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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

INTERNATIONAL TRADE ADMINISTRATION

A-552-832

Polyester Textured Yarn from the Socialist Republic of Vietnam: Preliminary Affirmative Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value, Postponement of Final Determination, and Extension of Provisional Measures

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

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce (Commerce) preliminarily determines that polyester textured yarn from the Socialist Republic of Vietnam (Vietnam) is being, or is likely to be, sold in the United States at less than fair value (LTFV). The period of investigation is April 1, 2020, through September 30, 2020. Interested parties are invited to comment on this preliminary determination.

DATES: Applicable [INSERT DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE *FEDERAL REGISTER*].

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Preston Cox or Yang Jin Chun, 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) 482-5041 or (202) 482-5760, respectively.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

This preliminary determination is made in accordance with section 733(b) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act). Commerce initiated this LTFV investigation on

November 17, 2020.¹ On April 2, 2021, Commerce postponed the preliminary determination of this investigation and the revised deadline is now May 26, 2021.²

For a complete description of the events that followed the initiation of this investigation, *see* the Preliminary Decision Memorandum.³ A list of topics included in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum is included as Appendix II to this notice. The Preliminary Decision Memorandum is a public document and is on file electronically via Enforcement and Compliance's Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Centralized Electronic Service System (ACCESS). ACCESS is available to registered users at <https://access.trade.gov>. In addition, a complete version of the Preliminary Decision Memorandum can be accessed directly at <http://enforcement.trade.gov/frn/>.

Scope of the Investigation

The product covered by this investigation is polyester textured yarn from Vietnam. For a complete description of the scope of this investigation, see Appendix I.

Scope Comments

In accordance with the preamble to Commerce's regulations,⁴ the *Initiation Notice* set aside a period of time for parties to raise issues regarding product coverage (*i.e.*, scope).⁵ Certain interested parties commented on the scope of this investigation as it appeared in the *Initiation Notice*. For a summary of the product coverage comments and rebuttal responses submitted to

¹ *See Polyester Textured Yarn from Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam: Initiation of Less-Than-Fair-Value Investigations*, 85 FR 74680 (November 23, 2020) (*Initiation Notice*).

² *See Polyester Textured Yarn from Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam: Postponement of Preliminary Determinations in the Less-Than-Fair-Value Investigations*, 86 FR 17362 (April 2, 2021).

³ *See* Memorandum, "Polyester Textured Yarn from the Socialist Republic of Vietnam: Decision Memorandum for Preliminary Affirmative Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value," dated concurrently with, and hereby adopted by, this notice (Preliminary Decision Memorandum).

⁴ *See Antidumping Duties; Countervailing Duties, Final Rule*, 62 FR 27296, 27323 (May 19, 1997).

⁵ *See Initiation Notice*, 85 FR at 74681.

the record for this investigation, and accompanying discussion and analysis of all comments timely received, *see* the Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum.⁶ As discussed in the Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum, Commerce is preliminarily not modifying the scope language as it appeared in the *Initiation Notice*.

The Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum establishes the deadline to submit scope case briefs.⁷ There will be no further opportunity for comments on scope related issues.

Methodology

Commerce is conducting this investigation in accordance with section 731 of the Act. Commerce has calculated export prices in accordance with section 772(a) of the Act. Because Vietnam is a non-market economy, within the meaning of section 771(18) of the Act, Commerce has calculated normal value in accordance with section 773(c) of the Act.

In addition, Commerce has relied on facts available under section 776(a) of the Act to determine the cash deposit rate assigned to the Vietnam-wide entity. Furthermore, pursuant to sections 776 (a) and (b) of the Act, because the Vietnam-wide entity did not cooperate to the best of its ability in responding to the Commerce's request for data, Commerce preliminarily has relied upon facts otherwise available, with adverse inferences, for the Vietnam-wide Entity. For a complete description of the methodology underlying Commerce's preliminary determination, *see* the Preliminary Decision Memorandum.

⁶ *See* Memorandum, "Antidumping Duty Investigations of Polyester Textured Yarn from Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, and Vietnam: Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum," dated concurrently with this notice (Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum).

⁷ Case briefs, other written comments, and rebuttal briefs submitted by in response to this preliminary LTFV determination should not include scope-related issues. *See* Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum; *see also* the "Public Comment" section of this notice.

Combination Rates

In the *Initiation Notice*,⁸ Commerce explained that it would calculate producer/exporter combination rates for the respondents that are eligible for a separate rate in this investigation. Policy Bulletin 05.1 describes this practice.⁹

Preliminary Determination

Commerce preliminarily determines that the following estimated weighted-average dumping margins exist:

Exporter	Producer	Estimated Weighted-Average Dumping Margin (percent)
Century Single Entity ¹⁰	Century Single Entity	2.67
Vietnam-Wide Entity		22.82

Suspension of Liquidation

In accordance with section 733(d)(2) of the Act, Commerce will direct U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to suspend liquidation of entries of subject merchandise, as described in Appendix I, entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after the date of publication of this notice in the *Federal Register*. Further, pursuant to section 733(d)(1)(B) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.205(d), Commerce will instruct CBP to require a cash deposit equal to the weighted average amount by which normal value exceeds U.S. price, as indicated in the chart above, as follows: (1) for the producer/exporter combinations listed in the table above, the cash

⁸ See *Initiation Notice*, 85 FR at 74684.

