

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Foreign-Trade Zones Board

[Order No. 2017]

Reorganization of Foreign-Trade Zone 261 Under Alternative Site Framework; Alexandria, Louisiana

Pursuant to its authority under the Foreign-Trade Zones Act of June 18, 1934, as amended (19 U.S.C. 81a–81u), the Foreign-Trade Zones Board (the Board) adopts the following Order:

Whereas, the Board adopted the alternative site framework (ASF) (15 CFR Sec. 400.2(c)) as an option for the establishment or reorganization of zones;

Whereas, the England Economic & Industrial Development District, grantee of Foreign-Trade Zone 261, submitted an application to the Board (FTZ Docket B–37–2016, docketed May 25, 2016) for authority to reorganize under the ASF with a service area of Rapides Parish, Louisiana, adjacent to the Morgan City Customs and Border Protection port of entry, to remove Site 3 from the zone, and FTZ 261’s existing Sites 1 and 2 would be categorized as magnet sites;

Whereas, notice inviting public comment was given in the **Federal Register** (81 FR 35298, June 2, 2016) and the application has been processed pursuant to the FTZ Act and the Board’s regulations; and,

Whereas, the Board adopts the findings and recommendations of the examiner’s report, and finds that the requirements of the FTZ Act and the Board’s regulations are satisfied;

Now, therefore, the Board hereby orders:

The application to reorganize FTZ 261 under the ASF is approved, subject to the FTZ Act and the Board’s regulations, including Section 400.13, to the Board’s standard 2,000-acre activation limit for the zone, and to an ASF sunset provision for magnet sites that would terminate authority for Site 2 if not activated within five years from the month of approval.

Dated: November 1, 2016.

Paul Piquado,

Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Enforcement and Compliance, Alternate Chairman, Foreign-Trade Zones Board.

Andrew McGilvray,

Executive Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2016–27318 Filed 11–10–16; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[A–433–812]

Certain Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut-To-Length Plate From Austria: Preliminary Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value and Postponement of the Final Determination

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

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce (the Department) preliminarily determines that certain carbon and alloy steel cut-to-length plate (CTL plate) from Austria is being, or is likely to be, sold in the United States at less than fair value (LTFV). The period of investigation (POI) is April 1, 2015, through March 31, 2016. The estimated weighted-average dumping margins of sales at LTFV are shown in the “Preliminary Determination” section of this notice. Interested parties are invited to comment on this preliminary determination.

DATES: Effective November 14, 2016.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Edythe Artman or Madeline Heeren, AD/CVD Operations, Office VI, Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482–3931 or (202) 482–9179, respectively.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The Department published the initiation of this investigation on April 28, 2016.¹ For a complete description of the events that followed the initiation of this investigation, see the memorandum that is dated concurrently with this determination and hereby adopted by this notice.² A list of topics in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum is included as Appendix II to this notice.

The Preliminary Decision Memorandum is a public document and

¹ See *Certain Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut-To-Length Plate From Austria, Belgium, Brazil, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, Japan, the Republic of Korea, the People’s Republic of China, South Africa, Taiwan, and the Republic of Turkey: Initiation of Less-Than-Fair Value Investigations*, 81 FR 27089 (May 5, 2016) (*Initiation Notice*).

² See Memorandum from Christian Marsh, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Operations, to Paul Piquado, Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance, entitled “Decision Memorandum for the Preliminary Determination in the Antidumping Duty Investigation of Certain Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut-To-Length Plate From Italy” (Preliminary Decision Memorandum), dated concurrently with this notice.

is made available to the public via Enforcement and Compliance’s Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Centralized Electronic Service System (ACCESS). ACCESS is available to registered users at <https://access.trade.gov>, and is available to all parties in the Department’s Central Records Unit, room B8024 of the main Department of Commerce building. In addition, a complete version of the Preliminary Decision Memorandum can be accessed directly on the internet at <http://enforcement.trade.gov/frn/>. The signed Preliminary Decision Memorandum and the electronic version of the Preliminary Decision Memorandum are identical in content.

Scope of the Investigation

The product covered by this investigation is CTL plate from Austria. For a full description of the scope of this investigation, see the “Scope of the Investigation,” in Appendix I of this notice.

Scope Comments

In accordance with the *Preamble* to the Department’s regulations,³ the *Initiation Notice* set aside a period of time for parties to raise issues regarding product coverage, *i.e.*, scope.⁴ Certain interested parties commented on the scope of the concurrent CTL plate investigations as it appeared in the *Initiation Notice*. For a summary of the product coverage comments and rebuttal responses submitted to the records of this and the concurrent CTL plate investigations, and a discussion and analysis of all comments timely received, see the Department’s Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum and the Department’s Additional Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum.⁵ The Department has

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

⁴ See *Initiation Notice*, 81 FR at 27090.

⁵ See Memorandum to Christian Marsh, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Operations, “Certain Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut-to-Length Plate From Austria, Belgium, Brazil, the People’s Republic of China, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, Japan, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of South Africa, Taiwan, and Turkey: Scope Comments Decision Memorandum for the Preliminary Determinations,” dated September 6, 2016 (Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum), and Memorandum to Christian Marsh, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Operations, “Certain Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut-to-Length Plate From Austria, Belgium, Brazil, the People’s Republic of China, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, Japan, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of South Africa, Taiwan, and Turkey: Additional Scope Comments Preliminary Decision Memorandum and Extension of Deadlines for Scope Case Briefs and Scope Rebuttal Briefs.”

preliminarily modified the scope language as it appeared in the *Initiation Notice* to clarify the exclusion for stainless steel plate, correct two tariff numbers that were misidentified in the Petitions and in the *Initiation Notice*, and modify language pertaining to existing steel plate and hot-rolled flat-rolled steel orders.⁶

Methodology

The Department is conducting this investigation in accordance with section 731 of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act). There is one mandatory respondent participating in this investigation. Export price and, where appropriate, constructed export price are calculated in accordance with section 772 of the Act. Normal value (NV) is calculated in accordance with section 773 of the Act. For a full description of the methodology underlying our preliminary conclusions, see the Preliminary Decision Memorandum.

All Others Rate

Section 735(c)(5)(A) of the Act provides that the estimated “all others” rate shall be an amount equal to the weighted-average of the estimated weighted-average dumping margins established for exporters and producers individually investigated, excluding any zero or *de minimis* margins, and any margins determined entirely under section 776 of the Act.

Voestalpine is the only respondent for which the Department calculated a company-specific rate.⁷ Therefore, for purposes of determining the “all others” rate and pursuant to section 735(c)(5)(A) of the Act, we are using the estimated weighted-average dumping margin calculated for voestalpine as the all-others rate, as referenced in the “Preliminary Determination” section below.

Preliminary Determination

The Department preliminarily determines that CTL plate from Austria

dated October 13, 2016 (Additional Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum), respectively.

⁶ See Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum at 2 and 56, and Additional Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum at 10–11 and 20.

⁷ For this preliminary determination, the Department has preliminarily determined to collapse, and treat as a single entity, Bohler Edelstahl GmbH & Co KG (BEG), Bohler Bleche GmbH & Co KG (BBG), Bohler International GmbH (BIG), voestalpine Grobblech (Grobblech), and voestalpine Steel Service Center GmbH (SSC) (collectively, voestalpine). See Memorandum to the File, entitled “Certain Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut-to-Length Plate from Austria, Less-Than-Fair-Value Investigation: voestalpine Collapsing Memorandum,” dated concurrently with this notice.

is being, or is likely to be, sold in the United States at LTFV, pursuant to section 733 of the Act, and that the following estimated weighted-average dumping margins exist:

Exporter/manufacturer	Weighted-average dumping margin (percent)
Bohler Edelstahl GmbH & Co KG; Bohler Bleche GmbH & Co KG; Bohler International GmbH; voestalpine Grobblech GmbH; voestalpine Steel Service Center GmbH	41.97
All Others	41.97

Suspension of Liquidation

In accordance with section 733(d)(2) of the Act, we will direct U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to suspend liquidation of all entries of subject merchandise from Austria, as described in Appendix I of this notice, which are entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after the date of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**, except for voestalpine, as described below.

Section 733(e)(2) of the Act provides that, given an affirmative determination of critical circumstances, any suspension of liquidation shall apply to unliquidated entries of merchandise entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after the later of (a) the date which is 90 days before the date on which the suspension of liquidation was first ordered, or (b) the date on which notice of initiation of the investigation was published.

Because we have preliminarily found that critical circumstances exist with regard to imports produced and exported by the mandatory respondent voestalpine,⁸ we will instruct CBP to suspend liquidation of all entries of CTL plate from Austria, as described in the scope of the investigation, from voestalpine that are entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after the date that is 90 days prior to the date on which suspension of liquidation is first ordered, e.g., the date of publication of this notice.

Pursuant to section 733(d) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.205(d), we will instruct

⁸ See *Certain Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut-to-Length Plate From Austria, Belgium, Brazil, the Republic of Korea, Taiwan, and Turkey; Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Investigations: Preliminary Determinations of Critical Circumstances*, 81 FR 61666 (September 7, 2016).

CBP to require a cash deposit⁹ equal to the weighted-average amount by which NV exceeds U.S. price, as indicated in the chart above, as follows: (1) The rate for the mandatory respondent listed above will be the respondent-specific rate we determined in this preliminary determination; (2) if the exporter is not a mandatory respondent identified above, but the producer is, the rate will be the specific rate established for the producer of the subject merchandise; (3) the rate for all other producers or exporters will be the all-others rate. These suspension of liquidation instructions will remain in effect until further notice.

Disclosure

We intend to disclose the calculations performed to interested parties in this proceeding within five days of the public announcement of this preliminary determination in accordance with 19 CFR 351.224(b).

Verification

As provided in section 782(i) of the Act, we intend to verify information relied upon in making our final determination.

Public Comment

Interested parties are invited to comment on this preliminary determination. Case briefs or other written comments may be submitted to the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance no later than seven days after the date on which the final verification report is issued in this proceeding, and rebuttal briefs, limited to issues raised in case briefs, may be submitted no later than five days after the deadline date for case briefs.¹⁰ Pursuant to 19 CFR 351.309(c)(2) and (d)(2), parties who submit case briefs or rebuttal briefs in this proceeding are encouraged to submit with each argument: (1) A statement of the issue; (2) a brief summary of the argument; and (3) a table of authorities.

The Department established separate deadlines for interested parties to provide comments on scope issues.¹¹

⁹ See *Modification of Regulations Regarding the Practice of Accepting Bonds During the Provisional Measures Period in Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Investigations*, 76 FR 61042 (October 3, 2011).

¹⁰ See 19 CFR 351.309; see also 19 CFR 351.303 (for general filing requirements).

¹¹ See Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum, Additional Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum, and Memorandum to the File “Deadlines for Submitting Scope Case Briefs and Scope Rebuttal Briefs,” dated October 18, 2016 (Deadline Memo for Scope Briefs); and Memorandum to the File “Extension of Deadline for Submitting Scope Rebuttal Briefs,” dated October

Specifically, case briefs on scope issues were to be submitted no later than October 21, 2016. Scope rebuttal briefs, limited to issues raised in the scope case briefs, were to be submitted no later than November 1, 2016.¹² The Department explained that parties should limit comments on scope issues to their scope case brief and their scope rebuttal brief.¹³ Thus, comments on scope issues belong in parties' scope case briefs and scope rebuttal briefs only and not in other case briefs and rebuttal briefs submitted in this investigation. The Department intends to address parties' scope comments in a final scope memorandum.

Pursuant to 19 CFR 351.310(c), interested parties who wish to request a hearing must submit a written request to the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance, U.S. Department of Commerce, within 30 days after the date of publication of this notice. Requests should contain the party's name, address, and telephone number, the number of participants, and a list of the issues to be discussed. If a request for a hearing is made, the Department intends to hold the hearing at the U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20230, at a time and date to be determined. Parties should confirm by telephone the date, time, and location of the hearing two days before the scheduled date.

All documents in this investigation must be filed electronically using ACCESS. An electronically-filed request must be received successfully in its entirety by ACCESS by 5:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time.

Postponement of Final Determination and Extension of Provisional Measures

Section 735(a)(2) of the Act provides that a final determination may be postponed until not later than 135 days after the date of the publication of the preliminary determination if, in the event of an affirmative preliminary determination, a request for such postponement is made by exporters who account for a significant proportion of exports of the subject merchandise, or in the event of a negative preliminary determination, a request for such postponement is made by the petitioner. 19 CFR 351.210(e)(2) requires that requests by respondents for postponement of a final determination be accompanied by a request for

extension of provisional measures from a four-month period to a period not more than six months in duration.

Respondent voestalpine has requested that, in the event of an affirmative preliminary determination in this investigation, the Department postpone its final determination, *i.e.*, no later than 135 days after the publication of the preliminary determination in the **Federal Register**, and agreed to extend the application of the provisional measures prescribed under section 733(d) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.210(e)(2), from a four-month period to a period not to exceed six months.¹⁴

In accordance with section 735(a)(2)(A) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.210(b)(2)(ii), because (1) our preliminary determination is affirmative; (2) the requesting exporters account for a significant proportion of exports of the subject merchandise; and (3) no compelling reasons for denial exist, we are postponing the final determination until no later than 135 days after the publication of this notice in the **Federal Register** and extending the provisional measures from a four-month period to a period not greater than six months. Accordingly, we will issue our final determination no later than 135 days after the date of publication of this preliminary determination, pursuant to section 735(a)(2) of the Act.¹⁵

International Trade Commission (ITC) Notification

In accordance with section 733(f) of the Act, we are notifying the ITC of our affirmative preliminary determination of sales at LTFV. If our final determination is affirmative, the ITC will determine before the later of 120 days after the date of this preliminary determination or 45 days after our final determination whether these imports are materially injuring, or threaten material injury to, the U.S. industry.

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

Dated: November 4, 2016.

Paul Piquado,

Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance.

Appendix I—Scope of the Investigation

The products covered by this investigation are certain carbon and alloy steel hot-rolled or forged flat plate products not in coils,

whether or not painted, varnished, or coated with plastics or other non-metallic substances (cut-to-length plate). Subject merchandise includes plate that is produced by being cut-to-length from coils or from other discrete length plate and plate that is rolled or forged into a discrete length. The products covered include (1) Universal mill plates (*i.e.*, flat-rolled products rolled on four faces or in a closed box pass, of a width exceeding 150 mm but not exceeding 1250 mm, and of a thickness of not less than 4 mm, which are not in coils and without patterns in relief), and (2) hot-rolled or forged flat steel products of a thickness of 4.75 mm or more and of a width which exceeds 150 mm and measures at least twice the thickness, and which are not in coils, whether or not with patterns in relief. The covered products described above may be rectangular, square, circular or other shapes and include products of either rectangular or non-rectangular cross-section where such non-rectangular cross-section is achieved subsequent to the rolling process, *i.e.*, products which have been "worked after rolling" (*e.g.*, products which have been beveled or rounded at the edges).

For purposes of the width and thickness requirements referenced above, the following rules apply:

(1) Except where otherwise stated where the nominal and actual thickness or width measurements vary, a product from a given subject country is within the scope if application of either the nominal or actual measurement would place it within the scope based on the definitions set forth above; and

(2) Where the width and thickness vary for a specific product (*e.g.*, the thickness of certain products with non-rectangular cross-section, the width of certain products with non-rectangular shape, *etc.*), the measurement at its greatest width or thickness applies.

Steel products included in the scope of this investigation are products in which: (1) Iron predominates, by weight, over each of the other contained elements; and (2) the carbon content is 2 percent or less by weight.

Subject merchandise includes cut-to-length plate that has been further processed in the subject country or a third country, including but not limited to pickling, oiling, levelling, annealing, tempering, temper rolling, skin passing, painting, varnishing, trimming, cutting, punching, beveling, and/or slitting, or any other processing that would not otherwise remove the merchandise from the scope of the investigation if performed in the country of manufacture of the cut-to-length plate.

All products that meet the written physical description, are within the scope of this investigation unless specifically excluded or covered by the scope of an existing order. The following products are outside of, and/or specifically excluded from, the scope of this investigation:

(1) products clad, plated, or coated with metal, whether or not painted, varnished or coated with plastic or other non-metallic substances;

(2) military grade armor plate certified to one of the following specifications or to a specification that references and incorporates one of the following specifications:

28, 2016 (Extension Memo for Scope Rebuttal Briefs).

¹² See Deadline Memo for Scope Briefs and Extension Memo for Scope Rebuttal Briefs.

¹³ See *e.g.*, Deadline Memo for Scope Briefs.

¹⁴ See letter from voestalpine entitled, "Antidumping Duty Investigation of Certain Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut-To-Length Plate From Austria: Request to Postpone Final Determination," dated October 24, 2016.

¹⁵ See 19 CFR 351.210(b)(2) and (e).

- MIL-A-12560,
- MIL-DTL-12560H,
- MIL-DTL-12560J,
- MIL-DTL-12560K,
- MIL-DTL-32332,
- MIL-A-46100D,
- MIL-DTL-46100-E,
- MIL-46177C,
- MIL-S-16216K Grade HY80,
- MIL-S-16216K Grade HY100,
- MIL-S-24645A HSLA-80;
- MIL-S-24645A HSLA-100,
- T9074-BD-GIB-010/0300 Grade HY80,
- T9074-BD-GIB-010/0300 Grade HY100,
- T9074-BD-GIB-010/0300 Grade

HSLA80,

- T9074-BD-GIB-010/0300 Grade

HSLA100, and

- T9074-BD-GIB-010/0300 Mod. Grade

HSLA115,

except that any cut-to-length plate certified to one of the above specifications, or to a military grade armor specification that references and incorporates one of the above specifications, will not be excluded from the scope if it is also dual- or multiple-certified to any other non-armor specification that otherwise would fall within the scope of this order;

(3) stainless steel plate, containing 10.5 percent or more of chromium by weight and not more than 1.2 percent of carbon by weight;

(4) CTL plate meeting the requirements of ASTM A-829, Grade E 4340 that are over 305 mm in actual thickness;

(5) Alloy forged and rolled CTL plate greater than or equal to 152.4 mm in actual thickness meeting each of the following requirements:

(a) Electric furnace melted, ladle refined & vacuum degassed and having a chemical composition (expressed in weight percentages):

- Carbon 0.23–0.28,
- Silicon 0.05–0.20,
- Manganese 1.20–1.60,
- Nickel not greater than 1.0,
- Sulfur not greater than 0.007,
- Phosphorus not greater than 0.020,
- Chromium 1.0–2.5,
- Molybdenum 0.35–0.80,
- Boron 0.002–0.004,
- Oxygen not greater than 20 ppm,
- Hydrogen not greater than 2 ppm, and
- Nitrogen not greater than 60 ppm;

(b) With a Brinell hardness measured in all parts of the product including mid thickness falling within one of the following ranges:

- (i) 270–300 HBW,
- (ii) 290–320 HBW, or
- (iii) 320–350HBW;

(c) Having cleanliness in accordance with ASTM E45 method A (Thin and Heavy): A not exceeding 1.5, B not exceeding 1.0, C not exceeding 0.5, D not exceeding 1.5; and

(d) Conforming to ASTM A578–S9 ultrasonic testing requirements with acceptance criteria 2 mm flat bottom hole;

(6) Alloy forged and rolled steel CTL plate over 407 mm in actual thickness and meeting the following requirements:

(a) Made from Electric Arc Furnace melted, Ladle refined & vacuum degassed, alloy steel with the following chemical composition (expressed in weight percentages):

- Carbon 0.23–0.28,
- Silicon 0.05–0.15,
- Manganese 1.20–1.50,
- Nickel not greater than 0.4,
- Sulfur not greater than 0.010,
- Phosphorus not greater than 0.020,
- Chromium 1.20–1.50,
- Molybdenum 0.35–0.55,
- Boron 0.002–0.004,
- Oxygen not greater than 20 ppm,
- Hydrogen not greater than 2 ppm, and
- Nitrogen not greater than 60 ppm;

(b) Having cleanliness in accordance with ASTM E45 method A (Thin and Heavy): A not exceeding 1.5, B not exceeding 1.5, C not exceeding 1.0, D not exceeding 1.5;

(c) Having the following mechanical properties:

(i) With a Brinell hardness not more than 237 HBW measured in all parts of the product including mid thickness; and having a Yield Strength of 75ksi min and UTS 95ksi or more, Elongation of 18% or more and Reduction of area 35% or more; having charpy V at –75 degrees F in the longitudinal direction equal or greater than 15 ft. lbs (single value) and equal or greater than 20 ft. lbs (average of 3 specimens) and conforming to the requirements of NACE MR01–75; or

(ii) With a Brinell hardness not less than 240 HBW measured in all parts of the product including mid thickness; and having a Yield Strength of 90 ksi min and UTS 110 ksi or more, Elongation of 15% or more and Reduction of area 30% or more; having charpy V at –40 degrees F in the longitudinal direction equal or greater than 21 ft. lbs (single value) and equal or greater than 31 ft. lbs (average of 3 specimens);

(d) Conforming to ASTM A578–S9 ultrasonic testing requirements with acceptance criteria 3.2 mm flat bottom hole; and

(e) Conforming to magnetic particle inspection in accordance with AMS 2301;

(7) Alloy forged and rolled steel CTL plate over 407 mm in actual thickness and meeting the following requirements:

(a) Made from Electric Arc Furnace melted, ladle refined & vacuum degassed, alloy steel with the following chemical composition (expressed in weight percentages):

- Carbon 0.25–0.30,
- Silicon not greater than 0.25,
- Manganese not greater than 0.50,
- Nickel 3.0–3.5,
- Sulfur not greater than 0.010,
- Phosphorus not greater than 0.020,
- Chromium 1.0–1.5,
- Molybdenum 0.6–0.9,
- Vanadium 0.08 to 0.12
- Boron 0.002–0.004,
- Oxygen not greater than 20 ppm,
- Hydrogen not greater than 2 ppm, and
- Nitrogen not greater than 60 ppm.

(b) Having cleanliness in accordance with ASTM E45 method A (Thin and Heavy): A not exceeding 1.0(t) and 0.5(h), B not exceeding 1.5(t) and 1.0(h), C not exceeding 1.0(t) and 0.5(h), and D not exceeding 1.5(t) and 1.0(h);

(c) Having the following mechanical properties: A Brinell hardness not less than 350 HBW measured in all parts of the product including mid thickness; and having

a Yield Strength of 145ksi or more and UTS 160ksi or more, Elongation of 15% or more and Reduction of area 35% or more; having charpy V at –40 degrees F in the transverse direction equal or greater than 20 ft. lbs (single value) and equal or greater than 25 ft. lbs (average of 3 specimens);

(d) Conforming to ASTM A578–S9 ultrasonic testing requirements with acceptance criteria 3.2 mm flat bottom hole; and

(e) Conforming to magnetic particle inspection in accordance with AMS 2301.

The products subject to the investigation are currently classified in the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) under item numbers: 7208.40.3030, 7208.40.3060, 7208.51.0030, 7208.51.0045, 7208.51.0060, 7208.52.0000, 7211.13.0000, 7211.14.0030, 7211.14.0045, 7225.40.1110, 7225.40.1180, 7225.40.3005, 7225.40.3050, 7226.20.0000, and 7226.91.5000.

The products subject to the investigation may also enter under the following HTSUS item numbers: 7208.40.6060, 7208.53.0000, 7208.90.0000, 7210.70.3000, 7210.90.9000, 7211.19.1500, 7211.19.2000, 7211.19.4500, 7211.19.6000, 7211.19.7590, 7211.90.0000, 7212.40.1000, 7212.40.5000, 7212.50.0000, 7214.10.0000, 7214.30.0010, 7214.30.0080, 7214.91.0015, 7214.91.0060, 7214.91.0090, 7225.11.0000, 7225.19.0000, 7225.40.5110, 7225.40.5130, 7225.40.5160, 7225.40.7000, 7225.99.0010, 7225.99.0090, 7226.11.1000, 7226.11.9060, 7226.19.1000, 7226.19.9000, 7226.91.0500, 7226.91.1530, 7226.91.1560, 7226.91.2530, 7226.91.2560, 7226.91.7000, 7226.91.8000, and 7226.99.0180.

The HTSUS subheadings above are provided for convenience and customs purposes only. The written description of the scope of the investigation is dispositive.

Appendix II—List of Topics Discussed in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum

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 4. Results of the COP Test
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[FR Doc. 2016–27305 Filed 11–10–16; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[A-583-858]

Certain Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut-to-Length Plate From Taiwan: Preliminary Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value

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

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce (the Department) preliminarily determines that certain carbon and alloy steel cut-to-length plate (CTL plate) from Taiwan is being, or is likely to be, sold in the United States at less than fair value (LTFV). The period of investigation (POI) is April 1, 2015, through March 31, 2016. The estimated weighted-average dumping margins of sales at LTFV are shown in the “Preliminary Determination” section of this notice. Interested parties are invited to comment on this preliminary determination.

DATES: Effective November 14, 2016.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Davina Friedmann or Tyler Weinhold, AD/CVD Operations, Office VI, Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482-0698 or (202) 482-1121, respectively.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The Department initiated this investigation on April 28, 2016.¹ We selected two mandatory respondents in this investigation, China Steel Corporation (China Steel) and Shang Chen Steel Co., Ltd. (Shang Chen). For a complete description of the events that followed the initiation of this investigation, see the memorandum that is dated concurrently with this determination and hereby adopted by this notice.² A list of topics in the

¹ See *Certain Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut-To-Length Plate From Austria, Belgium, Brazil, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, Japan, the Republic of Korea, the People's Republic of China, South Africa, Taiwan, and the Republic of Turkey: Initiation of Less-Than-Fair Value Investigations*, 81 FR 27089 (May 5, 2016) (*Initiation Notice*).

² See Memorandum from Christian Marsh, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Operations, to Paul Piquado, Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance, entitled “Decision Memorandum for the Preliminary Determination in the Antidumping Duty Investigation of Certain Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut-To-Length Plate From Taiwan” (Preliminary Decision Memorandum), dated concurrently with this notice.

Preliminary Decision Memorandum is included as Appendix II to this notice.

The Preliminary Decision Memorandum is a public document and is made available to the public via Enforcement and Compliance’s Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Centralized Electronic Service System (ACCESS). ACCESS is available to registered users at <https://access.trade.gov>, and is available to all parties in the Department’s Central Records Unit, room B8024 of the main Department of Commerce building. In addition, a complete version of the Preliminary Decision Memorandum can be accessed directly on the internet at <http://enforcement.trade.gov/frn/>. The signed Preliminary Decision Memorandum and the electronic version of the Preliminary Decision Memorandum are identical in content.

Scope of the Investigation

The product covered by this investigation is CTL plate from Taiwan. For a full description of the scope of this investigation, see the “Scope of the Investigation,” in Appendix I of this notice.

Scope Comments

In accordance with the *Preamble* to the Department’s regulations,³ the *Initiation Notice* set aside a period of time for parties to raise issues regarding product coverage, *i.e.*, scope.⁴ Certain interested parties commented on the scope of the concurrent CTL plate investigations as it appeared in the *Initiation Notice*. For a summary of the product coverage comments and rebuttal responses submitted to the records of this and the concurrent CTL plate investigations, and a discussion and analysis of all comments timely received, see the Department’s Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum and the Department’s Additional Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum.⁵ The Department has

³ See *Antidumping Duties; Countervailing Duties; Final rule*, 62 FR 27296, 27323 (May 19, 1997) (*Preamble*).

⁴ See *Initiation Notice*, 81 FR at 27090.

⁵ See Memorandum to Christian Marsh, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Operations, “Certain Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut-to-Length Plate From Austria, Belgium, Brazil, the People’s Republic of China, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, Japan, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of South Africa, Taiwan, and Turkey: Scope Comments Decision Memorandum for the Preliminary Determinations,” dated September 6, 2016 (Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum), and Memorandum to Christian Marsh, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Operations, “Certain Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut-to-Length Plate From Austria, Belgium, Brazil, the People’s Republic of China, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, Japan, the Republic of

preliminarily modified the scope language as it appeared in the *Initiation Notice* to clarify the exclusion for stainless steel plate, corrected two tariff numbers that were misidentified in the Petitions and in the *Initiation Notice*, and modified language pertaining to existing steel plate and hot-rolled flat-rolled steel orders.⁶

Methodology

The Department is conducting this investigation in accordance with section 731 of the Act. Export price is calculated in accordance with section 772 of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act). Normal value (NV) is calculated in accordance with section 773 of the Act.⁷ For a full description of the methodology underlying our preliminary conclusions, see the Preliminary Decision Memorandum.

Adverse Facts Available

Because mandatory respondent China Steel failed to cooperate to the best of its ability in responding to the Department’s questionnaires, we preliminarily determine to use adverse facts available (AFA) with respect to this respondent, in accordance with sections 776(a) and (b) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.308. For further discussion, see the Preliminary Decision Memorandum.

All-Others Rate

Consistent with sections 733(d)(1)(A)(ii) and 735(c)(5) of the Act, the Department also calculated an estimated all-others rate. Section 735(c)(5)(A) of the Act provides that the estimated all-others rate shall be an amount equal to the weighted average of the estimated weighted-average dumping margins established for exporters and producers individually investigated, excluding any zero and *de minimis* margins, and any margins determined entirely under section 776 of the Act.

In this investigation, because the margin for China Steel was determined entirely under section 776 of the Act, and hence, because Shang Chen was the only respondent for which we calculated a weighted-average dumping margin, we based our determination of the all-others rate on the estimated

Korea, the Republic of South Africa, Taiwan, and Turkey: Additional Scope Comments Preliminary Decision Memorandum and Extension of Deadlines for Scope Case Briefs and Scope Rebuttal Briefs,” dated October 13, 2016 (Additional Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum), respectively.

⁶ See Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum at 2 and 56, and Additional Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum at 10–11 and 20.

⁷ We have determined that Shang Chen does not have Constructed Export Price (CEP) sales.

weighted-average dumping margin calculated for Shang Chen.⁸

Preliminary Determination

The Department preliminarily determines that CTL plate from Taiwan is being, or is likely to be, sold in the United States at LTFV, pursuant to section 733 of the Act, and that the following estimated weighted-average dumping margins exist:

Exporter/manufacturer	Weighted-average dumping margin (percent)
China Steel Corporation Shang Chen Steel Co., Ltd	28.00 3.51
All Others	3.51

Suspension of Liquidation

In accordance with section 733(d)(2) of the Act, we will direct U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to suspend liquidation of all entries of CTL plate from Taiwan, as described in the Scope of the Investigation in Appendix I, from Shang Chen that are entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after the date of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**.

Section 733(e)(2) of the Act provides that, given an affirmative preliminary determination of critical circumstances, any suspension of liquidation shall apply to unliquidated entries of merchandise entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after the later of (a) the date which is 90 days before the date on which the suspension of liquidation was first ordered, or (b) the date on which notice of initiation of the investigation was published.

Because we have preliminarily found that critical circumstances exist with regard to imports produced and exported by China Steel and “all other” companies,⁹ we will instruct CBP to suspend liquidation of all entries of CTL plate from Taiwan, as described in the scope of the investigation, from China Steel and the “all other” companies that are entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after the date that is 90 days prior to the date on which suspension of liquidation is

first ordered (e.g., the date of publication of this notice).

Pursuant to section 733(d) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.205(d), we will instruct CBP to require cash deposits¹⁰ equal to the weighted-average amount by which the NV exceeds U.S. price, as indicated in the chart above, as follows: (1) The rate for the mandatory respondents listed above will be the respondent-specific rates we determined in this preliminary determination; (2) if the exporter is not a mandatory respondent identified above, but the producer is, the rate will be the specific rate established for the producer of the subject merchandise; and (3) the rate for all other producers or exporters will be the all-others rate. The suspension of liquidation instructions will remain in effect until further notice.

