

a handle attached to the package for ease of carry, (E) one or more integrated kickstands for easy installation or angle adjustment, and (F) a wire either permanently connected or attached to the package terminates in waterproof connector with a cylindrical positive electrode and a rectangular negative electrode with the positive and negative electrodes having an interlocking structure.

Also excluded from the scope of the investigation are:

(1) Off grid rigid CSPV panels with a glass cover, with the following characteristics: (A) a total power output of 200 watts or less per panel, (B) a maximum surface area of 10,500 cm<sup>2</sup> per panel, (C) do not include a built-in inverter, (D) must include a permanently connected wire that terminates in waterproof connector with a cylindrical positive electrode and a rectangular negative electrode with the positive and negative electrodes having an interlocking structure, (E) must include visible parallel grid collector metallic wire lines every 1–4 millimeters across each solar cell, and (F) must be in individual retail packaging (for purposes of this provision, retail packaging typically includes graphics, the product name, its description and/or features); and

(2) Small off-grid panels with glass cover, with the following characteristics: (A) surface area from 3,450 mm<sup>2</sup> to 33,782 mm<sup>2</sup>, (B) with one black wire and one red wire (each of type 22AWG or 28 AWG not more than 350 mm in length when measured from panel extrusion), (C) not exceeding 10 volts, (D) not exceeding 1.1 amps, (E) not exceeding 6 watts, and (F) for the purposes of this exclusion, no panel shall contain an internal battery or external computer peripheral ports.

Additionally excluded from the scope of the investigation are:

(1) Off grid rigid CSPV panels with a glass cover, with the following characteristics: (A) a total power output of 175 watts or less per panel, (B) a maximum surface area of 9,000 cm<sup>2</sup> per panel, (C) do not include a built-in inverter, (D) must include a permanently connected wire that terminates in waterproof connector with a cylindrical positive electrode and a rectangular negative electrode with the positive and negative electrodes having an interlocking structure; (E) must include visible parallel grid collector metallic wire lines every 1–4 millimeters across each solar cell, and (F) must be in individual retail packaging (for purposes of this provision, retail packaging typically includes graphics, the product name, its description and/or features); and

(2) Off grid CSPV panels without a glass cover, with the following characteristics, (A) a total power output of 220 watts or less per panel, (B) a maximum surface area of 16,000 cm<sup>2</sup> per panel, (C) do not include a built-in inverter, (D) must include visible parallel grid collector metallic wire lines every 1–4 millimeters across each solar cell, and (E) each panel is encased in a laminated material without stitching.

Also excluded from the scope of this investigation are off-grid CSPV panels in rigid form, with or without a glass cover, permanently attached to an aluminum extrusion that is an integral component of an automation device that controls natural light,

whether or not assembled into a fully completed automation device that controls natural light, with the following characteristics:

(1) a total power output of 20 watts or less per panel;

(2) a maximum surface area of 1,000 cm<sup>2</sup> per panel;

(3) does not include a built-in inverter for powering third party devices.

Modules, laminates, and panels produced in a third-country from cells produced in a subject country are covered by the investigation; however, modules, laminates, and panels produced in a subject country from cells produced in a third-country are not covered by the investigation.

Also excluded from the scope of this investigation are all products covered by the scope of the antidumping and countervailing duty orders on *Crystalline Silicon Photovoltaic Cells, Whether or Not Assembled into Modules, from the People's Republic of China: Amended Final Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value, and Antidumping Order*, 77 FR 73018 (December 7, 2012); and *Crystalline Silicon Photovoltaic Cells, Whether or Not Assembled into Modules, from the People's Republic of China: Countervailing Duty Order*, 77 FR 73017 (December 7, 2012).

