

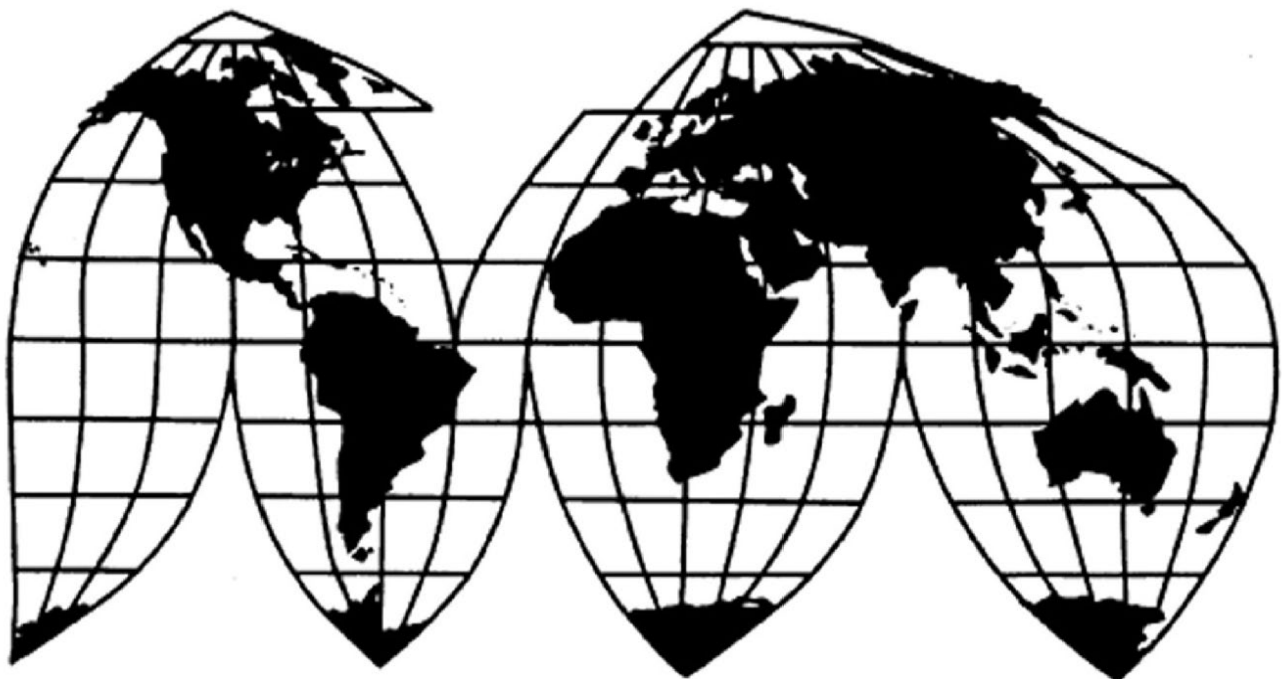
Cast Iron Soil Pipe from China

Investigation Nos. 701-TA-597 and 731-TA-1407 (Review)

Publication 5555

October 2024

U.S. International Trade Commission



Washington, DC 20436

U.S. International Trade Commission

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Note: Information that would reveal confidential operations of individual concerns may not be published. Such information is identified by brackets or by headings in confidential reports and is deleted and replaced with asterisks in public reports.

UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

Investigation Nos. 701-TA-597 and 731-TA-1407 (Review)

Cast Iron Soil Pipe from China

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 antidumping and countervailing duty orders on cast iron soil pipe from China 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 April 1, 2024 (89 FR 22448) and determined on July 5, 2024 that it would conduct expedited reviews (89 FR 68202, August 23, 2024).

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 antidumping and countervailing duty orders on cast iron soil pipe (“CISP”) from China 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 investigations: On January 26, 2018, the Cast Iron Soil Pipe Institute (“CISPI”), an industry association of domestic producers of CISP (collectively, “domestic interested parties” or “domestic producers”), filed antidumping and countervailing duty petitions on imports of CISP from China.¹ In April 2019, the Commission found a domestic industry was materially injured by reason of imports of CISP from China that the U.S. Department of Commerce (“Commerce”) had determined were being sold at less than fair value (“LTFV”) and subsidized by the government of China.² Consequently, on May 3, 2019, Commerce issued antidumping and countervailing duty orders.³

Current Reviews: On April 1, 2024, the Commission instituted these first five-year reviews of the antidumping and countervailing duty orders on CISP from China.⁴ It received one joint response to the notice of institution filed by CISPI, a U.S. trade association whose members, Charlotte Pipe & Foundry and McWane, Inc., are domestic producers of CISP; they stated that together they account for all domestic production of CISP.⁵ No respondent interested party responded to the notice of institution or otherwise participated in these reviews. On July 5, 2024, the Commission determined that the domestic interested party group response to its notice of institution was adequate and that the respondent interested party

¹ *Cast Iron Soil Pipe From China; Institution of Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Investigations and Scheduling of Preliminary Phase Investigations*, 83 Fed. Reg. 4684 (Feb. 1, 2018).

² *Cast Iron Soil Pipe from China*, Inv. Nos. 701-TA-597 and 731-TA-1407 (Final), USITC Pub. 4879 (Apr. 2019) (“*Original Determinations*”) at 1.

³ *Cast Iron Soil Pipe From the People’s Republic of China: Antidumping Duty Order*, 84 Fed. Reg. 19035 (May 3, 2019); *Cast Iron Soil Pipe From the People’s Republic of China: Countervailing Duty Order*, 84 Fed. Reg. 19039 (May 3, 2019).

⁴ *Cast Iron Soil Pipe From China; Institution of Five-Year Reviews*, 89 Fed. Reg. 22448 (Apr. 1, 2024).

⁵ Domestic Response to Notice of Institution, EDIS Doc. 820157 (May 1, 2024) (“Domestic Industry Response”) at 1; CR/PR at I-2.

group response was inadequate.⁶ The Commission did not find any circumstances that would warrant conducting full reviews and thus determined that it would conduct expedited reviews of the orders. On September 26, 2024, the domestic interested parties submitted final comments in these reviews.⁷

U.S. industry data are based on information submitted by the domestic interested parties in their response to the notice of institution, which appear to cover 100 percent of domestic production of CISP in 2023.⁸ U.S. import data and related information are based on Commerce’s official import statistics.⁹ Foreign industry data and related information are based on information from the original investigations, as well as information submitted by the domestic interested party in these expedited reviews and publicly available information, such as Global Trade Atlas (“GTA”) data, gathered by the Commission. Additionally, one firm, ***, identified by domestic interested parties as a U.S. purchaser of CISP, responded to the Commission’s adequacy phase questionnaire.¹⁰

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.”¹¹ 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.”¹² The Commission’s

⁶ Explanation of Commission Determination on Adequacy (“Explanation on Adequacy”), EDIS Doc. 826009 (Jul. 16, 2024).

⁷ Domestic Industry Final Comments (“Final Comments”), EDIS Doc. 833333 (Sept. 26, 2024).

⁸ CR/PR at Table I-2. Domestic Industry Response at 28.

⁹ CR/PR at Table I-7. For the years 2015 to 2017, data are based on data submitted in the Commission’s original investigations. For 2023, U.S. imports are based on official Commerce statistics under HTS statistical reporting number 7303.00.0030. *Id.* at Table I-6 source. U.S. Customs and Border Protection (“CBP”) has made affirmative determinations in a number of Enforce and Protect Act (“EAPA”) investigations throughout 2020 to 2023 that Chinese-origin CISP were being transshipped through Cambodia and Malaysia. Therefore, imports from China are likely understated during 2020-23. *Id.* at Table I-6 note.

¹⁰ CR/PR at D-3.

¹¹ 19 U.S.C. § 1677(4)(A).

¹² 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).

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.¹³

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

The merchandise covered by this order is cast iron soil pipe, whether finished or unfinished, regardless of industry or proprietary specifications, and regardless of wall thickness, length, diameter, surface finish, end finish, or stenciling. The scope of this order includes, but is not limited to, both hubless and hub and spigot cast iron soil pipe. Cast iron soil pipe is nonmalleable iron pipe of various designs and sizes. Cast iron soil pipe is generally distinguished from other types of nonmalleable cast iron pipe by the manner in which it is connected to cast iron soil pipe fittings.

Cast iron soil pipe is classified into two major types—hubless and hub and spigot. Hubless cast iron soil pipe is manufactured without a hub, generally in compliance with Cast Iron Soil Pipe Institute (CISPI) specification 301 and/or American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) specification A888, including any revisions to those specifications. Hub and spigot pipe has one or more hubs into which the spigot (plain end) of a fitting is inserted. All pipe meeting the physical description set forth above is covered by the scope of this order, whether or not produced according to a particular standard.¹⁴

¹³ 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).

¹⁴ Issues and Decision Memorandum for the Expedited First Sunset Review of the Antidumping Duty Order on Cast Iron Soil Pipe from the People's Republic of China (Aug. 5, 2024) at 4; Issues and Decision Memorandum for the Expedited First Sunset Review of the Countervailing Duty Order on Cast Iron Soil Pipe from the People's Republic of China (Aug. 5, 2024) at 4.

CISP is a non-malleable cast iron pipe produced in a variety of sizes and used as a component for sanitary and storm drain, waste, and vent piping.¹⁵ CISP is used in residential, commercial, and industrial construction, as well as public buildings such as schools and hospitals.¹⁶ Additionally, CISP may be used for storm drainage from roofs, yards, areaways, and courts.¹⁷ CISP is manufactured by melting scrap iron, steel scrap, and alloys in a cupola furnace and casting the metal into the desired shapes.¹⁸

CISP is classified as hub and spigot pipe or hubless pipe.¹⁹ Hub and spigot pipe has hubs into which the spigot (plain end) of another pipe or of a fitting is inserted.²⁰ The joint is sealed with a compression gasket or molten lead and oakum.²¹ Hubless pipe is manufactured without a hub and is joined to a fitting or another pipe using a hubless coupling that fits over the ends of the pipe and fitting or the ends of the pipes, and is tightened to seal the joint.²² Hubless CISP is produced to CISPI 301 and ASTM A888 standards and hub and spigot CISP is produced to ASTM A74 standards.²³ Hub and spigot CISP meets the CISPI 301 standard in all aspects other than product dimensions and shapes.²⁴

In the original investigations, the Commission defined a single domestic like product consisting of all CISP, coextensive with Commerce's scope definition.²⁵

In the current reviews, the record does not contain any new information indicating that the pertinent characteristics and uses of CISP have changed since the original investigations so as to warrant revisiting the Commission's domestic like product definition.²⁶ The domestic interested parties agree with the domestic like product definition the Commission adopted in the original investigations.²⁷ Consequently, we again define the domestic like product as consisting of all CISP, coextensive with Commerce's scope.

