

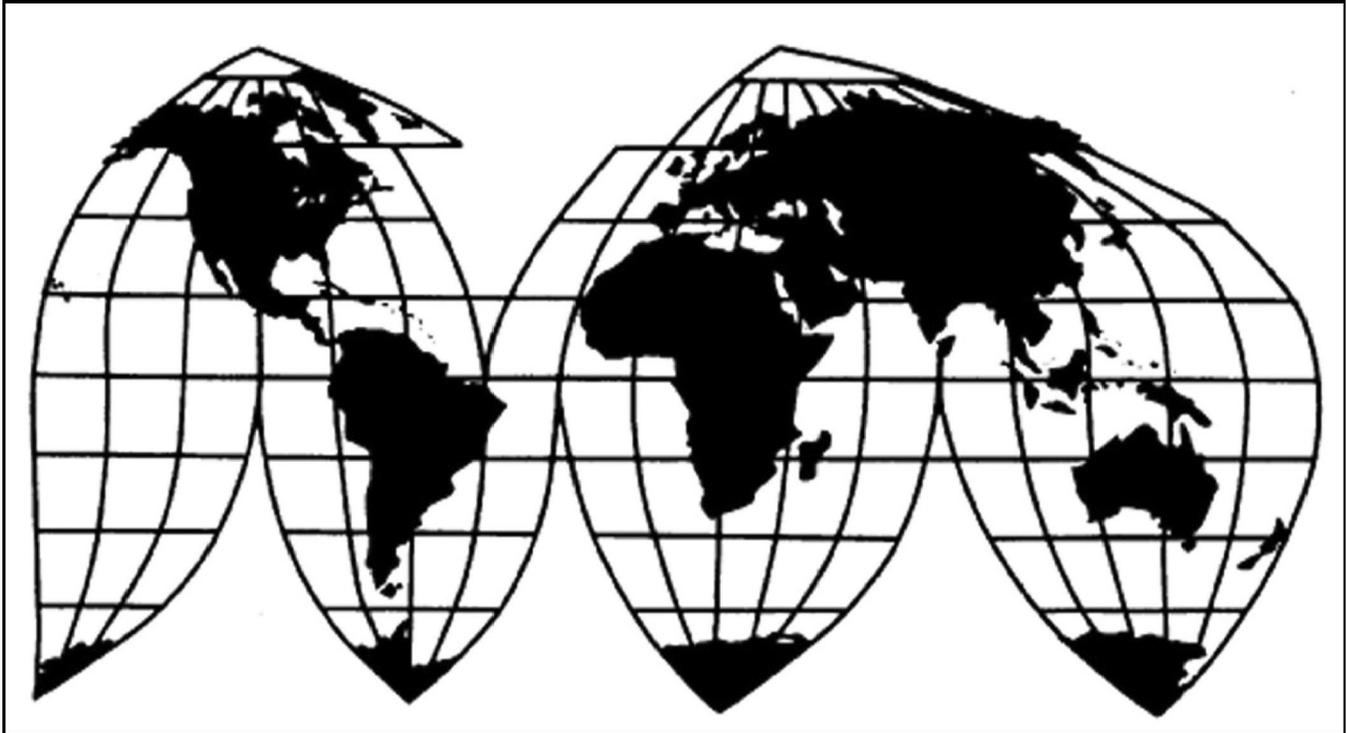
Prestressed Concrete Steel Wire Strand from China

Investigation Nos. 701-TA-464 and 731-TA-1160 (Second Review)

Publication 5189

April 2021

U.S. International Trade Commission



Washington, DC 20436

U.S. International Trade Commission

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UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

Investigation Nos. 701-TA-464 and 731-TA-1160 (Second Review)

Prestressed Concrete Steel Wire Strand from China

DETERMINATIONS

On the basis of the record¹ developed in the subject five-year reviews, the United States International Trade Commission (“Commission”) determines, pursuant to the Tariff Act of 1930 (“the Act”), that revocation of the antidumping and countervailing duty orders on prestressed concrete steel wire strand from China would be likely to lead to continuation or recurrence of material injury to an industry in the United States within a reasonably foreseeable time.

BACKGROUND

The Commission instituted these reviews on September 1, 2020 (85 FR 54401) and determined on December 7, 2020 that it would conduct expedited reviews (86 FR 18297, April 8, 2021).

¹ The record is defined in § 207.2(f) of the Commission’s Rules of Practice and Procedure (19 CFR 207.2(f)).

Views of the Commission

Based on the record in these five-year reviews, we determine under section 751(c) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (“the Tariff Act”), that revocation of the antidumping and countervailing duty orders on prestressed concrete steel wire strand (“PC strand”) from China would be likely to lead to continuation or recurrence of material injury to an industry in the United States within a reasonably foreseeable time.

I. Background

Original Investigations. On June 22, 2010, the Commission determined that an industry in the United States was materially injured by reason of dumped and subsidized subject imports of PC strand from China.¹ The U.S. Department of Commerce (“Commerce”) issued antidumping duty and countervailing duty orders on imports of PC strand from China on June 29, 2010 and July 7, 2010, respectively.²

First Reviews. The Commission instituted its first reviews of the antidumping and countervailing duty orders on May 1, 2015.³ After conducting expedited reviews, the Commission determined that revocation of the antidumping and countervailing duty orders would be likely to lead to continuation or recurrence of material injury to an industry in the United States within a reasonably foreseeable time and issued affirmative determinations on September 28, 2015.⁴ Commerce issued a continuation of the antidumping and countervailing duty orders on October 13, 2015.⁵

Second Reviews. The Commission instituted the current reviews on September 1, 2020.⁶ The Commission received a single joint response to its notice of institution filed on behalf of

¹ *Prestressed Concrete Steel Wire Strand from China*, Inv. Nos. 701-TA-464 and 731-TA-1160 (Final), USITC Pub. 4162 (June 2010) (“*Original Determinations*”) at 1.

² 75 Fed. Reg. 37382 (June 29, 2010) (antidumping duty order); 75 Fed. Reg. 38977 (July 7, 2010) (countervailing duty order).

³ *Prestressed Concrete Steel Wire Strand From China, Institution of a Five-Year Review*, 80 Fed. Reg. 24976 (May 1, 2015).

⁴ *Prestressed Concrete Steel Wire Strand From China*, 80 Fed. Reg. 59195 (Oct. 1, 2015); *Prestressed Concrete Steel Wire Strand from China*, Inv. Nos. 701-TA-464 and 731-TA-1160 (Review), USITC Pub. 4569 at 1 (Sept. 2015) (“*First Review Determinations*”).

⁵ *Prestressed Concrete Steel Wire Strand from the People's Republic of China: Continuation of the Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Orders*, 80 Fed. Reg. 61372 (Oct. 13, 2015).

⁶ *Prestressed Concrete Steel Wire Strand From China, Institution of a Five-Year Review*, 85 Fed. Reg. 54401 (Sept. 1, 2020) (“*Notice of Institution*”).

Insteel Wire Products Co. (“Insteel”), Sumiden Wire Products Corp. (“Sumiden”), and WMC Steel, LLC (“WMC”) (collectively “Domestic Producers”), domestic producers of PC strand.⁷ It did not receive a response from any respondent interested party. The Commission found the domestic interested party group response to be adequate and the respondent interested party group response to be inadequate. In the absence of any other circumstances that warranted full reviews, the Commission determined on December 7, 2020 to conduct expedited reviews.⁸ Domestic Producers subsequently filed final comments on April 12, 2020.⁹

U.S. industry data are based on the data that Domestic Producers furnished in their response to the notice of institution. Domestic Producers estimated that they collectively accounted for *** percent of domestic production of PC strand in 2019.¹⁰ The record also contains the Commission’s public report from the recent preliminary phase investigations of imports of PC strand from 15 countries which provides data for domestic PC strand producers that accounted “for all or almost all U.S. production of PC strand in 2019.”¹¹ U.S. import data are based on Commerce’s official import statistics.¹² Foreign industry data are based on information furnished by Domestic Producers, information from the original investigations and first reviews, and publicly available information gathered by Commission staff.¹³ Two U.S. purchasers of PC strand responded to the Commission’s adequacy phase questionnaire.¹⁴

⁷ Domestic Producers’ Response to the Notice of Institution (Sept. 30, 2020) (“Response”).

⁸ Explanation of Commission Determination on Adequacy, EDIS Doc. 727883 (Dec. 14, 2020); *Prestressed Concrete Steel Wire Strand From China; Scheduling of Expedited Five-Year Reviews*, 86 Fed. Reg. 18297 (Apr. 8, 2021).

⁹ Domestic Producers’ Confidential Comments, EDIS Doc. 739569 (Apr. 12, 2021) (“Final Comments”).

¹⁰ Confidential Report INV-SS-137 (Nov. 23, 2020) (“CR”) at Table I-1; Public Report (“PR”) at Table I-1.

¹¹ *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*, Inv. Nos. 701-TA-646 and 731-TA-1502-1516 (Preliminary), USITC Pub. 5062, EDIS Doc. 727146 (June 2020) (“USITC Pub. 5062”) at 4. Domestic industry data in these preliminary investigations were based on questionnaire responses from Domestic Producers and other identified U.S. producers of the domestic like product.

¹² See CR/PR at Tables I-5, I-6.

¹³ See CR/PR at Tables I-7, I-8.

¹⁴ CR/PR at D-3.

II. Domestic Like Product and Industry

A. Domestic Like Product

In making its determination under section 751(c) of the Tariff Act, the Commission defines the “domestic like product” and the “industry.”¹⁵ The Tariff Act defines “domestic like product” as “a product which is like, or in the absence of like, most similar in characteristics and uses with, the article subject to an investigation under this subtitle.”¹⁶ The Commission’s practice in five-year reviews is to examine the domestic like product definition from the original investigation and consider whether the record indicates any reason to revisit the prior findings.¹⁷

Commerce has defined the scope of the antidumping duty order in these five-year reviews as follows:

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./ft² standard set forth in ASTM–A–475. Imports of the subject merchandise are currently classifiable under subheadings 7312.10.3010 and 7312.10.3012 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS). Although the HTSUS

¹⁵ 19 U.S.C. § 1677(4)(A).

¹⁶ 19 U.S.C. § 1677(10); *see, e.g., Cleo Inc. v. United States*, 501 F.3d 1291, 1299 (Fed. Cir. 2007); *NEC Corp. v. Department of Commerce*, 36 F. Supp. 2d 380, 383 (Ct. Int’l Trade 1998); *Nippon Steel Corp. v. United States*, 19 CIT 450, 455 (1995); *Timken Co. v. United States*, 913 F. Supp. 580, 584 (Ct. Int’l Trade 1996); *Torrington Co. v. United States*, 747 F. Supp. 744, 748-49 (Ct. Int’l Trade 1990), *aff’d*, 938 F.2d 1278 (Fed. Cir. 1991); *see also* S. Rep. No. 249, 96th Cong., 1st Sess. 90-91 (1979).

¹⁷ *See, e.g., Internal Combustion Industrial Forklift Trucks from Japan*, Inv. No. 731-TA-377 (Second Review), USITC Pub. 3831 at 8-9 (Dec. 2005); *Crawfish Tail Meat from China*, Inv. No. 731-TA-752 (Review), USITC Pub. 3614 at 4 (July 2003); *Steel Concrete Reinforcing Bar from Turkey*, Inv. No. 731-TA-745 (Review), USITC Pub. 3577 at 4 (Feb. 2003).

subheadings are provided for convenience and customs purposes, the written description of the scope of this order is dispositive.¹⁸

PC strand consists of multiple steel wires wound together to produce a strong, flexible product that is used to strengthen concrete structures. It is commonly available in three grades, in covered and uncovered form, and in several nominal diameters. The most common PC strand configuration consists of six wires wound helically around a single wire core. Nominal diameters of PC strand typically range from 0.25 to 0.70 inch.¹⁹

PC strand is used in the construction of prestressed concrete structural components to introduce compression into the concrete. This compression offsets or neutralizes forces within the concrete that occur when it is subjected to loads. Typical applications of prestressed concrete include parking garages, bridge decks, bridge girders, pilings, precast concrete panels and structural supports, roof trusses, floor supports, and certain concrete foundations.²⁰

In both the original investigations and the first reviews, the Commission defined a single domestic like product consisting of all domestically produced PC strand coextensive with Commerce's scope definition.²¹ The record of these reviews contains no information suggesting that the characteristics and uses of domestically produced PC strand have changed since the prior proceedings.²² Domestic Producers agree with the domestic like product definition from the original investigations and first reviews.²³ We therefore again define a single domestic like product as all domestically produced PC strand, coextensive with the scope.

