

Dated: July 18, 2016.

Samuel H. Rikkers,

Administrator, Rural Business-Cooperative Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[C-570-982]

Utility Scale Wind Towers from the People's Republic of China: Rescission of Countervailing Duty Administrative Review; 2015

AGENCY: Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce (the Department) is rescinding its administrative review of the countervailing duty (CVD) order on utility scale wind towers (wind towers) from the People's Republic of China (PRC) for the period January 1, 2015, through December 31, 2015.

DATES: Effective July 25, 2016.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kristen Johnson, AD/CVD Operations, Office III, Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482-4793.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The Department initiated an administrative review of the CVD order on wind towers from the PRC with respect to 50 companies for the period January 1, 2015, through December 31, 2015, based on a request by the petitioner, the Wind Tower Trade Coalition (WTTTC).¹ On July 6, 2016, WTTTC timely withdrew its request for an administrative review of all 50 companies.² No other party requested a review.

Rescission of Review

Pursuant to 19 CFR 351.213(d)(1), the Department will rescind an administrative review in whole or in

¹ See *Initiation of Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Administrative Reviews*, 81 FR 20324 (April 7, 2016) (*Initiation Notice*). In the *Initiation Notice*, we inadvertently listed only 45 companies; however, WTTTC requested a review of 50 companies. See Letter from WTTTC regarding "Request for Administrative Review" (February 23, 2016).

² See Letter from the WTTTC regarding "Withdrawal of Request for Administrative Review" (July 6, 2016).

part, if the party that requested a review withdraws its request within 90 days of the date of publication of notice of initiation of the requested review. In this case, WTTTC withdrew its request for review within the 90-day deadline, and no other party requested an administrative review of the CVD order. Therefore, in accordance with 19 CFR 351.213(d)(1), we are rescinding this review in its entirety.

Assessment

The Department will instruct U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to assess CVDs on all entries of wind towers from the PRC during the period January 1, 2015, through December 31, 2015, at rates equal to the cash deposit of estimated CVDs required at the time of entry, or withdrawal from warehouse, for consumption, in accordance with 19 CFR 351.212(c)(1)(i). The Department intends to issue appropriate assessment instructions to CBP 15 days after the publication of this notice.

Notifications

This notice serves as a final reminder to parties subject to administrative protective order (APO) of their responsibility concerning the return or destruction of proprietary information disclosed under APO, in accordance with 19 CFR 351.305.(a)(3). Timely written notification of the return or destruction of APO materials or conversion to judicial protective order is hereby requested. Failure to comply with the regulations and the terms of an APO is a violation which is subject to sanction.

This notice is issued and published in accordance with sections 751(a)(1) and 777(i)(1) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended, and 19 CFR 351.213(d)(4).

Dated: July 18, 2016.

Christian Marsh,

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Operations.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[C-570-037]

Certain Biaxial Integral Geogrid Products From the People's Republic of China: Amended Preliminary Results of Countervailing Duty Investigation

AGENCY: Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

SUMMARY: On June 24, 2016, the Department of Commerce ("Department") published in the **Federal Register** the *Preliminary Determination* of the countervailing duty ("CVD") investigation on certain biaxial integral geogrid products ("geogrids") from the People's Republic of China ("PRC"). The Department is amending the *Preliminary Determination* of the investigation to correct three ministerial errors.

DATES: Effective June 24, 2016.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Bob Palmer or Ryan Mullen, AD/CVD Operations, Office V, Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482-9068 or (202) 482-5260, respectively.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On June 24, 2016, the Department published in the **Federal Register** the *Preliminary Determination* of the CVD investigation of geogrids from the PRC.¹ On June 24, 2016, and June 27, 2016, respectively, Taian Modern Plastic Co., Ltd. ("Taian Modern") and BOSTD Geosynthetics Qingdao Ltd. ("BOSTD Qingdao") alleged that the Department made significant ministerial errors in the *Preliminary Determination*.²