¹⁵ CR/PR at I-6.

¹⁶ CR/PR at I-6.

¹⁷ CR/PR at I-6.

¹⁸ CR/PR at I-8.

¹⁹ CR/PR at I-8.

²⁰ CR/PR at I-8.

²¹ CR/PR at I-8.

²² CR/PR at I-8.

²³ CR/PR at I-8.

²⁴ CR/PR at I-8.

²⁵ *Original Determination*, USITC Pub. 4879 at 7.

²⁶ CR/PR at I-6-I-10.

²⁷ Domestic Industry Response at 29.

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.”²⁸ 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 defined the domestic industry as all domestic producers of CISP.²⁹

In the current reviews, the domestic interested parties agree with the definition of the domestic industry from the original investigations.³⁰ The record does not indicate that there are any issues arising under the related parties provision in these reviews, or any other issues regarding the definition of the domestic industry.³¹ Accordingly, consistent with our definition of the domestic like product, we define the domestic industry as all domestic producers of CISP.

III. 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.”³² The SAA states that “under the likelihood standard, the Commission will engage in a counterfactual analysis; it 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

²⁸ 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.

²⁹ *Original Determination*, USITC Pub. 4879 at 7.

³⁰ Domestic Industry Response at 29.

³¹ Domestic Industry Response at Exhibit 1.

³² 19 U.S.C. § 1675a(a).

elimination of its restraining effects on volumes and prices of imports.”³³ Thus, the likelihood standard is prospective in nature.³⁴ 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.³⁵

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.”³⁶ 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.”³⁷

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.”³⁸ 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

³³ 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.

³⁴ 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.

³⁵ 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’”).

³⁶ 19 U.S.C. § 1675a(a)(5).

³⁷ 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.*

³⁸ 19 U.S.C. § 1675a(a)(1).

the suspension agreement under review, whether the industry is vulnerable to material injury if 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).³⁹ 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.⁴⁰

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.⁴¹ 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.⁴²

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.⁴³

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

³⁹ 19 U.S.C. § 1675a(a)(1). Commerce has made no duty absorption findings. Issues and Decision Memorandum for the Expedited First Sunset Review of the Antidumping Duty Order on Cast Iron Soil Pipe from the People's Republic of China (Aug. 5, 2024) at 4.

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

⁴¹ 19 U.S.C. § 1675a(a)(2).

⁴² 19 U.S.C. § 1675a(a)(2)(A-D).

⁴³ 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.

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.⁴⁴ 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 which any improvement in the state of the domestic industry is related to the order under review and whether the industry is vulnerable to material injury upon revocation.⁴⁵

The record contains limited new information with respect to the CISP industry in China. There also is limited information on the CISP market in the United States during the period of review (“POR”). Accordingly, for our determinations, we rely as appropriate on the facts available from the original investigations, and the limited new information on the record in these first 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.”⁴⁶ The following conditions of competition inform our determinations.

1. Demand Conditions

Original Investigations. In the original investigations, the Commission found that CISP was used in building construction, with demand for CISP derived from demand for construction activity.⁴⁷ The Commission also found that during the period of investigation (“POI”), the value of U.S. construction activity increased by 5.1 percent for public construction, 37.1 percent for private residential construction, and 18.5 percent for private non-residential construction.⁴⁸

⁴⁴ 19 U.S.C. § 1675a(a)(4).

⁴⁵ 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.

⁴⁶ 19 U.S.C. § 1675a(a)(4).

⁴⁷ *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4879 at 11.

⁴⁸ *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4879 at 11.

Additionally, the Commission found that construction spending was highly seasonal, with spending lowest in January and then generally increasing through the summer, and remaining at elevated levels through October before falling during the final months of the year.⁴⁹ During the POI, apparent U.S. consumption of CISP increased from *** short tons in 2015 to *** short tons in 2016, before declining to *** short tons in 2017, for an overall increase of *** percent from 2015 to 2017.⁵⁰ Apparent U.S. consumption of CISP was higher in interim 2018, at *** short tons, than in interim 2017, at *** short tons.⁵¹

Current Reviews. In the current five-year reviews, the information available indicates that the drivers of demand remain largely unchanged and that demand for CISP continues to be derived from demand for construction activity.⁵² The domestic interested parties maintain that the industry has seen an overall ***,⁵³ observing that apparent U.S. consumption has *** since the original investigations.⁵⁴ Although U.S. construction spending has trended upward since the original investigations, they note, there are indicators that the construction market will not continue to see such growth in the future.⁵⁵ Specifically, the domestic interested parties point to a report that contractors have “tempered expectations for new federal investments in infrastructure and other construction projects” and believe this is due to ongoing economic concerns such as continued high interest rates.⁵⁶ Another report submitted by the domestic interested parties indicated that the American Institute of Architects Architectural Billing Index had fallen below 50 points in 2023, indicating a contracting market, and projected reduced construction spending across sectors in 2024 compared to 2023.⁵⁷ Based on these projections of uneven construction growth, the domestic interested parties contend that the U.S. market for CISP will likely be flat to slightly declining in the imminent future.⁵⁸ Responding purchaser

⁴⁹ *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4879 at 11.

⁵⁰ Confidential Original Determinations at 16.

⁵¹ Confidential Original Determinations at 16.

⁵² Domestic Industry Response at 2, 29. CISP is primarily used in the non-pressure drain, waste, and vent systems of homes and buildings, as well as in storm drainage from roofs, yards, areaways, and courts. CISP is installed in residential construction, hospitals, and schools, and in commercial and industrial structures. *Id* at 6; Final Comments at 3.

⁵³ Supplemental Response to Notice of Institution (“Supplemental Response”), EDIS Doc. 823036 (Jun. 5, 2024) at 4.

⁵⁴ Supplemental Response at 4.

⁵⁵ Domestic Industry Response at 7; Final Comments at 3.

⁵⁶ Domestic Industry Response at 7-8, Exhibit 4.

⁵⁷ Domestic Industry Response at 8, Exhibit 5. Other trade press articles submitted by the domestic interested parties indicate that construction starts declined in February 2024 and that inflation and high interest rates were expected to weigh on construction activity during 2024. *Id.* at 8-9, Exhibits 6-8.

⁵⁸ Domestic Industry Response at 9.

***, however, reports that *** to demand conditions since the original investigations and *** within a reasonably foreseeable time.⁵⁹

Apparent U.S. consumption was *** short tons in 2023, down *** percent from *** short tons in 2017.⁶⁰

2. Supply Conditions

Original Investigations. In the original investigations, the Commission found that the domestic industry's share of the U.S. market declined from *** percent in 2015 to *** percent in 2016, but subsequently increased to *** percent in 2017; the domestic industry's market share was higher in interim 2018, at *** percent, than in interim 2017, *** percent.⁶¹ The Commission found that domestic producers Charlotte Pipe and McWane, which is the parent corporation for AB&I and Tyler Pipe, accounted for *** percent of U.S. production of CISP.⁶² Finally, it found that the industry's production capacity had *** during the POI, with substantial unused capacity throughout the period.⁶³

Subject imports' market share increased from *** percent in 2015 to *** percent in 2016, and then declined to *** percent in 2017; it was lower in interim 2018, at *** percent, than in interim 2017, *** percent.⁶⁴ Nonsubject imports' market share was minimal, ranging from *** percent to *** percent throughout the POI.⁶⁵

Current Reviews. The majority of apparent U.S. consumption was satisfied by the domestic industry in 2023, followed by nonsubject imports and subject imports.⁶⁶

The domestic industry accounted for *** percent of apparent U.S. consumption in 2023.⁶⁷ The domestic interested parties state that the imposition of the orders caused a sharp decline in subject imports that allowed domestic producers to recapture market share. Domestic interested parties also claim that the orders have enabled the domestic industry to remain strong and capable of supplying the U.S. market. In particular, they contend that the

⁵⁹ CR/PR at D-3.

⁶⁰ CR/PR at Table I-7. For the years 2015 to 2017, data are compiled using data submitted in the Commission's original investigations. For 2023, U.S. producers' U.S. shipments are compiled from the domestic interested parties' response to the Commission's notice of institution, and U.S. imports are compiled using official Commerce statistics under HTS statistical reporting number 7303.00.0030.

⁶¹ Confidential Original Determinations at 16.

⁶² Confidential Original Determinations at 16-17.

⁶³ Confidential Original Determinations at 17.

⁶⁴ Confidential Original Determinations at 17.

⁶⁵ Confidential Original Determinations at 17.

⁶⁶ CR/PR at Table I-7. *See also* Final Comments at 3, 9-10.

