

UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C.

In the Matter of

**CERTAIN CARBON AND ALLOY STEEL
PRODUCTS**

Investigation No. 337-TA-1002

PURSUANT TO COMMISSION RULE 210.45
NOTICE OF AN ORAL ARGUMENT BEFORE THE COMMISSION

AGENCY: U.S. International Trade Commission.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the U.S. International Trade Commission has determined, pursuant to Commission Rule 210.45, to conduct an oral argument in connection with the Commission's review of the initial determination ("ID") (Order No. 38) of the presiding administrative law judge ("ALJ") granting Respondents' motion to terminate Complainant's antitrust claim under 19 CFR 210.21 and, in the alternative, 19 CFR 210.18. The oral argument is scheduled for Tuesday, March 14, 2017, beginning at 10:00 a.m. in the main hearing room.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Houda Morad, Office of the General Counsel, U.S. International Trade Commission, 500 E Street SW., Washington, DC 20436, telephone (202) 708-4716. Copies of non-confidential documents filed in connection with this investigation are or will be available for inspection during official business hours (8:45 a.m. to 5:15 p.m.) in the Office of the Secretary, U.S. International Trade Commission, 500 E Street SW., Washington, D.C. 20436, telephone (202) 205-2000. General information concerning the Commission may also be obtained by accessing its Internet server at <https://www.usitc.gov>. The public record for this investigation may be viewed on the Commission's electronic docket (EDIS) at <https://edis.usitc.gov>. Hearing-impaired persons are advised that information on this matter can be obtained by contacting the Commission's TDD terminal on (202) 205-1810.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Commission instituted Investigation No. 337-TA-1002 on June 2, 2016, based on a complaint filed by Complainant United States Steel Corporation of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania ("U.S. Steel"), alleging a violation of Section 337 of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended, 19 U.S.C. 1337. *See* 81 FR 35381 (June 2, 2016). The complaint alleges violations of Section 337 based upon the importation into the United States, or in the sale of certain carbon and alloy steel products by reason of: (1) a conspiracy to fix prices and control output and export volumes, the threat or effect of which is to restrain or monopolize trade and commerce in the United States; (2) misappropriation and use of trade secrets, the threat or effect of which is to destroy or substantially injure an industry in the United States; and (3) false designation of origin or manufacturer, the threat or effect of which is to destroy or substantially injure an industry in the United States. *Id.* The notice of investigation identified

forty (40) respondents that are Chinese steel manufacturers or distributors, as well as some of their Hong Kong and United States affiliates. *Id.* In addition, the Office of Unfair Import Investigations is a party in this investigation. *Id.* The Commission later found several of the distributor respondents to be in default and terminated those parties from the investigation. Notice (Oct. 14, 2016); Notice (Oct. 18, 2016); Notice (Nov. 18, 2016).

On August 26, 2016, Respondents filed a motion to terminate U.S. Steel's antitrust claim under 19 CFR 210.21. On September 6, 2016, U.S. Steel filed a response in opposition to Respondents' motion to terminate. On September 9, 2016, the Commission Investigative Attorney ("IA") filed a response in opposition to Respondents' motion to terminate. On November 14, 2016, the ALJ issued the subject ID, granting Respondents' motion to terminate Complainant's antitrust claim under 19 CFR 210.21 and, in the alternative, under 19 CFR 210.18. On November 23, 2016, Complainant and the IA filed petitions for review of the ID. Complainant also requested oral argument before the Commission. On December 1, 2016, Respondents filed a response to the petitions for review. Also on December 1, 2016, Complainant filed a response to the IA's petition for review.

On December 19, 2016, the Commission issued a Notice determining to review the ID (Order No. 38). *See* 81 FR 94416-17 (Dec. 23, 2016). In the Notice, the Commission requested written submissions in connection with its review and tentatively set a date of March 14, 2017, for possible oral argument. *Id.* The notice indicated that the Commission would determine whether to hold an oral argument by February 24, 2017.

Pursuant to Commission Rule 210.45, the Complainant's request for a Commission oral argument has been granted, and an oral argument in connection with the Commission's review of the subject ID will be held on March 14, 2017 at 10 a.m. in the main hearing room. A notice providing the scope and details of the hearing will be forthcoming.

The authority for the Commission's determination is contained in section 337 of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (19 U.S.C. 1337), and in part 210 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (19 CFR part 210).

By order of the Commission.



Lisa R. Barton
Secretary to the Commission

Issued: February 24, 2017