Also excluded from the scope of this investigation are all products covered by the scope of the antidumping and countervailing duty orders on *Crystalline Silicon Photovoltaic Cells, Whether or Not Assembled into Modules from the Socialist Republic of Vietnam: Amended Final Antidumping Duty Determination; Crystalline Silicon Photovoltaic Cells, Whether or Not Assembled into Modules from Cambodia, Malaysia, Thailand, and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam: Antidumping duty Orders*, 90 FR 26786 (June 24, 2025); *Crystalline Silicon Photovoltaic Cells, Whether or Not Assembled into Modules from the Socialist Republic of Vietnam: Amended Final Antidumping Duty Determination; Crystalline Silicon Photovoltaic Cells, Whether or Not Assembled into Modules from Cambodia, Malaysia, Thailand, and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam: Antidumping Duty Orders; Correction*, 90 FR 29843 (July 7, 2025); and *Crystalline Silicon Photovoltaic Cells, Whether or Not Assembled into Modules, from Malaysia and Thailand: Amended Final Countervailing Duty Determinations; Crystalline Silicon Photovoltaic Cells, Whether or Not Assembled into Modules, from Cambodia, Malaysia, Thailand, and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam: Countervailing Duty Orders*, 90 FR 26791 (June 24, 2025).

Merchandise covered by the investigation is currently classified in the Harmonized Tariff System of the United States (HTSUS) under subheadings 8541.42.0010 and 8541.43.0010. Imports of the subject merchandise may enter under HTSUS subheadings 8501.71.0000, 8501.72.1000, 8501.72.2000, 8501.72.3000, 8501.72.9000, 8501.80.1000, 8501.80.2000, 8501.80.3000, 8501.80.9000, 8507.20.8010, 8507.20.8031, 8507.20.8041, 8507.20.8061, and 8507.20.8091. These 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. Injury Test
- IV. Diversification of Indonesia's Economy
- V. Preliminary Affirmative Determination of Critical Circumstances, in Part
- VI. Use of Facts Available and Adverse Inferences
- VII. Subsidies Valuation Information
- VIII. Discount Rate and Input Benchmarks
- IX. Analysis of Programs
- X. Recommendation

[FR Doc. 2026–03896 Filed 2–25–26; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### International Trade Administration

[C–553–004]

#### **Crystalline Silicon Photovoltaic Cells, Whether or Not Assembled Into Modules From the Lao People's Democratic Republic: Preliminary Affirmative Countervailing Duty Determination, Preliminary Negative Critical Circumstances Determination, and Alignment of Final Determination With Final Antidumping Duty Determination**

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

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Department of Commerce (Commerce) preliminarily determines that countervailable subsidies are being provided to producers and exporters of crystalline silicon photovoltaic cells, whether or not assembled into modules (solar cells) from the Lao People's Democratic Republic (Laos). The period of investigation (POI) is January 1, 2024, through December 31, 2024. Interested parties are invited to comment on this preliminary determination.

**DATES:** Applicable February 26, 2026.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Shane Subler or Laurel Smalley, AD/CVD Operations, Office VIII, Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482–6241 or (202) 482–3456, respectively.

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

#### **Background**

This preliminary determination is made in accordance with section 703(b)

of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act). Commerce published the notice of initiation of this investigation on August 12, 2025.<sup>1</sup> On September 23, 2025, Commerce postponed the preliminary determination of this investigation.<sup>2</sup> Due to the lapse in appropriations and Federal Government shutdown, on November 14, 2025, Commerce tolled all deadlines in administrative proceedings by 47 days.<sup>3</sup> Additionally, due to a backlog of documents that were electronically filed via Enforcement and Compliance's Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Centralized Electronic Service System (ACCESS) during the Federal Government shutdown, on November 24, 2025, Commerce tolled all deadlines in administrative proceedings by an additional 21 days.<sup>4</sup> Accordingly, the deadline for this preliminary determination is now February 20, 2026.

For a complete description of the events that followed the initiation of this investigation, see the Preliminary Decision Memorandum.<sup>5</sup> A list of topics discussed in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum is included as Appendix II to this notice. The Preliminary Decision Memorandum is a public document and is on file electronically via 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 <https://access.trade.gov/public/FRNoticesListLayout.aspx>.

### Scope of the Investigation

The products covered by this investigation are solar cells from Laos. For a complete description of the scope of this investigation, see Appendix I.

<sup>1</sup> See *Crystalline Silicon Photovoltaic Cells, Whether or Not Assembled Into Modules, from India, Indonesia, and the Lao People's Democratic Republic: Initiation of Countervailing Duty Investigations*, 90 FR 38745 (August 12, 2025) (*Initiation Notice*).