⁶⁷ CR/PR at Table I-7.

orders allowed Charlotte Pipe and McWane to move their production operations out of the urban areas where they had originally been located, which had become unviable, to new, more efficient locations.⁶⁸ They state that the market has otherwise not experienced any major supply developments since the last review.⁶⁹

Subject imports were the smallest source of supply, accounting for *** percent of apparent U.S. consumption in 2023.⁷⁰ As previously noted, CBP has made affirmative determinations in a number of Enforce and Protect Act (“EAPA”) investigations throughout the 2020-2023 period that Chinese-origin CISP were being transhipped through Cambodia and Malaysia.⁷¹

Nonsubject imports were the second largest source of supply, accounting for *** percent of apparent U.S. consumption in 2023.⁷² The leading sources of nonsubject imports during the POR were Canada, Malaysia, and India.⁷³

3. Substitutability and Other Conditions

Original Investigations. In the original investigations, the Commission found that subject imports and domestically produced CISP were moderately substitutable but that factors such as preferences for domestic product or domestic exclusivity requirements may have limited the degree of substitutability.⁷⁴ U.S. producers and a plurality of importers reported that subject imports and domestically produced CISP were always interchangeable, while a plurality of purchasers reported that subject imports and domestically produced CISP were sometimes interchangeable.⁷⁵ In addition, all purchasers reported that subject imports and domestically

⁶⁸ Domestic Industry Response at 11-12. The domestic interested parties state that Charlotte Pipe and McWane originally operated foundries adjacent to metropolitan areas (in Charlotte, North Carolina and in Oakland, California, respectively) that had surrounded the facilities with urban sprawl, rendering them unviable. In their view, the improved market conditions resulting from the orders allowed both companies to move production to new locations. McWane moved production from AB&I in Oakland to its second operation in Tyler, Texas in 2022, relocating some workers and offering severance to others who wanted to remain in Oakland. Charlotte Pipe invested \$460 million in a new state-of-the-art foundry 35 miles to the east of Charlotte in Oakboro, North Carolina, which became fully operational in September 2023, preserving jobs for 530 workers. *Id.* It subsequently invested \$58 million in new environmental controls at the facility. *Id.*

⁶⁹ Domestic Industry Response at 29; Final Comments at 3. ***, a purchaser of CISP, *** that there have been *** since 2019. CR/PR at D-3.

⁷⁰ CR/PR at Table I-7.

⁷¹ CR/PR at Table I-6 note.

⁷² CR/PR at Table I-7.

⁷³ CR/PR at Table I-6.

⁷⁴ *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4879 at 13.

⁷⁵ *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4879 at 13-14.

produced CISP always or usually met minimum quality specifications and that both subject imports and domestically produced CISP must conform to the applicable ASTM standards.⁷⁶

The Commission also found that price was a moderately important purchasing factor.⁷⁷ Purchasers cited price and/or the offering of rebates most frequently as among their top three purchasing factors in purchasing decisions, and the majority of purchasers reported that price was a very important purchasing factor.⁷⁸ On the other hand, a majority of importers and a plurality of purchasers reported that differences other than price were always significant, although domestic producers reported that such differences were never or sometimes significant.⁷⁹ The Commission also found that domestic producers and importers typically sold CISP from inventory to distributors, which then sold the CISP to end users.⁸⁰

Further, the Commission found that prices offered to distributors were primarily set by a negotiable multiplier—a regional adjustment to the list price.⁸¹ In addition, the Commission found that domestic producers offered a variety of direct and indirect rebates, and required exclusivity in order for their customers to receive rebates.⁸² The Commission found that such rebates provided a strong incentive for each distributor to purchase CISP from only one producer, and that U.S. producers and importers typically bundled CISP and CISP fittings in sales to distributors, with discounts reflecting the combined amount.⁸³

The Commission recognized that there were anticompetitive allegations against Charlotte Pipe and McWane that triggered investigations by the Federal Trade Commission (“FTC”), with one such investigation concluding with a consent decree in 2013.⁸⁴ The Commission also noted that a price fixing lawsuit filed by purchasers prior to the POI had resulted in a \$30 million settlement in May 2017.⁸⁵

Finally, the Commission found that domestic producers and producers from China used different types of raw material inputs, with domestic producers using mainly iron scrap while producers in China used pig iron.⁸⁶ The prices for these raw materials shared similar trends throughout the POI, declining in 2015 and then fluctuating but increasing overall in 2016 and

⁷⁶ *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4879 at 14.

⁷⁷ *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4879 at 14.

⁷⁸ *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4879 at 14.

⁷⁹ *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4879 at 14.

⁸⁰ *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4879 at 14.

⁸¹ *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4879 at 14.

⁸² *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4879 at 14.

⁸³ *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4879 at 14-15.

⁸⁴ *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4879 at 15.

⁸⁵ *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4879 at 15.

⁸⁶ *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4879 at 15.

2017.⁸⁷ The ratio of the cost of raw materials to total cost of goods sold (“COGS”) for the domestic industry had increased from *** percent in 2015 to *** percent in 2017; it was higher, at *** percent, in interim 2018 than in interim 2017, *** percent.⁸⁸

Current Reviews. The record in these reviews contains no new information to indicate that the degree of substitutability between the domestic like product and subject imports or the importance of price in purchasing decisions has changed since the original investigations. The domestic interested parties assert that the domestic like product, subject imports, and nonsubject imports continue to be substitutable and produced to common industry standards, and that CISP remains price sensitive.⁸⁹ Based on the available information, we again find that domestically produced CISP and subject imports are moderately substitutable, and that price continues to be a moderately important factor in purchasing decisions.

Effective September 24, 2018, CISP originating in China became subject to an additional 10 percent ad valorem duty under section 301 of the Trade Act of 1974.⁹⁰ Effective May 10, 2019, the section 301 duty for CISP from China was increased to 25 percent.⁹¹

C. Likely Volume of Subject Imports

1. Original Investigations

In the original investigations, the Commission found that subject imports were the only significant non-domestic source of CISP in the U.S. market.⁹² The volume of subject imports increased from 15,029 short tons in 2015 to 22,208 short tons in 2016, before declining to 17,390 short tons in 2017, for an overall increase of 15.7 percent during the 2015-17 period; subject import volume was 6,294 short tons in interim 2018, compared to 9,147 short tons in interim 2017.⁹³ Subject imports’ market share increased from *** percent of apparent U.S. consumption in 2015 to *** percent in 2016, before declining to *** percent in 2017, for an overall increase.⁹⁴ Subject imports’ market share was *** percent in interim 2018, compared to *** percent in interim 2017.⁹⁵ Accordingly, the Commission found the volume of subject

⁸⁷ *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4879 at 15.

⁸⁸ Confidential Original Determinations at 22.

⁸⁹ Domestic Industry Response at 13, 25; Final Comments at 3.

⁹⁰ CR/PR at I-6.

⁹¹ CR/PR at I-6.

⁹² *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4879 at 16.

⁹³ *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4879 at 16.

⁹⁴ Confidential Original Determinations at 23.

⁹⁵ Confidential Original Determinations at 23.

imports to be significant, both in absolute terms and relative to consumption and production in the United States.⁹⁶

2. The Current Reviews

The information available indicates that the orders have had a significant restraining effect on the volume of subject imports, which remained significantly lower than in the original investigations throughout the POR. The volume of subject imports initially declined from 8,884 short tons in 2018 to 28 short tons in 2019, before increasing to 712 short tons in 2020, and then declining again to 318 short tons in 2021, 139 short tons in 2022, and 7 short tons in 2023, equivalent to *** percent of apparent U.S. consumption that year.⁹⁷ These data may understate the presence of subject imports in the U.S. market during the 2020-2023 period, given CBP's final determinations that CISP from China were transshipped through Cambodia and Malaysia to evade the orders in those years.⁹⁸

The record in these expedited reviews contains limited information on the subject industry in China. Nonetheless, the information available indicates that subject producers continue to have the ability and incentive to export significant volumes of subject merchandise to the U.S. market in the event of revocation of the order.

The information available indicates that subject producers in China have substantial capacity that could be used to increase exports of CISP to the U.S. market if the orders were revoked.⁹⁹ The domestic interested parties identified 26 possible producers of CISP in China,¹⁰⁰ and contend that the CISP industry in China has likely grown since the original investigations. According to a Department of Energy ("DOE") market research study submitted by the domestic interested parties, the COVID-19 pandemic caused metalcasting production to decline globally during the 2018-20 period, including in the United States and India, with the exception of China, whose metalcasting industry increased production by 6 percent.¹⁰¹ This study also found that China's total gray and ductile iron casting capacity was 37.1 million metric tons in 2020, equivalent to nearly half of the world total and nearly five times the U.S. industry's capacity of

⁹⁶ *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4879 at 16.

⁹⁷ CR/PR at Table I-6 and I-7; Final Comments at 4.

⁹⁸ CR/PR at Table I-6 note.

⁹⁹ Domestic Industry Response at 17-20.

¹⁰⁰ CR/PR at I-16; Domestic Industry Response at Exhibit 1; Final Comments at 3.

¹⁰¹ Domestic Industry Response at 17, Exhibit 13. The DOE study found that the U.S. metalcasting industry lost 13.8 percent of its production during the 2018-2020 period, while the second largest metalcasting industry in the world, in India, lost 1.5 percent of its production. *Id.*

7.6 million tons that year.¹⁰² The domestic interested parties argue that this increased capacity in China, coupled with slowing Chinese economic growth, has likely generated significant inventories in China that could be routed to the U.S. market in the event of revocation of the orders.¹⁰³

The information available also indicates that subject producers in China remain export oriented. According to GTA data concerning tubes, pipes, and hollow profiles of cast iron under Harmonized Schedule (“HS”) subheading 7303.00, which includes CISP and out-of-scope products, China was the world’s largest exporter of such merchandise throughout the POR, with exports of 433,021 short tons in 2023.¹⁰⁴ According to information submitted by the domestic interested parties, and further discussed below, the Chinese market for CISP is weak and likely to remain so in the reasonably foreseeable future, which will likely force subject producers to increase their export orientation as a means of maintaining their sales volumes.¹⁰⁵

The information available also indicates that the U.S. market remains attractive to subject producers in China. In particular, CBP’s final determinations that subject imports were transshipped through Cambodia and Malaysia to evade the orders during the 2020 to 2023 period indicate that subject producers in China continue to have a strong interest in supplying the U.S. market.¹⁰⁶ In addition, subject imports maintained a presence in the U.S. market throughout the POR, albeit small, indicating that subject producers have retained customers and distribution networks in the United States.¹⁰⁷

Furthermore, current projections that the Chinese economy will remain weak, particularly with respect to the construction sector, would make the U.S. market relatively more attractive to subject producers if the orders were revoked. According to information

¹⁰² Domestic Industry Response at 17, Exhibit 13; *see also* Final Comments at 5.

