U.S. PURCHASERS' QUESTIONNAIRE

CERTAIN ACTIVATED CARBON FROM CHINA

This questionnaire must be received by the Commission by no later than October 5, 2012

See page 4 of the Instruction Booklet for filing instructions.

The information called for in this questionnaire is for use by the United States International Trade Commission in connection with its review of the antidumping duty order concerning certain activated carbon from China (inv. No. 731-TA-1103 (review)). The information requested in the questionnaire is requested under the authority of the Tariff Act of 1930, title VII. This report is mandatory and failure to reply as directed can result in a subpoena or other order to compel the submission of records or information in your possession (19 U.S.C. § 1333(a)). Further information on this questionnaire can be obtained from Clark Workman (202-205-3248, clark.workman@usitc.gov).

Name of fi	Name of firm							
Address	Address							
City	City State Zip Code							
World Wi	ide Web address							
•	rm purchased activated carbon (as defi any time since January 1, 2007?	ined in the instr	uction booklet) from any source (domestic or					
NO	(Sign the certification below and pron	(Sign the certification below and promptly return only this page of the questionnaire to the Commission)						
YES	•	(Read the instruction booklet carefully, complete all parts of the questionnaire, and return the entire questionnaire to the Commission so as to be received by the date indicated above)						

CERTIFICATION

I certify that the information herein supplied in response to this questionnaire is complete and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief and understand that the information submitted is subject to audit and verification by the Commission.

By means of this certification I also grant consent for the Commission, and its employees and contract personnel, to use the information provided in this questionnaire and throughout this proceeding in any other import-injury proceedings or reviews conducted by the Commission on the same or similar merchandise.

I acknowledge that information submitted in this questionnaire response and throughout this proceeding may be used by the Commission, its employees, and contract personnel who are acting in the capacity of Commission employees, for developing or maintaining the records of this proceeding or related proceedings for which this information is submitted, or in internal audits and proceedings relating to the programs and operations of the Commission pursuant to 5 U.S.C. Appendix 3. I understand that all contract personnel will sign non-disclosure agreements.

Name of Authorized Official	Title of Authorized Official	Date
	Phone:	
Signature		E-mail address
-	<i>Fax</i>	

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PART I.—<u>GENERAL INFORMATION</u>

The questions in this questionnaire have been reviewed with market participants to ensure that issues of concern are adequately addressed and that data requests are sufficient, meaningful, and as limited as possible. Public reporting burden for this questionnaire is estimated to average 40 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering the data needed, and completing and reviewing the questionnaire. Send comments regarding the accuracy of this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing the burden, to the Office of Investigations, U.S. International Trade Commission, 500 E Street, SW, Washington, DC 20436.

I-1a. <u>**OMB statistics.--**</u>Please report the actual number of hours required and the cost to your firm of preparing the reply to this questionnaire and completing the form.

hours dollars

- I-1b. <u>**OMB feedback.--**We are interested in any comments you may have for improving this questionnaire in general or the clarity of specific questions. Please attach such comments to your response or send them to the above address.</u>
- I-2. **Establishments covered.--**Provide the name and address of establishment(s) covered by this questionnaire (see page 3 of the instruction booklet for reporting guidelines). If your firm is publicly traded, please specify the stock exchange and trading symbol.
- I-3. **Ownership.--**Is your firm owned, in whole or in part, by any other firm? No Yes--List the following information. Extent of Firm name Address ownership I-4. Related SUBJECT importers/exporters.--Does your firm have any related firms, either domestic or foreign, that are engaged in importing activated carbon from China into the United States or that are engaged in exporting activated carbon from China to the United States? No Yes--List the following information. Firm name Address Affiliation

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PART I.--GENERAL INFORMATION--Continued

No	YesList th	ne following information.	
Firm name and		Address	Affiliation
	ucersDoes you production of ac		s, either domestic or foreign,
🗌 No	YesList th	ne following information.	
Firm name		Address	Affiliation
Pusiness nlan			ve a business plan or any inter
	t describe, discus	ss, or analyze expected mark	et conditions for activated car

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PART II.--PURCHASES

<u>**Contact information.**</u>-- Please identify the responsible individual and the manner by which Commission staff may contact that individual regarding the confidential information submitted in this questionnaire.

Name	
Title	
Email	
Telephone	
Fax	

II-1. **<u>Purchases</u>.-**Report, as indicated below, your firm's purchases (either directly or through a sales agent or broker) of activated carbon. Report based on delivery date, not order date.