<sup>2</sup> See *Crystalline Silicon Photovoltaic Cells, Whether or Not Assembled Into Modules from India, Indonesia, and the Lao People's Democratic Republic: Postponement of Preliminary Determinations in the Countervailing Duty Investigations*, 90 FR 45728 (September 23, 2025).

<sup>3</sup> See Memorandum, "Deadlines Affected by the Shutdown of the Federal Government," dated November 14, 2025.

<sup>4</sup> See Memorandum, "Tolling of all Case Deadlines," dated November 24, 2025.

<sup>5</sup> See Memorandum, "Decision Memorandum for the Preliminary Affirmative Determination and Preliminary Negative Critical Circumstances Determination in the Countervailing Duty Investigation of Crystalline Silicon Photovoltaic Cells, Whether or Not Assembled Into Modules from the Lao People's Democratic Republic," dated concurrently with, and hereby adopted by, this notice (Preliminary Decision Memorandum).

### Scope Comments

In accordance with the *Preamble* to Commerce's regulations,<sup>6</sup> the *Initiation Notice* set aside a period of time for parties to raise issues regarding product coverage (*i.e.*, scope).<sup>7</sup> We received comments concerning the scope of this investigation, as well as in the companion less-than-fair-value (LTFV) and other countervailing duty (CVD) investigations of solar cells, as it appeared in the *Initiation Notice*. We intend to issue our preliminary decision regarding the scope of the LTFV and CVD investigations in the preliminary determinations of the companion LTFV investigations, the current deadline of which is April 21, 2026. We will incorporate the scope decisions from the LTFV investigations into the scope of the final CVD determination for this investigation after considering any relevant comments submitted in scope case and rebuttal briefs.<sup>8</sup>

### Methodology

Commerce is conducting this investigation in accordance with section 701 of the Act. For each of the subsidy programs found to be countervailable, Commerce preliminarily determines that there is a subsidy, *i.e.*, a financial contribution by an "authority" that gives rise to a benefit to the recipient, and that the subsidy is specific.<sup>9</sup> In making its determination, Commerce relied, in part, on facts otherwise available. Further, because Commerce found that the Government of Laos did not act to the best of its ability to respond to certain requests for information, Commerce has drawn an adverse inference, where appropriate, in selecting from among the facts otherwise available.<sup>10</sup> For further information, see the "Use of Facts Otherwise Available and Adverse Inferences," section in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum.

### Preliminary Negative Determination of Critical Circumstances

In accordance with section 703(e)(1), Commerce preliminarily determines that critical circumstances do not exist. For a full description of the methodology

<sup>6</sup> See *Antidumping Duties; Countervailing Duties, Final Rule*, 62 FR 27296, 27323 (May 19, 1997) (*Preamble*).

<sup>7</sup> See *Initiation Notice*, 90 FR at 38746.

<sup>8</sup> The deadline for interested parties to submit scope case and rebuttal briefs will be established in the preliminary scope decision memorandum.

<sup>9</sup> See sections 771(5)(B) and (D) of the Act regarding financial contribution; section 771(5)(E) of the Act regarding benefit; and section 771(5A) of the Act regarding specificity.

<sup>10</sup> See sections 776(a) and (b) of the Act.

and results of Commerce's analysis, see the Preliminary Decision Memorandum.

### Alignment

In accordance with section 705(a)(1) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.210(b)(4), Commerce is aligning the final CVD determination in this investigation with the final determination in the companion LTFV investigation of solar cells from Laos based on a request made by the petitioner.<sup>11</sup> Consequently, the final CVD determination will be issued on the same date as the final antidumping duty determination, which is currently scheduled to be issued no later than July 6, 2026, unless postponed.<sup>12</sup>

### All-Others Rate

Sections 703(d) and 705(c)(5)(A) of the Act state that in the preliminary determination, Commerce shall determine an estimated all-others rate for companies not individually examined. Section 705(c)(5)(A)(i) of the Act states that for companies not individually investigated, Commerce will determine an "all-others" rate equal to the weighted average countervailable subsidy rates established for exporters and producers individually investigated, excluding any zero and *de minimis* countervailable subsidy rates, and any rates determined entirely under section 776 of the Act. Pursuant to section 705(c)(5)(A)(ii) of the Act, if the individual estimated countervailable subsidy rates 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 subsidy rate for all other producers and/or exporters.

