

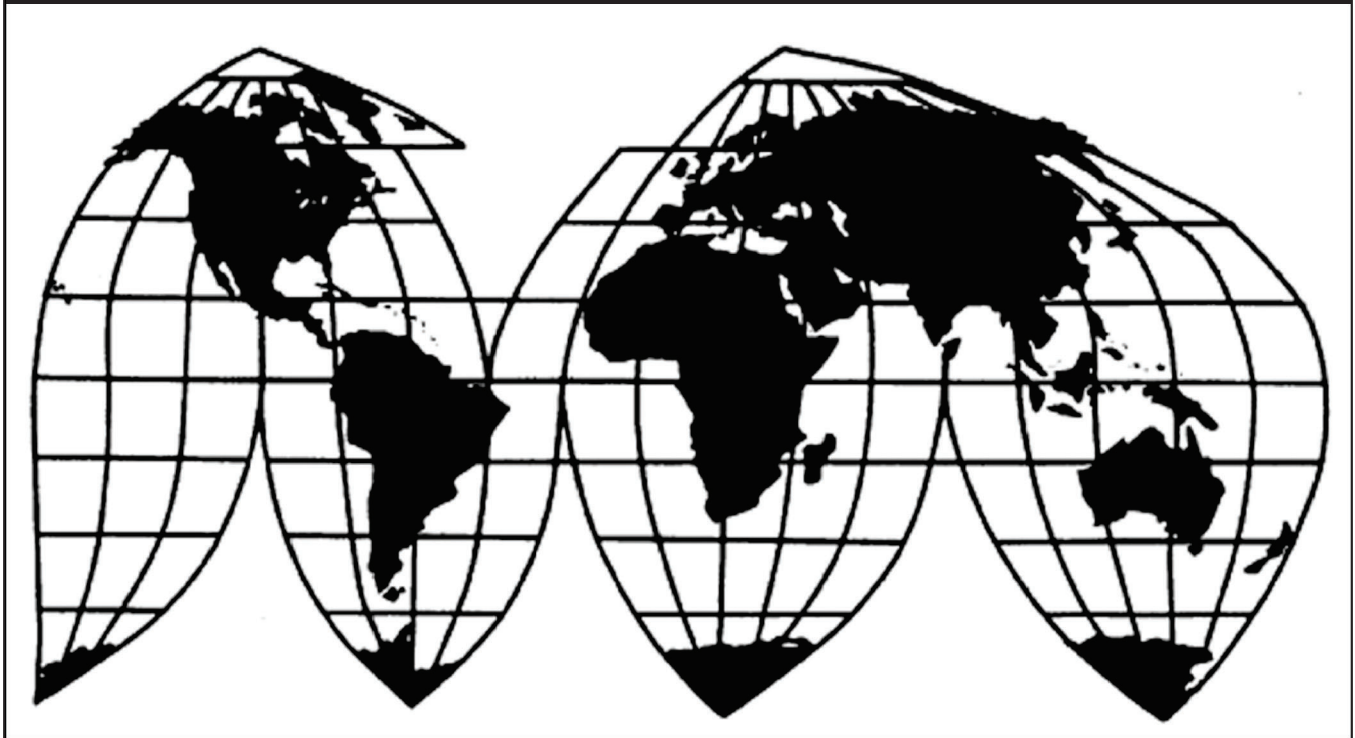
Lined Paper School Supplies from China and India

Investigation Nos. 701-TA-442 and 731-TA-1095-1096 (Third Review)

Publication 5450

August 2023

U.S. International Trade Commission



Washington, DC 20436

U.S. International Trade Commission

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UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

Investigation Nos. 701-TA-442 and 731-TA-1095-1096 (Third Review)

Lined Paper School Supplies from China and India

DETERMINATIONS

On the basis of the record¹ developed in the subject five-year reviews, the United States International Trade Commission (“Commission”) determines, pursuant to the Tariff Act of 1930 (“the Act”), that revocation of the countervailing duty order on lined paper school supplies from India and the antidumping duty orders on lined paper school supplies from China and India would be likely to lead to continuation or recurrence of material injury to an industry in the United States within a reasonably foreseeable time.

BACKGROUND

The Commission instituted these reviews on February 1, 2023 (88 FR 6787) and determined on May 8, 2023 that it would conduct expedited reviews (88 FR 37096, June 6, 2023).

¹ The record is defined in § 207.2(f) of the Commission’s Rules of Practice and Procedure (19 CFR 207.2(f)).

Views of the Commission

Based on the record in these five-year reviews, we determine under section 751(c) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (“the Tariff Act”), that revocation of the countervailing duty order on lined paper school supplies (“LPSS”) from India and the antidumping duty orders on LPSS from China and India would be likely to lead to continuation or recurrence of material injury to an industry in the United States within a reasonably foreseeable time.

I. Background

Original Investigation: In response to petitions filed by MeadWestvaco Corp. of Dayton, Ohio; Norcom, Inc. of Norcross, Georgia; and Top Flight, Inc. of Chattanooga, Tennessee, (collectively, the Association of American School Paper Suppliers (“AASPS”)) concerning LPSS imports from China, India, and Indonesia, the Commission determined on September 21, 2006, that a domestic industry was materially injured by reason of LPSS sold at less than fair value from China, India, and Indonesia, and subsidized by the governments of India and Indonesia.¹ On September 28, 2006, the U.S. Department of Commerce (“Commerce”) issued antidumping duty orders on LPSS from China, India, and Indonesia, and countervailing duty orders on LPSS from India and Indonesia.²

Prior Reviews: In August 2011, the Commission instituted its first five-year reviews of the antidumping duty orders on imports of LPSS from China, India, and Indonesia and the countervailing duty orders on imports of LPSS from India and Indonesia.³ Commerce revoked the antidumping and countervailing duty orders with respect to imports of LPSS from Indonesia, effective September 28, 2011, following negative determinations with respect to such imports in the first five-year reviews by the Commission. The Commission also determined that revocation of the antidumping duty orders on LPSS from China and India and the countervailing duty order on LPSS from India would be likely to lead to continuation or recurrence of material injury to an industry in the United States within a reasonably foreseeable time.⁴ In July 2017

¹ *Certain Lined Paper School Supplies From China, India, and Indonesia*, Inv. No. 701-TA-442-443 and 731-TA-1095-1097 (Final), USITC Pub. 3884 (Sept. 2006) (“Original Determinations”), at 3.

² *Notice of Amended Final Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value: Certain Lined Paper Products from the People’s Republic of China; Notice of Antidumping Duty Orders: Certain Lined Paper Products from India, Indonesia and the People’s Republic of China; and Notice of Countervailing Duty Orders: Certain Lined Paper Products from India and Indonesia*, 71 Fed. Reg. 56949 (Sept. 28, 2006). *Notice of Final Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value: Certain Lined Paper Products from the People’s Republic of China; Notice of Antidumping Duty Orders: Certain Lined Paper Products from India, Indonesia and the People’s Republic of China; and Notice of Countervailing Duty Orders: Certain Lined Paper Products from India and Indonesia*, 71 Fed. Reg. 45012 (Aug. 8, 2006).

³ 76 Fed. Reg. 45851 (Aug. 1, 2011) (first review).

⁴ *Certain Lined Paper School Supplies from China, India, and Indonesia*, Inv. Nos. 701-TA-442-443 and 731-TA-1095-1097 (Review), USITC Pub. 4344 (Aug. 2012) at 3 n.2 (“First Review”). 77 Fed. Reg. 51570 (Aug. 24, 2012). The first reviews were conducted as full reviews; the second reviews, similar to (Continued...)

the Commission instituted the second five-year reviews of the antidumping duty orders on LPSS from China and India and the countervailing duty order on LPSS from India.⁵ The Commission determined in those reviews that revocation of the antidumping and countervailing duty orders would be likely to lead to continuation or recurrence of material injury to an industry in the United States within a reasonably foreseeable time.⁶ Commerce issued notices of continuation of the antidumping duty orders on LPSS from China and India and the countervailing duty order on LPSS from India on August 31, 2012, and March 6, 2018 following the first and second reviews, respectively.⁷

Current Reviews: In February 2023, the Commission instituted these third five-year reviews.⁸ The AASPS and its three individual members, each a U.S. producer of LPSS, jointly responded to the notice of institution.⁹ No respondent interested party responded to the notice of institution or participated in this review. On May 8, 2023, the Commission determined that the domestic interested party group response to its notice of institution was adequate and that the respondent interested party group response was inadequate.¹⁰ The Commission did not find any circumstances that would warrant conducting full reviews and thus determined that it would conduct expedited reviews.¹¹ On July 13, 2023, the domestic interested parties filed comments with the Commission, pursuant to 19 C.F.R. § 207.62(d).¹²

U.S. industry data are based on information submitted by the three domestic producers in their response to the notice of institution. These producers estimate that they accounted for *** percent of domestic production of LPSS in 2022.¹³ U.S. import data and related information are based on Commerce's official import statistics.¹⁴ Foreign industry data and related information are based on information from the original investigations and prior reviews, as well

these third reviews, were conducted as expedited reviews. 77 Fed. Reg. 53174 (Aug. 31, 2012); *Certain Lined Paper School Supplies from China and India*, Inv. Nos. 701-TA-442 and 731-TA-1095-1097 (Second Review), USITC Pub. 4758 (Feb. 2018) at 3 ("*Second Reviews*").

⁵ 82 Fed. Reg. 30902 (Jul. 3, 2017) (second review).

⁶ *Certain Lined Paper School Supplies from China, India, and Indonesia*, Inv. Nos. 701-TA-442-443 and 731-TA-1095-1097 (Review), USITC Pub. 4344 (Aug. 2012) at 3 n.2 ("*First Review*"). 77 Fed. Reg. 51570 (Aug. 24, 2012).

⁷ *Certain Lined Paper Products from India and the People's Republic of China: Continuation of Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Orders*, 77 Fed. Reg. 53172 (Aug. 31, 2012); 83 Fed. Reg. 9479 (Mar. 6, 2018).

⁸ 88 Fed. Reg. 6787 (Feb. 1, 2023).

⁹ Response of the AASPS and its current three individual members: ACCO Brands USA LLC ("*ACCO*"), Norcom, Inc. ("*Norcom*"), and Top Flight, Inc. ("*Top Flight*") (jointly "*Domestic Interested Parties*"), EDIS Doc. 791662 (Mar. 2, 2023) ("*Domestic Interested Parties' Response*") at 1.

¹⁰ Explanation of Commission Determination on Adequacy, EDIS Doc. 797130 (May 24, 2023).

¹¹ Explanation of Commission Determination on Adequacy, EDIS Doc. 797130 (May 24, 2023).

¹² Domestic Industry's Final Comments Regarding the Commission's Determination in This Review, EDIS Doc. 800278 (Jul. 13, 2023) ("*Domestic Interested Parties' Comments*").

¹³ Domestic Interested Parties' Response at 2.

¹⁴ Confidential Report, INV-VV-036 (Apr. 25, 2023) ("*CR*")/*Lined Paper School Supplies from China and India*, Inv. Nos. 701-TA-442 and 731-TA-1095-1096 (Third Review), USITC Pub. 5450 (Aug. 2023) ("*PR*") at Tables I-7-I-9.

as available information submitted by domestic interested parties in these expedited reviews and publicly available information, such as Global Trade Atlas (“GTA”) data, gathered by the Commission. Two purchasers of LPSS, ***, responded to the Commission’s adequacy phase questionnaire.¹⁵

II. Domestic Like Product and Industry

A. Domestic Like Product

In making its determination under section 751(c) of the Tariff Act, the Commission defines the “domestic like product” and the “industry.”¹⁶ The Tariff Act defines “domestic like product” as “a product which is like, or in the absence of like, most similar in characteristics and uses with, the article subject to an investigation under this subtitle.”¹⁷ The Commission’s practice in five-year reviews is to examine the domestic like product definition from the original investigation and consider whether the record indicates any reason to revisit the prior findings.¹⁸

Commerce has defined the imported merchandise within the scope of the orders under review as follows:

The scope of these orders includes certain lined paper products, typically school supplies (for purposes of this scope definition, the actual use of or labeling these products as school supplies or non-school supplies is not a defining characteristic) composed of or including paper that incorporate straight horizontal and/or vertical lines on ten or more paper sheets (there shall be no minimum page requirement for loose leaf filler paper), including but not limited to such products as single- and multi-subject notebooks, composition books, wireless notebooks, loose leaf or glued filler paper, graph paper, and laboratory notebooks, and with the smaller dimension of the paper measuring 6 inches to 15 inches (inclusive) and the larger dimension of the paper measuring 8–3/4 inches to 15 inches (inclusive). Page dimensions are measured size (not advertised, stated, or “tear-out” size), and are measured as they appear in the product (i.e., stitched and folded pages in a notebook are measured by the size of the page as it appears in the notebook page, not the size of the unfolded

¹⁵ CR/PR at D-3.

¹⁶ 19 U.S.C. § 1677(4)(A).

¹⁷ 19 U.S.C. § 1677(10); *see, e.g., Cleo Inc. v. United States*, 501 F.3d 1291, 1299 (Fed. Cir. 2007); *NEC Corp. v. Dep’t of Commerce*, 36 F. Supp. 2d 380, 383 (Ct. Int’l Trade 1998); *Nippon Steel Corp. v. United States*, 19 CIT 450, 455 (1995); *Timken Co. v. United States*, 913 F. Supp. 580, 584 (Ct. Int’l Trade 1996); *Torrington Co. v. United States*, 747 F. Supp. 744, 748-49 (Ct. Int’l Trade 1990), *aff’d*, 938 F.2d 1278 (Fed. Cir. 1991); *see also* S. Rep. No. 249, 96th Cong., 1st Sess. 90-91 (1979).

¹⁸ *See, e.g., Internal Combustion Industrial Forklift Trucks from Japan*, Inv. No. 731-TA-377 (Second Review), USITC Pub. 3831 at 8-9 (Dec. 2005); *Crawfish Tail Meat from China*, Inv. No. 731-TA-752 (Review), USITC Pub. 3614 at 4 (July 2003); *Steel Concrete Reinforcing Bar from Turkey*, Inv. No. 731-TA-745 (Review), USITC Pub. 3577 at 4 (Feb. 2003).

paper). However, for measurement purposes, pages with tapered or rounded edges shall be measured at their longest and widest points.

Subject lined paper products may be loose, packaged or bound using any binding method (other than case bound through the inclusion of binders board, a spine strip, and cover wrap). Subject merchandise may or may not contain any combination of a front cover, a rear cover, and/or backing of any composition, regardless of the inclusion of images or graphics on the cover, backing, or paper. Subject merchandise is within the scope of these orders whether or not the lined paper and/or cover are hole punched, drilled, perforated, and/or reinforced. Subject merchandise may contain accessory or informational items including but not limited to pockets, tabs, dividers, closure devices, index cards, stencils, protractors, writing implements, reference materials such as mathematical tables, or printed items such as sticker sheets or miniature calendars, if such items are physically incorporated, included with, or attached to the product, cover and/or backing thereto.

Specifically excluded from the scope of these orders are:

- Unlined copy machine paper;
- writing pads with a backing (including but not limited to products commonly known as “tablets,” “note pads,” “legal pads,” and “quadrille pads”), provided that they do not have a front cover (whether permanent or removable). This exclusion does not apply to such writing pads if they consist of hole-punched or drilled filler paper;
- three-ring or multiple-ring binders, or notebook organizers incorporating such a ring binder provided that they do not include subject paper;
- index cards;
- printed books and other books that are case bound through the inclusion of binders board, a spine strip, and cover wrap;
- newspapers;
- pictures and photographs;
- desk and wall calendars and organizers (including but not limited to such products generally known as “office planners,” “time books,” and “appointment books”);
- telephone logs;
- address books;
- columnar pads & tablets, with or without covers, primarily suited for the recording of written numerical business data;
- lined business or office forms, including but not limited to: preprinted business forms, lined invoice pads and paper, mailing and address labels, manifests, and shipping log books;

- lined continuous computer paper;
- boxed or packaged writing stationery (including but not limited to products commonly known as “fine business paper,” “parchment paper,” and “letterhead”), whether or not containing a lined header or decorative lines;
- Stenographic pads (“steno pads”), Gregg ruled (“Gregg ruling” consists of a single- or double-margin vertical ruling line down the center of the page. For a six-inch by nine-inch stenographic pad, the ruling would be located approximately three inches from the left of the book), measuring 6 inches by 9 inches;

Also excluded from the scope of these orders are the following trademarked products:

- FlyTM lined paper products: A notebook, notebook organizer, loose or glued note paper, with papers that are printed with infrared reflective inks and readable only by a FlyTM pen-top computer. The product must bear the valid trademark FlyTM (products found to be bearing an invalidly licensed or used trademark are not excluded from the scope).
- ZwipesTM: A notebook or notebook organizer made with a blended polyolefin writing surface as the cover and pocket surfaces of the notebook, suitable for writing using a specially developed permanent marker and erase system (known as a ZwipesTM pen). This system allows the marker portion to mark the writing surface with a permanent ink. The eraser portion of the marker dispenses a solvent capable of solubilizing the permanent ink allowing the ink to be removed. The product must bear the valid trademark ZwipesTM (products found to be bearing an invalidly licensed or used trademark are not excluded from the scope).
- FiveStar® AdvanceTM: A notebook or notebook organizer bound by a continuous spiral, or helical, wire and with plastic front and rear covers made of a blended polyolefin plastic material joined by 300 denier polyester, coated on the backside with PVC (poly vinyl chloride) coating, and extending the entire length of the spiral or helical wire. The polyolefin plastic covers are of specific thickness; front cover is 0.019 inches (within normal manufacturing tolerances), and rear cover is 0.028 inches (within normal manufacturing tolerances). Integral with the stitching that attaches the polyester spine covering, is captured both ends of a 1” wide elastic fabric band. This band is located 23/8” from the top of the front plastic cover and provides pen or pencil storage. Both ends of the spiral wire are cut and then bent backwards to overlap with the previous coil but specifically outside the coil diameter but inside the polyester

covering. During construction, the polyester covering is sewn to the front and rear covers face to face (outside to outside) so that when the book is closed, the stitching is concealed from the outside. Both free ends (the ends not sewn to the cover and back) are stitched with a turned edge construction. The flexible polyester material forms a covering over the spiral wire to protect it and provide a comfortable grip on the product. The product must bear the valid trademarks FiveStar®Advance™ (products found to be bearing an invalidly licensed or used trademark are not excluded from the scope).

