

VII. Conclusion

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**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

**International Trade Administration**

[A-583-868]

**Prestressed Concrete Steel Wire Strand From Taiwan: Preliminary Affirmative Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value and Negative Preliminary Determination of Critical Circumstances**

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

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Commerce (Commerce) preliminarily determines that prestressed concrete steel wire strand (PC strand) from Taiwan is being, or is likely to be, sold in the United States at less than fair value (LTFV). The period of investigation (POI) is April 1, 2019 through March 31, 2020. Interested parties are invited to comment on this preliminary determination.

**DATES:** Applicable September 30, 2020.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Joy Zhang or John Hoffner, 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) 482-1168 or (202) 482-3315, respectively.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Background**

This preliminary determination is made in accordance with section 733(b) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act). Commerce published the notice of initiation of this investigation on May 13, 2020.<sup>1</sup> For a complete description of the events that followed the initiation of this investigation, see the Preliminary Decision Memorandum.<sup>2</sup> A list of topics included in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum is included as Appendix II to this notice. The Preliminary Decision Memorandum is a public

<sup>1</sup> See *Prestressed Concrete Steel Wire Strand from Argentina, Colombia, Egypt, Indonesia, Italy, Malaysia, the Netherlands, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Spain, Taiwan, Tunisia, the Republic of Turkey, Ukraine, and the United Arab Emirates: Initiation of Less-Than-Fair-Value Investigations*, 85 FR 28605 (May 13, 2020) (*Initiation Notice*).

<sup>2</sup> See Memorandum, “Decision Memorandum for the Preliminary Determination in Less-Than-Fair-Value Investigation of Prestressed Concrete Steel Wire Strand from Taiwan,” dated concurrently with, and hereby adopted by, this notice (Preliminary Decision Memorandum).

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 <https://access.trade.gov>. In addition, a complete version of the Preliminary Decision Memorandum can be accessed directly at <http://enforcement.trade.gov/frn/>. The signed and the electronic versions of the Preliminary Decision Memorandum are identical in content.

**Scope of the Investigation**

The product covered by this investigation is PC strand from Taiwan. For a complete description of the scope of this investigation, see Appendix I.

**Scope Comments**

In accordance with the preamble to Commerce’s regulations,<sup>3</sup> the *Initiation Notice* set aside a period of time for parties to raise issues regarding product coverage (*i.e.*, scope).<sup>4</sup> No interested party commented on the scope of the investigation as it appeared in the *Initiation Notice*. Therefore, Commerce is not preliminarily modifying the scope language as it appeared in the *Initiation Notice*. See the scope in Appendix I to this notice.

**Methodology**

Commerce is conducting this investigation in accordance with section 731 of the Act. Pursuant to section 776(a) and (b) of the Act, Commerce has preliminarily relied upon facts otherwise available, with adverse inferences, for Chia Ta World Co., Ltd. (Chia Ta). For a full description of the methodology underlying the preliminary determination, see the Preliminary Decision Memorandum.

**Preliminary Negative Determination of Critical Circumstances**

In accordance with section 733(e) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.206, Commerce preliminarily determines that critical circumstances do not exist for Chia Ta and all other producers/exporters of PC strand from Taiwan. For a full description of the methodology and results of Commerce’s critical circumstances analysis, see the Preliminary Decision Memorandum.

**All-Others Rate**

Sections 733(d)(1)(ii) and 735(c)(5)(A) of the Act provide that in the preliminary determination Commerce shall determine an estimated all-others rate for all exporters and producers not

<sup>3</sup> See *Antidumping Duties; Countervailing Duties; Final Rule*, 62 FR 27296, 27323 (May 19, 1997).

<sup>4</sup> See *Initiation Notice*, 85 FR at 28606.

individually investigated. This rate shall be an amount equal to the weighted average of the estimated weighted-average dumping margins established for exporters and producers individually investigated, excluding any zero and *de minimis* margins, and any margins determined entirely under section 776 of the Act.