¹⁸ *Prestressed Concrete Steel Wire Strand from the People's Republic of China: Final Results of the Expedited Second Sunset Review of the Antidumping Duty Order*, 85 Fed. Reg. 86908, 86909 (Dec. 31, 2020). Commerce framed the scope of the countervailing duty order slightly differently. *Prestressed Concrete Steel Wire Strand from the People's Republic of China: Final Results of Expedited Sunset Review of Countervailing Duty Order*, 85 Fed. Reg. 86904 (Dec. 31, 2020); *Issues and Decision Memorandum for the Final Results of the Expedited Second Sunset Review of the Countervailing Duty Order on Prestressed Concrete Steel Wire Strand from the People's Republic of China*, (Dec. 28, 2020) ("Commerce CVD I&D Memo") at 3-4. The scope of each order is unchanged from the original investigations. The Commission noted in the first reviews that the variations in language between the two orders did not appear to reflect any substantive difference. *First Review Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4569 at 4 n. 9.

¹⁹ CR/PR at I-9.

²⁰ CR/PR at I-9.

²¹ *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4162 at 7; *First Review Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4569 at 5.

²² See generally CR/PR at I-9-11.

²³ Response at 22.

B. Domestic Industry

Section 771(4)(A) of the Tariff Act defines the relevant industry as the domestic “producers as a whole of a domestic like product, or those producers whose collective output of a domestic like product constitutes a major proportion of the total domestic production of the product.”²⁴ In defining the domestic industry, the Commission’s general practice has been to include in the industry producers of all domestic production of the like product, whether toll-produced, captively consumed, or sold in the domestic merchant market.

In the original investigations, the Commission defined the domestic industry as consisting of all domestic producers of PC strand. Petitioner Insteel was subject to the related parties provision because it imported subject merchandise during the period of investigation (“POI”), but the Commission found that appropriate circumstances did not exist to exclude it from the domestic industry.²⁵ In the first reviews, there were no related parties or other domestic industry issues. Accordingly, the Commission defined the domestic industry as consisting of all domestic producers of PC strand.²⁶

There are no related party or other domestic industry issues in these reviews.²⁷ Accordingly, we define the domestic industry as all domestic producers of PC strand.

III. Revocation of the Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Orders Would Likely Lead to Continuation or Recurrence of Material Injury Within a Reasonably Foreseeable Time

A. Legal Standards

In a five-year review conducted under section 751(c) of the Tariff Act, Commerce will revoke an antidumping or countervailing duty order unless: (1) it makes a determination that dumping or subsidization is likely to continue or recur and (2) the Commission makes a

²⁴ 19 U.S.C. § 1677(4)(A). The definitions in 19 U.S.C. § 1677 are applicable to the entire subtitle containing the antidumping and countervailing duty laws, including 19 U.S.C. §§ 1675 and 1675a. See 19 U.S.C. § 1677.

²⁵ *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4162 at 8.

²⁶ *First Review Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4569 at 5. Insteel indicated that it had not imported subject merchandise since 2010. *Id.* at I-10 n.38.

²⁷ None of the Domestic Producers imported subject merchandise or was related to an importer or exporter of subject merchandise during the period of review. Response at 20. See also CR/PR at I-15 n.44.

determination that revocation of the antidumping or countervailing duty order “would be likely to lead to continuation or recurrence of material injury within a reasonably foreseeable time.”²⁸ The Uruguay Round Agreements Act Statement of Administrative Action (SAA) states that “under the likelihood standard, the Commission will engage in a counterfactual analysis; it must decide the likely impact in the reasonably foreseeable future of an important change in the status quo – the revocation or termination of a proceeding and the elimination of its restraining effects on volumes and prices of imports.”²⁹ Thus, the likelihood standard is prospective in nature.³⁰ The U.S. Court of International Trade has found that “likely,” as used in the five-year review provisions of the Act, means “probable,” and the Commission applies that standard in five-year reviews.³¹

The statute states that “the Commission shall consider that the effects of revocation or termination may not be imminent, but may manifest themselves only over a longer period of time.”³² According to the SAA, a “‘reasonably foreseeable time’ will vary from case-to-case, but normally will exceed the ‘imminent’ timeframe applicable in a threat of injury analysis in original investigations.”³³

²⁸ 19 U.S.C. § 1675a(a).

²⁹ SAA, H.R. Rep. 103-316, vol. 1 at 883-84 (1994). The SAA states that “[t]he likelihood of injury standard applies regardless of the nature of the Commission’s original determination (material injury, threat of material injury, or material retardation of an industry). Likewise, the standard applies to suspended investigations that were never completed.” *Id.* at 883.

³⁰ While the SAA states that “a separate determination regarding current material injury is not necessary,” it indicates that “the Commission may consider relevant factors such as current and likely continued depressed shipment levels and current and likely continued {sic} prices for the domestic like product in the U.S. market in making its determination of the likelihood of continuation or recurrence of material injury if the order is revoked.” SAA at 884.

³¹ See *NMB Singapore Ltd. v. United States*, 288 F. Supp. 2d 1306, 1352 (Ct. Int’l Trade 2003) (“‘likely’ means probable within the context of 19 U.S.C. § 1675(c) and 19 U.S.C. § 1675a(a)”), *aff’d mem.*, 140 Fed. Appx. 268 (Fed. Cir. 2005); *Nippon Steel Corp. v. United States*, 26 CIT 1416, 1419 (2002) (same); *Usinor Industeel, S.A. v. United States*, 26 CIT 1402, 1404 nn.3, 6 (2002) (“more likely than not” standard is “consistent with the court’s opinion;” “the court has not interpreted ‘likely’ to imply any particular degree of ‘certainty’”); *Indorama Chemicals (Thailand) Ltd. v. United States*, 26 CIT 1059, 1070 (2002) (“standard is based on a likelihood of continuation or recurrence of injury, not a certainty”); *Usinor v. United States*, 26 CIT 767, 794 (2002) (“‘likely’ is tantamount to ‘probable,’ not merely ‘possible’”).

³² 19 U.S.C. § 1675a(a)(5).

³³ SAA at 887. Among the factors that the Commission should consider in this regard are “the fungibility or differentiation within the product in question, the level of substitutability between the imported and domestic products, the channels of distribution used, the methods of contracting (such as spot sales or long-term contracts), and lead times for delivery of goods, as well as other factors that may

Although the standard in a five-year review is not the same as the standard applied in an original investigation, it contains some of the same fundamental elements. The statute provides that the Commission is to “consider the likely volume, price effect, and impact of imports of the subject merchandise on the industry if the orders are revoked or the suspended investigation is terminated.”³⁴ It directs the Commission to take into account its prior injury determination, whether any improvement in the state of the industry is related to the order or the suspension agreement under review, whether the industry is vulnerable to material injury if an order is revoked or a suspension agreement is terminated, and any findings by Commerce regarding duty absorption pursuant to 19 U.S.C. § 1675(a)(4).³⁵ The statute further provides that the presence or absence of any factor that the Commission is required to consider shall not necessarily give decisive guidance with respect to the Commission’s determination.³⁶

In evaluating the likely volume of imports of subject merchandise if an order under review is revoked and/or a suspended investigation is terminated, the Commission is directed to consider whether the likely volume of imports would be significant either in absolute terms or relative to production or consumption in the United States.³⁷ In doing so, the Commission must consider “all relevant economic factors,” including four enumerated factors: (1) any likely increase in production capacity or existing unused production capacity in the exporting country; (2) existing inventories of the subject merchandise, or likely increases in inventories; (3) the existence of barriers to the importation of the subject merchandise into countries other than the United States; and (4) the potential for product shifting if production facilities in the foreign country, which can be used to produce the subject merchandise, are currently being used to produce other products.³⁸

In evaluating the likely price effects of subject imports if an order under review is revoked and/or a suspended investigation is terminated, the Commission is directed to consider whether there is likely to be significant underselling by the subject imports as

(...Continued)

only manifest themselves in the longer term, such as planned investment and the shifting of production facilities.” *Id.*

³⁴ 19 U.S.C. § 1675a(a)(1).

³⁵ 19 U.S.C. § 1675a(a)(1). Commerce has not made any duty absorption findings with respect to the orders under review. *Issues and Decision Memorandum for the Final Results of the Expedited Second Sunset Review of the Antidumping Duty Order on Prestressed Concrete Steel Wire Strand from the People’s Republic of China* (Dec. 28, 2020) at 3; Commerce CVD I&D Memo at 4.

³⁶ 19 U.S.C. § 1675a(a)(5). Although the Commission must consider all factors, no one factor is necessarily dispositive. SAA at 886.

³⁷ 19 U.S.C. § 1675a(a)(2).

³⁸ 19 U.S.C. § 1675a(a)(2)(A-D).

compared to the domestic like product and whether the subject imports are likely to enter the United States at prices that otherwise would have a significant depressing or suppressing effect on the price of the domestic like product.³⁹

In evaluating the likely impact of imports of subject merchandise if an order under review is revoked and/or a suspended investigation is terminated, the Commission is directed to consider all relevant economic factors that are likely to have a bearing on the state of the industry in the United States, including but not limited to the following: (1) likely declines in output, sales, market share, profits, productivity, return on investments, and utilization of capacity; (2) likely negative effects on cash flow, inventories, employment, wages, growth, ability to raise capital, and investment; and (3) likely negative effects on the existing development and production efforts of the industry, including efforts to develop a derivative or more advanced version of the domestic like product.⁴⁰ All relevant economic factors are to be considered within the context of the business cycle and the conditions of competition that are distinctive to the industry. As instructed by the statute, we have considered the extent to which any improvement in the state of the domestic industry is related to the orders under review and whether the industry is vulnerable to material injury upon revocation.⁴¹

No respondent interested party participated in these expedited reviews. The record, therefore, contains limited new information with respect to the PC strand industry in China. There also is limited information regarding the PC strand market in the United States during the period of review (“POR”).⁴² Accordingly, for our determinations, we rely as appropriate on the facts available from the original investigations and first reviews and the limited new information on the record in these reviews.

³⁹ See 19 U.S.C. § 1675a(a)(3). The SAA states that “{c}onsistent with its practice in investigations, in considering the likely price effects of imports in the event of revocation and termination, the Commission may rely on circumstantial, as well as direct, evidence of the adverse effects of unfairly traded imports on domestic prices.” SAA at 886.

⁴⁰ 19 U.S.C. § 1675a(a)(4).

⁴¹ The SAA states that in assessing whether the domestic industry is vulnerable to injury if the order is revoked, the Commission “considers, in addition to imports, other factors that may be contributing to overall injury. While these factors, in some cases, may account for the injury to the domestic industry, they may also demonstrate that an industry is facing difficulties from a variety of sources and is vulnerable to dumped or subsidized imports.” SAA at 885.

⁴² The period of review is calendar years 2015 through 2019.

B. Conditions of Competition and the Business Cycle

In evaluating the likely impact of the subject imports on the domestic industry if an order is revoked, the statute directs the Commission to consider all relevant economic factors “within the context of the business cycle and conditions of competition that are distinctive to the affected industry.”⁴³ The following conditions of competition inform our determinations.

1. Demand Conditions

Original Investigations. In the original investigations, the Commission found that the demand for PC strand was derived from demand for prestressed concrete, which in turn was tied to the demand for construction projects, particularly infrastructure projects, commercial and institutional construction, large housing projects, and single family housing.⁴⁴ Apparent U.S. consumption of PC strand declined by 48.1 percent during the POI, which encompassed calendar years 2007 through 2009. Most of the decline occurred from 2008 to 2009, coincident with an economic downturn.⁴⁵ Demand for PC strand was seasonal, because of the concentration of construction in summer months.⁴⁶

During the POI, most of the subject imports were sold for post-tension applications, while the domestic product was sold mostly for pre-tension applications.⁴⁷ The predominant end uses of post-tensioned PC strand were slab-on-grade construction and floors with moderate to long spans and moderate floor loads such as in parking garages and residential buildings. Pre-tensioned concrete components were used in balconies, lintels, floor slabs, beams, and foundation piles.⁴⁸

In 2007 and 2008, 28.6 percent and 33.9 percent, respectively, of total U.S. shipments of PC strand were subject to Buy America or Buy American restrictions. In 2009, the figure was

⁴³ 19 U.S.C. § 1675a(a)(4).

⁴⁴ *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4162 at 12.

⁴⁵ *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4162 at 12-13.

⁴⁶ *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4162 at 13.

⁴⁷ The Commission found, however, that although the majority of the domestic industry’s shipments were for pre-tensioned applications, and subject imports were sold mostly for post-tensioned applications, there was not a clear demarcation in the market. The Commission noted that the same product was sold for both types of applications, that subject imports also were sold for pre-tensioned applications, and that the domestic industry also sold PC strand for post-tensioned applications and expressed an interest in increasing those sales. *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4162 at 21-22.

⁴⁸ *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4162 at 12-13.

