Enforcement Act of 2015 was signed into law, which contains Title IV—Prevention of Evasion of Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Orders (short title “Enforce and Protect Act of 2015” or “EAPA”) (Pub. L. 114-125, 130 Stat. 122, 155, Feb. 24, 2016). Effective August 22, 2016, section 421 of the EAPA added section 517 to the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act), which establishes a formal process for CBP to investigate allegations of the evasion of antidumping duty and/or countervailing duty orders. Section 517(b)(4)(A) of the Act provides that if, during the course of an EAPA investigation, CBP is unable to determine whether the merchandise at issue is covered merchandise within the meaning of section 517(a)(3) of the Act, it shall refer the matter to Commerce to make such a determination. Section 517(a)(3) of the Act defines covered merchandise as merchandise that is subject to an antidumping duty order issued under section 736 of the Act or a countervailing duty order issued under section 706 of the Act. Section 517(b)(4)(B) of the Act states that Commerce, after receiving a covered merchandise referral from CBP, shall determine whether the merchandise is covered merchandise and promptly transmit its determination to CBP. The Act does not establish a deadline within which Commerce must issue its determination.

On September 26, 2019, Commerce received a covered merchandise referral from CBP regarding CBP EAPA Investigation No. 7250,<sup>1</sup> which concerns the antidumping duty order on diamond

<sup>1</sup> See CBP's Letter, “Covered Merchandise Referral Request for Merchandise under EAPA Investigation 7250, Imported by Lyke Industrial Tool, LLC, and Concerning the Investigation of Evasion of the Antidumping Duty Order on Diamond Sawblades and Parts Thereof from the People's Republic of China (A-570-900),” dated September 19, 2019. Commerce intends to make available this document and any supporting documents on Enforcement and Compliance's Antidumping Duty and Countervailing Duty Centralized Electronic Service System (ACCESS) within five days of publication of this notice.

sawblades from China. CBP explained that the petitioner's allegation involves diamond sawblades from China transshipped through Thailand and imported by Lyke Industrial Tool, LLC (Lyke). In response to the petitioner's allegation, CBP requested and obtained information from Lyke and Lyke's supplier of cores and segments, Like Tools Co. Ltd. (Like Thailand). CBP has requested that Commerce issue a determination as to whether the following categories of diamond sawblades are covered merchandise subject to the antidumping duty order:

*Category 1:* Core sourced from Thailand; segments from China; joined in Thailand.

*Category 2:* Core and segments both sourced from China; joined in Thailand.

*Category 3:* Core sourced from China; segments from Thailand; joined in Thailand.

In addition, on September 6, 2019, Lyke requested a scope ruling with respect to certain diamond sawblades that Lyke imported from Thailand.<sup>2</sup> Specifically, Lyke requested that Commerce determine whether diamond sawblades made by Like Thailand using Thai segments (regardless of the origin of the cores) are outside the scope of the antidumping duty order on diamond sawblades from China.<sup>3</sup> On September 19, 2019, the petitioner filed a response letter in opposition to Lyke's scope request.<sup>4</sup> We extended the time period for issuing a scope ruling or initiating a formal scope inquiry to January 21, 2020.<sup>5</sup>

**Notification to Interested Parties**

Commerce is hereby notifying interested parties that it has received the covered merchandise referral referenced above and will begin a new segment of the proceeding by initiating a scope inquiry concerning the merchandise imported by Lyke that were supplied by Like Thailand, in accordance with 19 CFR 351.225(b). Based on our finding in that scope inquiry, we intend to notify CBP as to whether the merchandise subject to the referral is covered merchandise within the meaning of

<sup>2</sup> See Lyke's Letter, “Diamond Sawblades and Parts Thereof from The People's Republic of China: Scope Inquiry Request,” dated September 6, 2019.

<sup>3</sup> See *Diamond Sawblades and Parts Thereof from the People's Republic of China and the Republic of Korea: Antidumping Duty Orders*, 74 FR 57145 (November 4, 2009).

<sup>4</sup> See Petitioner's Letter, “Diamond Sawblades and Parts Thereof from the People's Republic of China: Response to Request for Scope Ruling,” dated September 19, 2019. The petitioner is Diamond Sawblades Manufacturers' Coalition.

<sup>5</sup> See Commerce's Letters to All Interested Parties dated October 21, 2019, and December 5, 2019.