Disclosure

We intend to disclose the calculations performed to interested parties in this proceeding within five days of the date of publication of this notice in accordance with 19 CFR 351.224(b).

Verification

As provided in section 782(i) of the Act, we intend to verify information relied upon in making our final determination.

Public Comment

Interested parties are invited to comment on this preliminary determination. Case briefs or other written comments may be submitted to the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance no later than seven days after the date on which the final verification report is issued in this proceeding, and rebuttal briefs, limited to issues raised in case briefs, may be submitted no later than five days after the deadline date for case briefs.¹¹ Pursuant to 19 CFR 351.309(c)(2) and (d)(2), parties who submit case briefs or rebuttal briefs in this proceeding are encouraged to submit with each argument: (1) A statement of the issue; (2) a brief summary of the argument; and (3) a table of authorities.

The Department established separate deadlines for interested parties to provide comments on scope issues.¹²

¹⁰ See *Modification of Regulations Regarding the Practice of Accepting Bonds During the Provisional Measures Period in Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Investigations*, 76 FR 61042 (October 3, 2011).

¹¹ See 19 CFR 351.309; see also 19 CFR 351.303 (for general filing requirements).

¹² See Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum; Additional Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum; Memorandum to the File “Deadlines for Submitting Scope Case Briefs and Scope Rebuttal Briefs,” dated October 18, 2016 (“Deadline

Specifically, case briefs on scope issues were to be submitted no later than October 21, 2016. Scope rebuttal briefs, limited to issues raised in the scope case briefs, were to be submitted no later than November 1, 2016.¹³ The Department explained that parties should limit comments on scope issues to their scope case brief and their scope rebuttal brief.¹⁴ Thus, comments on scope issues belong in parties’ scope case briefs and scope rebuttal briefs only and not in other case briefs and rebuttal briefs submitted in this investigation. The Department intends to address parties’ scope comments in a final scope memorandum.

Pursuant to 19 CFR 351.310(c), interested parties who wish to request a hearing must submit a written request to the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance, U.S. Department of Commerce, within 30 days after the date of publication of this notice. Requests should contain the party’s name, address, and telephone number, the number of participants, and a list of the issues to be discussed. If a request for a hearing is made, the Department intends to hold the hearing at the U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20230, at a time and date to be determined. Parties should confirm by telephone the date, time, and location of the hearing two days before the scheduled date.

All documents must be filed electronically using ACCESS. An electronically-filed request must be received successfully in its entirety by ACCESS by 5:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time.

Postponement of Final Determination and Extension of Provisional Measures

Section 735(a)(2) of the Act provides that a final determination may be postponed until not later than 135 days after the date of the publication of the preliminary determination if, in the event of an affirmative preliminary determination, a request for such postponement is made by exporters who account for a significant proportion of exports of the subject merchandise, or in the event of a negative preliminary determination, a request for such postponement is made by the petitioner. 19 CFR 351.210(e)(2) requires that requests by respondents for

Memo for Scope Briefs”); and Memorandum to the File regarding, “Extension of Deadline for Submitting Scope Rebuttal Briefs,” dated October 28, 2016 (“Extension Memo for Scope Rebuttal Briefs”).

¹³ See Deadline Memo for Scope Briefs and Extension Memo for Scope Rebuttal Briefs.

¹⁴ See, e.g., Deadline Memo for Scope Briefs.

⁸ See, e.g., *Welded Line Pipe From the Republic of Turkey: Final Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value*, 80 FR 61362, 61363 (October 13, 2015).

⁹ See *Certain Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut-to-Length Plate From Austria, Belgium, Brazil, the Republic of Korea, Taiwan, and Turkey; Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Investigations: Preliminary Determinations of Critical Circumstances*, 81 FR 61666 (September 7, 2016).

postponement of a final determination be accompanied by a request for extension of provisional measures from a four-month period to a period not more than six months in duration.

Respondents China Steel and Shang Chen have requested that, in the event of an affirmative preliminary determination in this investigation, the Department postpone its final determination, *i.e.*, no later than 135 days after the publication of the preliminary determination in the **Federal Register**, and agreed to extend the application of the provisional measures prescribed under section 733(d) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.210(e)(2), from a four-month period to a period not to exceed six months.¹⁵

In accordance with section 735(a)(2)(A) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.210(b)(2)(ii), because (1) our preliminary determination is affirmative; (2) the requesting exporters account for a significant proportion of exports of the subject merchandise; and (3) no compelling reasons for denial exist, we are postponing the final determination until no later than 135 days after the publication of this notice in the **Federal Register** and extending the provisional measures from a four-month period to a period not greater than six months. Accordingly, we will issue our final determination no later than 135 days after the date of publication of this preliminary determination, pursuant to section 735(a)(2) of the Act.¹⁶

International Trade Commission (ITC) Notification

In accordance with section 733(f) of the Act, we are notifying the ITC of our affirmative preliminary determination of sales at LTFV. If our final determination is affirmative, the ITC will determine before the later of 120 days after the date of this preliminary determination or 45 days after our final determination whether these imports are materially injuring, or threaten material injury to, the U.S. industry.

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

Dated: November 4, 2016.

Paul Piquado,

Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance.

Appendix I—Scope of the Investigation

The products covered by this investigation are certain carbon and alloy steel hot-rolled or forged flat plate products not in coils, whether or not painted, varnished, or coated with plastics or other non-metallic substances (cut-to-length plate). Subject merchandise includes plate that is produced by being cut-to-length from coils or from other discrete length plate and plate that is rolled or forged into a discrete length. The products covered include (1) Universal mill plates (*i.e.*, flat-rolled products rolled on four faces or in a closed box pass, of a width exceeding 150 mm but not exceeding 1250 mm, and of a thickness of not less than 4 mm, which are not in coils and without patterns in relief), and (2) hot-rolled or forged flat steel products of a thickness of 4.75 mm or more and of a width which exceeds 150 mm and measures at least twice the thickness, and which are not in coils, whether or not with patterns in relief. The covered products described above may be rectangular, square, circular or other shapes and include products of either rectangular or non-rectangular cross-section where such non-rectangular cross-section is achieved subsequent to the rolling process, *i.e.*, products which have been “worked after rolling” (*e.g.*, products which have been beveled or rounded at the edges).

For purposes of the width and thickness requirements referenced above, the following rules apply:

(1) Except where otherwise stated where the nominal and actual thickness or width measurements vary, a product from a given subject country is within the scope if application of either the nominal or actual measurement would place it within the scope based on the definitions set forth above unless the product is already covered by an order existing on that specific country (*i.e.*, *Notice of Antidumping Duty Order; Certain Hot-Rolled Carbon Steel Flat Products From Taiwan*, 66 FR 59563 (November 29, 2001).); and

(2) where the width and thickness vary for a specific product (*e.g.*, the thickness of certain products with non-rectangular cross-section, the width of certain products with non-rectangular shape, *etc.*), the measurement at its greatest width or thickness applies.

Steel products included in the scope of this investigation are products in which:

(1) Iron predominates, by weight, over each of the other contained elements; and

(2) the carbon content is 2 percent or less by weight.

Subject merchandise includes cut-to-length plate that has been further processed in the subject country or a third country, including but not limited to pickling, oiling, levelling, annealing, tempering, temper rolling, skin passing, painting, varnishing, trimming, cutting, punching, beveling, and/or slitting, or any other processing that would not otherwise remove the merchandise from the scope of the investigation if performed in the

country of manufacture of the cut-to-length plate.

All products that meet the written physical description, are within the scope of this investigation unless specifically excluded or covered by the scope of an existing order. The following products are outside of, and/or specifically excluded from, the scope of this investigation:

(1) Products clad, plated, or coated with metal, whether or not painted, varnished or coated with plastic or other non-metallic substances;

(2) military grade armor plate certified to one of the following specifications or to a specification that references and incorporates one of the following specifications:

- MIL-A-12560,
- MIL-DTL-12560H,
- MIL-DTL-12560J,
- MIL-DTL-12560K,
- MIL-DTL-32332,
- MIL-A-46100D,
- MIL-DTL-46100-E,
- MIL-46177C,
- MIL-S-16216K Grade HY80,
- MIL-S-16216K Grade HY100,
- MIL-S-24645A HSLA-80;
- MIL-S-24645A HSLA-100,
- T9074-BD-GIB-010/0300 Grade HY80,
- T9074-BD-GIB-010/0300 Grade HY100,
- T9074-BD-GIB-010/0300 Grade HSLA80,
- T9074-BD-GIB-010/0300 Grade HSLA100, and
- T9074-BD-GIB-010/0300 Mod. Grade HSLA115,

except that any cut-to-length plate certified to one of the above specifications, or to a military grade armor specification that references and incorporates one of the above specifications, will not be excluded from the scope if it is also dual- or multiple-certified to any other non-armor specification that otherwise would fall within the scope of this order;

(3) stainless steel plate, containing 10.5 percent or more of chromium by weight and not more than 1.2 percent of carbon by weight;

(4) CTL plate meeting the requirements of ASTM A-829, Grade E 4340 that are over 305 mm in actual thickness;

(5) Alloy forged and rolled CTL plate greater than or equal to 152.4 mm in actual thickness meeting each of the following requirements:

(a) Electric furnace melted, ladle refined & vacuum degassed and having a chemical composition (expressed in weight percentages):

- Carbon 0.23–0.28,
- Silicon 0.05–0.20,
- Manganese 1.20–1.60,
- Nickel not greater than 1.0,
- Sulfur not greater than 0.007,
- Phosphorus not greater than 0.020,
- Chromium 1.0–2.5,
- Molybdenum 0.35–0.80,
- Boron 0.002–0.004,
- Oxygen not greater than 20 ppm,
- Hydrogen not greater than 2 ppm, and
- Nitrogen not greater than 60 ppm;

(b) With a Brinell hardness measured in all parts of the product including mid thickness falling within one of the following ranges:

¹⁵ See letters from China Steel and Shang Chen regarding, “Certain Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut-to-Length Plate From Taiwan—Request for Extension of the Deadline for the Department’s Final Determination,” dated October 31, 2016.

¹⁶ See 19 CFR 351.210(b)(2) and (e).

(i) 270–300 HBW,
 (ii) 290–320 HBW, or
 (iii) 320–350 HBW;
 (c) Having cleanliness in accordance with ASTM E45 method A (Thin and Heavy): A not exceeding 1.5, B not exceeding 1.0, C not exceeding 0.5, D not exceeding 1.5; and

(d) Conforming to ASTM A578–S9 ultrasonic testing requirements with acceptance criteria 2 mm flat bottom hole;

(6) Alloy forged and rolled steel CTL plate over 407 mm in actual thickness and meeting the following requirements:

(a) Made from Electric Arc Furnace melted, Ladle refined & vacuum degassed, alloy steel with the following chemical composition (expressed in weight percentages):

- Carbon 0.23–0.28,
- Silicon 0.05–0.15,
- Manganese 1.20–1.50,
- Nickel not greater than 0.4,
- Sulfur not greater than 0.010,
- Phosphorus not greater than 0.020,
- Chromium 1.20–1.50,
- Molybdenum 0.35–0.55,
- Boron 0.002–0.004,
- Oxygen not greater than 20 ppm,
- Hydrogen not greater than 2 ppm, and
- Nitrogen not greater than 60 ppm;

(b) Having cleanliness in accordance with ASTM E45 method A (Thin and Heavy): A not exceeding 1.5, B not exceeding 1.5, C not exceeding 1.0, D not exceeding 1.5;

(c) Having the following mechanical properties:

(i) With a Brinell hardness not more than 237 HBW measured in all parts of the product including mid thickness; and having a Yield Strength of 75ksi min and UTS 95ksi or more, Elongation of 18% or more and Reduction of area 35% or more; having charpy V at – 75 degrees F in the longitudinal direction equal or greater than 15 ft. lbs (single value) and equal or greater than 20 ft. lbs (average of 3 specimens) and conforming to the requirements of NACE MR01–75; or

(ii) With a Brinell hardness not less than 240 HBW measured in all parts of the product including mid thickness; and having a Yield Strength of 90 ksi min and UTS 110 ksi or more, Elongation of 15% or more and Reduction of area 30% or more; having charpy V at – 40 degrees F in the longitudinal direction equal or greater than 21 ft. lbs (single value) and equal or greater than 31 ft. lbs (average of 3 specimens);

(d) Conforming to ASTM A578–S9 ultrasonic testing requirements with acceptance criteria 3.2 mm flat bottom hole; and

(e) Conforming to magnetic particle inspection in accordance with AMS 2301;

(7) Alloy forged and rolled steel CTL plate over 407 mm in actual thickness and meeting the following requirements:

(a) Made from Electric Arc Furnace melted, ladle refined & vacuum degassed, alloy steel with the following chemical composition (expressed in weight percentages):

- Carbon 0.25–0.30,
- Silicon not greater than 0.25,
- Manganese not greater than 0.50,
- Nickel 3.0–3.5,
- Sulfur not greater than 0.010,
- Phosphorus not greater than 0.020,

- Chromium 1.0–1.5,
- Molybdenum 0.6–0.9,
- Vanadium 0.08 to 0.12
- Boron 0.002–0.004,
- Oxygen not greater than 20 ppm,
- Hydrogen not greater than 2 ppm, and
- Nitrogen not greater than 60 ppm.

(b) Having cleanliness in accordance with ASTM E45 method A (Thin and Heavy): A not exceeding 1.0(t) and 0.5(h), B not exceeding 1.5(t) and 1.0(h), C not exceeding 1.0(t) and 0.5(h), and D not exceeding 1.5(t) and 1.0(h);

(c) Having the following mechanical properties: A Brinell hardness not less than 350 HBW measured in all parts of the product including mid thickness; and having a Yield Strength of 145ksi or more and UTS 160ksi or more, Elongation of 15% or more and Reduction of area 35% or more; having charpy V at – 40 degrees F in the transverse direction equal or greater than 20 ft. lbs (single value) and equal or greater than 25 ft. lbs (average of 3 specimens);

(d) Conforming to ASTM A578–S9 ultrasonic testing requirements with acceptance criteria 3.2 mm flat bottom hole; and

(e) Conforming to magnetic particle inspection in accordance with AMS 2301.

The products subject to the investigation are currently classified in the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) under item numbers: 7208.40.3030, 7208.40.3060, 7208.51.0030, 7208.51.0045, 7208.51.0060, 7208.52.0000, 7211.13.0000, 7211.14.0030, 7211.14.0045, 7225.40.1110, 7225.40.1180, 7225.40.3005, 7225.40.3050, 7226.20.0000, and 7226.91.5000.

The products subject to the investigation may also enter under the following HTSUS item numbers: 7208.40.6060, 7208.53.0000, 7208.90.0000, 7210.70.3000, 7210.90.9000, 7211.19.1500, 7211.19.2000, 7211.19.4500, 7211.19.6000, 7211.19.7590, 7211.90.0000, 7212.40.1000, 7212.40.5000, 7212.50.0000, 7214.10.0000, 7214.30.0010, 7214.30.0080, 7214.91.0015, 7214.91.0060, 7214.91.0090, 7225.11.0000, 7225.19.0000, 7225.40.5110, 7225.40.5130, 7225.40.5160, 7225.40.7000, 7225.99.0010, 7225.99.0090, 7226.11.1000, 7226.11.9060, 7226.19.1000, 7226.19.9000, 7226.91.0500, 7226.91.1530, 7226.91.1560, 7226.91.2530, 7226.91.2560, 7226.91.7000, 7226.91.8000, and 7226.99.0180.

The HTSUS subheadings above are provided for convenience and customs purposes only. The written description of the scope of the investigation is dispositive.

Appendix II—List of Topics Discussed in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum

1. Summary
2. Background
3. Period of Investigation
4. Preliminary Determination of Critical Circumstances
5. Postponement of Final Determination and Extension of Provisional Measures
6. Scope Comments
7. Affiliation and Collapsing
8. Discussion of the Methodology
 - a. Determination of Comparison Method
 - b. Results of the Differential Pricing Analysis

9. Date of Sale
10. Product Comparisons
11. Export Price/Constructed Export Price
12. Normal Value
 - a. Home Market Viability
 - b. Affiliated-Party Transactions and Arm's-Length Test
 - c. Level of Trade
 - d. Cost of Production Analysis
1. Calculation of COP
2. Test of Comparison-Market Sales Prices
3. Results of the COP Test
 - e. Calculation of NV Based on Comparison-Market Prices
11. Application of Facts Available and Use of Adverse Inferences
 - a. Use of Adverse Inference
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 - c. Selection of the AFA Rate
12. Currency Conversion
13. Conclusion

[FR Doc. 2016–27306 Filed 11–10–16; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[A–475–834]

Certain Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut-To-Length Plate From Italy: Preliminary Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value, Affirmative Determination of Critical Circumstances, and Postponement of Final Determination

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

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce (the Department) preliminarily determines that certain carbon and alloy steel cut-to-length plate (CTL plate) from Italy is being, or is likely to be, sold in the United States at less than fair value (LTFV). The period of investigation (POI) is April 1, 2015, through March 31, 2016. The estimated weighted-average dumping margins of sales at LTFV are shown in the “Preliminary Determination” section of this notice. Interested parties are invited to comment on this preliminary determination.

DATES: Effective November 14, 2016

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Alice Maldonado or Blaine Wiltse, AD/CVD Operations, Office II, Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482–4682 or (202) 482–6345, respectively.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

- (i) 270–300 HBW,
- (ii) 290–320 HBW, or
- (iii) 320–350 HBW;
- (c) Having cleanliness in accordance with ASTM E45 method A (Thin and Heavy): A not exceeding 1.5, B not exceeding 1.0, C not exceeding 0.5, D not exceeding 1.5; and

(d) Conforming to ASTM A578–S9 ultrasonic testing requirements with acceptance criteria 2 mm flat bottom hole;

(6) Alloy forged and rolled steel CTL plate over 407 mm in actual thickness and meeting the following requirements:

(a) Made from Electric Arc Furnace melted, Ladle refined & vacuum degassed, alloy steel with the following chemical composition (expressed in weight percentages):

- Carbon 0.23–0.28,
- Silicon 0.05–0.15,
- Manganese 1.20–1.50,
- Nickel not greater than 0.4,
- Sulfur not greater than 0.010,
- Phosphorus not greater than 0.020,
- Chromium 1.20–1.50,
- Molybdenum 0.35–0.55,
- Boron 0.002–0.004,
- Oxygen not greater than 20 ppm,
- Hydrogen not greater than 2 ppm, and
- Nitrogen not greater than 60 ppm;

(b) Having cleanliness in accordance with ASTM E45 method A (Thin and Heavy): A not exceeding 1.5, B not exceeding 1.5, C not exceeding 1.0, D not exceeding 1.5;

(c) Having the following mechanical properties:

(i) With a Brinell hardness not more than 237 HBW measured in all parts of the product including mid thickness; and having a Yield Strength of 75ksi min and UTS 95ksi or more, Elongation of 18% or more and Reduction of area 35% or more; having charpy V at – 75 degrees F in the longitudinal direction equal or greater than 15 ft. lbs (single value) and equal or greater than 20 ft. lbs (average of 3 specimens) and conforming to the requirements of NACE MR01–75; or

(ii) With a Brinell hardness not less than 240 HBW measured in all parts of the product including mid thickness; and having a Yield Strength of 90 ksi min and UTS 110 ksi or more, Elongation of 15% or more and Reduction of area 30% or more; having charpy V at – 40 degrees F in the longitudinal direction equal or greater than 21 ft. lbs (single value) and equal or greater than 31 ft. lbs (average of 3 specimens);

(d) Conforming to ASTM A578–S9 ultrasonic testing requirements with acceptance criteria 3.2 mm flat bottom hole; and

(e) Conforming to magnetic particle inspection in accordance with AMS 2301;

(7) Alloy forged and rolled steel CTL plate over 407 mm in actual thickness and meeting the following requirements:

(a) Made from Electric Arc Furnace melted, ladle refined & vacuum degassed, alloy steel with the following chemical composition (expressed in weight percentages):

- Carbon 0.25–0.30,
- Silicon not greater than 0.25,
- Manganese not greater than 0.50,
- Nickel 3.0–3.5,
- Sulfur not greater than 0.010,
- Phosphorus not greater than 0.020,

- Chromium 1.0–1.5,
- Molybdenum 0.6–0.9,
- Vanadium 0.08 to 0.12
- Boron 0.002–0.004,
- Oxygen not greater than 20 ppm,
- Hydrogen not greater than 2 ppm, and
- Nitrogen not greater than 60 ppm.

(b) Having cleanliness in accordance with ASTM E45 method A (Thin and Heavy): A not exceeding 1.0(t) and 0.5(h), B not exceeding 1.5(t) and 1.0(h), C not exceeding 1.0(t) and 0.5(h), and D not exceeding 1.5(t) and 1.0(h);

(c) Having the following mechanical properties: A Brinell hardness not less than 350 HBW measured in all parts of the product including mid thickness; and having a Yield Strength of 145ksi or more and UTS 160ksi or more, Elongation of 15% or more and Reduction of area 35% or more; having charpy V at – 40 degrees F in the transverse direction equal or greater than 20 ft. lbs (single value) and equal or greater than 25 ft. lbs (average of 3 specimens);

(d) Conforming to ASTM A578–S9 ultrasonic testing requirements with acceptance criteria 3.2 mm flat bottom hole; and

(e) Conforming to magnetic particle inspection in accordance with AMS 2301.

The products subject to the investigation are currently classified in the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) under item numbers: 7208.40.3030, 7208.40.3060, 7208.51.0030, 7208.51.0045, 7208.51.0060, 7208.52.0000, 7211.13.0000, 7211.14.0030, 7211.14.0045, 7225.40.1110, 7225.40.1180, 7225.40.3005, 7225.40.3050, 7226.20.0000, and 7226.91.5000.

The products subject to the investigation may also enter under the following HTSUS item numbers: 7208.40.6060, 7208.53.0000, 7208.90.0000, 7210.70.3000, 7210.90.9000, 7211.19.1500, 7211.19.2000, 7211.19.4500, 7211.19.6000, 7211.19.7590, 7211.90.0000, 7212.40.1000, 7212.40.5000, 7212.50.0000, 7214.10.0000, 7214.30.0010, 7214.30.0080, 7214.91.0015, 7214.91.0060, 7214.91.0090, 7225.11.0000, 7225.19.0000, 7225.40.5110, 7225.40.5130, 7225.40.5160, 7225.40.7000, 7225.99.0010, 7225.99.0090, 7226.11.1000, 7226.11.9060, 7226.19.1000, 7226.19.9000, 7226.91.0500, 7226.91.1530, 7226.91.1560, 7226.91.2530, 7226.91.2560, 7226.91.7000, 7226.91.8000, and 7226.99.0180.

The HTSUS subheadings above are provided for convenience and customs purposes only. The written description of the scope of the investigation is dispositive.

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[FR Doc. 2016–27306 Filed 11–10–16; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–DS–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[A–475–834]

Certain Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut-To-Length Plate From Italy: Preliminary Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value, Affirmative Determination of Critical Circumstances, and Postponement of Final Determination

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

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce (the Department) preliminarily determines that certain carbon and alloy steel cut-to-length plate (CTL plate) from Italy is being, or is likely to be, sold in the United States at less than fair value (LTFV). The period of investigation (POI) is April 1, 2015, through March 31, 2016. The estimated weighted-average dumping margins of sales at LTFV are shown in the “Preliminary Determination” section of this notice. Interested parties are invited to comment on this preliminary determination.

DATES: Effective November 14, 2016

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Alice Maldonado or Blaine Wiltse, AD/CVD Operations, Office II, Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482–4682 or (202) 482–6345, respectively.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The Department initiated this investigation on April 28, 2016.¹ For a complete description of the events that followed the initiation of this investigation, *see* the memorandum that is dated concurrently with this determination and hereby adopted by this notice.² A list of topics in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum is included as Appendix II to this notice.

The Preliminary Decision Memorandum is a public document and is made available to the public via Enforcement and Compliance's Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Centralized Electronic Service System (ACCESS). ACCESS is available to registered users at <https://access.trade.gov>, and is available to all parties in the Department's Central Records Unit, room B8024 of the main Department of Commerce building. In addition, a complete version of the Preliminary Decision Memorandum can be accessed directly on the internet at <http://enforcement.trade.gov/frn/>. The signed Preliminary Decision Memorandum and the electronic version of the Preliminary Decision Memorandum are identical in content.

Scope of the Investigation

The product covered by this investigation is CTL plate from Italy. For a full description of the scope of this investigation, *see* the "Scope of the Investigation," in Appendix I of this notice.

Scope Comments

In accordance with the *Preamble* to the Department's regulations,³ the *Initiation Notice* set aside a period of time for parties to raise issues regarding product coverage, *i.e.*, scope.⁴ Certain interested parties commented on the scope of the concurrent CTL plate investigations as it appeared in the *Initiation Notice*. For a summary of the

¹ *See Certain Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut-To-Length Plate From Austria, Belgium, Brazil, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, Japan, the Republic of Korea, the People's Republic of China, South Africa, Taiwan, and the Republic of Turkey: Initiation of Less-Than-Fair Value Investigations*, 81 FR 27089 (May 5, 2016) (*Initiation Notice*).

² *See* Memorandum from Christian Marsh, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Operations, to Paul Piquado, Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance, entitled, "Decision Memorandum for the Preliminary Determination in the Antidumping Duty Investigation of Certain Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut-To-Length Plate From Italy" (Preliminary Decision Memorandum), dated concurrently with this notice.

³ *See Antidumping Duties; Countervailing Duties; Final rule*, 62 FR 27296, 27323 (May 19, 1997) (*Preamble*).

⁴ *See Initiation Notice*, 81 FR at 27090.

product coverage comments and rebuttal responses submitted to the records of this and the concurrent CTL plate investigations, and a discussion and analysis of all comments timely received, *see* the Department's Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum and the Department's Additional Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum.⁵ The Department has preliminarily modified the scope language as it appeared in the *Initiation Notice* to clarify the exclusion for stainless steel plate, corrected two tariff numbers that were misidentified in the Petitions and in the *Initiation Notice*, and modified language pertaining to existing steel plate and hot-rolled flat-rolled steel orders.⁶

Methodology

The Department is conducting this investigation in accordance with section 731 of the Act. Export price and, where appropriate, constructed export price are calculated in accordance with section 772 of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act). Normal value (NV) is calculated in accordance with section 773 of the Act. For a full description of the methodology underlying our preliminary conclusions, *see* the Preliminary Decision Memorandum.

Preliminary Affirmative Determination of Critical Circumstances, in Part

On October 7, 2016, the petitioners timely filed an amendment to the petition, pursuant to section 733(e)(1) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.206(c)(2)(i), alleging that critical circumstances exist with respect to imports of subject merchandise.⁷ We preliminarily

⁵ *See* Memorandum to Christian Marsh, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Operations, entitled, "Certain Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut-to-Length Plate From Austria, Belgium, Brazil, the People's Republic of China, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, Japan, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of South Africa, Taiwan, and Turkey: Scope Comments Decision Memorandum for the Preliminary Determinations," dated September 6, 2016 (Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum), and Memorandum to Christian Marsh, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Operations, entitled, "Certain Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut-to-Length Plate From Austria, Belgium, Brazil, the People's Republic of China, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, Japan, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of South Africa, Taiwan, and Turkey: Additional Scope Comments Preliminary Decision Memorandum and Extension of Deadlines for Scope Case Briefs and Scope Rebuttal Briefs," dated October 13, 2016 (Additional Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum), respectively.

⁶ *See* Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum at 2 and 56, and Additional Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum at 10–11 and 20.

⁷ *See* Letter from the Petitioners, entitled, "Certain Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut-to-Length Plate From Italy: Critical Circumstances Allegation," dated October 7, 2016.

determine that critical circumstances do not exist for all non-individually examined companies, but do exist for NLMK Verona SpA (NVR) and Officine Tecnosider s.r.l. (OTS). Further, pursuant to sections 776(a)(1) and 776(a)(2)(A)–(D) and section 776(b) of the Act, we preliminarily find as adverse facts available (AFA) that critical circumstances do exist for Marcegaglia SpA (Marcegaglia), a non-participating mandatory respondent. For a full description of the methodology and results of our analysis, *see* the Preliminary Decision Memorandum.

Adverse Facts Available

Because mandatory respondent Marcegaglia failed to respond to the Department's questionnaire, we preliminarily determine to apply AFA to this respondent, in accordance with sections 776(a) and (b) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.308. For further discussion, *see* the Preliminary Decision Memorandum.

All-Others Rate

Consistent with sections 733(d)(1)(A)(ii) and 735(c)(5) of the Act, the Department also calculated an estimated all-others rate. Section 735(c)(5)(A) of the Act provides that the estimated all-others rate shall be an amount equal to the weighted average of the estimated weighted-average dumping margins established for exporters and producers individually investigated, excluding any zero and *de minimis* margins, and any margins determined entirely under section 776 of the Act.

In this investigation, we based our calculation of the all-others rate on the weighted-average of the margins calculated for NVR and OTS using publicly-ranged data. Because we cannot apply our normal methodology of calculating a weighted-average margin due to requests to protect business-proprietary information, we find this rate to be the best proxy of the actual weighted-average margin determined for these respondents.⁸ For further discussion of this calculation, *see* the memorandum entitled "Certain Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut-to-Length Plate from Italy: Calculation of the Preliminary Margin for All Other Companies," dated concurrently with this notice.

Preliminary Determination

The Department preliminarily determines that CTL plate from Italy is being, or is likely to be, sold in the

⁸ *See, e.g., Welded Line Pipe From the Republic of Turkey: Final Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value*, 80 FR 61362, 61363 (October 13, 2015).

United States at LTFV, pursuant to section 733 of the Act, and that the following estimated weighted-average dumping margins exist:

Exporter/manufacturer	Weighted-average dumping margin (percent)
NLMK Verona SpA	12.53
Officine Tecnosider s.r.l. ..	6.10
Marcegaglia SpA	130.63
All Others	8.34

Suspension of Liquidation

In accordance with section 733(d)(2) of the Act, we will direct U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to suspend liquidation of all entries of subject merchandise from Italy, as described in Appendix I of this notice, which are entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after the date of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**, except for Marcegaglia, NVR, and OTS, as described below.

Section 733(e)(2) of the Act provides that, given an affirmative determination of critical circumstances, any suspension of liquidation shall apply to unliquidated entries of merchandise entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after the later of (a) the date which is 90 days before the date on which the suspension of liquidation was first ordered, or (b) the date on which notice of initiation of the investigation was published.

Because we have preliminarily found that critical circumstances exist with regard to imports produced and exported by the mandatory respondents Marcegaglia, NVR, and OTS, we will instruct CBP to suspend liquidation of all entries of CTL plate from Italy, as described in the scope of the investigation, from Marcegaglia, NVR, and OTS, that are entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after the date that is 90 days prior to the date on which suspension of liquidation is first ordered, *e.g.*, the date of publication of this notice.

Pursuant to section 733(d) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.205(d), we will instruct CBP to require cash deposits⁹ equal to the weighted-average amount by which the NV exceeds U.S. price, as indicated in the chart above, as follows: (1) The rate for the mandatory respondents listed above will be the respondent-specific rates we determined in this preliminary determination; (2) if the exporter is not a mandatory respondent

⁹ See *Modification of Regulations Regarding the Practice of Accepting Bonds During the Provisional Measures Period in Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Investigations*, 76 FR 61042 (October 3, 2011).

identified above, but the producer is, the rate will be the specific rate established for the producer of the subject merchandise; and (3) the rate for all other producers or exporters will be the all-others rate. These suspension of liquidation instructions will remain in effect until further notice.

Disclosure

We intend to disclose the calculations performed to interested parties in this proceeding within five days of the public announcement of this preliminary determination in accordance with 19 CFR 351.224(b).