¹⁰³ Domestic Industry Response at 20.

¹⁰⁴ CR/PR at Table I-9.

¹⁰⁵ *See* Domestic Industry Response at 17-20, Exhibits 14-22.

¹⁰⁶ *See* CR/PR at Table I-6; Domestic Industry Response at 20-24. In an investigation in 2020, CBP found that the owner of Dalian Metal I/E and Dalian Lino (two Chinese exporters that appeared in Commerce’s antidumping investigation) set up a U.S. company, Lino International, to use as an importer in the U.S. market to evade the orders on CISP. *Id.* at 21; *see also* Final Comments at 6.

In an October 2023 EAPA determination, CBP found that Chinese cast iron soil pipe and fittings were being transshipped through Malaysia using a third-country company, established by a Chinese individual who appeared to be an employee of a Chinese CISP producer, Sandstein Industries Co., Ltd. (also known as Shanxi Tianzhu Industrial Co., Ltd.), shortly after the CISP orders were imposed. Domestic Industry Response at 23.

In another ongoing EAPA investigation, CBP has preliminarily determined that another U.S. importer, apparently related to known Chinese CISP exporter Kingway Pipe Co., Ltd., also participated in the transshipment of Chinese CISP through Malaysia. *Id.* at 24.

¹⁰⁷ CR/PR at Table I-6.

submitted by the domestic interested parties, China is currently experiencing an economic downturn and may, according to one forecast, face “decades of stagnation.”¹⁰⁸ This information also indicates that there has been declining activity in the housing and construction industries in China, which would adversely affect Chinese demand for CISP.

Given the foregoing, including the significant volume and market share of subject imports found during the original investigations, the restraining effect of the orders, the subject industry’s large capacity and level of exports, and evidence of the continued attractiveness of the U.S. market, we find that the volume of subject imports would likely be significant, both in absolute terms and relative to U.S. consumption, if the orders were revoked.¹⁰⁹

D. Likely Price Effects

1. Original Investigations

In the original investigations, the Commission found consistent and significant underselling of the domestic like product by subject imports.¹¹⁰ Subject imports undersold the domestic like product in all 56 quarterly comparisons.¹¹¹ Additionally, all three responding purchasers that reported purchasing subject imports instead of the domestic like product reported that subject import prices were lower than those of the domestic product.¹¹²

The Commission also found that subject imports had depressed domestic prices to a significant degree. Prices for all domestic pricing products declined throughout the POI, narrowing the margins by which subject imports undersold the domestic product.¹¹³ Additionally, the Commission found that several responding purchasers reported that U.S.

¹⁰⁸ Domestic Industry Response at 18.

¹⁰⁹ Although subject imports are currently subject to a section 301 duty of 25 percent, neither domestic interested parties nor the responding purchaser indicated that this duty would prevent subject imports from entering the U.S. market at significant levels if the orders were revoked. *See generally* Domestic Industry Response; CR/PR at D-3. Given this, the Chinese industry’s large size and export orientation, and the attractiveness of the U.S. market, we find that the Section 301 duty would not likely prevent subject imports from increasing to significant levels if the orders were revoked.

The record of these expedited reviews contains no information on inventories of subject merchandise or the ability of subject producers to product shift. There are no known third-country trade action against CISP from China. CR/PR at I-17.

¹¹⁰ *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4879 at 18.

¹¹¹ *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4879 at 17. Underselling in the quarterly comparisons involved 49.8 million pounds of subject imports, at margins ranging from 7.5 to 50.4 percent, with an average margin of underselling of 26.2 percent. *Id.*

¹¹² *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4879 at 17.

¹¹³ *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4879 at 17.

producers reduced prices in order to compete with subject imports while demand decreased overall during the POI.¹¹⁴ Finally, the Commission found that the industry's unit COGS had increased in 2017 and over the interim periods, while declining overall during the POI.¹¹⁵ Consequently, the Commission concluded that neither demand trends nor changes in the industry's costs explained the consistent decline in domestic pricing.¹¹⁶

The Commission further found that subject imports had suppressed domestic prices to a significant degree. The Commission found that the domestic industry's net sales AUV decreased while its unit COGS increased from 2016 to 2017, at a time when demand was relatively flat, and that this trend extended across interim periods, despite substantially higher apparent U.S. consumption, suggesting that the industry was not able to raise prices at a time of increasing costs.¹¹⁷ Additionally, representatives for the domestic producers testified that they attempted numerous price increases that were unsuccessful during the POI.¹¹⁸

2. The Current Reviews

As discussed in section III.B.3 above, we continue to find that subject imports are moderately substitutable with the domestic like product and that price remains a moderately important factor in purchasing decisions.

The record in these expedited reviews does not contain new product-specific pricing information. Based on the available information, including the moderate substitutability between the domestic like product and subject imports and the moderate importance of price in purchasing decisions, we find that if the orders were revoked, the likely significant volumes of subject imports would likely undersell the domestic like product to a significant degree, as they did in the original investigations.¹¹⁹ Absent the discipline of the orders, the significant volumes 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 restrain price increases necessary to cover increasing costs, thereby depressing or suppressing prices for the domestic like

¹¹⁴ *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4879 at 18.

¹¹⁵ *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4879 at 18.

¹¹⁶ *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4879 at 18.

¹¹⁷ *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4879 at 18.

¹¹⁸ *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4879 at 18.

¹¹⁹ The domestic interested parties point out that the average unit value ("AUV") of CISP from China ***. Final Comments at 7-8, *citing to* CR/PR at Table I-7. They argue that without the discipline of the orders, Chinese exporters would quickly revert to the extremely low prices they offered in the original investigations, and force domestic producers to lower their prices to unsustainable levels in response. *Id.*

product. Consequently, we find that if the orders were revoked, significant volumes of subject imports would likely have significant price effects.

E. Likely Impact¹²⁰

1. Original Investigations

In the original investigations, the Commission found that, as apparent U.S. consumption increased overall from 2015 to 2017 and was higher in interim 2018 than in interim 2017, the domestic industry's production, capacity utilization, and shipments increased.¹²¹ The industry's market share fluctuated but its end-of-period inventories increased and its financial indicators generally deteriorated.¹²²

As discussed above, the Commission found that subject imports of CISP significantly undersold the domestic like product and depressed and suppressed domestic prices to a significant degree.¹²³ From 2015 to 2016, the Commission found that increasing volumes of

¹²⁰ In its expedited first review of the antidumping duty order, Commerce determined that revocation of the antidumping duty order would likely result in the continuation or recurrence of dumping with margins of up to 235.93 percent for China. *Cast Iron Soil Pipe From the People's Republic of China: Final Results of the Expedited First Sunset Review of the Antidumping Duty Order* 89 Fed. Reg. 64871 (Aug 8, 2024). In its expedited review of the countervailing duty order, Commerce determined that revocation of the order would result in the continuation or recurrence of countervailable subsidies at rates of up to 109.27 percent. *Cast Iron Soil Pipe From the People's Republic of China: Final Results of the Expedited First Sunset Review of the Countervailing Duty Order* 89 Fed. Reg. 64874 (Aug. 8, 2024). See also Final Comments at 3-4.

¹²¹ *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4879 at 19; Confidential Original Determinations at 27-29. Apparent U.S. consumption increased by *** percent from 2015 to 2017, and was *** percent higher in interim 2018 than in interim 2017. *Id.* The domestic industry's production of CISP was *** short tons in 2015, *** short tons in 2016, *** short tons in 2017, *** short tons in interim 2017, and *** short tons in interim 2018. *Id.* Capacity utilization was *** percent in 2015, *** percent in 2016, *** percent in 2017, *** percent in interim 2017, and *** percent in interim 2018. *Id.* U.S. producers' U.S. shipments were *** short tons in 2015, *** short tons in 2016, *** short tons in 2017, *** short tons in interim 2017, and *** short tons in interim 2018. *Id.*

¹²² Confidential Original Determinations at 28-31. The domestic industry's U.S. market share was *** percent in 2015, *** percent in 2016, *** percent in 2017, *** percent in interim 2017, and *** percent in interim 2018. *Id.* The domestic industry's inventories were *** short tons in 2015, *** short tons in 2016, *** short tons in 2017, *** short tons in interim 2017, and *** short tons in interim 2018. *Id.* Operating income was \$*** in 2015, \$*** in 2016, \$*** in 2017, \$*** in interim 2017, and \$*** in interim 2018. *Id.* The industry's operating income margin was *** percent in 2015, *** percent in 2016, *** percent in 2017, *** percent in interim 2017, and *** percent in interim 2018. *Id.* Net income was \$*** in 2015, \$*** in 2016, \$*** in 2017, \$*** in interim 2017, and \$*** in interim 2018. *Id.* The industry's net income margin was *** percent in 2015, *** percent in 2016, *** percent in 2017, *** percent in interim 2017, and *** percent in interim 2018. *Id.*

¹²³ *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4879 at 21.

low-priced subject imports gained market share at the expense of the domestic industry, while domestic prices remained relatively flat despite increasing demand.¹²⁴ From 2016 to 2017, during a period of slowing demand but increasing costs, domestic producers regained market share by lowering their prices to compete with subject imports, but were forced to maintain low prices even as demand increased over the interim periods, resulting in declining financial performance.¹²⁵ The Commission concluded that subject imports had a significant adverse impact on the domestic industry.

The Commission considered the role of other factors so as not to attribute injury from other factors to the subject imports and found that because consumption for CISP increased overall, the declines in the domestic industry's condition could not be explained by declines in consumption.¹²⁶ It also found that nonsubject imports had only a minimal and irregularly declining presence in the U.S. market, and thus could not explain the deteriorating financial performance of the domestic industry.¹²⁷

The Commission rejected respondent's argument that factors such as the CISPI trademark, supplier exclusivity, preferences or requirements for domestic product, and the availability of epoxy-coated CISP only from subject sources, had attenuated competition to the extent that subject imports could not injure the domestic industry.¹²⁸ As the Commission explained, subject imports were produced and marketed to CISPI standards, supplier exclusivity and domestic preferences or requirements had not prevented subject imports from gaining sales and market share, and epoxy-coated CISP did not have an appreciable presence in the U.S. market.¹²⁹

The Commission also rejected the argument that the FTC actions and class-action antitrust lawsuit against Charlotte Pipe and McWane significantly attenuated subject import competition.¹³⁰ The Commission explained that two of the actions were resolved prior to the POI and that the investigation concerning McWane involved out-of-scope products.¹³¹ Additionally, the Commission observed that a majority of the importers and purchasers reported that the proceedings did not have an effect on the market or prices.¹³²

¹²⁴ *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4879 at 21.