Commerce has preliminarily calculated an individual estimated countervailable subsidy rate for Solarspace Technology Sole CO LTD (Solarspace Laos), the only individually examined Laotian producer/exporter in this investigation. Because the only

<sup>11</sup> See Petitioner's Letter, "Request to Align Countervailing Duty Investigation Final Determinations with Antidumping Duty Investigation Final Determinations," dated February 5, 2026.

<sup>12</sup> Should the deadline fall on a weekend (*i.e.* July 5, 2026), such deadlines become the next business day (*i.e.*, July 6, 2026). See *Notice of Clarification: Application of "Next Business Day" Rule for Administrative Determination Deadlines Pursuant to the Tariff Act of 1930, As Amended*, 70 FR 24533 (May 10, 2025); see also *See Crystalline Silicon Photovoltaic Cells, Whether or Not Assembled Into Modules, from India, Indonesia, and the Lao People's Democratic Republic: Postponement of Preliminary Determinations in the Less-Than-Fair-Value Investigations*, 91 FR 7960 (February 19, 2026).

individually calculated rate is not zero, *de minimis*, or based entirely on facts otherwise available, we are preliminarily assigning the estimated weighted-average rate calculated for Solarspace Laos to all other Laotian producers and exporters, pursuant to section 705(c)(5)(A)(i) of the Act.<sup>13</sup>

For a full description of the methodology underlying Commerce’s analysis, see the Preliminary Decision Memorandum.

**Preliminary Determination**

Commerce preliminarily determines that the following estimated countervailable subsidy rates exist:

Company	Subsidy rate (percent <i>ad valorem</i> )
Solarspace Technology Sole CO LTD .....	80.67
Vietnam Sunergy Joint Stock Company <sup>14</sup> .....	80.67
All Others .....	80.67

**Suspension of Liquidation**

In accordance with section 703(d)(2) of the Act, Commerce will direct U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to suspend liquidation of entries of subject merchandise as described in the scope of the investigation section 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 703(d)(1)(B) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.107(e), Commerce will instruct CBP to require a cash deposit equal to the estimated company-specific

<sup>13</sup> Vietnam Sunergy Joint Stock Company (VSUN), the second selected mandatory respondent, reported that it used Lao-origin solar cells in the assembly of solar modules that VSUN exported from Vietnam to the United States. See VSUN’s Letter, “VSUN Response to Section III Identifying Affiliated Companies,” dated September 24, 2025 (public version), at 2. For a discussion of the determination of VSUN’s preliminary subsidy rate, see the Preliminary Determination section below; see also the Preliminary Decision Memorandum at 23–25.

<sup>14</sup> We are preliminarily treating VSUN as a trading company that exports subject merchandise, pursuant to 19 CFR 351.525(c). This subsidy rate applies to merchandise covered by the scope of this investigation and exported by VSUN. However, this rate does not, for example, apply to merchandise covered by the scope of the CVD orders in *Crystalline Silicon Photovoltaic Cells, Whether or Not Assembled into Modules, from Malaysia and Thailand: Amended Final Countervailing Duty Determinations; Crystalline Silicon Photovoltaic Cells, Whether or Not Assembled into Modules, from Cambodia, Malaysia, Thailand, and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam: Countervailing Duty Orders*, 90 FR 26791 (June 24, 2025). See Appendix I, which identifies the merchandise covered by the scope of this investigation and merchandise excluded from the scope of this investigation; see also the Preliminary Decision Memorandum at 23–25.

countervailable subsidy rate or the estimated all-others rate, as follows: (1) the cash deposit rate for the respondents listed above will be equal to the company-specific estimated individual countervailable subsidy rates determined in this preliminary determination; (2) if both the producer and exporter of the subject merchandise have company-specific estimated subsidy rates determined in this preliminary determination, and their rates differ, then the applicable cash deposit rate will be the higher of these two rates; (3) if either the producer or the exporter, but not both, of the subject merchandise has a company-specific estimated subsidy rate determined in this preliminary determination, the applicable cash deposit rate will be that company’s company-specific rate; and (4) the cash deposit rate for all other producers and exporters will be equal to the estimated all-others subsidy rate.

