

certain of its requirements pertaining to the service of documents in 19 CFR 351.303(f).¹⁵

Interested parties who wish to request a hearing must do so within 30 days of publication of these preliminary results by submitting a written request to the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance using Enforcement and Compliance's ACCESS system.¹⁶ Hearing requests should contain: (1) the party's name, address, and telephone number; (2) the number of participants; and (3) a list of the issues to be discussed. Oral presentations at the hearing will be limited to issues raised in the case and rebuttal briefs.¹⁷ Parties are reminded that all briefs and hearing requests must be filed electronically using ACCESS and received successfully in their entirety by 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on the due date. If a request for a hearing is made, parties will be notified of the time and date for the hearing.¹⁸

Unless otherwise extended, Commerce intends to issue the final results of this administrative review, including the results of its analysis of the issues raised in any written briefs, not later than 120 days after the date of publication of this notice, pursuant to section 751(a)(3)(A) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.213(h)(1).

Notification to Importers

This notice also serves as a reminder to importers of their responsibility under 19 CFR 351.402(f)(2) to file a certificate regarding the reimbursement of antidumping and/or countervailing duties prior to liquidation of the relevant entries during this POR. Failure to comply with this requirement could result in Commerce's presumption that reimbursement of antidumping and/or countervailing duties occurred and the subsequent assessment of doubled antidumping duties, and/or an increase in the amount of antidumping duties by the amount of countervailing duties.

Notification to Interested Parties

We are issuing and publishing these results in accordance with sections 751(a)(1) and 777(i)(1) of the Act, and 19 CFR 351.213 and 351.221(b)(4).

Dated: October 31, 2023.

Lisa W. Wang,

Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance.

Appendix I

List of Topics Discussed in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum

- I. Summary
- II. Background
- III. Scope of the Order
- IV. Discussion of the Methodology
- V. Recommendation

Appendix II

List of Companies Not Selected for Individual Examination

1. Balkrishna Steel Forge Pvt. Ltd.
2. BFN Forgings Private Limited; Bebitz Flanges Works Private Limited; Fanschen werk Bebitz GmbH; Viraj Alloys, Ltd.; Viraj Forgings, Ltd.; Viraj Impoexpo, Ltd.; and Viraj Profiles Limited¹⁹
3. Echjay Forgings Private Limited
4. Fivebros Forging Pvt Ltd.²⁰
5. Goodluck India Limited
6. Hilton Metal Forging Limited
7. Jai Auto Pvt. Ltd.
8. Jay Jagdamba Forgings Pvt Ltd
9. Jay Jagdamba Ltd
10. Jay Jagdamba Profile Pvt Ltd
11. Pradeep Metals Limited
12. Shree Jay Jagdamba Flanges Pvt. Ltd.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[C-580-884]

Certain Hot-Rolled Steel Flat Products From the Republic of Korea: Preliminary Results and Partial Rescission of Countervailing Duty Administrative Review, 2021

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

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of Commerce (Commerce) preliminarily determines that certain producers/exporters of certain hot-rolled steel flat products (hot-rolled steel) from the Republic of Korea (Korea) received countervailable subsidies during the period of review (POR) January 1, 2021, through December 31, 2021.

¹⁹ Commerce has previously found BFN Forgings Private Limited to be part of a collapsed entity. See, e.g., *Stainless Steel Flanges from India: Final Affirmative Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value and Final Affirmative Critical Circumstance Determination*, 83 FR 40745 (August 16, 2018). The companies which are part of this collapsed entity are listed above.

²⁰ We incorrectly listed this company as "Fivebros Pvt Ltd." in the *Initiation Notice*. See *Initiation Notice*, 87 FR at 74406.

Additionally, Commerce is rescinding this review with respect to 13 companies. We invite interested parties to comment on these preliminary results.

DATES: Applicable November 6, 2023.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Nathan James or Kelsie Hohenberger, 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) 482-5305 or (202) 482-2517, respectively.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On December 5, 2022, Commerce published a notice of initiation of an administrative review of the countervailing duty order on hot-rolled steel from Korea.¹ On January 4, 2023, Commerce selected Hyundai Steel Company (Hyundai Steel) and POSCO as mandatory respondents in this administrative review.² On June 15, 2023, Commerce extended the deadline for the preliminary results of this review to no later than October 31, 2023.³

For a complete description of the events that followed the initiation of this review, see the Preliminary Decision Memorandum.⁴ A list of topics discussed in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum is included as an appendix 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 <https://access.trade.gov/public/FRNoticesListLayout.aspx>.