Significant Ministerial Error

A ministerial error, as defined in section 751(h) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended ("the Act"), includes "errors in addition, subtraction, or other arithmetic function, clerical errors resulting from inaccurate copying, duplication, or the like, and any other type of unintentional error which the administering authority considers ministerial."³ With respect to preliminary determinations, 19 CFR 351.224(e) provides that the Department "will analyze any comments received and, if appropriate, correct any significant ministerial error by amending the preliminary determination . . ." A significant

¹ See *Countervailing Duty Investigation of Certain Biaxial Integral Geogrid Products From the People's Republic of China: Preliminary Determination and Alignment of Final Determination With Final Antidumping Determination*, 81 FR 41292 (June 24, 2016) ("*Preliminary Determination*").

² On June 30, 2016 the Department received comments submitted by Tensar Corporation in reply to the ministerial allegations of Taian Modern and BOSTD Qingdao. However, in accordance with 19 CFR 351.224(c)(3), these reply comments were rejected from the record. See Letter from Catherine Bertrand, Program Manager, Office V, "Certain Biaxial Integral Geogrids Products from the People's Republic of China: Tensar Corporation's Ministerial Reply Comments" (July 5, 2016).

³ See also 19 CFR 351.224(f).

ministerial error is defined as an error, the correction of which, singly or in combination with other errors, would result in: (1) A change of at least five absolute percentage points in, but not less than 25 percent of, the countervailable subsidy rate calculated in the original (erroneous) preliminary determination; or (2) a difference between a countervailable subsidy rate of zero (or *de minimis*) and a countervailable subsidy rate of greater than *de minimis* or vice versa.⁴ As explained further in the Ministerial Error Memorandum issued concurrently with this Notice,⁵ and pursuant to 19 CFR 351.224(e) and (g), the Department is amending the *Preliminary Determination* to reflect the correction of three ministerial errors made in the calculation of the subsidy rates for Taian Modern and BOSTD Qingdao.

Ministerial Error Allegations

Taian Modern alleges that, although the Department stated in the *Preliminary Determination* that it was using total sales as the denominator in calculating the subsidy rate because the programs were considered domestic subsidies, the Department actually used only Taian Modern's sales of geogrids as the denominator in its calculations.

After comparing the ministerial error allegations against record evidence, in

accordance with section 751(h) of the Act, we agree that we inadvertently used only Taian Modern's sales of geogrids in our calculation instead of total sales. This resulted in a significant error within the meaning of section 735(e) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.224(g). We have corrected this error in this notice.

BOSTD Qingdao alleges that in the *Preliminary Determination*, the Department stated that it would add to the purchase price for each individual *domestic* purchase the reported delivery charge and VAT paid to obtain a total amount paid. However, the Department unintentionally included BOSTD Qingdao's purchases of imported (*e.g.*, non-Chinese origin) polypropylene in the less-than-adequate-remuneration ("LTAR") calculation.

Next, with respect to the electricity for LTAR calculation, BOSTD Qingdao alleges that the Department made an error in addition. In the Department's calculation worksheet, the benefit totals from each of the various electricity categories was hardcoded rather than a sum formula. The actual sum of BOSTD Qingdao's electricity benefit is considerably less.

After comparing the ministerial error allegations against record evidence, in accordance with section 751(h) of the Act, we agree with BOSTD Qingdao that

we inadvertently included BOSTD Qingdao's purchases of imported polypropylene in the LTAR calculation. We also agree that we miscalculated the benefit total of the various electricity categories. These errors resulted in a significant error within the meaning of section 735(e) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.224(g). We have corrected these errors in this notice.