**Disclosure**

Commerce intends to disclose its calculations and analysis performed to interested parties in this preliminary determination within five days of its public announcement, or if there is no public announcement, within five days of the date of this notice in accordance with 19 CFR 351.224(b).

Consistent with 19 CFR 351.224(e), Commerce will analyze and, if appropriate, correct any timely allegations of significant ministerial errors by amending the preliminary determination. However, consistent with 19 CFR 351.224(d), Commerce will not consider incomplete allegations that do not address the significance standard under 19 CFR 351.224(g) following the preliminary determination. Instead, Commerce will address such allegations in the final determination together with issues raised in the case briefs or other written comments.

**Verification**

As provided in section 782(i)(1) of the Act, Commerce intends to verify the information relied upon in making its final determination.

**Public Comment**

All interested parties will have the opportunity to submit scope case and rebuttal briefs on the preliminary decision regarding the scope of the LTFV and CVD investigations. The deadlines to submit scope case and rebuttal briefs will be provided in the preliminary scope decision memorandum. For all scope case and rebuttal briefs, parties must file identical documents simultaneously on the records of the ongoing LTFV and

CVD investigations. No new factual information or business proprietary information may be included in either scope case or rebuttal briefs.

Non-scope related case briefs or other written comments may be submitted to the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance no later than seven days after the date on which the last verification report is issued in this investigation.<sup>15</sup> A timeline for the submission of case briefs and written comments will be notified to interested parties at a later date. Rebuttal briefs, limited to issues raised in the case briefs, may be filed not later than five days after the date for filing case briefs.<sup>16</sup> Interested parties who submit case briefs or rebuttal briefs in this proceeding must submit: (1) a table of contents listing each issue; and (2) a table of authorities.<sup>17</sup>

As provided under 19 CFR 351.309(c)(2)(iii) and (d)(2)(iii), we request that interested parties provide at the beginning of their briefs a public, executive summary for each issue raised in their briefs.<sup>18</sup> Further, we request that interested parties limit their public, executive summary of each issue to no more than 450 words, not including citations. We intend to use the public, executive summaries as the basis of the comment summaries included in the issues and decision memorandum that will accompany the final determination in this investigation. We request that interested parties include footnotes for relevant citations in the public, executive summary of each issue. Note that Commerce has amended certain of its requirements pertaining to the service of documents in 19 CFR 351.303(f).<sup>19</sup>

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)

<sup>15</sup> See 19 CFR 351.309(c)(1)(i); see also 19 CFR 351.303 (for general filing requirements).

<sup>16</sup> See 19 CFR 351.309(d); see also *Administrative Protective Order, Service, and Other Procedures in Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Proceedings*, 88 FR 67069, 67077 (September 29, 2023) (*APO and Service Final Rule*).

<sup>17</sup> See 19 CFR 351.309(c)(2) and (d)(2).

<sup>18</sup> We use the term “issue” here to describe an argument that Commerce would normally address in a comment of the Issues and Decision Memorandum.

<sup>19</sup> See *APO and Service Final Rule*.

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.

### U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC) Notification

In accordance with section 703(f) of the Act, Commerce will notify the ITC of its determination. If the final determination is affirmative, 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 imports of solar cells from Laos are materially injuring, or threaten material injury to, the U.S. industry.<sup>20</sup>

### Notification to Interested Parties

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

Dated: February 20, 2026.

#### Scot Fullerton,

*Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Operations.*

### Appendix I

#### Scope of the Investigation

The merchandise covered by this investigation is crystalline silicon photovoltaic cells, and modules, laminates, and panels, consisting of crystalline silicon photovoltaic cells, whether or not partially or fully assembled into other products, including, but not limited to, modules, laminates, panels and building integrated materials.

This investigation covers crystalline silicon photovoltaic cells of thickness equal to or greater than 20 micrometers, having a p/n junction formed by any means, whether or not the cell has undergone other processing, including, but not limited to, cleaning, etching, coating, and/or addition of materials (including, but not limited to, metallization and conductor patterns) to collect and forward the electricity that is generated by the cell.

Merchandise under consideration may be described at the time of importation as parts for final finished products that are assembled after importation, including, but not limited to, modules, laminates, panels, building-integrated modules, building integrated panels, or other finished goods kits. Such parts that otherwise meet the definition of merchandise under consideration are included in the scope of the investigation.