¹²⁵ *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4879 at 21-22.

¹²⁶ *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4879 at 22.

¹²⁷ *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4879 at 22.

¹²⁸ *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4879 at 22.

¹²⁹ *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4879 at 22-23.

¹³⁰ *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4879 at 23-24.

¹³¹ *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4879 at 24.

¹³² *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4879 at 24.

Finally, the Commission rejected the argument that the volume and impact of subject imports were slight and that any injury to the domestic industry was due to intra-industry competition.¹³³ The Commission explained that notwithstanding intra-industry competition, subject import prices undersold the sales prices of both domestic producers and gained market share as a result.¹³⁴

2. The Current Reviews

The record in these expedited reviews contains limited information concerning the domestic industry's performance since the original investigations.

The available information indicates that the domestic industry generally performed better in 2023 than in 2017, the last year examined in the original investigations. In 2023, the domestic industry's capacity was *** short tons and its production was *** short tons, both lower than in 2017, while its capacity utilization rate was *** percent, higher than in 2017.¹³⁵ While the industry's U.S. shipments in 2023, at *** short tons, were lower than in 2017,¹³⁶ its share of apparent U.S. consumption, at *** percent, was higher.¹³⁷ The U.S. industry's net sales value (\$***), gross profit (\$***), operating income (\$***), and ratio of operating income to net sales (*** percent), were all higher in 2023 than in 2017.¹³⁸ This limited information 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 these reviews, we have found that revocation of the orders would likely result in a significant volume of subject imports that would likely undersell the domestic like product to a significant degree. Given the moderate substitutability between the domestic like product and subject imports, the moderate importance of price to purchasing decisions, and the universal underselling by subject imports in the original investigations, 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

¹³³ *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4879 at 24.

¹³⁴ *Original Determinations*, USITC Pub. 4879 at 24.

¹³⁵ CR/PR at Table I-5. In 2017, the domestic industry's capacity was *** short tons, its production was *** short tons, and its capacity utilization was *** percent. *Id.*

The domestic interested parties argue that the domestic industry's *** rate of capacity utilization in 2023 makes continuation of the orders particularly important. Final Comments at 11.

¹³⁶ CR/PR at Table I-5. The domestic industry's U.S. shipments were *** short tons in 2017. *Id.*

¹³⁷ CR/PR at Table I-7. The domestic industry's share of apparent U.S. consumption was *** percent in 2017. *Id.*

¹³⁸ CR/PR at Table I-5. In 2017, the industry's net sales were \$***, its gross profit was \$***, its operating income was \$***, and its ratio of operating income to net sales was *** percent. *Id.*

domestic like product. The likely significant volume of 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. The information available indicates that nonsubject imports' market share remained low, at *** percent in 2023.¹³⁹ The record provides no indication that the presence of nonsubject imports would prevent subject imports from entering the U.S. market in significant quantities and adversely affecting domestic prices. Given the domestic industry's *** percent share of apparent U.S. consumption in 2023, as well as the moderate substitutability between the domestic like product and subject imports and the moderate importance of price in purchasing decisions, the significant volume of low-priced subject imports that is likely after revocation would likely come in large part at the domestic industry's expense, or force domestic producers to lower their prices or forgo price increases to retain market share. Consequently, we find that any future effects of nonsubject imports would be distinct from the likely effects attributable to subject imports and that nonsubject imports would not prevent subject imports from having a significant impact on the domestic industry.

We recognize that apparent U.S. consumption of CISP was *** percent lower in 2023 than in 2017, the last year of the original investigations.¹⁴⁰ The domestic interested parties attribute the decline in apparent U.S. consumption to ***, and argue that the uneven growth in construction demand projected for the immediately foreseeable future will likely result in a flat to declining market for CISP.¹⁴¹ Responding purchaser ***, however, reports that ***.¹⁴² Given the moderate substitutability between subject imports and the domestic like product and the moderate importance of price to purchasers, the significant volume of low-priced subject imports that is likely after revocation would exacerbate any effects of declining demand on the domestic industry, by further reducing the industry's sales and placing additional downward pressure on domestic prices. Given these considerations, we find that the likely effects attributable to subject imports are distinguishable from any likely effects of demand if the orders were revoked.

¹³⁹ CR/PR at Table I-7. Nonsubject imports' market share in 2017 was *** percent. Nonsubject import market share in 2023 may be inflated by CBP's determinations under the EAPA that CISP from China were transshipped through Cambodia and Malaysia that year. *Id.* at Table I-6 note.

¹⁴⁰ CR/PR at Table I-7.

¹⁴¹ Domestic Industry Response at 9-10; Domestic Industry Supplemental Response at 4.

¹⁴² CR/PR at D-3.

In sum, we conclude that if the antidumping and countervailing duty orders on CISP from China were revoked, subject imports would likely have a significant impact on the domestic industry within a reasonably foreseeable time.

IV. Conclusion

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

Information obtained in these reviews

Background

On April 1, 2024, 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 antidumping and countervailing duty orders on cast iron soil pipe (“CISP”) from China would be likely to lead to continuation or recurrence of material injury to a domestic industry.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
CISP: Information relating to the background and schedule of this proceeding

Effective date	Action
April 1, 2024	Notice of initiation by Commerce (89 FR 22373, April 1, 2024)
April 1, 2024	Notice of institution by Commission (89 FR 22448, April 1, 2024)
July 5, 2024	Commission’s vote on adequacy
August 8, 2024	Commerce’s results of its expedited AD review (89 FR 64871, August 8, 2024)
August 8, 2024	Commerce’s results of its expedited CVD review (89 FR 64874, August 8, 2024)
October 18, 2024	Commission’s determinations and views

¹ 19 U.S.C. 1675(c).

² 89 FR 22448, April 1, 2024. 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 antidumping and countervailing duty orders. 89 FR 22373, April 1, 2024. 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 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 Cast Iron Soil Pipe Institute (“CISPI”) and its two individual members⁵ (collectively referred to herein as “domestic interested parties”). CISPI is a U.S. trade association whose members produce CISP and account for all known U.S. production of CISP.⁶

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

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

Interested party type	Number	Coverage
U.S. producer	2	100.0%
U.S. trade association	1	100.0%

The U.S. producer and trade association coverage figures presented are the domestic interested parties’ estimate of their share of total U.S. production of CISP during 2023. Domestic interested parties’ response to the notice of institution, May 1, 2024, p. 28 and exh. 1.

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 CISPI. CISPI requests that the Commission conduct expedited reviews of the antidumping and countervailing duty orders on CISP.⁷

⁵ The members of CISPI are as Charlotte Pipe & Foundry (“Charlotte Pipe”), Charlotte, North Carolina; and McWane, Inc. (“McWane”), Birmingham, Alabama.

⁶ Domestic interested parties’ response to the notice of institution, May 1, 2024, p. 28 and exh. 1.

⁷ Domestic interested parties’ comments on adequacy, June 7, 2024, p. 1.

The original investigations

The original investigations resulted from petitions filed on January 26, 2018 with Commerce and the Commission by CISPI, Mundelein, Illinois.⁸ On February 28, 2019, Commerce determined that imports of CISP from China were being sold at less than fair value (“LTFV”) and subsidized by the Government of China.⁹ The Commission determined on April 8, 2019 that the domestic industry was materially injured by reason of LTFV and subsidized imports of CISP from China.¹⁰ On May 3, 2019, Commerce issued its antidumping and countervailing duty orders with a final weighted-average dumping margin of 235.93 percent and net subsidy rates ranging from 14.69 to 109.27 percent.¹¹

Previous and related investigations

The Commission has conducted several previous import relief investigations on CISP and various forms of cast iron pipe and cast iron soil pipe fittings, as presented in table I-3.

⁸ The three CISPI member companies during the original investigations were AB&I Foundry (“AB&I”), Tyler Pipe and Tube (“Tyler Pipe”), and Charlotte Pipe. AB&I and Tyler Pipe are wholly owned subsidiaries of McWane. Cast Iron Soil Pipe from China, Inv. Nos. 701-TA-597 and 731-TA-1407 (Final), USITC Publication 4879, April 2019 (“Original publication”), p. 3 and I-1.

⁹ 84 FR 6770, February 28, 2019; 84 FR 6767, February 28, 2019.

¹⁰ 84 FR 14970, April 12, 2019.

¹¹ 84 FR 19035, May 3, 2019; 84 FR 19039, May 3, 2019.

Table I-3**CISP: Previous and related Commission proceedings and current status**

Date	Number	Country	Product	ITC original determination	Current status
1954	N/A	Belgium	Cast iron soil pipe	Negative	---
1954	N/A	Denmark	Cast iron soil pipe	Negative	---
1954	N/A	West Germany	Cast iron soil pipe	Negative	---
1955	AA1921-5	United Kingdom	Cast iron soil pipe	Affirmative	Revoked before 1980
1964	AA1921-35	Australia	Cast iron soil pipe	Negative	---
1967	AA1921-50	Poland	Cast iron soil pipe and fittings	Affirmative	Revoked before 1980
1972	AA1921-100	Poland	Cast iron soil pipe fittings	Negative	---
1975	N/A	India	Cast iron soil pipe and fittings	Negative	---
2018	701-TA-583	China	Cast iron soil pipe fittings	Affirmative	Order continued after first review, 2023
2018	731-TA-1381	China	Cast iron soil pipe fittings	Affirmative	Order continued after first review, 2023

Source: U.S. International Trade Commission publications, Federal Register notices, and “Historical Information (Orders Revoked Before 1980), AD: 1921 to 1980,” International Trade Administration Enforcement and Compliance, August 24, 2018, <https://enforcement.trade.gov/stats/pre80ad.txt>, retrieved June 3, 2024.