- FiveStar Flex™: A notebook, a notebook organizer, or binder with plastic polyolefin front and rear covers joined by 300 denier polyester spine cover extending the entire length of the spine and bound by a 3-ring plastic fixture. The polyolefin plastic covers are of a specific thickness; front cover is 0.019 inches (within normal manufacturing tolerances) and rear cover is 0.028 inches (within normal manufacturing tolerances). During construction, the polyester covering is sewn to the front cover face to face (outside to outside) so that when the book is closed, the stitching is concealed from the outside. During construction, the polyester cover is sewn to the back cover with the outside of the polyester spine cover to the inside back cover. Both free ends (the ends not sewn to the cover and back) are stitched with a turned edge construction. Each ring within the fixture is comprised of a flexible strap portion that snaps into a stationary post which forms a closed binding ring. The ring fixture is riveted with six metal rivets and sewn to the back plastic cover and is specifically positioned on the outside back cover. The product must bear the valid trademark FiveStar Flex™ (products found to be bearing an invalidly licensed or used trademark are not excluded from the scope).¹⁹

LPSS encompass a range of products, including, but not limited to, looseleaf filler paper, composition books, and notebooks.²⁰ Generally, the subject merchandise comprises a group of paper products having “straight horizontal and/or vertical lines” and is broadly inclusive of lined filler paper and many types of bound notebooks but excludes certain specific types of products enumerated in the scope. The primary use for LPSS is to take notes, perform class assignments, and provide completed work to teachers for correction and grades. The manufacturing process for LPSS entails three basic processes: ruling, binding, and wrapping/packing.²¹ The nature of

¹⁹ 83 Fed. Reg. 9479 (Mar. 6, 2018).

²⁰ *Second Reviews*, USITC Pub. 4758 at I-8 – I-9.

²¹ CR/PR at I-11.

the pulp process used to make the paper that, in turn, is used for LPSS can affect product characteristics such as strength and texture.²²

In the preliminary phase of the original investigations, the Commission defined the domestic like product to be lined paper products (“LPP”) encompassing any lined paper or lined paper products with dimensions including and between five inches by seven inches and 15 inches by 15 inches. This definition is a broader category than the in-scope merchandise, LPSS. AASPS argued that the domestic like product should be defined as LPSS, but the Commission found that LPSS and other lined paper products share a basic use, namely note taking and other writing, and shared common channels of distribution and common manufacturing facilities, production processes, and production employees.²³

In the final phase of the original investigations, the Commission considered party arguments as to whether it should define the domestic like product as LPP with the dimensions specified in the preliminary determinations, or whether the Commission should instead define the domestic like product as LPP regardless of dimension and thus include an additional category of paper products in the definition, referred to as outsized lined paper products.²⁴ The Commission noted that although there were some differences between LPP and outsized lined paper products, there was no clear dividing line between the products.²⁵ The Commission concluded that the physical characteristics, end uses, interchangeability, customer and producer perceptions, and common manufacturing facilities and equipment, production processes, and employees weighed in favor of including outsized lined paper products in the same domestic like product as LPP.²⁶ Thus, in the final phase of the investigations, the Commission defined the domestic like product as all lined paper product regardless of dimensions.

In the first five-year reviews, AASPS proposed that the domestic like product should be defined as LPSS and be coextensive with Commerce’s scope. Respondents contended that the Commission should define the domestic like product in the same manner as it did in the final phase of the original investigations as LPP.²⁷ The Commission once again defined the domestic like product as LPP because there was insufficient new information in the record to call into question the findings the Commission made in its final determinations.²⁸

In the second five-year reviews, the Commission found no new information on the record that suggested a reason for departing from the definition of the domestic like product

²² CR/PR at I-10.

²³ *Certain Lined Paper School Supplies from China, India, and Indonesia*, Inv. Nos. 701-TA-442-443, 731-TA-1095-1097 (Preliminary), USITC Pub. 3811 at 11 (Oct. 2005). In the preliminary determinations, the Commission requested data for LPSS and “other lined paper products,” which was defined as “any lined paper or lined paper product with dimensions between 5 {inches} x 7 {inches} and 15 {inches} by {15 inches} which are not included in the scope definition.” *Id.* at 8 n.24.

²⁴ *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 3884 at 6-10.

²⁵ *Id.* at 8.

²⁶ *Id.* at 11.

²⁷ *First Reviews*, USITC Pub. 4344 at 6.

²⁸ *First Reviews*, USITC Pub. 4344 at 6-8.

since the prior proceedings.²⁹ Consequently, the Commission defined the domestic like product as LPP.³⁰

In the current reviews, the record does not contain any new information suggesting that the pertinent product characteristics and uses of LPP have changed since the prior proceedings so as to warrant revisiting the Commission's domestic like product definition,³¹ and the domestic interested parties agree with the definition from the prior proceedings.³² Consequently, we again define the domestic like product as LPP.

B. Domestic Industry

Section 771(4)(A) of the Tariff Act defines the relevant industry as the domestic "producers as a whole of a domestic like product, or those producers whose collective output of a domestic like product constitutes a major proportion of the total domestic production of the product."³³ In defining the domestic industry, the Commission's general practice has been to include in the industry producers of all domestic production of the like product, whether toll-produced, captively consumed, or sold in the domestic merchant market.

In the original investigations, the Commission found that eight domestic producers were related parties. The Commission found that appropriate circumstances existed to exclude from the domestic industry two of these producers, American Scholar and CPP International, LLP, both of which had ceased domestic production by the end of the period examined.³⁴

In the first five-year reviews, the Commission found that five domestic producers were related parties because they imported subject merchandise. The Commission further found that appropriate circumstances did not exist to exclude any of these producers from the domestic industry.³⁵ In the second five-year reviews, the Commission found no domestic producer was a related party and defined the domestic industry as consisting of all U.S. producers of LPP.³⁶

There is no information in the record indicating that any domestic producer is subject to exclusion from the definition of the domestic industry under the related party provision.³⁷ In

²⁹ *Second Reviews*, USITC Pub. 4758 at 9.

³⁰ *Second Reviews*, USITC Pub. 4758 at 9.

³¹ *See generally* CR/PR at I-10.

³² Domestic Interested Parties' Comments on Adequacy, EDIS Doc. 794297 (Apr. 13, 2023) ("Comments on Adequacy") at 1.

³³ 19 U.S.C. § 1677(4)(A). The definitions in 19 U.S.C. § 1677 are applicable to the entire subtitle containing the antidumping and countervailing duty laws, including 19 U.S.C. §§ 1675 and 1675a. *See* 19 U.S.C. § 1677.

³⁴ *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 3884 at 12-16.

³⁵ *First Reviews*, USITC Pub. 4344 at 9-10; Confidential First Five-Year Review Commission Views, EDIS Doc. 620610, at 12-13 ("Confidential First Five Year Review").

³⁶ *Second Reviews*, USITC Pub. 4758 at 10; Confidential Second Five-Year Review Commission Views, EDIS Doc. 793225, at 12-13 ("Confidential Second Five Year Review").

³⁷ *See* 19 U.S.C. § 1677(4)(B).

light of the foregoing and our domestic like product definition, we define the domestic industry as consisting of all U.S. producers of LPP.

III. Cumulation

A. Legal Standard

With respect to five-year reviews, section 752(a) of the Tariff Act provides as follows: the Commission may cumulatively assess the volume and effect of imports of the subject merchandise from all countries with respect to which reviews under section 1675(b) or (c) of this title were initiated on the same day, if such imports would be likely to compete with each other and with domestic like products in the United States market. The Commission shall not cumulatively assess the volume and effects of imports of the subject merchandise in a case in which it determines that such imports are likely to have no discernible adverse impact on the domestic industry.³⁸

Cumulation therefore is discretionary in five-year reviews, unlike original investigations, which are governed by section 771(7)(G)(i) of the Tariff Act.³⁹ The Commission may exercise its discretion to cumulate, however, only if the reviews are initiated on the same day, the Commission determines that the subject imports are likely to compete with each other and the domestic like product in the U.S. market, and imports from each such subject country are not likely to have no discernible adverse impact on the domestic industry in the event of revocation. Our focus in five-year reviews is not only on present conditions of competition, but also on likely conditions of competition in the reasonably foreseeable future.

Prior Proceedings. In the original investigations, the Commission cumulated subject imports from the three subject countries for its material injury analysis. The Commission found that subject imports from all three subject countries were fungible with both the domestic like product and each other. It also found that the domestic like product and subject imports from each subject source were sold nationwide, sold primarily to retailers, and were present in the U.S. market throughout the period of investigation ("POI"). Accordingly, the Commission found a reasonable overlap of competition among subject imports and between the imports from each subject country and the domestic like product.⁴⁰

³⁸ 19 U.S.C. § 1675a(a)(7).

³⁹ 19 U.S.C. § 1677(7)(G)(i); *see also, e.g., Nucor Corp. v. United States*, 601 F.3d 1291, 1293 (Fed. Cir. 2010) (Commission may reasonably consider likely differing conditions of competition in deciding whether to cumulate subject imports in five-year reviews); *Allegheny Ludlum Corp. v. United States*, 475 F. Supp. 2d 1370, 1378 (Ct. Int'l Trade 2006) (recognizing the wide latitude the Commission has in selecting the types of factors it considers relevant in deciding whether to exercise discretion to cumulate subject imports in five-year reviews); *Nucor Corp. v. United States*, 569 F. Supp. 2d 1328, 1337-38 (Ct. Int'l Trade 2008).

⁴⁰ *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 3884 at 22-23.

In the first five-year reviews, the Commission cumulated subject imports from China and India, but did not cumulate subject imports from Indonesia.⁴¹ The Commission plurality found that there would likely be a reasonable overlap of competition among subject imports and between subject imports and the domestic like product upon revocation of the orders.⁴² However, the Commission plurality found that only subject imports from China and India were likely to compete under similar conditions of competition.⁴³

In the second five-year reviews, the Commission cumulated subject imports from China and India.⁴⁴ The Commission found no information suggesting a change in the considerations that led the Commission in the first reviews to cumulate subject imports.⁴⁵

Current Reviews: In these reviews, the statutory threshold for cumulation is satisfied as all reviews were initiated on the same day: February 1, 2023.⁴⁶ In addition, we consider the following issues in deciding whether to exercise our discretion to cumulate the subject imports: (1) whether imports from any of the subject countries are precluded from cumulation because they are likely to have no discernible adverse impact on the domestic industry; (2) whether there is a likelihood of a reasonable overlap of competition among subject imports and the domestic like product; and (3) whether subject imports are likely to compete in the U.S. market under different conditions of competition.

B. Likelihood of No Discernible Adverse Impact

The statute precludes cumulation if the Commission finds that subject imports from a country are likely to have no discernible adverse impact on the domestic industry.⁴⁷ Neither the statute nor the Uruguay Round Agreements Act (“URAA”) Statement of Administrative Action (“SAA”) provides specific guidance on what factors the Commission is to consider in

⁴¹ *First Reviews*, USITC Pub. 4344 at 19. Commissioner Williamson cumulated subject imports from China, India, and Indonesia; Commissioner Aranoff cumulated subject imports from China and India and did not cumulate subject imports from Indonesia based on different conditions of competition; and Commissioner Pinkert cumulated subject imports from China and India and did not cumulate subject imports from Indonesia based on his finding that revocation of the orders on subject imports from Indonesia would have no likely discernible adverse impact. *Id.* at 19, 43. Commissioners Johanson, Okun, and Pearson did not cumulate subject imports from China, India, or Indonesia, respectively, with any other subject imports. *Id.* at 19, 51.

⁴² *First Reviews*, USITC Pub. 4344 at 15-17. Commissioner Pinkert joined the findings only with respect to subject imports from China and India. *Id.* at 15 n. 85.

⁴³ *First Reviews*, USITC Pub. 4344 at 18-19. Commissioner Pinkert did not join the findings with respect to the likely conditions of competition. *Id.* at 18 n.105. Commissioners Johanson, Okun, and Pearson did not join in this finding; they found significant differences in the likely conditions of competition that subject imports from China, India, and Indonesia would face in the U.S. market. *Id.* at 54.

⁴⁴ *Second Reviews*, USITC Pub. 4758 at 16-17.

⁴⁵ *Second Reviews*, USITC Pub. 4758 at 12-17, 20-22.

⁴⁶ *Certain Lined Paper School Supplies from China and India; Institution of Five-Year Reviews*, 88 Fed. Reg. 6787 (Feb. 1, 2023).

⁴⁷ 19 U.S.C. § 1675a(a)(7).

determining that imports “are likely to have no discernible adverse impact” on the domestic industry.⁴⁸ With respect to this provision, the Commission generally considers the likely volume of subject imports and the likely impact of those imports on the domestic industry within a reasonably foreseeable time if the orders are revoked. Our analysis for each of the subject countries considers, among other things, the nature of the product and the behavior of subject imports in the original investigations.

Based on the record, we do not find that imports from China or India are likely to have no discernible adverse impact on the domestic industry in the event of revocation of the antidumping or countervailing duty orders.

China. In the original investigations, subject imports from China were 186.3 million pieces in 2003, 220.7 million pieces in 2004, and 345.9 million pieces in 2005. These imports’ market share increased in every year of the POI, from *** percent of apparent U.S. consumption in 2003 to *** percent in 2005.⁴⁹ LPSS production capacity in China was *** pieces in 2003, *** pieces in 2004, and *** pieces in 2005; production was *** pieces in 2003, *** pieces in 2004, and *** pieces in 2005. Exports to the United States accounted for the *** of the responding producers’ total shipments throughout the POI.⁵⁰

In the first five-year reviews, the volume of subject imports from China declined overall, and was at levels lower than in the original investigations. These imports declined from a period high of 159.6 million pieces in 2006 to a period low of 120.2 million pieces in 2011, and their share of apparent U.S. consumption ranged from 10.5 percent to 14.0 percent during this period.⁵¹ While the record contained little contemporaneous information concerning the LPSS industry in China, the Commission found that China’s production of writing and printing paper (a broader product grouping that includes LPSS) had increased in recent years and that China was a net exporter of paper products.⁵²

In the second reviews, the volume of LPSS imports from China declined from 11.7 million pieces in 2012 to 9.2 million pieces in 2014, increased to 11.7 million pieces in 2015, and subsequently declined to 11.2 million pieces in 2016.⁵³ In 2016, subject imports from China accounted for *** percent of apparent U.S. consumption. Furthermore, GTA data, which may have included out-of-scope merchandise indicated that from 2012 to 2016 the United States was by far the largest export market for lined paper school supply products from China in terms of value,⁵⁴ and that over the second half of the period of review, China was the world’s second largest exporter of such products in terms of value.⁵⁵

⁴⁸ SAA, H.R. Rep. No. 103-316, vol. I at 887 (1994).

⁴⁹ *Second Reviews*, USITC Pub. 4758 at 13; Confidential Second Five Year Reviews at 16.

⁵⁰ Original Determinations Confidential Staff Report, Memorandum INV-DD-117 (Aug. 15, 2006), EDIS Doc. 620536, at Table VII-1.

⁵¹ CR/PR, App. C.

⁵² *First Reviews*, USITC Pub. 4344 at 13.

⁵³ *Second Reviews*, USITC Pub. 4758 at 13.

⁵⁴ *Second Reviews*, USITC Pub. 4758 at 13-14.

⁵⁵ *Second Reviews*, USITC Pub. 4758 at 14.

In the current reviews, the volume of LPSS imports from China remained consistent at 9 million pieces between 2017 and 2018, and was 6.7 million pieces in 2019, 4.7 million pieces in 2020, 5.1 million pieces in 2021, and 5.3 million pieces in 2022.⁵⁶ In 2022, subject imports from China accounted for *** percent of apparent U.S. consumption.⁵⁷ The record contains no information on current LPSS production capacity in China. AASPS maintains that subject producers in China have significantly increased exports of LPP to the United States, which are produced using the same or similar machinery and production processes used to produce LPSS, and that these exporters from China have maintained business relationships with major U.S. purchasers of LPSS.⁵⁸ GTA data for select paper products, a category that includes LPSS and out-of-scope products, indicate that from 2017 to 2022, the United States was the largest export market for such products from China in terms of value.⁵⁹

In light of the foregoing, including the large and increasing volume of subject imports during the original investigation, the continued presence of subject imports in the market, and the facts available concerning the capacity and exports of subject producers, we do not find that subject imports from China would likely have no discernible adverse impact on the domestic industry if the antidumping duty order covering these imports were to be revoked.

India. In the original investigations, subject imports from India were 37.2 million pieces in 2003, 36.0 million pieces in 2004, and 31.3 million pieces in 2005. These imports' market share declined in every year of the POI, from *** percent of apparent U.S. consumption in 2003 to *** percent in 2005.⁶⁰ LPSS production capacity in India was *** pieces in 2003, *** pieces in 2004, and *** pieces in 2005; production was *** pieces in 2003, *** pieces in 2004, and *** pieces in 2005. Exports to the United States accounted for the *** of the responding producers' total shipments throughout the POI.⁶¹

In the first five-year reviews, the volume of subject imports from India fluctuated irregularly over the period of review, ranging from a period low of 24.2 million pieces in 2006 and a period high of 43.9 million pieces in 2009. Their share of apparent U.S. consumption also fluctuated between 2.1 percent and 4.0 percent.⁶² The Commission observed that subject producers in India increased their capacity in every year of the period of review, and production rose in all but one year while capacity utilization fluctuated. It also observed that the United States was India's largest export market for LPSS.⁶³

In the second five-year reviews, the volume of imports of LPSS from India increased in every year of the period of review, from 23.0 million pieces in 2012 to 40.6 million pieces in 2016. In 2016, subject imports from India accounted for *** percent of apparent U.S.

⁵⁶ CR/PR at I-20, Table I-5.

⁵⁷ CR/PR at I-22, Table I-6.

⁵⁸ Domestic Interested Parties' Response at 10; Domestic Interested Parties' Comments at 9.

⁵⁹ CR/PR at I-25, Table I-7.

⁶⁰ *Second Reviews*, USITC Pub. 4758 at 14; Confidential Second Five Year Reviews at 19.

⁶¹ Original Determinations Confidential Staff Report, Memorandum INV-DD-117 (Aug. 15, 2006), EDIS Doc. 620536, at Table VII-2.

⁶² *Second Reviews*, USITC Pub. 4758 at 14.

⁶³ *Second Reviews*, USITC Pub. 4758 at 14.

consumption.⁶⁴ AASPS argued that subject producers and exporters in India remained focused on the U.S. market since the imposition of the orders, while also maintaining significant capacity and excess capacity.⁶⁵

In the current reviews, subject imports from India increased irregularly during the period of review, and was 39.4 million pieces in 2017, 52.9 million pieces in 2018, 75.4 million pieces in 2019, 44.6 million pieces in 2020, 42.4 million pieces in 2021, and 51.1 million pieces in 2022.⁶⁶ In 2022, subject imports from India accounted for *** percent of apparent U.S. consumption.⁶⁷ AASPS maintains that subject producers and exporters in India continue to be export-oriented and remain focused on the U.S. market since the imposition of the orders, while they also continue to maintain significant capacity and excess capacity, which has resulted in increased imports of LPSS during the period of review.⁶⁸ GTA data indicate that from 2017 to 2022, the value of India's exports of select paper products, a category that includes LPSS and out-of-scope products, increased from \$88.1 million in 2017 to \$170.5 million in 2022, and the United States was India's largest export market by far for each year of the period.⁶⁹

In light of the foregoing, including the facts available regarding the capacity and exports of subject producers in India, Indian producers' continued interest in the U.S. market, and the growing volume of subject imports from India during the period of review and since the original investigation, we do not find that subject imports from India would likely have no discernible adverse impact on the domestic industry if the antidumping duty and countervailing duty orders covering these imports were to be revoked.