Excluded from the scope of the investigation are thin film photovoltaic products produced from amorphous silicon (a-Si), cadmium telluride (CdTe), or copper indium gallium selenide (CIGS).

Also excluded from the scope of the investigation are crystalline silicon photovoltaic cells, not exceeding 10,000 mm<sup>2</sup> in surface area, that are permanently integrated into a consumer good whose function is other than power generation and that consumes the electricity generated by the integrated crystalline silicon photovoltaic cell. Where more than one cell is permanently integrated into a consumer good, the surface area for purposes of this exclusion shall be the total combined surface area of all cells that are integrated into the consumer good.

Additionally, excluded from the scope of the investigation are panels with surface area from 3,450 mm<sup>2</sup> to 33,782 mm<sup>2</sup> with one black wire and one red wire (each of type 22 AWG or 24 AWG not more than 206 mm in length when measured from panel extrusion), and not exceeding 2.9 volts, 1.1 amps, and 3.19 watts. For the purposes of this exclusion, no panel shall contain an internal battery or external computer peripheral ports.

Also excluded from the scope of the investigation are:

(1) Off grid CSPV panels in rigid form with a glass cover, with the following characteristics: (A) a total power output of 100 watts or less per panel; (B) a maximum surface area of 8,000 cm<sup>2</sup> per panel; (C) do not include a built-in inverter; (D) must include a permanently connected wire that terminates in either an 8 mm male barrel connector, or a two-port rectangular connector with two pins in square housings of different colors; (E) must include visible parallel grid collector metallic wire lines every 1–4 millimeters across each solar cell; and (F) must be in individual retail packaging (for purposes of this provision, retail packaging typically includes graphics, the product name, its description and/or features, and foam for transport); and

(2) Off grid CSPV panels without a glass cover, with the following characteristics: (A) a total power output of 100 watts or less per panel; (B) a maximum surface area of 8,000 cm<sup>2</sup> per panel; (C) do not include a built-in inverter; (D) must include visible parallel grid collector metallic wire lines every 1–4 millimeters across each solar cell; and (E) each panel is (1) permanently integrated into a consumer good; (2) encased in a laminated material without stitching, or (3) has all of the following characteristics: (i) the panel is encased in sewn fabric with visible stitching, (ii) includes a mesh zippered storage pocket, and (iii) includes a permanently attached wire that terminates in a female USB-A connector.

In addition, the following CSPV panels are excluded from the scope of the investigation: off-grid CSPV panels in rigid form with a glass cover, with each of the following physical characteristics, whether or not assembled into a fully completed off-grid hydropanel whose function is conversion of water vapor into liquid water: (A) a total power output of no more than 80 watts per panel; (B) a surface area of less than 5,000 square centimeters (cm<sup>2</sup>) per panel; (C) do not include a built-in inverter; (D) do not have a frame around the edges of the panel; (E) include a clear glass back panel; and (F) must include a permanently connected wire

that terminates in a twoport rectangular connector.

Additionally excluded from the scope of this investigation are off-grid small portable crystalline silicon photovoltaic panels, with or without a glass cover, with the following characteristics: (1) a total power output of 200 watts or less per panel; (2) a maximum surface area of 16,000 cm<sup>2</sup> per panel; (3) no built-in inverter; (4) an integrated handle or a handle attached to the package for ease of carry; (5) one or more integrated kickstands for easy installation or angle adjustment; and (6) a wire of not less than 3 meters either permanently connected or attached to the package that terminates in an 8 mm diameter male barrel connector.

Also excluded from the scope of this investigation are off-grid crystalline silicon photovoltaic panels in rigid form with a glass cover, with each of the following physical characteristics, whether or not assembled into a fully completed off-grid hydropanel whose function is conversion of water vapor into liquid water: (A) a total power output of no more than 180 watts per panel at 155 degrees Celsius; (B) a surface area of less than 16,000 square centimeters (cm<sup>2</sup>) per panel; (C) include a keep-out area of approximately 1,200 cm<sup>2</sup> around the edges of the panel that does not contain solar cells; (D) do not include a built-in inverter; (E) do not have a frame around the edges of the panel; (F) include a clear glass back panel; (G) must include a permanently connected wire that terminates in a two-port rounded rectangular, sealed connector; (H) include a thermistor installed into the permanently connected wire before the twoport connector; and (I) include exposed positive and negative terminals at opposite ends of the panel, not enclosed in a junction box.