49.5 percent—which petitioners attributed to the decline in demand that year.⁴⁹ Buy America(n) provisions were much more prevalent with respect to sales of PC strand to pre-tension customers.⁵⁰

First Reviews. In the first reviews, the Commission stated that the limited information in the record indicated that the conditions of competition pertaining to demand had not changed significantly since the original investigations.⁵¹ Demand for PC strand continued to reflect demand for prestressed concrete, which in turn was derived from demand for construction projects.⁵² Apparent U.S. consumption increased from 508.6 million pounds in 2009 to *** pounds in 2014, although the 2014 figure was below apparent U.S. consumption in 2007 and 2008.⁵³

Current Reviews. In the current reviews, the factors affecting demand for PC strand have remained largely unchanged since the first reviews and the main drivers of demand for PC strand continue to pertain to construction.⁵⁴ Most measures of U.S. construction activity increased from 2017 to 2019.⁵⁵ Information in the record indicates that apparent U.S. consumption by quantity was 946.7 million pounds in 2017, 984.7 million pounds in 2018, and 954.5 million pounds in 2019.⁵⁶ Apparent U.S. consumption for each year from 2017 to 2019 exceeded that in 2009 or 2014.⁵⁷

2. Supply Conditions

Original Investigations. In the original investigations, the Commission found that the domestic industry was the largest source of supply in the U.S. market, accounting for more than half of U.S. consumption by quantity during the POI. At the time of the original investigations, there were six U.S. producers of PC strand.⁵⁸

⁴⁹ *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4162 at 13.

⁵⁰ *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4162 at 13.

⁵¹ *First Review Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4569 at 9.

⁵² *First Review Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4569 at 9; Response at 16.

⁵³ *First Review Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4569 at 9; *Confidential First Review Determinations*, EDIS Doc. 720391, at 12-13.

⁵⁴ Response at 21. The two responding U.S. purchasers *** significant changes to demand conditions in the U.S. PC strand market since the first reviews. CR/PR at App. D-3.

⁵⁵ USITC Pub. 5062 at II-8 and Figure II-1; *see also* Response at 21.

⁵⁶ USITC Pub. 5062 at Table IV-8. We have used apparent U.S. consumption data from the report of the recent preliminary phase investigations because these encompass a three-year period.

⁵⁷ *See* CR/PR at Table I-6.

⁵⁸ *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4162 at 8, 13-14.

Subject imports were the second largest source in the U.S. market in 2007 and 2008; the market share of subject imports declined sharply in 2009.⁵⁹ Nonsubject imports declined from 2007 to 2008, and then increased in 2009 to a level above that in 2007. The principal sources of nonsubject imports in 2009 were Canada, Portugal, Italy, South Africa, Taiwan, and Spain. Additionally, imports from several other nonsubject sources were subject to antidumping and/or countervailing duties in the United States.⁶⁰

First Reviews. In the first reviews, there were five U.S. producers of PC strand, two of which were new entrants.⁶¹ The domestic industry was the *** source of supply in the U.S. market in 2014, accounting for *** percent of apparent U.S. consumption by quantity.⁶² By contrast, in 2014 subject imports accounted for *** percent of apparent U.S. consumption, while nonsubject imports accounted for *** percent of apparent U.S. consumption.⁶³ The largest sources of nonsubject imports in 2014 were Malaysia, Colombia, Spain, South Africa, and the United Arab Emirates.⁶⁴

Current Reviews. The domestic industry was the largest source of supply to the U.S. market in 2019, accounting for *** percent of apparent U.S. consumption by quantity.⁶⁵ There were several changes in the domestic industry during the period of review.⁶⁶ Deacero USA ceased production in 2015.⁶⁷ Insteel, Keystone, and WMC acquired production equipment or facilities.⁶⁸ WMC announced expansion plans.⁶⁹

Subject imports accounted for *** percent of apparent U.S. consumption based on quantity in 2019.⁷⁰

Nonsubject imports were the second-largest source of supply to the U.S. market in 2019, accounting for *** percent of apparent U.S. consumption based on quantity.⁷¹ The

⁵⁹ *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4162 at 14.

⁶⁰ *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4162 at 14.

⁶¹ *First Review Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4569 at I-9.

⁶² *First Review Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4569 at 9-10; *Confidential First Review Determinations*, at 14; CR/PR at Table I-6.

⁶³ *First Review Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4569 at 10; *Confidential First Review Determinations*, at 14; CR/PR at Table I-6.

⁶⁴ *First Review Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4569 at 10.

⁶⁵ CR/PR at Table I-6. In the recent preliminary phase investigations, the domestic industry's share of apparent U.S. consumption by volume was 67.2 percent in 2019. USITC Pub. 5062 at Table C-1.

⁶⁶ CR/PR at Table I-3.

⁶⁷ CR/PR at I-12-13 n. 37, *citing* Response at 19-20.

⁶⁸ CR/PR at Table I-3.

⁶⁹ CR/PR at Table I-3.

⁷⁰ CR/PR at Table I-6.

largest nonsubject sources of imports during the POR were Malaysia, Spain, Turkey, and Portugal.⁷² Imports of PC strand from nonsubject countries Brazil, India, Japan, Korea, Mexico, and Thailand were subject to antidumping or countervailing duty orders in the United States at the time the record in these reviews closed.⁷³ The Commission recently completed final phase investigations on imports of PC strand and made affirmative determinations in the leading investigations concerning imports from Argentina, Colombia, Egypt, the Netherlands, Saudi Arabia, Taiwan, Turkey, and the United Arab Emirates, and is in the process of conducting the trailing investigations concerning imports from Indonesia, Italy, Malaysia, South Africa, Spain, Tunisia, and Ukraine.⁷⁴

3. Substitutability and Other Conditions

Original Investigations. In the original investigations, the Commission found that there was generally a high degree of substitutability between PC strand from domestic and other sources and that price was an important consideration in purchasing decisions. Most responding U.S. producers reported that subject imports were always interchangeable with the domestic like product, and all responding U.S. producers reported that differences other than price were never significant in their sales of PC strand. Most importers responded that subject imports were always interchangeable with the domestic like product, but their responses were mixed as to the significance of differences other than price. The Commission also stated that substitutability between domestically produced and imported PC strand was reduced somewhat because of end-use markets for PC strand that were subject to Buy America or Buy American restrictions.⁷⁵

(...Continued)

⁷¹ CR/PR at Table I-6.

⁷² CR/PR at Table I-5.

⁷³ CR/PR at Table I-2.

⁷⁴ See *Prestressed Concrete Steel Wire Strand (PC Strand) From Argentina, Colombia, Egypt, Indonesia, Italy, Malaysia, Netherlands, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Spain, Taiwan, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, and United Arab Emirates; Scheduling of the Final Phase of Countervailing Duty and Antidumping Duty Investigations*, 85 Fed. Reg. 63576 (Oct. 8, 2020); see also *Prestressed Concrete Steel Wire Strand from Argentina, Colombia, Egypt, the Netherlands, Saudi Arabia, Taiwan, Turkey, and the United Arab Emirates*, Inv. Nos. 701-TA-646 and 731-TA-1502-1504, 1508-1509, 1512, 1514, and 1516 (Final), USITC Pub. 5153 (Jan. 2021).

⁷⁵ *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4162 at 14.

First Reviews. In the first reviews the limited information available indicated that, as in the original investigations, domestically produced PC strand and subject imports continued to be highly substitutable, and price continued to be an important factor in purchasing decisions.⁷⁶

Current Reviews. In the current reviews there is no information calling into question our findings in the prior proceedings that domestically produced PC strand and subject imports are generally highly substitutable, and that price continues to be an important factor in purchasing decisions for PC strand in the U.S. market.

We observe that effective September 24, 2018, subject imports became subject to a 10 percent *ad valorem* duty under Section 301 of the Trade Act of 1974⁷⁷ (“section 301 tariffs”).⁷⁸ Effective May 10, 2019, section 301 tariffs increased to 25 percent *ad valorem*.⁷⁹ Subject imports are not subject to duties under section 232 of the Trade Expansion Act of 1962.⁸⁰

C. Likely Volume of Subject Imports

1. The Prior Proceedings

Original Investigations. In the original determinations, the Commission found that the quantity of subject imports increased from 2007 to 2008, and then declined sharply in 2009. The market share of subject imports displayed similar trends, increasing from 36.1 percent in 2007 to 40.5 percent in 2008, and then declining to 7.2 percent in 2009. The lower level of subject imports in 2009 coincided with a decline in demand that year. The Commission found, however, that subject imports played a significant role in the U.S. market in the first half of 2009 due to the drawdown of substantial inventories of the subject merchandise. It also found that declines in subject imports during the second half of 2009 were related to the filing of the petition in May 2009. The Commission concluded that subject import volume was significant, both in absolute terms and relative to consumption and production in the United States.⁸¹

⁷⁶ *First Review Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4569 at 10.

⁷⁷ 19 U.S.C. § 2411.

⁷⁸ CR/PR at I-6; *Notice of Modification of Section 301 Action: China's Acts, Policies, and Practices Related to Technology Transfer, Intellectual Property, and Innovation*, 83 Fed. Reg. 47974 (Sept. 21, 2018).

⁷⁹ CR/PR at I-6; *Notice of Modification of Section 301 Action: China's Acts, Policies, and Practices Related to Technology Transfer, Intellectual Property, and Innovation*, 84 Fed. Reg. 20459 (May 9, 2019).

⁸⁰ 19 U.S.C. § 1862; CR/PR at I-7.

⁸¹ *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4162 at 15-16.

First Reviews. In the first reviews, the Commission found that the orders had a disciplining effect on subject imports, which declined significantly since imposition of the orders in 2010.⁸² The volume of subject imports was 1.1 million pounds in 2010 and then remained below 550,000 pounds each year from 2011 through 2014.⁸³

The Commission explained that the limited information on the record indicated that there were many subject producers of PC strand and that the PC strand industry in China had a very large capacity.⁸⁴ Specifically, 20 Chinese producers had the aggregate capacity to manufacture 8.5 billion pounds of PC strand and other stranded wire, ropes, and cables.⁸⁵

The Commission also stated that the subject industry had a strong and increasing export orientation. Specifically, the Chinese industry was by far the largest global exporter of products encompassed by the Harmonized Tariff Schedule (“HTS”) subheading that included PC strand, with exports increasing each year from 2010 to 2014.⁸⁶ Additionally, PC strand producers in China remained interested in the U.S. market, as evidenced by their continued exports to the United States. The United States was also the largest destination for exports from China of the HTS product category including PC strand.⁸⁷ The Commission further found that antidumping duty measures on imports of PC strand from China in the European Union, Turkey, and Colombia provided subject producers with an incentive to direct shipments to the U.S. market in the event of revocation of the orders under review.⁸⁸

The Commission concluded in the first reviews that subject import volumes would likely be significant, both in absolute terms and relative to U.S. consumption, if the orders were revoked.⁸⁹

2. Current Reviews

The record in these five-year reviews indicates that the orders continued to have a disciplining effect on subject imports during the POR. Subject imports were 12,000 pounds in

⁸² *First Review Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4569 at 11.

⁸³ *First Review Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4569 at 11 n. 52. The volume of subject imports was 1.1 million pounds in 2010, 548,000 pounds in 2011, 495,000 pounds in 2012, 541,000 pounds in 2013, and 533,000 pounds in 2014. *Id.*

⁸⁴ *First Review Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4569 at 11.

⁸⁵ *First Review Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4569 at 11.

⁸⁶ *First Review Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4569 at 11.

⁸⁷ *First Review Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4569 at 11-12.

⁸⁸ *First Review Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4569 at 12, I-16.

⁸⁹ *First Review Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4569 at 12.

2019, and during the POR ranged from a low of 8,000 pounds in 2017 to a high of 1.6 million pounds in 2015,⁹⁰ remaining below the peak volume of 381.7 million pounds during the original POI.⁹¹

The facts available in the record indicate that producers of PC strand in China have increased their capacity since the first reviews. Domestic Producers have provided information indicating that 26 producers in China can manufacture approximately 12.6 billion pounds of PC strand and other stranded wire, ropes, and cables.⁹²

Available information also indicates that the subject industry has a strong and increasing export orientation. Global Trade Atlas (“GTA”) data show that in each year between 2015 and 2019, China was by far the largest global exporter of products within the HTS subheading that includes PC strand (subheading 7312.10, HTS), with Chinese exports increasing each year and overall by 15.1 percent during that time.⁹³ Commerce has found that the subsidy programs likely to continue or recur include export subsidy programs within the meaning of Article 3.1 of the World Trade Organization Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures,⁹⁴ and that are likely to incentivize export activity.

The record in these reviews indicates that PC strand producers in China remain interested in the U.S. market. As noted, there are continuing exports of subject merchandise from China to the United States, despite the disciplining effect of the orders. In addition, several subject producers’ websites specifically reference the firm’s ability to export to the United States.⁹⁵

Furthermore, antidumping and countervailing duty measures on imports of PC strand from China imposed by Brazil, Colombia, the European Union, Egypt, Turkey, and the United Kingdom provide subject producers with an incentive to direct shipments to the U.S. market in the event of revocation of the orders under review.⁹⁶

Given the volume of subject imports during the original POI, the subject industry’s substantial capacity and export orientation, the continuing interest of subject producers in the U.S. market, and the barriers to imports of PC strand from China in other markets, we find that

⁹⁰ CR/PR at Table I-5. The volume of subject imports was 1.6 million pounds in 2015, 163,000 pounds in 2016, 8,000 pounds in 2017, 27,000 pounds in 2018, and 12,000 pounds in 2019. *Id.*

⁹¹ *Compare* CR/PR at Table I-5 with *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4162 at Table IV-2.