C. Likelihood of a Reasonable Overlap of Competition

The Commission generally has considered four factors intended to provide a framework for determining whether subject imports compete with each other and with the domestic like

⁶⁴ *Second Reviews*, USITC Pub. 4758 at 14; Confidential Second Five Year Reviews at 19.

⁶⁵ *Second Reviews*, USITC Pub. 4758 at 14.

⁶⁶ CR/PR at I-20, Table I-5.

⁶⁷ CR/PR at I-22, Table I-6.

⁶⁸ Domestic Interested Parties' Response at 6, 13; Domestic Interested Parties' Comments at 10.

⁶⁹ CR/PR at I-27, Table I-8.

product.⁷⁰ Only a “reasonable overlap” of competition is required.⁷¹ In five-year reviews, the relevant inquiry is whether there likely would be competition even if none currently exists because the subject imports are absent from the U.S. market.⁷²

Fungibility. In the original investigations, the Commission found that domestically produced LPP and subject imports from China, India, and Indonesia appeared to be fungible. It observed that the domestic product and subject imports were generally used for the same purpose and that purchasers reported that imports from each subject country were generally comparable with each other and the domestic product.⁷³ In the first five-year reviews, the Commission observed that there was a high degree of substitutability between and among subject imports from China, India, and Indonesia, and the domestic like product. Large majorities of U.S. producers, importers, and purchasers found imports from each subject country to be always or frequently interchangeable with imports from other subject sources and the domestically produced product.⁷⁴ In the second five-year reviews, the Commission found no new information on the record to indicate that the fungibility of subject imports from China and India had changed.⁷⁵ In these third five-year reviews, there is once again no information on the record to indicate that the fungibility of subject imports from China and India has changed since the previous reviews.⁷⁶

Channels of Distribution. In the original investigations, the Commission found that the domestic like product and subject imports were sold through common channels of distribution, primarily to retailers. The Commission also observed that some U.S. producers purchased or

⁷⁰ The four factors generally considered by the Commission in assessing whether imports compete with each other and with the domestic like product are as follows: (1) the degree of fungibility between subject imports from different countries and between subject imports and the domestic like product, including consideration of specific customer requirements and other quality-related questions; (2) the presence of sales or offers to sell in the same geographical markets of imports from different countries and the domestic like product; (3) the existence of common or similar channels of distribution for subject imports from different countries and the domestic like product; and (4) whether subject imports are simultaneously present in the market with one another and the domestic like product. See, e.g., *Wieland Werke, AG v. United States*, 718 F. Supp. 50 (Ct. Int’l Trade 1989).

⁷¹ See *Mukand Ltd. v. United States*, 937 F. Supp. 910, 916 (Ct. Int’l Trade 1996); *Wieland Werke*, 718 F. Supp. at 52 (“Completely overlapping markets are not required.”); *United States Steel Group v. United States*, 873 F. Supp. 673, 685 (Ct. Int’l Trade 1994), *aff’d*, 96 F.3d 1352 (Fed. Cir. 1996). We note, however, that there have been investigations where the Commission has found an insufficient overlap in competition and has declined to cumulate subject imports. See, e.g., *Live Cattle from Canada and Mexico*, Inv. Nos. 701-TA-386 and 731-TA-812-13 (Preliminary), USITC Pub. 3155 at 15 (Feb. 1999), *aff’d sub nom, Ranchers-Cattlemen Action Legal Foundation v. United States*, 74 F. Supp. 2d 1353 (Ct. Int’l Trade 1999); *Static Random Access Memory Semiconductors from the Republic of Korea and Taiwan*, Inv. Nos. 731-TA-761-762 (Final), USITC Pub. 3098 at 13-15 (Apr. 1998).

⁷² See generally, *Cheflene Corp. v. United States*, 219 F. Supp. 2d 1313, 1314 (Ct. Int’l Trade 2002).

⁷³ *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 3884 at 22.

⁷⁴ *First Reviews*, USITC Pub. 4344 at 16.

⁷⁵ *Second Reviews*, USITC Pub. 4758 at 15.

⁷⁶ Domestic Interested Parties’ Response at 19, 24-25. Domestic Interested Parties’ Comments at 4-6.

sourced subject imports for retailers but these U.S. producers did not serve as the importer of record.⁷⁷ In the first five-year reviews, an *** percentage of shipments of domestically produced LPP were made to retailers.⁷⁸ The Commission also observed that a majority of subject imports from China were directed to retailers and at least *** percent of subject imports from India were directed to retailers for three of the six years of the period of review.⁷⁹

In the second five-year reviews, the Commission found no new information on the record to indicate that the channels of distribution for subject imports from China and India had changed or were likely to do so upon revocation.⁸⁰ In these third five-year reviews, AASPS reports that subject imports from China and India are sold in the same channels of distribution, namely to large retailers.⁸¹ Further, AASPS notes that many of the retailers dramatically increased their imports from subject countries, purchasing subject merchandise directly.⁸²

Geographic Overlap. In the original investigations, the Commission found that there was a reasonable overlap in sales of subject imports in geographic regions. The Commission observed that the producers of the domestic like product were located across the country and that seven of nine responding U.S. producers reported that they sold LPP nationwide. It also observed that the majority of responding importers of LPP from China and India reported that they sold nationally.⁸³ In the first five-year reviews, the Commission found that the domestic like product was sold nationwide. The Commission also observed that the majority of responding importers of subject imports from China and all responding importers of subject imports from India and Indonesia sold nationwide.⁸⁴ In the second five-year reviews, the Commission found no new information on the record to suggest that the geographic distribution of subject imports from China and India had changed or was likely to do so upon revocation.⁸⁵ In these third five-year reviews, AASPS argues that there was substantial overlap in ports of entry used by subject imports from China and India, suggesting geographic overlap between subject imports from each country.⁸⁶ Indeed, in 2022, the majority of imports of LPSS from both China and India entered through the same eastern border location.⁸⁷

Simultaneous Presence in Market. In the original investigations, the Commission found that subject imports from each subject country were present in the United States throughout the POI.⁸⁸ In the first and second five-year reviews, the Commission also observed that the domestic like product and subject imports from each subject country were present in the U.S.

⁷⁷ *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 3884 at 23.

⁷⁸ *First Reviews*, USITC Pub. 4344 at 16; Confidential First Five-Year Review, at 22.

⁷⁹ *First Reviews*, USITC Pub. 4344 at 17; Confidential First Five-Year Review, at 22.

⁸⁰ *Second Reviews*, USITC Pub. 4758 at 15-16.

⁸¹ Domestic Interested Parties' Response at 5, 24; Domestic Interested Parties' Comments 4,7.

⁸² Domestic Interested Parties' Response at 5, 24; Domestic Interested Parties' Comments 4,7.

⁸³ *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 3884 at 22.

⁸⁴ *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4344 at 17.

⁸⁵ *Second Reviews*, USITC Pub. 4758 at 16.

⁸⁶ Domestic Interested Parties' Comments at 7.

⁸⁷ CR/PR at I-21 (noting that the eastern border of entry was Savannah, Georgia).

⁸⁸ *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 3884 at 23.

market during the period of review.⁸⁹ During the current review period, imports from China and India were present in the U.S. market during all 60 months of the period of review.⁹⁰

Conclusion. The record of these expedited reviews contains limited information concerning subject imports in the U.S. market during the period of review, and it contains no information suggesting a change in the considerations that led the Commission in the first and second reviews to conclude that there would likely be a reasonable overlap of competition among subject imports from China and India and between imports from each subject source and the domestic like product upon revocation. In light of this, and the absence of any contrary argument, we find a likely reasonable overlap of competition among subject imports from China and India and between the domestic like product and subject imports from each source.

D. Likely Conditions of Competition

In determining whether to exercise our discretion to cumulate the subject imports, we assess whether subject imports from the subject countries would compete under similar or different conditions in the U.S. market if the orders under review were revoked. In the first and second five-year reviews, the Commission found that subject imports from China and India were likely to compete under similar conditions of competition in the event of revocation. The Commission observed that subject producers from China and India maintained their presence in the U.S. market, and that these producers could use their existing business relationships in the U.S. market to expand their exports into the United States in the event of revocation.⁹¹ Based on this record, and in the absence of any argument to the contrary, we do not find any likely significant difference in competitive conditions to warrant not cumulating subject imports from China and India. We therefore exercise our discretion to cumulate subject imports.

IV. Revocation of the Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Orders Would Likely Lead to Continuation or Recurrence of Material Injury Within a Reasonably Foreseeable Time

A. Legal Standards

In a five-year review conducted under section 751(c) of the Tariff Act, Commerce will revoke an antidumping or countervailing duty order unless: (1) it makes a determination that dumping or subsidization is likely to continue or recur and (2) the Commission makes a determination that revocation of the antidumping or countervailing duty order “would be likely to lead to continuation or recurrence of material injury within a reasonably foreseeable time.”⁹² The Statement of Administrative Action to the Uruguay Round Agreements Act (“SAA”) states that “under the likelihood standard, the Commission will engage in a counterfactual analysis; it

⁸⁹ *First Reviews*, USITC Pub. 4344 at 17; *Second Review*, USITC Pub. 4758 at 16.

⁹⁰ Domestic Interested Parties’ Comments at 6-7.

⁹¹ *First Reviews*, USITC Pub. 4344 at 18; *Second Reviews*, USITC Pub. 4758 at 17.

⁹² 19 U.S.C. § 1675a(a).

must decide the likely impact in the reasonably foreseeable future of an important change in the status quo—the revocation or termination of a proceeding and the elimination of its restraining effects on volumes and prices of imports.”⁹³ Thus, the likelihood standard is prospective in nature.⁹⁴ The U.S. Court of International Trade (“CIT”) has found that “likely,” as used in the five-year review provisions of the Act, means “probable,” and the Commission applies that standard in five-year reviews.⁹⁵

The statute states that “the Commission shall consider that the effects of revocation or termination may not be imminent, but may manifest themselves only over a longer period of time.”⁹⁶ According to the SAA, a “‘reasonably foreseeable time’ will vary from case-to-case, but normally will exceed the ‘imminent’ timeframe applicable in a threat of injury analysis in original investigations.”⁹⁷

Although the standard in a five-year review is not the same as the standard applied in an original investigation, it contains some of the same fundamental elements. The statute provides that the Commission is to “consider the likely volume, price effect, and impact of imports of the subject merchandise on the industry if the orders are revoked or the suspended investigation is terminated.”⁹⁸ It directs the Commission to take into account its prior injury determination, whether any improvement in the state of the industry is related to the order or the suspension agreement under review, whether the industry is vulnerable to material injury if

⁹³ SAA at 883-84. The SAA states that “{t}he likelihood of injury standard applies regardless of the nature of the Commission’s original determination (material injury, threat of material injury, or material retardation of an industry). Likewise, the standard applies to suspended investigations that were never completed.” *Id.* at 883.

⁹⁴ While the SAA states that “a separate determination regarding current material injury is not necessary,” it indicates that “the Commission may consider relevant factors such as current and likely continued depressed shipment levels and current and likely continued {sic} prices for the domestic like product in the U.S. market in making its determination of the likelihood of continuation or recurrence of material injury if the order is revoked.” SAA at 884.

⁹⁵ See *NMB Singapore Ltd. v. United States*, 288 F. Supp. 2d 1306, 1352 (Ct. Int’l Trade 2003) (“‘likely’ means probable within the context of 19 U.S.C. § 1675(c) and 19 U.S.C. § 1675a(a)”), *aff’d mem.*, 140 Fed. Appx. 268 (Fed. Cir. 2005); *Nippon Steel Corp. v. United States*, 26 CIT 1416, 1419 (2002) (same); *Usinor Industeel, S.A. v. United States*, 26 CIT 1402, 1404 nn.3, 6 (2002) (“more likely than not” standard is “consistent with the court’s opinion;” “the court has not interpreted ‘likely’ to imply any particular degree of ‘certainty’”); *Indorama Chemicals (Thailand) Ltd. v. United States*, 26 CIT 1059, 1070 (2002) (“standard is based on a likelihood of continuation or recurrence of injury, not a certainty”); *Usinor v. United States*, 26 CIT 767, 794 (2002) (“‘likely’ is tantamount to ‘probable,’ not merely ‘possible’”).

⁹⁶ 19 U.S.C. § 1675a(a)(5).

⁹⁷ SAA at 887. Among the factors that the Commission should consider in this regard are “the fungibility or differentiation within the product in question, the level of substitutability between the imported and domestic products, the channels of distribution used, the methods of contracting (such as spot sales or long-term contracts), and lead times for delivery of goods, as well as other factors that may only manifest themselves in the longer term, such as planned investment and the shifting of production facilities.” *Id.*

⁹⁸ 19 U.S.C. § 1675a(a)(1).

an order is revoked or a suspension agreement is terminated, and any findings by Commerce regarding duty absorption pursuant to 19 U.S.C. § 1675(a)(4).⁹⁹ The statute further provides that the presence or absence of any factor that the Commission is required to consider shall not necessarily give decisive guidance with respect to the Commission's determination.¹⁰⁰

In evaluating the likely volume of imports of subject merchandise if an order under review is revoked and/or a suspended investigation is terminated, the Commission is directed to consider whether the likely volume of imports would be significant either in absolute terms or relative to production or consumption in the United States.¹⁰¹ In doing so, the Commission must consider "all relevant economic factors," including four enumerated factors: (1) any likely increase in production capacity or existing unused production capacity in the exporting country; (2) existing inventories of the subject merchandise, or likely increases in inventories; (3) the existence of barriers to the importation of the subject merchandise into countries other than the United States; and (4) the potential for product shifting if production facilities in the foreign country, which can be used to produce the subject merchandise, are currently being used to produce other products.¹⁰²

In evaluating the likely price effects of subject imports if an order under review is revoked and/or a suspended investigation is terminated, the Commission is directed to consider whether there is likely to be significant underselling by the subject imports as compared to the domestic like product and whether the subject imports are likely to enter the United States at prices that otherwise would have a significant depressing or suppressing effect on the price of the domestic like product.¹⁰³

In evaluating the likely impact of imports of subject merchandise if an order under review is revoked and/or a suspended investigation is terminated, the Commission is directed to consider all relevant economic factors that are likely to have a bearing on the state of the industry in the United States, including but not limited to the following: (1) likely declines in output, sales, market share, profits, productivity, return on investments, and utilization of capacity; (2) likely negative effects on cash flow, inventories, employment, wages, growth, ability to raise capital, and investment; and (3) likely negative effects on the existing development and production efforts of the industry, including efforts to develop a derivative or more advanced version of the domestic like product.¹⁰⁴ All relevant economic factors are to be considered within the context of the business cycle and the conditions of competition that are distinctive to the industry. As instructed by the statute, we have considered the extent to

⁹⁹ 19 U.S.C. § 1675a(a)(1). Commerce did not make any duty absorption findings in relation to these Orders during these five-year reviews.

¹⁰⁰ 19 U.S.C. § 1675a(a)(5). Although the Commission must consider all factors, no one factor is necessarily dispositive. SAA at 886.

¹⁰¹ 19 U.S.C. § 1675a(a)(2).

¹⁰² 19 U.S.C. § 1675a(a)(2)(A-D).

¹⁰³ See 19 U.S.C. § 1675a(a)(3). The SAA states that "{c}onsistent with its practice in investigations, in considering the likely price effects of imports in the event of revocation and termination, the Commission may rely on circumstantial, as well as direct, evidence of the adverse effects of unfairly traded imports on domestic prices." SAA at 886.

¹⁰⁴ 19 U.S.C. § 1675a(a)(4).

which any improvement in the state of the domestic industry is related to the orders under review and whether the industry is vulnerable to material injury upon revocation.¹⁰⁵

No respondent interested party participated in this expedited review. The record, therefore, contains limited new information with respect to the LPSS industry in China or India. There also is limited information on the LPSS market in the United States during the period of review. Accordingly, for our determination, we rely as appropriate on the facts available from the original investigations, first and second reviews, and the record in these third five-year reviews.

B. Conditions of Competition and the Business Cycle

In evaluating the likely impact of the subject imports on the domestic industry if an order is revoked, the statute directs the Commission to consider all relevant economic factors “within the context of the business cycle and conditions of competition that are distinctive to the affected industry.”¹⁰⁶ The following conditions of competition inform our determinations.

1. Demand Conditions

Prior Proceedings. In the original investigations, the Commission observed that apparent U.S. consumption of LPP increased over the POI and that the parties agreed that U.S. demand for LPSS also increased.¹⁰⁷ It further observed that both the domestic like product and subject imports were primarily sold to retailers, which increasingly imported LPSS directly.¹⁰⁸ The Commission also found that a limited number of large retailers purchased substantial quantities of LPP, and that retailers placed orders during the fall season of the preceding year.¹⁰⁹ The parties agreed that demand for LPSS was seasonal, peaking during a four- to ten-week back-to-school shopping period beginning in July and ending no later than September.¹¹⁰

In the first five-year reviews, the Commission observed that apparent U.S. consumption of LPP fluctuated within a narrow range during the period of review and that market participants reported that U.S. demand for LPSS remained stable.¹¹¹ The Commission also found that most LPP was purchased by retailers, and the concentration of these purchases by a few large retailers had increased since the original investigations.¹¹² The Commission further

¹⁰⁵ The SAA states that in assessing whether the domestic industry is vulnerable to injury if the order is revoked, the Commission “considers, in addition to imports, other factors that may be contributing to overall injury. While these factors, in some cases, may account for the injury to the domestic industry, they may also demonstrate that an industry is facing difficulties from a variety of sources and is vulnerable to dumped or subsidized imports.” SAA at 885.

¹⁰⁶ 19 U.S.C. § 1675a(a)(4).

¹⁰⁷ *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 3884 at 24.

¹⁰⁸ *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 3884 at 26-27.

¹⁰⁹ *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 3884 at 25.

¹¹⁰ *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 3884 at 34.

¹¹¹ *First Reviews*, USITC Pub. 4344 at 24.