¹ See *Initiation of Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Administrative Reviews*, 87 FR 74404 (December 5, 2022); see also *Certain Hot-Rolled Steel Flat Products from Brazil and the Republic of Korea: Amended Final Affirmative Countervailing Duty Determinations and Countervailing Duty Orders*, 81 FR 67960 (October 3, 2016) (Order).

² See Memorandum, "Respondent Selection," dated January 4, 2023.

³ See Memorandum, "Extension of Deadline for Preliminary Results of Countervailing Duty Administrative Review," dated June 15, 2023.

⁴ See Memorandum, "Decision Memorandum for the Preliminary Results of the Countervailing Duty Administrative Review of Certain Hot-Rolled Steel Flat Products from the Republic of Korea; 2021," dated concurrently with, and hereby adopted by, this notice (Preliminary Decision Memorandum).

¹⁵ See *Administrative Protective Order, Service, and Other Procedures in Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Proceedings: Final Rule*, 88 FR 67069 (September 29, 2023).

¹⁶ See 19 CFR 351.310(c).

¹⁷ See 19 CFR 351.310.

¹⁸ See 19 CFR 351.310(d).

Scope of the Order

The merchandise covered by the Order is hot-rolled steel from Korea. For a complete description of the scope of the Order, see the Preliminary Decision Memorandum.

Rescission of Administrative Review, In Part

Pursuant to 19 CFR 351.213(d)(1), Commerce will rescind an administrative review, in whole or in part, if the parties that requested a review withdraw the request within 90 days of the date of publication of the notice of initiation. Commerce received a timely-filed withdrawal request from the petitioners with respect to 13 companies.⁵ Because the withdrawal request was timely filed, and no other party requested a review of these companies, in accordance with 19 CFR 351.213(d)(1), Commerce is rescinding this review with respect to the following companies: (1) DCE Inc.; (2) Dong Chuel America Inc.; (3) Dong Chuel Industrial Co., Ltd.; (4) Dongbu Incheon Steel Co., Ltd.; (5) Dongbu Steel Co., Ltd.; (6) Dongkuk Industries Co., Ltd.; (7) Dongkuk Steel Mill Co., Ltd.; (8) Hyewon Sni Corporation (H.S.I.); (9) JFE Shoji Trade Korea Ltd.; (10) POSCO Coated & Color Steel Co., Ltd.; (11) POSCO Daewoo Corporation; (12) Soon Hong Trading Co., Ltd.; and (13) Sung-A Steel Co., Ltd.⁶

Methodology

Commerce is conducting this review in accordance with section 751(a)(1)(A) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act). For each of the subsidy programs found countervailable, we preliminarily determine that there is a subsidy, *i.e.*, a financial contribution from an authority that gives rise to a benefit to the recipient, and that the subsidy is specific.⁷ For a full description of the methodology underlying our conclusions, see the accompanying Preliminary Decision Memorandum.

Preliminary Results of Review

As a result of this review, we preliminarily determine the net countervailable subsidy rates exist for the period, January 1, 2021, through December 31, 2021:

⁵ The petitioners are: Cleveland-Cliffs Inc.; Nucor Corporation; SSAB Enterprises, LLC; Steel Dynamics, Inc.; and United States Steel Corporation.

⁶ See Petitioners' Letter, "Partial Withdrawal of Request for Administrative Review," dated March 6, 2023.

⁷ See sections 771(5)(B) and (D) of the Act regarding financial contribution; section 771(5)(E) of the Act regarding benefit; and section 771(5A) of the Act regarding specificity.

Producer/exporter	Subsidy rate (percent <i>ad valorem</i>)
Hyundai Steel Company ⁸	0.78
POSCO ⁹	0.88

Disclosure and Public Comment

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

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 the preliminary results in the **Federal Register**. Rebuttal briefs, limited to issues raised in case briefs, may be submitted no later than five days after the 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 review 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. All briefs must be filed electronically using Enforcement and Compliance's ACCESS system. Note that Commerce has amended certain of its requirements pertaining to the service of documents in 19 CFR 351.303(f).¹¹

Pursuant to 19 CFR 351.310(c), interested parties who wish to request a

⁸ Hyundai Steel Company is also known as "Hyundai Steel Co., Ltd." As discussed in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum, Commerce has found the following companies to be cross-owned with Hyundai Steel: Hyundai Green Power Co. Ltd.; and Hyundai ITC.