⁹ 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 Commerce's website at <http://enforcement.trade.gov/policy/bull05-1.pdf>.

¹⁰ The Century Single Entity is comprised of Century Synthetic Fiber Corporation and Century Synthetic Fiber Corporation – Branch. See Memorandum, "Less-Than-Fair-Value Investigation of Polyester Textured Yarn from the Socialist Republic of Vietnam: Affiliation and Collapsing Analysis for Century Synthetic Fiber Corporation and Century Synthetic Fiber Corporation-Branch," dated concurrently with this notice.

deposit rate is equal to the estimated weighted-average dumping margin listed for that combination in the table; (2) for all combinations of Vietnam producers/exporters of subject merchandise that have not established eligibility for their own separate rates, the cash deposit rate will be equal to the estimated weighted-average dumping margin established for the Vietnam-wide entity; and (3) for all third-country exporters of subject merchandise not listed in the table above, the cash deposit rate is the cash deposit rate applicable to the Vietnam producer/exporter combination (or the Vietnam-wide entity) that supplied that third-country exporter. These suspension of liquidation instructions will remain in effect until further notice.

Disclosure

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

Verification

As provided in section 782(i)(1) of the Act, Commerce intends to verify the information relied upon in making its final determination. Normally, Commerce verifies information using standard procedures, including an on-site examination of original accounting, financial, and sales documentation. However, due to current travel restrictions in response to the global COVID-19 pandemic, Commerce is unable to conduct on-site verification in this investigation.

Accordingly, we intend to verify the information relied upon in making the final determination through alternative means in lieu of an on-site verification.

Public Comment

Case briefs or other written comments on non-scope issues may be submitted to the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance. A timeline for the submission of case briefs and written comments on non-scope issues will be announced at a later date. Rebuttal briefs, limited to issues raised in case briefs, may be submitted no later than seven days after the due date for case briefs.¹¹ The deadlines for submitting case and rebuttal briefs on scope issues are in the Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum. Pursuant to 19 CFR 351.309(c)(2) and (d)(2), parties who submit case briefs or rebuttal briefs in this investigation 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. Commerce has temporarily modified certain of its requirements for serving documents containing business proprietary information until further notice.¹²

Pursuant to 19 CFR 351.310(c), interested parties who wish to request a hearing, limited to issues raised in the case and rebuttal briefs, must submit a written request to the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance, U.S. Department of Commerce, within 30 days after the date of publication of this notice. Requests should contain 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, Commerce intends to hold the hearing at a time and date to be determined. Parties should confirm the date, time, and location of the hearing two days before the scheduled date of the hearing.

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

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

¹² See *Temporary Rule Modifying AD/CVD Service Requirements Due to COVID-19; Extension of Effective Period*, 85 FR 41363 (July 10, 2020).

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. Pursuant to 19 CFR 351.210(e)(2), Commerce requires that requests by respondents for postponement of a final antidumping 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.

On April 29, 2021, the Century Single Entity requested that Commerce postpone its final determination and extend the provisional measures period from four to no more than six months pursuant to 19 CFR 351.210(e).¹³ In accordance with section 735(a)(2)(A) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.210(b)(2)(ii), because: (1) the preliminary determination is affirmative; (2) the requesting exporter, the Century Single Entity, accounts for a significant proportion of exports of the subject merchandise; and (3) no compelling reasons for denial exist, Commerce is postponing the final determination and extending the provisional measures from a four-month period to a period not greater than six months. Accordingly, Commerce will make its 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.

International Trade Commission Notification

In accordance with section 733(f) of the Act, Commerce will notify the International Trade Commission (ITC) of its preliminary determination. If the final determination is affirmative, then the ITC will determine before the later of 120 days after the date of this

¹³ See Century Single Entity's Letter, "Request to Postpone Final Determination & Provisional Measures," dated April 29, 2021.

preliminary determination or 45 days after the final determination whether imports of the subject merchandise are materially injuring, or threaten material injury to, the U.S. industry.

Notification to Interested Parties

This determination is issued and published in accordance with sections 733(f) and 777(i)(1) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.205(c) and 19 CFR 351.210(g).

Dated: May 26, 2021

/S/ Christian Marsh

Christian Marsh
Acting Assistant Secretary
for Enforcement and Compliance

Appendix I

Scope of the Investigation

The merchandise covered by this investigation, polyester textured yarn, is synthetic multifilament yarn that is manufactured from polyester (polyethylene terephthalate). Polyester textured yarn is produced through a texturing process, which imparts special properties to the filaments of the yarn, including stretch, bulk, strength, moisture absorption, insulation, and the appearance of a natural fiber. This scope includes all forms of polyester textured yarn, regardless of surface texture or appearance, yarn density and thickness (as measured in denier), number of filaments, number of plies, finish (luster), cross section, color, dye method, texturing method, or packaging method (such as spindles, tubes, or beams).

The merchandise subject to this investigation is properly classified under subheadings 5402.33.3000 and 5402.33.6000 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS). Although the HTSUS subheadings are provided for convenience and customs purposes, the written description of the merchandise is dispositive.

Appendix II

List of Topics Discussed in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum

- I. Summary
- II. Background
- III. Period of Investigation
- IV. Scope of the Investigation
- V. Scope Comments
- VI. Selection of Respondents
- VII. Affiliation and Collapsing
- VIII. Discussion of the Methodology
- IX. Currency Conversion
- X. Recommendation