Note: “Date” refers to the year in which the investigation was instituted by the Commission. Not available information is shown as “NA”.

Commerce’s five-year reviews

Commerce announced that it would conduct expedited reviews with respect to the orders on imports of CISP from China with the intent of issuing the final results of these reviews based on the facts available not later than July 30, 2024.¹² Commerce publishes its Issues and Decision Memoranda and its final results concurrently, accessible upon publication at <https://access.trade.gov/public/FRNoticesListLayout.aspx> and subsequently on the

¹² Letter from Jill E. Pollack, Director, AD/CVD Operations, Enforcement and Compliance, U.S. Department of Commerce to Nannette Christ, Director of Investigations, May 22, 2024.

Commission’s Electronic Document Information System (“EDIS”). 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 and countervailing duty orders on imports of CISP from China 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 merchandise covered by this order is cast iron soil pipe, whether finished or unfinished, regardless of industry or proprietary specifications, and regardless of wall thickness, length, diameter, surface finish, end finish, or stenciling. The scope of this order includes, but is not limited to, both hubless and hub and spigot cast iron soil pipe. Cast iron soil pipe is nonmalleable iron pipe of various designs and sizes. Cast iron soil pipe is generally distinguished from other types of nonmalleable cast iron pipe by the manner in which it is connected to cast iron soil pipe fittings.

Cast iron soil pipe is classified into two major types—hubless and hub and spigot. Hubless cast iron soil pipe is manufactured without a hub, generally in compliance with Cast Iron Soil Pipe Institute (CISPI) specification 301 and/or American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) specification A888, including any revisions to those specifications. Hub and spigot pipe has one or more hubs into which the spigot (plain end) of a fitting is inserted. All pipe meeting the physical description set forth above is covered by the scope of this order, whether or not produced according to a particular standard.¹³

¹³ 84 FR 19035, May 3, 2019.

U.S. tariff treatment

CISP is currently imported under Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (“HTS”) statistical reporting number 7303.00.0030. The general rate of duty is “free” for HTS subheading 7303.00.00.¹⁴ 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, CISP originating in China was subject to an additional 10 percent ad valorem duty under section 301 of the Trade Act of 1974. Effective May 10, 2019, the section 301 duty for CISP was increased to 25 percent.¹⁵

HTS heading 7303.00.00 was not included in the enumeration of steel mill products that are subject to the additional 25-percent ad valorem Section 232 national-security duties under HTS chapter 99.¹⁶

Description and uses¹⁷

CISP is used primarily in the sanitary systems and storm drain piping, waste piping, and vent piping of buildings and is intended for gravity-flow, non-pressure applications. The scope of these investigations includes nonmalleable finished and unfinished CISP, regardless of industry or proprietary specifications, and regardless of wall thickness, length, diameter, surface finish, end finish, or stenciling. See figure I-1 for images of the subject CISP products. Finished CISP are coated, while unfinished CISP are uncoated. Domestic producers usually apply an asphaltic coating, but a small amount of pipe is finished using epoxy e-coating.¹⁸ During the

¹⁴ USITC, HTS (2024) Revision 1, Publication 5491, January 2024, pp. 73-2.

¹⁵ 83 FR 47974, September 21, 2018; 84 FR 20459, May 9, 2019. See also HTS headings 9903.88.03 and 9903.88.04 and U.S. notes 20(e)–20(g) to subchapter III of chapter 99 and related tariff provisions for this duty treatment. USITC, HTS (2024) Revision 1, Publication 5491, January 2024, pp. 99-III-27–99-III-52, 99-III-301–99-III-302. Goods exported from China to the United States prior to May 10, 2019, and entering the United States prior to June 1, 2019, were not subject to the escalated 25 percent duty (84 FR 21892, May 15, 2019).

¹⁶ See U.S. notes 16(a) and 16(b) to subchapter III of chapter 99. USITC, HTS (2024) Revision 1, Publication 5491, January 2024, pp. 99-III-5–99-III-7.

¹⁷ Unless otherwise noted, this information is based on Cast Iron Soil Pipe from China, Investigation Nos. 701-TA-597 and 731-TA-1407 (Final), USITC Publication 4879, April 2019 (“Original publication”), pp. I-10-I-12.

¹⁸ During the original investigations, the domestic producers did not utilize the epoxy coating method that requires painting or spraying the cast iron soil pipe. Instead, domestic producers used an epoxy electrical coating method or e-coating, which has application limitations.

(continued...)

original investigations, one foreign producer reported production of epoxy-coated CISP.¹⁹ Coatings provide a smooth, glossy, hard but not brittle finish that is free of blisters and blemishes.

Figure I-1

Cast iron soil pipe: Images of cast iron soil pipe (CISP)



Source: OneStockHome, <https://www.onestockhome.com/en/search?utf8=%E2%9C%93&query=cast+iron+soil+pipe> (accessed April 29, 2024); 24hr Supply, https://24hr.supply/charlotte-pipe-00879-3-x-30-cast-iron-service-weight-30-length-double-hub-shorties/?vendor=jxtgroup&utm_source=google&utm_medium=cpc&utm_campaign=&utm_adgroup=&utm_term=&utm_content=488336824765&device=c&gad_source=1&gclid=EAlaIqobChMI1eCVsaTohQMVu6hmAh0MugX2EAQYASABEgLMFvD_BwE (accessed April 29, 2024).

The material from which CISP is made, cast iron, is an alloy primarily composed of iron, carbon, and silicon. The carbon content of cast iron is greater than 2 percent, while steel contains less than 2 percent carbon. In comparison with steel, the carbon and silicon content of

In the e-coating process, unfinished CISP is submerged in a bath of ground epoxy particles and water. An electrical charge is applied to the CISP which causes the epoxy particles to form a thin layer on the pipe. During the original investigations, e-coating was limited to certain five-foot pipe produced by Charlotte Pipe and accounted for a small percentage of the company's CISP production.

In terms of the application of the coatings, e-coating bonds the epoxy directly to the cast iron while an epoxy coating is merely sprayed on or painted on. An epoxy coating is thicker than a coating applied with e-coating and the epoxy coating is available in various colors while the e-coating is only available in black. During the original investigations, the petitioner reported that, other than these differences, the final coatings are physically similar. The petitioner made no claim that e-coated pipe offers advantages over CISP coated with an asphaltic coating.

During the original investigations, an importer, New Age, claimed that its epoxy-coated CISP had greater corrosion resistance and could resist pH levels of 2 to 12.

CISP with an asphaltic coating can resist pH levels of 4.3 or higher. However, according to the Cast Iron Soil Pipe Institute, 95 percent of the soils in the United States are non-corrosive to cast iron and in soils which may cause corrosion, a loose wrap of polyethylene film can be used to protect CISP coated with the traditional asphaltic coating. Cast Iron Soil Pipe Institute, *Cast Iron Soil Pipe and Fittings Handbook*, 2006, p. 7.

¹⁹ During the original investigations, one importer, New Age, was known to sell epoxy-coated CISP imported from HengTong Casting, a Chinese foundry. This CISP used the epoxy coating method that requires painting or spraying the cast iron soil pipe.

cast iron gives it characteristics that are beneficial to casting, such as a lower melting temperature, more fluidity in a molten state, less reactivity with molding materials, and less change in volume during the conversion from a liquid to a solid.

Commerce's scope references only nonmalleable cast iron, which includes gray iron. Gray iron contains interconnected graphite flakes which form during solidification of the iron. Neither ductile iron nor malleable iron were referenced in Commerce's scope definition: ductile iron contains graphite that occurs as spheroids owing to the addition of a small amount of magnesium to the molten iron and malleable cast iron contains graphite which occurs as irregularly shaped nodules as a result of heat treatment after the castings are formed. The form in which the graphite occurs in the cast iron determines a range of properties in the cast iron.

CISP is classified either as "hub and spigot pipe" or "hubless pipe."²⁰ Hub and spigot pipe has a hub (enlarged end) into which the spigot (plain end) of another pipe or fitting is inserted. The joint is sealed with a compression gasket or molten lead and oakum.²¹ Hubless pipe is manufactured without a hub and is joined to a fitting or another pipe using a hubless coupling that fits over the ends of the pipe and fitting or of the pipes and is tightened to seal the joint. Hubless CISP is produced to CISPI 301 and ASTM A888 standards and hub and spigot CISP is produced to ASTM A74 standards. Hub and spigot CISP meets the CISPI 301 standard in all aspects other than product dimensions and shapes.

Manufacturing process²²

CISP is manufactured by melting scrap iron, steel scrap, and alloys²³ in a cupola furnace²⁴ and casting the metal into the desired shapes. The first step in producing CISP is to screen all scrap metal for radiation and to remove any contaminated materials. The scrap metal is then transferred to a storage area until it is time to melt the metal in the cupola furnace.

²⁰ Hub and spigot CISP is available in two classes or thicknesses: Service and Extra Heavy. Hubless CISP is available in only one class of thickness.

²¹ A compression gasket is made of rubber or another material and fits between the inside of the hub and the outside of the spigot to create a seal.

Oakum is made from vegetable fiber, cotton, or hemp, and is packed into the joint between the hub and spigot. Molten lead is then poured into the joint and allowed to solidify and the joint is caulked with a caulking iron to seal the joint.

²² Unless otherwise noted, this information is based on original publication, pp. I-13-I-14.

²³ During the original investigations, a domestic industry representative reported that Chinese manufacturers reportedly use a high percentage of pig iron in the production of CISP.

²⁴ Electric melting equipment can be used as well, but the cupola furnace is the primary production method.