	Quantity (in 1,000 pounds) and value (in \$1,000)						
ltem	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	January- June 2011	January- June 2012
Purchases of certain activated carbon produced in The United States: Quantity							
Value							
China: <u>Quantity</u> Value							
All other countries: ¹ Quantity							
Value							
¹ Please identify these cou	intries:			1		1	

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PART II.--<u>PURCHASES</u>--Continued

II-2. Purchases before and after order.

(a) Did your firm purchase activated carbon from China before 2007?

No--skip to (c)

- (b) If yes, has your pattern of purchasing activated carbon from China changed since 2007?
 - No, our pattern of purchasing is essentially unchanged.
 - Yes, we discontinued purchases from China because of the order.
 - Yes, we reduced purchases from China because of the order.
 - Yes, but we changed the pattern of purchases from China for reasons other than the order (please explain below).
- (c) Has your pattern of purchasing activated carbon from nonsubject foreign sources (i.e., countries other than China) changed since 2007?
 - We did not purchase from nonsubject foreign sources before or after the order.
 - No, our pattern of purchasing is essentially unchanged.
 - Yes, we increased purchases from nonsubject countries because of the order.
 - Yes, but we changed our pattern of purchases from nonsubject countries for reasons other than the order (please explain below).
- II-3. <u>Changes in purchasing patterns</u>.-- Please indicate how the relative levels of your firm's purchases of activated carbon from different sources (both domestic and foreign) have changed since 2007.

Source of purchases	Did not purchase	Increased	Constant	Fluctuated	Explanation for trend
United States					
China					
All other countries					

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PART II.--<u>PURCHASES</u>--Continued

- II-4. **<u>Purchases from one country only</u>**.--If your firm has purchased activated carbon from only one country, please explain the reasons for doing so.
- II-5. <u>Supplier identification</u>.-- Please list your firm's <u>FIVE</u> largest suppliers for activated carbon since 2007. Also, provide the share of the quantity of your firm's total purchases of activated carbon that each of these suppliers accounted for in 2011.

No.	Supplier's name	City and state	Share of quantity of 2011 purchases
1			%
2			%
3			%
4			%
5			%

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PART III.-- MARKET CHARACTERISTICS AND PURCHASING PRACTICES

III-1. **<u>Firm type</u>.--**Which of the following best describes your firm as a purchaser of activated carbon (check all that apply)?

End user (Describe end use:)
Distributor	
Other (Describe:)

III-2. <u>Competition for sales</u>.--If you are a <u>distributor</u> or <u>reseller</u> of activated carbon, do you compete for sales to your customers with the manufacturers or importers from which you purchase activated carbon?

III-3. **<u>Types of customers.--**</u>If your firm is a <u>distributor</u> or <u>reseller</u> of activated carbon, what are the major types of consumers to which you sell activated carbon?

III-4. <u>End uses</u>.--If your firm is an end user of activated carbon, list in order of quantity of activated carbon consumed, the top 3 products for which your firm purchases activated carbon as a component part or input. Please indicate what percentage of the <u>total cost</u> is accounted for by activated carbon and other inputs.

	Share of total cost in each produce accour		
Product(s) you produce	Activated carbon (percent)	Other inputs (percent)	Total
	%	%	100%
	%	%	100%
	%	%	100%

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PART III.-- MARKET CHARACTERISTICS AND PURCHASING PRACTICES--Continued

III-5. Demand for end use products.--

(a) If your firm is an end user of activated carbon, has the demand for your firm's final products incorporating activated carbon changed since 2007?

Increased	No change	Decreased	Fluctuated

(b) Has this had any effect on your firm's demand for activated carbon?

No	Yes	Explain

III-6. <u>Changes in end uses</u>.-- Have there been any changes in the end uses of activated carbon since 2007? Do you anticipate any future changes?

Changes in end uses	No	Yes	Explain
Changes since 2007			
Anticipated changes			

- III-7. <u>Substitutes</u>.--Can other products be substituted for activated carbon?
 - No Yes--Please fill out the table.

		End use in which this	Have changes in the prices of this substitute affected the price for activated carbon?				
	Substitute	substitute is used	No	Yes	Explanation		
1.							
2.							
3.							

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PART III.-- MARKET CHARACTERISTICS AND PURCHASING PRACTICES--Continued

III-8. <u>Changes in substitutes</u>.-- Have there been any changes in the number or types of products that can be substituted for activated carbon since 2007? Do you anticipate any future changes?