⁹² Response at 9-12; Final Comments at 7.

⁹³ CR/PR at Table I-8. The GTA data also include strand products that are out of scope.

⁹⁴ Commerce CVD I&D Memo at 7-9.

⁹⁵ Response at Ex. 3.

⁹⁶ CR/PR at I-19.

the volume of subject imports will likely increase absent the discipline of the orders. We consequently conclude that the volume of subject imports, both in absolute terms and relative to consumption in the United States, would likely be significant if the orders were revoked.⁹⁷

D. Likely Price Effects

1. The Prior Proceedings

Original Investigations. In the original investigations, the Commission found significant underselling of the domestic like product by the subject imports. The subject imports undersold the domestic like product in 19 of 24 quarterly comparisons, with most of the underselling occurring with respect to the pricing product used for pre-tensioned applications, the end use dominated by the domestic industry.⁹⁸ Before subject imports declined sharply in the second half of 2009 following the filing of the petition, there was underselling in 15 of 20 quarterly comparisons. There were also confirmed lost sales and revenue allegations.⁹⁹

The Commission found that the underselling by the subject imports prevented price increases for the domestic like product that otherwise would have occurred to a significant degree. The domestic industry's cost of goods sold ("COGS") increased from 2007 to 2009 largely as a result of an increase in per unit raw material costs. Due to the presence of subject imports, the domestic industry was unable to increase the unit value of its net sales sufficiently to offset rising costs. As a result, the domestic industry's ratio of COGS to net sales increased from 81.4 percent in 2007 to 85.4 percent in 2008 and 95.4 percent in 2009, resulting in a cost-price squeeze. The Commission acknowledged that the fall in U.S. demand in 2009 contributed to the increase in the COGS to net sales ratio, but found that the ratio had increased from 2007 to 2008 when demand had remained strong. Thus, the Commission found that subject imports had significant price-suppressing effects.¹⁰⁰

First Reviews. In the first reviews, there was no new product-specific pricing information on the record. The Commission observed that price continued to be an important

⁹⁷ No responding U.S. purchaser reported that the current Section 301 tariffs had an effect on supply and demand for subject imports, and no effects were anticipated in the reasonably foreseeable future. CR/PR at D-3.

We observe that the record in these expedited reviews contains no information concerning inventories of the subject merchandise or the potential for product shifting.

⁹⁸ *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4162 at 17.

⁹⁹ *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4162 at 18.

¹⁰⁰ *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4162 at 17-18.

factor in purchasing decisions. It found that if the antidumping and countervailing duty orders were revoked, subject imports would likely compete in the U.S. market on the basis of price by underselling the domestic like product, as they did during the original investigations. This, in turn, would likely have a suppressing and/or depressing effect on domestic prices.¹⁰¹

2. Current Reviews

There is no new product-specific pricing information on the record of these expedited reviews. Based on the information available, including the determinations in the original investigations, we find that domestically produced PC strand and subject imports are generally highly substitutable, that price continues to be an important factor in purchasing decisions, and that if the antidumping and countervailing duty orders were revoked, subject imports would likely compete in the U.S. market on the basis of price by underselling the domestic like product, as they did during the original investigations. This, in turn, would likely cause the domestic industry either to lose sales or to reduce prices or forego price increases in order to compete with subject imports.

Accordingly, given the likely significant volume of subject imports, we conclude that subject imports from China would likely engage in significant underselling of the domestic like product. This underselling would likely result in subject imports gaining market share at the expense of the domestic industry and/or have significant depressing or suppressing effects on the price of the domestic like product if the antidumping and countervailing duty orders were revoked.

E. Likely Impact

1. The Prior Proceedings

Original Investigations. In the original determinations, the Commission found that the domestic industry experienced declines in most statutory performance indicators in 2008 and

¹⁰¹ *First Review Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4569 at 13. The Commission noted that information available in the first reviews indicated that average unit values (“AUVs”) for U.S. commercial shipments reported by U.S. producers were higher in 2014 than in 2009, although lower than in 2008. The Commission noted that it viewed AUV data with caution because differences in AUVs could reflect differences in product mix. *First Review Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4569 at 13 n. 63.

2009. Production, capacity utilization, shipments, employment, capital expenditures, and research and development fell during those years. The domestic industry's end-of-period inventories rose between 2007 and 2008, and then declined in 2009 on an absolute basis. The industry's financial performance deteriorated, with operating losses in 2009.¹⁰² The Commission found a causal nexus between subject imports and the domestic industry's deteriorating condition. Observing the substantial presence of subject imports and the increase in subject import volume and market share in 2008, which were driven by pervasive subject import underselling, the Commission determined that subject imports had an adverse impact on the domestic industry in 2008 that continued into 2009.¹⁰³

The Commission also considered several other factors in its analysis of impact. It recognized that the decline in demand for PC strand that became evident by late 2008 played a role in the domestic industry's worsening performance, but found that the injurious effects of subject imports on the domestic industry in 2008 and 2009 were independent of the effects of the decline in demand. The Commission stated that the volume and market share of subject imports increased from 2007 to 2008, even as demand for PC strand declined, and their injurious price effects intensified during this period.¹⁰⁴ The Commission found that Buy America and Buy American provisions did not shield the domestic industry from injury by subject imports because most of the U.S. PC strand market was not subject to such provisions.¹⁰⁵ The Commission also found that the demarcation between products for pre-tensioned and post-tensioned applications was not clear and that the domestic industry and subject imports competed for sales in all applications.¹⁰⁶ The Commission also found that nonsubject imports had a minor role in the U.S. market during the POI.¹⁰⁷

First Reviews. The Commission found that the limited record in the first reviews was insufficient for it to make a finding as to whether the domestic industry was vulnerable to the

¹⁰² *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4162 at 19-20. Because the Commission found the filing of the petition had affected subject import volume and pricing, it gave diminished weight to data for the second half of 2009. The Commission emphasized that performance indicators other than capacity and market share were lower in the first half of 2009 than in the first half of 2008. *Id.* at 20.

¹⁰³ *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4162 at 21.

¹⁰⁴ *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4162 at 21.

¹⁰⁵ *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4162 at 21.

¹⁰⁶ *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4162 at 21-22.

¹⁰⁷ *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4162 at 22.

continuation or recurrence of material injury in the event of revocation of the orders.¹⁰⁸ It found that most indicators of the domestic industry's condition improved since the orders were imposed in 2010, although some indicators remained below the levels of 2007 and 2008, the first two years of the original POI.¹⁰⁹

The Commission found that, should the orders be revoked, the likely significant volume and price effects of the subject imports would likely have a significant impact on the production, shipments, sales, market share and revenues of the domestic industry.¹¹⁰ The Commission further found that these declines would likely have a direct impact on the industry's profitability and employment, as well as its ability to raise capital, to make and maintain capital investments, and to fund research and development.¹¹¹

The Commission also considered the role of factors other than subject imports, including the presence of nonsubject imports, so as not to attribute injury from other factors to the subject imports. The Commission observed that the condition of the domestic industry improved during the period of review, notwithstanding substantial and increasing quantities of nonsubject imports.¹¹² The Commission found that any increase in subject imports upon revocation would likely be, in substantial part, at the expense of the domestic industry, notwithstanding the presence of nonsubject imports in the market.¹¹³

Accordingly, the Commission found that if the antidumping and countervailing duty orders were revoked, subject imports would likely have a significant impact on the domestic industry within a reasonably foreseeable time.¹¹⁴

¹⁰⁸ *First Review Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4569 at 15. One Commissioner found that the domestic industry was not in a vulnerable condition. *Id.* at 15 n.71.

¹⁰⁹ *First Review Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4569 at 15-16. Production capacity, capacity utilization, domestic production, U.S. commercial shipments, net income, and operating income were each higher in 2009 than in 2014. *Id.* at 15-16. The Commission acknowledged that the record of the first reviews, unlike the record of the original investigations, did not include data from all domestic producers. *Id.* at 15 n.72.

¹¹⁰ *First Review Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4569 at 15-16.

¹¹¹ *First Review Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4569 at 16.

¹¹² *First Review Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4569 at 16. The volume of nonsubject imports was 152.1 million pounds in 2010, 141.6 million pounds in 2011, 198.3 million pounds in 2012, 216.5 million pounds in 2013, and 269.8 million pounds in 2014. *Id.* at 16 n.74.

¹¹³ *First Review Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4569 at 16.

¹¹⁴ *First Review Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4569 at 16.

2. The Current Reviews

In these expedited reviews, the information available on the domestic industry's condition includes data Domestic Producers provided in response to the notice of institution and data the Commission compiled in its recent preliminary phase investigations of PC strand from 15 countries. In 2019, the domestic industry's capacity was 1.1 billion pounds, its production was 638.9 million pounds, and its capacity utilization was 58.3 percent; its U.S. shipments were 641.2 million pounds, valued at \$321.4 million.¹¹⁵

In 2019, the domestic industry had net sales revenues of \$324.0 million, COGS of \$314.9 million, a gross profit of \$9.1 million, and an operating loss of \$8.5 million; its operating ratio was negative 2.6 percent.¹¹⁶ Because of the expedited nature of these reviews, the information in the record is insufficient for us to make a finding as to whether the domestic industry is vulnerable to the continuation or recurrence of material injury in the event of revocation of the orders.

Information available in these reviews indicates that revocation of the orders would likely lead to a significant volume of subject imports that would likely undersell the domestic like product, leading subject imports to gain market share and/or have price-depressing or suppressing effects on the domestic like product. Subject imports' volume and price effects would consequently likely have a significant adverse effect on the domestic industry's production, capacity utilization, shipments, employment, and profitability.

We have also considered the role of factors other than subject imports, including the presence of nonsubject imports, so as not to attribute injury from other factors to subject imports. The domestic industry supplies the majority of apparent U.S. consumption. In light of this fact, and the generally high substitutability of the domestic like product and the subject imports, it is likely that any increase in subject imports would come at least in part at the expense of the domestic industry. The continued presence of nonsubject imports in the U.S. market would not preclude subject imports from taking market share from the domestic

¹¹⁵ USITC Pub. 5062 at Table C-1. In response to the notice of institution, Domestic Producers reported capacity of *** pounds, production of *** pounds, capacity utilization of *** percent, and U.S. shipments of *** pounds valued at \$*** for 2019. CR/PR at Table I-4. The industry's capacity, production, and quantity and value of U.S. shipments were greater in 2019 than in 2009 or 2014. *See id.*

¹¹⁶ USITC Pub. 5062 at Table C-1. In response to the notice of institution, Domestic Producers reported net sales revenues of ***, COGS of ***, a gross profit of ***, and operating income of *** for 2019. Their operating ratio was ***. CR/PR at Table I-4. The industry's operating ratio was *** in 2019 than in 2014. *See id.*

industry or forcing the domestic industry to lower prices in order to compete.¹¹⁷ Consequently, subject imports would likely have adverse effects distinct from any that may be caused by nonsubject imports.

Accordingly, we conclude that if the antidumping and countervailing duty orders were revoked, subject imports would likely have a significant impact on the domestic industry within a reasonably foreseeable time.

IV. Conclusion

For the above reasons, we determine that revocation of the antidumping and countervailing duty orders on PC strand from China would be likely to lead to continuation or recurrence of material injury to an industry in the United States within a reasonably foreseeable time.

¹¹⁷ As noted above, imports from several nonsubject countries are subject to countervailing and/or antidumping duty orders that should serve to discipline import pricing from these sources.

Information obtained in these reviews

Background

On September 1, 2020, the U.S. International Trade Commission (“Commission”) gave notice, pursuant to section 751(c) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (“the Act”),¹ that it had instituted reviews to determine whether revocation of the antidumping and countervailing duty orders on prestressed concrete steel wire strand (“PC strand”) from China would be likely to lead to continuation or recurrence of material injury.² All interested parties were requested to respond to this notice by submitting certain information requested by the Commission.^{3 4} The following tabulation presents information relating to the background and schedule of this proceeding:

Effective date	Action
September 1, 2020	Notice of initiation by Commerce (85 FR 54348, September 1, 2020)
September 1, 2020	Notice of institution by Commission (85 FR 54401, September 1, 2020)
December 7, 2020	Commission’s vote on adequacy
December 30, 2020	Commerce’s results of its expedited reviews
April 29, 2021	Commission’s determinations and views

¹ 19 U.S.C. 1675(c).

² 85 FR 54401, September 1, 2020. In accordance with section 751(c) of the Act, the U.S. Department of Commerce (“Commerce”) published a notice of initiation of five-year reviews of the subject antidumping and countervailing duty orders. 85 FR 54348, September 1, 2020. Pertinent Federal Register notices are referenced in app. A, and may be found at the Commission’s website (www.usitc.gov).

