

UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION
Washington, DC 20436

**MEMORANDUM ON PROPOSED TARIFF LEGISLATION
of the 109th Congress¹**

[Date approved: May 10, 2006]²

Bill No. and sponsor: H.R. 3226 (Mr. Steve Buyer of Indiana).

Proponent name, location: The Dow Chemical Company, Midland, MI.

Other bills on product (109th Congress only): None.

Nature of bill: Temporary duty suspension through December 31, 2008.

Retroactive effect: None.

Suggested article description(s) for enactment (including appropriate HTS subheading(s)):

Styrene, ar-ethyl-, polymer with divinylbenzene and styrene beads having a low ash content and specifically manufactured for use as a specialty filler in lost wax mold casting applications and in a variety of other specialty filler applications (CAS No. 9052-95-3) (provided for in subheading 3903.90.50).

Check one: Same as that in bill as introduced.
 Different from that in bill as introduced (see Technical comments section).

Product information, including uses/applications and source(s) of imports:

The subject product is a styrene-divinylbenzene copolymer in translucent spherical bead form having a low ash content, and which will not melt at elevated temperatures. Its primary use is as a unique precision filler in lost wax mold casting applications, and other specialty filler applications. Lost wax casting involves making an exact replica of the part to be molded, placing the filled wax part in a sand mold, melting out the wax and casting with molten metal. The subject product burns out leaving a clean molded part. The proponent imports the subject product from its affiliate in Italy.

¹ Industry analyst preparing report: Ray Cantrell (202-205-3362); Tariff Affairs contact: David Michels (202-205-3440).

² Access to an electronic copy of this memorandum is available at http://usitc.gov/tata/hts/other/rel_doc/bill_reports/index.htm.

Estimated effect on customs revenue:

HTS subheading: 3903.90.50					
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Col. 1-General rate of duty	6.5%	6.5%	6.5%	6.5%	6.5%
Estimated value <i>dutiable</i> imports	\$300,000	\$350,000	\$400,000	\$450,000	\$500,000
Customs revenue loss	\$19,500	\$22,750	\$26,000	\$29,250	\$32,500

Source of estimated dutiable import data: Commission and industry estimates.

Contacts with domestic firms/organizations (including the proponent):

Name of firm/organization	Date contacted	US production of same or competitive product claimed?	Submission attached?	Opposition noted?
		(Yes/No)		
The Dow Chemical Company (Proponent) Mr. Ken Foot, 989-636-5984 Mr. Robert Goltz, 989-636-1000 Mr. Max Turnipseed, 225-338-0310	11/11/2005	No	No	No
Bayer Corporation Mr. Karen L. Niedermeyer, 412-777-2058	11/14/2005	No	No	No
Efficient Global Trade, Inc. Mr. Henry P. Stobenau, 215-628-4919	11/14/2005	No	No	No
LANXESS Corporation Ms. Jamie Schaeffer, 412-809-3666	11/15/2005	No	No	No
The Purolite Company Mr. Don Brodie, 610-668-9090	11/14/2005	No	No	No

Technical comments:³

The Commission notes that the product description and CAS No. are generic, and thus do not adequately describe the subject product. The product description has therefore been rewritten to better define this particular product. The proponent's designation for this product is Styrene-DVB Copolymer 18-100G low ash beads.

³ The Commission may express an opinion on the HTS classification of a product to facilitate consideration of the bill. However, by law, only the U.S. Customs Service is authorized to issue a binding ruling on this matter. The Commission believes that the U.S. Customs Service should be consulted prior to enactment of the bill.

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3226

To suspend temporarily the duty on Styrene, ar-ethyl-, polymer with divinylbenzene and styrene (6CI) beads with low ash.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 12, 2005

Mr. BUYER introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means

A BILL

To suspend temporarily the duty on Styrene, ar-ethyl-, polymer with divinylbenzene and styrene (6CI) beads with low ash.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. STYRENE, AR-ETHYL-, POLYMER WITH**
4 **DIVINYLBENZENE AND STYRENE (6CI) BEADS**
5 **WITH LOW ASH.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter II of chapter 99 of
7 the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States is
8 amended by inserting in numerical sequence the following
9 new heading:

“	9902.11.09	Styrene, ar-ethyl-, polymer with divinylbenzene and styrene (6CI) beads with low ash (CAS No. 9052-95-3) (provided for in subheading 3903.90.50)	Free	No change	No change	On or before 12/31/2008	”.
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1 (b) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendment made by
2 subsection (a) applies to goods entered, or withdrawn from
3 warehouse for consumption, on or after the 15th day after
4 the date of the enactment of this Act.

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