Trade Expansion Act of 1962 (Section 232) and Section 301 of the Trade Act of 1974 (Section 301), depending on the country of origin. The applicable Section 232 and Section 301 decisions require subject merchandise to be admitted to FTZs in privileged foreign status (19 CFR 146.41).

Public comment is invited from interested parties. Submissions shall be addressed to the Board’s Executive Secretary and sent to: ftz@trade.gov. The closing period for their receipt is October 21, 2019.

A copy of the notification will be available for public inspection in the “Reading Room” section of the Board’s website, which is accessible via www国际贸易/frz.gov.

For further information, contact Christopher Wedderburn at Chris.Wedderburn@trade.gov or (202) 482–1963.


Andrew McGillvray,
Executive Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
International Trade Administration

[A–122–864]

Certain Fabricated Structural Steel From Canada: Preliminary Negative Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value and Postponement of Final Determination

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

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce (Commerce) preliminarily determines that certain fabricated structural steel (fabricated structural steel) from Canada is not being, or is not likely to be, sold in the United States at less than fair value (LTFV). The period of investigation (POI) is January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018. Interested parties are invited to comment on this preliminary determination.


FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: David Goldberger or Ajay Menon, AD/CVD Operations, Office II, Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482–4136 or (202) 482–1993, respectively.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

This preliminary determination is made in accordance with section 733(b) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act). Commerce published the notice of initiation of this investigation on March 4, 2019.1 On July 1, 2019, Commerce postponed the preliminary determination of this investigation and the revised deadline is now September 3, 2019.2 For a complete description of the events that followed the initiation of this investigation, see the Preliminary Decision Memorandum.3 A list of topics included in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum is included as Appendix II to this notice. The Preliminary Decision Memorandum is a public document and 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 https://access.trade.gov, and to all parties in the Central Records Unit, room B8024 of the main Commerce building. In addition, a complete version of the Preliminary Decision Memorandum can be accessed directly at http://enforcement.trade.gov/fm/. The signed and the electronic versions of the Preliminary Decision Memorandum are identical in content.

Scope of the Investigation

The product covered by this investigation is fabricated structural steel from Canada. For a complete description of the scope of this investigation, see Appendix I.

Scope Comments

In accordance with the preamble to Commerce’s regulations,4 the Initiation Notice set aside a period of time for parties to raise issues regarding product coverage (i.e., scope).5 Certain interested parties commented on the scope of the investigation as it appeared in the Initiation Notice. For a summary of the product coverage comments and rebuttal responses submitted on the record for this preliminary determination, and accompanying discussion and analysis of all comments timely received, see the Preliminary Scope Decision Memoranda.6 Commerce is preliminarily modifying the scope language as it appeared in the Initiation Notice. See the revised scope in Appendix I to this notice.

Methodology

Commerce is conducting this investigation in accordance with section 731 of the Act. Commerce has calculated export prices in accordance with section 772(a) of the Act. Commerce calculated constructed export prices have been calculated in accordance with section 772(b) of the Act. Normal value is calculated in accordance with section 733 of the Act. For a full description of the methodology underlying the preliminary determination, see the Preliminary Decision Memorandum.

Preliminary Determination

For this preliminary determination, Commerce calculated a zero or de minimis estimated weighted-average dumping margin for each individually examined producer and/or exporter of the subject merchandise. Consistent with section 733(b)(3) of the Act, Commerce disregards de minimis rates and preliminarily determines that these individually examined respondents with de minimis rates have not made sales of subject merchandise at LTFV.


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2 See Decision Memorandum for the Preliminary Determination in the Less-Than-Fair-Value Investigation of Certain Fabricated Structural Steel from Canada dated concurrently with, and hereby adopted by this notice (Preliminary Decision Memorandum).
3 See Antidumping Duties: Countervailing Duties, Final Rule, 62 FR 27296, 27323 (May 19, 1997).
4 See Notice of Preliminary Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value and Postponement of Final Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value of Certain Fabricated Structural Steel from Canada, 73 FR 37331 (July 1, 2018).
5 See Certain Fabricated Structural Steel from Canada, Mexico, and the People’s Republic of China: Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum, dated July 5, 2019; see also Memorandum, “Fabricated Structural Steel from Canada, Mexico, and the People’s Republic of China: Second Preliminary Scope Decision Memorandum,” dated concurrently with this notice (collectively, Preliminary Scope Decision Memoranda).
affirmative preliminary determination of sales at LTFV.