¹¹² *First Reviews*, USITC Pub. 4344 at 24.

observed that demand for LPP was highly seasonal, with purchases peaking in the second and third quarters of the year.¹¹³

In the second five-year reviews, apparent U.S. consumption of LPSS substantially decreased. AASPS argued that the U.S. market for LPSS remained “mature and stable” with brick-and-mortar stores dominating purchases of LPSS, although online retailers became larger participants in the market.¹¹⁴ AASPS also claimed that the two most important retail events of the year were the Christmas holiday and back-to-school selling season.¹¹⁵

Current Reviews. In the current five-year review, global demand for LPSS reportedly has decreased, reflecting a shift to digitization, which has also been exacerbated by reduced demand as school and workplaces closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.¹¹⁶ Despite these issues, there was reportedly an increase in demand in the fall of 2021 due to back-to-school purchases, and increased purchases by e-commerce retailers, including Amazon.com.¹¹⁷ Apparent U.S. consumption of LPSS was *** pieces in 2022, which was lower than apparent U.S. consumption in 2005, 2011, and 2016.¹¹⁸

2. Supply Conditions

Prior Proceedings. The Commission made several observations regarding supply conditions in the original investigations and prior reviews, finding that the principal suppliers of LPP to the U.S. market were the domestic producers followed by subject imports and then by nonsubject imports. It observed that over the POI, the share of apparent U.S. consumption on a quantity basis held by the domestic industry declined from *** percent to *** percent, while the share held by cumulated subject imports increased from *** percent to *** percent and the share held by nonsubject imports increased from *** percent to *** percent.¹¹⁹ While recognizing that retailers generally place orders in the fall season of the preceding year, the Commission observed that U.S. production peaked in the winter and spring seasons and U.S. shipments peaked between April and June of the following year.¹²⁰

In the first five-year reviews, the Commission observed that over the period of review, the domestic industry’s share of apparent U.S. consumption declined from 27.4 percent in 2006 percent to 25.3 percent in 2011.¹²¹ Cumulated subject imports from China and India accounted

¹¹³ *First Reviews*, USITC Pub. 4344 at 24.

¹¹⁴ *Second Reviews*, USITC Pub. 4758 at 21.

¹¹⁵ *Second Reviews*, USITC Pub. 4758 at 21.

¹¹⁶ CR/PR at I-27. In response to purchaser questionnaires regarding significant changes in supply and demand of LPSS, *** reported that the ***. *** responded: *** CR/PR at D-3.

¹¹⁷ CR/PR at I-15, Table I-3.

¹¹⁸ CR/PR at I-22, Table I-6.

¹¹⁹ *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 3884 at 25-26; Confidential Original Investigations Commission Views, EDIS Doc. 620538, at 36-37.

¹²⁰ *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 3884 at 36.

¹²¹ *First Reviews*, USITC Pub. 4344 at 24. The Commission observed that the pertinent HTS classifications changed during the period of review. In July 2009, a residual classification covering (Continued...)

for between 13.9 and 16.1 percent of the quantity of apparent U.S. consumption during the period of review while nonsubject imports accounted for between 24.9 and 32.1 percent of apparent U.S. consumption.¹²²

In the second five-year reviews, the domestic industry's share of apparent U.S. consumption was *** percent in 2016, which was higher than in 2011 at 25.3 percent. Cumulated subject imports accounted for *** percent of apparent U.S. consumption in 2016, which was lower than in 2011 at 13.9 percent.¹²³ Nonsubject imports accounted for *** percent of apparent U.S. consumption in 2016, which was lower than in 2011 at 25.3 percent.¹²⁴

Current Reviews. According to AASPS, the domestic industry's ***.¹²⁵ The record indicates that the domestic industry's share of apparent U.S. consumption declined from *** percent in 2016 to *** percent in 2022.¹²⁶ Cumulated subject imports from China and India accounted for *** percent of apparent U.S. consumption in 2022, an increase from *** percent of apparent U.S. consumption in 2016.¹²⁷ Meanwhile, nonsubject imports accounted for *** percent of apparent U.S. consumption, a decrease from *** percent in 2016.¹²⁸

subject and nonsubject merchandise was subdivided into three separate classifications, two of which (4820.10.2030 and 4820.10.2040) contain subject merchandise while the third (4820.10.2060) contains only out of scope products. In light of this, the Commission analyzed subject import volume trends using the broader data category but relied on the narrower category for 2010 and 2011. *Id.* at 12. It stated that based on the narrower measure of import volume, the domestic industry's share of apparent U.S. consumption was 28.7 percent in 2010 and 31.4 percent in 2011. *Id.*

¹²² *First Reviews*, USITC Pub. 4344 at 25, 35. The Commission observed that based on the narrower measure of import volume, cumulated subject imports from China and India accounted for 6.0 percent of apparent U.S. consumption in 2010 and 4.7 percent in 2011. *Id.* at 25. It also observed that based on the narrower measure of import volume, nonsubject imports accounted for 18.4 percent in 2010 and 19.4 percent in 2011. *Id.* at 35.

¹²³ *Second Reviews*, USITC Pub. 4758 at 22; Confidential Second Five Year Reviews at 31.

¹²⁴ *Second Reviews*, USITC Pub. 4758 at 22; Confidential Second Five Year Reviews at 31.

¹²⁵ Domestic Industry's Response to Request for Supplemental Information, EDIS Doc. 793153 (Mar. 24, 2023) ("Domestic Parties' Supplemental Response") at 1.

¹²⁶ CR/PR at I-22, Table I-6. There have been several developments in the U.S. industry since the last review. Appvion, Inc. permanently terminated its operations of its distribution center and warehouse facilities located on Kensington Drive and Warehouse Road in Appleton, WI, in October 2017, when it simultaneously filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection. Appvion, Inc. was later acquired by Wynnchurch Capital L.P, which is headquartered in Rosemont, IL, in December 2021. In June 2018, Pacon Corporation was acquired by F.I.L.A. (Fabbrica Italiana Lapis ed Affini S.p.A.), an Italian industrial enterprise. In December 2020, LSC communications ("LSC") headquartered in Warrenville, IL, was acquired by Atlas Holdings, headquartered in Greenwich, CT. In March 2022, Spring Mill, a paper mill that had been operating in Roaring Spring, PA, since 1866, also shut down, affecting 293 workers. CR/PR at Table I-3.

¹²⁷ CR/PR at I-22, Table I-6.

¹²⁸ CR/PR at I-22, Table I-6.

3. Substitutability and Other Conditions

Prior Proceedings. In the original investigations, the Commission found that the domestic like product, subject imports, and nonsubject imports were generally substitutable, and characterized the subject merchandise and the domestic like product as commodity products. The Commission also found that while price was an important factor in purchasing decisions, purchasers indicated that availability, delivery time, product consistency, quality, and reliability of supply were also important purchasing considerations.¹²⁹ The Commission observed that the cost of paper, the principal input in the production of LPP, increased during the POI.¹³⁰

In the first and second five-year reviews, the Commission found that there was a moderate-to-high degree of substitutability between subject imports from each source and the domestic like product, and that price was an important factor in purchasing decisions.¹³¹ Also in the first reviews, the Commission observed that retailers often sell LPP at a loss to attract customers and that the prevalence of auctions magnified the importance of price in purchasing decisions. Furthermore, the Commission found that direct imports of LPSS by retailers with offices in Asia heightened price competition.¹³²

Current Reviews. In this review, there is nothing in the record to suggest that the substitutability between the domestic like product and subject imports has changed since the prior reviews or that the importance of price has changed for purchasers. AASPS contend that subject merchandise is generally interchangeable with the domestic like product.¹³³ Further, they assert that because of this interchangeability, price is “the basis” for purchasing decisions.¹³⁴

Based on the foregoing, we again find that subject imports and the domestic like product are moderately to highly substitutable, and that price is an important factor in purchasing decisions.

Effective September 24, 2018, LPSS originating in China were subject to an additional 10 percent *ad valorem* duty that was increased on May 10, 2019, to 25 percent *ad valorem*, under section 301 of the Trade Act of 1974.¹³⁵

C. Likely Volume of Subject Imports

1. Prior Proceedings

In the original determinations, the Commission found that subject imports increased significantly over the POI, both in absolute terms and relative to consumption and production in

¹²⁹ *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 3884 at 28.

¹³⁰ *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 3884 at 27.

¹³¹ *First Reviews*, USITC Pub. 4344 at 26; *Second Reviews*, USITC Pub. 4758 at 23.

¹³² *First Reviews*, USITC Pub. 4344 at 26-27.

¹³³ Domestic Interested Parties’ Response at 19.

¹³⁴ Domestic Interested Parties’ Response at 24.

¹³⁵ CR/PR at I-9-10.

the United States.¹³⁶ It further found that subject imports gained market share primarily at the expense of the domestic industry throughout the POI. The Commission dismissed the respondents' argument that the increases in subject import volumes were the result of the domestic industry's outsourcing strategy to control the U.S. market. It explained that the statute does not differentiate imports of subject merchandise by the identity of the importers, and that when domestic producers import subject merchandise to remain competitive and avoid losing customers, it may be evidence of material injury being sustained by the domestic industry.¹³⁷ The Commission also found that the increase in nonsubject imports did not diminish the significance of the much larger increase in subject imports.¹³⁸

In the first five-year reviews, the Commission found that cumulated subject imports from China and India were likely to increase significantly in the event of revocation of the orders.¹³⁹ It observed that the cumulated subject imports had maintained a continuous presence in the U.S. market since the imposition of the orders, and that subject producers in China and India possessed significant excess capacity with which they could significantly increase exports to the United States.¹⁴⁰ The Commission also found that subject producers in China and India had the incentive to use their excess capacity to increase exports to the United States in the event of revocation in light of their degree of export orientation and the attractiveness of the U.S. market.¹⁴¹

In the second five-year reviews, the Commission found that the orders continued to have a restraining effect on the volume of cumulated subject imports. The volume of cumulated subject imports decreased compared to the previous reviews.¹⁴² Similarly, cumulated subject imports' share of the market was smaller in 2016 than it was in 2011 or 2005.¹⁴³ AASPS indicated that the subject industries maintained LPSS production capacity, and that subject producers in China maintained business relationships with major U.S. purchasers, such as Office Max, Target, Staples, and Walgreens.¹⁴⁴ Furthermore, AASPS contended that subject producers in India continued to actively seek U.S. sales and were successful in expanding their presence in the United States.¹⁴⁵

2. The Current Reviews

The limited information indicates that the orders have had a restraining effect on the volume of cumulated subject imports, while subject imports continue to maintain a significant presence in the U.S. market. The volume of cumulated subject imports was higher during the

¹³⁶ *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 3884 at 29.

¹³⁷ *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 3884 at 29-30.

¹³⁸ *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 3884 at 31.

¹³⁹ *First Reviews*, USITC Pub. 4344 at 27, 36.

¹⁴⁰ *First Reviews*, USITC Pub. 4344 at 27-28.

¹⁴¹ *First Reviews*, USITC Pub. 4344 at 29.

¹⁴² *Second Reviews*, USITC Pub. 4758 at 24; Confidential Second Five Year Reviews at 34.

¹⁴³ *Second Reviews*, USITC Pub. 4758 at 24; Confidential Second Five Year Reviews at 34.

¹⁴⁴ *Second Reviews*, USITC Pub. 4758 at 24; Confidential Second Five Year Reviews at 35.

¹⁴⁵ *Second Reviews*, USITC Pub. 4758 at 24; Confidential Second Five Year Reviews at 35.

current period of review than the previous period of review and lower than in the original investigation and the first period of review. The volume of cumulated subject imports ranged from 48.4 million pieces to 56.5 million pieces during the current period of review, from 34.3 million pieces to 51.7 million pieces during the second reviews, from 154 million pieces to 184 million pieces during the first reviews, and from 224 million pieces to 377 million pieces during the original investigations.¹⁴⁶ Cumulated subject imports' share of the market was larger in 2022 at *** percent of apparent U.S. consumption, than it was in 2016, at *** percent of apparent U.S. consumption, but their share was smaller than it was in 2011 or 2005, at 13.9 percent and *** percent, respectively.¹⁴⁷

The record contains limited information on the subject industries in China and India. AASPS claims that the subject producers in China and India maintain significant production capacity and business relationships with major U.S. purchasers, and it provided a list of 90 possible producers of LPSS in China and 40 possible producers of LPSS in India.¹⁴⁸ Further, according to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, both India and China maintained significant production of printing and writing paper during the POI, a category that includes LPSS and out-of-scope products.¹⁴⁹

The record also indicates that the industries that produce LPSS and out-of-scope products in China and India are large exporters and find the U.S. market attractive. GTA data indicate that from 2017 to 2022, producers in China and India substantially increased the value of their exports of select paper products, a category that includes LPSS and out-of-scope products, and the United States was by far the largest export market for such products for both China and India in terms of value.¹⁵⁰ GTA data also show that China was the top global exporter of select paper products from 2017 to 2022.¹⁵¹

Accordingly, based on the information available, including the significant and increasing volume of cumulated subject imports in the original investigations, the continued presence of subject imports in the U.S. market during the period of review, and the facts available concerning the capacity and exports of subject countries, we conclude that the volume of cumulated subject imports, both in absolute terms and relative to U.S. consumption, would likely be significant if the orders were to be revoked.

¹⁴⁶ Calculated from CR/PR at I-20, Table I-5.

¹⁴⁷ CR/PR at I-22, Table I-6.

¹⁴⁸ Domestic Interested Parties' Response at 10 & Exhibit 1; Domestic Interested Parties' Comments at 9.

¹⁴⁹ CR/PR at I-24 - I-25.

¹⁵⁰ CR/PR at I-25, Table I-7; I-27, Table I-8. China increased its exports from \$1.7 billion in 2017 to \$2.6 billion in 2022, and India increased its exports from \$88.1 million in 2017 to \$170.6 million in 2022. *Id.*

¹⁵¹ CR/PR at I-28, Table I-9.

D. Likely Price Effects

1. Prior Proceedings

In the original investigations, the Commission found that the domestic like product and subject imports were generally substitutable and that most sales were made on the basis of price. It found significant underselling as cumulated subject imports undersold the domestic like product in 78 of 126 (or 61.9 percent of) quarterly comparisons, with margins ranging from 0.5 percent to 55.5 percent.¹⁵² The Commission also found that subject imports depressed domestic prices to a significant degree, especially in 2004.¹⁵³

In the first five-year reviews, the Commission found that cumulated subject imports from China and India would likely undersell the domestic like product to a significant degree in the event of revocation and would likely depress prices of the domestic like product to a significant degree. The Commission observed that domestic prices increased generally after the imposition of the orders, but cumulated subject imports from China and India still undersold the domestic like product to a significant degree as there was underselling in 28 of 41 (or 68.2 percent of) quarterly comparisons. The Commission also considered the retailers' direct import purchase cost data and observed that *** percent of the reported retailer purchases of subject imports from China and India were priced lower than the domestic like product, which supported the finding that subject imports from China and India were aggressively priced during the period.¹⁵⁴

In the second five-year reviews, the Commission found that cumulated subject imports would likely increase to significant levels upon revocation. Moreover, it found a moderate-to-high degree of substitutability between subject imports and the domestic like product and that price continued to be an important factor in purchasing decisions.¹⁵⁵ Therefore, the Commission found that the likely significant volume of subject imports would likely undersell the domestic like product, as demonstrated by the subject imports pricing behavior prior to the imposition of the orders, and force the domestic industry either to lower sales prices or lose sales and cede market share. In light of these considerations, the Commission concluded that, absent the disciplining effect of the orders, subject imports from China and India would likely have significant depressing or suppressing effects on prices for the domestic like product and/or result in the domestic industry losing market share.¹⁵⁶

2. The Current Reviews

As discussed in section III.B.3 above, we find that there is a moderate-to-high degree of substitutability between subject imports and the domestic like product and that price continues to be an important factor in purchasing decisions.

¹⁵² Original Determinations, USITC Pub. 3884 at 31.

¹⁵³ Original Determinations, USITC Pub. 3884 at 34.

¹⁵⁴ *First Reviews*, USITC Pub. 4344 at 31-32; Confidential First Five-Year Reviews, at 47.

¹⁵⁵ *Second Reviews*, USITC Pub. 4758 at 25.

¹⁵⁶ *Second Reviews*, USITC Pub. 4758 at 25-26.

The record in these expedited reviews does not contain new product-specific pricing information. Based on the moderate-to-high degree of substitutability between the domestic like product and subject imports, the importance of price in purchasing decisions, and the underselling by subject imports during the original investigations and first reviews, we find that if the orders were revoked, significant volumes of subject imports would likely undersell the domestic like product to gain market share. Absent the discipline of the orders, the significant volume of low-priced subject imports would likely take sales and market share from domestic producers and/or force the domestic industry to cut prices or forego needed price increases.

In light of these considerations and the record before the Commission in these reviews, we conclude that if the orders were revoked, subject imports would likely have significant price effects.

E. Likely Impact

1. The Original Investigation and Prior Reviews

In the original investigations, the Commission emphasized that nearly all the domestic industry's trade and financial indicators displayed negative trends that worsened as subject imports increased, notwithstanding increasing demand. The Commission found that the decline in the domestic industry's performance was caused by the increased volume of subject imports that significantly undersold the domestic like product and took market share away from the domestic industry. Although the domestic industry stabilized its financial condition at the end of the POI, it was only able to do so by reducing domestic shipment quantities to maintain price levels as the subject imports' increase in market share was particularly large during that portion of the period.¹⁵⁷ The Commission rejected the respondents' argument that the domestic industry's injury was self-inflicted due to its outsourcing strategy by observing that Commission's analysis of the impact of the subject imports focuses exclusively on the domestic industry's production operations within the United States. Furthermore, the Commission found that subject imports were increasingly imported by entities other than the domestic producers.¹⁵⁸

In the first five-year reviews, the Commission found that subject imports from China and India were likely to have a significant impact on the domestic industry in the event of revocation of the orders, notwithstanding the presence of nonsubject imports in the U.S. market. The Commission found that the domestic industry was not in a vulnerable condition.¹⁵⁹ It observed that the domestic industry's capacity and production increased during the period of review and that the domestic industry's employment indicators also generally improved. Although the domestic industry's sales and market share had fluctuated, its financial performance remained strong, which enabled domestic producers to make significant investments in their operations.¹⁶⁰ The Commission found that the improved financial

¹⁵⁷ *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 3884 at 35-38.

¹⁵⁸ *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 3884 at 38-39.

¹⁵⁹ *First Reviews*, USITC Pub. 4344 at 33.

¹⁶⁰ *First Reviews*, USITC Pub. 4344 at 33-35.

performance resulted from the higher prices permitted by the disciplining effect of the orders on subject imports from China and India.¹⁶¹ While the Commission observed that nonsubject imports maintained a significant share of apparent U.S. consumption during the period of review, nonsubject imports did not weaken the causal nexus between cumulated subject imports and the likelihood of continuation or recurrence of material injury to the domestic industry in the event of revocation.¹⁶²

In the second five-year reviews, the Commission found that the likely significant volume of cumulated subject imports would place pressure on domestic producers to cut prices or cede market share to subject imports.¹⁶³ Additionally, the likely significant volume of subject imports and their price effects would negatively affect the domestic industry's production capacity, production, capacity utilization, shipments, and market share, directly impacting the domestic industry's profitability and employment.¹⁶⁴ Finally, given the substitutability of LPSS regardless of source, any increase in cumulated subject import market share would likely come, at least in substantial proportion, at the expense of the domestic industry.¹⁶⁵ Thus, the Commission determined that revocation of the orders would be likely to lead to a significant volume of subject imports that would undersell the domestic like product and have significant adverse effects on the domestic industry's prices and performance.¹⁶⁶

2. The Current Reviews

The record in these expedited reviews contains limited information concerning the domestic industry's performance since previous last reviews. The available information reflects a long-term decline in the domestic industry's capacity, production, shipments, and sales, although the industry remains ***. Domestic interested parties attribute these declines to ***.¹⁶⁷ In 2022, the domestic industry's capacity was *** pieces, its capacity utilization was *** percent, its production was *** pieces, and its U.S. commercial shipments were *** pieces.¹⁶⁸ The industry's net sales in 2022 were \$***, its operating income was \$***, and its ratio of operating income to net sales was *** percent.¹⁶⁹ This limited information in these expedited reviews is insufficient for us to make a finding as to whether the domestic industry is vulnerable to continuation or recurrence of material injury in the event of revocation of the orders.