In a vertically erected, cylindrical cupola furnace, an initial layer of coke is ignited and then the scrap and alloys, coke, and limestone (which helps remove coke ash and other impurities), are loaded in alternating layers. Generally, the raw-material inputs consist of eight to ten parts of metal by weight to one part of coke. Alloys added to the melt include ferrosilicon and silicon carbide, among others, although alloys only account for around 1 to 2 percent of the total volume of metal. Tuyeres (nozzles) inject combustion air or blast air heated up to 1,200 degrees Fahrenheit into the furnace. As the initial inputs are reduced, additional scrap, coke, and limestone are added to the furnace, resulting in a melting process that is usually continuous. The molten metal is discharged through a tap hole near the bottom of the furnace and is either stored in a holding furnace or is taken directly to the casting area in refractory-lined ladles.

To meet ASTM standards, the pipe receives standardized markings during the casting process. All pipes, whether hubless or hub and spigot types, must be labeled with its 1) country of origin, 2) manufacturer's name or registered trademark, and 3) date of manufacture. The hub and spigot ASTM standard A74 requires CISP to be labeled for one of the two categories: Service or SV, and Extra Heavy or XH. The ASTM standards also permit nonstandard markings on CISP if such markings are not misleading as to the identification of the manufacturer by the end user. Examples of common nonstandard markings are the size of the pipe or the mark "CI NO HUB" which is associated with the members of Cast Iron Soil Pipe Institute meeting the CISPI 301 standard which is equivalent to ASTM standard A888.

To meet CISPI 301 and ASTM A888 standards, CISP is marked continuously on the barrel with a minimum of 0.75-inch lettering starting within 3 inches of each end of the pipe. As for the hub and spigot pipe, the marking shall be stenciled on the pipe or otherwise applied to be clear and legible according to ASTM standard A74. The lettering shall be a minimum of ¾-inch size.

The molten metal from the cupola furnace is cast into CISP using centrifugal casting. In the centrifugal pipe casting process, molten metal transported from the cupola furnace is added to a sand-lined or water-cooled metal mold.²⁵ The ends of the mold are sealed with either a sand core or a metal core.²⁶ The mold is rotated on a horizontal axis to create a centrifugal force while the molten metal is added to the mold. The centrifugal force causes the

²⁵ When a water-cooled metal mold is used, the inside of the mold may be coated with refractory materials in the form of a thin slurry to prevent the cast pipe from sticking to the mold.

²⁶ Production of hub and spigot pipe requires a sand core on the end of the mold to form the hub end of the pipe. Hubless pipe production generally uses metal cores to close off both ends of the mold, but a sand core can also be used.

molten metal to spread uniformly onto the mold's inner surface to the desired dimensions of the pipe. The molten iron is allowed to cool inside the rotating mold until the iron solidifies, at which point the pipe is removed from the mold and moved to the foundry's cleaning and finishing department. If sand cores have been used, once fully cool, the castings are still covered with a small amount of sand that must be removed. The sand from the used molds is recycled.

Cleaning the CISP after it is removed from the molds involves removing not only sand, but also burrs and sharp edges on the ends of the pipe. After the CISP is cleaned, it is inspected and tested before it receives any finishing it might need. As discussed above, domestic producers generally finish CISP with an asphaltic coating which is applied by dipping the pipe into a bath of coating material.

The industry in the United States

U.S. producers

During the final phase of the original investigations, the Commission received U.S. producer questionnaires from two firms, which accounted for all known production of CISP in the United States during 2017.²⁷

In response to the Commission's notice of institution in these current reviews, domestic interested parties provided a list of two known and currently operating U.S. producers of CISP. The two firms providing U.S. industry data in response to the Commission's notice of institution believe they accounted for all production of CISP in the United States during 2023.²⁸

²⁷ Original publication, p. III-1.

²⁸ Domestic interested parties' response to the notice of institution, May 1, 2024, exh. 1.

Recent developments

Table I-4 presents events in the U.S. industry since the Commission's original investigations.²⁹

Table I-4
CISP: Developments in the U.S. industry

Item	Firm	Event
Plant relocation	Charlotte Pipe	In October 2023, Charlotte Pipe opened a new \$460 million foundry in Oakboro, NC. The new foundry replaced Charlotte Pipe's plant in Charlotte, NC which had operated for more than 100 years.
Plant relocation	McWane	In March 2022, McWane announced that it would permanently close its AB&I Foundry in East Oakland, CA and relocate those operations to Tyler, TX. The shutdown was expected to be completed within a year.

Source: Charlotte Pipe, Charlotte Pipe and Foundry opens new \$460 Million state-of-the-art foundry in Oakboro, North Carolina, October 26, 2023, <https://www.charlottepipe.com/uploads/documents/press-releases/Charlotte-Pipe-Opens-Oakboro-Foundry.pdf>. The Oaklandside, AB&I Foundry in East Oakland announces permanent closure, March 11, 2022, <https://oaklandside.org/2022/03/11/abi-foundry-in-east-oakland-announces-permanent-closure/>.

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.³⁰ Table I-5 presents a compilation of the trade and financial data submitted from all responding U.S. producers in the original investigations.

²⁹ For recent developments, if any, in tariff treatment, please see "U.S. tariff treatment" section.

³⁰ Individual company trade and financial data are presented in app. B.

Table I-5
CISP: Trade and financial data submitted by U.S. producers, by period

Quantity in short tons; value in 1,000 dollars; unit value in dollars per short ton; ratio in percent

Item	Measure	2015	2016	2017	2023
Capacity	Quantity	***	***	***	***
Production	Quantity	***	***	***	***
Capacity utilization	Ratio	***	***	***	***
U.S. shipments	Quantity	***	***	***	***
U.S. shipments	Value	***	***	***	***
U.S. shipments	Unit value	***	***	***	***
Net sales	Value	***	***	***	***
COGS	Value	***	***	***	***
COGS to net sales	Ratio	***	***	***	***
Gross profit or (loss)	Value	***	***	***	***
SG&A expenses	Value	***	***	***	***
Operating income or (loss)	Value	***	***	***	***
Operating income or (loss) to net sales	Ratio	***	***	***	***

Source: For the years 2015-17, data are compiled using data submitted in the Commission's original investigations. For the year 2023, data are compiled using data submitted by domestic interested parties. Domestic interested parties' response to the notice of institution, May 1, 2024, exh. 1.

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

Note: *** Domestic interested parties' response to the notice of institution, May 1, 2024, exh. 1 and supplemental response, June 5, 2024, pp. 2-4.

Note: *** Domestic interested parties' supplemental response to the notice of institution, June 5, 2024, pp. 5-6.

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.³¹

In its original determinations, the Commission defined a single domestic like product consisting of all cast iron soil pipe, coextensive with Commerce’s scope. The Commission defined a single Domestic Industry consisting of all domestic producers of cast iron soil pipe.³²

U.S. importers

During the final phase of the original investigations, the Commission received U.S. importer questionnaires from 10 firms, which accounted for approximately 78.0 percent of total U.S. imports of CISP from China during 2017.³³ Import data presented in the original investigations are based on official Commerce statistics.

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 parties provided a list of 26 potential U.S. importers of CISP.³⁴

U.S. imports

Table I-6 presents the quantity, value, and unit value of U.S. imports from China as well as the other top sources of U.S. imports (shown in descending order of 2023 imports by quantity). As shown in table I-6, China was the largest source of U.S. imports of CISP in 2018, while Canada became the largest source of U.S. imports of CISP in 2023. In 2023, CISP imports from Canada also had a lower average unit value than other major sources of CISP imports to the United States, including China, India, and Malaysia.

³¹ Section 771(4)(B) of the Tariff Act of 1930, 19 U.S.C. § 1677(4)(B).

³² 89 FR 22448, April 1, 2024.

³³ Original publication, p. IV-1.

³⁴ Domestic interested parties’ response to the notice of institution, April 1, 2024, exh. 1.

Table I-6
CISP: U.S. imports, by source and period

Quantity in short tons; value in 1,000 dollars; unit value in dollars per short tons

U.S. imports from	Measure	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
China	Quantity	8,884	28	712	318	139	7
Canada	Quantity	1,327	399	402	421	660	1,072
Malaysia	Quantity	---	---	1,618	2,234	1,189	1,067
India	Quantity	95	2,387	1,475	30	169	766
All other sources	Quantity	178	695	632	493	109	266
Nonsubject sources	Quantity	1,600	3,480	4,128	3,178	2,126	3,171
All import sources	Quantity	10,484	3,508	4,840	3,496	2,265	3,178
China	Value	8,324	36	1,091	464	221	15
Canada	Value	1,406	667	785	729	920	1,311
Malaysia	Value	---	---	1,772	2,889	2,003	1,404
India	Value	94	2,681	1,650	48	179	1,070
All other sources	Value	343	1,288	835	844	218	429
Nonsubject sources	Value	1,842	4,635	5,042	4,510	3,321	4,214
All import sources	Value	10,167	4,671	6,133	4,974	3,542	4,229
China	Unit value	937	1,298	1,532	1,459	1,593	2,260
Canada	Unit value	1,059	1,673	1,954	1,733	1,395	1,223
Malaysia	Unit value	---	---	1,095	1,293	1,685	1,315
India	Unit value	986	1,123	1,119	1,602	1,064	1,397
All other sources	Unit value	1,925	1,854	1,321	1,712	1,991	1,612
Nonsubject sources	Unit value	1,151	1,332	1,222	1,419	1,562	1,329
All import sources	Unit value	970	1,332	1,267	1,423	1,564	1,331

Source: Compiled from official Commerce statistics for HTS statistical reporting number 7303.00.0030, accessed May 13, 2024.

Note: Zeros, null values, and undefined calculations are suppressed and shown as “---”. Because of rounding, figure may not add to total shown.

Note: CBP has made affirmative determinations in a number of Enforce and Protect Act investigations throughout 2020-2023 that Chinese-origin CISP were being transshipped through Cambodia and Malaysia. Therefore, imports from China are likely understated during 2020-23. Domestic interested parties' response to the notice of institution, May 1, 2024, pp. 20-24.

Apparent U.S. consumption and market shares

Table I-7 presents data on U.S. producers' U.S. shipments, U.S. imports, apparent U.S. consumption, and market shares.