Further excluded from the scope of the investigation are:

(1) Off grid rigid CSPV panels with a glass cover, with the following characteristics: (A) a total power output of 200 watts or less per panel, (B) a maximum surface area of 10,500 cm<sup>2</sup> per panel, (C) do not include a built-in inverter, (D) must include a permanently connected wire that terminates in waterproof connector with a cylindrical positive electrode and a rectangular negative electrode with the positive and negative electrodes having an interlocking structure, (E) must include visible parallel grid collector metallic wire lines every 1–4 millimeters across each solar cell, and (F) must be in individual retail packaging (for purposes of this provision, retail packaging typically includes graphics, the product name, its description and/or features); and

(2) Off-grid small portable crystalline silicon photovoltaic panels, with or without a glass cover, with the following characteristics: (A) a total power output of 200 watts or less per panel, (B) a maximum surface area of 16,000 cm<sup>2</sup> per panel, (C) no built-in inverter, (D) an integrated handle or a handle attached to the package for ease of carry, (E) one or more integrated kickstands for easy installation or angle adjustment, and (F) a wire either permanently connected or attached to the package terminates in waterproof connector with a cylindrical positive electrode and a rectangular negative

<sup>20</sup> See section 705(b)(2) of the Act.

electrode with the positive and negative electrodes having an interlocking structure.

Also excluded from the scope of the investigation are:

(1) Off grid rigid CSPV panels with a glass cover, with the following characteristics: (A) a total power output of 200 watts or less per panel, (B) a maximum surface area of 10,500 cm<sup>2</sup> per panel, (C) do not include a built-in inverter, (D) must include a permanently connected wire that terminates in waterproof connector with a cylindrical positive electrode and a rectangular negative electrode with the positive and negative electrodes having an interlocking structure, (E) must include visible parallel grid collector metallic wire lines every 1–4 millimeters across each solar cell, and (F) must be in individual retail packaging (for purposes of this provision, retail packaging typically includes graphics, the product name, its description and/or features); and

(2) Small off-grid panels with glass cover, with the following characteristics: (A) surface area from 3,450 mm<sup>2</sup> to 33,782 mm<sup>2</sup>, (B) with one black wire and one red wire (each of type 22AWG or 28 AWG not more than 350 mm in length when measured from panel extrusion), (C) not exceeding 10 volts, (D) not exceeding 1.1 amps, (E) not exceeding 6 watts, and (F) for the purposes of this exclusion, no panel shall contain an internal battery or external computer peripheral ports.

Additionally excluded from the scope of the investigation are:

(1) Off grid rigid CSPV panels with a glass cover, with the following characteristics: (A) a total power output of 175 watts or less per panel, (B) a maximum surface area of 9,000 cm<sup>2</sup> per panel, (C) do not include a built-in inverter, (D) must include a permanently connected wire that terminates in waterproof connector with a cylindrical positive electrode and a rectangular negative electrode with the positive and negative electrodes having an interlocking structure; (E) must include visible parallel grid collector metallic wire lines every 1–4 millimeters across each solar cell, and (F) must be in individual retail packaging (for purposes of this provision, retail packaging typically includes graphics, the product name, its description and/or features); and

(2) Off grid CSPV panels without a glass cover, with the following characteristics, (A) a total power output of 220 watts or less per panel, (B) a maximum surface area of 16,000 cm<sup>2</sup> per panel, (C) do not include a built-in inverter, (D) must include visible parallel grid collector metallic wire lines every 1–4 millimeters across each solar cell, and (E) each panel is encased in a laminated material without stitching.

Also excluded from the scope of this investigation are off-grid CSPV panels in rigid form, with or without a glass cover, permanently attached to an aluminum extrusion that is an integral component of an automation device that controls natural light, whether or not assembled into a fully completed automation device that controls natural light, with the following characteristics:

(1) a total power output of 20 watts or less per panel;

(2) a maximum surface area of 1,000 cm<sup>2</sup> per panel;

(3) does not include a built-in inverter for powering third party devices.