Based on the information available in this review, we find that revocation of the orders would likely result in a significant increase in subject import volume that would likely undersell the domestic like product to a significant degree. Given the moderate-to-high degree of substitutability between the domestic like product and subject imports and the importance of

¹⁶¹ *First Reviews*, USITC Pub. 4344 at 35.

¹⁶² *First Reviews*, USITC Pub. 4344 at 35-36.

¹⁶³ *Second Reviews*, USITC Pub. 4758 at 27.

¹⁶⁴ *Second Reviews*, USITC Pub. 4758 at 27.

¹⁶⁵ *Second Reviews*, USITC Pub. 4758 at 28.

¹⁶⁶ *Second Reviews*, USITC Pub. 4758 at 27-28.

¹⁶⁷ CR/PR at I-17, Table I-4; CR/PR at I-27.

¹⁶⁸ CR/PR at I-17, Table I-4.

¹⁶⁹ CR/PR at I-17, Table I-4.

price to purchasers, significant volumes of low-priced subject imports would likely capture sales and market share from the domestic industry and/or significantly depress or suppress prices for the domestic like product. The likely significant volume of cumulated subject imports and their adverse price effects would likely have a significant adverse impact on the domestic industry's production, shipments, sales, market share, and revenues, which in turn would have a direct adverse impact on the industry's profitability and employment, as well as its ability to raise capital and make and maintain necessary capital investments.

We have also considered the role of factors other than subject imports, including the presence of nonsubject imports, so as not to attribute injury from other factors to the subject imports. Nonsubject imports' market share was somewhat lower in 2022, at *** percent, than in 2016, when it was *** percent.¹⁷⁰ The record provides no indication that the presence of nonsubject imports would prevent subject imports from entering the U.S. market in significant quantities after revocation of the order. Given that the domestic industry supplied *** percent of apparent U.S. consumption in 2022,¹⁷¹ the degree of substitutability between the subject imports and the domestic like product, and the importance of price in purchasing decisions, we find it likely that the increase in low-priced subject imports would come at least in part at the expense of the domestic industry and/or depress or suppress prices for the domestic like product. Indeed, as cumulated subject imports gained market share in the current review period, it primarily came at the expense of the domestic industry.¹⁷² For these reasons, we find that any effects of nonsubject imports would be distinct from the likely effects attributable to the subject imports.

We recognize that apparent U.S. consumption was *** percent lower in 2022 than in 2016.¹⁷³ Demand for LPSS reportedly declined in 2022 due to the overall decline in the use of paper at offices and homes because of growing global digitization, as well as the COVID-19 pandemic resulted in schools and offices closing.¹⁷⁴ To the extent that demand continues to decline, the increase in low-priced subject imports that is likely after revocation would exacerbate the effects of declining demand on the domestic industry.

In sum, we conclude that if the orders were to be revoked, cumulated subject imports from China and India would likely have a significant impact on the domestic industry within a reasonably foreseeable time.

V. Conclusion

For the foregoing reasons, we determine that revocation of the antidumping duty orders on LPSS from China and India and the countervailing duty order on LPSS from India would be likely to lead to continuation or recurrence of material injury to an industry in the United States within a reasonably foreseeable time.

¹⁷⁰ CR/PR at I-22, Table I-6.

¹⁷¹ CR/PR at I-22, Table I-6.

¹⁷² CR/PR at I-22, Table I-6.

¹⁷³ CR/PR at I-22, Table I-6.

¹⁷⁴ CR/PR at I-27.

Information obtained in these reviews

Background

On February 1, 2023, the U.S. International Trade Commission (“Commission”) gave notice, pursuant to section 751(c) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (“the Act”),¹ that it had instituted reviews to determine whether revocation of the countervailing duty order on lined paper school supplies (“LPSS”) from India and the antidumping duty orders on LPSS from China and India.² All interested parties were requested to respond to this notice by submitting certain information requested by the Commission.^{3 4} Table I-1 presents information relating to the background and schedule of this proceeding:

Table I-1
LPSS: Information relating to the background and schedule of this proceeding

Effective date	Action
February 1, 2023	Notice of initiation by Commerce (88 FR 6700, February 1, 2023)
February 1, 2023	Notice of institution by Commission (88 FR 6787, February 1, 2023)
May 8, 2023	Commission’s vote on adequacy
May 19, 2023	Commerce’s results of its expedited reviews of the AD duty orders
June 5, 2023	Commerce’s results of its expedited reviews of the CVD duty order
August 4, 2023	Commission’s determinations and views

¹ 19 U.S.C. 1675(c).

² 88 FR 6787 February 1, 2023. In accordance with section 751(c) of the Act, the U.S. Department of Commerce (“Commerce”) published a notice of initiation of five-year reviews of the subject countervailing duty order and the antidumping duty orders. 88 FR 6700, February 1, 2023. Pertinent Federal Register notices are referenced in app. A, and may be found at the Commission’s website (www.usitc.gov).

³ As part of their response to the notice of institution, interested parties were requested to provide company-specific information. That information is presented in app. B. Summary data compiled in the original investigations and subsequent full reviews are presented in app. C.

⁴ Interested parties were also requested to provide a list of three to five leading purchasers in the U.S. market for the domestic like product and the subject merchandise. Presented in app. D are the responses received from purchaser surveys transmitted to the purchasers identified in this proceeding.

Responses to the Commission’s notice of institution

Individual responses

The Commission received one submission in response to its notice of institution in the subject reviews. It was filed on behalf of Association of American School Paper Suppliers (“AASPS”), an association, and its three individual members which are domestic producers of LPSS, ACCO Brands USA LLC (“ACCO”), Norcom, Inc. (“Norcom”), and Top Flight, Inc. (“Top Flight”) (collectively referred to herein as the “domestic interested party”).⁵

A complete response to the Commission’s notice of institution requires that the responding interested party submit to the Commission all the information listed in the notice. Responding firms are given an opportunity to remedy or explain deficiencies in their responses and to provide clarifying details where appropriate. A summary of the number of responses and estimates of coverage for each is shown in table I-2.

Table I-2

LPSS: Summary of responses to the Commission’s notice of institution

Interested party	Type	Number of firms	Coverage
U.S. trade association	Domestic	1	***%
U.S. producer	Domestic	3	***%

Note: The U.S. producer coverage figure presented is the domestic interested party’s estimate of its share of LPSS during 2022. Domestic interested party’s response to the notice of institution, p. 2.

Party comments on adequacy

The Commission received party comments on the adequacy of responses to the notice of institution and whether the Commission should conduct expedited or full reviews from the domestic interested party. The domestic interested party requests that the Commission conduct expedited reviews of the antidumping duty orders on LPSS from China and India and the countervailing duty order on LPSS from India.⁶

The original investigations

The original investigations resulted from petitions filed on September 9, 2005, with Commerce and the Commission by MeadWestvaco Corp. (“MeadWestvaco”), Dayton, Ohio;

⁵ Domestic interested party’s response to the notice of institution, March 2, 2023, p.1, n.1.

⁶ Domestic interested party’s comments on adequacy, April 13, 2022, p.1.

Norcom, Norcross, Georgia; and Top Flight, Chattanooga, Tennessee.⁷ On August 8, 2006, Commerce determined that imports of LPSS from India were being sold at less than fair value (“LTFV”) and subsidized by the Government of India.⁸ On August 16, 2006, Commerce determined that imports of LPSS from Indonesia were being sold at LTFV and subsidized by the Government of Indonesia.⁹ On September 8, 2006, Commerce determined that imports of LPSS from China were being sold at LTFV.¹⁰ The Commission determined on September 21, 2006, that the domestic industry was materially injured by reason of subsidized imports of LPSS from India and Indonesia and LTFV imports of LPSS from China, India, and Indonesia.¹¹ On September 28, 2006, Commerce issued its duty orders on LPSS with the final weighted-average dumping margins ranging from 3.91 percent to 23.17 percent for India; 97.85 percent to 118.63 percent for Indonesia; and 76.70 percent to 258.21 percent for China.¹² Commerce issued its countervailing duty orders on LPSS with the final weighted-average dumping margins ranging from 7.05 percent to 10.24 percent for India and 40.55 percent for Indonesia.¹³

The first five-year reviews

On November 4, 2011, the Commission determined that it would conduct full reviews of the antidumping duty orders on LPSS from China, India, and Indonesia and the countervailing duty orders on LPSS from India and Indonesia.¹⁴ On November 29, 2011, Commerce determined that revocation of the countervailing duty order on LPSS from Indonesia would be likely to lead to a continuation or recurrence of subsidization.¹⁵ On December 6, 2011, Commerce determined that revocation of the antidumping duty orders on LPSS from China, Indonesia, and India and the countervailing duty order on LPSS from India would likely lead to continuation or recurrence of dumping and subsidization.¹⁶ On August 17, 2012, the Commission determined

⁷ Certain Lined Paper School Supplies From China, India, and Indonesia, 701-TA-442-443 and 731-TA-1095-1097 (Final), USITC Publication 3884, September 2006 (“Original publication”), p. I-1.

⁸ 71 FR 45012 and 71 FR 45034, August 8, 2006.

⁹ 71 FR 47171 and 71 FR 47174, August 16, 2006.

¹⁰ 71 FR 53079, September 8, 2006.

¹¹ 71 FR 55804, September 25, 2006. The Commission also found that imports subject to Commerce’s affirmative critical circumstances determination were not likely to undermine seriously the remedial effect of the order on China and Indonesia.

¹² 71 FR 56949, September 28, 2006. As corrected in 71 FR 62583, October 26, 2006.

¹³ 71 FR 56949, September 28, 2006. Commerce found the subsidy margin for Indian producer Kejriwal Paper de minimus.

¹⁴ 76 FR 72213, November 22, 2011.

¹⁵ 76 FR 73592, November 29, 2011.

¹⁶ 76 FR 76147 and 76 FR 76123, December 6, 2011, as amended in 76 FR 76144, December 6, 2011.

that revocation of the countervailing duty order on LPSS from India and the antidumping duty orders on LPSS from China and India would be likely to lead to continuation or recurrence of material injury to an industry in the United States within a reasonably foreseeable time. The Commission also determined that revocation of the countervailing duty order and antidumping duty order on LPSS from Indonesia would not be likely to lead to continuation or recurrence of material injury to an industry in the United States within a reasonably foreseeable time.¹⁷ Following affirmative determinations in the five-year reviews by Commerce and the Commission, effective August 31, 2012, Commerce issued a continuation of the antidumping duty orders on imports of LPSS from China and India and the countervailing duty order on imports of LPSS from India.¹⁸ Following negative determinations in the five-year reviews by the Commission, Commerce revoked the antidumping and countervailing duty orders with respect to imports of LPSS from Indonesia, effective September 28, 2011.¹⁹

The second five-year reviews

On October 6, 2017, the Commission determined that it would conduct expedited reviews of the antidumping duty orders on LPSS from China and India and the countervailing duty order on LPSS from India.²⁰ On November 6, 2017, Commerce determined that revocation of the countervailing duty order on LPSS from India would be likely to lead to continuation or recurrence of subsidization.²¹ On November 8, 2017, Commerce determined that revocation of the antidumping duty orders on LPSS from China and India would be likely to lead to continuation or recurrence of dumping.²² On February 2, 2018, the Commission determined that revocation of the countervailing duty order on LPSS from India and the antidumping duty orders on LPSS from China and India would be likely to lead to continuation or recurrence of material injury to an industry in the United States within a reasonably foreseeable time.²³ Following affirmative determinations in the five-year reviews by Commerce and the Commission, effective March 6, 2018, Commerce issued a continuation of the antidumping duty

¹⁷ 77 FR 51570, August 24, 2012.

¹⁸ 77 FR 53172, August 31, 2012.

¹⁹ 77 FR 53174, August 31, 2012.

²⁰ 82 FR 49659, October 26, 2017, as amended in 82 FR 51642, November 7, 2017.

²¹ 82 FR 51390, November 6, 2017.

²² 82 FR 51812, November 8, 2017.

²³ 83 FR 5646, February 8, 2018.

orders on imports of LPSS from China and India and the countervailing duty order on imports of LPSS from India.²⁴

Previous and related investigations

LPSS has not been the subject of any prior related antidumping or countervailing duty investigations in the United States.

Commerce's five-year reviews

Commerce announced that it would conduct expedited reviews with respect to the orders on imports of lined paper products from China with the intent of issuing the final results of these reviews based on the facts available not later than June 1, 2023.²⁵ Commerce publishes its Issues and Decision Memoranda and its final results concurrently, accessible upon publication at <https://access.trade.gov/public/FRNoticesListLayout.aspx>. Issues and Decision Memoranda contain complete and up-to-date information regarding the background and history of the order, including scope rulings, duty absorption, changed circumstances reviews, and anticircumvention, as well as any decisions that may have been pending at the issuance of this report. Any foreign producers/exporters that are not currently subject to the antidumping or countervailing duty orders on imports of LPSS from China and India are noted in the sections titled "The original investigations" and "U.S. imports," if applicable.

The product

Commerce's scope

Commerce has defined the scope as follows:

The scope of these orders includes certain lined paper products, typically school supplies (for purposes of this scope definition, the actual use of or labeling these products as school supplies or non-school supplies is not a defining characteristic) composed of or including paper that incorporates straight horizontal and/or vertical lines on ten or more paper sheets (there shall be no minimum page requirement for loose leaf filler paper),

²⁴ 83 FR 9479, March 6, 2018.

²⁵ Letter from Eric Greynolds, Director, AD/CVD Operations, Enforcement and Compliance, U.S. Department of Commerce to Nannette Christ, Director of Investigations, March 23, 2023.

including but not limited to such products as single- and multi-subject notebooks, composition books, wireless notebooks, loose leaf or glued filler paper, graph paper, and laboratory notebooks, and with the smaller dimension of the paper measuring 6 inches to 15 inches (inclusive) and the larger dimension of the paper measuring 8–3/4 inches to 15 inches (inclusive). Page dimensions are measured size (not advertised, stated, or “tear-out” size), and are measured as they appear in the product (i.e., stitched and folded pages in a notebook are measured by the size of the page as it appears in the notebook page, not the size of the unfolded paper). However, for measurement purposes, pages with tapered or rounded edges shall be measured at their longest and widest points. Subject lined paper products may be loose, packaged or bound using any binding method (other than case bound through the inclusion of binders board, a spine strip, and cover wrap). Subject merchandise may or may not contain any combination of a front cover, a rear cover, and/or backing of any composition, regardless of the inclusion of images or graphics on the cover, backing, or paper. Subject merchandise is within the scope of these orders whether or not the lined paper and/or cover are hole punched, drilled, perforated, and/or reinforced. Subject merchandise may contain accessory or informational items including but not limited to pockets, tabs, dividers, closure devices, index cards, stencils, protractors, writing implements, reference materials such as mathematical tables, or printed items such as sticker sheets or miniature calendars, if such items are physically incorporated, included with, or attached to the product, cover and/or backing thereto.

Specifically excluded from the scope of these orders are:

- Unlined copy machine paper;*
- writing pads with a backing (including but not limited to products commonly known as “tablets,” “note pads,” “legal pads,” and “quadrille pads”), provided that they do not have a front cover (whether permanent or removable). This exclusion does not apply to such writing pads if they consist of hole-punched or drilled filler paper;*

- *three-ring or multiple-ring binders, or notebook organizers incorporating such a ring binder provided that they do not include subject paper;*
- *index cards;*
- *printed books and other books that are case bound through the inclusion of binders board, a spine strip, and cover wrap;*
- *newspapers;*
- *pictures and photographs;*
- *desk and wall calendars and organizers (including but not limited to such products generally known as “office planners,” “time books,” and “appointment books”);*
- *telephone logs;*
- *address books;*
- *columnar pads & tablets, with or without covers, primarily suited for the recording of written numerical business data;*
- *lined business or office forms, including but not limited to: pre-printed business forms, lined invoice pads and paper, mailing and address labels, manifests, and shipping log books;*
- *lined continuous computer paper;*
- *boxed or packaged writing stationery (including but not limited to products commonly known as “fine business paper,” “parchment paper,” and “letterhead”), whether or not containing a lined header or decorative lines;*
- *Stenographic pads (“steno pads”), Gregg ruled (“Gregg ruling” consists of a single- or double-margin vertical ruling line down the center of the page. For a six-inch by nine-inch stenographic pad, the ruling would be located approximately three inches from the left of the book), measuring 6 inches by 9 inches; Also excluded from the scope of these orders are the following trademarked products:*
- *FlyTM lined paper products: A notebook, notebook organizer, loose or glued note paper, with papers that are printed with infrared reflective inks and readable only by a FlyTM pen-top computer. The product must bear the valid trademark FlyTM*

(products found to be bearing an invalidly licensed or used trademark are not excluded from the scope).

- *Zwipes™: A notebook or notebook organizer made with a blended polyolefin writing surface as the cover and pocket surfaces of the notebook, suitable for writing using a specially developed permanent marker and erase system (known as a Zwipes™ pen). This system allows the marker portion to mark the writing surface with a permanent ink. The eraser portion of the marker dispenses a solvent capable of solubilizing the permanent ink allowing the ink to be removed. The product must bear the valid trademark Zwipes™ (products found to be bearing an invalidly licensed or used trademark are not excluded from the scope).*
- *FiveStar® Advance™: A notebook or notebook organizer bound by a continuous spiral, or helical, wire and with plastic front and rear covers made of a blended polyolefin plastic material joined by 300 denier polyester, coated on the backside with PVC (poly vinyl chloride) coating, and extending the entire length of the spiral or helical wire. The polyolefin plastic covers are of specific thickness; front cover is 0.019 inches (within normal manufacturing tolerances) and rear cover is 0.028 inches (within normal manufacturing tolerances). Integral with the stitching that attaches the polyester spine covering, is captured both ends of a 1" wide elastic fabric band. This band is located 23/8" from the top of the front plastic cover and provides pen or pencil storage. Both ends of the spiral wire are cut and then bent backwards to overlap with the previous coil but specifically outside the coil diameter but inside the polyester covering. During construction, the polyester covering is sewn to the front and rear covers face to face (outside to outside) so that when the book is closed, the stitching is concealed from the outside. Both free ends (the ends not sewn to the cover and back) are stitched with a turned edge construction. The flexible polyester material forms a covering over the spiral wire to protect it and provide a comfortable grip on the product. The product must bear the valid trademarks FiveStar® Advance™*

(products found to be bearing an invalidly licensed or used trademark are not excluded from the scope).

