

UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION
Washington, DC 20436

**MEMORANDUM ON PROPOSED TARIFF LEGISLATION
of the 111th Congress¹**

[Date approved: April 29, 2010]²

Bill No. and sponsor: S. 2120 (Mr. Jim Bunning of Kentucky).

Proponent name,³ location: Zeon Chemicals L.P., Louisville, KY.

Other bills on product (111th Congress only): None.

Nature of bill: Temporary duty suspension through December 31, 2011.

Retroactive effect: None.

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

1,4:5,8-Dimethanonaphthalene, 2-ethylidene-1,2,3,4,4a,5,8,8a-octahydro-, polymer with 3a,4,7,7a-tetrahydro-4,7-methano-1H-indene, hydrogenated (CAS No. 881025-72-5); 1,4-methano-1H-fluorene, 4,4a,9,9a-tetrahydro-, polymer with 1,2,3,4,4a,5,8,8a-octahydro-1,4:5,8-dimethanonaphthalene and 3a,4,7,7a-tetrahydro-4,7-methano-1H-indene, hydrogenated (CAS No. 503442-46-4); and 1,4-methano-1H-fluorene, 4,4a,9,9a-tetrahydro-, polymer with 1,2,3,4,4a,5,8,8a-octahydro-1,4:5,8-dimethanonaphthalene, hydrogenated (CAS No. 503298-02-0); (provided for in subheading 3911.90.25).

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 products may be described generically as cyclo-olefin polymers (COPs). These polymers are classified as high-performance engineering thermoplastics characterized by high transparency and heat resistance, good chemical and breakage resistance, and low moisture absorption. These properties give rise to their use in specialty optical component and lens applications, light-emitting diode (LED) applications, and medical applications for break-resistant vials, bottles, and syringes for bio-pharmaceutical and high-viscosity drugs. Other applications include bio-diagnostic plates, optical films, and molds used in the manufacture of contact lenses. The products are imported in pellet form from Japan.

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://www.usitc.gov/tariff_affairs/congress_reports/.

³ The sponsor/proponent did not identify any additional beneficiaries of this bill.

Estimated effect on customs revenue for the subject product classifiable in HTS subheading 3911.90.25:

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Col. 1-General rate of duty	6.1%	6.1%	6.1%	6.1%	6.1%
Estimated value <i>dutiable</i> imports ^a	\$6,000,000	\$6,500,000	\$7,000,000	\$7,500,000	\$8,000,000
Customs revenue loss ^b	\$366,000	\$396,500	\$427,000	\$457,500	\$488,000

a/ Dutiable import estimates were based on Commission and industry estimates.

b/ At the request of Congress, customs revenue loss is provided for 5 years, although the effective period of the proposed legislation may differ.

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

Name of firm/organization	Date contacted	Claim US makes same or competing product(s)?	Submission attached?	Opposition noted?
			(Yes/No)	
Zeon Chemicals L.P. (Proponent) Brian Cail, cail@zeonchemicals.com David F. Olave, dolave@strtrade.com	11/16/2009	No	No	No
Bayer Corporation Karen Niedermeyer, karen.niedermeyer.b@bayer.com	11/10/2009	No	No	No
Dow Chemical Company Lisa Schroeter, LMSchroeter@dow.com	11/10/2009	No	No	No
Dupont Brian Curtis, Brian.Curtis@usa.dupont.com	11/19/2009	No	No	No
Efficient Global Trade, Inc. Henry P. Stoebenau, Hstoeb@aol.com	11/19/2009	No	No	No
Hexion Specialty Chemicals, Inc. Paul W. Langemeier, paul.langemeier@hexion.com	11/12/2009	No	No	No
Lanxess Corporation Jamie Schaeffer, jamie.schaeffer@lanxess.com	11/10/2009	No	No	No
MCT INTERNATIONAL Max Turnipseed, mctint@att.net	11/10/2009	No	No	No
PPG Industries William Ries, 412-434-1717; wries@ppg.com	11/19/2009	No	No	No
SABIC Innovative Plastics Danielle Cannata, danielle.cannata@sabic-ip.com Jessine Monaghan, Jessine.Monaghan@sabic-ip.com	11/19/2009	No	No	No
TOPAS Advanced Polymers, Inc. Timothy Kneale, timothy.kneale@topas-us.com	11/17/2009	No	Yes	Yes

Technical comments:⁴

The Commission staff suggests that the article description on page 1 of this report be used in the proposed new heading in order to provide the correct HTS number.

⁴ 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.

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 2120

To suspend temporarily the duty on certain hydrogenated polymers of
norbornene derivatives.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

OCTOBER 29, 2009

Mr. BUNNING introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred
to the Committee on Finance

A BILL

To suspend temporarily the duty on certain hydrogenated
polymers of norbornene derivatives.

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. CERTAIN HYDROGENATED POLYMERS OF**
4 **NORBORNENE DERIVATIVES.**

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

“	9902.01.00	1,4:5,8-Dimethanonaphthalene, 2-ethylidene-1,2,3,4,4a,5,8,8a-octahydro-, polymer with 3a,4,7,7a-tetrahydro-4,7-methano-1H-indene, hydrogenated (CAS No. 881025-72-5); 1,4-methano-1H-fluorene, 4,4a,9,9a-tetrahydro-, polymer with 1,2,3,4,4a,5,8,8a-octahydro-1,4:5,8-dimethanonaphthalene and 3a,4,7,7a-tetrahydro-4,7-methano-1H-indene, hydrogenated (CAS No. 503442-46-4); and 1,4-methano-1H-fluorene, 4,4a,9,9a-tetrahydro-, polymer with 1,2,3,4,4a,5,8,8a-octahydro-1,4:5,8-dimethanonaphthalene, hydrogenated (CAS No. 503298-02-0); (all the foregoing provided for in sub-heading 3902.90.00)	Free	No change	No change	On or before 12/31/2011”.
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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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