³ As part of their response to the notice of institution, interested parties were requested to provide company-specific information. That information is presented in app. B. Summary data compiled in the original investigations are presented in app. C.

⁴ Interested parties were also requested to provide a list of three to five leading purchasers in the U.S. market for the subject merchandise. Presented in app. D are the responses received from purchaser surveys transmitted to the purchasers identified in this proceeding.

Responses to the Commission’s notice of institution

Individual responses

The Commission received one submission in response to its notice of institution in the subject reviews. It was filed on behalf of Insteel Wire Products Company (“Insteel”), Sumiden Wire Products Corporation (“Sumiden”), and WMC Steel, LLC (“WMC”), domestic producers of PC strand (collectively referred to herein as “domestic interested parties”).

A complete response to the Commission’s notice of institution requires that the responding interested party submit to the Commission all the information listed in the notice. Responding firms are given an opportunity to remedy and explain any deficiencies in their responses. A summary of the number of responses and estimates of coverage for each is shown in table I-1.

Table I-1
PC strand: Summary of responses to the Commission’s notice of institution

Type of interested party	Completed responses	
	Number of firms	Coverage
Domestic:		
U.S. producer	3	***%

Note: The U.S. producer coverage figure presented is the estimated share of total U.S. production of PC strand accounted for by the three responding firms. Insteel acquired Strand-Tech Manufacturing (“Strand-Tech”), a U.S. producer of PC strand, in March 2020, and provided Strand-Tech’s 2019 production data in its response to the notice of institution. Thus, Strand-Tech’s 2019 production data is also included in the coverage figure. ***. The coverage estimate was calculated as the quantity of reported production for Insteel, Sumiden, WMC, and Strand-Tech (***) divided by total U.S. production derived from the domestic interested parties’ estimates (***) including **. Domestic interested parties’ response to the notice of institution, September 30, 2020, pp. 19-21 and exh. 5.

Party comments on adequacy

The Commission received party comments on the adequacy of responses to the notice of institution and whether the Commission should conduct expedited or full reviews from the domestic interested parties. The domestic interested parties request that the Commission

conduct expedited reviews of the antidumping and countervailing duty orders on PC strand from China.⁵

The original investigations and subsequent reviews

The original investigations

The original investigations resulted from a petition filed on May 27, 2009 with Commerce and the Commission by American Spring Wire Corp. (“American”), Bedford Heights, Ohio; Insteel, Mt. Airy, North Carolina; and Sumiden, Dickson, Tennessee.⁶ On May 21, 2010, Commerce determined that imports of PC strand from China were being sold at less than fair value (“LTFV”) and subsidized by the Government of China.⁷ The Commission determined on June 22, 2010 that the domestic industry was materially injured by reason of such imports of PC strand from China.⁸ On June 29, 2010 and July 7, 2010, Commerce issued its antidumping and countervailing duty orders, respectively, with the final weighted-average dumping margins ranging from 42.97 to 193.55 percent and net subsidy rates ranging from 9.42 to 45.85 percent.⁹

The first five-year reviews

On August 4, 2015, the Commission determined that it would conduct expedited reviews of the antidumping and countervailing duty orders on PC strand from China.¹⁰ On July 21, 2015 and September 4, 2015, Commerce determined that revocation of the antidumping and countervailing duty orders, respectively, on PC strand from China would be likely to lead to continuation or recurrence of dumping and subsidization.¹¹ On September 28, 2015, the Commission determined that material injury would be likely to continue or recur within a reasonably foreseeable time.¹² Following affirmative determinations in the five-year reviews by

⁵ Domestic interested parties’ comments on adequacy, November 13, 2020, pp. 1-2.

⁶ Prestressed Concrete Steel Wire Strand from China, Inv. Nos. 701-TA-464 and 731-TA-1160 (Final), USITC Publication 4162, June 2010 (“Original publication”), p. I-1.

⁷ 75 FR 28557, May 21, 2010 and 75 FR 28560, May 21, 2010.

⁸ 75 FR 36678, June 28, 2010.

⁹ 75 FR 37382, June 29, 2010 and 75 FR 38977, July 7, 2010.

¹⁰ 80 FR 50026, August 18, 2015.

¹¹ 80 FR 43063, July 21, 2015 and 80 FR 53497, September 4, 2015.

¹² 80 FR 59195, October 1, 2015.

Commerce and the Commission, effective October 13, 2015, Commerce issued a continuation of the antidumping and countervailing duty orders on imports of PC strand from China.¹³

Previous and related investigations

The Commission has conducted a number of previous import relief investigations on PC strand or similar merchandise. Table I-2 presents data on previous and related title VII investigations.

Table I-2
PC strand: Previous and related Commission proceedings

Original investigation				Current Status
Date	Number(s)	Countr(ies)	Outcome	
1978	AA1921-182	India	Negative	NA
1978	AA1921-188	Japan	Affirmative	Finding continued after fifth review, November 9, 2020.
1982	701-TA-164	Spain	Negative	NA
1982	701-TA-152	Brazil	Negative	NA
1982	701-TA-153	France	Negative	NA
1982	731-TA-89	United Kingdom	Negative	NA
2003	701-TA-432 and 731-TA-1024-1028	Brazil, India, Korea, Mexico, and Thailand	Affirmative	Orders continued after third reviews, November 9, 2020.
2020	701-TA-646 and 731-TA-1502-1516	Argentina, Colombia, Egypt, Indonesia, Italy, Malaysia, Netherlands, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Spain, Taiwan, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, and United Arab Emirates	NA	Ongoing final phase investigations.

Note: "Date" refers to the year in which the investigation was instituted by the Commission.

Source: U.S. International Trade Commission publications and Federal Register notices.

¹³ 80 FR 61372, October 13, 2015.

Commerce's five-year reviews

Commerce is conducting expedited reviews with respect to the orders on imports of PC strand from China and intends to issue the final results of these reviews based on the facts available not later than December 30, 2020.¹⁴ Commerce's Issues and Decision Memoranda, published concurrently with Commerce's final results, will contain complete and up-to-date information regarding the background and history of the orders, including scope rulings, duty absorption, changed circumstances reviews, and anti-circumvention. Upon publication, a complete version of the Issues and Decision Memoranda can be accessed at <http://enforcement.trade.gov/frn/>. The Issues and Decision Memoranda will also include any decisions that may have been pending at the issuance of this report. Any foreign producers/exporters that are not currently subject to the antidumping and countervailing duty orders on imports of PC strand from China are noted in the sections titled "The original investigations" and "U.S. imports," if applicable.

The product

Commerce's scope

Commerce has defined the scope as follows:

The merchandise subject to the antidumping duty orders is 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./ft² standard set forth in ASTM-A-475.¹⁵

¹⁴ Letter from Alex Villanueva, Senior Director, AD/CVD Operations, Enforcement and Compliance, U.S. Department of Commerce to Nannette Christ, Director of Investigations, October 27, 2020.

¹⁵ 80 FR 61372, October 13, 2015.

U.S. tariff treatment

Based upon the scope set forth by Commerce, information available to the Commission indicates that the merchandise subject to these investigations is imported under the following provisions of the *Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States* (“HTSUS” or “HTS”): 7312.10.3010 and 7312.10.3012. The 2020 general rate of duty is “Free” for HTS subheading 7312.10.30.¹⁶ Decisions on the tariff classification and treatment of imported goods are within the authority of U.S. Customs and Border Protection (“CBP”).

Section 301 tariff treatment

PC strand originating in China that enters the United States under HTS subheading 7312.10.30 is currently subject to an additional 25 percent ad valorem duty under Section 301 of the *Trade Act of 1974* (“*Trade Act*”), as amended,¹⁷ as of May 10, 2019.¹⁸ See also U.S. notes 20(e) and 20(f) to subchapter III of HTS chapter 99.¹⁹ As of October 30, 2020, no exclusions from this additional duty have been granted for PC strand originating in China.

In addition, the raw material for manufacturing PC strand— certain steel hot-rolled wire rod, classifiable under the HTS subheadings of chapter 72— originating in China is currently subject to an additional 7.5 percent Section 301 ad valorem duty, as of February 14, 2020.²⁰ See

¹⁶ *HTSUS (2020), Revision 26*, USITC Publication 5134, October 2020, pp. 73-26, 73-43.

¹⁷ Section 301 of the *Trade Act* (19 U.S.C. § 2411) authorizes the Office of the United States Trade Representative (“USTR”), at the direction of the President, to take appropriate action to respond to a foreign country’s unfair trade practices.

¹⁸ HTS subheading 7312.10.30 was included in USTR’s third enumeration (“Tranche 3”) of products originating in China that became subject to an additional 10 percent ad valorem Section 301 duty (Annexes A and C of 83 FR 47974) as of September 24, 2018 (83 FR 47974, September 21, 2018).

Escalation of this duty to 25 percent ad valorem was rescheduled from January 1, 2019 (annex B of 83 FR 14906, April 6, 2018) to March 2, 2019 (83 FR 65198, December 19, 2018), but was subsequently postponed until further notice (84 FR 7966, March 5, 2019), and then was implemented as of May 10, 2019 (84 FR 20459, May 9, 2019).

A subsequent modification was provided for subject goods exported from China prior to May 10, 2019 not to be subject to the escalated 25 percent duty, as long as such goods entered the United States prior to June 1, 2019 (84 FR 21892, May 15, 2019).

¹⁹ *HTSUS (2020), Revision 26*, USITC Publication 5134, October 2020, pp. 99-III-23 – 99-III-24, 99-III-42, 99-III-235.

²⁰ The HTS subheadings of chapter 72 for certain steel wire rod were included in the first list to the fourth enumeration (“List 1 to Tranche 4”) of the products originating in China that became subject to the additional 10 percent ad valorem duties (Annexes A and B to 84 FR 43304), as of September 1, 2019 (84 FR 43304, August 20, 2019), which was subsequently increased to 15 percent while retaining the

(continued...)

also U.S. notes 20(r) and 20(s) to subchapter III of HTS chapter 99.²¹ Section 301 duties are in addition to the existing Section 232 duties on steel imports discussed below. As of October 30, 2020, no exclusions from this additional duty have been granted for wire rod originating in China under Section 301.

Section 232 tariff treatment

Imports of PC strand, including imports of PC strand originating from China, are not otherwise subject to the additional 25 percent ad valorem duty under Section 232. The hot-rolled wire rod, classifiable under the HTS headings of chapter 72, for manufacturing PC strand was included in the enumeration of iron and steel articles (imported on or after March 23, 2018) that became subject to the additional 25 percent ad valorem duty under Section 232 of the *Trade Expansion Act of 1962* (“*Trade Expansion Act*”), as amended.²² At this time, imports of long steel products, including hot-rolled wire rods, originating in Australia,²³ Canada, and Mexico²⁴ are exempt from duties or quota limits; imports of long steel products, including hot-rolled wire rods, originating in Argentina,²⁵ Brazil,²⁶ and Korea²⁷ are exempted from duties but

(...continued)

same effective date (84 FR 45821, August 30, 2019). As of February 14, 2020, the 15 percent duty was reduced to 7.5 percent for the products enumerated on List 1 to Tranche 4 (85 FR 3741, January 22, 2020).

²¹ *HTSUS (2020), Revision 26*, USITC Publication 5134, October 2020, pp. 99-III-82 – 99-III-84, 99-III-93 – 99-III-94, 99-III-237.

²² Section 232 of the *Trade Expansion Act* (19 U.S.C. 1862) authorizes the President, on advice of the Secretary of Commerce, to adjust the imports of an article and its derivatives that are being imported into the United States in such quantities or under such circumstances as to threaten to impair the national security.

²³ Imports of steel articles originating in Australia were exempted from the Section 232 duties as of as of March 23, 2018 (83 FR 13361, March 28, 2018), with the exemptions continued as of May 1, 2018 (83 FR 20683, May 7, 2018), and further continued as of June 1, 2018 (83 FR 40429, August 15, 2018).

²⁴ Imports of steel articles originating in Canada and Mexico were initially exempted from the Section 232 duties as of March 23, 2018 (83 FR 11625, March 15, 2018; 83 FR 13361, March 28, 2018), but although these exemptions were not continued as of May 1, 2018 (83 FR 20683, May 7, 2018), they were restored as of May 20, 2019 (84 FR 23987, May 23, 2019).

²⁵ Imports of steel articles originating in Argentina were exempted from the Section 232 duties as of March 23, 2018 (83 FR 13361, March 28, 2018), with the exemptions continued as of May 1, 2018 (83 FR 20683, May 7, 2018), which were continued along with annual import quota limits as of June 1, 2018 (83 FR 25857, June 5, 2018), and further continued with annual import quota limits as of August 13, 2018, 2018 (83 FR 40429, August 15, 2018).

The composition of the quota product groups may not exactly match the product scope of this investigation. For 2020 annual and fourth-quarter 2020 Section 232 import quota limits for hot-rolled (other than stainless) steel bars and rods (HTS 9903.80.46 and HTS 9903.80.48) originating in Argentina, (continued...)

instead are subject to quota limits; and imports of long steel products, including hot-rolled wire rods, originating in all other countries are subject to the 25 percent additional duties.²⁸ See U.S. notes 16(a), 16(b), and 16(e) in subchapter III of HTS chapter 99.²⁹ In certain cases, exemptions have been granted for long steel products.