Verification

As provided in section 782(i) of the Act, we intend to verify information relied upon in making our final determination.

Public Comment

Interested parties are invited to comment on this preliminary determination. Case briefs or other written comments may be submitted to the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance no later than seven days after the date on which the final verification report is issued in this proceeding, and rebuttal briefs, limited to issues raised in case briefs, may be submitted no later than five days after the deadline date for case briefs.¹⁰ Pursuant to 19 CFR 351.309(c)(2) and (d)(2), parties who submit case briefs or rebuttal briefs in this proceeding are encouraged to submit with each argument: (1) A statement of the issue; (2) a brief summary of the argument; and (3) a table of authorities.

The Department established separate deadlines for interested parties to provide comments on scope issues.¹¹ Specifically, case briefs on scope issues were to be submitted no later than October 21, 2016. Scope rebuttal briefs, limited to issues raised in the scope case briefs, were to be submitted no later than November 1, 2016.¹² The Department explained that parties should limit comments on scope issues to their scope case brief and their scope rebuttal brief.¹³ Thus, comments on

¹⁰ See 19 CFR 351.309; *see also* 19 CFR 351.303 (for general filing requirements).

¹¹ See Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum; Additional Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum; and Memorandum to the File, entitled, "Deadlines for Submitting Scope Case Briefs and Scope Rebuttal Briefs," dated October 18, 2016 (Deadline Memo for Scope Briefs); and Memorandum to the File, entitled, "Extension of Deadline for Submitting Scope Rebuttal Briefs," dated October 28, 2016 ("Extension Memo for Scope Rebuttal Briefs").

¹² See Deadline Memo for Scope Briefs and Extension Memo for Scope Rebuttal Briefs.

¹³ See *e.g.* Deadline Memo for Scope Briefs.

scope issues belong in parties' scope case briefs and scope rebuttal briefs only and not in other case briefs and rebuttal briefs submitted in this investigation. The Department intends to address parties' scope comments in a final scope memorandum.

Pursuant to 19 CFR 351.310(c), interested parties who wish to request a hearing must submit a written request to the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance, U.S. Department of Commerce, within 30 days after the date of publication of this notice. Requests should contain the party's name, address, and telephone number, the number of participants, and a list of the issues to be discussed. If a request for a hearing is made, the Department intends to hold the hearing at the U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20230, at a time and date to be determined. Parties should confirm by telephone the date, time, and location of the hearing two days before the scheduled date.

All documents must be filed electronically using ACCESS. An electronically-filed request must be received successfully in its entirety by ACCESS by 5:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time.

Postponement of Final Determination and Extension of Provisional Measures

Section 735(a)(2) of the Act provides that a final determination may be postponed until not later than 135 days after the date of the publication of the preliminary determination if, in the event of an affirmative preliminary determination, a request for such postponement is made by exporters who account for a significant proportion of exports of the subject merchandise, or in the event of a negative preliminary determination, a request for such postponement is made by the petitioner. 19 CFR 351.210(e)(2) requires that requests by respondents for postponement of a final determination be accompanied by a request for extension of provisional measures from a four-month period to a period not more than six months in duration.

OTS requested that, in the event of an affirmative preliminary determination in this investigation, the Department postpone its final determination by 135 days after publication of the preliminary determination, and agreed to extend the application of the provisional measures prescribed under section 733(d) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.210(e)(2), from a four-month period to a period not to

exceed six months.¹⁴ NVR also requested that the Department extend the deadline for the final determination and extend provisional measures.¹⁵

In accordance with section 735(a)(2)(A) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.210(b)(2)(ii), because (1) our preliminary determination is affirmative; (2) the requesting exporters account for a significant proportion of exports of the subject merchandise; and (3) no compelling reasons for denial exist, we are postponing the final determination until no later than 135 days after the publication of this notice in the **Federal Register** and extending the provisional measures from a four-month period to a period not greater than six months. Accordingly, we will issue our final determination no later than 135 days after the date of publication of this preliminary determination, pursuant to section 735(a)(2) of the Act.¹⁶

International Trade Commission (ITC) Notification

In accordance with section 733(f) of the Act, we are notifying the ITC of our affirmative preliminary determination of sales at LTFV. If our final determination is affirmative, the ITC will determine before the later of 120 days after the date of this preliminary determination or 45 days after our final determination whether these imports are materially injuring, or threaten material injury to, the U.S. industry.

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

Dated: November 4, 2016.

Paul Piquado,

Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance.

Appendix I—Scope of the Investigation

The products covered by this investigation are certain carbon and alloy steel hot-rolled or forged flat plate products not in coils, whether or not painted, varnished, or coated with plastics or other non-metallic substances (cut-to-length plate). Subject merchandise includes plate that is produced by being cut-to-length from coils or from other discrete length plate and plate that is rolled or forged into a discrete length. The products covered include (1) Universal mill plates (*i.e.*, flat-rolled products rolled on four faces or in a closed box pass, of a width exceeding 150 mm but not exceeding 1250

mm, and of a thickness of not less than 4 mm, which are not in coils and without patterns in relief), and (2) hot-rolled or forged flat steel products of a thickness of 4.75 mm or more and of a width which exceeds 150 mm and measures at least twice the thickness, and which are not in coils, whether or not with patterns in relief. The covered products described above may be rectangular, square, circular or other shapes and include products of either rectangular or non-rectangular cross-section where such non-rectangular cross-section is achieved subsequent to the rolling process, *i.e.*, products which have been “worked after rolling” (*e.g.*, products which have been beveled or rounded at the edges).

For purposes of the width and thickness requirements referenced above, the following rules apply:

(1) Except where otherwise stated where the nominal and actual thickness or width measurements vary, a product from a given subject country is within the scope if application of either the nominal or actual measurement would place it within the scope based on the definitions set forth above; and

(2) where the width and thickness vary for a specific product (*e.g.*, the thickness of certain products with non-rectangular cross-section, the width of certain products with non-rectangular shape, *etc.*), the measurement at its greatest width or thickness applies.

Steel products included in the scope of this investigation are products in which: (1) Iron predominates, by weight, over each of the other contained elements; and (2) the carbon content is 2 percent or less by weight.

Subject merchandise includes cut-to-length plate that has been further processed in the subject country or a third country, including but not limited to pickling, oiling, levelling, annealing, tempering, temper rolling, skin passing, painting, varnishing, trimming, cutting, punching, beveling, and/or slitting, or any other processing that would not otherwise remove the merchandise from the scope of the investigation if performed in the country of manufacture of the cut-to-length plate.

All products that meet the written physical description, are within the scope of this investigation unless specifically excluded or covered by the scope of an existing order. The following products are outside of, and/or specifically excluded from, the scope of this investigation:

(1) Products clad, plated, or coated with metal, whether or not painted, varnished or coated with plastic or other non-metallic substances;

(2) military grade armor plate certified to one of the following specifications or to a specification that references and incorporates one of the following specifications:

- MIL-A-12560,
- MIL-DTL-12560H,
- MIL-DTL-12560J,
- MIL-DTL-12560K,
- MIL-DTL-32332,
- MIL-A-46100D,
- MIL-DTL-46100-E,
- MIL-46177C,
- MIL-S-16216K Grade HY80,
- MIL-S-16216K Grade HY100,

- MIL-S-24645A HSLA-80;
- MIL-S-24645A HSLA-100,
- T9074-BD-GIB-010/0300 Grade HY80,
- T9074-BD-GIB-010/0300 Grade HY100,
- T9074-BD-GIB-010/0300 Grade HSLA80,
- T9074-BD-GIB-010/0300 Grade HSLA100, and
- T9074-BD-GIB-010/0300 Mod. Grade HSLA115,

except that any cut-to-length plate certified to one of the above specifications, or to a military grade armor specification that references and incorporates one of the above specifications, will not be excluded from the scope if it is also dual- or multiple-certified to any other non-armor specification that otherwise would fall within the scope of this order;

(3) stainless steel plate, containing 10.5 percent or more of chromium by weight and not more than 1.2 percent of carbon by weight;

(4) CTL plate meeting the requirements of ASTM A-829, Grade E 4340 that are over 305 mm in actual thickness;

(5) Alloy forged and rolled CTL plate greater than or equal to 152.4 mm in actual thickness meeting each of the following requirements:

(a) Electric furnace melted, ladle refined & vacuum degassed and having a chemical composition (expressed in weight percentages):

- Carbon 0.23–0.28,
- Silicon 0.05–0.20,
- Manganese 1.20–1.60,
- Nickel not greater than 1.0,
- Sulfur not greater than 0.007,
- Phosphorus not greater than 0.020,
- Chromium 1.0–2.5,
- Molybdenum 0.35–0.80,
- Boron 0.002–0.004,
- Oxygen not greater than 20 ppm,
- Hydrogen not greater than 2 ppm, and
- Nitrogen not greater than 60 ppm;

(b) With a Brinell hardness measured in all parts of the product including mid thickness falling within one of the following ranges:

- (i) 270–300 HBW,
- (ii) 290–320 HBW, or
- (iii) 320–350HBW;

(c) Having cleanliness in accordance with ASTM E45 method A (Thin and Heavy): A not exceeding 1.5, B not exceeding 1.0, C not exceeding 0.5, D not exceeding 1.5; and

(d) Conforming to ASTM A578–S9 ultrasonic testing requirements with acceptance criteria 2 mm flat bottom hole;

(6) Alloy forged and rolled steel CTL plate over 407 mm in actual thickness and meeting the following requirements:

(a) Made from Electric Arc Furnace melted, Ladle refined & vacuum degassed, alloy steel with the following chemical composition (expressed in weight percentages):

- Carbon 0.23–0.28,
- Silicon 0.05–0.15,
- Manganese 1.20–1.50,
- Nickel not greater than 0.4,
- Sulfur not greater than 0.010,
- Phosphorus not greater than 0.020,
- Chromium 1.20–1.50,
- Molybdenum 0.35–0.55,
- Boron 0.002–0.004,
- Oxygen not greater than 20 ppm,

¹⁴ See letter from OTS, entitled, “Certain Carbon Alloy Steel Cut-to-Length Plate From Italy: Request for Postponement of the Final Determination,” dated October 28, 2016.

¹⁵ See letter from NVR, entitled, “NLMK Verona’s Request to Postpone Final Determination,” dated October 6, 2016.

¹⁶ See 19 CFR 351.210(b)(2) and (e).

- Hydrogen not greater than 2 ppm, and
 - Nitrogen not greater than 60 ppm;
- (b) Having cleanliness in accordance with ASTM E45 method A (Thin and Heavy): A not exceeding 1.5, B not exceeding 1.5, C not exceeding 1.0, D not exceeding 1.5;

(c) Having the following mechanical properties:

(i) With a Brinell hardness not more than 237 HBW measured in all parts of the product including mid thickness; and having a Yield Strength of 75ksi min and UTS 95ksi or more, Elongation of 18% or more and Reduction of area 35% or more; having Charpy V at – 75 degrees F in the longitudinal direction equal or greater than 15 ft. lbs (single value) and equal or greater than 20 ft. lbs (average of 3 specimens) and conforming to the requirements of NACE MR01–75; or

(ii) With a Brinell hardness not less than 240 HBW measured in all parts of the product including mid thickness; and having a Yield Strength of 90 ksi min and UTS 110 ksi or more, Elongation of 15% or more and Reduction of area 30% or more; having Charpy V at – 40 degrees F in the longitudinal direction equal or greater than 21 ft. lbs (single value) and equal or greater than 31 ft. lbs (average of 3 specimens);

(d) Conforming to ASTM A578–S9 ultrasonic testing requirements with acceptance criteria 3.2 mm flat bottom hole; and

(e) Conforming to magnetic particle inspection in accordance with AMS 2301;

(7) Alloy forged and rolled steel CTL plate over 407 mm in actual thickness and meeting the following requirements:

(a) Made from Electric Arc Furnace melted, ladle refined & vacuum degassed, alloy steel with the following chemical composition (expressed in weight percentages):

- Carbon 0.25–0.30,
- Silicon not greater than 0.25,
- Manganese not greater than 0.50,
- Nickel 3.0–3.5,
- Sulfur not greater than 0.010,
- Phosphorus not greater than 0.020,
- Chromium 1.0–1.5,
- Molybdenum 0.6–0.9,
- Vanadium 0.08 to 0.12
- Boron 0.002–0.004,
- Oxygen not greater than 20 ppm,
- Hydrogen not greater than 2 ppm, and
- Nitrogen not greater than 60 ppm.

(b) Having cleanliness in accordance with ASTM E45 method A (Thin and Heavy): A not exceeding 1.0(t) and 0.5(h), B not exceeding 1.5(t) and 1.0(h), C not exceeding 1.0(t) and 0.5(h), and D not exceeding 1.5(t) and 1.0(h);

(c) Having the following mechanical properties: A Brinell hardness not less than 350 HBW measured in all parts of the product including mid thickness; and having a Yield Strength of 145ksi or more and UTS 160ksi or more, Elongation of 15% or more and Reduction of area 35% or more; having Charpy V at – 40 degrees F in the transverse direction equal or greater than 20 ft. lbs (single value) and equal or greater than 25 ft. lbs (average of 3 specimens);

(d) Conforming to ASTM A578–S9 ultrasonic testing requirements with acceptance criteria 3.2 mm flat bottom hole; and

(e) Conforming to magnetic particle inspection in accordance with AMS 2301.

The products subject to the investigation are currently classified in the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) under item numbers: 7208.40.3030, 7208.40.3060, 7208.51.0030, 7208.51.0045, 7208.51.0060, 7208.52.0000, 7211.13.0000, 7211.14.0030, 7211.14.0045, 7225.40.1110, 7225.40.1180, 7225.40.3005, 7225.40.3050, 7226.20.0000, and 7226.91.5000.

The products subject to the investigation may also enter under the following HTSUS item numbers: 7208.40.6060, 7208.53.0000, 7208.90.0000, 7210.70.3000, 7210.90.9000, 7211.19.1500, 7211.19.2000, 7211.19.4500, 7211.19.6000, 7211.19.7590, 7211.90.0000, 7212.40.1000, 7212.40.5000, 7212.50.0000, 7214.10.0000, 7214.30.0010, 7214.30.0080, 7214.91.0015, 7214.91.0060, 7214.91.0090, 7225.11.0000, 7225.19.0000, 7225.40.5110, 7225.40.5130, 7225.40.5160, 7225.40.7000, 7225.99.0010, 7225.99.0090, 7226.11.1000, 7226.11.9060, 7226.19.1000, 7226.19.9000, 7226.91.0500, 7226.91.1530, 7226.91.1560, 7226.91.2530, 7226.91.2560, 7226.91.7000, 7226.91.8000, and 7226.99.0180.

The HTSUS subheadings above are provided for convenience and customs purposes only. The written description of the scope of the investigation is dispositive.

Appendix II—List of Topics Discussed in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum

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 - (A) Application of Facts Available
 - (B) Use of Adverse Inference
 - (C) Selection and Corroboration of the AFA Rate
- XII. Currency Conversion
- XIII. Conclusion

[FR Doc. 2016–27304 Filed 11–10–16; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-DS-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[A–588–875]

Certain Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut-To-Length Plate From Japan: Preliminary Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value and Postponement of Final Determination

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

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce (“Department”) preliminarily determines that certain carbon and alloy steel cut-to-length plate (“CTL plate”) from Japan is being, or is likely to be, sold in the United States at less than fair value (“LTFV”). The period of investigation (“POI”) is April 1, 2015, through March 31, 2016. The estimated weighted-average dumping margins of sales at LTFV are shown in the “Preliminary Determination” section of this notice. Interested parties are invited to comment on this preliminary determination.

DATES: Effective November 14, 2016.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kabir Archuleta, AD/CVD Operations, Office V, Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482–2593.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The Department initiated this investigation on April 28, 2016.¹ For a complete description of the events that followed the initiation of this investigation, *see* the memorandum that is dated concurrently with this determination and hereby adopted by this notice.² A list of topics in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum is included as Appendix II to this notice.

The Preliminary Decision Memorandum is a public document and is made available to the public via

¹ *See Certain Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut-To-Length Plate From Austria, Belgium, Brazil, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, Japan, the Republic of Korea, the People’s Republic of China, South Africa, Taiwan, and the Republic of Turkey: Initiation of Less-Than-Fair Value Investigations*, 81 FR 27089 (May 5, 2016) (“Initiation Notice”).

² *See* Memorandum from Christian Marsh, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Operations, to Paul Piquado, Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance, “Decision Memorandum for the Preliminary Determination in the Antidumping Duty Investigation of Certain Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut-To-Length Plate From Japan” (“Preliminary Decision Memorandum”) dated concurrently with this notice.

- Hydrogen not greater than 2 ppm, and
 - Nitrogen not greater than 60 ppm;
- (b) Having cleanliness in accordance with ASTM E45 method A (Thin and Heavy): A not exceeding 1.5, B not exceeding 1.5, C not exceeding 1.0, D not exceeding 1.5;

(c) Having the following mechanical properties:

(i) With a Brinell hardness not more than 237 HBW measured in all parts of the product including mid thickness; and having a Yield Strength of 75ksi min and UTS 95ksi or more, Elongation of 18% or more and Reduction of area 35% or more; having Charpy V at -75 degrees F in the longitudinal direction equal or greater than 15 ft. lbs (single value) and equal or greater than 20 ft. lbs (average of 3 specimens) and conforming to the requirements of NACE MR01-75; or

(ii) With a Brinell hardness not less than 240 HBW measured in all parts of the product including mid thickness; and having a Yield Strength of 90 ksi min and UTS 110 ksi or more, Elongation of 15% or more and Reduction of area 30% or more; having Charpy V at -40 degrees F in the longitudinal direction equal or greater than 21 ft. lbs (single value) and equal or greater than 31 ft. lbs (average of 3 specimens);

(d) Conforming to ASTM A578-S9 ultrasonic testing requirements with acceptance criteria 3.2 mm flat bottom hole; and

(e) Conforming to magnetic particle inspection in accordance with AMS 2301;

(7) Alloy forged and rolled steel CTL plate over 407 mm in actual thickness and meeting the following requirements:

(a) Made from Electric Arc Furnace melted, ladle refined & vacuum degassed, alloy steel with the following chemical composition (expressed in weight percentages):

- Carbon 0.25-0.30,
- Silicon not greater than 0.25,
- Manganese not greater than 0.50,
- Nickel 3.0-3.5,
- Sulfur not greater than 0.010,
- Phosphorus not greater than 0.020,
- Chromium 1.0-1.5,
- Molybdenum 0.6-0.9,
- Vanadium 0.08 to 0.12
- Boron 0.002-0.004,
- Oxygen not greater than 20 ppm,
- Hydrogen not greater than 2 ppm, and
- Nitrogen not greater than 60 ppm.

(b) Having cleanliness in accordance with ASTM E45 method A (Thin and Heavy): A not exceeding 1.0(t) and 0.5(h), B not exceeding 1.5(t) and 1.0(h), C not exceeding 1.0(t) and 0.5(h), and D not exceeding 1.5(t) and 1.0(h);

(c) Having the following mechanical properties: A Brinell hardness not less than 350 HBW measured in all parts of the product including mid thickness; and having a Yield Strength of 145ksi or more and UTS 160ksi or more, Elongation of 15% or more and Reduction of area 35% or more; having Charpy V at -40 degrees F in the transverse direction equal or greater than 20 ft. lbs (single value) and equal or greater than 25 ft. lbs (average of 3 specimens);

(d) Conforming to ASTM A578-S9 ultrasonic testing requirements with acceptance criteria 3.2 mm flat bottom hole; and

(e) Conforming to magnetic particle inspection in accordance with AMS 2301.

The products subject to the investigation are currently classified in the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) under item numbers: 7208.40.3030, 7208.40.3060, 7208.51.0030, 7208.51.0045, 7208.51.0060, 7208.52.0000, 7211.13.0000, 7211.14.0030, 7211.14.0045, 7225.40.1110, 7225.40.1180, 7225.40.3005, 7225.40.3050, 7226.20.0000, and 7226.91.5000.

The products subject to the investigation may also enter under the following HTSUS item numbers: 7208.40.6060, 7208.53.0000, 7208.90.0000, 7210.70.3000, 7210.90.9000, 7211.19.1500, 7211.19.2000, 7211.19.4500, 7211.19.6000, 7211.19.7590, 7211.90.0000, 7212.40.1000, 7212.40.5000, 7212.50.0000, 7214.10.0000, 7214.30.0010, 7214.30.0080, 7214.91.0015, 7214.91.0060, 7214.91.0090, 7225.11.0000, 7225.19.0000, 7225.40.5110, 7225.40.5130, 7225.40.5160, 7225.40.7000, 7225.99.0010, 7225.99.0090, 7226.11.1000, 7226.11.9060, 7226.19.1000, 7226.19.9000, 7226.91.0500, 7226.91.1530, 7226.91.1560, 7226.91.2530, 7226.91.2560, 7226.91.7000, 7226.91.8000, and 7226.99.0180.

The HTSUS subheadings above are provided for convenience and customs purposes only. The written description of the scope of the investigation is dispositive.

Appendix II—List of Topics Discussed in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum

- I. Summary
- II. Background
- III. Period of Investigation
- IV. Scope Comments
- V. Preliminary Determination of Critical Circumstances
- VI. Discussion of the Methodology
 - (A) Determination of Comparison Method
 - (B) Results of the Differential Pricing Analysis
- VII. Date of Sale
- VIII. Product Comparisons
- IX. Export Price/Constructed Export Price
- X. Normal Value
 - (A) Home Market Viability
 - (B) Level of Trade
 - (C) Cost of Production (COP) Analysis
 1. Cost Averaging Methodology
 2. Calculation of COP
 3. Test of Comparison Market Sales Prices
 4. Results of the COP Test
 - (D) Calculation of NV Based on Comparison-Market Prices
 - (E) Price-to-Constructed Value Comparisons
- XI. Application of Facts Available and Use of Adverse Inference
 - (A) Application of Facts Available
 - (B) Use of Adverse Inference
 - (C) Selection and Corroboration of the AFA Rate
- XII. Currency Conversion
- XIII. Conclusion

[FR Doc. 2016-27304 Filed 11-10-16; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[A-588-875]

Certain Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut-To-Length Plate From Japan: Preliminary Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value and Postponement of Final Determination

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

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce (“Department”) preliminarily determines that certain carbon and alloy steel cut-to-length plate (“CTL plate”) from Japan is being, or is likely to be, sold in the United States at less than fair value (“LTFV”). The period of investigation (“POI”) is April 1, 2015, through March 31, 2016. The estimated weighted-average dumping margins of sales at LTFV are shown in the “Preliminary Determination” section of this notice. Interested parties are invited to comment on this preliminary determination.

DATES: Effective November 14, 2016.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kabir Archuleta, AD/CVD Operations, Office V, Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482-2593.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The Department initiated this investigation on April 28, 2016.¹ For a complete description of the events that followed the initiation of this investigation, *see* the memorandum that is dated concurrently with this determination and hereby adopted by this notice.² A list of topics in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum is included as Appendix II to this notice.

The Preliminary Decision Memorandum is a public document and is made available to the public via

¹ *See Certain Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut-To-Length Plate From Austria, Belgium, Brazil, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, Japan, the Republic of Korea, the People’s Republic of China, South Africa, Taiwan, and the Republic of Turkey: Initiation of Less-Than-Fair Value Investigations*, 81 FR 27089 (May 5, 2016) (“Initiation Notice”).

² *See* Memorandum from Christian Marsh, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Operations, to Paul Piquado, Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance, “Decision Memorandum for the Preliminary Determination in the Antidumping Duty Investigation of Certain Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut-To-Length Plate From Japan” (“Preliminary Decision Memorandum”) dated concurrently with this notice.

Enforcement and Compliance's Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Centralized Electronic Service System ("ACCESS"). ACCESS is available to registered users at <https://access.trade.gov>, and is available to all parties in the Department's Central Records Unit, room B8024 of the main Department of Commerce building. In addition, a complete version of the Preliminary Decision Memorandum can be accessed directly on the internet at <http://enforcement.trade.gov/frn/>. The signed Preliminary Decision Memorandum and the electronic version of the Preliminary Decision Memorandum are identical in content.

Scope of the Investigation

The product covered by this investigation is CTL plate from Japan. For a full description of the scope of this investigation, see the "Scope of the Investigation," in Appendix I of this notice.

Scope Comments

In accordance with the *Preamble* to the Department's regulations,³ the *Initiation Notice* set aside a period of time for parties to raise issues regarding product coverage, *i.e.*, scope.⁴ Certain interested parties commented on the scope of the concurrent CTL plate investigations as it appeared in the *Initiation Notice*. For a summary of the product coverage comments and rebuttal responses submitted to the records of this and the concurrent CTL plate investigations, and a discussion and analysis of all comments timely received, see the Department's Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum and the Department's Additional Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum.⁵ The Department has

³ See *Antidumping Duties; Countervailing Duties; Final rule*, 62 FR 27296, 27323 (May 19, 1997) (*Preamble*).

⁴ See *Initiation Notice*, 81 FR at 27090.

⁵ See Memorandum to Christian Marsh, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Operations, "Certain Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut-to-Length Plate From Austria, Belgium, Brazil, the People's Republic of China, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, Japan, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of South Africa, Taiwan, and Turkey: Scope Comments Decision Memorandum for the Preliminary Determinations," (September 6, 2016) ("Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum"), and Memorandum to Christian Marsh, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Operations, "Certain Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut-to-Length Plate From Austria, Belgium, Brazil, the People's Republic of China, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, Japan, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of South Africa, Taiwan, and Turkey: Additional Scope Comments Preliminary Decision Memorandum and Extension of Deadlines for Scope Case Briefs and Scope Rebuttal Briefs" (October 13, 2016) ("Additional Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum"), respectively.

preliminarily modified the scope language as it appeared in the *Initiation Notice* to clarify the exclusion for stainless steel plate, corrected two tariff numbers that were misidentified in the Petitions and in the *Initiation Notice*, and modified language pertaining to existing steel plate and hot-rolled flat-rolled steel orders.⁶

Methodology

The Department is conducting this investigation in accordance with section 731 of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended ("the Act"). There is one mandatory respondent participating in this investigation. Export price is calculated in accordance with section 772 of the Act. Normal value ("NV") is calculated in accordance with section 773 of the Act. For a full description of the methodology underlying our preliminary conclusions, see the Preliminary Decision Memorandum.

Adverse Facts Available

Because mandatory respondent JFE Steel Corporation ("JFE")⁷ and Shimabun Corporation ("Shimabun")⁸ failed to respond to the Department's questionnaire, we preliminarily determine to apply adverse facts available ("AFA") to these respondents, in accordance with sections 776(a) and (b) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.308. For further discussion, see the Preliminary Decision Memorandum.

All-Others Rate

Consistent with sections 733(d)(1)(A)(ii) and 735(c)(5) of the Act, the Department also calculated an estimated all-others rate. Section 735(c)(5)(A) of the Act provides that the estimated all-others rate shall be an amount equal to the weighted average of the estimated weighted-average dumping margins established for exporters and producers individually investigated, excluding any zero and *de minimis* margins, and any margins determined entirely under section 776 of the Act.

Tokyo Steel Manufacturing Co., Ltd ("Tokyo Steel") is the only respondent for which the Department calculated a company-specific margin. Therefore, for purposes of determining the "all others" rate and pursuant to section 735(c)(5)(A) of the Act, we are using the dumping

⁶ See Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum at 2 and 56, and Additional Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum at 10–11 and 20.

⁷ See Letter to the Secretary of Commerce from JFE "Advisement of Non-Participation in Investigation" (June 20, 2016).

⁸ See Letter to the Secretary of Commerce from Shimabun "Shimabun's Notification of Non-Participation" (July 29, 2016).

margin calculated for Tokyo Steel, as referenced in the "Preliminary Determination" section below.

Preliminary Determination

The Department preliminarily determines that CTL plate from Japan is being, or is likely to be, sold in the United States at LTFV, pursuant to section 733 of the Act, and that the following estimated weighted-average dumping margins exist:

Exporter/manufacturer	Weighted-average dumping margin (percent)
Tokyo Steel Manufacturing Co., Ltd	14.96
JFE Steel Corporation	48.64
Shimabun Corporation	48.64
All Others	14.96

Suspension of Liquidation

In accordance with section 733(d)(2) of the Act, we will direct U.S. Customs and Border Protection ("CBP") to suspend liquidation of all entries of subject merchandise from Japan, as described in Appendix I of this notice, which are entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after the date of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**.

Pursuant to section 733(d) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.205(d), we will instruct CBP to require cash deposits⁹ equal to the weighted-average amount by which the NV exceeds U.S. price, as indicated in the chart above, as follows: (1) The rate for the mandatory respondents listed above will be the respondent-specific rates we determined in this preliminary determination; (2) if the exporter is not a mandatory respondent identified above, but the producer is, the rate will be the specific rate established for the producer of the subject merchandise; and (3) the rate for all other producers or exporters will be the all-others rate. These suspension of liquidation instructions will remain in effect until further notice.

Disclosure

We intend to disclose the calculations performed to interested parties in this proceeding within five days of the public announcement of this preliminary determination in accordance with 19 CFR 351.224(b).

Verification

As provided in section 782(i) of the Act, we intend to verify information

⁹ See *Modification of Regulations Regarding the Practice of Accepting Bonds During the Provisional Measures Period in Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Investigations*, 76 FR 61042 (October 3, 2011).

relied upon in making our final determination.

Public Comment

Interested parties are invited to comment on this preliminary determination. Case briefs or other written comments may be submitted to the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance no later than seven days after the date on which the final verification report is issued in this proceeding, and rebuttal briefs, limited to issues raised in case briefs, may be submitted no later than five days after the deadline date for case briefs.¹⁰ Pursuant to 19 CFR 351.309(c)(2) and (d)(2), parties who submit case briefs or rebuttal briefs in this proceeding are encouraged to submit with each argument: (1) A statement of the issue; (2) a brief summary of the argument; and (3) a table of authorities.

The Department established separate deadlines for interested parties to provide comments on scope issues.¹¹ Specifically, case briefs on scope issues were to be submitted no later than October 21, 2016. Scope rebuttal briefs, limited to issues raised in the scope case briefs, were to be submitted no later than November 1, 2016.¹² The Department explained that parties should limit comments on scope issues to their scope case brief and their scope rebuttal brief.¹³ Thus, comments on scope issues belong in parties' scope case briefs and scope rebuttal briefs only and not in other case briefs and rebuttal briefs submitted in this investigation. The Department intends to address parties' scope comments in a final scope memorandum.

Pursuant to 19 CFR 351.310(c), interested parties who wish to request a hearing must submit a written request to the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance, U.S. Department of Commerce, within 30 days after the date of publication of this notice. Requests should contain the party's name, address, and telephone number, the number of participants, and a list of the issues to be discussed. If a request for a hearing is made, the Department

intends to hold the hearing at the U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20230, at a time and date to be determined. Parties should confirm by telephone the date, time, and location of the hearing two days before the scheduled date.

All documents must be filed electronically using ACCESS. An electronically-filed request must be received successfully in its entirety by ACCESS by 5:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time.

Postponement of Final Determination and Extension of Provisional Measures

Section 735(a)(2) of the Act provides that a final determination may be postponed until not later than 135 days after the date of the publication of the preliminary determination if, in the event of an affirmative preliminary determination, a request for such postponement is made by exporters who account for a significant proportion of exports of the subject merchandise, or in the event of a negative preliminary determination, a request for such postponement is made by the petitioner. 19 CFR 351.210(e)(2) requires that requests by respondents for postponement of a final determination be accompanied by a request for extension of provisional measures from a four-month period to a period not more than six months in duration.