⁹ As discussed in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum, Commerce has found the following companies to be cross-owned with POSCO: Pohang Scrap Recycling Distribution Center Co. Ltd.; POSCO Chemical; POSCO M-Tech; POSCO Nippon Steel RHF Joint Venture Co., Ltd.; POSCO Steel Processing and Service; and POSCO Terminal. The POSCO subsidy rate applies to all cross-owned companies. We note that POSCO has an affiliated trading company through which it exported certain subject merchandise, *i.e.*, POSCO International Corporation (POSCO International). POSCO International was not selected as a mandatory respondent, but was examined in the context of POSCO. Therefore, there is not an individually-established rate for POSCO International; POSCO International's subsidies are accounted for in terms of POSCO's total subsidy rate. Entries of subject merchandise exported by POSCO International will receive the rate of the producer listed on the entry form with U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP). Thus, the subsidy rate applied to POSCO (and POSCO's cross-owned affiliates) is also applied to POSCO International for entries of subject merchandise produced by POSCO.

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

¹¹ See *Administrative Protective Order, Service, and Other Procedures in Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Proceedings*; *Final Rule*, 88 FR 67069 (September 29, 2023).

hearing, limited to issues raised in the case and rebuttal briefs, must submit a written request to the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance using ACCESS within 30 days after the date of publication of this notice. Requests should contain: (1) the party's name, address, and telephone number; (2) the number of participants; and (3) a list of the issues to be discussed. If a request for a hearing is made, Commerce intends to hold the hearing at a time and date to be determined. Parties should confirm the date and time of the hearing two days before the scheduled date.

Final Results of Review

Unless the deadline is extended, we intend to issue the final results of this administrative review, which will include the results of our analysis of the issues raised in the case briefs, within 120 days of publication of these preliminary results in the **Federal Register**, pursuant to section 751(a)(3)(A) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.213(h)(1).

Assessment Rates

Pursuant to section 751(a)(1) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.212(b)(2), upon issuance of the final results, Commerce shall determine, and CBP shall assess, countervailing duties on all appropriate entries of subject merchandise in accordance with the final results of this review. Commerce intends to issue assessment instructions to CBP no earlier than 35 days after the date of publication of the final results of this review in the **Federal Register**. If a timely summons is filed at the U.S. Court of International Trade, the assessment instructions will direct CBP not to liquidate relevant entries until the time for parties to file a request for a statutory injunction has expired (*i.e.*, within 90 days of publication).

For the companies for which we are rescinding this administrative review, Commerce will instruct CBP to assess countervailing duties on all appropriate entries at a rate equal to the cash deposit of estimated countervailing duties required at the time of entry, or withdrawal from warehouse, for consumption, during the period January 1, 2021, through December 31, 2021, in accordance with 19 CFR 351.212(c)(1)(i).

Cash Deposit Requirements

In accordance with section 751(a)(1) of the Act, Commerce intends, upon publication of the final results, to instruct CBP to collect cash deposits of estimated countervailing duties in the amounts shown for each of the companies listed above on shipments of

subject merchandise entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after the date of publication of the final results of this administrative review, except, where the rate calculated in the final results is zero or *de minimis*, no cash deposit will be required. For all non-reviewed firms, we will instruct CBP to continue to collect cash deposits at the most recent company-specific or all-others rate applicable to the company. These cash deposit requirements, when imposed, shall remain in effect until further notice.

Notification to Interested Parties

These preliminary results are issued and published pursuant to sections 751(a)(1) and 777(i)(1) of the Act, and 19 CFR 351.213(d)(4) and 19 CFR 351.221(b)(4).

Dated: October 31, 2023.

Lisa W. Wang,

Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance.