Amended Preliminary Determination

We are amending the preliminary countervailing duty rates for Taian Modern and BOSTD Qingdao pursuant to 19 CFR 351.224(e). In addition, the preliminary "All-Others" Rate was based on the simple average of the subsidy rates calculated for Taian Modern and BOSTD Qingdao. Thus, we are also amending the "All-Others" rate to account for the change in Taian Modern's and BOSTD Qingdao's subsidy rate. Specifically, we are calculating the simple average of the corrected subsidy rate for Taian Modern and BOSTD Qingdao. Further, correcting Taian Modern's "Provision of Polypropylene for LTAR" error and BOSTD Qingdao's "Provision of Electricity for LTAR" calculation leads to a change in the adverse facts available rate.⁶ The revised subsidy rates are as follows:

Company	Subsidy rate
BOSTD Geosynthetics Qingdao Ltd. and Beijing Orient Science & Technology Development Co., Ltd	5.19
Taian Modern Plastic Co., Ltd	20.79
All-Others	12.99
Chengdu Tian Road Engineering Materials Co., Ltd.*	119.13
Chongqing Jiudi Reinforced Soil Engineering Co., Ltd.*	119.13
CNBM International Corporation *	119.13
Dezhou Yaohua Geosynthetics Ltd.*	119.13
Dezhou Zhengyu Geosynthetics Ltd.*	119.13
Hongye Engineering Materials Co., Ltd.*	119.13
Hubei Nete Geosynthetics Ltd.*	119.13
Jiangsu Dingtai Engineering Material Co., Ltd.*	119.13
Jiangsu Jiuding New Material Ltd.*	119.13
Lewu New Material Ltd.*	119.13
Nanjing Jinlu Geosynthetics Ltd.*	119.13
Nanjing Kunchi Composite Material Ltd.*	119.13
Nanyang Jieda Geosynthetics Co., Ltd.*	119.13
Qingdao Hongda Plastics Corp.*	119.13
Shandong Dexuda Geosynthetics Ltd.*	119.13
Shandong Haoyang New Engineering Materials Co., Ltd.*	119.13
Shandong Tongfa Glass Fiber Ltd.*	119.13
Shandong Xinyu Geosynthetics Ltd.*	119.13
Tai'an Haohua Plastics Co., Ltd.*	119.13
Taian Hengbang Engineering Material Co., Ltd.*	119.13
Taian Naite Geosynthetics Ltd.*	119.13
Taian Road Engineering Materials Co., Ltd.*	119.13
Tenax *	119.13

⁴ See 19 CFR 351.224(g) (1), (2).

⁵ See Memorandum to Paul Piquado, Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance, from James Doyle, Director, Office V, through Christian Marsh, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Operations, entitled, "Countervailing Duty Investigation of Certain

Biaxial Integral Geogrid Products from the People's Republic of China: Allegation of Significant Ministerial Errors in the Preliminary Determination," dated concurrently with this notice ("Ministerial Error Memorandum"). This memorandum is on file electronically via Enforcement and Compliance's Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Centralized Electronic Service

System ("ACCESS"). ACCESS is available to registered users at <http://access.trade.gov>, and is available to all parties in the Central Records Unit, room B8024 of the main Department of Commerce building.

⁶ See Ministerial Error Memorandum for the revised adverse facts available rate.

Company	Subsidy rate
Hengshui Zhongtiejian Group Co.*	119.13
Qingdao Sunrise Dageng Import and Export Co., Ltd.*	119.13

* Non-cooperative company to which an adverse facts available rate is being applied. See *Countervailing Duty Investigation of Certain Biaxial Integral Geogrid Products From the People's Republic of China: Preliminary Determination and Alignment of Final Determination With Final Anti-dumping Determination*, 81 FR 41292 (June 24, 2016) and accompanying Preliminary Decision Memo at "Use of Facts Otherwise Available and Adverse Inferences."

These amended preliminary results are published in accordance with sections 751(h) and 777(i)(1) of the Act.

Dated: July 19, 2016.

Paul Piquado,

Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

U.S. Department of Commerce Trade Finance Advisory Council Establishment

AGENCY: International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of establishment of the U.S. Department of Commerce Trade Finance Advisory Council.