Respondent Tokyo Steel requested that, in the event of an affirmative preliminary determination in this investigation, the Department postpone its final determination, *i.e.*, to 135 days after publication of the preliminary determination, and agreed to extend the application of the provisional measures prescribed under section 733(d) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.210(e)(2), from a four-month period to a period not to exceed six months.

In accordance with section 735(a)(2)(A) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.210(b)(2)(ii), because (1) our preliminary determination is affirmative; (2) the requesting exporters account for a significant proportion of exports of the subject merchandise; and (3) no compelling reasons for denial exist, we are postponing the final determination until no later than 135 days after the publication of this notice in the **Federal Register** and extending the provisional measures from a four-month period to a period not greater than six months. Accordingly, we will issue our final determination no later than 135 days after the date of publication of this preliminary

determination, pursuant to section 735(a)(2) of the Act.¹⁴

International Trade Commission ("ITC") Notification

In accordance with section 733(f) of the Act, we are notifying the ITC of our affirmative preliminary determination of sales at LTFV. If our final determination is affirmative, the ITC will determine before the later of 120 days after the date of this preliminary determination or 45 days after our final determination whether these imports are materially injuring, or threaten material injury to, the U.S. industry.

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

Dated: November 4, 2016.

Paul Piquado,

Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance.

Appendix I—Scope of the Investigation

The products covered by this investigation are certain carbon and alloy steel hot-rolled or forged flat plate products not in coils, whether or not painted, varnished, or coated with plastics or other non-metallic substances (cut-to-length plate). Subject merchandise includes plate that is produced by being cut-to-length from coils or from other discrete length plate and plate that is rolled or forged into a discrete length. The products covered include (1) Universal mill plates (*i.e.*, flat-rolled products rolled on four faces or in a closed box pass, of a width exceeding 150 mm but not exceeding 1250 mm, and of a thickness of not less than 4 mm, which are not in coils and without patterns in relief), and (2) hot-rolled or forged flat steel products of a thickness of 4.75 mm or more and of a width which exceeds 150 mm and measures at least twice the thickness, and which are not in coils, whether or not with patterns in relief. The covered products described above may be rectangular, square, circular or other shapes and include products of either rectangular or non-rectangular cross-section where such non-rectangular cross-section is achieved subsequent to the rolling process, *i.e.*, products which have been "worked after rolling" (*e.g.*, products which have been beveled or rounded at the edges).

For purposes of the width and thickness requirements referenced above, the following rules apply:

(1) Except where otherwise stated where the nominal and actual thickness or width measurements vary, a product from a given subject country is within the scope if application of either the nominal or actual measurement would place it within the scope based on the definitions set forth above unless the product is already covered by an order existing on that specific country (*i.e.*, *Certain Hot-Rolled Steel Flat Products From Australia, Brazil, Japan, the Republic of*

¹⁰ See 19 CFR 351.309; *see also* 19 CFR 351.303 (for general filing requirements).

¹¹ See Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum; Additional Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum; and Memorandum to the File "Deadlines for Submitting Scope Case Briefs and Scope Rebuttal Briefs" (October 18, 2016) ("Deadline Memo for Scope Briefs"); and Memorandum to the File "Extension of Deadline for Submitting Scope Rebuttal Briefs" (October 28, 2016) ("Extension Memo for Scope Rebuttal Briefs").

¹² See Deadline Memo for Scope Briefs and Extension Memo for Scope Rebuttal Briefs.

¹³ See, *e.g.*, Deadline Memo for Scope Briefs.

¹⁴ See 19 CFR 351.210(b)(2) and (e).

Korea, the Netherlands, the Republic of Turkey, and the United Kingdom: Amended Final Affirmative Antidumping Determinations for Australia, the Republic of Korea, and the Republic of Turkey and Antidumping Duty Orders, 81 FR 67962 (October 3, 2016).; and

(2) where the width and thickness vary for a specific product (e.g., the thickness of certain products with non-rectangular cross-section, the width of certain products with non-rectangular shape, etc.), the measurement at its greatest width or thickness applies.

Steel products included in the scope of this investigation are products in which: (1) Iron predominates, by weight, over each of the other contained elements; and (2) the carbon content is 2 percent or less by weight.

Subject merchandise includes cut-to-length plate that has been further processed in the subject country or a third country, including but not limited to pickling, oiling, levelling, annealing, tempering, temper rolling, skin passing, painting, varnishing, trimming, cutting, punching, beveling, and/or slitting, or any other processing that would not otherwise remove the merchandise from the scope of the investigation if performed in the country of manufacture of the cut-to-length plate.

All products that meet the written physical description, are within the scope of this investigation unless specifically excluded or covered by the scope of an existing order. The following products are outside of, and/or specifically excluded from, the scope of this investigation:

(1) Products clad, plated, or coated with metal, whether or not painted, varnished or coated with plastic or other non-metallic substances;

(2) military grade armor plate certified to one of the following specifications or to a specification that references and incorporates one of the following specifications:

- MIL-A-12560,
- MIL-DTL-12560H,
- MIL-DTL-12560J,
- MIL-DTL-12560K,
- MIL-DTL-32332,
- MIL-A-46100D,
- MIL-DTL-46100-E,
- MIL-46177C,
- MIL-S-16216K Grade HY80,
- MIL-S-16216K Grade HY100,
- MIL-S-24645A HSLA-80;
- MIL-S-24645A HSLA-100,
- T9074-BD-GIB-010/0300 Grade HY80,
- T9074-BD-GIB-010/0300 Grade HY100,
- T9074-BD-GIB-010/0300 Grade

HSLA80,

• T9074-BD-GIB-010/0300 Grade

HSLA100, and

• T9074-BD-GIB-010/0300 Mod. Grade

HSLA115,

except that any cut-to-length plate certified to one of the above specifications, or to a military grade armor specification that references and incorporates one of the above specifications, will not be excluded from the scope if it is also dual- or multiple-certified to any other non-armor specification that otherwise would fall within the scope of this order;

(3) stainless steel plate, containing 10.5 percent or more of chromium by weight and

not more than 1.2 percent of carbon by weight;

(4) CTL plate meeting the requirements of ASTM A-829, Grade E 4340 that are over 305 mm in actual thickness;

(5) Alloy forged and rolled CTL plate greater than or equal to 152.4 mm in actual thickness meeting each of the following requirements:

(a) Electric furnace melted, ladle refined & vacuum degassed and having a chemical composition (expressed in weight percentages):

- Carbon 0.23–0.28,
- Silicon 0.05–0.20,
- Manganese 1.20–1.60,
- Nickel not greater than 1.0,
- Sulfur not greater than 0.007,
- Phosphorus not greater than 0.020,
- Chromium 1.0–2.5,
- Molybdenum 0.35–0.80,
- Boron 0.002–0.004,
- Oxygen not greater than 20 ppm,
- Hydrogen not greater than 2 ppm, and
- Nitrogen not greater than 60 ppm;

(b) With a Brinell hardness measured in all parts of the product including mid thickness falling within one of the following ranges:

- (i) 270–300 HBW,
- (ii) 290–320 HBW, or
- (iii) 320–350HBW;

(c) Having cleanliness in accordance with ASTM E45 method A (Thin and Heavy): A not exceeding 1.5, B not exceeding 1.0, C not exceeding 0.5, D not exceeding 1.5; and

(d) Conforming to ASTM A578–S9 ultrasonic testing requirements with acceptance criteria 2 mm flat bottom hole;

(6) Alloy forged and rolled steel CTL plate over 407 mm in actual thickness and meeting the following requirements:

(a) Made from Electric Arc Furnace melted, Ladle refined & vacuum degassed, alloy steel with the following chemical composition (expressed in weight percentages):

- Carbon 0.23–0.28,
- Silicon 0.05–0.15,
- Manganese 1.20–1.50,
- Nickel not greater than 0.4,
- Sulfur not greater than 0.010,
- Phosphorus not greater than 0.020,
- Chromium 1.20–1.50,
- Molybdenum 0.35–0.55,
- Boron 0.002–0.004,
- Oxygen not greater than 20 ppm,
- Hydrogen not greater than 2 ppm, and
- Nitrogen not greater than 60 ppm;

(b) Having cleanliness in accordance with ASTM E45 method A (Thin and Heavy): A not exceeding 1.5, B not exceeding 1.5, C not exceeding 1.0, D not exceeding 1.5;

(c) Having the following mechanical properties:

(i) With a Brinell hardness not more than 237 HBW measured in all parts of the product including mid thickness; and having a Yield Strength of 75ksi min and UTS 95ksi or more, Elongation of 18% or more and Reduction of area 35% or more; having charpy V at –75 degrees F in the longitudinal direction equal or greater than 15 ft. lbs (single value) and equal or greater than 20 ft. lbs (average of 3 specimens) and conforming to the requirements of NACE MR01–75; or

(ii) With a Brinell hardness not less than 240 HBW measured in all parts of the

product including mid thickness; and having a Yield Strength of 90 ksi min and UTS 110 ksi or more, Elongation of 15% or more and Reduction of area 30% or more; having charpy V at –40 degrees F in the longitudinal direction equal or greater than 21 ft. lbs (single value) and equal or greater than 31 ft. lbs (average of 3 specimens);

(d) Conforming to ASTM A578–S9 ultrasonic testing requirements with acceptance criteria 3.2 mm flat bottom hole; and

(e) Conforming to magnetic particle inspection in accordance with AMS 2301;

(7) Alloy forged and rolled steel CTL plate over 407 mm in actual thickness and meeting the following requirements:

(a) Made from Electric Arc Furnace melted, ladle refined & vacuum degassed, alloy steel with the following chemical composition (expressed in weight percentages):

- Carbon 0.25–0.30,
- Silicon not greater than 0.25,
- Manganese not greater than 0.50,
- Nickel 3.0–3.5,
- Sulfur not greater than 0.010,
- Phosphorus not greater than 0.020,
- Chromium 1.0–1.5,
- Molybdenum 0.6–0.9,
- Vanadium 0.08 to 0.12
- Boron 0.002–0.004,
- Oxygen not greater than 20 ppm,
- Hydrogen not greater than 2 ppm, and
- Nitrogen not greater than 60 ppm.

(b) Having cleanliness in accordance with ASTM E45 method A (Thin and Heavy): A not exceeding 1.0(t) and 0.5(h), B not exceeding 1.5(t) and 1.0(h), C not exceeding 1.0(t) and 0.5(h), and D not exceeding 1.5(t) and 1.0(h);

(c) Having the following mechanical properties: A Brinell hardness not less than 350 HBW measured in all parts of the product including mid thickness; and having a Yield Strength of 145ksi or more and UTS 160ksi or more, Elongation of 15% or more and Reduction of area 35% or more; having charpy V at –40 degrees F in the transverse direction equal or greater than 20 ft. lbs (single value) and equal or greater than 25 ft. lbs (average of 3 specimens);

(d) Conforming to ASTM A578–S9 ultrasonic testing requirements with acceptance criteria 3.2 mm flat bottom hole; and

(e) Conforming to magnetic particle inspection in accordance with AMS 2301.

The products subject to the investigation are currently classified in the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) under item numbers: 7208.40.3030, 7208.40.3060, 7208.51.0030, 7208.51.0045, 7208.51.0060, 7208.52.0000, 7211.13.0000, 7211.14.0030, 7211.14.0045, 7225.40.1110, 7225.40.1180, 7225.40.3005, 7225.40.3050, 7226.20.0000, and 7226.91.5000.

The products subject to the investigation may also enter under the following HTSUS item numbers: 7208.40.6060, 7208.53.0000, 7208.90.0000, 7210.70.3000, 7210.90.9000, 7211.19.1500, 7211.19.2000, 7211.19.4500, 7211.19.6000, 7211.19.7590, 7211.90.0000, 7212.40.1000, 7212.40.5000, 7212.50.0000, 7214.10.0000, 7214.30.0010, 7214.30.0080, 7214.91.0015, 7214.91.0060, 7214.91.0090, 7225.11.0000, 7225.19.0000, 7225.40.5110,

7225.40.5130, 7225.40.5160, 7225.40.7000, 7225.99.0010, 7225.99.0090, 7226.11.1000, 7226.11.9060, 7226.19.1000, 7226.19.9000, 7226.91.0500, 7226.91.1530, 7226.91.1560, 7226.91.2530, 7226.91.2560, 7226.91.7000, 7226.91.8000, and 7226.99.0180.

The HTSUS subheadings above are provided for convenience and customs purposes only. The written description of the scope of the investigation is dispositive.

Appendix II—List of Topics

Discussed in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum

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2. Background
3. Period of Investigation
4. Scope Comments
5. Discussion of the Methodology
 - a. Determination of Comparison Method
 - b. Results of the Differential Pricing Analysis
6. Date of Sale
7. Product Comparisons
8. Export Price
9. Normal Value
 - a. Home Market Viability
 - b. Level of Trade
 - c. Cost of Production Analysis
 1. Calculation of COP
 2. Test of Comparison Market Sales Prices
 3. Results of the COP Test
 - d. Overrun Sales
 - e. Calculation of NV Based on Comparison-Market Prices
10. Application of Facts Available and Use of Adverse Inference
 - a. Application of Facts Available
 - b. Use of Adverse Inference
 - c. Selection and Corroboration of the AFA Rate
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12. Conclusion

[FR Doc. 2016–27316 Filed 11–10–16; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-DS-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[A–423–812]

Certain Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut-To-Length Plate From Belgium: Preliminary Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value and Postponement of Final Determination

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

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce (the Department) preliminarily determines that certain carbon and alloy steel cut-to-length plate (CTL plate) from Belgium is being, or is likely to be, sold in the United States at less than fair value (LTFV). The period of investigation (POI) is April 1, 2015, through March 31, 2016. The estimated weighted-average dumping margins of sales at LTFV are shown in the “Preliminary Determination” section of

this notice. Interested parties are invited to comment on this preliminary determination.

DATES: Effective November 14, 2016.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Andrew Medley or David Crespo, AD/CVD Operations, Office II, Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482–4987 or (202) 482–3693, respectively.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The Department initiated this investigation on April 28, 2016.¹ For a complete description of the events that followed the initiation of this investigation, see the memorandum that is dated concurrently with this determination and hereby adopted by this notice.² A list of topics in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum is included as Appendix II to this notice.

The Preliminary Decision Memorandum is a public document and is made available to the public via Enforcement and Compliance’s Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Centralized Electronic Service System (ACCESS). ACCESS is available to registered users at <https://access.trade.gov>, and is available to all parties in the Department’s Central Records Unit, Room B8024 of the main Department of Commerce building. In addition, a complete version of the Preliminary Decision Memorandum can be accessed directly on the internet at <http://enforcement.trade.gov/frn/>. The signed Preliminary Decision Memorandum and the electronic version of the Preliminary Decision Memorandum are identical in content.

Scope of the Investigation

The product covered by this investigation is CTL plate from Belgium. For a full description of the scope of this investigation, see the “Scope of the

¹ See *Certain Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut-To-Length Plate From Austria, Belgium, Brazil, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, Japan, the Republic of Korea, the People’s Republic of China, South Africa, Taiwan, and the Republic of Turkey: Initiation of Less-Than-Fair Value Investigations*, 81 FR 27089 (May 5, 2016) (*Initiation Notice*).

² See Memorandum from Christian Marsh, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Operations, to Paul Piquado, Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance, entitled “Decision Memorandum for the Preliminary Determination in the Antidumping Duty Investigation of Certain Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut-To-Length Plate From Belgium,” (Preliminary Decision Memorandum), dated concurrently with this notice.

Investigation,” in Appendix I of this notice.

Scope Comments

In accordance with the *Preamble* to the Department’s regulations,³ the *Initiation Notice* set aside a period of time for parties to raise issues regarding product coverage, *i.e.*, scope.⁴ Certain interested parties commented on the scope of the concurrent CTL plate investigations as it appeared in the *Initiation Notice*. For a summary of the product coverage comments and rebuttal responses submitted to the records of this and the concurrent CTL plate investigations, and a discussion and analysis of all comments timely received, see the Department’s Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum and the Department’s Additional Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum.⁵ The Department has preliminarily modified the scope language as it appeared in the *Initiation Notice* to clarify the exclusion for stainless steel plate, corrected two tariff numbers that were misidentified in the Petitions and in the *Initiation Notice*, and modified language pertaining to existing steel plate and hot-rolled flat-rolled steel orders.⁶

Methodology

The Department is conducting this investigation in accordance with section 731 of the Act. Export price and, where appropriate, constructed export price are calculated in accordance with section 772 of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act). Normal value (NV) is calculated in accordance with section 773 of the Act. For a full description of

³ See *Antidumping Duties; Countervailing Duties; Final rule*, 62 FR 27296, 27323 (May 19, 1997) (*Preamble*).

⁴ See *Initiation Notice*, 81 FR at 27090.

⁵ See Memorandum to Christian Marsh, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Operations, entitled, “Certain Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut-to-Length Plate From Austria, Belgium, Brazil, the People’s Republic of China, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, Japan, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of South Africa, Taiwan, and Turkey: Scope Comments Decision Memorandum for the Preliminary Determinations,” dated September 6, 2016 (Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum), and Memorandum to Christian Marsh, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Operations, entitled, “Certain Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut-to-Length Plate From Austria, Belgium, Brazil, the People’s Republic of China, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, Japan, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of South Africa, Taiwan, and Turkey: Additional Scope Comments Preliminary Decision Memorandum and Extension of Deadlines for Scope Case Briefs and Scope Rebuttal Briefs,” dated October 13, 2016 (Additional Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum), respectively.

⁶ See Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum at 2 and 56, and Additional Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum at 10–11 and 20.

7225.40.5130, 7225.40.5160, 7225.40.7000, 7225.99.0010, 7225.99.0090, 7226.11.1000, 7226.11.9060, 7226.19.1000, 7226.19.9000, 7226.91.0500, 7226.91.1530, 7226.91.1560, 7226.91.2530, 7226.91.2560, 7226.91.7000, 7226.91.8000, and 7226.99.0180.

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[FR Doc. 2016–27316 Filed 11–10–16; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[A–423–812]

Certain Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut-To-Length Plate From Belgium: Preliminary Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value and Postponement of Final Determination

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

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce (the Department) preliminarily determines that certain carbon and alloy steel cut-to-length plate (CTL plate) from Belgium is being, or is likely to be, sold in the United States at less than fair value (LTFV). The period of investigation (POI) is April 1, 2015, through March 31, 2016. The estimated weighted-average dumping margins of sales at LTFV are shown in the “Preliminary Determination” section of

this notice. Interested parties are invited to comment on this preliminary determination.

DATES: Effective November 14, 2016.

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Scope of the Investigation

The product covered by this investigation is CTL plate from Belgium. For a full description of the scope of this investigation, see the “Scope of the

¹ See *Certain Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut-To-Length Plate From Austria, Belgium, Brazil, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, Japan, the Republic of Korea, the People’s Republic of China, South Africa, Taiwan, and the Republic of Turkey: Initiation of Less-Than-Fair Value Investigations*, 81 FR 27089 (May 5, 2016) (*Initiation Notice*).

² See Memorandum from Christian Marsh, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Operations, to Paul Piquado, Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance, entitled “Decision Memorandum for the Preliminary Determination in the Antidumping Duty Investigation of Certain Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut-To-Length Plate From Belgium,” (Preliminary Decision Memorandum), dated concurrently with this notice.

Investigation,” in Appendix I of this notice.

Scope Comments

In accordance with the *Preamble* to the Department’s regulations,³ the *Initiation Notice* set aside a period of time for parties to raise issues regarding product coverage, *i.e.*, scope.⁴ Certain interested parties commented on the scope of the concurrent CTL plate investigations as it appeared in the *Initiation Notice*. For a summary of the product coverage comments and rebuttal responses submitted to the records of this and the concurrent CTL plate investigations, and a discussion and analysis of all comments timely received, see the Department’s Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum and the Department’s Additional Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum.⁵ The Department has preliminarily modified the scope language as it appeared in the *Initiation Notice* to clarify the exclusion for stainless steel plate, corrected two tariff numbers that were misidentified in the Petitions and in the *Initiation Notice*, and modified language pertaining to existing steel plate and hot-rolled flat-rolled steel orders.⁶

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³ See *Antidumping Duties; Countervailing Duties; Final rule*, 62 FR 27296, 27323 (May 19, 1997) (*Preamble*).

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⁵ See Memorandum to Christian Marsh, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Operations, entitled, “Certain Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut-to-Length Plate From Austria, Belgium, Brazil, the People’s Republic of China, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, Japan, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of South Africa, Taiwan, and Turkey: Scope Comments Decision Memorandum for the Preliminary Determinations,” dated September 6, 2016 (Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum), and Memorandum to Christian Marsh, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Operations, entitled, “Certain Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut-to-Length Plate From Austria, Belgium, Brazil, the People’s Republic of China, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, Japan, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of South Africa, Taiwan, and Turkey: Additional Scope Comments Preliminary Decision Memorandum and Extension of Deadlines for Scope Case Briefs and Scope Rebuttal Briefs,” dated October 13, 2016 (Additional Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum), respectively.

⁶ See Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum at 2 and 56, and Additional Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum at 10–11 and 20.

the methodology underlying our preliminary conclusions, *see* the Preliminary Decision Memorandum.

All-Others Rate

Consistent with sections 733(d)(1)(A)(ii) and 735(c)(5) of the Act, the Department calculated an estimated all-others rate. Section 735(c)(5)(A) of the Act provides that the estimated all-others rate shall be an amount equal to the weighted average of the estimated weighted-average dumping margins established for exporters and producers individually investigated, excluding any zero and *de minimis* margins, and any margins determined entirely under section 776 of the Act.

In this investigation, we based our calculation of the all-others rate on the weighted-average of the margins calculated for the two mandatory respondents participating in this investigation, Industeel Belgium S.A. (Industeel) and NLMK Belgium,⁷ using publicly-ranged data. Because we cannot apply our normal methodology of calculating a weighted-average margin due to requests to protect business-proprietary information, we find this rate to be the best proxy of the actual weighted-average margin determined for these respondents.⁸ For further discussion of this calculation, *see* the memorandum entitled “Certain Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut-to-Length Plate from Italy: Calculation of the Preliminary Margin for All Other Companies,” dated concurrently with this notice.

Preliminary Determination

The Department preliminarily determines that CTL plate from Belgium is being, or is likely to be, sold in the United States at LTFV, pursuant to section 733 of the Act, and that the following estimated weighted-average dumping margins exist:

Exporter/manufacturer	Weighted-average dumping margin (percent)
Industeel Belgium S.A. ...	2.41

⁷ For this preliminary determination, the Department preliminarily determined to collapse, and treat as a single entity, NLMK Clabecq S.A., NLMK Plate Sales S.A., NLMK Sales Europe S.A., NLMK Manage Steel Center S.A., and NLMK La Louviere S.A. (collectively, NLMK Belgium). *See* Memorandum to Melissa Skinner, Director, Office II, “Less Than Fair Value Investigation of Certain Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut-To-Length Plate from Belgium: Preliminary Affiliation and Collapsing Memorandum for NLMK Belgium,” dated October 27, 2016.

⁸ *See, e.g., Welded Line Pipe From the Republic of Turkey: Final Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value*, 80 FR 61362, 61363 (October 13, 2015).

Exporter/manufacturer	Weighted-average dumping margin (percent)
NLMK Clabecq S.A., NLMK Plate Sales S.A., NLMK Sales Eu- rope S.A., NLMK Man- age Steel Center S.A., and/or NLMK La Louviere S.A.	8.98
All Others	8.50

Suspension of Liquidation

In accordance with section 733(d)(2) of the Act, we will direct U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to suspend liquidation of all entries of subject merchandise from Belgium, as described in Appendix I of this notice, which are entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after the date of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**, except for Industeel and NLMK Belgium, as described below.

Section 733(e)(2) of the Act provides that, given an affirmative determination of critical circumstances, any suspension of liquidation shall apply to unliquidated entries of merchandise entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after the later of (a) the date which is 90 days before the date on which the suspension of liquidation was first ordered, or (b) the date on which notice of initiation of the investigation was published.

Because we preliminarily found that critical circumstances exist with regard to imports produced and exported by the mandatory respondents Industeel and NLMK Belgium,⁹ we will instruct CBP to suspend liquidation of all entries of CTL plate from Belgium, as described in the scope of the investigation, from the mandatory respondents that are entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after the date that is 90 days prior to the date on which suspension of liquidation is first ordered, *e.g.*, the date of publication of this notice.

Pursuant to section 733(d) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.205(d), we will instruct CBP to require cash deposits¹⁰ equal to the weighted-average amount by which the NV exceeds U.S. price, as indicated in the chart above, as follows: (1) The rates for the mandatory respondents

⁹ *See Certain Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut-to-Length Plate From Austria, Belgium, Brazil, the Republic of Korea, Taiwan, and Turkey; Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Investigations: Preliminary Determinations of Critical Circumstances*, 81 FR 61666 (September 7, 2016).

¹⁰ *See Modification of Regulations Regarding the Practice of Accepting Bonds During the Provisional Measures Period in Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Investigations*, 76 FR 61042 (October 3, 2011).

listed above will be the respondent-specific rates we determined in this preliminary determination; (2) if the exporter is not a mandatory respondent identified above, but the producer is, the rate will be the specific rate established for the producer of the subject merchandise; and (3) the rate for all other producers or exporters will be the all-others rate. These suspension of liquidation instructions will remain in effect until further notice.

Disclosure

We intend to disclose the calculations performed to interested parties in this proceeding within five days of the date of publication of this notice in accordance with 19 CFR 351.224(b).

Verification

As provided in section 782(i) of the Act, we intend to verify information relied upon in making our final determination.

Public Comment

Interested parties are invited to comment on this preliminary determination. Case briefs or other written comments may be submitted to the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance no later than seven days after the date on which the final verification report is issued in this proceeding, and rebuttal briefs, limited to issues raised in case briefs, may be submitted no later than five days after the deadline date for case briefs.¹¹ Pursuant to 19 CFR 351.309(c)(2) and (d)(2), parties who submit case briefs or rebuttal briefs in this proceeding are encouraged to submit with each argument: (1) A statement of the issue; (2) a brief summary of the argument; and (3) a table of authorities.

The Department established separate deadlines for interested parties to provide comments on scope issues.¹² Specifically, case briefs on scope issues were to be submitted no later than October 21, 2016. Scope rebuttal briefs, limited to issues raised in the scope case briefs, were to be submitted no later than November 1, 2016.¹³ The Department explained that parties

¹¹ *See* 19 CFR 351.309; *see also* 19 CFR 351.303 (for general filing requirements).

¹² *See* Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum; Additional Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum; and Memorandum to the File, entitled, “Deadlines for Submitting Scope Case Briefs and Scope Rebuttal Briefs,” dated October 18, 2016 (Deadline Memo for Scope Briefs); and Memorandum to the File, entitled, “Extension of Deadline for Submitting Scope Rebuttal Briefs,” dated October 28, 2016 (Extension Memo for Scope Rebuttal Briefs).

¹³ *See* Deadline Memo for Scope Briefs and Extension Memo for Scope Rebuttal Briefs.

should limit comments on scope issues to their scope case brief and their scope rebuttal brief.¹⁴ Thus, comments on scope issues belong in parties' scope case briefs and scope rebuttal briefs only and not in other case briefs and rebuttal briefs submitted in this investigation. The Department intends to address parties' scope comments in a final scope memorandum.

Pursuant to 19 CFR 351.310(c), interested parties who wish to request a hearing must submit a written request to the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance, U.S. Department of Commerce, within 30 days after the date of publication of this notice. Requests should contain the party's name, address, and telephone number, the number of participants, and a list of the issues to be discussed. If a request for a hearing is made, the Department intends to hold the hearing at the U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20230, at a time and date to be determined. Parties should confirm by telephone the date, time, and location of the hearing two days before the scheduled date.

All documents must be filed electronically using ACCESS. An electronically-filed request must be received successfully in its entirety by ACCESS by 5:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time.

Postponement of Final Determination and Extension of Provisional Measures

Section 735(a)(2) of the Act provides that a final determination may be postponed until not later than 135 days after the date of the publication of the preliminary determination if, in the event of an affirmative preliminary determination, a request for such postponement is made by exporters who account for a significant proportion of exports of the subject merchandise, or in the event of a negative preliminary determination, a request for such postponement is made by the petitioner. 19 CFR 351.210(e)(2) requires that requests by respondents for postponement of a final determination be accompanied by a request for extension of provisional measures from a four-month period to a period not more than six months in duration.

Respondents NLMK Belgium and Industeel requested that, in the event of an affirmative preliminary determination in this investigation, the Department postpone its final determination, and extend the application of the provisional measures prescribed under section 733(d) of the

Act and 19 CFR 351.210(e)(2), from a four-month period to a period not to exceed six months.¹⁵

In accordance with section 735(a)(2)(A) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.210(b)(2)(ii), because: (1) Our preliminary determination is affirmative; (2) the requesting exporters account for a significant proportion of exports of the subject merchandise; and (3) no compelling reasons for denial exist, we are postponing the final determination until no later than 135 days after the publication of this notice in the **Federal Register** and extending the provisional measures from a four-month period to a period not greater than six months. Accordingly, we intend to issue our final determination no later than 135 days after the date of publication of this preliminary determination, pursuant to section 735(a)(2) of the Act.¹⁶

International Trade Commission (ITC) Notification

In accordance with section 733(f) of the Act, we are notifying the ITC of our affirmative preliminary determination of sales at LTFV. If our final determination is affirmative, the ITC will determine before the later of 120 days after the date of this preliminary determination or 45 days after our final determination whether these imports are materially injuring, or threaten material injury to, the U.S. industry.

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

Dated: November 4, 2016.

Paul Piquado,

Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance.

Appendix I—Scope of the Investigation

The products covered by this investigation are certain carbon and alloy steel hot-rolled or forged flat plate products not in coils, whether or not painted, varnished, or coated with plastics or other non-metallic substances (cut-to-length plate). Subject merchandise includes plate that is produced by being cut-to-length from coils or from other discrete length plate and plate that is rolled or forged into a discrete length. The products covered include (1) Universal mill plates (*i.e.*, flat-rolled products rolled on four faces or in a closed box pass, of a width exceeding 150 mm but not exceeding 1250

mm, and of a thickness of not less than 4 mm, which are not in coils and without patterns in relief), and (2) hot-rolled or forged flat steel products of a thickness of 4.75 mm or more and of a width which exceeds 150 mm and measures at least twice the thickness, and which are not in coils, whether or not with patterns in relief. The covered products described above may be rectangular, square, circular or other shapes and include products of either rectangular or non-rectangular cross-section where such non-rectangular cross-section is achieved subsequent to the rolling process, *i.e.*, products which have been "worked after rolling" (*e.g.*, products which have been beveled or rounded at the edges).

For purposes of the width and thickness requirements referenced above, the following rules apply:

(1) Except where otherwise stated where the nominal and actual thickness or width measurements vary, a product from a given subject country is within the scope if application of either the nominal or actual measurement would place it within the scope based on the definitions set forth above; and

(2) where the width and thickness vary for a specific product (*e.g.*, the thickness of certain products with non-rectangular cross-section, the width of certain products with non-rectangular shape, etc.), the measurement at its greatest width or thickness applies.

Steel products included in the scope of this investigation are products in which: (1) Iron predominates, by weight, over each of the other contained elements; and (2) the carbon content is 2 percent or less by weight.

Subject merchandise includes cut-to-length plate that has been further processed in the subject country or a third country, including but not limited to pickling, oiling, levelling, annealing, tempering, temper rolling, skin passing, painting, varnishing, trimming, cutting, punching, beveling, and/or slitting, or any other processing that would not otherwise remove the merchandise from the scope of the investigation if performed in the country of manufacture of the cut-to-length plate.