Appendix

List of Topics Discussed in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum

- I. Summary
- II. Background
- III. Period of Review
- IV. Partial Rescission of Administrative Review
- V. Scope of the Order
- VI. Diversification of Korea's Economy
- VII. Subsidies Valuation Information
- VIII. Analysis of Programs
- IX. Recommendation

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[C-570-153]

Certain Paper Shopping Bags From the People's Republic of China: Preliminary Affirmative Determination of Countervailable Subsidies, Preliminary Affirmative Determination of Critical Circumstances, and Alignment of Final Determination With Final Antidumping Duty Determination

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

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of Commerce (Commerce) preliminarily determines that countervailable subsidies are being provided to producers and exporters of certain paper shopping bags (paper bags) from the People's Republic of China (China). The period of investigation (POI) is January

1, 2022, through December 31, 2022. Interested parties are invited to comment on this preliminary determination.

DATES: Applicable November 6, 2023.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Seth Brown, AD/CVD Operations, Office IX, Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482-0029.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

This preliminary determination is made in accordance with section 703(b) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act). Commerce published the notice of initiation of this countervailing duty (CVD) investigation on June 26, 2023.¹ On August 7, 2023, Commerce postponed the preliminary determination until October 30, 2023.²

For a complete description of the events that followed the initiation of this investigation, *see* the Preliminary Decision Memorandum.³ A list of topics discussed in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum is included as Appendix II to this notice. The Preliminary Decision Memorandum is a public document and is on file electronically via 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 <https://access.trade.gov/public/FRNoticesListLayout.aspx>.

Scope of the Investigation

The products covered by this investigation are paper bags from China. 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*

¹ *See Certain Paper Shopping Bags from India and the People's Republic of China: Initiation of Countervailing Duty Investigations*, 88 FR 41380 (June 26, 2023) (*Initiation Notice*).

² *See Certain Paper Shopping Bags from the People's Republic of China and India: Postponement of Preliminary Determinations in the Countervailing Duty Investigations*, 88 FR 52122 (August 7, 2023).

³ *See* Memorandum, "Decision Memorandum for Preliminary Affirmative Determination of the Countervailing Duty Investigation of Certain Paper Shopping Bags from the People's Republic of China," 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).

Notice set aside a period of time for parties to raise issues regarding product coverage (scope).⁵ We received comments from interested parties commented on the scope of the concurrent antidumping duty (AD) and CVD investigations as it appeared in the *Initiation Notice*, which are listed in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum.⁶ We are currently evaluating the scope comments filed by interested parties and intend to issue our preliminary decision regarding the scope of the AD and CVD investigations prior to or concurrently with the AD preliminary determinations. We will incorporate the scope decisions from the AD investigations into the scope of the final CVD determination for this investigation, after considering any relevant comments submitted in scope case and rebuttal briefs.⁷

Preliminary Affirmative Determination of Critical Circumstances

In accordance with section 703(e)(1) of the Act, we preliminarily find that critical circumstances exist with respect to imports of subject merchandise for Dongzheng Paper Bag (Dalian) Factory (Dongzheng), Fujian Nanwang Environment Protection Science-tech Co., Ltd. (Fujian Nanwan) the non-responsive companies,⁸ and all other producers and/or exporters. For a full discussion of our preliminary critical circumstances determination, *see* the "Critical Circumstances" section of the Preliminary Decision Memorandum.

Methodology

Commerce is conducting this investigation in accordance with section 701 of the Act. For each of the subsidy programs found countervailable, Commerce preliminarily determines that there is a subsidy, *i.e.*, a financial contribution by an "authority" that gives rise to a benefit to the recipient, and that the subsidy is specific.⁹

Commerce notes that, in making these findings, it relied, in part, on facts

⁵ *See Initiation Notice*, 88 FR at 41380.

⁶ *See* Preliminary Decision Memorandum at 2-3.

⁷ The deadline for interested parties to submit scope case and rebuttal briefs will be established in the preliminary scope decision memorandum.

⁸ The non-responsive companies are: (1) Bagitan Packaging; (2) Changzhou Anjucheng; (3) Courage Packaging; (4) Evertrust Packaging; (5) Geotegrity EcoPack; (6) GrandIntelligent; (7) Li & Fung; (8) Qindao Chenyu Packaging Co., Ltd.; (9) Shanghai Macolink Supply Chain Management Co., Ltd.; (10) Shanghai Sanxi Paper Co., Ltd.; (11) Xiamen C&D Pulp & Paper Co., Ltd.; (12) Xiamen Champion FMCG; (13) Xiamen New Idea Packaging Co., Ltd.; and (14) Xiamen Wonderful Bag Import and Export Co., Ltd.

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