Pursuant to section 735(c)(5)(B) of the Act, if the estimated weighted-average dumping margins established for all exporters and producers individually examined are zero, *de minimis*, or determined based entirely on facts otherwise available, Commerce may use any reasonable method to establish the estimated weighted-average dumping margin for all other producers or exporters. Commerce has preliminarily determined the estimated weighted-average dumping margin for Chia Ta, the sole mandatory respondent, under section 776 of the Act. Consequently, pursuant to section 735(c)(5)(B) of the Act, Commerce’s normal practice under these circumstances has been to calculate the all-others rate as a simple average of the alleged dumping margins from the petition. With respect to Taiwan, in the Petitions,<sup>5</sup> the petitioners<sup>6</sup> alleged only one margin. Therefore, we have preliminarily assigned the only margin alleged for subject merchandise from Taiwan in the Petitions, which is 23.89 percent, to all other producers/exporters.<sup>7</sup>

**Preliminary Determination**

Commerce preliminarily determines that the following estimated dumping margins exist during the period April 1, 2019 through March 31, 2020:

Exporter/producer	Estimated dumping margin (percent)
Chia Ta World Co., Ltd***	23.89
All Others	23.89

\*\*\* Adverse Facts Available (AFA).

**Suspension of Liquidation**

In accordance with section 733(d)(2) of the Act, Commerce will direct U.S.

<sup>5</sup> See Petitioner’s Letter, “Prestressed Concrete Steel Wire Strand from Argentina, Colombia, Egypt, Indonesia, Italy, Malaysia, Netherlands, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Spain, Taiwan, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, and United Arab Emirates—Petition for the Imposition of Antidumping and Countervailing Duties,” dated April 16, 2020 (the Petitions) at Volume XII; see also AD Investigation Initiation Checklist: Prestressed Concrete Steel Wire Strand from Taiwan, dated May 6, 2020 (AD Checklist).

<sup>6</sup> Insteel Wire Products Company, Sumiden Wire Products Corporation, and Wire Mesh Corporation (collectively, the petitioners).

<sup>7</sup> See AD Checklist.

Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to suspend liquidation of entries of subject merchandise, as described in Appendix I, entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after the date of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**. Further, pursuant to section 733(d)(1)(B) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.205(d), Commerce will instruct CBP to require a cash deposit equal to the estimated weighted-average dumping margin or the estimated all-others rate, as follows: (1) The cash deposit rate for Chia Ta will be equal to the company-specific estimated weighted-average dumping margin determined in this preliminary determination; (2) if the exporter is not a respondent identified above, but the producer is, then the cash deposit rate will be equal to the company-specific estimated weighted-average dumping margin established for that producer of the subject merchandise; and (3) the cash deposit rate for all other producers and exporters will be equal to the all-others estimated weighted-average dumping margin.

These suspension of liquidation instructions will remain in effect until further notice.

#### Disclosure

Normally, Commerce discloses to interested parties the calculations performed in connection with a preliminary determination within five days of any public announcement or, if there is no public announcement, within five days of the date of publication of the notice of preliminary determination in the **Federal Register**, in accordance with 19 CFR 351.224(b). However, because Commerce preliminarily applied AFA in determining the estimated weighted-average margin for the sole individually examined company, Chia Ta, in this investigation, in accordance with section 776 of the Act, and the applied AFA rate is based solely on the single rate alleged in the petition, there are no calculations to disclose.

#### Verification

Because Chia Ta did not provide information requested by Commerce, and Commerce preliminarily determines Chia Ta to be uncooperative, we will not conduct verification.