- *FiveStar Flex™: A notebook, a notebook organizer, or binder with plastic polyolefin front and rear covers joined by 300 denier polyester spine cover extending the entire length of the spine and bound by a 3-ring plastic fixture. The polyolefin plastic covers are of a specific thickness; front cover is 0.019 inches (within normal manufacturing tolerances) and rear cover is 0.028 inches (within normal manufacturing tolerances). During construction, the polyester covering is sewn to the front cover face to face (outside to outside) so that when the book is closed, the stitching is concealed from the outside. During construction, the polyester cover is sewn to the back cover with the outside of the polyester spine cover to the inside back cover. Both free ends (the ends not sewn to the cover and back) are stitched with a turned edge construction. Each ring within the fixture is comprised of a flexible strap portion that snaps into a stationary post which forms a closed binding ring. The ring fixture is riveted with six metal rivets and sewn to the back plastic cover and is specifically positioned on the outside back cover. The product must bear the valid trademark FiveStar Flex™ (products found to be bearing an invalidly licensed or used trademark are not excluded from the scope).²⁶*

U.S. tariff treatment

LPSS is currently provided for under statistical reporting numbers 4811.90.9035, 4820.10.2020, 4820.10.2030, and 4820.10.2040 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (“HTS”).²⁷ These tariff classifications contain other products outside the scope of the review. The general rates of duty are “free.”²⁸ Decisions on the tariff classification and treatment of imported goods are within the authority of U.S. Customs and Border Protection. Effective September 24, 2018, LPSS originating in China was subject to an additional 10 percent

²⁶ 83 FR 9479, March 6, 2018.

²⁷ HTSUS headings 4810.22.5044, 4820.10.2010, 4820.10.2060, and 4820.10.4000 contain out of scope merchandise, for which the general rates of duty are also “free.” Harmonized Tariff Schedule (HTS) of the United States (2023) Revision 1, Publication 5412, February 2023.

²⁸ USITC, HTS (2023) Revision 1, Publication 5412, February 2023, pp. 48-16, 48-21, 48-24, and 48-26.

ad valorem duty that was increased on May 10, 2019, to 25 percent ad valorem, under section 301 of the Trade Act of 1974.²⁹

Description and uses³⁰

LPSS encompass a range of products, including, but not limited to, looseleaf filler paper, composition books, and notebooks. Commerce's scope definition (above) provides information regarding the physical characteristics of products included within the scope of this review. Generally, subject merchandise comprises a group of paper products having "straight horizontal and/or vertical lines" and is broadly inclusive of lined filler paper and many types of bound notebooks but excludes certain specific types of products enumerated in the scope definition. The primary use for LPSS is to take notes, perform class assignments, and provide completed work to teachers for correction and grades. In the original investigation, the petitioner noted that LPSS must conform to teacher and student expectations related to size, the presence of margins, and hole punches for storage.

The physical characteristics of LPSS include elements of privacy, protection, and convenience. Notebooks, for instance, include covers that shield written work from others, as well as protect pages from wear during transport, while looseleaf paper (when placed in a binder) performs a similar function. Notebooks may also contain enhancements such as dividers, pockets, and reference materials that promote their core classroom and education use.

The nature of the pulp process used to make the paper that, in turn, is used for LPSS can affect product characteristics such as strength and texture. Paper can be manufactured from virgin pulp, pulp made from agricultural residues, recovered paper pulp, or a combination of furnish types. Chemical additives and bleaching will also influence paper characteristics such as brightness or whiteness. Industry standards for measuring brightness and/or whiteness vary and are not always comparable.

²⁹ 83 FR 47974, September 21, 2018, and 84 FR 20459, May 9, 2019. See also HTS heading 9903.88.03 and U.S. notes 20(e) and 20(f) to subchapter III of chapter 99 and related tariff provisions for this duty treatment USITC, HTS (2023) Revision 1, USITC Publication 5412, February 2023, pp. 99-III-26, 99-III-27, and 99-III-40.

³⁰ Unless otherwise noted, this information is based the second review publication, pp. I-8 – I-9.

Manufacturing process³¹

The domestic production of LPSS begins with rolls of unlined paper, purchased by U.S. producers at arm's length. Most of the paper used in the production of LPSS has a basis weight of 56 grams per square meter (15 pounds). The width of the rolls typically varies between 31 and 36 inches depending on the dimensions of the final product for which the paper is to be used. The most important performance specification is a smooth surface suitable for writing with either a pen or pencil.

Manufacturing entails three basic processes: ruling, binding, and wrapping/packing. These processes can be accomplished with highly automated "web-to-finish" machines that rule, bind, and wrap products in one continuous line of production, or with multiple machines for ruling and binding (and greater labor input) in a "step and repeat" process. Machines that produce LPSS such as filler paper can also produce other lined paper products such as index cards. However, not all LPSS use the same production machinery. For example, producing notebooks requires different manufacturing equipment (i.e., staple-pinning machines) than is used for other forms of LPSS.

Ruling

Ruling is typically done in the same manner whether on separate ruling machines or web-to finish machines. Rolls of paper are mounted on a roll stand at the upstream end of the machine. The web of paper runs through a rotary flexographic press that has four cylinders. Two cylinders (one for red ink and one for blue) print the top of the paper, and two cylinders print the bottom of the paper. Given appropriate printing places for their presses, ruling machines can be used to make products with any ruling pattern and of any dimension. Web-to-finish machines are generally dedicated to particular products but can be configured to make products with various dimensions and ruling patterns.

After printing, the paper passes under a rotary sheeter, which cuts the web perpendicular to the direction of travel into large sheets depending on the dimensions of the finished product. The large sheets are counted, stacked to the desired page count, and, if necessary, covers, backing material, dividers and/or an inner liner are added to the stack. Perforations may also be made, and holes may be punched, depending on the particular product being made. The compiled layers of large sheets are then either collected on a pallet at

³¹ Unless otherwise noted, this information is based on second review publication, pp. I-8 – I-11 and confidential second review report, pp. I-11 – I-15.

the end of the ruling machine to await further processing or moved to the binding operation in web-to-finish machines.

Binding

Binding equipment differs depending on the type of binding required (e.g., spiral binding, double-wire binding, glue tape binding, center-stitch binding, or stapling). Web-to-finish machines are therefore configured to handle exclusively one particular type of binding. For wire-bound notebooks, compiled layers of large sheets resulting from the ruling process outlined about are cut into three rows representing the size of two notebooks each. These “two-on strips” are then punched with wire binding and ring holes and cut into two notebooks each. Each notebook is then automatically wired and passed along a conveyor for packing. The components of notebooks produced by web-to-finish machines must be of the same size and of a single consistency; the process does not allow for oversized covers or backs, or for pocketed dividers.

For spiral bound products made with the step and repeat process, pallets of large sheets are delivered by forklift to an automatic programmable paper cutter (“APPC”) that makes a series of cuts that reduce the large sheets into product-size pieces. The heart of an APPC is a large guillotine that is capable of cutting several layers at a time. The APPC also has various movable fences that corral the sheets as they are being cut. Because the position of the fences for each cut is computer controlled, APPCs are capable of cutting products of any dimension; cutting patterns can be changed at the touch of a button, with no set-up time in between. Once cut to the proper size, the notebooks are moved to a spiral binding machine. For single-subject notebooks, a binder operator may add a cover to each layer as it is fed into the binder. The machine then punches small holes into the edges of the completed stack and twists spiraled wire into the holes in a fraction of a second. For multi-subject notebooks, an operator adds pockets to the bottom and middle sections of the notebook, and a cover to the top section. The binder machine then hole-punches each section, assembles each section into a notebook, and finally twists a wire binding on. Some binder machines are capable of both single- or twin-wire binding. The same machines can be used to bind LPSS and out-of-scope lined paper products.

Composition books and exercise books that require stitch-binding are ***. Traditional composition books begin with ***

***.

Wrapping and Packing

Finished LPSS is often wrapped in plastic before packing. Wrapping is an integral function of web-to-finish machines. For the step and repeat process, wrapping equipment is ***. Looseleaf paper requires wrapping in lieu of binding. Printed top sheets are inserted onto finished paper stacks prior to cutting, and the requisite number of sheets are then passed through a plastic wrapper. Other products, such as notebooks, may be collected in multiples and also packaged in plastic wrap. Finished LPSS, wrapped or otherwise, passes along a conveyor to an employee for hand-packing in a corrugated shipping box. Corrugated boxes may be “display ready” to facilitate restocking on retailers’ shelves.

The industry in the United States

U.S. producers

During the final phase of the original investigations, the Commission received usable U.S. producer questionnaires from 10 firms, which accounted for virtually all known production of certain lined paper products (“CLPP”)³² in the United States during 2005.³³ During the first five-year reviews, the Commission received U.S. producer questionnaires from eight firms, which accounted for virtually all known production of LPP in the United States.³⁴ During the second five-year reviews, the domestic interested party provided a list of seven known and

³² During the preliminary phase of the original investigations, the Commission defined the domestic like product as the in-scope product and other lined paper products with dimensions including and between 5 inches x 7 inches and 15 inches x 15 inches, or CLPP. Original publication, p. 6. The coverage estimate provided during the final phase investigations was based on the preliminary phase definition of the domestic like product. During the final phase investigations, the Commission defined the domestic like product to include all lined paper products, regardless of dimension, or lined paper products (“LPP”). Original publication, p. 11.

³³ Original publication, p. III-1.

³⁴ First review publication, p. I-4, n. 9.

currently operating U.S. producers of LPSS.³⁵ ³⁶ Three responding firms accounted for approximately *** percent of production of LPSS in the United States during 2016.³⁷

Three firms providing U.S. industry data in response to the Commission’s notice of institution accounted for approximately *** percent of production of LPPS in the United States during 2022. In response to the Commission’s notice of institution in these current reviews, domestic interested parties provided a list of four other known and currently operating U.S. producers of LPP.³⁸

Recent developments

Table I-3 presents events in the U.S. industry since the Commission’s last five-year review.³⁹ ***⁴⁰ Certain relevant information on the U.S. industry from other sources related to the COVID-19 pandemic is incorporated in “The global market” section.

³⁵ The second and third five-year reviews used the in-scope product LPSS, as opposed to the domestic like product, for its coverage estimates.

³⁶ Second review publication, p. I-13.

³⁷ Second review confidential report, p. I-2.

³⁸ Domestic interested parties’ response to the notice of institution, March 2, 2023, exh.1.

³⁹ For recent developments, if any, in tariff treatment, please see “U.S. tariff treatment” section.

⁴⁰ ***.

Table I-3
LPSS: Developments in the U.S. industry

Item	Firm	Event
Distribution Center Closure (October 2017)	Appvion Inc.	Appvion, Inc. permanently terminated its operations of the distribution center and warehouse facilities located on Kensington Drive and Warehouse Road in Appleton, WI.
Bankruptcy (October 2017)	Appvion Inc	Appvion filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection (Appleton, WI).
Acquisition (June 2018)	Pacon Corporation	Pacon (based in Appleton, WI).was acquired by F.I.L.A. (Fabbrica Italiana Lapis ed Affini S.p.A.), an Italian industrial enterprise
Acquisition (December 2020)	LSC Communications (LSC)	LSC, headquartered in Warrenville, IL, was acquired by Atlas Holdings, headquartered in Greenwich, CT.
Mill Closure (March 2022)	Appvion Inc.	Spring Mill, a paper mill that had been operating since 1866, shut down, affecting 293 workers (Roaring Spring, PA).
Demand increase (Fall 2021)	n/a	Increase in back-to-school purchases overall and increased purchases by e-commerce retailers, including Amazon.com.
Company Acquired (December 2021)	Appvion Inc.	Appvion Holding Company (based in Appleton, WI) was acquired by Wynnchurch Capital L.P, which is headquartered in Rosemont, IL.

Source: WeAreGreenBay.com, "Appleton company closing distribution center, layoffs expected," <https://www.wearegreenbay.com/news/local-news/appleton-company-closing-distribution-center-layoffs-expected/>, September 17, 2017. Wbay.com, "Appvion files for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection," <https://www.wbay.com/content/news/Appvion-files-for-Chapter-11-bankruptcy-protection-449055733.html>, October 2, 2017. Pacon.Corporation, "F.I.L.A. acquires Pacon Corporation," <https://pacon.com/full-article/FILA.html>, June 8, 2018. Atlas Holdings LLC, "Atlas Holdings acquires LSC Communications," <https://www.atlasholdingsllc.com/news/atlas-holdings-acquires-lsc-communications/>, December 4, 2020. Pennlive.com, "Blair County paper mill operating since 1866 blames closing on COVID-19 pandemic," <https://www.pennlive.com/news/2021/02/blair-county-paper-mill-operating-since-1866-blames-closing-on-covid-19-pandemic.html>, February 16, 2021. Insider Intelligence, "US back-to-school ecommerce sales with grow more than 13% this year," <https://www.insiderintelligence.com/content/back-to-school-ecommerce-sales-will-grow-another-10-this-year>, July 5, 2021. Whby.com, "Appvion under new ownership," <https://www.whby.com/2021/12/07/appvion-under-new-ownership/>, December 7, 2021.

U.S. producers' trade and financial data

The Commission asked domestic interested parties to provide trade and financial data in their response to the notice of institution in the current five-year reviews.⁴¹ Table I-2 presents a compilation of the trade and financial data submitted from all responding U.S. producers in the original investigations and subsequent five-year reviews.⁴²

⁴¹ Individual company trade and financial data are presented in app. B.

⁴² According to the domestic interested party, ***. Domestic parties' supplemental response, March 24, 2023, p.1.

Table I-4
LPSS: Trade and financial data submitted by U.S. producers, by period

Quantity in 1,000 units; value in 1,000 dollars; unit value in dollars per piece; ratio is in percent

Item	Measure	2005	2011	2016	2022
Capacity	Quantity	977,936	601,280	***	***
Production	Quantity	476,307	330,475	***	***
Capacity utilization	Ratio	48.7	55.0	***	***
U.S. shipments	Quantity	469,947	281,308	***	***
U.S. shipments	Value	273,002	235,657	***	***
U.S. shipments	Unit value	\$0.58	\$0.84	***	***
Net sales	Value	***	243,276	***	***
COGS	Value	***	179,048	***	***
COGS to net sales	Ratio	***	73.6	***	***
Gross profit or (loss)	Value	***	64,228	***	***
SG&A expenses	Value	***	26,842	***	***
Operating income or (loss)	Value	***	37,386	***	***
Operating income or (loss) to net sales	Ratio	***	15.4	***	***

Source: For the years 2005-2016, data are compiled using data submitted in the Commission's original investigations, first and second five-year reviews. For the year 2022, data are compiled using data submitted by the domestic interested party. Domestic interested party's response to the notice of institution, March 3, 2023, exh. 1.

Note: For a discussion of data coverage, please see "U.S. producers" section.

Definitions of the domestic like product and domestic industry

The domestic like product is defined as the domestically produced product or products which are like, or in the absence of like, most similar in characteristics and uses with, the subject merchandise. The domestic industry is defined as the U.S. producers as a whole of the domestic like product, or those producers whose collective output of the domestic like product constitutes a major proportion of the total domestic production of the product. Under the related parties provision, the Commission may exclude a U.S. producer from the domestic industry for purposes of its injury determination if "appropriate circumstances" exist.⁴³

⁴³ Section 771(4)(B) of the Tariff Act of 1930, 19 U.S.C. § 1677(4)(B).

In its original determinations, its full first, and expedited second five-year reviews, the Commission found one Domestic Like Product consisting of all lined paper products (“LPP”), regardless of dimension.

In its original determinations and full first five-year reviews, the Commission found one Domestic Industry consisting of all domestic producers of lined paper products. The Commission also found during the original investigations that circumstances were appropriate to exclude two domestic producers, American Scholar and CPP, from the Domestic Industry under the related parties provision. In the full first five-year reviews and second expedited reviews, the Commission found that appropriate circumstances did not exist to exclude U.S. producers from the Domestic Industry.⁴⁴

U.S. importers

During the final phase of the original investigations, the Commission received U.S. importer questionnaires from 39 firms, which accounted for approximately 39 percent of total value of U.S. imports of LPSS from China, India, and Indonesia during 2005.⁴⁵ Import data presented in the original investigations were based on official Commerce statistics.

During the first five-year reviews, the Commission received U.S. importer questionnaires from 25 firms, which accounted for approximately 2.8 percent of total U.S. imports of LPSS from China, 50.0 percent from India, and 0.0 percent from Indonesia during 2011.⁴⁶ Import data presented in the first reviews were based on official Commerce statistics.

Although the Commission did not receive responses from any respondent interested parties in its second five-year reviews, the domestic interested party provided a list of 44 firms that may currently import LPSS from China and India.⁴⁷

Although the Commission did not receive responses from any respondent interested parties in these current reviews, in its response to the Commission’s notice of institution, the domestic interested party provided a list of 41 potential U.S. importers of LPSS.⁴⁸

⁴⁴ 88 FR 6787, February 1, 2023.

⁴⁵ A total of 49 firms submitted questionnaires, 10 of which indicated they did not import LPSS during period of investigation. Original publication, p. IV-1.

⁴⁶ First review publication, p. IV-1.

⁴⁷ Second review publication, p. I-16.

⁴⁸ Domestic interested party’s response to the notice of institution, March 3, 2023, exh. 1.

U.S. imports

Table I-5 presents the quantity, value, and unit value of U.S. imports from China and India as well as the other top sources of U.S. imports (shown in descending order of 2022 imports by quantity).

Table I-5
LPSS: U.S. imports, by source and period

Quantity in 1,000 pieces; value in 1,000 dollars; unit value in dollars per piece

U.S. imports from	Measure	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
India	Quantity	39,378	52,880	75,411	44,559	42,424	51,152
China	Quantity	9,029	9,047	6,715	4,683	5,133	5,343
Subject sources	Quantity	48,407	61,928	82,127	49,241	47,557	56,495
Vietnam	Quantity	82,636	89,926	90,274	94,000	68,528	85,432
Brazil	Quantity	14,334	12,323	23,829	26,565	38,624	20,892
Taiwan	Quantity	5,446	5,787	9,499	4,834	9,850	10,958
All other sources	Quantity	87,403	77,228	51,264	64,650	50,940	26,531
Nonsubject sources	Quantity	189,819	185,263	174,866	190,049	167,943	143,813
All import sources	Quantity	238,226	247,191	256,993	239,290	215,500	200,308
India	Value	15,390	22,397	31,905	19,517	18,070	25,566
China	Value	16,147	19,702	19,324	8,720	9,874	11,465
Subject sources	Value	31,536	42,099	51,228	28,237	27,944	37,031
Vietnam	Value	69,318	69,518	77,073	72,157	66,525	88,168
Brazil	Value	9,714	7,415	17,660	13,448	20,309	16,269
Taiwan	Value	10,763	8,703	14,499	7,360	7,086	6,127
All other sources	Value	52,587	54,526	35,015	40,832	39,701	41,105
Nonsubject sources	Value	142,383	140,163	144,247	133,797	133,622	151,668
All import sources	Value	173,919	182,262	195,475	162,034	161,566	188,699
India	Unit value	0.39	0.42	0.42	0.44	0.43	0.50
China	Unit value	1.79	2.18	2.88	1.86	1.92	2.15
Subject sources	Unit value	0.65	0.68	0.62	0.57	0.59	0.66
Vietnam	Unit value	0.84	0.77	0.85	0.77	0.97	1.03
Brazil	Unit value	0.68	0.60	0.74	0.51	0.53	0.78
Taiwan	Unit value	1.98	1.50	1.53	1.52	0.72	0.56
All other sources	Unit value	0.60	0.71	0.68	0.63	0.78	1.55
Nonsubject sources	Unit value	0.75	0.76	0.82	0.70	0.80	1.05
All import sources	Unit value	0.73	0.74	0.76	0.68	0.75	0.94

Source: Compiled from official Commerce statistics for HTS statistical reporting numbers 4811.90.9035, 4820.10.2030, and 4820.10.2040, accessed March 2, 2023.