All products that meet the written physical description, are within the scope of this investigation unless specifically excluded or covered by the scope of an existing order. The following products are outside of, and/or specifically excluded from, the scope of this investigation:

(1) Products clad, plated, or coated with metal, whether or not painted, varnished or coated with plastic or other non-metallic substances;

(2) military grade armor plate certified to one of the following specifications or to a specification that references and incorporates one of the following specifications:

- MIL-A-12560,
- MIL-DTL-12560H,
- MIL-DTL-12560J,
- MIL-DTL-12560K,
- MIL-DTL-32332,
- MIL-A-46100D,
- MIL-DTL-46100-E,
- MIL-46177C,
- MIL-S-16216K Grade HY80,
- MIL-S-16216K Grade HY100,

¹⁵ See Letter from NLMK Belgium entitled, "NLMK Clabecq's Request to Postpone Final Determination: Certain Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut-To-Length Plate From Belgium," dated October 6, 2016 and Letter from Industeel entitled, "Certain Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut-To-Length Plate From Belgium: Request for Postponement of Final Determination," dated October 13, 2016.

¹⁶ See 19 CFR 351.210(b)(2) and (e).

¹⁴ See, *e.g.*, Deadline Memo for Scope Briefs.

- MIL-S-24645A HSLA-80;
- MIL-S-24645A HSLA-100,
- T9074-BD-GIB-010/0300 Grade HY80,
- T9074-BD-GIB-010/0300 Grade HY100,
- T9074-BD-GIB-010/0300 Grade HSLA80,
- T9074-BD-GIB-010/0300 Grade HSLA100, and
- T9074-BD-GIB-010/0300 Mod. Grade HSLA115,

except that any cut-to-length plate certified to one of the above specifications, or to a military grade armor specification that references and incorporates one of the above specifications, will not be excluded from the scope if it is also dual- or multiple-certified to any other non-armor specification that otherwise would fall within the scope of this order;

(3) stainless steel plate, containing 10.5 percent or more of chromium by weight and not more than 1.2 percent of carbon by weight;

(4) CTL plate meeting the requirements of ASTM A-829, Grade E 4340 that are over 305 mm in actual thickness;

(5) Alloy forged and rolled CTL plate greater than or equal to 152.4 mm in actual thickness meeting each of the following requirements:

(a) Electric furnace melted, ladle refined & vacuum degassed and having a chemical composition (expressed in weight percentages):

- Carbon 0.23–0.28,
- Silicon 0.05–0.20,
- Manganese 1.20–1.60,
- Nickel not greater than 1.0,
- Sulfur not greater than 0.007,
- Phosphorus not greater than 0.020,
- Chromium 1.0–2.5,
- Molybdenum 0.35–0.80,
- Boron 0.002–0.004,
- Oxygen not greater than 20 ppm,
- Hydrogen not greater than 2 ppm, and
- Nitrogen not greater than 60 ppm;

(b) With a Brinell hardness measured in all parts of the product including mid thickness falling within one of the following ranges:

- (i) 270–300 HBW,
- (ii) 290–320 HBW, or
- (iii) 320–350HBW;

(c) Having cleanliness in accordance with ASTM E45 method A (Thin and Heavy): A not exceeding 1.5, B not exceeding 1.0, C not exceeding 0.5, D not exceeding 1.5; and

(d) Conforming to ASTM A578–S9 ultrasonic testing requirements with acceptance criteria 2 mm flat bottom hole;

(6) Alloy forged and rolled steel CTL plate over 407 mm in actual thickness and meeting the following requirements:

(a) Made from Electric Arc Furnace melted, Ladle refined & vacuum degassed, alloy steel with the following chemical composition (expressed in weight percentages):

- Carbon 0.23–0.28,
- Silicon 0.05–0.15,
- Manganese 1.20–1.50,
- Nickel not greater than 0.4,
- Sulfur not greater than 0.010,
- Phosphorus not greater than 0.020,
- Chromium 1.20–1.50,
- Molybdenum 0.35–0.55,
- Boron 0.002–0.004,
- Oxygen not greater than 20 ppm,

• Hydrogen not greater than 2 ppm, and

• Nitrogen not greater than 60 ppm;

(b) Having cleanliness in accordance with ASTM E45 method A (Thin and Heavy): A not exceeding 1.5, B not exceeding 1.5, C not exceeding 1.0, D not exceeding 1.5;

(c) Having the following mechanical properties:

(i) With a Brinell hardness not more than 237 HBW measured in all parts of the product including mid thickness; and having a Yield Strength of 75ksi min and UTS 95ksi or more, Elongation of 18% or more and Reduction of area 35% or more; having charpy V at –75 degrees F in the longitudinal direction equal or greater than 15 ft. lbs (single value) and equal or greater than 20 ft. lbs (average of 3 specimens) and conforming to the requirements of NACE MR01–75; or

(ii) With a Brinell hardness not less than 240 HBW measured in all parts of the product including mid thickness; and having a Yield Strength of 90 ksi min and UTS 110 ksi or more, Elongation of 15% or more and Reduction of area 30% or more; having charpy V at –40 degrees F in the longitudinal direction equal or greater than 21 ft. lbs (single value) and equal or greater than 31 ft. lbs (average of 3 specimens);

(d) Conforming to ASTM A578–S9 ultrasonic testing requirements with acceptance criteria 3.2 mm flat bottom hole; and

(e) Conforming to magnetic particle inspection in accordance with AMS 2301;

(7) Alloy forged and rolled steel CTL plate over 407 mm in actual thickness and meeting the following requirements:

(a) Made from Electric Arc Furnace melted, ladle refined & vacuum degassed, alloy steel with the following chemical composition (expressed in weight percentages):

- Carbon 0.25–0.30,
- Silicon not greater than 0.25,
- Manganese not greater than 0.50,
- Nickel 3.0–3.5,
- Sulfur not greater than 0.010,
- Phosphorus not greater than 0.020,
- Chromium 1.0–1.5,
- Molybdenum 0.6–0.9,
- Vanadium 0.08 to 0.12
- Boron 0.002–0.004,
- Oxygen not greater than 20 ppm,
- Hydrogen not greater than 2 ppm, and
- Nitrogen not greater than 60 ppm.

(b) Having cleanliness in accordance with ASTM E45 method A (Thin and Heavy): A not exceeding 1.0(t) and 0.5(h), B not exceeding 1.5(t) and 1.0(h), C not exceeding 1.0(t) and 0.5(h), and D not exceeding 1.5(t) and 1.0(h);

(c) Having the following mechanical properties: A Brinell hardness not less than 350 HBW measured in all parts of the product including mid thickness; and having a Yield Strength of 145ksi or more and UTS 160ksi or more, Elongation of 15% or more and Reduction of area 35% or more; having charpy V at –40 degrees F in the transverse direction equal or greater than 20 ft. lbs (single value) and equal or greater than 25 ft. lbs (average of 3 specimens);

(d) Conforming to ASTM A578–S9 ultrasonic testing requirements with acceptance criteria 3.2 mm flat bottom hole; and

(e) Conforming to magnetic particle inspection in accordance with AMS 2301.

The products subject to the investigation are currently classified in the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) under item numbers: 7208.40.3030, 7208.40.3060, 7208.51.0030, 7208.51.0045, 7208.51.0060, 7208.52.0000, 7211.13.0000, 7211.14.0030, 7211.14.0045, 7225.40.1110, 7225.40.1180, 7225.40.3005, 7225.40.3050, 7226.20.0000, and 7226.91.5000.

The products subject to the investigation may also enter under the following HTSUS item numbers: 7208.40.6060, 7208.53.0000, 7208.90.0000, 7210.70.3000, 7210.90.9000, 7211.19.1500, 7211.19.2000, 7211.19.4500, 7211.19.6000, 7211.19.7590, 7211.90.0000, 7212.40.1000, 7212.40.5000, 7212.50.0000, 7214.10.0000, 7214.30.0010, 7214.30.0080, 7214.91.0015, 7214.91.0060, 7214.91.0090, 7225.11.0000, 7225.19.0000, 7225.40.5110, 7225.40.5130, 7225.40.5160, 7225.40.7000, 7225.99.0010, 7225.99.0090, 7226.11.1000, 7226.11.9060, 7226.19.1000, 7226.19.9000, 7226.91.0500, 7226.91.1530, 7226.91.1560, 7226.91.2530, 7226.91.2560, 7226.91.7000, 7226.91.8000, and 7226.99.0180.

The HTSUS subheadings above are provided for convenience and customs purposes only. The written description of the scope of the investigation is dispositive.

Appendix II—List of Topics Discussed in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum

- I. Summary
- II. Background
- III. Period of Investigation
- IV. Scope Comments
- V. Affiliation and Collapsing
- VI. Preliminary Determination of Critical Circumstances
- VII. Discussion of the Methodology
 - (A) Determination of Comparison Method
 - (B) Results of the Differential Pricing Analysis
- VIII. Date of Sale
- IX. Product Comparisons
- X. Export Price/Constructed Export Price
- XI. Normal Value
 - (A) Home Market Viability
 - (B) Level of Trade
 - (C) Cost of Production (COP) Analysis
 1. Calculation of COP
 2. Test of Comparison Market Sales Prices
 3. Results of the COP Test
 - (D) Calculation of NV Based on Comparison-Market Prices
 - (E) Price-to-Constructed Value Comparison
- XII. Currency Conversion
- XIII. Conclusion

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review. The Department intends to issue assessment instructions to CBP 15 days after the publication date of the final results of this review.

For any individually examined respondent whose weighted-average dumping margin is above the *de minimis* threshold (*i.e.*, 0.50 percent), the Department will calculate importer-specific *ad valorem* assessment rates on the basis of the ratio of the total amount of dumping calculated for the importer's examined sales and the total entered value of sales. Where either the respondent's weighted-average dumping margin is zero or *de minimis*, or an importer-specific *ad valorem* assessment rate is zero or *de minimis*, we will instruct CBP to liquidate the appropriate entries without regard to antidumping duties.

In these preliminary results, the Department applied the assessment rate calculation method adopted in *Final Modification for Reviews, i.e.*, on the basis of monthly average-to-average comparisons using only the transactions associated with that importer with offsets being provided for non-dumped comparisons.²³

Pursuant to a refinement in the Department's NME practice, for sales that were not reported in the U.S. sales data submitted by companies individually examined during this review, the Department will instruct CBP to liquidate entries associated with those sales at the rate for the PRC-wide entity. In addition, if the Department determines that an exporter under review had no shipments of the subject merchandise, any suspended entries that entered under that exporter's case number (*i.e.*, at that exporter's cash deposit rate) will be liquidated at the rate for the PRC-wide entity.²⁴

Cash Deposit Requirements

The following cash deposit requirements will be effective upon publication of the final results of this administrative review for all shipments of the subject merchandise from the PRC entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after the publication date, as provided by section 751(a)(2)(C) of the Act: (1) For the company listed above, the cash deposit rate will be established in the final results of this review (except, if the rate

is zero or *de minimis*, then zero cash deposit will be required); (2) for previously investigated or reviewed PRC and non-PRC exporters not listed above that have separate rates, the cash deposit rate will continue to be the exporter-specific rate published for the most recently completed segment of this proceeding in which they were reviewed; (3) for all PRC exporters of subject merchandise that have not been found to be entitled to a separate rate, the cash deposit rate will be equal to the weighted-average dumping margin for the PRC-wide entity (*i.e.*, 187.25 percent); and (4) for all non-PRC exporters of subject merchandise which have not received their own separate rate, the cash deposit rate will be the rate applicable to the PRC exporter(s) that supplied that non-PRC exporter. These cash deposit requirements, when imposed, shall remain in effect until further notice.

Notification to Importers

This notice also serves as a preliminary reminder to importers of their responsibility under 19 CFR 351.402(f)(2) to file a certificate regarding the reimbursement of antidumping duties prior to liquidation of the relevant entries during this review period. Failure to comply with this requirement could result in the Department's presumption that reimbursement of antidumping duties occurred and the subsequent assessment of double antidumping duties.

Notification to Interested Parties

This administrative review and notice is issued and published in accordance with sections 751(a)(1) and 777(i)(1) of the Act, and 19 CFR 351.221(b)(4) and 19 CFR 351.213.

Dated: November 4, 2016

Paul Piquado,

Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance.

Attachment—List of Topics Discussed in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum

1. Summary
2. Background
3. Scope of the Order
4. Discussion of the Methodology
 - a. NME Country Status
 - b. Separate Rates
 - c. Separate Rates Recipients- Wholly Foreign Owned
 - d. Surrogate Country and Surrogate Value Data
 - e. Surrogate Country
 - f. Date of Sale
 - g. Comparisons to Normal Value
 - h. Results of Differential Pricing Analysis

- i. U.S. Price
 - j. Value-Added Tax
 - k. Normal Value
 - l. Factor Valuation Methodology
 - m. Currency Conversion
5. Conclusion

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[A-427-828]

Certain Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut-To-Length Plate From France: Preliminary Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value and Postponement of Final Determination

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

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce (the Department) preliminarily determines that certain carbon and alloy steel cut-to-length plate (CTL plate) from France is being, or is likely to be, sold in the United States at less than fair value (LTFV). The period of investigation (POI) is April 1, 2015, through March 31, 2016. The estimated weighted-average dumping margins of sales at LTFV are shown in the "Preliminary Determination" section of this notice. Interested parties are invited to comment on this preliminary determination.

DATES: Effective November 14, 2016.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Terre Keaton Stefanova or Brandon Custard, AD/CVD Operations, Office II, Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482-1280 or (202) 482-1823, respectively.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The Department initiated this investigation on April 28, 2016.¹ We selected two mandatory respondents in this investigation, Dillinger France S.A. (Dillinger) and Industeel France S.A. (Industeel). For a complete description of the events that followed the initiation of this investigation, see the memorandum that is dated concurrently

¹ See *Certain Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut-To-Length Plate From Austria, Belgium, Brazil, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, Japan, the Republic of Korea, the People's Republic of China, South Africa, Taiwan, and the Republic of Turkey: Initiation of Less-Than-Fair Value Investigations*, 81 FR 27089 (May 5, 2016) (*Initiation Notice*).

²³ See *Antidumping Proceeding: Calculation of the Weighted-Average Dumping Margin and Assessment Rate in Certain Antidumping Proceedings; Final Modification*, 77 FR 8101, 8103 (February 14, 2012) ("*Final Modification for Reviews*").

²⁴ For a full discussion of this practice, see *Assessment Practice Refinement*, 76 FR at 65694 (October 24, 2011).

with this determination, and hereby adopted by, this notice.² A list of topics in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum is included as Appendix II to this notice.

The Preliminary Decision Memorandum is a public document and is made available to the public via Enforcement and Compliance's Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Centralized Electronic Service System (ACCESS). ACCESS is available to registered users at <https://access.trade.gov>, and is available to all parties in the Department's Central Records Unit, Room B8024 of the main Department of Commerce building. In addition, a complete version of the Preliminary Decision Memorandum can be accessed directly on the Internet at <http://enforcement.trade.gov/frn/>. The signed Preliminary Decision Memorandum and the electronic version of the Preliminary Decision Memorandum are identical in content.

Scope of the Investigation

The product covered by this investigation is CTL plate from France. For a full description of the scope of this investigation, see the "Scope of the Investigation," in Appendix I of this notice.

Scope Comments

In accordance with the *Preamble* to the Department's regulations,³ the *Initiation Notice* set aside a period of time for parties to raise issues regarding product coverage, *i.e.*, scope.⁴ Certain interested parties commented on the scope of the concurrent CTL plate investigations as it appeared in the *Initiation Notice*. For a summary of the product coverage comments and rebuttal responses submitted to the records of this and the concurrent CTL plate investigations, and a discussion and analysis of all comments timely received, see the Department's Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum and the Department's Additional Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum.⁵ The Department has

² See Memorandum from Christian Marsh, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Operations, to Paul Piquado, Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance, entitled, "Decision Memorandum for the Preliminary Determination in the Antidumping Duty Investigation of Certain Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut-To-Length Plate From France" (Preliminary Decision Memorandum), dated concurrently with this notice.

³ See *Antidumping Duties; Countervailing Duties; Final rule*, 62 FR 27296, 27323 (May 19, 1997) (*Preamble*).

⁴ See *Initiation Notice*, 81 FR at 27090.

⁵ See Memorandum to Christian Marsh, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Operations, entitled, "Certain

preliminarily modified the scope language as it appeared in the *Initiation Notice* to clarify the exclusion for stainless steel plate, corrected two tariff numbers that were misidentified in the Petitions and in the *Initiation Notice*, and modified language pertaining to existing steel plate and hot-rolled flat-rolled steel orders.⁶

Methodology

The Department is conducting this investigation in accordance with section 731 of the Act. Export price and, where appropriate, constructed export price are calculated in accordance with section 772 of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act). Normal value (NV) is calculated in accordance with section 773 of the Act. For a full description of the methodology underlying our preliminary conclusions, see the Preliminary Decision Memorandum.

All-Others Rate

Consistent with sections 733(d)(1)(A)(ii) and 735(c)(5) of the Act, the Department also calculated an estimated all-others rate. Section 735(c)(5)(A) of the Act provides that the estimated all-others rate shall be an amount equal to the weighted average of the estimated weighted-average dumping margins established for exporters and producers individually investigated, excluding any zero and *de minimis* margins, and any margins determined entirely under section 776 of the Act.

In this investigation, we cannot apply our normal methodology of calculating a weighted-average margin due to requests to protect business-proprietary information. Therefore, we based our calculation of the all-others rate on the simple average of the margins calculated for Dillinger and Industeel. For further discussion of this calculation, see the

Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut-to-Length Plate From Austria, Belgium, Brazil, the People's Republic of China, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, Japan, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of South Africa, Taiwan, and Turkey: Scope Comments Decision Memorandum for the Preliminary Determinations," dated September 6, 2016 (Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum), and Memorandum to Christian Marsh, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Operations, entitled, "Certain Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut-to-Length Plate From Austria, Belgium, Brazil, the People's Republic of China, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, Japan, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of South Africa, Taiwan, and Turkey: Additional Scope Comments Preliminary Decision Memorandum and Extension of Deadlines for Scope Case Briefs and Scope Rebuttal Briefs," dated October 13, 2016 (Additional Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum), respectively.

⁶ See Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum at 2 and 56, and Additional Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum at 10–11 and 20.

memorandum entitled "Certain Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut-to-Length Plate from France: Calculation of the Preliminary Margin for All Other Companies," dated concurrently with this notice.

Preliminary Determination

The Department preliminarily determines that CTL plate from France is being, or is likely to be, sold in the United States at LTFV, pursuant to section 733 of the Act, and that the following estimated weighted-average dumping margins exist:

Exporter/Manufacturer	Weighted-average dumping margin (percent)
Dillinger France S.A.	12.97
Industeel France S.A.	4.26
All Others	8.62

Suspension of Liquidation

In accordance with section 733(d)(2) of the Act, we will direct U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to suspend liquidation of all entries of subject merchandise from France, as described in Appendix I of this notice, which are entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after the date of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**.

Pursuant to section 733(d) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.205(d), we will instruct CBP to require cash deposits⁷ equal to the weighted-average amount by which the NV exceeds U.S. price, as indicated in the chart above, as follows: (1) The rate for the mandatory respondents listed above will be the respondent-specific rates we determined in this preliminary determination; (2) if the exporter is not a mandatory respondent identified above, but the producer is, the rate will be the specific rate established for the producer of the subject merchandise; and (3) the rate for all other producers or exporters will be the all-others rate. These suspension of liquidation instructions will remain in effect until further notice.

Disclosure

We intend to disclose the calculations performed to interested parties in this proceeding within five days of the public announcement of this preliminary determination in accordance with 19 CFR 351.224(b).

⁷ See *Modification of Regulations Regarding the Practice of Accepting Bonds During the Provisional Measures Period in Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Investigations*, 76 FR 61042 (October 3, 2011).

Verification

As provided in section 782(i) of the Act, we intend to verify information relied upon in making our final determination.

Public Comment

Interested parties are invited to comment on this preliminary determination. Case briefs or other written comments may be submitted to the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance no later than seven days after the date on which the final verification report is issued in this proceeding, and rebuttal briefs, limited to issues raised in case briefs, may be submitted no later than five days after the deadline date for case briefs.⁸ Pursuant to 19 CFR 351.309(c)(2) and (d)(2), parties who submit case briefs or rebuttal briefs in this proceeding are encouraged to submit with each argument: (1) A statement of the issue; (2) a brief summary of the argument; and (3) a table of authorities.

The Department established separate deadlines for interested parties to provide comments on scope issues.⁹ Specifically, case briefs on scope issues were to be submitted no later than October 21, 2016. Scope rebuttal briefs, limited to issues raised in the scope case briefs, were to be submitted no later than November 1, 2016.¹⁰ The Department explained that parties should limit comments on scope issues to their scope case brief and their scope rebuttal brief.¹¹ Thus, comments on scope issues belong in parties' scope case briefs and scope rebuttal briefs only and not in other case briefs and rebuttal briefs submitted in this investigation. The Department intends to address parties' scope comments in a final scope memorandum.

Pursuant to 19 CFR 351.310(c), interested parties who wish to request a hearing must submit a written request to the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance, U.S. Department of Commerce within 30 days after the date of publication of this notice. Requests should contain the party's name, address, and telephone number, the

number of participants, and a list of the issues to be discussed. If a request for a hearing is made, the Department intends to hold the hearing at the U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20230, at a time and date to be determined. Parties should confirm by telephone the date, time, and location of the hearing two days before the scheduled date.

All documents must be filed electronically using ACCESS. An electronically-filed request must be received successfully in its entirety by ACCESS by 5:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time.

Postponement of Final Determination and Extension of Provisional Measures

Section 735(a)(2) of the Act provides that a final determination may be postponed until not later than 135 days after the date of the publication of the preliminary determination if, in the event of an affirmative preliminary determination, a request for such postponement is made by exporters who account for a significant proportion of exports of the subject merchandise, or in the event of a negative preliminary determination, a request for such postponement is made by the petitioner. 19 CFR 351.210(e)(2) requires that requests by respondents for postponement of a final determination be accompanied by a request for extension of provisional measures from a four-month period to a period not more than six months in duration.

Respondents Dillinger and Industeel have requested that, in the event of an affirmative preliminary determination in this investigation, the Department postpone its final determination by 60 days, *i.e.*, to 135 days after publication of the preliminary determination.¹² Further, Industeel agreed to extend the application of the provisional measures prescribed under section 733(d) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.210(e)(2), from a four-month period to a period not to exceed six months.

In accordance with section 735(a)(2)(A) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.210(b)(2)(ii), because (1) our preliminary determination is affirmative; (2) Industeel accounts for a significant proportion of exports of the subject merchandise; and (3) no compelling reasons for denial exist, we

¹² See letter from Dillinger entitled, "Certain Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut-To-Length Plate From France: Request for Extension of Final Determination," dated October 17, 2016; and Letter from Industeel entitled, "Certain Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut-To-Length Plate From France: Request for Postponement of Final Determination," dated October 13, 2016.

are postponing the final determination until no later than 135 days after the publication of this notice in the **Federal Register** and extending the provisional measures from a four-month period to a period not greater than six months. Accordingly, we will issue our final determination no later than 135 days after the date of publication of this preliminary determination, pursuant to section 735(a)(2) of the Act.¹³

International Trade Commission (ITC) Notification

In accordance with section 733(f) of the Act, we are notifying the ITC of our affirmative preliminary determination of sales at LTFV. If our final determination is affirmative, the ITC will determine before the later of 120 days after the date of this preliminary determination or 45 days after our final determination whether these imports are materially injuring, or threaten material injury to, the U.S. industry.

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

Dated: November 4, 2016.

Paul Piquado,

Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance.

Appendix I—Scope of the Investigation

The products covered by this investigation are certain carbon and alloy steel hot-rolled or forged flat plate products not in coils, whether or not painted, varnished, or coated with plastics or other non-metallic substances (cut-to-length plate). Subject merchandise includes plate that is produced by being cut-to-length from coils or from other discrete length plate and plate that is rolled or forged into a discrete length. The products covered include (1) Universal mill plates (*i.e.*, flat-rolled products rolled on four faces or in a closed box pass, of a width exceeding 150 mm but not exceeding 1250 mm, and of a thickness of not less than 4 mm, which are not in coils and without patterns in relief), and (2) hot-rolled or forged flat steel products of a thickness of 4.75 mm or more and of a width which exceeds 150 mm and measures at least twice the thickness, and which are not in coils, whether or not with patterns in relief. The covered products described above may be rectangular, square, circular or other shapes and include products of either rectangular or non-rectangular cross-section where such non-rectangular cross-section is achieved subsequent to the rolling process, *i.e.*, products which have been "worked after rolling" (*e.g.*, products which have been beveled or rounded at the edges).

For purposes of the width and thickness requirements referenced above, the following rules apply:

¹³ See 19 CFR 351.210(b)(2) and (e).

⁸ See 19 CFR 351.309; see also 19 CFR 351.303 (for general filing requirements).

⁹ See Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum; Additional Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum; Memorandum to the File, entitled, "Deadlines for Submitting Scope Case Briefs and Scope Rebuttal Briefs," dated October 18, 2016 (Deadline Memo for Scope Briefs); and Memorandum to the File "Extension of Deadline for Submitting Scope Rebuttal Briefs," dated October 28, 2016 (Extension Memo for Scope Rebuttal Briefs).

¹⁰ See Deadline Memo for Scope Briefs and Extension Memo for Scope Rebuttal Briefs.

¹¹ See, *e.g.*, Deadline Memo for Scope Briefs.

(1) Except where otherwise stated where the nominal and actual thickness or width measurements vary, a product from a given subject country is within the scope if application of either the nominal or actual measurement would place it within the scope based on the definitions set forth above; and

(2) where the width and thickness vary for a specific product (e.g., the thickness of certain products with non-rectangular cross-section, the width of certain products with non-rectangular shape, etc.), the measurement at its greatest width or thickness applies.

Steel products included in the scope of this investigation are products in which: (1) Iron predominates, by weight, over each of the other contained elements; and (2) the carbon content is 2 percent or less by weight.

Subject merchandise includes cut-to-length plate that has been further processed in the subject country or a third country, including but not limited to pickling, oiling, levelling, annealing, tempering, temper rolling, skin passing, painting, varnishing, trimming, cutting, punching, beveling, and/or slitting, or any other processing that would not otherwise remove the merchandise from the scope of the investigation if performed in the country of manufacture of the cut-to-length plate.

All products that meet the written physical description, are within the scope of this investigation unless specifically excluded or covered by the scope of an existing order. The following products are outside of, and/or specifically excluded from, the scope of this investigation:

(1) Products clad, plated, or coated with metal, whether or not painted, varnished or coated with plastic or other non-metallic substances;

(2) military grade armor plate certified to one of the following specifications or to a specification that references and incorporates one of the following specifications:

- MIL-A-12560,
- MIL-DTL-12560H,
- MIL-DTL-12560J,
- MIL-DTL-12560K,
- MIL-DTL-32332,
- MIL-A-46100D,
- MIL-DTL-46100-E,
- MIL-46177C,
- MIL-S-16216K Grade HY80,
- MIL-S-16216K Grade HY100,
- MIL-S-24645A HSLA-80;
- MIL-S-24645A HSLA-100,
- T9074-BD-GIB-010/0300 Grade HY80,
- T9074-BD-GIB-010/0300 Grade HY100,
- T9074-BD-GIB-010/0300 Grade

HSLA80,

- T9074-BD-GIB-010/0300 Grade

HSLA100, and

- T9074-BD-GIB-010/0300 Mod. Grade HSLA115,

except that any cut-to-length plate certified to one of the above specifications, or to a military grade armor specification that references and incorporates one of the above specifications, will not be excluded from the scope if it is also dual- or multiple-certified to any other non-armor specification that otherwise would fall within the scope of this order;

(3) stainless steel plate, containing 10.5 percent or more of chromium by weight and

not more than 1.2 percent of carbon by weight;

(4) CTL plate meeting the requirements of ASTM A-829, Grade E 4340 that are over 305 mm in actual thickness;

(5) Alloy forged and rolled CTL plate greater than or equal to 152.4 mm in actual thickness meeting each of the following requirements:

(a) Electric furnace melted, ladle refined & vacuum degassed and having a chemical composition (expressed in weight percentages):

- Carbon 0.23–0.28,
- Silicon 0.05–0.20,
- Manganese 1.20–1.60,
- Nickel not greater than 1.0,
- Sulfur not greater than 0.007,
- Phosphorus not greater than 0.020,
- Chromium 1.0–2.5,
- Molybdenum 0.35–0.80,
- Boron 0.002–0.004,
- Oxygen not greater than 20 ppm,
- Hydrogen not greater than 2 ppm, and
- Nitrogen not greater than 60 ppm;

(b) With a Brinell hardness measured in all parts of the product including mid thickness falling within one of the following ranges:

- (i) 270–300 HBW,
- (ii) 290–320 HBW, or (iii) 320–350HBW;

(c) Having cleanliness in accordance with ASTM E45 method A (Thin and Heavy): A not exceeding 1.5, B not exceeding 1.0, C not exceeding 0.5, D not exceeding 1.5; and

(d) Conforming to ASTM A578–S9 ultrasonic testing requirements with acceptance criteria 2 mm flat bottom hole;

(6) Alloy forged and rolled steel CTL plate over 407 mm in actual thickness and meeting the following requirements:

(a) Made from Electric Arc Furnace melted, Ladle refined & vacuum degassed, alloy steel with the following chemical composition (expressed in weight percentages):

- Carbon 0.23–0.28,
- Silicon 0.05–0.15,
- Manganese 1.20–1.50,
- Nickel not greater than 0.4,
- Sulfur not greater than 0.010,
- Phosphorus not greater than 0.020,
- Chromium 1.20–1.50,
- Molybdenum 0.35–0.55,
- Boron 0.002–0.004,
- Oxygen not greater than 20 ppm,
- Hydrogen not greater than 2 ppm, and
- Nitrogen not greater than 60 ppm;

(b) Having cleanliness in accordance with ASTM E45 method A (Thin and Heavy): A not exceeding 1.5, B not exceeding 1.5, C not exceeding 1.0, D not exceeding 1.5;

(c) Having the following mechanical properties:

(i) With a Brinell hardness not more than 237 HBW measured in all parts of the product including mid thickness; and having a Yield Strength of 75ksi min and UTS 95ksi or more, Elongation of 18% or more and Reduction of area 35% or more; having charpy V at –75 degrees F in the longitudinal direction equal or greater than 15 ft. lbs (single value) and equal or greater than 20 ft. lbs (average of 3 specimens) and conforming to the requirements of NACE MR01–75; or

(ii) With a Brinell hardness not less than 240 HBW measured in all parts of the

product including mid thickness; and having a Yield Strength of 90 ksi min and UTS 110 ksi or more, Elongation of 15% or more and Reduction of area 30% or more; having charpy V at –40 degrees F in the longitudinal direction equal or greater than 21 ft. lbs (single value) and equal or greater than 31 ft. lbs (average of 3 specimens);

(d) Conforming to ASTM A578–S9 ultrasonic testing requirements with acceptance criteria 3.2 mm flat bottom hole; and

(e) Conforming to magnetic particle inspection in accordance with AMS 2301;

(7) Alloy forged and rolled steel CTL plate over 407 mm in actual thickness and meeting the following requirements:

(a) Made from Electric Arc Furnace melted, ladle refined & vacuum degassed, alloy steel with the following chemical composition (expressed in weight percentages):

- Carbon 0.25–0.30,
- Silicon not greater than 0.25,
- Manganese not greater than 0.50,
- Nickel 3.0–3.5,
- Sulfur not greater than 0.010,
- Phosphorus not greater than 0.020,
- Chromium 1.0–1.5,
- Molybdenum 0.6–0.9,
- Vanadium 0.08 to 0.12
- Boron 0.002–0.004,
- Oxygen not greater than 20 ppm,
- Hydrogen not greater than 2 ppm, and
- Nitrogen not greater than 60 ppm.