(...continued)

see the CBP Quota Bulletin, “QB 20-604 2020 Absolute Quota for Steel Mill Articles: Argentina, Brazil and South Korea,” September 4, 2020, available at <https://www.cbp.gov/trade/quota/bulletins/qb-20-604-2020-absolute-quota-steel-mill-articles-argentina-brazil-and-south-korea>.

²⁶ Imports of steel articles originating in Brazil were exempted from the Section 232 duties as of March 23, 2018 (83 FR 13361, March 28, 2018), with the exemptions continued as of May 1, 2018 (83 FR 20683, May 7, 2018), which were continued along with annual import quota limits as of June 1, 2018 (83 FR 25857, June 5, 2018), and further continued with annual import quota limits as of August 13, 2018, 2018 (83 FR 40429, August 15, 2018).

The composition of the quota product groups may not exactly match the product scope of this investigation. For 2020 annual and fourth-quarter 2020 Section 232 import quota limits for hot-rolled (other than stainless) steel bars and rods (HTS 9903.80.46 and HTS 9903.80.48) originating in Brazil, see the CBP Quota Bulletin, “QB 20-604 2020 Absolute Quota for Steel Mill Articles: Argentina, Brazil and South Korea,” September 4, 2020, available at <https://www.cbp.gov/trade/quota/bulletins/qb-20-604-2020-absolute-quota-steel-mill-articles-argentina-brazil-and-south-korea>.

²⁷ Imports of steel articles originating in Korea were exempted from the Section 232 duties as of March 23, 2018 (83 FR 13361, March 28, 2018), with the exemptions continued along with annual import quota limits as of May 1, 2018 (83 FR 20683, May 7, 2018), which were continued as of June 1, 2018 (83 FR 25857, June 5, 2018), and further continued with annual import quota limits as of August 13, 2018 (83 FR 40429, August 15, 2018).

The composition of the quota product groups may not exactly match the product scope of this investigation. For 2020 annual and fourth-quarter 2020 Section 232 import quota limits for hot-rolled (other than stainless) steel bars and rods (HTS 9903.80.46 and HTS 9903.80.48) originating in Korea, see the CBP Quota Bulletin, “QB 20-604 2020 Absolute Quota for Steel Mill Articles: Argentina, Brazil and South Korea,” September 4, 2020, available at <https://www.cbp.gov/trade/quota/bulletins/qb-20-604-2020-absolute-quota-steel-mill-articles-argentina-brazil-and-south-korea>.

²⁸ Imports of steel articles originating in the European Union member countries (“EU countries”) were exempted from the Section 232 duties as of March 23, 2018 (83 FR 13361, March 28, 2018), but the exemptions were not continued as of May 1, 2018 (83 FR 20683, May 7, 2018).

The Section 232 duty rate on imports of steel articles originating in Turkey was doubled to 50 percent ad valorem as of August 13, 2018 (83 FR 40429, August 15, 2018), but the original additional duty rate of 25 percent ad valorem subsequently was restored as of May 21, 2019 (84 FR 23421, May 21, 2019).

²⁹ *HTSUS (2020), Revision 26*, USITC Publication 5134, October 2020, pp. 99-III-5 – 99-III-7, 99-III-225, 99-III-231, 99-III-233.

Description and uses³⁰

PC strand consists of multiple steel wires wound together to produce a strong, flexible product that is used to strengthen concrete structures. PC strand is commonly available in three grades, in covered and uncovered form, and in several nominal diameters. The most common PC strand configuration consists of six wires wound helically around a single wire core. Nominal diameters of PC strand typically range from 0.25 to 0.70 inch and generally have three grade designations: 250, 270, and 300.

PC strand is used in the construction of prestressed concrete structural components to introduce compression into the concrete. This compression offsets or neutralizes forces within the concrete that occur when it is subjected to loads. Typical applications of prestressed concrete include bridge decks, bridge girders, pilings, precast concrete panels and structural supports, roof trusses, floor supports, and certain concrete foundations. One of the most widespread uses of prestressed concrete, however, is parking garages.

PC strand may be pre-tensioned or post-tensioned.³¹ Pre-tensioned PC strand is tensioned (pulled tightly and slightly elongated) using a calibrated tensioning apparatus, and concrete is cured around the PC strand. After the concrete has cured, the tension is released, and the tensile force of the strand induces a compressive force in the concrete. Pre-tensioned prestressed concrete depends upon the bond between the concrete and the PC strand to hold the concrete in compression. Most pre-tensioned concrete elements are prefabricated in a factory and must be transported to the construction site. Pre-tensioned concrete components may be used in balconies, lintels, floor slabs, beams, or foundation piles.

For post-tensioned PC strand, there is no bond between the PC strand and the cured concrete. Instead, the PC strand is tensioned using a calibrated tensioning apparatus after the concrete has cured. In post-tensioned prestressed concrete, tension is maintained by installing permanent mechanical anchors that remain in place after the tensioning apparatus is removed.

³⁰ Unless otherwise noted, this information is based on 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, Investigation Nos. 701-TA-646 and 731-TA-1502-16 (Preliminary), USITC Publication 5062, June 2020, pp. I-9-I-10.

³¹ During 2007-09, the majority of total reported U.S. shipments of domestic and imported PC strand for pre-tensioned applications were subject to Buy America(n) restrictions while a minority of total reported U.S. shipments of domestic and imported PC strand for post-tensioned applications were subject to such restrictions. See Original publication, tables C-2 (differences in shipments for pre-tensioned and post-tensioned applications) and V-2 and V-3 (differences in prices and quantities for pre-tensioned and post-tensioned applications).

Unlike pre-tensioning, which is largely performed at precast manufacturing facilities, post-tensioning takes place on the job site in cast-in-place applications. The concrete component is cast in a way that allows PC strand to be installed so that it is protected from bonding with the concrete. Post-tensioning gives designers the flexibility to further optimize material use by creating thinner concrete components. The predominant end uses of post-tensioned PC strand are in slab-on-grade construction and in buildings for floors with moderate-to-long spans and moderate floor loads such as in parking garages and residential buildings.

Depending on the application, PC strand will be either uncoated or coated (with plastic or epoxy). For pre-tensioning applications, where the bond between the cured concrete and the PC strand holds the concrete in compression, the PC strand is installed uncoated. In contrast, post-tensioning applications may require uncoated or coated PC strand. Plastic-coated PC strand is lubricated with grease and encased in a plastic tube, whereas epoxy-coated PC strand is coated with epoxy.

There are two methods of post-tensioning PC strand in concrete members: internal and external. For internal post-tensioning applications, the PC strand is either (1) greased and plastic-coated (which keeps the concrete from bonding to the PC strand during the curing process) and concrete is cured around the coated PC strand or (2) plastic or metal ducts are cast into the concrete and uncoated PC strand is passed through each duct. If the duct method is used, after tensioning and anchoring, the ducts containing the PC strand are filled with grout to protect it from corrosion. For external post-tensioning applications, coated PC strand or galvanized (zinc-coated) PC strand may be used to protect against corrosion. Whether it is used uncoated or coated, PC strand of various suppliers is interchangeable within each physical size, physical configuration, and grade.

Manufacturing process³²

PC strand is produced from hot-rolled, high-carbon steel wire rod. The production process consists of four distinct steps: drawing, stranding, stabilizing, and packaging. The drawing step begins with cleaning and descaling to remove dirt and mill scale from the hot-rolled, high-carbon steel wire rod before feeding it through the wire drawing dies. Cleaning and descaling can be accomplished chemically, using a strong acid, or mechanically, using abrasive

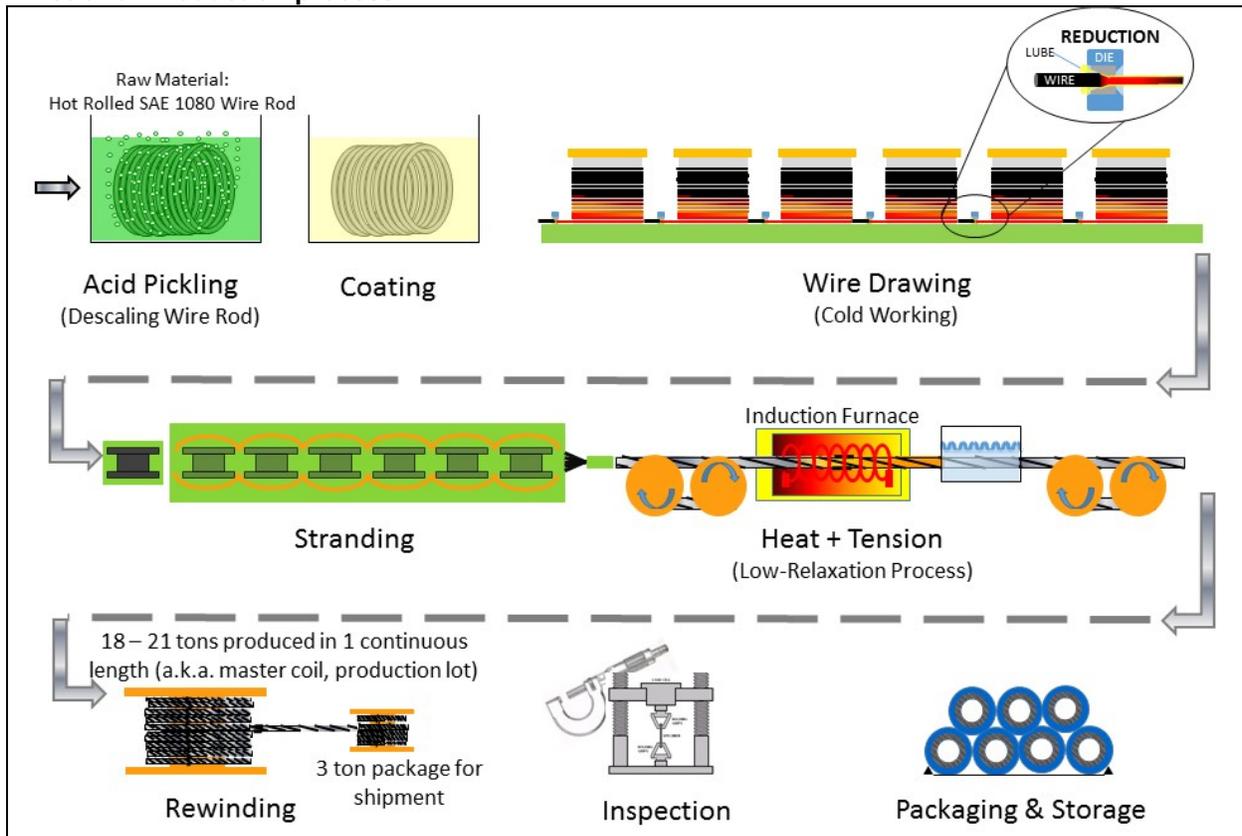
³² Unless otherwise noted, this information is based on Prestressed Concrete Steel Wire Strand from Argentina, Colombia, Egypt, Indonesia, Italy, Malaysia, Netherlands, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Spain, Taiwan, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, and United Arab Emirates, Inv. Nos. 701-TA-646 and 731-TA-1502-1516 (Preliminary), USITC Publication 5062, June 2020, pp. I-10-I-11.

methods. The cleaned and descaled wire rod is then coated with zinc phosphate and pulled through a series of wire drawing dies to reduce its size. Depending on the finished size required, the rod may be drawn through up to nine dies. If indented wire is specified, the wire is indented, using carbide rollers, after the final size reduction.

After drawing, the wire undergoes stranding. During the stranding process, wires are wound into a strand, helically and uniformly, by a stranding machine. The PC strand is then stabilized by removing residual mechanical stresses through thermal and possibly mechanical treatments. The extent of the stress relief determines the type of PC strand. Low-relaxation PC strand is subjected to simultaneous thermal and mechanical treatment after stranding, while “normal”-relaxation PC strand (commonly referred to as stressed-relieved PC strand) requires only thermal treatment. Finally, if coating is required, the PC strand is either lubricated with grease and encased in a plastic tube or coated with epoxy.

The finished product is wound onto a drum, strapped into place with steel bands, and packaged as a coil. The coil may be covered with a protective material, such as plastic or burlap and is packaged such that the end user can place the coil directly onto a strand dispenser.

Figure I-1
PC strand: Production process



Source: Sumiden Wire Products Corporation. “PC Strand.” <http://www.sumidenwire.com/products/pc-strand/>, retrieved September 30, 2020.