#### Public Comment

Case briefs or other written comments may be submitted to the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance no later than 30 days after the date of publication of this preliminary determination, unless

Commerce alters the time limit.<sup>8</sup> Rebuttal briefs, limited to issues raised in case briefs, may be submitted no later than seven days after the deadline date for case briefs.<sup>9</sup> Pursuant to 19 CFR 351.309(c)(2) and (d)(2), parties who submit case briefs or rebuttal briefs in these proceedings are encouraged to submit with each argument: (1) A statement of the issue; (2) a brief summary of the argument; and (3) a table of authorities.

Pursuant to 19 CFR 351.310(c), interested parties who wish to request a hearing, limited to issues raised in the case and rebuttal briefs, must submit a written request to the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance, U.S. Department of Commerce, within 30 days after the date of publication of this notice. Requests should contain: (1) The party's name, address, and telephone number; (2) the number of participants and whether any participant is a foreign national; and (3) a list of the issues to be discussed. If a request for a hearing is made, Commerce intends to hold the hearing at a time and date to be determined. Parties should confirm by telephone the date, time, and location of the hearing two days before the scheduled date.

Parties are reminded that briefs and hearing requests are to be filed electronically using ACCESS and that electronically filed documents must be received successfully in their entirety by ACCESS by 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on the due date. Note that Commerce has temporarily modified certain of its requirements for serving documents containing business proprietary information, until further notice.<sup>10</sup>

#### Final Determination

Section 735(a)(1) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.210(b)(1) provide that Commerce will issue the final determination within 75 days after the date of its preliminary determination. Accordingly, Commerce will make its final determination no later than 75 days after the signature date of this preliminary determination.

<sup>8</sup> See 19 CFR 351.309(c)(1)(i); see also 19 CFR 351.303 (for general filing requirements); *Temporary Rule Modifying AD/CVD Service Requirements Due to COVID-19*, 85 FR 17006 (March 26, 2020) (*Temporary Rule*); and *Temporary Rule Modifying AD/CVD Service Requirements Due to COVID-19; Extension of Effective Period*, 85 FR 41363 (July 10, 2020).

<sup>9</sup> See 19 CFR 351.309(d); see also 19 CFR 351.303 (for general filing requirements); and *Temporary Rule*.

<sup>10</sup> See *Temporary Rule*.

#### International Trade Commission Notification

In accordance with section 733(f) of the Act, Commerce will notify the International Trade Commission (ITC) of its preliminary determination. If the final determination is affirmative, in accordance with 735(b), the ITC will determine before the later of 120 days after the date of this preliminary determination or 45 days after the final determination whether these imports are materially injuring, or threaten material injury to, the U.S. industry.

#### Notification to Interested Parties

This determination is issued and published in accordance with sections 733(f) and 777(i)(1) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.205(c).

Dated: September 23, 2020.

**Jeffrey I. Kessler,**

*Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance.*

#### Appendix I

##### Scope of the Investigation

The merchandise covered by this investigation is prestressed concrete steel wire strand (PC strand), produced from wire of non-stainless, non-galvanized steel, which is suitable for use in prestressed concrete (both pretensioned and post-tensioned) applications. The product definition encompasses covered and uncovered strand and all types, grades, and diameters of PC strand. PC strand is normally sold in the United States in sizes ranging from 0.25 inches to 0.70 inches in diameter. PC strand made from galvanized wire is only excluded from the scope if the zinc and/or zinc oxide coating meets or exceeds the 0.40 oz./ft<sup>2</sup> standard set forth in ASTM-A-475.

The PC strand subject to this investigation is currently classifiable under subheadings 7312.10.3010 and 7312.10.3012 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS). Although the HTSUS subheadings are provided for convenience and customs purposes, the written description of the scope of the investigation is dispositive.

#### Appendix II

##### List of Topics Discussed in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum:

- I. Summary
- II. Background
- III. Period of Investigation
- IV. Scope of Investigation
- V. Application of Facts Available and Use of Adverse Inferences and Calculation of All-Others Rate
- VI. Preliminary Critical Circumstances Finding
- VII. Recommendation

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