(b) Having cleanliness in accordance with ASTM E45 method A (Thin and Heavy): A not exceeding 1.0(t) and 0.5(h), B not exceeding 1.5(t) and 1.0(h), C not exceeding 1.0(t) and 0.5(h), and D not exceeding 1.5(t) and 1.0(h);

(c) Having the following mechanical properties: A Brinell hardness not less than 350 HBW measured in all parts of the product including mid thickness; and having a Yield Strength of 145ksi or more and UTS 160ksi or more, Elongation of 15% or more and Reduction of area 35% or more; having charpy V at –40 degrees F in the transverse direction equal or greater than 20 ft. lbs (single value) and equal or greater than 25 ft. lbs (average of 3 specimens);

(d) Conforming to ASTM A578–S9 ultrasonic testing requirements with acceptance criteria 3.2 mm flat bottom hole; and

(e) Conforming to magnetic particle inspection in accordance with AMS 2301.

The products subject to the investigation are currently classified in the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) under item numbers: 7208.40.3030, 7208.40.3060, 7208.51.0030, 7208.51.0045, 7208.51.0060, 7208.52.0000, 7211.13.0000, 7211.14.0030, 7211.14.0045, 7225.40.1110, 7225.40.1180, 7225.40.3005, 7225.40.3050, 7226.20.0000, and 7226.91.5000.

The products subject to the investigation may also enter under the following HTSUS item numbers: 7208.40.6060, 7208.53.0000, 7208.90.0000, 7210.70.3000, 7210.90.9000, 7211.19.1500, 7211.19.2000, 7211.19.4500, 7211.19.6000, 7211.19.7590, 7211.90.0000, 7212.40.1000, 7212.40.5000, 7212.50.0000, 7214.10.0000, 7214.30.0010, 7214.30.0080, 7214.91.0015, 7214.91.0060, 7214.91.0090, 7225.11.0000, 7225.19.0000, 7225.40.5110,

7225.40.5130, 7225.40.5160, 7225.40.7000, 7225.99.0010, 7225.99.0090, 7226.11.1000, 7226.11.9060, 7226.19.1000, 7226.19.9000, 7226.91.0500, 7226.91.1530, 7226.91.1560, 7226.91.2530, 7226.91.2560, 7226.91.7000, 7226.91.8000, and 7226.99.0180.

The HTSUS subheadings above are provided for convenience and customs purposes only. The written description of the scope of the investigation is dispositive.

Appendix II—List of Topics Discussed in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum

- I. Summary
- II. Background
- III. Period of Investigation
- IV. Scope Comments
- V. Discussion of the Methodology
 - a. Determination of Comparison Method
 - b. Results of the Differential Pricing Analysis
- VI. Date of Sale
- VII. Product Comparisons
- VIII. Export Price/Constructed Export Price
- IX. Normal Value
 - a. Home Market Viability
 - b. Affiliated Party Transactions and Arm's Length Test
 - c. Level of Trade
 - d. Cost of Production Analysis
 - 1. Calculation of COP
 - 2. Test of Comparison Market Sales Prices
 - 3. Results of the COP Test
 - e. Calculation of NV Based on Comparison-Market Prices
 - f. Price-to-Constructed Value Comparison
- X. Currency Conversion
- XI. Conclusion

[FR Doc. 2016-27314 Filed 11-10-16; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-DS-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[A-580-887]

Certain Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut-To-Length Plate From the Republic of Korea: Affirmative Preliminary Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value and Postponement of Final Determination

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

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce (the Department) preliminarily determines that certain carbon and alloy steel cut-to-length plate (CTL plate) from the Republic of Korea (Korea) is being, or is likely to be, sold in the United States at less than fair value (LTFV). The period of investigation (POI) is April 1, 2015, through March 31, 2016. The estimated weighted-average dumping margins of sales at LTFV are shown in the "Preliminary Determination" section of this notice. Interested parties are invited to

comment on this preliminary determination.

DATES: Effective November 14, 2016.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Michael J. Heaney or Erin Kearney, AD/CVD Operations, Office VI, Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482-4475 or (202) 482-0167, respectively.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The Department initiated this investigation on April 28, 2016.¹ We selected POSCO and POSCO Daewoo International Corp. as mandatory respondents in this investigation. For a complete description of the events that followed the initiation of this investigation, see the memorandum that is dated concurrently with this determination and hereby adopted by this notice.² A list of topics in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum is included as Appendix II to this notice.

The Preliminary Decision Memorandum is a public document and is made available to the public via Enforcement and Compliance's Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Centralized Electronic Service System (ACCESS). ACCESS is available to registered users at <https://access.trade.gov>, and is available to all parties in the Department's Central Records Unit, room B8024 of the main Department of Commerce building. In addition, a complete version of the Preliminary Decision Memorandum can be accessed directly on the Internet at <http://enforcement.trade.gov/frn/>. The signed Preliminary Decision Memorandum and the electronic version of the Preliminary Decision Memorandum are identical in content.

Scope of the Investigation

The product covered by this investigation is CTL plate from the Republic of Korea. For a full description

¹ See *Certain Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut-To-Length Plate From Austria, Belgium, Brazil, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, Japan, the Republic of Korea, the People's Republic of China, South Africa, Taiwan, and the Republic of Turkey: Initiation of Less-Than-Fair Value Investigations*, 81 FR 27089 (May 5, 2016) (*Initiation Notice*).

² See Memorandum from Christian Marsh, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Operations, to Paul Piquado, Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance, entitled "Decision Memorandum for the Preliminary Determination in the Antidumping Duty Investigation of Certain Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut-To-Length Plate From the Republic of Korea" (Preliminary Decision Memorandum), dated concurrently with this notice.

of the scope of this investigation, see the "Scope of the Investigation," in Appendix I of this notice.

Scope Comments

In accordance with the *Preamble* to the Department's regulations,³ the *Initiation Notice* set aside a period of time for parties to raise issues regarding product coverage, *i.e.*, scope.⁴ Certain interested parties commented on the scope of the concurrent CTL plate investigations as it appeared in the *Initiation Notice*. For a summary of the product coverage comments and rebuttal responses submitted to the records of this and the concurrent CTL plate investigations, and a discussion and analysis of all comments timely received, see the Department's Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum and the Department's Additional Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum.⁵ The Department has preliminarily modified the scope language as it appeared in the *Initiation Notice* to clarify the exclusion for stainless steel plate, corrected two tariff numbers that were misidentified in the Petitions and in the *Initiation Notice*, and modified language pertaining to existing steel plate and hot-rolled flat-rolled steel orders.⁶

Methodology

The Department is conducting this investigation in accordance with section 731 of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act). Export price and, where appropriate, constructed export price are calculated in accordance with section 772 of the the Act. Normal value (NV) is calculated in accordance with

³ See *Antidumping Duties; Countervailing Duties; Final rule*, 62 FR 27296, 27323 (May 19, 1997) (*Preamble*).

⁴ See *Initiation Notice*, 81 FR at 27090.

⁵ See Memorandum to Christian Marsh, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Operations, "Certain Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut-to-Length Plate From Austria, Belgium, Brazil, the People's Republic of China, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, Japan, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of South Africa, Taiwan, and Turkey: Scope Comments Decision Memorandum for the Preliminary Determinations," dated September 6, 2016 (Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum), and Memorandum to Christian Marsh, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Operations, "Certain Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut-to-Length Plate From Austria, Belgium, Brazil, the People's Republic of China, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, Japan, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of South Africa, Taiwan, and Turkey: Additional Scope Comments Preliminary Decision Memorandum and Extension of Deadlines for Scope Case Briefs and Scope Rebuttal Briefs," dated October 13, 2016 (Additional Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum), respectively.

⁶ See Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum at 2 and 56, and Additional Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum at 10-11 and 20.

7225.40.5130, 7225.40.5160, 7225.40.7000, 7225.99.0010, 7225.99.0090, 7226.11.1000, 7226.11.9060, 7226.19.1000, 7226.19.9000, 7226.91.0500, 7226.91.1530, 7226.91.1560, 7226.91.2530, 7226.91.2560, 7226.91.7000, 7226.91.8000, and 7226.99.0180.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[A-580-887]

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

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce (the Department) preliminarily determines that certain carbon and alloy steel cut-to-length plate (CTL plate) from the Republic of Korea (Korea) is being, or is likely to be, sold in the United States at less than fair value (LTFV). The period of investigation (POI) is April 1, 2015, through March 31, 2016. The estimated weighted-average dumping margins of sales at LTFV are shown in the "Preliminary Determination" section of this notice. Interested parties are invited to

comment on this preliminary determination.

DATES: Effective November 14, 2016.

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SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

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Scope of the Investigation

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² See Memorandum from Christian Marsh, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Operations, to Paul Piquado, Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance, entitled "Decision Memorandum for the Preliminary Determination in the Antidumping Duty Investigation of Certain Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut-To-Length Plate From the Republic of Korea" (Preliminary Decision Memorandum), dated concurrently with this notice.

of the scope of this investigation, see the "Scope of the Investigation," in Appendix I of this notice.

Scope Comments

In accordance with the *Preamble* to the Department's regulations,³ the *Initiation Notice* set aside a period of time for parties to raise issues regarding product coverage, *i.e.*, scope.⁴ Certain interested parties commented on the scope of the concurrent CTL plate investigations as it appeared in the *Initiation Notice*. For a summary of the product coverage comments and rebuttal responses submitted to the records of this and the concurrent CTL plate investigations, and a discussion and analysis of all comments timely received, see the Department's Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum and the Department's Additional Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum.⁵ The Department has preliminarily modified the scope language as it appeared in the *Initiation Notice* to clarify the exclusion for stainless steel plate, corrected two tariff numbers that were misidentified in the Petitions and in the *Initiation Notice*, and modified language pertaining to existing steel plate and hot-rolled flat-rolled steel orders.⁶

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⁶ See Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum at 2 and 56, and Additional Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum at 10-11 and 20.

section 773 of the Act. For a full description of the methodology underlying our preliminary conclusions, see the Preliminary Decision Memorandum.

All-Others Rate

Consistent with sections 733(d)(1)(A)(ii) and 735(c)(5) of the Act, the Department also calculated an estimated all-others rate. Section 735(c)(5)(A) of the Act provides that the estimated all-others rate shall be an amount equal to the weighted average of the estimated weighted-average dumping margins established for exporters and producers individually investigated, excluding any zero and *de minimis* margins, and any margins determined entirely under section 776 of the Act. In this investigation, because we individually investigated only one exporter or producer, we based our calculation of the all-others rate on the weighted-average dumping margin calculated for POSCO.

Preliminary Determination

The Department preliminarily determines that CTL Palte from the Republic of Korea is being, or is likely to be, sold in the United States at LTFV, pursuant to section 733 of the Act, and that the following weighted-average dumping margins exist:

Exporter/ manufacturer	Weighted-average dumping margin (percent)
POSCO and POSCO Daewoo Corporation ...	6.82
All Others	6.82

Suspension of Liquidation

In accordance with section 733(d)(2) of the Act, we will direct U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to suspend liquidation of all entries of subject merchandise from the Republic of Korea, as described in Appendix I of this notice, which are entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after the date of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**.

Pursuant to section 733(d) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.205(d), we will instruct CBP to require cash deposits⁷ equal to the weighted-average amount by which the NV exceeds U.S. price, as indicated in the chart above, adjusted where

⁷ See *Modification of Regulations Regarding the Practice of Accepting Bonds During the Provisional Measures Period in Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Investigations*, 76 FR 61042 (October 3, 2011).

appropriate for export subsidies.⁸ However, the preliminary determination in the concurrent countervailing duty investigation was negative.⁹ Therefore, no adjustments for export subsidies will be applied to the weighted average dumping margin preliminarily calculated for POSCO, and for the all-others rates. The Department will instruct CBP to require cash deposits equal to the weighted average amount by which NV exceeds U.S. price, as indicated in the chart above, as follows: (1) The rate for the mandatory respondent listed above will be the respondent-specific rate we determined in this preliminary determination; (2) if the exporter is not a mandatory respondent identified above, but the producer is, the rate will be the specific rate established for the producer of the subject merchandise; and (3) the rate for all other producers or exporters will be the all-others rate. These suspension of liquidation instructions will remain in effect until further notice.

Disclosure

We intend to disclose the calculations performed to interested parties in this proceeding within five days of the date of publication of this notice in accordance with 19 CFR 351.224(b).

Verification

As provided in section 782(i) of the Act, we intend to verify information relied upon in making our final determination.

Public Comment

Interested parties are invited to comment on this preliminary determination. Case briefs or other written comments may be submitted to the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance no later than seven days after the date on which the final verification report is issued in this proceeding, and rebuttal briefs, limited to issues raised in case briefs, may be submitted no later than five days after

⁸ See Section 772(c)(1)(C) of the Act. Unlike in administrative reviews, the Department calculates the adjustment for export subsidies in investigations not in the margin calculation program, but the cash deposit instructions issued to CBP. See *Notice of Final Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value, and Negative Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value, and Negative Determination of Critical Circumstances: Certain Lined Paper Products from India*, 71 FR 45012 (August 8, 2006), and accompanying Issues and Decision Memorandum at Comment 1.

⁹ See *Certain Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut-to-Length Plate From the Republic of Korea: Preliminary Negative Countervailing Duty Determination and Alignment of Final Determination with Final Antidumping Duty Determination*. 81 FR 63168 (September 14, 2016).

the deadline date for case briefs.¹⁰ Pursuant to 19 CFR 351.309(c)(2) and (d)(2), parties who submit case briefs or rebuttal briefs in this proceeding are encouraged to submit with each argument: (1) A statement of the issue; (2) a brief summary of the argument; and (3) a table of authorities.

The Department established separate deadlines for interested parties to provide comments on scope issues.¹¹ Specifically, case briefs on scope issues were to be submitted no later than October 21, 2016. Scope rebuttal briefs, limited to issues raised in the scope case briefs, were to be submitted no later than November 1, 2016.¹² The Department explained that parties should limit comments on scope issues to their scope case brief and their scope rebuttal brief.¹³ Thus, comments on scope issues belong in parties' scope case briefs and scope rebuttal briefs only and not in other case briefs and rebuttal briefs submitted in this investigation. The Department intends to address parties' scope comments in a final scope memorandum.

Pursuant to 19 CFR 351.310(c), interested parties who wish to request a hearing must submit a written request to the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance, U.S. Department of Commerce. All documents must be filed electronically using ACCESS. An electronically-filed request must be received successfully in its entirety by ACCESS by 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time, within 30 days after the date of publication of this notice. Requests should contain the party's name, address, and telephone number, the number of participants, and a list of the issues to be discussed. If a request for a hearing is made, the Department intends to hold the hearing at the U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20230, at a time and date to be determined. Parties should confirm by telephone the date, time, and location of the hearing two days before the scheduled date.

¹⁰ See 19 CFR 351.309; see also 19 CFR 351.303 (for general filing requirements).

¹¹ See Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum; Additional Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum; Memorandum to the File "Deadlines for Submitting Scope Case Briefs and Scope Rebuttal Briefs," dated October 18, 2016 ("Deadline Memo for Scope Briefs"); and Memorandum to the File "Extension of Deadline for Submitting Scope Rebuttal Briefs," dated October 28, 2016 ("Extension Memo for Scope Rebuttal Briefs").

¹² See Deadline Memo for Scope Briefs and Extension Memo for Scope Rebuttal Briefs.

¹³ See, e.g., Deadline Memo for Scope Briefs.

Postponement of Final Determination and Extension of Provisional Measures

Section 735(a)(2) of the Act provides that a final determination may be postponed until not later than 135 days after the date of the publication of the preliminary determination if, in the event of an affirmative preliminary determination, a request for such postponement is made by exporters who account for a significant proportion of exports of the subject merchandise, or in the event of a negative preliminary determination, a request for such postponement is made by the petitioner. Section 351.210(e)(2) of the Department's regulations requires that requests by respondents for postponement of a final determination be accompanied by a request for extension of provisional measures from a four-month period to a period not more than six months in duration.

Respondent POSCO has requested that, in the event of an affirmative preliminary determination in this investigation, the Department postpone its final determination, *i.e.*, to 135 days after publication of the preliminary determination. Further, POSCO agreed to extend the application of the provisional measures prescribed under section 733(d) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.210(e)(2), from a four-month period to a period not to exceed six months.¹⁴

In accordance with section 735(a)(2)(A) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.210(b)(2)(ii), because (1) our preliminary determination is affirmative; (2) the requesting exporters account for a significant proportion of exports of the subject merchandise; and (3) no compelling reasons for denial exist, we are postponing the final determination until no later than 135 days after the publication of this notice in the **Federal Register** and extending the provisional measures from a four-month period to a period not greater than six months. Accordingly, we will issue our final determination no later than 135 days after the date of publication of this preliminary determination, pursuant to section 735(a)(2) of the Act.¹⁵

International Trade Commission (ITC) Notification

In accordance with section 733(f) of the Act, we are notifying the ITC of our affirmative preliminary determination of sales at LTFV. If our final determination

is affirmative, the ITC will determine before the later of 120 days after the date of this preliminary determination or 45 days after our final determination whether these imports are materially injuring, or threaten material injury to, the U.S. industry.

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

Dated: November 4, 2016.

Paul Piquado,

Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance.

Appendix I—Scope of the Investigation

The products covered by this investigation are certain carbon and alloy steel hot-rolled or forged flat plate products not in coils, whether or not painted, varnished, or coated with plastics or other non-metallic substances (cut-to-length plate). Subject merchandise includes plate that is produced by being cut-to-length from coils or from other discrete length plate and plate that is rolled or forged into a discrete length. The products covered include (1) Universal mill plates (*i.e.*, flat-rolled products rolled on four faces or in a closed box pass, of a width exceeding 150 mm but not exceeding 1250 mm, and of a thickness of not less than 4 mm, which are not in coils and without patterns in relief), and (2) hot-rolled or forged flat steel products of a thickness of 4.75 mm or more and of a width which exceeds 150 mm and measures at least twice the thickness, and which are not in coils, whether or not with patterns in relief. The covered products described above may be rectangular, square, circular or other shapes and include products of either rectangular or non-rectangular cross-section where such non-rectangular cross-section is achieved subsequent to the rolling process, *i.e.*, products which have been "worked after rolling" (*e.g.*, products which have been beveled or rounded at the edges).

For purposes of the width and thickness requirements referenced above, the following rules apply:

(1) Except where otherwise stated where the nominal and actual thickness or width measurements vary, a product from a given subject country is within the scope if application of either the nominal or actual measurement would place it within the scope based on the definitions set forth above unless the product is already covered by an order existing on that specific country (*i.e.*, *Certain Hot Rolled Steel Flat Products From Australia, Brazil, Japan, the Republic of Korea, the Netherlands, the Republic of Turkey, and the United Kingdom: Amended Final Affirmative Antidumping Determination for Australia, the Republic of Korea, and the Republic of Turkey and Antidumping Duty Orders*, 81 FR 67962 (October 3, 2016), and

(2) where the width and thickness vary for a specific product (*e.g.*, the thickness of certain products with non-rectangular cross-section, the width of certain products with non-rectangular shape, *etc.*), the

measurement at its greatest width or thickness applies.

Steel products included in the scope of this investigation are products in which: (1) Iron predominates, by weight, over each of the other contained elements; and (2) the carbon content is 2 percent or less by weight.

Subject merchandise includes cut-to-length plate that has been further processed in the subject country or a third country, including but not limited to pickling, oiling, levelling, annealing, tempering, temper rolling, skin passing, painting, varnishing, trimming, cutting, punching, beveling, and/or slitting, or any other processing that would not otherwise remove the merchandise from the scope of the investigation if performed in the country of manufacture of the cut-to-length plate.

All products that meet the written physical description, are within the scope of this investigation unless specifically excluded or covered by the scope of an existing order. The following products are outside of, and/or specifically excluded from, the scope of this investigation:

(1) Products clad, plated, or coated with metal, whether or not painted, varnished or coated with plastic or other non-metallic substances;

(2) military grade armor plate certified to one of the following specifications or to a specification that references and incorporates one of the following specifications:

- MIL-A-12560,
- MIL-DTL-12560H,
- MIL-DTL-12560J,
- MIL-DTL-12560K,
- MIL-DTL-32332,
- MIL-A-46100D,
- MIL-DTL-46100-E,
- MIL-46177C,
- MIL-S-16216K Grade HY80,
- MIL-S-16216K Grade HY100,
- MIL-S-24645A HSLA-80;
- MIL-S-24645A HSLA-100,
- T9074-BD-GIB-010/0300 Grade HY80,
- T9074-BD-GIB-010/0300 Grade HY100,
- T9074-BD-GIB-010/0300 Grade

HSLA80,

- T9074-BD-GIB-010/0300 Grade

HSLA100, and

- T9074-BD-GIB-010/0300 Mod. Grade

HSLA115,

except that any cut-to-length plate certified to one of the above specifications, or to a military grade armor specification that references and incorporates one of the above specifications, will not be excluded from the scope if it is also dual- or multiple-certified to any other non-armor specification that otherwise would fall within the scope of this order;

(3) stainless steel plate, containing 10.5 percent or more of chromium by weight and not more than 1.2 percent of carbon by weight;

(4) CTL plate meeting the requirements of ASTM A-829, Grade E 4340 that are over 305 mm in actual thickness;

(5) Alloy forged and rolled CTL plate greater than or equal to 152.4 mm in actual thickness meeting each of the following requirements:

(a) Electric furnace melted, ladle refined & vacuum degassed and having a chemical

¹⁴ See Letter from POSCO to Secretary of Commerce Re: Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut to Length Plate from Korea: Request to Postpone the Final Determination dated October 31, 2016 (POSCO Final Postponement Request).

¹⁵ See 19 CFR 351.210(b)(2) and (e).

composition (expressed in weight percentages):

- Carbon 0.23–0.28,
- Silicon 0.05–0.20,
- Manganese 1.20–1.60,
- Nickel not greater than 1.0,
- Sulfur not greater than 0.007,
- Phosphorus not greater than 0.020,
- Chromium 1.0–2.5,
- Molybdenum 0.35–0.80,
- Boron 0.002–0.004,
- Oxygen not greater than 20 ppm,
- Hydrogen not greater than 2 ppm, and
- Nitrogen not greater than 60 ppm;

(b) With a Brinell hardness measured in all parts of the product including mid thickness falling within one of the following ranges:

- (i) 270–300 HBW,
- (ii) 290–320 HBW, or
- (iii) 320–350 HBW;

(c) Having cleanliness in accordance with ASTM E45 method A (Thin and Heavy): A not exceeding 1.5, B not exceeding 1.0, C not exceeding 0.5, D not exceeding 1.5; and

(d) Conforming to ASTM A578–S9 ultrasonic testing requirements with acceptance criteria 2 mm flat bottom hole;

(6) Alloy forged and rolled steel CTL plate over 407 mm in actual thickness and meeting the following requirements:

(a) Made from Electric Arc Furnace melted, Ladle refined & vacuum degassed, alloy steel with the following chemical composition (expressed in weight percentages):

- Carbon 0.23–0.28,
- Silicon 0.05–0.15,
- Manganese 1.20–1.50,
- Nickel not greater than 0.4,
- Sulfur not greater than 0.010,
- Phosphorus not greater than 0.020,
- Chromium 1.20–1.50,
- Molybdenum 0.35–0.55,
- Boron 0.002–0.004,
- Oxygen not greater than 20 ppm,
- Hydrogen not greater than 2 ppm, and
- Nitrogen not greater than 60 ppm;

(b) Having cleanliness in accordance with ASTM E45 method A (Thin and Heavy): A not exceeding 1.5, B not exceeding 1.5, C not exceeding 1.0, D not exceeding 1.5;

(c) Having the following mechanical properties:

(i) With a Brinell hardness not more than 237 HBW measured in all parts of the product including mid thickness; and having a Yield Strength of 75ksi min and UTS 95ksi or more, Elongation of 18% or more and Reduction of area 35% or more; having charpy V at –75 degrees F in the longitudinal direction equal or greater than 15 ft. lbs (single value) and equal or greater than 20 ft. lbs (average of 3 specimens) and conforming to the requirements of NACE MR01–75; or

(ii) With a Brinell hardness not less than 240 HBW measured in all parts of the product including mid thickness; and having a Yield Strength of 90 ksi min and UTS 110 ksi or more, Elongation of 15% or more and Reduction of area 30% or more; having charpy V at –40 degrees F in the longitudinal direction equal or greater than 21 ft. lbs (single value) and equal or greater than 31 ft. lbs (average of 3 specimens);

(d) Conforming to ASTM A578–S9 ultrasonic testing requirements with

acceptance criteria 3.2 mm flat bottom hole; and

(e) Conforming to magnetic particle inspection in accordance with AMS 2301;

(7) Alloy forged and rolled steel CTL plate over 407 mm in actual thickness and meeting the following requirements:

(a) Made from Electric Arc Furnace melted, ladle refined & vacuum degassed, alloy steel with the following chemical composition (expressed in weight percentages):

- Carbon 0.25–0.30,
- Silicon not greater than 0.25,
- Manganese not greater than 0.50,
- Nickel 3.0–3.5,
- Sulfur not greater than 0.010,
- Phosphorus not greater than 0.020,
- Chromium 1.0–1.5,
- Molybdenum 0.6–0.9,
- Vanadium 0.08 to 0.12
- Boron 0.002–0.004,
- Oxygen not greater than 20 ppm,
- Hydrogen not greater than 2 ppm, and
- Nitrogen not greater than 60 ppm.

(b) Having cleanliness in accordance with ASTM E45 method A (Thin and Heavy): A not exceeding 1.0(t) and 0.5(h), B not exceeding 1.5(t) and 1.0(h), C not exceeding 1.0(t) and 0.5(h), and D not exceeding 1.5(t) and 1.0(h);

(c) Having the following mechanical properties: A Brinell hardness not less than 350 HBW measured in all parts of the product including mid thickness; and having a Yield Strength of 145ksi or more and UTS 160ksi or more, Elongation of 15% or more and Reduction of area 35% or more; having charpy V at –40 degrees F in the transverse direction equal or greater than 20 ft. lbs (single value) and equal or greater than 25 ft. lbs (average of 3 specimens);

(d) Conforming to ASTM A578–S9 ultrasonic testing requirements with acceptance criteria 3.2 mm flat bottom hole; and

(e) Conforming to magnetic particle inspection in accordance with AMS 2301.

At the time of the filing of the petition, there was an existing antidumping duty order on certain cut-to-length carbon-quality steel plate products from Korea. *See Notice of Final Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value: Certain Cut-To-Length Carbon-Quality Steel Plate Products from Korea*, 64 FR 73,196 (Dep't Commerce Dec. 29, 1999), as amended, 65 FR 6,585 (Dep't Commerce Feb 10, 2000) (1999 Korea AD Order). The scope of the antidumping duty investigation with regard to cut-to-length plate from Korea covers only (1) subject cut-to-length plate not within the physical description of cut-to-length carbon quality steel plate in the 1999 Korea AD Order, regardless of producer or exporter; and (2) cut-to-length plate produced and/or exported by those companies that were excluded or revoked from the 1999 Korea AD Order as of April 8, 2016. The only revoked or excluded company is Pohang Iron and Steel Company, also known as POSCO.

The products subject to the investigation are currently classified in the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) under item numbers: 7208.40.3030, 7208.40.3060, 7208.51.0030, 7208.51.0045, 7208.51.0060, 7208.52.0000, 7211.13.0000, 7211.14.0030, 7211.14.0045, 7225.40.1110,

7225.40.1180, 7225.40.3005, 7225.40.3050, 7226.20.0000, and 7226.91.5000.

The products subject to the investigation may also enter under the following HTSUS item numbers: 7208.40.6060, 7208.53.0000, 7208.90.0000, 7210.70.3000, 7210.90.9000, 7211.19.1500, 7211.19.2000, 7211.19.4500, 7211.19.6000, 7211.19.7590, 7211.90.0000, 7212.40.1000, 7212.40.5000, 7212.50.0000, 7214.10.0000, 7214.30.0010, 7214.30.0080, 7214.91.0015, 7214.91.0060, 7214.91.0090, 7225.11.0000, 7225.19.0000, 7225.40.5110, 7225.40.5130, 7225.40.5160, 7225.40.7000, 7225.99.0010, 7225.99.0090, 7226.11.1000, 7226.11.9060, 7226.19.1000, 7226.19.9000, 7226.91.0500, 7226.91.1530, 7226.91.1560, 7226.91.2530, 7226.91.2560, 7226.91.7000, 7226.91.8000, and 7226.99.0180.

The HTSUS subheadings above are provided for convenience and customs purposes only. The written description of the scope of the investigation is dispositive

Appendix II—List of Topics

Discussed in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum

1. Summary
2. Background
3. Period of Investigation
4. Preliminary Determination of Critical Circumstances
5. Postponement of Final Determination and Extension of Provisional Measures
6. Scope Comments
7. Affiliation and Collapsing
8. Discussion of the Methodology
 - a. Determination of Comparison Method
 - b. Results of the Differential Pricing Analysis
9. Date of Sale
10. Product Comparisons
11. Export Price/Constructed Export Price
12. Normal Value
 - a. Home Market Viability
 - b. Level of Trade
 - c. Cost of Production Analysis
 1. Calculation of COP
 2. Test of Comparison Market Sales Prices
 3. Results of the COP Test
 - d. Calculation of NV Based on Comparison-Market Prices
13. Currency Conversion
14. Conclusion

[FR Doc. 2016–27311 Filed 11–10–16; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[A–570–967, C–570–968]

Aluminum Extrusions From the People's Republic of China: Affirmative Preliminary Determination of Circumvention of the Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Orders and Intent To Rescind Minor Alterations Anti-Circumvention Inquiry

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

we preliminarily find that all imports from the PRC of heat-treated extruded aluminum products that meet the chemical specifications for 5050-grade aluminum alloy, regardless of producer, exporter, or importer, constitute later-developed merchandise that is circumventing, and should be included within, the scope of the *Orders*.⁵ In addition, if in our final determination we affirm our preliminary determination pursuant to section 781(d) of the Act, the Department intends to rescind its minor alterations anti-circumvention inquiry pursuant to section 781(c) of the Act.

Suspension of Liquidation

In accordance with 19 CFR 351.225(l)(2), the Department will direct U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to suspend liquidation of inquiry merchandise from the PRC (regardless of producer, exporter, or importer), entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption, on or after March 21, 2016, the date of publication of the initiation of this inquiry. The Department will also instruct CBP to require a cash deposit of estimated duties at the rate applicable to the exporter, on all unliquidated entries of inquiry merchandise entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after March 21, 2016.

Intent To Consider Certification Requirement

In light of the Department's preliminary finding of circumvention, the Department intends to consider whether to require importers of certain aluminum extrusions who claim their merchandise is not subject to the *Orders* to maintain a certification certifying that their aluminum extrusions were not produced from heat-treated 5050 grade aluminum alloy. The Department intends to invite comments on this issue.

Notification to the International Trade Commission

As discussed in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum, because the Department has preliminarily determined, for purposes of sections 781(d)(1) and (e) of the Act, that the inquiry merchandise does not incorporate a significant technological advance or significant alteration of an earlier product, the Department is not notifying the ITC of its preliminary determination.

⁵ See section 781(d) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.225(i).

Public Comment

The Department may solicit new factual information in this inquiry. Additionally, should a party seek to submit new factual information, the Department intends to consider requests to accept new factual information on a case-by-case basis.