SUMMARY: The Secretary of Commerce (Secretary), having determined that it is in the public interest in connection with the performance of duties imposed on the Department of Commerce by law, and with the concurrence of the General Services Administration, announces establishment of the U.S. Department of Commerce Trade Finance Advisory Council. This advisory committee will advise the Secretary on the development of strategies and programs that would help expand access to trade finance for U.S. exporters. The establishment of this federal advisory committee is necessary to provide input to the Secretary regarding the challenges faced by U.S. exporters in accessing capital, innovative solutions that can address these challenges, and recommendations on strategies that can expand access to finance and educate U.S. exporters on available resources. This notice also requests nominations for membership.

DATES: Nominations for members must be received on or before 5 p.m. EDT Monday, August 22, 2016.

ADDRESSES: All nominations should be submitted to the Executive Secretary, Advisory Council on Trade Finance to: Ericka Ukrow, Office of Finance and Insurance Industries, U.S. Department of Commerce Trade Finance Advisory

Council, Room 18002, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20230, or via email at: *Ericka.Ukrow@trade.gov*.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Ericka Ukrow, Office of Finance and Insurance Industries, Room 18002, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482-0405, email: *Ericka.Ukrow@trade.gov*.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background and Authority

The U.S. Department of Commerce Trade Finance Advisory Council (TFAC) is established in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended, 5 U.S.C. App., to advise the Secretary on matters relating to private sector trade financing for U.S. exporters. The Department affirms that the creation of the TFAC is necessary and in the public interest.

The Department of Commerce, International Trade Administration, Office of Finance and Insurance Industries, is accepting nominations for membership on the TFAC. The TFAC functions solely as an advisory committee. The TFAC shall advise the Secretary in identifying effective ways to help expand access to finance for U.S. exporters, especially small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), and their foreign buyers.

The TFAC shall provide a necessary forum to facilitate the discussion between a diverse group of stakeholders such as banks, non-bank financial institutions, other trade finance related organizations, and exporters to gain a better understanding regarding current challenges facing U.S. exporters in accessing finance.

The TFAC shall draw upon the experience of its members in order to obtain ideas and suggestions for innovative solutions to these challenges.

The TFAC shall develop recommendations on programs or activities that the Department of Commerce could incorporate as part of its export promotion and trade finance education efforts.

The TFAC shall report to the Secretary on its activities and recommendations. In creating its reports, the TFAC should: (1) Evaluate current credit conditions and specific

financing challenges faced by U.S. exporters, especially SMEs, and their foreign buyers, (2) examine other noteworthy issues raised by stakeholders represented by the membership, (3) identify emerging financing sources that would address these gaps, and (4) recommend specific activities by which these recommendations could be incorporated and implemented.

II. Structure, Membership, and Operation

The TFAC shall consist of no more than twenty members appointed by the Secretary. Members may be drawn from:

- U.S. companies that are exporters of goods and services;
 - U.S. commercial banks that provide trade finance products, cross-border payment services, or foreign exchange solutions;
 - Non-bank U.S. financial institutions that provide trade finance products, cross-border payment services, or foreign exchange solutions;
 - Associations that represent: (a) U.S. exporters and SMEs; and (b) U.S. commercial banks or non-bank financial institutions or other professionals that facilitate international trade transactions;
 - U.S. companies or entities whose business includes trade-finance-related activities or services;
 - U.S. scholars, academic institutions, or public policy organizations with expertise in global business, trade finance, and international banking related subjects; and
 - Economic development organizations and other U.S. regional, state and local governmental and non-governmental organizations whose missions or activities include the analysis, provision, or facilitation of trade finance products/services.
- Membership shall include a broad range of companies and organizations in terms of products and services, company size, and geographic location of both the source and destination of trade finance. Members will be selected based on their ability to carry out the objectives of the TFAC, in accordance with applicable Department of Commerce guidelines, in a manner that