Note: Because of rounding, figure may not add to total shown.

Cumulation considerations⁴⁹

In assessing whether imports should be cumulated in five-year reviews, the Commission considers, among other things, whether there is a likelihood of a reasonable overlap of competition among subject imports and the domestic like product. Additional information concerning geographical markets and simultaneous presence in the market is presented below.⁵⁰

Imports from China and India were reported in 60 of the 60 months between 2017 and 2022.

The largest share of imports from China entered through eastern borders of entry in all years from 2017 through 2022, with the exception of 2019 and 2020 where the largest share of imports were entered through western borders of entry. Imports of LPSS from China in 2022 were entered through the same eastern border of entry (Savannah, Georgia).

The majority of imports from India entered through eastern borders of entry in all years from 2017 through 2022. The majority of imports of LPSS from India in 2022 were entered through the same eastern border of entry (Savannah, Georgia).

Apparent U.S. consumption and market shares

Table I-6 presents data on U.S. producers' U.S. shipments, U.S. imports, apparent U.S. consumption, and market shares.

⁴⁹ Unless otherwise noted, this information is based on official U.S. import statistics for HTS statistical reporting numbers 4811.90.9035, 4820.10.2030, and 4820.10.2040.

⁵⁰ In addition, available information concerning subject country producers and the global market is presented in the next section of this report.

Table I-6**LPSS: Apparent U.S. consumption and market shares, by source and period**

Quantity in 1,000 pieces; value in 1,000 dollars; shares in percent

Source	Measure	2005	2011	2016	2022
U.S. producers	Quantity	469,947	281,308	***	***
China	Quantity	345,897	120,247	11,153	5,343
India	Quantity	31,312	33,994	40,596	51,152
Subject sources	Quantity	377,209	154,241	51,749	56,495
Nonsubject sources	Quantity	183,099	281,705	194,910	143,813
U.S. Imports of outsized lined paper products (OLPP) ¹	Quantity	297,775	396,623	341,034	285,796
All import sources	Quantity	858,083	832,570	587,693	486,104
Apparent U.S. consumption	Quantity	***	1,113,877	***	***
U.S. producers	Value	273,002	235,657	***	***
China	Value	191,063	111,941	23,632	11,465
India	Value	11,929	17,774	16,856	25,566
Subject sources	Value	202,992	129,715	40,488	37,031
Nonsubject sources	Value	153,046	197,631	139,120	151,668
U.S. Imports of outsized lined paper products (OLPP) ¹	Value	165,348	173,099	174,429	180,971
All import sources	Value	521,386	500,446	354,037	369,670
Apparent U.S. consumption	Value	***	736,103	***	***
U.S. producers	Share of quantity	***	25.3	***	***
China	Share of quantity	***	10.8	***	***
India	Share of quantity	***	3.1	***	***
Subject sources	Share of quantity	***	13.8	***	***
Nonsubject sources	Share of quantity	***	25.3	***	***
U.S. Imports of outsized lined paper products (OLPP) ¹	Share of quantity	***	35.6	***	***
All import sources	Share of quantity	***	74.7	***	***
U.S. producers	Share of value	***	32.0	***	***
China	Share of value	***	15.2	***	***
India	Share of value	***	2.4	***	***
Subject sources	Share of value	***	17.6	***	***
Nonsubject sources	Share of value	***	26.8	***	***
U.S. Imports of outsized lined paper products (OLPP) ¹	Share of value	***	23.5	***	***
All import sources	Share of value	***	68.0	***	***

¹ Outsized lined paper products ("OLPP") are lined paper products that fall within the domestic like product but outside the scope definition. OLPP are based on HTS reporting number 4820.10.2020 (reported in 1,000 pieces).

Source: For the years 2005-16, data are compiled using data submitted in the Commission's original investigations, first and second five-year reviews. For the year 2022, U.S. producers' U.S. shipments are compiled from the domestic interested party's response to the Commission's notice of institution and U.S. imports are compiled using official Commerce statistics under HTS statistical reporting numbers 4820.10.2020 (for OLPP imports only), 4820.10.2030, 4820.10.2040, and 4811.90.9035, accessed March 2, 2023.

Note: Import data for 2005 are overstated relative to 2011, 2016, and 2022 due to the deletion of HTS code 4820.10.2050 in 2009 (i.e., after the original investigation) and its replacement with three HTS codes, only two of which are incorporated in import data presented for 2011, 2016, and 2022 (4820.10.2030 and 4820.10.2040).

Note: Import data for 2005 are overstated relative to 2011, 2016, and 2022 due to the deletion of HTS code 4811.90.9090 in 2009 (i.e., after the original investigation) and its replacement with two HTS codes, only one of which is incorporated in import data presented for 2011, 2016, and 2022 (4811.90.9050). HTS code 4811.90.9050 was then deleted effective July 1, 2011, and replaced with two HTS codes, only one of which was incorporated in import data presented for 2016 and 2022 (4811.90.9035), thus, data presented in 2005 and 2011 are overstated relative to data presented in 2016 and 2022.

Note: Import data presented for 2016 may be overstated relative to 2005, 2011, and 2022 import data due to the inclusion of HTS code 4810.22.5044 in 2016 import data. HTS code 4810.22.5044 was not included in 2005 and 2011 import data, as the record during the original investigations demonstrated that the vast majority of subject merchandise was entering under other HTS codes (i.e., 4820.10.2050 and 4811.90.9090). Import data for 2016 did incorporate HTS code 4810.22.5044. Staff decided against incorporating HTS code 4810.22.5044 during these current reviews because it does not meet the qualifications outlined in the scope language. Further, the volumes entering under this HTS code from subject countries are small (13,000 pieces in 2022).

Note: Share of quantity is the share of apparent U.S. consumption by quantity in percent; share of value is the share of apparent U.S. consumption by value in percent.

Note: For a discussion of data coverage, please see "U.S. producers" and "U.S. importers" sections

The industry in China

Producers in China

During the final phase of the original investigations, the Commission received foreign producer/exporter questionnaires from three firms, which accounted for approximately *** percent of production of LPSS in China during 2004, and approximately *** percent of LPSS exports from China to the United States during 2004.⁵¹

During the first five-year reviews, the Commission issued questionnaires to 17 possible producers of LPSS in China but did not receive responses from any Chinese producer or exporter.⁵²

The Commission did not receive responses from any respondent interested parties during the second five year review.⁵³

Although the Commission did not receive responses from any respondent interested parties in these five-year reviews, the domestic interested party provided a list of 90 possible producers of LPSS in China.⁵⁴

Recent developments

Interested parties in the proceeding did not identify any major developments in the Chinese industry since the imposition of the orders. According to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (“FAO”), China’s production of all printing and writing papers declined from an estimated 26.0 million metric tons in 2017 to 24.1 million metric tons in 2021.⁵⁵

Exports

Table I-7 presents export value data for select paper products, a category that includes LPSS and out-of-scope products, from China (by export destination in descending order of value for 2022).

⁵¹ Derived from original confidential report, p. VII-2.

⁵² First review publication, p. IV-11.

⁵³ Second review publication, p. I-22.

⁵⁴ Domestic interested party’s response to the notice of institution, March 3, 2023, exh. 1.

⁵⁵ Food and Agricultural Organization, FAOSTAT, “Forestry Production and Trade”, 2017 and 2021, <https://www.fao.org/faostat/en/#data/FO>, retrieved April 1, 2023.

Table I-7**Select paper products: Value of exports from China, by destination and period**

Value in 1,000 dollars

Destination market	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
United States	389,625	417,646	349,840	278,267	370,619	435,390
Vietnam	40,559	42,046	65,514	78,778	102,611	128,022
United Kingdom	111,521	116,509	120,997	111,029	127,259	121,478
Australia	68,862	71,508	66,292	69,572	84,552	111,777
Malaysia	50,209	54,217	73,973	71,126	83,230	89,350
Russia	27,891	39,719	38,901	36,649	47,863	81,461
Netherlands	47,877	49,182	53,872	55,071	64,936	77,937
Saudi Arabia	25,971	31,348	47,134	28,567	26,180	75,377
India	44,710	42,410	43,162	27,418	42,594	71,952
Iraq	53,514	58,905	71,073	43,881	21,183	60,702
All other markets	821,213	928,866	1,020,392	833,383	952,719	1,328,340
All markets	1,681,953	1,852,357	1,951,152	1,633,742	1,923,745	2,581,786

Source: Global Trade Information Services, Inc., Global Trade Atlas, HS subheadings 4811.90 and 4820.10, accessed March 30, 2023. These data may be overstated as the HS subheadings contain products outside the scope of these reviews.

Note: Because of rounding, figures may not add to total shown.

The industry in India

Producers in India

During the final phase of the original investigations, the Commission received foreign producer/exporter questionnaires from eight firms.⁵⁶ It was not known what percentage of LPSS production in India, or exports of LPSS from India, was accounted for by the responding firms.⁵⁷

During the first five-year reviews, the Commission received foreign producer/exporter questionnaires from eight firms, which accounted for approximately *** percent of production of LPSS from India during 2010, and approximately 91 percent of exports of LPSS from India to the United States during 2011.⁵⁸

⁵⁶ Original public report, p. VII-3.

⁵⁷ Based on the coverage estimate provided by one firm, staff estimated the Indian firms responding to the Commission's questionnaire accounted for approximately *** percent of LPSS exports from India to the United States during 2004. Original confidential report, VII-6, n. 27.

⁵⁸ First review confidential report, p. IV-15, n.27.

The Commission did not receive responses from any respondent interested parties during the second five-year review.⁵⁹

Although the Commission did not receive responses from any respondent interested parties in these five-year reviews, the domestic interested parties provided a list of 41 possible producers of LPSS in India.⁶⁰

Recent developments

Interested parties in the proceeding did not identify any major developments in the Indian industry since the imposition of the orders. According to FAO, India's production of all printing and writing paper increased from an estimated 4.8 million metric tons in 2017 to 5.1 million metric tons in 2021.⁶¹

Exports

Table I-8 presents export data for select paper products, a category that includes LPSS and out-of-scope products, from India (by export destination in descending order of value for 2022). India's exports grew by 93.6 percent from 2017 to 2022. Reportedly, India's global export increases reflect capacity expansion and technological upgrades of Indian paper mills and increased international market development.⁶²

⁵⁹ Second review publication, p. I-24.

⁶⁰ Domestic interested party's response to the notice of institution, March 3, 2023, exh. 1.

⁶¹ Food and Agricultural Organization, FAOSTAT, "Forestry Production and Trade", 2017 and 2021, <https://www.fao.org/faostat/en/#data/FO>, retrieved April 1, 2023.

⁶² India Times/The Economic Times, "Paper exports from India jumps 80%," <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/indl-goods/svs/paper/-wood/-glass/-plastic/-marbles/paper-exports-from-india-jumps-80-to-all-time-high-of-rs-13963-cr-in-fy22-says-ipma/articleshow/91790682.cms?from=mdr>, retrieved April 3, 2023.

Table I-8
Select paper products: Value of exports from India, by destination and period

Value in 1,000 dollars

Destination market	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
United States	34,773	48,439	75,281	62,749	72,413	88,759
United Kingdom	17,016	19,746	19,531	14,255	16,434	17,139
Tanzania	1,261	1,734	1,815	1,147	2,831	6,639
United Arab Emirates	2,540	3,178	3,743	2,528	4,300	5,399
Netherlands	1,525	3,284	3,274	2,200	4,107	5,124
Germany	1,450	3,392	4,138	1,873	2,676	2,931
Greece	1,869	3,046	2,730	2,729	2,580	2,671
Nicaragua	1,346	1,281	1,534	1,293	1,834	2,297
Nepal	1,769	2,000	2,121	1,847	2,685	2,182
Canada	1,116	1,759	1,353	1,442	1,369	1,995
All other markets	23,432	31,719	32,958	25,822	29,444	35,390
All markets	88,096	119,577	148,477	117,886	140,673	170,527

Source: Global Trade Information Services, Inc., Global Trade Atlas, HS subheadings 4811.90 and 4820.10, accessed March 30, 2023. These data may be overstated as the HS subheadings contain products outside the scope of these reviews.

Note: Because of rounding, figures may not add to total shown.

Third-country trade actions

Based on available information, LPSS from China and India have not been subject to other antidumping or countervailing duty investigations outside the United States.

The global market

Table I-9 presents global export value data for select paper products, a category that includes LPSS, (by source in descending order of value for 2022). Global export value in these lined paper products increased by 23.4 percent from 2017 to 2022.

The demand for LPSS has been decreasing in recent years, reflecting a global shift to digitization. The COVID-19 pandemic caused additional reduced demand as schools and workplaces closed. Industry anticipates that there may be a slight increase in demand as people return to school and work. However, the rise in digital learning and remote work will temper any increase.⁶³

⁶³ D’Altorio, Alaina, Label & Narrow Web, “Why the paper industry isn’t attractive to investors,” https://www.labelandnarrowweb.com/contents/view_experts-opinion/2023-01-30/why-the-paper-
(continued...)

Leading exporters China (29.8 percent) and Germany (19.4 percent) accounted for almost half of global export value in 2022. Since 2017, China's exports increased by 53.5 percent and Germany's increased by 26.3 percent. The United States was the third largest exporter, accounting for 6.1 percent of global export value in 2022. Unlike the top two countries, exports from the United States decreased by 8.0 percent from 2017 to 2022.

Table I-9
Select paper products: Value of global exports by country and period

Value in 1,000 dollars

Exporting country	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
China`	1,681,953	1,852,357	1,951,152	1,633,742	1,923,745	2,581,786
Germany	1,334,508	1,563,730	1,467,172	1,332,592	1,597,550	1,684,892
United States	578,985	589,659	566,148	429,423	479,983	532,702
France	257,454	343,173	308,907	299,376	316,884	354,468
Italy	269,900	294,600	278,589	217,092	240,502	253,842
Poland	180,403	199,834	203,321	200,367	260,475	245,458
Spain	166,029	192,243	269,424	207,922	247,726	244,607
South Korea	95,234	126,771	153,743	142,656	145,561	223,928
Netherlands	115,323	140,084	139,436	128,892	196,839	213,381
India	88,096	119,577	148,477	117,886	140,673	170,527
All other exporters	2,262,898	2,469,933	2,322,526	1,926,470	2,268,446	2,168,640
All exporters	7,030,784	7,891,960	7,808,896	6,636,418	7,818,384	8,674,230

Source: Global Trade Information Services, Inc., Global Trade Atlas, HS subheadings 4811.90 and 4820.10. These data may be overstated as the HS subheadings contain products outside the scope of this/these reviews.

Note: Because of rounding, figures may not add to total shown.

[industry-isnt-attractive-to-investors/#:~:text=It%20seems%20that%20this%20issue,t%20attractive%20enough%20for%20investors.&text=Paper%20mills%20are%20notorious%20for,makes%20a%20profit%20increasingly%20difficult](#), retrieved April 3, 2023. Statista Research Department, "Global printing and writing paper consumption 2021-2031," <https://www.statista.com/statistics/1089445/global-writing-and-printing-paper-demand/#:~:text=Global%20printing%20and%20writing%20paper%20consumption%202021%2D2031&text=Approximately%2085%20million%20tons%20of,74%20million%20tons%20by%202032>, retrieved April 3, 2023. Powers, Tedd, Fisher International, "Where is the printing and writing paper segment headed post-COVID?" <https://www.fisheri.com/blog/where-is-the-printing-and-writing-paper-segment-headed-post-covid>, retrieved April 3, 2023.

APPENDIX A
FEDERAL REGISTER NOTICES

The Commission makes available notices relevant to its investigations and reviews on its website, www.usitc.gov. In addition, the following tabulation presents, in chronological order, Federal Register notices issued by the Commission and Commerce during the current proceeding.