Modules, laminates, and panels produced in a third-country from cells produced in a subject country are covered by the investigation; however, modules, laminates, and panels produced in a subject country from cells produced in a third-country are not covered by the investigation.

Also excluded from the scope of this investigation are all products covered by the scope of the antidumping and countervailing duty orders on *Crystalline Silicon Photovoltaic Cells, Whether or Not Assembled into Modules, from the People's Republic of China: Amended Final Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value, and Antidumping Order*, 77 FR 73018 (December 7, 2012); and *Crystalline Silicon Photovoltaic Cells, Whether or Not Assembled into Modules, from the People's Republic of China: Countervailing Duty Order*, 77 FR 73017 (December 7, 2012).

Also excluded from the scope of this investigation are all products covered by the scope of the antidumping and countervailing duty orders on *Crystalline Silicon Photovoltaic Cells, Whether or Not Assembled into Modules from the Socialist Republic of Vietnam: Amended Final Antidumping Duty Determination; Crystalline Silicon Photovoltaic Cells, Whether or Not Assembled into Modules from Cambodia, Malaysia, Thailand, and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam: Antidumping Duty Orders*, 90 FR 26786 (June 24, 2025); *Crystalline Silicon Photovoltaic Cells, Whether or Not Assembled into Modules from the Socialist Republic of Vietnam: Amended Final Antidumping Duty Determination; Crystalline Silicon Photovoltaic Cells, Whether or Not Assembled into Modules from Cambodia, Malaysia, Thailand, and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam: Antidumping Duty Orders; Correction*, 90 FR 29843 (July 7, 2025); and *Crystalline Silicon Photovoltaic Cells, Whether or Not Assembled into Modules, from Malaysia and Thailand: Amended Final Countervailing Duty Determinations; Crystalline Silicon Photovoltaic Cells, Whether or Not Assembled into Modules, from Cambodia, Malaysia, Thailand, and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam: Countervailing Duty Orders*, 90 FR 26791 (June 24, 2025).

Merchandise covered by the investigation is currently classified in the Harmonized Tariff System of the United States (HTSUS) under subheadings 8541.42.0010 and 8541.43.0010. Imports of the subject merchandise may enter under HTSUS subheadings 8501.71.0000, 8501.72.1000, 8501.72.2000, 8501.72.3000, 8501.72.9000, 8501.80.1000, 8501.80.2000, 8501.80.3000, 8501.80.9000, 8507.20.8010, 8507.20.8031, 8507.20.8041, 8507.20.8061, and 8507.20.8091. These 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. Injury Test

IV. Preliminary Determination of Critical Circumstances

V. Diversification of Laos's Economy

VI. Use of Facts Otherwise Available and Adverse Inferences

VII. Subsidies Valuation Information

VIII. Benchmarks

IX. Analysis of Programs

X. Recommendation

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### International Trade Administration

[A–570–919]

#### Electrolytic Manganese Dioxide From the People's Republic of China: Continuation of Antidumping Duty Order

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

**SUMMARY:** As a result of the determinations by the U.S. Department of Commerce (Commerce) and the U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC) that revocation of the antidumping duty (AD) order on electrolytic manganese dioxide from the People's Republic of China (China) would likely lead to the continuation or recurrence of dumping and material injury to an industry in the United States, Commerce is publishing a notice of continuation of this AD order.

**DATES:** Applicable February 23, 2026.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** David De Falco, Trade Agreements Policy and Negotiations, Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482–2178.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Background

On October 7, 2008, Commerce published in the **Federal Register** the AD order on electrolytic manganese dioxide from China.<sup>1</sup> On June 2, 2025, the ITC instituted,<sup>2</sup> and Commerce initiated,<sup>3</sup> the third sunset review of the *Order*, pursuant to section 751(c) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act).

<sup>1</sup> See *Antidumping Duty Order: Electrolytic Manganese Dioxide from the People's Republic of China*, 73 FR 58537 (October 7, 2008) (*Order*).

<sup>2</sup> See *Electrolytic Manganese Dioxide from China: Institution of a Five-Year Review*, 90 FR 23367 (June 2, 2025).

<sup>3</sup> See *Initiation of Five-Year (Sunset) Reviews*, 90 FR 23310 (June 2, 2025).