The Department will invite comments on this preliminary determination and issue a memorandum establishing a briefing schedule. Interested parties may submit case briefs and rebuttal briefs within the designated timeframe outlined in the memorandum. Rebuttals to case briefs are limited to issues raised in the case briefs. Parties who submit case or rebuttal briefs are requested to submit with the argument: (a) A statement of the issue, (b) a brief summary of the argument, and (c) a table of authorities. Parties submitting briefs should do so using the Department's electronic filing system, ACCESS.

Interested parties who wish to request a hearing must submit a written request to the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance, U.S. Department of Commerce, filed electronically using ACCESS. A written request for a hearing must be received successfully in its entirety by the Department's electronic records system, ACCESS, by 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time, within 30 days after the date of publication of this notice.⁶ Hearing requests should contain the party's name, address, and telephone number, the number of participants, and a list of the issues parties intend to present at the hearing. If a request for a hearing is made, the Department intends to hold the hearing at the U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20230, at a time and location to be determined.

Final Determination

Pursuant to section 781(f) of the Act, the final determination with respect to this anti-circumvention inquiry, including the results of the Department's analysis of any written comments, will be issued no later than January 9, 2017, unless extended.⁷

This preliminary affirmative anti-circumvention determination is published in accordance with section 781(d) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.225.

⁶ See 19 CFR 351.310(c).

⁷ This date reflect the next business day after the 300 day deadline of January 8, 2017. See *Notice of Clarification: Application of "Next Business Day" Rule for Administrative Determination Deadlines Pursuant to the Tariff Act of 1930, As Amended*, 70 FR 24533 (May 10, 2005).

Dated: November 3, 2016.

Paul Piquado,

Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance.

Appendix—List of Topics Discussed in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum

- I. Summary
- II. Background
- III. Scope of the Orders
- IV. Merchandise Subject to the Anti-Circumvention Inquiry
- V. Later-Developed Merchandise Anti-Circumvention Inquiry
- VI. Use of Facts Available with an Adverse Inference
- VII. Analysis
 - A. Commercial Availability
 - B. Same General Physical Characteristics
 - C. Expectations of the Ultimate Purchasers and Use of Merchandise
 - D. Advertisement, Display, and Channels of Trade
 - E. Additional Analysis
- VIII. Preliminary Determination
- IX. Intent to Rescind Minor Alterations Anti-Circumvention Inquiry
- X. Intent To Consider Certification Requirement
- XI. Recommendation

[FR Doc. 2016-27346 Filed 11-10-16; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[A-428-844]

Certain Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut-to-Length Plate From the Federal Republic of Germany: Preliminary Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value and Postponement of Final Determination

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

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce (the Department) preliminarily determines that certain carbon and alloy steel cut-to-length plate (CTL plate) from the Federal Republic of Germany (Germany) is being, or is likely to be, sold in the United States at less than fair value (LTFV). The period of investigation (POI) is April 1, 2015, through March 31, 2016. The estimated weighted-average dumping margins of sales at LTFV are shown in the "Preliminary Determination" section of this notice. Interested parties are invited to comment on this preliminary determination.

DATES: Effective November 14, 2016.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ross Belliveau or David J. Goldberger, AD/CVD Operations, Office II, Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade

Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482-4952 or (202) 482-4136, respectively.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The Department initiated this investigation on April 28, 2016.¹ For a complete description of the events that followed the initiation of this investigation, see the memorandum that is dated concurrently with this determination and hereby adopted by this notice.² A list of topics in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum is included as Appendix II to this notice.

The Preliminary Decision Memorandum is a public document and is made available to the public via Enforcement and Compliance's Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Centralized Electronic Service System (ACCESS). ACCESS is available to registered users at <https://access.trade.gov>, and is available to all parties in the Department's Central Records Unit, Room B8024 of the main Department of Commerce building. In addition, a complete version of the Preliminary Decision Memorandum can be accessed directly on the internet at <http://enforcement.trade.gov/frn/>. The signed Preliminary Decision Memorandum and the electronic version of the Preliminary Decision Memorandum are identical in content.

Scope of the Investigation

The product covered by this investigation is CTL plate from Germany. For a full description of the scope of this investigation, see the "Scope of the Investigation," in Appendix I of this notice.

Scope Comments

In accordance with the *Preamble* to the Department's regulations,³ the *Initiation Notice* set aside a period of

¹ See *Certain Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut-to-Length Plate From Austria, Belgium, Brazil, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, Japan, the Republic of Korea, the People's Republic of China, South Africa, Taiwan, and the Republic of Turkey: Initiation of Less-Than-Fair Value Investigations*, 81 FR 27089 (May 5, 2016) (*Initiation Notice*).

² See Memorandum from Christian Marsh, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Operations, to Paul Piquado, Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance, entitled "Decision Memorandum for the Preliminary Determination in the Antidumping Duty Investigation of Certain Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut-To-Length Plate From Germany" (Preliminary Decision Memorandum), dated concurrently with this notice.

³ See *Antidumping Duties; Countervailing Duties; Final rule*, 62 FR 27296, 27323 (May 19, 1997) (*Preamble*).

time for parties to raise issues regarding product coverage, *i.e.*, scope.⁴ Certain interested parties commented on the scope of the concurrent CTL plate investigations as it appeared in the *Initiation Notice*. For a summary of the product coverage comments and rebuttal responses submitted to the records of this and the concurrent CTL plate investigations, and a discussion and analysis of all comments timely received, see the Department's Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum and the Department's Additional Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum.⁵ The Department has preliminarily modified the scope language as it appeared in the *Initiation Notice* to clarify the exclusion for stainless steel plate, corrected two tariff numbers that were misidentified in the Petitions and in the *Initiation Notice*, and modified language pertaining to existing steel plate and hot-rolled flat-rolled steel orders.⁶

Methodology

The Department is conducting this investigation in accordance with section 731 of the Act. There are two mandatory respondents participating in this investigation, AG der Dillinger Hüttenwerke (Dillinger) and Ilseburger Grobblech GmbH, Salzgitter Mannesmann Grobblech GmbH, Salzgitter Flachstahl GmbH, and Salzgitter Mannesmann International GmbH (collectively, Salzgitter).⁷ Export price and, where appropriate,

⁴ See *Initiation Notice*, 81 FR at 27090.

⁵ See Memorandum to Christian Marsh, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Operations, entitled, "Certain Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut-to-Length Plate From Austria, Belgium, Brazil, the People's Republic of China, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, Japan, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of South Africa, Taiwan, and Turkey: Scope Comments Decision Memorandum for the Preliminary Determinations," dated September 6, 2016 (Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum), and Memorandum to Christian Marsh, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Operations, entitled, "Certain Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut-to-Length Plate From Austria, Belgium, Brazil, the People's Republic of China, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, Japan, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of South Africa, Taiwan, and Turkey: Additional Scope Comments Preliminary Decision Memorandum and Extension of Deadlines for Scope Case Briefs and Scope Rebuttal Briefs," dated October 13, 2016 (Additional Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum), respectively.

⁶ See Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum at 2 and 56, and Additional Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum at 10-11 and 20.

⁷ See Memorandum to Melissa G. Skinner, Director, AD/CVD Operations Office II, entitled, "Whether to Collapse Salzgitter Mannesmann International GmbH and its Affiliated Producers in the Antidumping Duty Investigation of Certain Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut-to-Length Plate (CTL Plate) from the Federal Republic of Germany (Germany)," dated October 27, 2016.

constructed export price, are calculated in accordance with section 772 of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act). Normal value (NV) is calculated in accordance with section 773 of the Act. For a full description of the methodology underlying our preliminary conclusions, see the Preliminary Decision Memorandum.

All-Others Rate

Consistent with sections 733(d)(1)(A)(ii) and 735(c)(5) of the Act, the Department also calculated an estimated all-others rate. Section 735(c)(5)(A) of the Act provides that the estimated all-others rate shall be an amount equal to the weighted average of the estimated weighted-average dumping margins established for exporters and producers individually investigated, excluding any zero, and *de minimis* margins, and any margins determined entirely under section 776 of the Act. Because we calculated a *de minimis* weighted average dumping margin for Salzgitter, we have based the all-others rate on the estimated weighted-average dumping margin calculated for Dillinger, the other mandatory respondent in this investigation.

Preliminary Determination

The Department preliminarily determines that CTL plate from Germany is being, or is likely to be, sold in the United States at LTFV, pursuant to section 733 of the Act, and that the following estimated weighted-average dumping margins exist:

Exporter/manufacture	Weighted-average dumping margin (percent)
AG der Dillinger Hüttenwerke	6.56
Ilseburger Grobblech GmbH, Salzgitter Mannesmann Grobblech GmbH, Salzgitter Flachstahl GmbH, and Salzgitter Mannesmann International GmbH	0.00
All-Others	6.56

Suspension of Liquidation

In accordance with section 733(d)(2) of the Act, we will direct U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to suspend liquidation of all entries of subject merchandise from Germany, with the exception of those produced and/or exported by Salzgitter, as described in Appendix I of this notice, which are entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after the date of publication of this notice in the **Federal**

Register. Because the estimated preliminary weighted-average dumping margin for Salzgitter is zero, we are not directing CBP to suspend liquidation of entries of the merchandise it produced and/or exported.

Pursuant to section 733(d) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.205(d), we will instruct CBP to require cash deposits⁸ equal to the weighted-average amount by which the NV exceeds U.S. price, as indicated in the chart above, as follows: (1) The rate for the mandatory respondents listed above will be the respondent-specific rates we determined in this preliminary determination; (2) if the exporter is not a mandatory respondent identified above, but the producer is, the rate will be the specific rate established for the producer of the subject merchandise; and (3) the rate for all other producers or exporters will be the all-others rate. These suspension of liquidation instructions will remain in effect until further notice.

Disclosure

We intend to disclose the calculations performed to interested parties in this proceeding within five days of the date of the public announcement of this notice in accordance with 19 CFR 351.224(b).

Verification

As provided in section 782(i) of the Act, we intend to verify information relied upon in making our final determination.

Public Comment

Interested parties are invited to comment on this preliminary determination. Case briefs or other written comments may be submitted to the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance no later than seven days after the date on which the final verification report is issued in this proceeding, and rebuttal briefs, limited to issues raised in case briefs, may be submitted no later than five days after the deadline date for case briefs.⁹ Pursuant to 19 CFR 351.309(c)(2) and (d)(2), parties who submit case briefs or rebuttal briefs in this proceeding are encouraged to submit with each argument: (1) A statement of the issue; (2) a brief summary of the argument; and (3) a table of authorities.

The Department established separate deadlines for interested parties to

provide comments on scope issues.¹⁰ Specifically, case briefs on scope issues were to be submitted no later than October 21, 2016. Scope rebuttal briefs, limited to issues raised in the scope case briefs, were to be submitted no later than November 1, 2016.¹¹ The Department explained that parties should limit comments on scope issues to their scope case brief and their scope rebuttal brief.¹² Thus, comments on scope issues belong in parties' scope case briefs and scope rebuttal briefs only and not in other case briefs and rebuttal briefs submitted in this investigation. The Department intends to address parties' scope comments in a final scope memorandum.

Pursuant to 19 CFR 351.310(c), interested parties who wish to request a hearing must submit a written request to the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance, U.S. Department of Commerce within 30 days after the date of publication of this notice. Requests should contain the party's name, address, and telephone number, the number of participants, and a list of the issues to be discussed. If a request for a hearing is made, the Department intends to hold the hearing at the U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20230, at a time and date to be determined. Parties should confirm by telephone the date, time, and location of the hearing two days before the scheduled date.

All documents must be filed electronically using ACCESS. An electronically-filed request must be received successfully in its entirety by ACCESS by 5:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time.

Postponement of Final Determination and Extension of Provisional Measures

Section 735(a)(2) of the Act provides that a final determination may be postponed until not later than 135 days after the date of the publication of the preliminary determination if, in the event of an affirmative preliminary determination, a request for such postponement is made by exporters who account for a significant proportion of exports of the subject merchandise, or in the event of a negative preliminary

determination, a request for such postponement is made by the petitioner. 19 CFR 351.210(e)(2) requires that requests by respondents for postponement of a final determination be accompanied by a request for extension of provisional measures from a four-month period to a period not more than six months in duration.

Respondents Dillinger and Salzgitter have requested that, in the event of an affirmative preliminary determination in this investigation, the Department postpone its final determination by 60 days (*i.e.*, to 135 days after publication of the preliminary determination).¹³ Further, Salzgitter agreed to extend the application of the provisional measures prescribed under section 733(d) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.210(e)(2), from a four-month period to a period not to exceed six months.

In accordance with section 735(a)(2)(A) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.210(b)(2)(ii), because (1) our preliminary determination is affirmative; (2) Salzgitter accounts for a significant proportion of exports of the subject merchandise; and (3) no compelling reasons for denial exist, we are postponing the final determination until no later than 135 days after the publication of this notice in the **Federal Register** and extending the provisional measures from a four-month period to a period not greater than six months. Accordingly, we will issue our final determination no later than 135 days after the date of publication of this preliminary determination, pursuant to section 735(a)(2) of the Act.¹⁴

International Trade Commission (ITC) Notification

In accordance with section 733(f) of the Act, we are notifying the ITC of our affirmative preliminary determination of sales at LTFV. If our final determination is affirmative, the ITC will determine before the later of 120 days after the date of this preliminary determination or 45 days after our final determination whether these imports are materially injuring, or threaten material injury to, the U.S. industry.

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

⁸ See *Modification of Regulations Regarding the Practice of Accepting Bonds During the Provisional Measures Period in Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Investigations*, 76 FR 61042 (October 3, 2011).

⁹ See 19 CFR 351.309; see also 19 CFR 351.303 (for general filing requirements).

¹⁰ See Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum; Additional Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum; Memorandum to the File "Deadlines for Submitting Scope Case Briefs and Scope Rebuttal Briefs," dated October 18, 2016 (Deadline Memo for Scope Briefs); and Memorandum to the File "Extension of Deadline for Submitting Scope Rebuttal Briefs," dated October 28, 2016 (Extension Memo for Scope Rebuttal Briefs).

¹¹ See Deadline Memo for Scope Briefs and Extension Memo for Scope Rebuttal Briefs.

¹² See *e.g.*, Deadline Memo for Scope Briefs.

¹³ See letter from Dillinger entitled, "Certain Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut-To-Length Plate from the Federal Republic of Germany: Request for Extension of Final Determination," dated October 17, 2016; and letter from Salzgitter entitled, "Antidumping Duty Investigation of Certain Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut-to-Length Plate from the Federal Republic of Germany ("Germany"): Request to Postpone Final Determination," dated October 20, 2016.

¹⁴ See 19 CFR 351.210(b)(2) and (e).

Dated: November 4, 2016.

Paul Piquado,

Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance.

Appendix I—Scope of the Investigation

The products covered by this investigation are certain carbon and alloy steel hot-rolled or forged flat plate products not in coils, whether or not painted, varnished, or coated with plastics or other non-metallic substances (cut-to-length plate). Subject merchandise includes plate that is produced by being cut-to-length from coils or from other discrete length plate and plate that is rolled or forged into a discrete length. The products covered include (1) Universal mill plates (*i.e.*, flat-rolled products rolled on four faces or in a closed box pass, of a width exceeding 150 mm but not exceeding 1250 mm, and of a thickness of not less than 4 mm, which are not in coils and without patterns in relief), and (2) hot-rolled or forged flat steel products of a thickness of 4.75 mm or more and of a width which exceeds 150 mm and measures at least twice the thickness, and which are not in coils, whether or not with patterns in relief. The covered products described above may be rectangular, square, circular or other shapes and include products of either rectangular or non-rectangular cross-section where such non-rectangular cross-section is achieved subsequent to the rolling process, *i.e.*, products which have been “worked after rolling” (*e.g.*, products which have been beveled or rounded at the edges).

For purposes of the width and thickness requirements referenced above, the following rules apply:

(1) Except where otherwise stated where the nominal and actual thickness or width measurements vary, a product from a given subject country is within the scope if application of either the nominal or actual measurement would place it within the scope based on the definitions set forth above; and

(2) where the width and thickness vary for a specific product (*e.g.*, the thickness of certain products with non-rectangular cross-section, the width of certain products with non-rectangular shape, *etc.*), the measurement at its greatest width or thickness applies.

Steel products included in the scope of this investigation are products in which: (1) Iron predominates, by weight, over each of the other contained elements; and (2) the carbon content is 2 percent or less by weight.

Subject merchandise includes cut-to-length plate that has been further processed in the subject country or a third country, including but not limited to pickling, oiling, levelling, annealing, tempering, temper rolling, skin passing, painting, varnishing, trimming, cutting, punching, beveling, and/or slitting, or any other processing that would not otherwise remove the merchandise from the scope of the investigation if performed in the country of manufacture of the cut-to-length plate.

All products that meet the written physical description, are within the scope of this investigation unless specifically excluded or covered by the scope of an existing order. The following products are outside of, and/

or specifically excluded from, the scope of this investigation:

(1) Products clad, plated, or coated with metal, whether or not painted, varnished or coated with plastic or other non-metallic substances;

(2) military grade armor plate certified to one of the following specifications or to a specification that references and incorporates one of the following specifications:

- MIL-A-12560,
- MIL-DTL-12560H,
- MIL-DTL-12560J,
- MIL-DTL-12560K,
- MIL-DTL-32332,
- MIL-A-46100D,
- MIL-DTL-46100-E,
- MIL-46177C,
- MIL-S-16216K Grade HY80,
- MIL-S-16216K Grade HY100,
- MIL-S-24645A HSLA-80;
- MIL-S-24645A HSLA-100,
- T9074-BD-GIB-010/0300 Grade HY80,
- T9074-BD-GIB-010/0300 Grade HY100,
- T9074-BD-GIB-010/0300 Grade HSLA80,
- T9074-BD-GIB-010/0300 Grade HSLA100, and
- T9074-BD-GIB-010/0300 Mod. Grade HSLA115,

except that any cut-to-length plate certified to one of the above specifications, or to a military grade armor specification that references and incorporates one of the above specifications, will not be excluded from the scope if it is also dual- or multiple-certified to any other non-armor specification that otherwise would fall within the scope of this order;

(3) stainless steel plate, containing 10.5 percent or more of chromium by weight and not more than 1.2 percent of carbon by weight;

(4) CTL plate meeting the requirements of ASTM A-829, Grade E 4340 that are over 305 mm in actual thickness;

(5) Alloy forged and rolled CTL plate greater than or equal to 152.4 mm in actual thickness meeting each of the following requirements:

(a) Electric furnace melted, ladle refined & vacuum degassed and having a chemical composition (expressed in weight percentages):

- Carbon 0.23–0.28,
- Silicon 0.05–0.20,
- Manganese 1.20–1.60,
- Nickel not greater than 1.0,
- Sulfur not greater than 0.007,
- Phosphorus not greater than 0.020,
- Chromium 1.0–2.5,
- Molybdenum 0.35–0.80,
- Boron 0.002–0.004,
- Oxygen not greater than 20 ppm,
- Hydrogen not greater than 2 ppm, and
- Nitrogen not greater than 60 ppm;

(b) With a Brinell hardness measured in all parts of the product including mid thickness falling within one of the following ranges:

- (i) 270–300 HBW,
- (ii) 290–320 HBW, or
- (iii) 320–350HBW;

(c) Having cleanliness in accordance with ASTM E45 method A (Thin and Heavy): A not exceeding 1.5, B not exceeding 1.0, C not exceeding 0.5, D not exceeding 1.5; and

(d) Conforming to ASTM A578–S9 ultrasonic testing requirements with acceptance criteria 2 mm flat bottom hole;

(6) Alloy forged and rolled steel CTL plate over 407 mm in actual thickness and meeting the following requirements:

(a) Made from Electric Arc Furnace melted, Ladle refined & vacuum degassed, alloy steel with the following chemical composition (expressed in weight percentages):

- Carbon 0.23–0.28,
- Silicon 0.05–0.15,
- Manganese 1.20–1.50,
- Nickel not greater than 0.4,
- Sulfur not greater than 0.010,
- Phosphorus not greater than 0.020,
- Chromium 1.20–1.50,
- Molybdenum 0.35–0.55,
- Boron 0.002–0.004,
- Oxygen not greater than 20 ppm,
- Hydrogen not greater than 2 ppm, and
- Nitrogen not greater than 60 ppm;

(b) Having cleanliness in accordance with ASTM E45 method A (Thin and Heavy): A not exceeding 1.5, B not exceeding 1.5, C not exceeding 1.0, D not exceeding 1.5;

(c) Having the following mechanical properties:

(i) With a Brinell hardness not more than 237 HBW measured in all parts of the product including mid thickness; and having a Yield Strength of 75ksi min and UTS 95ksi or more, Elongation of 18% or more and Reduction of area 35% or more; having charpy V at –75 degrees F in the longitudinal direction equal or greater than 15 ft. lbs (single value) and equal or greater than 20 ft. lbs (average of 3 specimens) and conforming to the requirements of NACE MR01-75; or

(ii) With a Brinell hardness not less than 240 HBW measured in all parts of the product including mid thickness; and having a Yield Strength of 90 ksi min and UTS 110 ksi or more, Elongation of 15% or more and Reduction of area 30% or more; having charpy V at –40 degrees F in the longitudinal direction equal or greater than 21 ft. lbs (single value) and equal or greater than 31 ft. lbs (average of 3 specimens);

(d) Conforming to ASTM A578–S9 ultrasonic testing requirements with acceptance criteria 3.2 mm flat bottom hole; and

(e) Conforming to magnetic particle inspection in accordance with AMS 2301;

(7) Alloy forged and rolled steel CTL plate over 407 mm in actual thickness and meeting the following requirements:

(a) Made from Electric Arc Furnace melted, Ladle refined & vacuum degassed, alloy steel with the following chemical composition (expressed in weight percentages):

- Carbon 0.23–0.28,
- Silicon 0.05–0.15,
- Manganese 1.20–1.50,
- Nickel not greater than 0.4,
- Sulfur not greater than 0.010,
- Phosphorus not greater than 0.020,
- Chromium 1.20–1.50,
- Molybdenum 0.35–0.55,
- Boron 0.002–0.004,
- Oxygen not greater than 20 ppm,
- Hydrogen not greater than 2 ppm, and
- Nitrogen not greater than 60 ppm;

(b) Having cleanliness in accordance with ASTM E45 method A (Thin and Heavy): A

not exceeding 1.5, B not exceeding 1.5, C not exceeding 1.0, D not exceeding 1.5;

(c) Having the following mechanical properties:

(i) With a Brinell hardness not more than 237 HBW measured in all parts of the product including mid thickness; and having a Yield Strength of 75ksi min and UTS 95ksi or more, Elongation of 18% or more and Reduction of area 35% or more; having Charpy V at -75 degrees F in the longitudinal direction equal or greater than 15 ft. lbs (single value) and equal or greater than 20 ft. lbs (average of 3 specimens) and conforming to the requirements of NACE MR01-75; or

(ii) With a Brinell hardness not less than 240 HBW measured in all parts of the product including mid thickness; and having a Yield Strength of 90 ksi min and UTS 110 ksi or more, Elongation of 15% or more and Reduction of area 30% or more; having Charpy V at -40 degrees F in the longitudinal direction equal or greater than 21 ft. lbs (single value) and equal or greater than 31 ft. lbs (average of 3 specimens);

(d) Conforming to ASTM A578-S9 ultrasonic testing requirements with acceptance criteria 3.2 mm flat bottom hole; and

(e) Conforming to magnetic particle inspection in accordance with AMS 2301;

(7) Alloy forged and rolled steel CTL plate over 407 mm in actual thickness and meeting the following requirements:

(a) Made from Electric Arc Furnace melted, ladle refined & vacuum degassed, alloy steel with the following chemical composition (expressed in weight percentages):

- Carbon 0.25–0.30,
- Silicon not greater than 0.25,
- Manganese not greater than 0.50,
- Nickel 3.0–3.5,
- Sulfur not greater than 0.010,
- Phosphorus not greater than 0.020,
- Chromium 1.0–1.5,
- Molybdenum 0.6–0.9,
- Vanadium 0.08 to 0.12
- Boron 0.002–0.004,
- Oxygen not greater than 20 ppm,
- Hydrogen not greater than 2 ppm, and
- Nitrogen not greater than 60 ppm.

(b) Having cleanliness in accordance with ASTM E45 method A (Thin and Heavy): A not exceeding 1.0(t) and 0.5(h), B not exceeding 1.5(t) and 1.0(h), C not exceeding 1.0(t) and 0.5(h), and D not exceeding 1.5(t) and 1.0(h);

(c) Having the following mechanical properties: A Brinell hardness not less than 350 HBW measured in all parts of the product including mid thickness; and having a Yield Strength of 145ksi or more and UTS 160ksi or more, Elongation of 15% or more and Reduction of area 35% or more; having Charpy V at -40 degrees F in the transverse direction equal or greater than 20 ft. lbs (single value) and equal or greater than 25 ft. lbs (average of 3 specimens);

(d) Conforming to ASTM A578-S9 ultrasonic testing requirements with acceptance criteria 3.2 mm flat bottom hole; and

(e) Conforming to magnetic particle inspection in accordance with AMS 2301.

The products subject to the investigation are currently classified in the Harmonized

Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) under item numbers: 7208.40.3030, 7208.40.3060, 7208.51.0030, 7208.51.0045, 7208.51.0060, 7208.52.0000, 7211.13.0000, 7211.14.0030, 7211.14.0045, 7225.40.1110, 7225.40.1180, 7225.40.3005, 7225.40.3050, 7226.20.0000, and 7226.91.5000.

The products subject to the investigation may also enter under the following HTSUS item numbers: 7208.40.6060, 7208.53.0000, 7208.90.0000, 7210.70.3000, 7210.90.9000, 7211.19.1500, 7211.19.2000, 7211.19.4500, 7211.19.6000, 7211.19.7590, 7211.90.0000, 7212.40.1000, 7212.40.5000, 7212.50.0000, 7214.10.0000, 7214.30.0010, 7214.30.0080, 7214.91.0015, 7214.91.0060, 7214.91.0090, 7225.11.0000, 7225.19.0000, 7225.40.5110, 7225.40.5130, 7225.40.5160, 7225.40.7000, 7225.99.0010, 7225.99.0090, 7226.11.1000, 7226.11.9060, 7226.19.1000, 7226.19.9000, 7226.91.0500, 7226.91.1530, 7226.91.1560, 7226.91.2530, 7226.91.2560, 7226.91.7000, 7226.91.8000, and 7226.99.0180.

The HTSUS subheadings above are provided for convenience and customs purposes only. The written description of the scope of the investigation is dispositive.

Appendix II—List of Topics Discussed in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum

- I. Summary
- II. Background
- III. Period of Investigation
- IV. Scope Comments
- V. Discussion of the Methodology
 - a. Determination of Comparison Method
 - b. Results of the Differential Pricing Analysis
- VI. Date of Sale
- VII. Product Comparisons
- VIII. Export Price/Constructed Export Price
- IX. Normal Value
 - a. Home Market Viability
 - b. Affiliated-Party Transactions and Arm's-Length Test
 - c. Level of Trade
 - d. Cost of Production Analysis
 1. Calculation of COP
 2. Test of Comparison Market Sales Prices
 3. Results of the COP Test
 - e. Calculation of NV Based on Comparison-Market Prices
 - f. Price-to-Constructed Value Comparison
- X. Currency Conversion
- XI. Conclusion

[FR Doc. 2016-27313 Filed 11-10-16; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-DS-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[A-570-047]

Certain Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut-To-Length Plate From the People's Republic of China: Preliminary Affirmative Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value

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

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce ("Department") preliminarily determines that certain carbon and alloy steel cut-to-length plate ("CTL plate") from the People's Republic of China ("PRC") is being, or is likely to be, sold in the United States at less than fair value ("LTFV"). The period of investigation ("POI") is October 1, 2015, through March 31, 2016. The estimated dumping margin of sales at LTFV is shown in the "Preliminary Determination" section of this notice. Interested parties are invited to comment on this preliminary determination.

DATES: Effective November 14, 2016.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Irene Gorelik, AD/CVD Operations, Office VIII, Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482-6905.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The Department initiated this investigation on April 28, 2016.¹ For a complete description of the events that followed the initiation of this investigation, see the memorandum that is dated concurrently with this determination and hereby adopted by this notice.² A list of topics in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum is included as Appendix II to this notice.

The Preliminary Decision Memorandum is a public document and is made available to the public via Enforcement and Compliance's Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Centralized Electronic Service System ("ACCESS"). ACCESS is available to registered users at <https://access.trade.gov>, and is available to all parties in the Department's Central Records Unit, room B8024 of the main Department of Commerce building. In addition, a complete version of the Preliminary Decision Memorandum can be accessed directly on the internet at

¹ See *Certain Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut-To-Length Plate From Austria, Belgium, Brazil, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, Japan, the Republic of Korea, the People's Republic of China, South Africa, Taiwan, and the Republic of Turkey: Initiation of Less-Than-Fair-Value Investigations*, 81 FR 27089 (May 5, 2016) ("Initiation Notice").

² See Memorandum from Christian Marsh, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Operations, to Paul Piquado, Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance, re: "Decision Memorandum for the Preliminary Determination in the Antidumping Duty Investigation of Certain Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut-To-Length Plate from the People's Republic of China" ("Preliminary Decision Memorandum").

not exceeding 1.5, B not exceeding 1.5, C not exceeding 1.0, D not exceeding 1.5;

(c) Having the following mechanical properties:

(i) With a Brinell hardness not more than 237 HBW measured in all parts of the product including mid thickness; and having a Yield Strength of 75ksi min and UTS 95ksi or more, Elongation of 18% or more and Reduction of area 35% or more; having charpy V at -75 degrees F in the longitudinal direction equal or greater than 15 ft. lbs (single value) and equal or greater than 20 ft. lbs (average of 3 specimens) and conforming to the requirements of NACE MR01-75; or

(ii) With a Brinell hardness not less than 240 HBW measured in all parts of the product including mid thickness; and having a Yield Strength of 90 ksi min and UTS 110 ksi or more, Elongation of 15% or more and Reduction of area 30% or more; having charpy V at -40 degrees F in the longitudinal direction equal or greater than 21 ft. lbs (single value) and equal or greater than 31 ft. lbs (average of 3 specimens);

(d) Conforming to ASTM A578-S9 ultrasonic testing requirements with acceptance criteria 3.2 mm flat bottom hole; and

(e) Conforming to magnetic particle inspection in accordance with AMS 2301;

(7) Alloy forged and rolled steel CTL plate over 407 mm in actual thickness and meeting the following requirements:

(a) Made from Electric Arc Furnace melted, ladle refined & vacuum degassed, alloy steel with the following chemical composition (expressed in weight percentages):

- Carbon 0.25-0.30,
- Silicon not greater than 0.25,
- Manganese not greater than 0.50,
- Nickel 3.0-3.5,
- Sulfur not greater than 0.010,
- Phosphorus not greater than 0.020,
- Chromium 1.0-1.5,
- Molybdenum 0.6-0.9,
- Vanadium 0.08 to 0.12
- Boron 0.002-0.004,
- Oxygen not greater than 20 ppm,
- Hydrogen not greater than 2 ppm, and
- Nitrogen not greater than 60 ppm.

(b) Having cleanliness in accordance with ASTM E45 method A (Thin and Heavy): A not exceeding 1.0(t) and 0.5(h), B not exceeding 1.5(t) and 1.0(h), C not exceeding 1.0(t) and 0.5(h), and D not exceeding 1.5(t) and 1.0(h);

(c) Having the following mechanical properties: A Brinell hardness not less than 350 HBW measured in all parts of the product including mid thickness; and having a Yield Strength of 145ksi or more and UTS 160ksi or more, Elongation of 15% or more and Reduction of area 35% or more; having charpy V at -40 degrees F in the transverse direction equal or greater than 20 ft. lbs (single value) and equal or greater than 25 ft. lbs (average of 3 specimens);

(d) Conforming to ASTM A578-S9 ultrasonic testing requirements with acceptance criteria 3.2 mm flat bottom hole; and

(e) Conforming to magnetic particle inspection in accordance with AMS 2301.