Changes in substitutes	No	Yes	Explain
Changes since 2007			
Anticipated changes			

III-9. <u>Demand trends</u>.-- Indicate how demand within the United States and outside of the United States (if known) for activated carbon has changed since January 1, 2007, and how you anticipate demand will change in the future. Describe the principal factors that have affected, and that you anticipate will affect, these changes in demand.

Market	Increase	No change	Decrease	Fluctuate	Factors
			Dema	nd since 20	007
Within the United States					
Outside the United States					
			Anticipat	ed future de	emand
Within the United States					
Outside the United States					

III-10. <u>Market studies</u>.--Please provide as a separate attachment to this request any studies, surveys, etc. that you are aware of that quantify and/or otherwise discuss activated carbon supply (including production capacity and capacity utilization) and demand in (1) the United States, (2) each of the other major producing/consuming countries, including China, and (3) the world as a whole. Of particular interest is such data from 2007 to the present and forecasts for the future.

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PART III.-- MARKET CHARACTERISTICS AND PURCHASING PRACTICES--Continued

III-11. <u>Changes in factors affecting supply</u>.--Have any changes occurred in any other factors affecting supply (e.g., changes in availability or prices of energy or labor; transportation conditions; production capacity and/or methods of production; technology; export markets; or alternative production opportunities) that affected the availability of U.S.-produced activated carbon in the U.S. market since 2007?

No	Yes	Explain

III-12. **Importance of purchasing domestic product.--**Is buying a product that is produced in the United States an important factor in your firm's purchases of activated carbon (check ALL that apply)?

No

Yes-- Purchases of domestic product are required by law or regulation (for example, government purchases under "Buy American" provisions). This involves _____ percent of all our purchases of activated carbon.

Yes--Purchases of domestic product are not required by law or regulation, but are by our customers. This involves _____ percent of all our purchases of activated carbon.

Yes--Purchases of domestic product are required for other reasons (please specify these reasons below). This involves ______ percent of all our purchases of activated carbon.

III-13. Conditions of competition.--

(a) Is the activated carbon market subject to business cycles or conditions of competition (including seasonal business) distinctive to activated carbon?

No (skip to question III-14.)

Yes-- Please describe and then answer part (b).

(b) If yes, have there been any changes in the business cycles or conditions of competition for activated carbon since January 1, 2007?

No Yes-- Please describe.

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PART III.-- MARKET CHARACTERISTICS AND PURCHASING PRACTICES--Continued

III-14. **Decisions based on producer**.--Does your firm, and to the extent that you know, do your customers make purchasing decisions involving activated carbon based on the producer of the activated carbon you purchase?

	Always	Usually	Sometimes	Never	If at least sometimes, discuss how your firm/customers determine the producer and why this information is important
Your firm					
Your customers					

III-15. <u>Decisions based on country-of-origin</u>.--Does your firm, and to the extent that you know, do your customers make purchasing decisions involving activated carbon based on the country of origin of the activated carbon you purchase?

	Always	Usually	Sometimes	Never	If at least sometimes, discuss how your firm/customers determine the source and why this information is important
Your firm					
Your customers					

III-16. Purchasing frequency.--

(a) How frequently do you make purchases (check one)?

Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Quarterly	Annually	Other	If other, specify

(b) Do you expect this purchasing pattern to change in the next two years?

No

Yes-- How and why do you expect these changes to occur?

U.S. Purchasers' Q	Juastionnaira	Cortain Activated	Carbon from (Thing (721 TA	$1103 (D_{03})$	(iow) Dogo 12
U.S. I ulchasels (Zuestionnane –	Certain Activated	Carbon nom	21111a (731-1A	-1105 (Kev	$(1 \in W)$ 1 age 12

PART III.-- MARKET CHARACTERISTICS AND PURCHASING PRACTICES--Continued

III-17. <u>Number of suppliers contacted</u>.--How many suppliers do you generally contact before making a purchase? _____ firms

III-18. Supplier negotiations.--

	(a)	Do purchases of activated carbon usually involve negotiations between supplier and purchaser?
		No YesPlease describe these negotiations, noting whether purchasers generally quote competing prices as part of the negotiation process.
	(b)	Does your firm tend to vary its purchases from a given supplier within a specified time period based on the price offered for that period?
		No YesSpecify the time period.
III-19.	<u>Chang</u>	e in suppliersHave you changed suppliers since 2007?
	🗌 No	Yes Please list the supplier(s), whether the firm was added or dropped, the reasons for the change, and how frequently you change suppliers.