Table I-7
CISP: Apparent U.S. consumption and market shares, by source and period

Quantity in short tons; value in 1,000 dollars; shares in percent

Source	Measure	2015	2016	2017	2023
U.S. producers	Quantity	***	***	***	***
China	Quantity	15,029	22,208	17,390	7
Nonsubject sources	Quantity	1,186	2,303	726	3,171
All import sources	Quantity	16,216	24,511	18,116	3,178
Apparent U.S. consumption	Quantity	***	***	***	***
U.S. producers	Value	***	***	***	***
China	Value	11,951	15,647	13,167	15
Nonsubject sources	Value	1,372	5,382	757	4,214
All import sources	Value	13,323	21,029	13,924	4,229
Apparent U.S. consumption	Value	***	***	***	***
U.S. producers	Share of quantity	***	***	***	***
China	Share of quantity	***	***	***	***
Nonsubject sources	Share of quantity	***	***	***	***
All import sources	Share of quantity	***	***	***	***
U.S. producers	Share of value	***	***	***	***
China	Share of value	***	***	***	***
Nonsubject sources	Share of value	***	***	***	***
All import sources	Share of value	***	***	***	***

Source: For the years 2015-17, data are compiled using data submitted in the Commission's original investigations. For the year 2023, U.S. producers' U.S. shipments are compiled from the domestic interested parties' response to the Commission's notice of institution and U.S. imports are compiled using official Commerce statistics under HTS statistical reporting number 7303.00.0030, accessed May 13, 2024.

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. Shares shown as "0.0" percent represent non-zero values less than "0.05" 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 nine firms, which accounted for approximately *** percent of CISP exports from China to the United States during 2017. Of the nine responding firms, five reported production of CISP, accounting for at least 38.0 percent of overall production of CISP in China in 2017.³⁵

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 26 possible producers of CISP in China.³⁶

Recent developments

There were no major developments in the Chinese industry since the imposition of the orders identified by interested parties in the proceeding and no relevant information from outside sources was found.

³⁵ Investigation Nos. 701-TA-597 and 731-TA-1407 (Final): Cast Iron Soil Pipe from China, Confidential Report, INV-RR-006, March 8, 2019, (“Original confidential report”), p. VII-3.

³⁶ Domestic interested parties’ response to the notice of institution, April 1, 2024, exh. 1 and exh. 32.

Exports

Table I-8 presents export data for tubes, pipes and hollow profiles, of cast iron; a category that includes CISP and out-of-scope products, from China (by export destination in descending order of quantity for 2023).

Table I-8
Tubes, pipes and hollow profiles, of cast iron: Quantity of exports from China, by destination and period

Quantity in short tons

Destination market	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Iraq	3,248	3,576	2,032	487	1,914	46,526
Hong Kong	32,423	25,445	24,269	35,059	31,467	29,027
Mexico	5,826	2,747	1,856	734	14,129	22,612
Saudi Arabia	8,583	10,659	44,153	11,206	5,183	18,620
Mauritania	91	17,919	---	246	2	18,448
Vietnam	61,667	29,570	38,279	16,462	11,352	18,390
Uganda	5,130	6,365	106	205	4	14,615
Canada	7,615	4,560	5,489	6,775	10,816	11,903
Panama	15,563	8,527	2,117	11,301	9,034	11,651
Kazakhstan	2,520	3,465	13,390	4,158	18,942	11,646
All other markets	413,984	388,344	379,965	318,501	353,267	229,583
All markets	556,650	501,177	511,656	405,134	456,110	433,021

Source: Global Trade Information Services, Inc., Global Trade Atlas, HS subheading 7303.00, accessed May 15, 2024. These data may be overstated as HS subheading 7303.00 may contain products outside the scope of these reviews.

Note: Zeroes, null values, and undefined calculations are suppressed and shown as "---". Because of rounding, figures may not add to total shown.

Third-country trade actions

Based on available information, CISP from China has not been subject to other antidumping or countervailing duty investigations outside the United States.

The global market

Table I-9 presents global export data for tubes, pipes and hollow profiles, of cast iron; a category that includes CISP and out-of-scope products, (by source in descending order of quantity for 2023).

Table I-9
Tubes, pipes and hollow profiles, of cast iron: Short tons of global exports by country and period

Quantity in short tons

Exporting country	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
China	556,650	501,177	511,656	405,134	456,110	433,021
India	135,047	136,436	71,035	220,013	243,197	242,222
France	---	---	---	217,664	209,501	169,940
Spain	84,494	87,712	103,379	85,576	94,170	80,603
Turkey	31,268	62,474	52,176	42,314	48,528	74,880
Germany	129,628	112,386	74,135	88,209	91,641	53,147
United States	27,934	27,147	15,624	30,654	32,183	30,239
Austria	27,595	34,201	34,440	37,200	35,742	28,064
United Arab Emirates	114,488	98,354	127,555	203,612	84,573	27,732
Brazil	17,953	20,552	17,059	29,181	19,174	27,262
All other exporters	261,613	207,099	174,835	253,613	104,353	78,824
All exporters	1,386,670	1,287,537	1,181,895	1,613,171	1,419,173	1,245,933

Source: Global Trade Information Services, Inc., Global Trade Atlas, HS subheading 7303.00, accessed May 21, 2024. These data may be overstated as HS subheading 7303.00 may contain products outside the scope of this/these reviews.

Note: Zeroes, null values, and undefined calculations are suppressed and shown as “---”. Because of rounding, figures may not add to total shown.

Note: Reporting for 2023 is incomplete and may under report total exports.

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
89 FR 22448, April 1, 2024	Cast Iron Soil Pipe From China; Institution of Five-Year Reviews	https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2024-04-01/pdf/2024-06742.pdf
89 FR 22373, April 1, 2024	Initiation of Five-Year (Sunset) Reviews	https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2024-04-01/pdf/2024-06793.pdf

APPENDIX B
COMPANY-SPECIFIC DATA

* * * * *

APPENDIX C
SUMMARY DATA COMPILED IN PRIOR PROCEEDINGS

Table C-1

CISP: Summary data concerning the U.S. market, 2015-17, January to June 2017, and January to June 2018

(Quantity=short tons; Value=1,000 dollars; Unit values, unit labor costs, and unit expenses=dollars per short ton; Period changes=percent--exceptions noted)

	Reported data					Period changes			
	2015	Calendar year 2016	2017	January to June 2017	2018	2015-17	Calendar year 2015-16	2016-17	Jan-Jun 2017-18
U.S. consumption quantity:									
Amount.....	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***
Producers' share (fn1).....	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***
Importers' share (fn1):	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***
China.....	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***
Nonsubject sources.....	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***
All import sources.....	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***
U.S. consumption value:									
Amount.....	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***
Producers' share (fn1).....	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***
Importers' share (fn1):	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***
China.....	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***
Nonsubject sources.....	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***
All import sources.....	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***
U.S. imports from:									
China:									
Quantity.....	15,029	22,208	17,390	9,147	6,294	15.7	47.8	(21.7)	(31.2)
Value.....	11,951	15,647	13,167	6,528	5,784	10.2	30.9	(15.9)	(11.4)
Unit value.....	\$795	\$705	\$757	\$714	\$919	(4.8)	(11.4)	7.5	28.7
Ending inventory quantity.....	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***
Nonsubject sources:									
Quantity.....	1,186	2,303	726	583	1,255	(38.8)	94.1	(68.5)	115.2
Value.....	1,372	5,382	757	627	1,337	(44.8)	292.3	(85.9)	113.2
Unit value.....	\$1,156	\$2,337	\$1,042	\$1,075	\$1,065	(9.9)	102.1	(55.4)	(0.9)
Ending inventory quantity.....	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***
All import sources:									
Quantity.....	16,216	24,511	18,116	9,730	7,549	11.7	51.2	(26.1)	(22.4)
Value.....	13,323	21,029	13,924	7,155	7,120	4.5	57.8	(33.8)	(0.5)
Unit value.....	\$822	\$858	\$769	\$735	\$943	(6.5)	4.4	(10.4)	28.3
Ending inventory quantity.....	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***
U.S. producers:									
Average capacity quantity.....	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***
Production quantity.....	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***
Capacity utilization (fn1).....	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***
U.S. shipments:									
Quantity.....	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***
Value.....	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***
Unit value.....	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***
Export shipments:									
Quantity.....	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***
Value.....	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***
Unit value.....	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***
Ending inventory quantity.....	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***
Inventories/total shipments (fn1).....	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***
Production workers.....	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***
Hours worked (1,000s).....	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***
Wages paid (\$1,000).....	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***
Hourly wages (dollars per hour).....	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***
Productivity (short tons per 1,000 hours).....	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***
Unit labor costs (dollars per short ton).....	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***
Net sales:									
Quantity.....	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***
Value.....	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***
Unit value.....	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***
Cost of goods sold (COGS).....	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***
Gross profit or (loss).....	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***
SG&A expenses.....	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***
Operating income or (loss).....	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***
Net income or (loss).....	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***
Capital expenditures.....	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***
Unit COGS.....	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***
Unit SG&A expenses.....	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***
Unit operating income or (loss).....	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***
Unit net income or (loss).....	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***
COGS/sales (fn1).....	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***
Operating income or (loss)/sales (fn1).....	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***
Net income or (loss)/sales (fn1).....	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***

Notes:

fn1.--Reported data are in percent and period changes are in percentage points.

fn2.--Undefined.

Note.--Shares and ratios shown as "0.0" represent values greater than zero, but less than "0.05" percent.

Source: Compiled from data submitted in response to Commission questionnaires and from official U.S. import statistics for HTS statistical reporting number 7303.00.0030, accessed November 1, 2018.

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 domestic interested parties, and it provided contact information for the following five firms as top purchasers of CISP: ***. Purchaser questionnaires were sent to these five firms and one firm *** provided a response, which is presented below.

1. Have there been any significant changes in the supply and demand conditions for finished CISP that have occurred in the United States or in the market for CISP in China since May 3, 2019?

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

2. Do you anticipate any significant changes in the supply and demand conditions for CISP in the United States or in the market for CISP in China within a reasonably foreseeable time?

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