The products subject to the investigation are currently classified in the Harmonized

Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) under item numbers: 7208.40.3030, 7208.40.3060, 7208.51.0030, 7208.51.0045, 7208.51.0060, 7208.52.0000, 7211.13.0000, 7211.14.0030, 7211.14.0045, 7225.40.1110, 7225.40.1180, 7225.40.3005, 7225.40.3050, 7226.20.0000, and 7226.91.5000.

The products subject to the investigation may also enter under the following HTSUS item numbers: 7208.40.6060, 7208.53.0000, 7208.90.0000, 7210.70.3000, 7210.90.9000, 7211.19.1500, 7211.19.2000, 7211.19.4500, 7211.19.6000, 7211.19.7590, 7211.90.0000, 7212.40.1000, 7212.40.5000, 7212.50.0000, 7214.10.0000, 7214.30.0010, 7214.30.0080, 7214.91.0015, 7214.91.0060, 7214.91.0090, 7225.11.0000, 7225.19.0000, 7225.40.5110, 7225.40.5130, 7225.40.5160, 7225.40.7000, 7225.99.0010, 7225.99.0090, 7226.11.1000, 7226.11.9060, 7226.19.1000, 7226.19.9000, 7226.91.0500, 7226.91.1530, 7226.91.1560, 7226.91.2530, 7226.91.2560, 7226.91.7000, 7226.91.8000, and 7226.99.0180.

The HTSUS subheadings above are provided for convenience and customs purposes only. The written description of the scope of the investigation is dispositive.

Appendix II—List of Topics Discussed in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum

- I. Summary
- II. Background
- III. Period of Investigation
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 - c. Level of Trade
 - d. Cost of Production Analysis
 - 1. Calculation of COP
 - 2. Test of Comparison Market Sales Prices
 - 3. Results of the COP Test
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- XI. Conclusion

[FR Doc. 2016-27313 Filed 11-10-16; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-DS-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[A-570-047]

Certain Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut-To-Length Plate From the People's Republic of China: Preliminary Affirmative Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value

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

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce ("Department") preliminarily determines that certain carbon and alloy steel cut-to-length plate ("CTL plate") from the People's Republic of China ("PRC") is being, or is likely to be, sold in the United States at less than fair value ("LTFV"). The period of investigation ("POI") is October 1, 2015, through March 31, 2016. The estimated dumping margin of sales at LTFV is shown in the "Preliminary Determination" section of this notice. Interested parties are invited to comment on this preliminary determination.

DATES: Effective November 14, 2016.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Irene Gorelik, AD/CVD Operations, Office VIII, Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482-6905.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The Department initiated this investigation on April 28, 2016.¹ For a complete description of the events that followed the initiation of this investigation, see the memorandum that is dated concurrently with this determination and hereby adopted by this notice.² A list of topics in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum is included as Appendix II to this notice.

The Preliminary Decision Memorandum is a public document and is made available to the public via Enforcement and Compliance's Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Centralized Electronic Service System ("ACCESS"). ACCESS is available to registered users at <https://access.trade.gov>, and is available to all parties in the Department's Central Records Unit, room B8024 of the main Department of Commerce building. In addition, a complete version of the Preliminary Decision Memorandum can be accessed directly on the internet at

¹ See *Certain Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut-To-Length Plate From Austria, Belgium, Brazil, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, Japan, the Republic of Korea, the People's Republic of China, South Africa, Taiwan, and the Republic of Turkey: Initiation of Less-Than-Fair-Value Investigations*, 81 FR 27089 (May 5, 2016) ("Initiation Notice").

² See Memorandum from Christian Marsh, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Operations, to Paul Piquado, Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance, re: "Decision Memorandum for the Preliminary Determination in the Antidumping Duty Investigation of Certain Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut-To-Length Plate from the People's Republic of China" ("Preliminary Decision Memorandum").

<http://enforcement.trade.gov/frn/>. The signed Preliminary Decision Memorandum and the electronic version of the Preliminary Decision Memorandum are identical in content.

Scope of the Investigation

The product covered by this investigation is CTL plate from the PRC. For a full description of the scope of this investigation, see the "Scope of the Investigation" in Appendix I of this notice.

Scope Comments

In accordance with the *Preamble* to the Department's regulations,³ the *Initiation Notice* set aside a period of time for parties to raise issues regarding product coverage, *i.e.*, scope.⁴ Certain interested parties commented on the scope of the concurrent CTL plate investigations as it appeared in the *Initiation Notice*. For a summary of the product coverage comments and rebuttal responses submitted to the records of this and the concurrent CTL plate investigations, and a discussion and analysis of all comments timely received, see the Department's Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum and the Department's Additional Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum.⁵ The Department has preliminarily modified the scope language as it appeared in the *Initiation Notice* to clarify the exclusion for stainless steel plate, corrected two tariff numbers that were misidentified in the Petitions and in the *Initiation Notice*, and modified language pertaining to existing steel plate and hot-rolled flat-rolled steel orders.⁶

³ See *Antidumping Duties; Countervailing Duties; Final rule*, 62 FR 27296, 27323 (May 19, 1997) ("*Preamble*").

⁴ See *Initiation Notice*, 81 FR at 27089.

⁵ See Memorandum to Christian Marsh, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Operations, "Certain Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut-to-Length Plate From Austria, Belgium, Brazil, the People's Republic of China, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, Japan, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of South Africa, Taiwan, and Turkey: Scope Comments Decision Memorandum for the Preliminary Determinations," dated September 6, 2016 ("Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum"), and Memorandum to Christian Marsh, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Operations, "Certain Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut-to-Length Plate From Austria, Belgium, Brazil, the People's Republic of China, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, Japan, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of South Africa, Taiwan, and Turkey: Additional Scope Comments Preliminary Decision Memorandum and Extension of Deadlines for Scope Case Briefs and Scope Rebuttal Briefs," dated October 13, 2016 ("Additional Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum"), respectively.

⁶ See Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum at 2 and 56, and Additional Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum at 10–11 and 20.

Methodology

The Department is conducting this investigation in accordance with section 731 of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended ("the Act"). For purposes of this preliminary LTFV determination, the Department continues to treat the PRC as a non-market economy country within the meaning of section 771(18) of the Act. Jiangyin Xingcheng Special Steel Works Co., Ltd., the sole mandatory respondent in this investigation, is not entitled to a separate rate, and is included within the PRC-wide entity. Furthermore, because the PRC-wide entity did not cooperate to the best of its ability with the Department's requests for information, the Department preliminarily determines that the application of adverse facts available ("AFA") is warranted for this preliminary determination, in accordance with sections 776(a) and (b) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.308. For a full discussion of the Department's methodology, see Preliminary Decision Memorandum.

Combination Rates

In the *Initiation Notice*, the Department stated that it would calculate combination rates for the respondents that are eligible for a separate rate in this investigation. *Policy Bulletin 05.1* describes this practice.⁷ However, as described in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum, all parties subject to this investigation are preliminarily found to be part of the PRC-wide entity, to which we do not assign a separate combination rate.⁸

Preliminary Determination

The Department preliminarily determines that CTL plate from the PRC is being, or is likely to be, sold in the United States at LTFV, pursuant to section 733 of the Act, and that the following estimated dumping margin exists:

⁷ See *Enforcement and Compliance's Policy Bulletin No. 05.1*, regarding, "Separate-Rates Practice and Application of Combination Rates in Antidumping Investigations Involving Non-Market Economy Countries" (April 5, 2005) ("*Policy Bulletin 05.1*"), available on the Department's Web site at <http://enforcement.trade.gov/policy/bull05-1.pdf>.

⁸ *Id.* See also *Calcium Hypochlorite from the People's Republic of China: Preliminary Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value and Postponement of Final Determination*, 79 FR 43393, 43394 (July 25, 2014), unchanged in *Calcium Hypochlorite from the People's Republic of China: Final Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value*, 79 FR 74065 (December 15, 2014).

⁹ As detailed in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum, Jiangyin Xingcheng Special Steel Works Co., Ltd. the sole mandatory respondent in this investigation, did not demonstrate that it was entitled to a separate rate. Accordingly, we consider this company to be part of the PRC-wide entity.

Exporter	Dumping margin (percent)
PRC-Wide Entity ⁹	68.27

Suspension of Liquidation

In accordance with section 733(d)(2) of the Act, we will direct U.S. Customs and Border Protection ("CBP") to suspend liquidation of all entries of subject merchandise from the PRC, as described in Appendix I of this notice, which are entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after the date of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**. Pursuant to section 733(d) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.205(d), we will instruct CBP to require a cash deposit equal to the margin indicated in the chart above.¹⁰ These suspension of liquidation instructions will remain in effect until further notice.

We normally adjust antidumping duty cash deposit rates by the amount of export subsidies, where appropriate. However, the Department is making no adjustments to the PRC-wide entity's antidumping cash deposit rate of 68.27 percent because the Department made no findings in the companion CVD investigation that any of the programs are export subsidies.¹¹

Further, pursuant to section 777A(f) of the Act, we normally adjust cash deposit rates for estimated domestic subsidy pass-through, where appropriate. However, in this case there is no basis to grant a domestic subsidy pass-through adjustment.¹²

Disclosure

Normally, the Department discloses to interested parties the calculations performed in connection with a preliminary determination within five days of the date of public announcement of a preliminary determination, in accordance with 19 CFR 351.224(b). However, because the Department established only one rate in this investigation based entirely on AFA

¹⁰ See *Modification of Regulations Regarding the Practice of Accepting Bonds During the Provisional Measures Period in Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Investigations*, 76 FR 61042, (October 3, 2011).

¹¹ See Preliminary Decision Memorandum. See also *Circular Welded Carbon-Quality Steel Pipe from Pakistan: Affirmative Preliminary Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value and Postponement of Final Determination and Extension of Provisional Measures*, 81 FR 36867 (June 8, 2016) and accompanying Preliminary Decision Memorandum at page 13, unchanged in *Circular Welded Carbon-Quality Steel Pipe from Pakistan: Final Affirmative Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value*, 81 FR 75028 (October 28, 2016).

¹² See Preliminary Decision Memorandum.

in accordance with section 776 of the Act, there are no calculations to disclose. Accordingly, the calculations performed in connection with this preliminary determination are not proprietary in nature, and are described in the Petition and in the PRC AD Initiation Checklist.¹³

Verification

Because the only rate established in this investigation is based entirely on AFA, we do not intend to conduct verification.

Public Comment

Interested parties are invited to comment on this preliminary determination. Case briefs or other written comments may be submitted to the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance no later than 30 days after the date of publication of this preliminary determination and rebuttal briefs, limited to issues raised in case briefs, may be submitted no later than five days after the deadline date for case briefs.¹⁴ Pursuant to 19 CFR 351.309(c)(2) and (d)(2), parties who submit case briefs or rebuttal briefs in this proceeding are encouraged to submit with each argument: (1) A statement of the issue; (2) a brief summary of the argument; and (3) a table of authorities.

The Department established separate deadlines for interested parties to provide comments on scope issues.¹⁵ Specifically, case briefs on scope issues were to be submitted no later than October 21, 2016. Scope rebuttal briefs, limited to issues raised in the scope case briefs, were to be submitted no later than November 1, 2016.¹⁶ The Department explained that parties

should limit comments on scope issues to their scope case brief and their scope rebuttal brief.¹⁷ Thus, comments on scope issues belong in parties' scope case briefs and scope rebuttal briefs only and not in other case briefs and rebuttal briefs submitted in this investigation. The Department intends to address parties' scope comments in a final scope memorandum.

Pursuant to 19 CFR 351.310(c), interested parties who wish to request a hearing must submit a written request to the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance, U.S. Department of Commerce, within 30 days after the date of publication of this notice. Requests should contain the party's name, address, and telephone number, the number of participants, and a list of the issues to be discussed. If a request for a hearing is made, the Department intends to hold the hearing at the U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20230, at a time and date to be determined. Parties should confirm by telephone the date, time, and location of the hearing two days before the scheduled date.

All documents must be filed electronically using ACCESS. An electronically-filed request must be received successfully in its entirety by ACCESS by 5:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time.

Pursuant to section 735(a)(1) of the Act, we intend to make our final determination no later than 75 days after the date of publication of this preliminary determination.

International Trade Commission ("ITC") Notification

In accordance with section 733(f) of the Act, we are notifying the ITC of our affirmative preliminary determination of sales at LTFV. If our final determination is affirmative, the ITC will determine before the later of 120 days after the date of this preliminary determination or 45 days after our final determination whether these imports are materially injuring, or threaten material injury to, the U.S. industry.

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

Dated: November 4, 2016.

Paul Piquado,

Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance.

Appendix I

Scope of the Investigation

The products covered by this investigation are certain carbon and alloy steel hot-rolled or forged flat plate products not in coils, whether or not painted, varnished, or coated with plastics or other non-metallic substances (cut-to-length plate). Subject merchandise includes plate that is produced by being cut-to-length from coils or from other discrete length plate and plate that is rolled or forged into a discrete length. The products covered include (1) Universal mill plates (*i.e.*, flat-rolled products rolled on four faces or in a closed box pass, of a width exceeding 150 mm but not exceeding 1250 mm, and of a thickness of not less than 4 mm, which are not in coils and without patterns in relief), and (2) hot-rolled or forged flat steel products of a thickness of 4.75 mm or more and of a width which exceeds 150 mm and measures at least twice the thickness, and which are not in coils, whether or not with patterns in relief. The covered products described above may be rectangular, square, circular or other shapes and include products of either rectangular or non-rectangular cross-section where such non-rectangular cross-section is achieved subsequent to the rolling process, *i.e.*, products which have been "worked after rolling" (*e.g.*, products which have been beveled or rounded at the edges).

For purposes of the width and thickness requirements referenced above, the following rules apply:

(1) Except where otherwise stated where the nominal and actual thickness or width measurements vary, a product from a given subject country is within the scope if application of either the nominal or actual measurement would place it within the scope based on the definitions set forth above unless the product is already covered by an order existing on that specific country (*e.g.*, *Notice of the Antidumping Duty Order: Certain Hot-Rolled Carbon Steel Flat Products From the People's Republic of China*, 66 FR 59561 (November 29, 2001)); and

(2) where the width and thickness vary for a specific product (*e.g.*, the thickness of certain products with non-rectangular cross-section, the width of certain products with non-rectangular shape, *etc.*), the measurement at its greatest width or thickness applies.

Steel products included in the scope of this investigation are products in which: (1) Iron predominates, by weight, over each of the other contained elements; and (2) the carbon content is 2 percent or less by weight.

Subject merchandise includes cut-to-length plate that has been further processed in the subject country or a third country, including but not limited to pickling, oiling, levelling, annealing, tempering, temper rolling, skin passing, painting, varnishing, trimming, cutting, punching, beveling, and/or slitting, or any other processing that would not

¹³ See Petitions for the Imposition of Antidumping and Countervailing Duties: Certain Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut-To-Length Plate from Austria, Belgium, Brazil, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, Japan, the Republic of Korea, the People's Republic of China, South Africa, Taiwan, and the Republic of Turkey, dated April 8, 2016 ("Petition"), Volume IV at 24; Supplement to the Petition, dated April 18, 2016; *see also* *Initiation Notice* and accompanying Antidumping Duty Investigation Initiation Checklist: Certain Carbon and Alloy Steel Cut-to-Length Plate from the People's Republic of China ("PRC AD Initiation Checklist"), at pages 7–11; and Preliminary Decision Memorandum at 11–12.

¹⁴ See 19 CFR 351.309; *see also* 19 CFR 351.303 (for general filing requirements).

¹⁵ See Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum; Additional Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum; Memorandum to the File "Deadlines for Submitting Scope Case Briefs and Scope Rebuttal Briefs," dated October 18, 2016 ("Deadline Memo for Scope Briefs"); and Memorandum to the File "Extension of Deadline for Submitting Scope Rebuttal Briefs," dated October 28, 2016 ("Extension Memo for Scope Rebuttal Briefs").

¹⁶ See Deadline Memo for Scope Briefs and Extension Memo for Scope Rebuttal Briefs.

¹⁷ See, *e.g.*, Deadline Memo for Scope Briefs.

otherwise remove the merchandise from the scope of the investigation if performed in the country of manufacture of the cut-to-length plate.

All products that meet the written physical description, are within the scope of this investigation unless specifically excluded or covered by the scope of an existing order. The following products are outside of, and/or specifically excluded from, the scope of this investigation:

(1) Products clad, plated, or coated with metal, whether or not painted, varnished or coated with plastic or other non-metallic substances;

(2) military grade armor plate certified to one of the following specifications or to a specification that references and incorporates one of the following specifications:

- MIL-A-12560,
- MIL-DTL-12560H,
- MIL-DTL-12560J,
- MIL-DTL-12560K,
- MIL-DTL-32332,
- MIL-A-46100D,
- MIL-DTL-46100-E,
- MIL-46177C,
- MIL-S-16216K Grade HY80,
- MIL-S-16216K Grade HY100,
- MIL-S-24645A HSLA-80;
- MIL-S-24645A HSLA-100,
- T9074-BD-GIB-010/0300 Grade HY80,
- T9074-BD-GIB-010/0300 Grade HY100,
- T9074-BD-GIB-010/0300 Grade

HSLA80,

- T9074-BD-GIB-010/0300 Grade

HSLA100, and

- T9074-BD-GIB-010/0300 Mod. Grade

HSLA115,

except that any cut-to-length plate certified to one of the above specifications, or to a military grade armor specification that references and incorporates one of the above specifications, will not be excluded from the scope if it is also dual- or multiple-certified to any other non-armor specification that otherwise would fall within the scope of this order;

(3) stainless steel plate, containing 10.5 percent or more of chromium by weight and not more than 1.2 percent of carbon by weight;

(4) CTL plate meeting the requirements of ASTM A-829, Grade E 4340 that are over 305 mm in actual thickness;

(5) Alloy forged and rolled CTL plate greater than or equal to 152.4 mm in actual thickness meeting each of the following requirements:

(a) Electric furnace melted, ladle refined & vacuum degassed and having a chemical composition (expressed in weight percentages):

- Carbon 0.23–0.28,
- Silicon 0.05–0.20,
- Manganese 1.20–1.60,
- Nickel not greater than 1.0,
- Sulfur not greater than 0.007,
- Phosphorus not greater than 0.020,
- Chromium 1.0–2.5,
- Molybdenum 0.35–0.80,
- Boron 0.002–0.004,
- Oxygen not greater than 20 ppm,
- Hydrogen not greater than 2 ppm, and
- Nitrogen not greater than 60 ppm;

(b) With a Brinell hardness measured in all parts of the product including mid thickness falling within one of the following ranges:

- (i) 270–300 HBW,
- (ii) 290–320 HBW, or
- (iii) 320–350HBW;

(c) Having cleanliness in accordance with ASTM E45 method A (Thin and Heavy): A not exceeding 1.5, B not exceeding 1.0, C not exceeding 0.5, D not exceeding 1.5; and

(d) Conforming to ASTM A578–S9 ultrasonic testing requirements with acceptance criteria 2 mm flat bottom hole;

(6) Alloy forged and rolled steel CTL plate over 407 mm in actual thickness and meeting the following requirements:

(a) Made from Electric Arc Furnace melted, Ladle refined & vacuum degassed, alloy steel with the following chemical composition (expressed in weight percentages):

- Carbon 0.23–0.28,
- Silicon 0.05–0.15,
- Manganese 1.20–1.50,
- Nickel not greater than 0.4,
- Sulfur not greater than 0.010,
- Phosphorus not greater than 0.020,
- Chromium 1.20–1.50,
- Molybdenum 0.35–0.55,
- Boron 0.002–0.004,
- Oxygen not greater than 20 ppm,
- Hydrogen not greater than 2 ppm, and
- Nitrogen not greater than 60 ppm;

(b) Having cleanliness in accordance with ASTM E45 method A (Thin and Heavy): A not exceeding 1.5, B not exceeding 1.5, C not exceeding 1.0, D not exceeding 1.5;

(c) Having the following mechanical properties:

(i) With a Brinell hardness not more than 237 HBW measured in all parts of the product including mid thickness; and having a Yield Strength of 75ksi min and UTS 95ksi or more, Elongation of 18% or more and Reduction of area 35% or more; having charpy V at –75 degrees F in the longitudinal direction equal or greater than 15 ft. lbs (single value) and equal or greater than 20 ft. lbs (average of 3 specimens) and conforming to the requirements of NACE MR01–75; or

(ii) With a Brinell hardness not less than 240 HBW measured in all parts of the product including mid thickness; and having a Yield Strength of 90 ksi min and UTS 110 ksi or more, Elongation of 15% or more and Reduction of area 30% or more; having charpy V at –40 degrees F in the longitudinal direction equal or greater than 21 ft. lbs (single value) and equal or greater than 31 ft. lbs (average of 3 specimens);

(d) Conforming to ASTM A578–S9 ultrasonic testing requirements with acceptance criteria 3.2 mm flat bottom hole; and

(e) Conforming to magnetic particle inspection in accordance with AMS 2301;

(7) Alloy forged and rolled steel CTL plate over 407 mm in actual thickness and meeting the following requirements:

(a) Made from Electric Arc Furnace melted, ladle refined & vacuum degassed, alloy steel with the following chemical composition (expressed in weight percentages):

- Carbon 0.25–0.30,
- Silicon not greater than 0.25,
- Manganese not greater than 0.50,

- Nickel 3.0–3.5,
- Sulfur not greater than 0.010,
- Phosphorus not greater than 0.020,
- Chromium 1.0–1.5,
- Molybdenum 0.6–0.9,
- Vanadium 0.08 to 0.12
- Boron 0.002–0.004,
- Oxygen not greater than 20 ppm,
- Hydrogen not greater than 2 ppm, and
- Nitrogen not greater than 60 ppm.

(b) Having cleanliness in accordance with ASTM E45 method A (Thin and Heavy): A not exceeding 1.0(t) and 0.5(h), B not exceeding 1.5(t) and 1.0(h), C not exceeding 1.0(t) and 0.5(h), and D not exceeding 1.5(t) and 1.0(h);

(c) Having the following mechanical properties: A Brinell hardness not less than 350 HBW measured in all parts of the product including mid thickness; and having a Yield Strength of 145ksi or more and UTS 160ksi or more, Elongation of 15% or more and Reduction of area 35% or more; having charpy V at –40 degrees F in the transverse direction equal or greater than 20 ft. lbs (single value) and equal or greater than 25 ft. lbs (average of 3 specimens);

(d) Conforming to ASTM A578–S9 ultrasonic testing requirements with acceptance criteria 3.2 mm flat bottom hole; and

(e) Conforming to magnetic particle inspection in accordance with AMS 2301.

Excluded from the scope of the antidumping duty investigation on cut-to-length plate from the People's Republic of China are any products covered by the existing antidumping duty order on certain cut-to-length carbon steel plate from the People's Republic of China. *See Suspension Agreement on Certain Cut-to-Length Carbon Steel Plate From the People's Republic of China; Termination of Suspension Agreement and Notice of Antidumping Duty Order*, 68 FR 60,081 (Dep't Commerce Oct. 21, 2003), as amended, *Affirmative Final Determination of Circumvention of the Antidumping Duty Order on Certain Cut-to-Length Carbon Steel Plate From the People's Republic of China*, 76 FR 50,996, 50,996–97 (Dep't of Commerce Aug. 17, 2011). On August 17, 2011, the U.S. Department of Commerce found that the order covered all imports of certain cut-to-length carbon steel plate products with 0.0008 percent or more boron, by weight, from China not meeting all of the following requirements: Aluminum level of 0.02 percent or greater, by weight; a ratio of 3.4 to 1 or greater, by weight, of titanium to nitrogen; and a hardenability test (*i.e.*, Jominy test) result indicating a boron factor of 1.8 or greater.

The products subject to the investigation are currently classified in the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) under item numbers: 7208.40.3030, 7208.40.3060, 7208.51.0030, 7208.51.0045, 7208.51.0060, 7208.52.0000, 7211.13.0000, 7211.14.0030, 7211.14.0045, 7225.40.1110, 7225.40.1180, 7225.40.3005, 7225.40.3050, 7226.20.0000, and 7226.91.5000.

The products subject to the investigation may also enter under the following HTSUS item numbers: 7208.40.6060, 7208.53.0000, 7208.90.0000, 7210.70.3000, 7210.90.9000, 7211.19.1500, 7211.19.2000, 7211.19.4500,

7211.19.6000, 7211.19.7590, 7211.90.0000, 7212.40.1000, 7212.40.5000, 7212.50.0000, 7214.10.0000, 7214.30.0010, 7214.30.0080, 7214.91.0015, 7214.91.0060, 7214.91.0090, 7225.11.0000, 7225.19.0000, 7225.40.5110, 7225.40.5130, 7225.40.5160, 7225.40.7000, 7225.99.0010, 7225.99.0090, 7226.11.1000, 7226.11.9060, 7226.19.1000, 7226.19.9000, 7226.91.0500, 7226.91.1530, 7226.91.1560, 7226.91.2530, 7226.91.2560, 7226.91.7000, 7226.91.8000, and 7226.99.0180.

The HTSUS subheadings above are provided for convenience and customs purposes only. The written description of the scope of the investigation is dispositive.

Appendix II

List of Topics Discussed in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum

- I. Summary
- II. Background
- III. Period of Investigation
- IV. Scope Comments
- V. Selection of Respondents
- VI. Discussion of The Methodology
 - a. Non-Market Economy Country
 - b. Separate Rates
 - c. The PRC-Wide Entity
 - d. Application of Facts Available and Adverse Inferences
 - e. Selection and Corroboration of the AFA Rate
- VII. Adjustment Under Section 777a(F) of The Act
- VIII. Adjustments to Cash Deposit Rates for Export Subsidies
- IX. Conclusion

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[A-570-026, C-570-027]

Certain Corrosion-Resistant Steel Products From the People's Republic of China: Initiation of Anti-Circumvention Inquiries on the Antidumping Duty and Countervailing Duty Orders

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

SUMMARY: In response to requests from ArcelorMittal USA LLC, Nucor Corporation, United States Steel Corporation, and AK Steel Corporation, as well as Steel Dynamics, Inc. and California Steel Industries, (collectively, Domestic Producers), the Department of Commerce (the Department) is initiating anti-circumvention inquiries to determine whether certain imports of corrosion-resistant steel products (CORE), produced in the Socialist Republic of Vietnam (Vietnam) using carbon hot-rolled steel (HRS) and cold-rolled steel (CRS) flat products manufactured in the People's Republic

of China (PRC), are circumventing the antidumping duty (AD) and countervailing duty (CVD) orders on CORE from the PRC.

DATES: Effective November 14, 2016.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Nancy Decker, AD/CVD Operations, Office VII, Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482-0196.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On June 3, 2015, AK Steel Corporation, ArcelorMittal USA LLC, Nucor Corporation, Steel Dynamics, Inc., and the United States Steel Corporation (collectively, Petitioners) filed petitions seeking the imposition of antidumping and countervailing duties on imports of CORE from India, Italy, the Republic of Korea, PRC, and Taiwan. Following the Department's affirmative determinations of dumping and countervailable subsidies,¹ and the U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC) finding of material injury,² the Department issued antidumping duty and countervailing duty *Orders*³ on imports of CORE from the PRC.

On September 22, 2016, pursuant to section 781(b) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act), and 19 CFR 351.225(h), Steel Dynamics, Inc. and California Steel Industries submitted requests for the Department to initiate anti-circumvention inquiries to determine whether producers in Vietnam of CORE are circumventing the *Orders* on CORE from the PRC by exporting to the United States CORE products completed or assembled in various Vietnamese facilities, from inputs of HRS and CRS sourced from

¹ See *Certain Corrosion-Resistant Steel Products from the People's Republic of China: Final Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value and Final Affirmative Critical Circumstances Determination, in Part*, 81 FR 35316 (June 2, 2016), and *Countervailing Duty Investigation of Certain Corrosion-Resistant Steel Products From the People's Republic of China: Final Affirmative Determination, and Final Affirmative Critical Circumstances Determination, in Part*, 81 FR 35308 (June 2, 2016).

² See *Certain Corrosion-Resistant Steel Products From China, India, Italy, Korea, and Taiwan; Determinations*, 81 FR 47177 (July 20, 2016).

³ See *Certain Corrosion-Resistant Steel Products From India, Italy, the People's Republic of China, the Republic of Korea and Taiwan: Amended Final Affirmative Antidumping Determination for India and Taiwan, and Antidumping Duty Orders*, 81 FR 48390 (July 25, 2016), and *Certain Corrosion-Resistant Steel Products From India, Italy, Republic of Korea and the People's Republic of China: Countervailing Duty Order*, 81 FR 48387 (July 25, 2016) (collectively *Orders*).

the PRC.⁴ On September 23, 2016, pursuant to section 781(b) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.225(h), ArcelorMittal USA LLC, Nucor Corporation, United States Steel Corporation, and AK Steel Corporation, collectively, submitted a request for the Department to initiate anti-circumvention inquiries and to issue in conjunction with initiation of the inquiries preliminary determinations of circumvention of the *Orders* to suspend liquidation of imports of CORE from Vietnam.⁵

On October 17, 2016, we received comments objecting to the allegations from Domestic Producers from Metallia U.S.A., LLC, Metallia, A Division of Hartree Partners, LP, Nippon Steel and Sumiken Bussan Americas Inc., Mitsui & Co. (U.S.A.), Inc., and Marubeni-Itochu Steel America Inc. (collectively, Metallia).⁶ Also on October 17, 2016, we received comments objecting to the allegations from Minmetals, Inc. (Minmetals).⁷ On October 20, 2016, we received comments objecting to the allegations from China Steel Sumikin Vietnam Joint Stock Company (CSVC)⁸ and from Duferco Steel Inc. (Duferco).⁹ On October 21, 2016, we received comments objecting to the allegations from T.Co Metals LLC (TCO).¹⁰ On October 26, 2016, we received comments objecting to the allegations from Summit Global Trading, a subsidiary of Sumitomo Corporation of

⁴ See Letter from Schagrin Associates to the Secretary of Commerce; "*Certain Corrosion-Resistant Steel Products from China: Request for Circumvention Ruling*," dated September 22, 2016 (Schagrin Request).

⁵ See Letter from Kelley Drye & Warren LLP, King & Spalding LLP, Wiley Rein LLP, and Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan, LLP to the Secretary of Commerce, regarding "*Certain Corrosion-Resistant Steel Products from the People's Republic of China—Request for Circumvention Ruling Pursuant to Section 781(b) of the Tariff Act of 1930*," dated September 23, 2016 (Petitioners Request).

⁶ See Letter from Morris, Manning & Martin, LLP to the Secretary of Commerce, regarding "*Certain Cold-Rolled Steel Flat Products and Corrosion-Resistant Steel Products from the People's Republic of China: Response to Request for Anti-Circumvention Inquiry*," dated October 17, 2016.

⁷ See Letter from Minmetals, Inc. to the Secretary of Commerce, dated October 17, 2016.

⁸ See Letter from Mowry & Grimson, PLLC and Sidley Austin LLP, regarding "*Certain Corrosion-Resistant Steel Products from China—Response to Petitioners' Circumvention Allegations*," dated October 20, 2016.

⁹ See Letter from Arent Fox, regarding "*Certain Corrosion-Resistant Steel Products from the People's Republic of China: Response to Request for Anti-Circumvention Inquiry*," dated October 20, 2016 (Duferco Comments).

¹⁰ See Letter from Drinker Biddle & Reath, LLP, regarding "*Certain Corrosion-Resistant Steel Products from the People's Republic of China: Response to Request for Anti-Circumvention Inquiry*," dated October 21, 2016 (TCO Comments).