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PART III.-- MARKET CHARACTERISTICS AND PURCHASING PRACTICES--Continued

III-20. New suppliers.--

	(a)	Are you aware of any new suppliers, either foreign or domestic, that have entered the market since 2007?
		No YesPlease identify the firms and indicate how you became aware of them.
	(b)	Do you expect new activated carbon suppliers to enter the U.S. market?
		No YesPlease provide details.
III-21.	<u>Suppli</u>	er qualification
	(a) Do to your	you require your suppliers to be or to become certified or qualified to sell activated carbon firm?
	🗌 No	Yes percent of value of purchases in 2011 Yesall purchases
	describ	ease provide a general description of the certification or qualification process. Briefly be the factors that you consider when qualifying a new supplier (e.g., quality of product, ity of supplier, etc.).
	(c) Hov	w long does it take to qualify a new supplier?days
III-22.		e to certifySince 2007, have any domestic or foreign producers failed in their attempts to or qualify their activated carbon with your firm or have any producers lost their approved
	🗌 No	YesPlease identify these firms, the countries where they are located, and the reasons why they failed the certification/qualification.

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PART III.-- MARKET CHARACTERISTICS AND PURCHASING PRACTICES--Continued

III-23. **<u>Purchasing factors.--</u>**For the factors listed below, please rate each in terms of its importance in your purchase decision for activated carbon.

	Very important	Somewhat important	Not important
Availability			
Delivery terms			
Delivery time			
Discounts offered			
Extension of credit			
Price			
Minimum qty requirements			
Packaging			
Product consistency			
Quality meets industry standards			
Quality exceeds industry standards			
Product range			
Reliability of supply			
Technical support/service			
U.S. transportation costs			
Other (specify):			

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PART III.-- MARKET CHARACTERISTICS AND PURCHASING PRACTICES--Continued

III-24. <u>Major purchasing factors</u>.--Please list, in order of their importance, the three major factors generally considered by your firm in deciding from whom to purchase activated carbon for any one order (examples include availability, extension of credit, contracts, price, quality, range of supplier's product line, traditional supplier, etc.).

-	
3.	
2.	
1.	

Other factors or comments:

III-25. **<u>Quality characteristics.--</u>**What characteristics does your firm consider when determining the quality of activated carbon?

III-26. <u>Frequency of decisions based on price</u>,--How often does your firm purchase the activated carbon that is offered at the lowest price?

Always	Usually	Sometimes	Never

III-27. <u>Price leaders</u>.— A price leader is defined as (1) one or more firms that initiate a price change, either upward or downward, that is followed by other firms, or (2) one or more firms that have a significant impact on prices. *A price leader is not necessarily the lowest priced supplier*.

Please list the names of any firms you considered price leaders in the activated carbon market since 2007. Describe how the firm(s) exhibited price leadership.

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PART III.-- MARKET CHARACTERISTICS AND PURCHASING PRACTICES--Continued

III-28. Changes in U.S. industry.--

(a) Please identify and discuss any improvements/changes in the U.S. activated carbon industry since 2007 and explain the factors, including the order(s) under review, that were responsible for each improvement/change.

(b) Please discuss any improvements/changes that you anticipate in the future in the U.S. activated carbon industry. Identify the time period and causes for these improvements/changes.

III-29. <u>Effect of revocation</u>.--What do you think will be the likely effects of any revocation of the antidumping duty order on imports of activated carbon from China? As appropriate, please discuss any potential effects of revocation of the antidumping duty order on (1) the future activities of your firm and (2) the U.S. market as a whole. Please note the future time period to which you are referring.

(1) Activities of your firm:

(2) Entire U.S. market:

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PART IV.-- PRODUCT COMPARISIONS

IV-1. <u>Country knowledge</u>.--Please indicate the countries of origin for activated carbon for which your firm has actual marketing/pricing knowledge.

United States

China

	Other	countries	(specify
--	-------	-----------	----------

IV-2. **Interchangeability by country-pair.-**Is activated carbon produced in the United States and in other countries interchangeable (*i.e.*, can they physically be used in the same applications)?