The industry in the United States

U.S. producers

During the final phase of the original investigations, the Commission received U.S. producer questionnaires from five firms: American, Insteel, RettCo Steel, LLC (“RettCo”)/MMI Products, Inc. (“MMI”), Strand-Tech, and Sumiden.³³ These firms accounted for all U.S. production of PC strand during 2009.³⁴

During the first five-year reviews, domestic interested parties provided a list of five known U.S. producers of PC strand during 2014.³⁵ The domestic interested parties’ response to the Commission’s notice of institution in those reviews included requested U.S. industry data for three domestic producers (Insteel, Sumiden, and WMC) that accounted for approximately *** percent of estimated U.S. production of PC strand in 2014.³⁶

In response to the Commission’s notice of institution in these current reviews, domestic interested parties provided a list of four known and currently operating U.S. producers of PC strand.³⁷ The three firms on whose behalf the domestic interested parties’ response to the

³³ Original publication, p. I-4. RettCo (the “toll producer”) produced PC strand under a toll agreement with MMI (the “tollee”). MMI furnished RettCo with the raw material, paid RettCo a conversion fee for producing finished PC strand, and sold the finished PC strand. *Ibid.*, p. III-1.

³⁴ *Ibid.*, pp. I-3-I-4.

³⁵ Investigation Nos. 701-TA-464 and 731-TA-1160 (Review): Prestressed Concrete Steel Wire Strand from China, Confidential Report, INV-NN-049, July 23, 2015, as revised in INV-NN-061, August 31, 2015 (“First review confidential report”), p. I-16. RettCo’s agreement with MMI was terminated in 2010. RettCo then entered into a toll-processing agreement with American in 2011. Following the toll-processing agreement with RettCo, American continued its PC strand operations in Houston, Texas, but ceased its PC strand production at its Bedford Heights, Ohio plant. In July 2014, American acquired RettCo and shortly thereafter, in August 2014, sold its PC strand business, including the former RettCo plant at Newnan, Georgia, and the equipment, but not the real estate, at its Houston, Texas plant to Insteel. Insteel indicated that it would continue to lease the Houston, Texas facility from American. In March 2015, Insteel closed the former RettCo plant at Newnan, Georgia, and relocated the manufacturing to its other three production locations in Gallatin, Tennessee; Houston, Texas; and Sanderson, Florida.

Additionally, Deacero USA, a subsidiary of Mexican PC strand producer Deacero, began production of PC strand in 2010 in Houston, Texas and WMC began production of PC strand in 2012 in Conroe, Texas. Prestressed Concrete Steel Wire Strand from China, Inv. Nos. 701-TA-464 and 731-TA-1160 (Review), USITC Publication 4569, September 2015 (“First review publication”), pp. I-3-I-4.

³⁶ First review confidential report, pp. I-4-I-5.

³⁷ Domestic interested parties’ response to the notice of institution, September 30, 2020, pp. 19-20. Since the last five-year reviews, Deacero USA of Houston, Texas ceased production of PC strand in

(continued...)

Commission’s notice of institution was filed (i.e., Insteel (including acquired Strand-Tech), Sumiden, and WMC) accounted for approximately *** percent of production of PC strand in the United States during 2019.³⁸

Recent developments

Table I-3 presents events in the U.S. PC strand industry since the last five-year reviews.

Table I-3
PC strand: Recent developments in the U.S. industry

Item	Firm	Event
Acquisition	Keystone	On August 5 th , 2020, Keystone acquired Strand Tech Martin Inc.’s PC strand plant in Peoria, Illinois.
Plant opening	Sumiden	On August 9 th , 2017, Sumiden began production operations at its greenfield PC strand plant in Dayton, Texas.
Expansion	WMC	On November 6 th , 2017, WMC announced plans to install a new pickling line and eight drawing machines for PC strand at its plant in St. Matthews, South Carolina.
Acquisition	WMC	On March 20 th , 2018, WMC acquired two wire facilities from Gerdau Long Steel North America. WMC acquired plants in Carrollton, TX, and Beaumont, Texas.
Expansion	WMC	On April 2 nd , 2018, WMC announced plans to add a new PC strand line to its plant in Conroe, Texas.
Restart	Liberty	On June 25 th , 2018, Liberty restarted wire rod production operations at its Georgetown, South Carolina plant, which had been idled for the previous three years.
Acquisition	Insteel	On March 17 th , 2020, Insteel acquired Strand-Tech Manufacturing, Inc.

Sources: “Keystone acquires Strand-Tech in PC strand play.” American Metal Market. Retrieved October 8, 2020.

<https://www.amm.com/Article/3576480/Keystone-acquires-Strand-Tech-in-PC-strand-play.html>

“Sumiden Fires up Texas PC Strand Plant.” American Metal Market. Retrieved October 5, 2020.

<https://www.amm.com/Article/3740222/Sumiden-fires-up-Texas-PC-strand-plant.html>.

“WMC Plans S. Carolina Plant Upgrade.” American Metal Market. Retrieved October 5, 2020.

<https://www.amm.com/Article/3764792/WMC-plans-S-Carolina-plant-upgrade.html>.

“WMC to Add PC Strand Line in Houston.” American Metal Market. Retrieved October 5, 2020.

<https://www.amm.com/Article/3795127/WMC-to-add-PC-strand-line-in-Houston.html>.

WMC Obtains Two Wire Facilities from Gerdau.” American Metal Market. Retrieved October 5, 2020.

<https://www.amm.com/Article/3797990/WMC-obtains-two-wire-facilities-from-Gerdau.html>.

“Historic Georgetown Steelworks in South Carolina Reopens as Liberty Steel Georgetown.” Liberty House Group.

Retrieved October 5, 2020. <http://www.libertyhousegroup.com/news/restart-of-south-carolina-steel-mill-liberty-steel-georgetown/>.

“Insteel Industries Acquires Assets Of Strand-Tech Manufacturing.” Insteel Industries, Inc. Retrieved October 5, 2020.

<https://insteelgcs.gcs-web.com/news-releases/news-release-details/insteel-industries-acquires-assets-strand-tech-manufacturing>.

(...continued)

March 2015. Additionally, Strand-Tech was acquired by Insteel from Liberty Steel USA in March 2020. Ibid.

³⁸ Ibid., pp. 19-21 and exh. 5.

U.S. producers' trade and financial data

The Commission asked domestic interested parties to provide trade and financial data in their response to the notice of institution in the current five-year reviews.³⁹ Table I-4 presents a compilation of the trade and financial data submitted from all responding U.S. producers in the original investigations and subsequent five-year reviews.

Table I-4

PC strand: Trade and financial data submitted by U.S. producers, 2009, 2014, and 2019

Item	2009	2014	2019
Capacity (1,000 pounds)	903,795	***	***
Production (1,000 pounds)	395,658	***	***
Capacity utilization (percent)	43.8	***	***
U.S. shipments:			
Quantity (1,000 pounds)	396,498	***	***
Value (\$1,000)	199,547	***	***
Unit value (per 1,000 pounds)	503	***	***
Net sales (\$1,000)	210,951	***	***
COGS (\$1,000)	201,246	***	***
COGS/net sales (percent)	95.4	***	***
Gross profit (loss) (\$1,000)	9,705	***	***
SG&A expenses (\$1,000)	13,437	***	***
Operating income (loss) (\$1,000)	(3,732)	***	***
Operating income (loss)/net sales (percent)	(1.8)	***	***

Note: For a discussion of data coverage, please see "U.S. producers" section.

Source: For the years 2009 and 2014, data are compiled using data submitted in the Commission's original investigations and first five-year reviews, respectively. For the year 2019, data are compiled using data submitted by domestic interested parties. Domestic interested parties' response to the notice of institution, September 30, 2020, exh. 5.

Definitions of the domestic like product and domestic industry

The domestic like product is defined as the domestically produced product or products which are like, or in the absence of like, most similar in characteristics and uses with, the subject merchandise. The domestic industry is defined as the U.S. producers as a whole of the

³⁹ Individual company trade and financial data are presented in app. B.

domestic like product, or those producers whose collective output of the domestic like product constitutes a major proportion of the total domestic production of the product. Under the related parties provision, the Commission may exclude a U.S. producer from the domestic industry for purposes of its injury determination if “appropriate circumstances” exist.⁴⁰

In its original determinations and its expedited first five-year review determinations, the Commission defined a single domestic like product as prestressed concrete steel wire strand coextensive with Commerce’s scope. In its original determinations and its expedited first five-year review determinations, the Commission defined the domestic industry to include all domestic producers of prestressed concrete steel wire strand.⁴¹

U.S. imports and apparent U.S. consumption

U.S. importers

During the final phase of the original investigations, the Commission received U.S. importer questionnaires from 23 firms, representing 83.4 percent of total U.S. imports of PC strand from China during 2009 under HTS statistical reporting numbers 7312.10.3010 and 7312.10.3012.⁴² Import data presented in the original investigations are based on official Commerce statistics.

Although the Commission did not receive responses from any respondent interested parties in its first five-year reviews, the domestic interested parties provided a list of 38 firms that may have imported PC strand from China at that time.⁴³ Import data presented in the first five-year reviews are based on official Commerce statistics.

Although the Commission did not receive responses from any respondent interested parties in these current five-year reviews, in its response to the Commission’s notice of institution, the domestic interested parties provided a list of 41 potential U.S. importers of PC strand.⁴⁴ Import data presented in these current five-year reviews are based on official Commerce statistics.

⁴⁰ Section 771(4)(B) of the Tariff Act of 1930, 19 U.S.C. § 1677(4)(B).

⁴¹ 85 FR 54401, September 1, 2020.

⁴² Original publication, p. IV-1.

⁴³ First review publication, p. I-12.

⁴⁴ Domestic interested parties’ response to the notice of institution, September 30, 2020, exh. 7.

U.S. imports

Table I-5 presents the quantity, value, and unit value of U.S. imports from China as well as the other top sources of U.S. imports (shown in descending order of 2019 imports by quantity).

Table I-5
PC strand: U.S. imports, 2015-19

Item	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
	Quantity (1,000 pounds)				
China (subject)	1,594	163	8	27	12
Malaysia	57,733	45,453	70,651	68,456	67,779
Spain	37,656	32,848	26,609	15,852	41,812
Turkey	11,350	13,883	30,378	27,889	35,971
Portugal	29,852	34,144	42,322	30,474	28,770
All other sources	144,193	139,825	110,828	142,839	139,027
Subtotal, nonsubject	280,784	266,153	280,788	285,510	313,359
Total imports	282,377	266,316	280,796	285,536	313,370
	Landed, duty-paid value (\$1,000)				
China (subject)	731	50	84	92	13
Malaysia	23,211	14,204	23,838	30,263	27,129
Spain	15,801	11,413	9,437	7,703	16,501
Turkey	5,203	4,777	10,580	12,603	14,311
Portugal	15,232	11,783	15,137	14,491	12,528
All other sources	66,665	48,355	39,417	64,443	58,470
Subtotal, nonsubject	126,111	90,533	98,408	129,503	128,939
Total imports	126,842	90,583	98,492	129,594	128,952
	Unit value (dollars per 1,000 pounds)				
China (subject)	459	308	9,898	3,461	1,099
Malaysia	402	313	337	442	400
Spain	420	347	355	486	395
Turkey	458	344	348	452	398
Portugal	510	345	358	476	435
All other sources	462	346	356	451	421
Subtotal, nonsubject	449	340	350	454	411
Total imports	449	340	351	454	411

Note: Because of rounding, figure may not add to total shown.

Source: Compiled from official Commerce statistics for HTS statistical reporting numbers 7312.10.3010 and 7312.10.3012. Official import statistics under HTS statistical reporting numbers 7312.10.3010 and 7312.10.3012 may contain a mix of products, including PC strand and products outside the scope of these reviews.

Apparent U.S. consumption and market shares

Table I-6 presents data on U.S. producers' U.S. shipments, U.S. imports, apparent U.S. consumption, and market shares.

Table I-6
PC strand: U.S. producers' U.S. shipments, U.S. imports, apparent U.S. consumption, and market shares, 2009, 2014, and 2019

Item	2009	2014	2019
Quantity (1,000 pounds)			
U.S. producers' U.S. shipments	396,498	***	***
U.S. imports from—			
China	36,591	533	12
All other sources	75,515	269,805	313,359
Total imports	112,107	270,339	313,370
Apparent U.S. consumption	508,605	***	***
Value (1,000 dollars)			
U.S. producers' U.S. shipments	199,547	***	***
U.S. imports from—			
China	13,816	248	13
All other sources	35,375	127,959	128,939
Total imports	49,191	128,206	128,952
Apparent U.S. consumption	248,738	***	***
Share of consumption based on quantity (percent)			
U.S. producer's share	78.0	***	***
U.S. imports from—			
China	7.2	***	***
All other sources	14.8	***	***
Total imports	22.0	***	***
Share of consumption based on value (percent)			
U.S. producer's share	80.2	***	***
U.S. imports from—			
China	5.6	***	***
All other sources	14.2	***	***
Total imports	19.8	***	***

Note: For a discussion of data coverage, please see "U.S. producers" and "U.S. importers" sections.

Note: Shares and ratios shown as "0.0" represent values greater than zero, but less than "0.05" percent.