Citation	Title	Link
88 FR 6787 February 1, 2023	<i>Lined Paper School Supplies From China and India; Institution of Five-Year Reviews</i>	https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2023-02-01/pdf/2023-02082.pdf
88 FR 6700 February 1, 2023	<i>Initiation of Five-Year (Sunset) Reviews</i>	https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2023-02-01/pdf/2023-02083.pdf

APPENDIX B
COMPANY-SPECIFIC DATA

* * * * *

APPENDIX C
SUMMARY DATA

Table C-2

All lined paper products (LPP plus outsized lined paper products): Summary data concerning the U.S. market, 2003-05

(Quantity=1,000 units, value=1,000 dollars, unit values, unit labor costs, and unit expenses are per unit;
period changes=percent, except where noted)

Item	Reported data			Period changes		
	2003	2004	2005	2003-05	2003-04	2004-05
U.S. consumption quantity:						
Amount	***	***	***	***	***	***
Producers' share (1)	***	***	***	***	***	***
CPP's share	***	***	***	***	***	***
Importers' share [CLPSS] (1):						
China	***	***	***	***	***	***
India	***	***	***	***	***	***
Indonesia	***	***	***	***	***	***
Subtotal (subject)	***	***	***	***	***	***
Brazil	***	***	***	***	***	***
Other sources	***	***	***	***	***	***
Total	***	***	***	***	***	***
Importers' share [OLPP] (1)	***	***	***	***	***	***
Importers' share (total) (1)	***	***	***	***	***	***
U.S. consumption value:						
Amount	***	***	***	***	***	***
Producers' share (1)	***	***	***	***	***	***
CPP's share	***	***	***	***	***	***
Importers' share [CLPSS] (1):						
China	***	***	***	***	***	***
India	***	***	***	***	***	***
Indonesia	***	***	***	***	***	***
Subtotal (subject)	***	***	***	***	***	***
Brazil	***	***	***	***	***	***
Other sources	***	***	***	***	***	***
Total	***	***	***	***	***	***
Importers' share [OLPP] (1)	***	***	***	***	***	***
Importers' share (total) (1)	***	***	***	***	***	***
U.S. imports of CLPSS from:						
China:						
Quantity	186,278	220,744	345,897	85.7	18.5	56.7
Value	108,779	131,836	191,063	75.6	21.2	44.9
Unit value	\$0.58	\$0.60	\$0.55	-5.4	2.3	-7.5
Ending inventory quantity	***	***	***	***	***	***
India:						
Quantity	37,226	35,991	31,312	-15.9	-3.3	-13.0
Value	15,779	13,122	11,929	-24.4	-16.8	-9.1
Unit value	\$0.42	\$0.36	\$0.38	-10.1	-14.0	4.5
Ending inventory quantity	***	***	***	***	***	***
Indonesia:						
Quantity	38,998	34,985	39,305	0.8	-10.3	12.3
Value	15,477	12,603	14,804	-4.3	-18.6	17.5
Unit value	\$0.40	\$0.36	\$0.38	-5.1	-9.2	4.6
Ending inventory quantity	***	***	***	***	***	***
Subtotal (subject):						
Quantity	262,503	291,719	416,514	58.7	11.1	42.8
Value	140,035	157,561	217,797	55.5	12.5	38.2
Unit value	\$0.53	\$0.54	\$0.52	-2.0	1.2	-3.2
Ending inventory quantity	***	***	***	***	***	***
Brazil:						
Quantity	37,200	91,891	65,996	77.4	147.0	-28.2
Value	16,448	35,172	28,713	74.6	113.8	-18.4
Unit value	\$0.44	\$0.38	\$0.44	-1.6	-13.4	13.7
Ending inventory quantity	(2)	(2)	(2)	(3)	(3)	(3)
Other sources:						
Quantity	51,975	73,899	77,798	49.7	42.2	5.3
Value	59,307	98,418	109,528	84.7	65.9	11.3
Unit value	\$1.14	\$1.33	\$1.41	23.4	16.7	5.7
Ending inventory quantity	***	***	***	***	***	***
Total U.S. imports [CLPSS]:						
Quantity	351,678	457,509	560,308	59.3	30.1	22.5
Value	215,791	291,151	356,037	65.0	34.9	22.3
Unit value	\$0.61	\$0.64	\$0.64	3.6	3.7	-0.1
Ending inventory quantity	***	***	***	***	***	***
Total U.S. imports of OLPP:						
Quantity	276,025	283,201	297,775	7.9	2.6	5.1
Value	128,851	148,124	165,348	28.3	15.0	11.6
Unit value	\$0.47	\$0.52	\$0.56	19.0	12.0	6.2
Ending inventory quantity	***	***	***	***	***	***
Total U.S. imports:						
Quantity	627,702	740,711	858,083	36.7	18.0	15.8
Value	344,642	439,275	521,386	51.3	27.5	18.7
Unit value	\$0.55	\$0.59	\$0.61	10.7	8.0	2.5
Ending inventory quantity	24,760	29,429	43,039	73.8	18.9	46.2

Table continued on next page.

Table C-2--Continued

All lined paper products (LPP plus outsized lined paper products): Summary data concerning the U.S. market, 2003-05

(Quantity=1,000 units, value=1,000 dollars, unit values, unit labor costs, and unit expenses are per unit;
period changes=percent, except where noted)

Item	Reported data			Period changes		
	2003	2004	2005	2003-05	2003-04	2004-05
U.S. producers' (4):						
Average capacity quantity	1,077,224	1,047,120	977,936	-9.2	-2.8	-6.6
Production quantity	662,444	611,465	476,307	-28.1	-7.7	-22.1
Capacity utilization (1)	61.5	58.4	48.7	-12.8	-3.1	-9.7
U.S. shipments:						
Quantity	607,539	592,951	469,947	-22.6	-2.4	-20.7
Value	345,131	336,697	273,002	-20.9	-2.4	-18.9
Unit value	\$0.57	\$0.57	\$0.58	2.3	-0.0	2.3
Export shipments:						
Quantity	***	***	***	***	***	***
Value	***	***	***	***	***	***
Unit value	***	***	***	***	***	***
Ending inventory quantity	127,466	133,155	125,524	-1.5	4.5	-5.7
Inventories/total shipments (1)	***	***	***	***	***	***
Production workers	1,344	1,224	1,007	-25.1	-8.9	-17.7
Hours worked (1,000s)	2,704	2,401	1,727	-36.1	-11.2	-28.1
Wages paid (\$1,000)	47,834	43,560	31,627	-33.9	-8.9	-27.4
Hourly wages	\$17.69	\$18.14	\$18.31	3.5	2.6	0.9
Productivity (units per hour) . .	243.6	253.0	275.6	13.1	3.9	8.9
Unit labor costs	\$0.07	\$0.07	\$0.07	-8.5	-1.3	-7.3
Net sales:						
Quantity	***	***	***	***	***	***
Value	***	***	***	***	***	***
Unit value	***	***	***	***	***	***
Cost of goods sold (COGS) . .	***	***	***	***	***	***
Gross profit or (loss)	***	***	***	***	***	***
SG&A expenses	***	***	***	***	***	***
Operating income or (loss) . . .	***	***	***	***	***	***
Capital expenditures	***	***	***	***	***	***
Unit COGS	***	***	***	***	***	***
Unit SG&A expenses	***	***	***	***	***	***
Unit operating income or (loss)	***	***	***	***	***	***
COGS/sales (1)	***	***	***	***	***	***
Operating income or (loss)/						
sales (1)	***	***	***	***	***	***
CPP's U.S. shipments:						
Quantity	***	***	***	***	***	***
Value	***	***	***	***	***	***
Unit value	***	***	***	***	***	***

(1) "Reported data" are in percent and "period changes" are in percentage points.

(2) Not available; inventories of imports from Brazil included within inventories of imports from other sources.

(3) Not applicable.

(4) Excluding data reported by CPP.

Note.--Financial data are reported on a fiscal year basis and may not necessarily be comparable to data reported on a calendar year basis.

Because of rounding, figures may not add to the totals shown. Unit values and shares are calculated from the unrounded figures.

Import data from table C-1 repeated here because imports of out-sized lined paper products are included in Commerce statistics.

Source: Compiled from data submitted in response to Commission questionnaires and from official Commerce statistics.

Table C-1
Lined paper products (LPP): Summary data concerning the U.S. market, 2006-11

(Quantity=1,000 pieces, value=1,000 dollars, unit values, unit labor costs, and unit expenses are per piece; period changes=percent, except where noted)												
Item	Reported data						Period changes					
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2006-11	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
U.S. consumption quantity:												
Amount	1,135,979	1,218,248	1,213,736	1,086,690	1,206,771	1,113,877	-1.9	7.2	-0.4	-10.5	11.1	-7.7
Producers' share (1)	27.4	22.7	23.4	23.6	22.5	25.3	-2.1	-4.6	0.7	0.1	-1.1	2.7
Importers' share [CLPSS] (1):												
China	14.0	10.5	11.7	11.9	10.7	10.8	-3.3	-3.5	1.2	0.2	-1.2	0.1
India	2.1	3.5	3.0	4.0	3.4	3.1	0.9	1.3	-0.4	1.0	-0.7	-0.3
Indonesia	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.8	0.4	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.4	-0.4	-0.0
Subtotal (subject)	16.5	14.4	15.1	16.8	14.5	14.2	-2.2	-2.1	0.8	1.6	-2.2	-0.3
All other sources	26.4	30.1	32.1	26.2	26.5	24.9	-1.5	3.8	2.0	-5.9	0.3	-1.6
Total	42.8	44.5	47.3	43.0	41.0	39.1	-3.7	1.7	2.8	-4.3	-2.0	-1.9
Importers' share [OLPP] (1)	29.8	32.8	29.3	33.4	36.5	35.6	5.8	2.9	-3.5	4.2	3.1	-0.9
Importers' share (total) (1)	72.6	77.3	76.6	76.4	77.5	74.7	2.1	4.6	-0.7	-0.1	1.1	-2.7
U.S. consumption value:												
Amount	740,577	833,782	846,942	710,466	754,675	736,103	-0.6	12.6	1.6	-16.1	6.2	-2.5
Producers' share (1)	32.8	28.3	27.8	33.0	29.6	32.0	-0.8	-4.4	-0.6	5.2	-3.3	2.4
Importers' share [CLPSS] (1):												
China	14.8	13.5	14.6	13.8	15.7	15.2	0.4	-1.4	1.1	-0.8	1.9	-0.5
India	1.4	3.0	2.3	3.3	2.9	2.4	1.0	1.5	-0.7	1.0	-0.4	-0.5
Indonesia	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.2	-0.1	-0.1
Subtotal (subject)	16.4	16.6	17.1	17.5	18.9	17.8	1.4	0.2	0.5	0.4	1.5	-1.1
All other sources	27.1	29.8	32.2	29.5	29.1	26.6	-0.5	2.7	2.4	-2.7	-0.4	-2.5
Total	43.5	46.4	49.3	47.0	48.0	44.5	1.0	2.9	2.9	-2.3	1.1	-3.6
Importers' share [OLPP] (1)	23.7	25.3	23.0	20.1	22.3	23.5	-0.2	1.5	-2.3	-2.9	2.2	1.2
Importers' share (total) (1)	67.2	71.7	72.2	67.0	70.4	68.0	0.8	4.4	0.6	-5.2	3.3	-2.4
U.S. imports of CLPSS from:												
China:												
Quantity	159,562	128,262	141,967	129,796	129,581	120,247	-24.6	-19.6	10.7	-8.6	-0.2	-7.2
Value	109,795	112,295	123,715	98,172	118,835	111,941	2.0	2.3	10.2	-20.6	21.0	-5.8
Unit value	\$0.69	\$0.88	\$0.87	\$0.76	\$0.92	\$0.93	35.3	27.2	-0.5	-13.2	21.2	1.5
Ending inventory quantity	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***
India:												
Quantity	24,240	42,421	36,882	43,940	40,568	33,994	40.2	75.0	-13.1	19.1	-7.7	-16.2
Value	10,659	24,680	19,401	23,370	21,970	17,774	66.7	131.5	-21.4	20.5	-6.0	-19.1
Unit value	\$0.44	\$0.58	\$0.53	\$0.53	\$0.54	\$0.52	18.9	32.3	-9.6	1.1	1.8	-3.5
Ending inventory quantity	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***
Indonesia:												
Quantity	3,207	4,415	4,956	8,315	4,933	4,369	36.2	37.7	12.3	67.8	-40.7	-11.4
Value	1,034	1,560	1,651	2,628	2,169	1,672	61.7	50.9	5.8	59.2	-17.5	-22.9
Unit value	\$0.32	\$0.35	\$0.33	\$0.32	\$0.44	\$0.38	18.7	9.6	-5.7	-5.1	39.1	-13.0
Ending inventory quantity	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***
Subtotal (subject):												
Quantity	187,009	175,097	183,804	182,052	175,083	158,610	-15.2	-6.4	5.0	-1.0	-3.8	-9.4
Value	121,489	138,535	144,768	124,171	142,974	131,387	8.1	14.0	4.5	-14.2	15.1	-8.1
Unit value	\$0.65	\$0.79	\$0.79	\$0.68	\$0.82	\$0.83	27.5	21.8	-0.5	-13.4	19.7	1.4
Ending inventory quantity	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***
All other sources:												
Quantity	299,506	367,145	390,036	285,059	319,606	277,336	-7.4	22.6	6.2	-26.9	12.1	-13.2
Value	200,642	248,189	272,694	209,458	219,582	195,959	-2.3	23.7	9.9	-23.2	4.8	-10.8
Unit value	\$0.67	\$0.68	\$0.70	\$0.73	\$0.69	\$0.71	5.5	0.9	3.4	5.1	-6.5	2.8
Ending inventory quantity	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Total U.S. imports [CLPSS]:												
Quantity	486,515	542,243	573,840	467,111	494,688	435,947	-10.4	11.5	5.8	-18.6	5.9	-11.9
Value	322,131	386,724	417,461	333,629	362,556	327,346	1.6	20.1	7.9	-20.1	8.7	-9.7
Unit value	\$0.66	\$0.71	\$0.73	\$0.71	\$0.73	\$0.75	13.4	7.7	2.0	-1.8	2.6	2.5
Ending inventory quantity	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Total U.S. imports [OLPP]:												
Quantity	338,716	399,065	355,426	363,371	440,408	396,623	17.1	17.8	-10.9	2.2	21.2	-9.9
Value	175,776	210,797	194,451	142,597	168,370	173,099	-1.5	19.9	-7.8	-26.7	18.1	2.8
Unit value	\$0.52	\$0.53	\$0.55	\$0.39	\$0.38	\$0.44	-15.9	1.8	3.6	-28.3	-2.6	14.2
Ending inventory quantity	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Total U.S. imports:												
Quantity	825,231	941,308	929,266	830,482	935,097	832,570	0.9	14.1	-1.3	-10.6	12.6	-11.0
Value	497,907	597,520	611,912	476,226	530,926	500,446	0.5	20.0	2.4	-22.2	11.5	-5.7
Unit value	\$0.60	\$0.63	\$0.66	\$0.57	\$0.57	\$0.60	-0.4	5.2	3.7	-12.9	-1.0	5.9
Ending inventory quantity	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***

Table continued on next page.

Table C-1--Continued

Lined paper products (LPP): Summary data concerning the U.S. market, 2006-11

(Quantity=1,000 pieces, value=1,000 dollars, unit values, unit labor costs, and unit expenses are per piece; period changes=percent, except where noted)												
Item	Reported data						Period changes					
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2006-11	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
U.S. producers:												
Average capacity quantity . . .	547,915	540,808	555,892	561,910	569,482	601,280	9.7	-1.3	2.8	1.1	1.3	5.6
Production quantity	305,048	290,428	279,511	222,102	260,753	330,475	8.3	-4.8	-3.8	-20.5	17.4	26.7
Capacity utilization (1)	55.7	53.7	50.3	39.5	45.8	55.0	-0.7	-2.0	-3.4	-10.8	6.3	9.2
U.S. shipments:												
Quantity	310,747	276,940	284,470	256,208	271,675	281,308	-9.5	-10.9	2.7	-9.9	6.0	3.5
Value	242,670	236,262	235,031	234,240	223,749	235,657	-2.9	-2.6	-0.5	-0.3	-4.5	5.3
Unit value	\$0.78	\$0.85	\$0.83	\$0.91	\$0.82	\$0.84	7.3	9.2	-3.2	10.7	-9.9	1.7
Export shipments:												
Quantity	10,136	10,558	9,917	7,401	9,020	8,495	-16.2	4.2	-6.1	-25.4	21.9	-5.8
Value	8,998	9,562	9,313	5,976	7,052	7,618	-15.3	6.3	-2.6	-35.8	18.0	8.0
Unit value	\$0.89	\$0.91	\$0.94	\$0.81	\$0.78	\$0.90	1.0	2.0	3.7	-14.0	-3.2	14.7
Ending inventory quantity	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***
Inventories/total shipments (1) . .	23.4	31.8	30.0	22.1	17.3	34.0	10.6	8.4	-1.8	-8.0	-4.8	16.7
Production workers	498	506	500	485	519	524	5.2	1.6	-1.2	-3.0	7.0	1.0
Hours worked (1,000s)	853	868	869	846	879	942	10.4	1.8	0.1	-2.6	3.9	7.2
Wages paid (\$1,000)	24,385	24,675	24,172	24,177	25,712	26,392	8.2	1.2	-2.0	0.0	6.3	2.6
Hourly wages	\$28.59	\$28.43	\$27.82	\$28.58	\$29.25	\$28.02	-2.0	-0.6	-2.2	2.7	2.4	-4.2
Productivity (pieces per hour) . .	357.6	334.6	321.6	262.5	296.6	350.8	-1.9	-6.4	-3.9	-18.4	13.0	18.3
Unit labor costs	\$0.08	\$0.08	\$0.09	\$0.11	\$0.10	\$0.08	-0.1	6.3	1.8	25.9	-9.4	-19.0
Net sales:												
Quantity	320,883	287,499	294,387	263,608	279,577	290,696	-9.4	-10.4	2.4	-10.5	6.1	4.0
Value	251,668	245,824	244,344	240,215	230,800	243,276	-3.3	-2.3	-0.6	-1.7	-3.9	5.4
Unit value	\$0.78	\$0.86	\$0.83	\$0.91	\$0.83	\$0.84	6.7	9.0	-2.9	9.8	-9.4	1.4
Cost of goods sold (COGS)	191,350	189,892	182,644	170,775	162,736	179,048	-6.4	-0.8	-3.8	-6.5	-4.7	10.0
Gross profit or (loss)	60,318	55,932	61,700	69,440	68,064	64,228	6.5	-7.3	10.3	12.5	-2.0	-5.6
SG&A expenses	25,992	24,141	23,662	25,298	25,016	26,842	3.3	-7.1	-2.0	6.9	-1.1	7.3
Operating income or (loss)	34,326	31,791	38,038	44,142	43,048	37,386	8.9	-7.4	19.7	16.0	-2.5	-13.2
Capital expenditures	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***
Unit COGS	\$0.60	\$0.66	\$0.62	\$0.65	\$0.58	\$0.62	3.3	10.8	-6.1	4.4	-10.2	5.8
Unit SG&A expenses	\$0.08	\$0.08	\$0.08	\$0.10	\$0.09	\$0.09	14.0	3.7	-4.3	19.4	-6.8	3.2
Unit operating income or (loss) . .	\$0.11	\$0.11	\$0.13	\$0.17	\$0.15	\$0.13	20.2	3.4	16.9	29.6	-8.0	-16.5
COGS/sales (1)	76.0	77.2	74.7	71.1	70.5	73.6	-2.4	1.2	-2.5	-3.7	-0.6	3.1
Operating income or (loss)/ sales (1)	13.6	12.9	15.6	18.4	18.7	15.4	1.7	-0.7	2.6	2.8	0.3	-3.3

(1) "Reported data" are in percent and "period changes" are in percentage points.

(2) Not applicable.

Note.--Financial data are reported on a fiscal year basis and may not necessarily be comparable to data reported on a calendar year basis. Because of rounding, figures may not add to the totals shown. Unit values and shares are calculated from the unrounded figures.

Source: Compiled from data submitted in response to Commission questionnaires and from official Commerce statistics.

CLPSS import data are based on HTS subheadings 4811.90.9050, 4811.90.9090, 4820.10.2030, 4820.10.2040, 4820.10.2050, and 4820.10.2060.

APPENDIX D

PURCHASER QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSES

As part of their response to the notice of institution, interested parties were asked to provide a list of three to five leading purchasers in the U.S. market for the domestic like product. A response was received from a domestic interested party and it provided contact information for the following five firms as top purchasers of line paper school supplies: ***. Purchaser questionnaires were sent to these five firms and two firms *** provided responses, which are presented below.

1. Have there been any significant changes in the supply and demand conditions for lined paper school supplies that have occurred in the United States or in the market for lined paper school supplies in China or India since January 1, 2018?

Purchaser	Yes / No	Changes that have occurred
***	***	***
***	***	***

2. Do you anticipate any significant changes in the supply and demand conditions for lined paper school supplies in the United States or in the market for lined paper school supplies in China and/or India within a reasonably foreseeable time?

Purchaser	Yes / No	Anticipated changes
***	***	***
***	***	***