)

Please indicate A, F, S, N, or 0 in the table below:

A = the products from a specified country-pair are *always* interchangeable

F = the products are *frequently* interchangeable

- S = the products are *sometimes* interchangeable
- N = the products are *never* interchangeable
- 0 = no familiarity with products from a specified country-pair

Country-pair	China	Other countries
United States		
China		
	icing certain activated carbon that splain the factors that limit or pre-	

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PART IV.-- PRODUCT COMPARISIONS--Continued

IV-3. <u>Factors other than price</u>.--Are differences other than price (*i.e.*, quality, availability, transportation network, product range, technical support, *etc.*) between activated carbon produced in the United States and in other countries a significant factor in your firm's purchases of the products?

Please indicate A, F, S, N, or 0 in the table below:

- A = such differences are *always* significant
- F = such differences are *frequently* significant
- S = such differences are *sometimes* significant
- N = such differences are *never* significant

0 = no familiarity with products from a specified country-pair

Country-pair	China	Other countries
United States		
China		
factor in your firm's sales of	hich factors other than price <i>alwa</i> of certain activated carbon, identi ges imparted by such factors:	eys or frequently are a significant fy the country-pair and report the

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PART IV.-- PRODUCT COMPARISIONS--Continued

IV-4.	<u>Availability of merchandise</u> Are grades/types/sizes of activated carbon available from only a single source (domestic or foreign, including both subject and nonsubject countries)?
	No YesPlease identify the source and the grade/type/size.
IV-5.	<u>Choice of product not based on price</u> If you purchased activated carbon from one source although a comparable product was available from another source at a lower price, please explain your reasons for doing so (please specify by country, including the United States and both subject and nonsubject foreign countries). Possibilities might include transaction characteristics such as length of time to fill orders, minimum order size, reliability of supply, etc.

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PART IV.-- PRODUCT COMPARISIONS--Continued

IV-6. **<u>Factor country comparisons</u>.--**For the factors listed below, please rate how activated carbon produced in each country you identified in your response to the first question in Part IV compares with activated carbon produced in each of the other countries you identified (including the United States and both subject and nonsubject foreign countries).

	product from <u>United States</u> compared to product from <u>China</u>		product from compared to product from		product from compared to product from		l to		
	Superior	Comparable	Inferior	Superior	Comparable	Inferior	Superior	Comparable	Inferior
Availability									
Delivery terms									
Delivery time									
Discounts offered									
Extension of credit									
Price ¹									
Minimum quantity requirements									
Packaging									
Product consistency									
Quality meets industry standards									
Quality exceeds industry standards									
Product range									
Reliability of supply									
Technical support/service									
U.S. transportation costs ¹									
Other (specify):									

¹ A rating of superior on price and U.S. transportation costs indicates that the first country generally has lower prices/U.S. transportation costs than the second country.

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PART IV.-- PRODUCT COMPARISIONS--Continued

IV-6. *Continued.*

	product from compared to product from		product from compared to product from		product from compared to product from		l to		
	Superior	Comparable	Inferior	Superior	Comparable	Inferior	Superior	Comparable	Inferior
Availability									
Delivery terms									
Delivery time									
Discounts offered									
Extension of credit									
Price ¹									
Minimum quantity requirements									
Packaging									
Product consistency									
Quality meets industry standards									
Quality exceeds industry standards									
Product range									
Reliability of supply									
Technical support/service									
U.S. transportation costs ¹									
Other (specify):									

¹ A rating of superior on price and U.S. transportation costs indicates that the first country generally has lower prices/U.S. transportation costs than the second country.

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PART IV.-- PRODUCT COMPARISIONS--Continued

IV-7. <u>Minimum quality</u>.--How often does activated carbon from the following countries meet minimum quality specifications for your uses or your customers' uses?

Source	Always	Usually	Sometimes	Rarely or never	Don't know
United States					
China					

IV-8. Change in price.--

(a) Since 2007, has there been a change in the price of activated carbon? If so, has the price of U.S.-produced activated carbon changed more or less than the price of imported activated carbon from China?

No change in price.

Prices have changed by the same amount.

- Price of U.S.-produced activated carbon has changed relative to the price of activated carbon from China.
- Price of U.S.-produced activated carbon has changed relative to the price of activated carbon from other countries.
- (b) If the price of U.S.-produced activated carbon has changed relative to the price of activated carbon from China, the price of U.S.-produced activated carbon is now relatively

Higher Lower – than those from China.

Higher Lower – than those from other countries.