Source: For the years 2009 and 2014, data are compiled using data submitted in the Commission's original investigations and first five-year reviews, respectively. For the year 2019, U.S. producers' U.S. shipments are compiled from the domestic interested parties' response to the Commission's notice of institution and U.S. imports are compiled using official Commerce statistics under HTS statistical reporting numbers 7312.10.3010 and 7312.10.3012.

The industry in China

The Commission received no foreign producer/exporter questionnaires during the final phase of the original investigations. Therefore, data presented in that proceeding are based on foreign producer/exporter questionnaires received from four firms during the preliminary phase of the original investigations, which accounted for approximately 17 percent of production of PC strand in China during 2008, and approximately 19.1 percent of U.S. imports from China during 2008.⁴⁵

Although the Commission did not receive responses from any respondent interested parties in its first five-year reviews, the domestic interested parties provided a list of 20 possible producers of PC strand in China in that proceeding.⁴⁶

Although the Commission did not receive responses from any respondent interested parties in these five-year reviews, the domestic interested parties provided a list of 26 possible producers of PC strand in China.⁴⁷

Table I-7 presents China's export data during 2015-19 for HS subheading 7312.10, which includes both subject PC strand and out-of-scope products (by export destination in descending order of quantity for 2019).

⁴⁵ Original publication, p. VII-4.

⁴⁶ First review publication, p. I-16. Moreover, during that proceeding, the domestic interested parties asserted that these Chinese companies had the capacity to produce 8.5 billion pounds of PC strand and other stranded wire, ropes, and cables. *Ibid.*

⁴⁷ Domestic interested parties' response to the notice of institution, September 30, 2020, exh. 6. In the current five-year reviews, the domestic interested parties asserted that these Chinese companies had the capacity to produce 12.6 billion pounds of PC strand and other standard wire, ropes, and cables. *Ibid.*, p. 9.

Table I-7
Stranded wire, ropes, and cables, of iron or steel, not electrically insulated: Exports from China by destination, 2015-19

Destination market	Calendar year				
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Quantity (1,000 pounds)					
Thailand	95,686	124,782	163,107	181,099	250,949
Korea	255,489	272,746	224,908	174,746	210,631
United States	196,014	215,638	202,667	253,576	206,124
Vietnam	169,056	167,579	167,533	181,255	202,988
India	114,264	122,933	131,634	166,800	147,157
Japan	112,252	103,594	118,971	111,473	125,509
Malaysia	91,554	82,884	76,576	100,822	113,733
United Arab Emirates	62,671	70,310	52,261	85,385	98,032
Canada	84,724	89,193	92,286	86,134	96,055
Philippines	66,858	56,046	61,320	65,463	74,273
All other destination markets	1,098,206	1,089,420	1,172,778	1,102,484	1,174,831
Total exports	2,346,773	2,395,125	2,464,043	2,509,236	2,700,281

Note: Because of rounding, figures may not add to totals shown.

Source: Global Trade Information Services, Inc., Global Trade Atlas, HS subheading 7312.10, retrieved November 2, 2020. These data may be overstated as HS subheading 7312.10 may contain products outside the scope of these reviews.

Antidumping or countervailing duty orders in third-country markets⁴⁸

PC strand produced in China is currently subject to antidumping or countervailing duties from Brazil, Colombia, the European Union, Egypt, Turkey, and the United Kingdom.⁴⁹ Brazil, and Egypt have issued orders since the last five-year reviews.⁵⁰ The United Kingdom is currently

⁴⁸ Information is collected from each country's semiannual reports from the WTO's committee on Anti-dumping Practices. Additional information can be found online at: "World Trade Organization's Anti-dumping Gateway," https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/adp_e/adp_e.htm, retrieved October 8, 2020.

⁴⁹ The Egyptian investigation pertained to a material retardation investigation concerning imports in 2019. The investigation ended on April 16, 2020. The investigation involved PC strand products from China imported under 7308.90, which are not subject to this investigation.

⁵⁰ Due to the United Kingdom's upcoming departure from the European Union, the United Kingdom's duty orders are regarded as separate from the European Union by the WTO. More information on how the United Kingdom will review antidumping and countervailing duty investigations can be found at

(continued...)

conducting a transitional review on PSC strand from China.⁵¹ Brazil implemented antidumping duties on July 7, 2017 with rates ranging from \$290.11 to \$627.04 per ton. Egypt's material retardation investigation ended on April 16, 2020.

The global market

Table I-8 presents global export data for HS 7312.10, a subheading that includes both subject PC strand and out-of-scope products (by source in descending order of quantity for 2019). In 2019, China was the largest global exporter of these products, based on quantity, and accounted for 38.0 percent of global exports by quantity. The largest global exporters of PC strand (in descending order by quantity for 2019) were China, Korea, Thailand, Malaysia, and Turkey.

(...continued)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-uk-trade-remedies-investigations-process/how-we-carry-out-transition-reviews-into-eu-measures>.

⁵¹ Government of the United Kingdom, "Trade Remedies," <https://www.trade-remedies.service.gov.uk/public/case/TD0003/>, retrieved November 18, 2020.

Table I-8**Stranded wire, ropes, and cables, of iron or steel, not electrically insulated: Global exports by major sources, 2015-19**

Exporter	Calendar year				
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
	Quantity (1,000 pounds)				
China	2,346,773	2,395,125	2,464,043	2,509,236	2,700,281
Korea	594,792	571,386	560,300	533,339	494,461
Thailand	250,458	288,223	311,401	385,744	349,502
Malaysia	243,141	228,390	248,637	224,304	271,008
Turkey	118,550	117,224	154,122	179,844	230,676
Germany	208,663	214,325	226,734	233,954	224,627
Italy	280,461	272,446	287,571	267,175	221,953
Belarus	186,995	188,644	200,318	190,179	182,504
Portugal	167,095	185,948	231,625	196,042	181,881
Romania	121,181	162,511	155,209	171,302	179,517
All other exporters	2,395,269	2,387,308	2,286,162	2,494,515	2,076,873
Total	6,913,378	7,011,530	7,126,122	7,385,634	7,113,282

Note: Because of rounding, figures may not add to total shown.

Source: Official import and export statistics under HS subheading 7312.10 reported by various national statistical authorities in the Global Trade Atlas database, retrieved November 2, 2020. These data may be overstated as HS subheading 7312.10 may contain products outside the scope of these reviews.

APPENDIX A

FEDERAL REGISTER NOTICES

The Commission makes available notices relevant to its investigations and reviews on its website, www.usitc.gov. In addition, the following tabulation presents, in chronological order, Federal Register notices issued by the Commission and Commerce during the current proceeding.

Citation	Title	Link
85 FR 54348 September 1, 2020	<i>Initiation of Five-Year (Sunset) Reviews</i>	https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2020-09-01/pdf/2020-19232.pdf
85 FR 54401 September 1, 2020	<i>Prestressed Concrete Steel Wire Strand From China; Institution of Five-Year Reviews</i>	https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2020-09-01/pdf/2020-18775.pdf

APPENDIX B
COMPANY-SPECIFIC DATA

* * * * *

APPENDIX C

SUMMARY DATA COMPILED IN PRIOR PROCEEDINGS

Table C-1

PC strand: Summary data concerning the U.S. market, 2007-09

(Quantity=1,000 pounds, value=1,000 dollars, unit values, unit labor costs, and unit expenses are per 1,000 pounds;
(period changes=percent, except where noted)

Item	Reported data			Period changes		
	2007	2008	2009	2007-09	2007-08	2008-09
U.S. consumption quantity:						
Amount	980,503	942,714	508,605	-48.1	-3.9	-46.0
Producers' share (1)	59.4	56.2	78.0	18.5	-3.2	21.7
Importers' share (1):						
China	36.1	40.5	7.2	-28.9	4.4	-33.3
All other countries	4.5	3.3	14.8	10.4	-1.2	11.5
Total imports	40.6	43.8	22.0	-18.5	3.2	-21.7
U.S. consumption value:						
Amount	407,169	549,768	248,738	-38.9	35.0	-54.8
Producers' share (1)	65.9	60.7	80.2	14.3	-5.2	19.5
Importers' share (1):						
China	28.5	35.3	5.6	-22.9	6.9	-29.8
All other countries	5.6	4.0	14.2	8.6	-1.7	10.3
Total imports	34.1	39.3	19.8	-14.3	5.2	-19.5
U.S. imports (2) from:						
China:						
Quantity	353,937	381,652	36,591	-89.7	7.8	-90.4
Value	115,843	194,276	13,816	-88.1	67.7	-92.9
Unit value	\$327	\$509	\$378	15.4	55.5	-25.8
Ending inventory quantity	31,725	51,461	15,019	-52.7	62.2	-70.8
All other countries:						
Quantity	43,766	31,089	75,515	72.5	-29.0	142.9
Value	22,982	21,771	35,375	53.9	-5.3	62.5
Unit value	\$525	\$700	\$468	-10.8	33.4	-33.1
Ending inventory quantity	4,241	3,777	14,198	234.8	-10.9	275.9
All sources:						
Quantity	397,703	412,741	112,107	-71.8	3.8	-72.8
Value	138,825	216,047	49,191	-64.6	55.6	-77.2
Unit value	\$349	\$523	\$439	25.7	50.0	-16.2
Ending inventory quantity	35,966	55,238	29,217	-18.8	53.6	-47.1
U.S. producers':						
Average capacity quantity	902,782	903,795	903,795	0.1	0.1	0.0
Production quantity	601,717	558,885	395,658	-34.2	-7.1	-29.2
Capacity utilization (1)	66.7	61.8	43.8	-22.9	-4.8	-18.1
U.S. shipments:						
Quantity	582,800	529,973	396,498	-32.0	-9.1	-25.2
Value	268,344	333,721	199,547	-25.6	24.4	-40.2
Unit value	\$460	\$630	\$503	9.3	36.8	-20.1
Export shipments:						
Quantity	***	***	***	***	***	***
Value	***	***	***	***	***	***
Unit value	***	***	***	***	***	***
Ending inventory quantity	61,262	67,081	57,644	-5.9	9.5	-14.1
Inventories/total shipments (1)	***	***	***	***	***	***
Production workers	357	331	258	-27.7	-7.3	-22.1
Hours worked (1,000s)	771	715	555	-28.0	-7.3	-22.3
Wages paid (\$1,000s)	14,145	13,264	10,907	-22.9	-6.2	-17.8
Hourly wages	\$18.34	\$18.56	\$19.64	7.1	1.2	5.8
Productivity (pounds per hour)	780.1	781.9	712.5	-8.7	0.2	-8.9
Unit labor costs	\$23.51	\$23.73	\$27.57	17.3	1.0	16.2
Net sales:						
Quantity	613,704	589,793	389,834	-36.5	-3.9	-33.9
Value	283,088	354,082	210,951	-25.5	25.1	-40.4
Unit value	\$461	\$600	\$541	17.3	30.1	-9.9
Cost of goods sold (COGS)	230,394	302,334	201,246	-12.7	31.2	-33.4
Gross profit or (loss)	52,694	51,748	9,705	-81.6	-1.8	-81.2
SG&A expenses	13,317	13,795	13,437	0.9	3.6	-2.6
Operating income or (loss)	39,377	37,953	(3,732)	(3)	-3.6	(3)
Capital expenditures	***	***	***	***	***	***
Unit COGS	\$375	\$513	\$516	37.5	36.5	0.7
Unit SG&A expenses	\$22	\$23	\$34	58.8	7.8	47.4
Unit operating income or (loss)	\$64	\$64	(\$10)	(3)	0.3	(3)
COGS/sales (1)	81.4	85.4	95.4	14.0	4.0	10.0
Operating income or (loss)/ sales (1)	13.9	10.7	(1.8)	-15.7	-3.2	-12.5

(1) "Reported data" are in percent and "period changes" are in percentage points.

(2) Import quantities and values compiled from official Commerce statistics.

(3) Not meaningful.

Note.--Financial data are reported on a fiscal year basis and may not necessarily be comparable to data reported on a calendar year basis. Because of rounding, figures may not add to the totals shown. Unit values and shares are calculated from the unrounded figures.

Source: Compiled from data submitted in response to Commission questionnaires and from official Commerce statistics.

APPENDIX D

PURCHASER QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSES

As part of their response to the notice of institution, interested parties were asked to provide a list of three to five leading purchasers in the U.S. market for the domestic like product. A response was received from domestic interested parties and it named the following three firms as the top purchasers of PC strand: ***. Purchaser questionnaires were sent to these three firms and two firms (***) provided responses, which are presented below.

1. Have there been any significant changes in the supply and demand conditions for PC strand that have occurred in the United States or in the market for PC strand in China since January 1, 2015?

Purchaser	Yes / No	Changes that have occurred
***	***	***
***	***	***

2. Do you anticipate any significant changes in the supply and demand conditions for PC strand in the United States or in the market for PC strand in China within a reasonably foreseeable time?

Purchaser	Yes / No	Changes that have occurred
***	***	***
***	***	***