Suspension of Liquidation

Because Commerce has made a negative preliminary determination of sales at LTFV with regard to subject merchandise, Commerce will not direct U.S. Customs and Border Protection to suspend liquidation or to require a cash deposit of estimated antidumping duties for any such entries.

Disclosure

Commerce intends to disclose its calculations and analysis performed to interested parties in this preliminary determination within five days of any public announcement or, if there is no public announcement, within five days of the date of publication of this notice in accordance with 19 CFR 351.224(b).

Verification

As provided in section 782(i)(1) of the Act, Commerce intends to verify the information relied upon in making its final determination.

Public Comment

Case briefs or other written comments may be submitted to the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance no later than seven days after the date on which the last verification report is issued in this investigation. Rebuttal briefs, limited to issues raised in case briefs, may be submitted no later than five days after the deadline date for case briefs.8 Pursuant to 19 CFR 351.300(c)(2) and (d)(2), parties who submit case briefs or rebuttal briefs in this investigation are encouraged to submit with each argument: (1) A statement of the issue; (2) a brief summary of the argument; and (3) a table of authorities.

Interested parties may address Commerce’s preliminary scope determinations in scope briefs which may be submitted no later than 21 days after the publication of the preliminary antidumping duty (AD) determinations on fabricated structural steel from Canada, China, and Mexico in the Federal Register. Scope rebuttal briefs, limited to issues raised in the scope case briefs, may be submitted no later than five days after the deadline for the scope case briefs. These deadlines, which are based on publication in the Federal Register of the preliminary determinations in the AD investigations of fabricated structural steel, apply to both the on-going AD and countervailing duty (CVD) investigations. Thus, there is only one briefing schedule for scope case and rebuttal briefs in the AD and CVD fabricated structural steel investigations. For all scope issues, parties must file separate and identical documents on the records of all of the ongoing AD and CVD investigations of fabricated structural steel from Canada, China, and Mexico through ACCESS. No new factual information may be included in scope case or rebuttal briefs.

The parties should include all arguments about scope-related issues in the scope case and rebuttal briefs. Commerce does not intend to permit arguments about scope-related issues in the investigation-specific case and rebuttal briefs regarding other issues. Should these investigations result in the imposition of orders, interested parties may submit requests for a scope ruling after the publication of any such orders in the Federal Register. Pursuant to 19 CFR 351.310(c), interested parties who wish to request a hearing, limited to issues raised in the case and rebuttal briefs, must submit a written request to the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance, U.S. Department of Commerce, within 30 days after the date of publication of this notice. Requests should contain the party’s name, address, and telephone number, the number of participants, whether any participant is a foreign national, and a list of the issues to be discussed. If a request for a hearing is made, Commerce intends to hold the hearing at the U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20230, at a time and date to be determined. Parties should confirm by telephone the date, time, and location of the hearing two days before the scheduled date.

Postponement of Final Determination

Section 735(a)(2)(B) of the Act provides that a final determination may be postponed until not later than 135 days after the date of publication of the preliminary determination if, in the event of a negative preliminary determination, a request for such postponement is made by the petitioner. On July 23, 2019, the petitioner requested that Commerce postpone the final determination.9 In accordance with section 735(a)(2)(B) of the Act, because the preliminary determination is negative, the petitioner has requested the postponement of the final determination. Commerce is postponing the final determination. Accordingly, Commerce will make its final determination by no later than 135 days after the date of publication of this preliminary determination, pursuant to section 735(a)(2) of the Act.

International Trade Commission Notification

In accordance with section 733(f) of the Act, Commerce will notify the International Trade Commission (ITC) of its preliminary determination. If the final determination is affirmative, the ITC will determine 75 days after the final determination whether these imports are materially injuring, or threaten material injury to, the U.S. industry.

Notification to Interested Parties

This determination is issued and published in accordance with sections 733(f) and 777(f)(1) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.205(c).


Jeffrey I. Kessler,
Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance.

Appendix I

Scope of the Investigation

The merchandise covered by the investigation is carbon and alloy fabricated structural steel. Fabricated structural steel is made from steel in which: (1) Iron predominates, by weight, over each of the other contained elements; and (2) the carbon content is two percent or less by weight. Fabricated structural steel products are steel products that have been fabricated for erection or assembly into structures, including, but not limited to, buildings (commercial, office, institutional, and multi-family residential); industrial and utility projects, parking decks, arenas and convention centers, medical facilities; and ports, transportation and infrastructure facilities. Fabricated structural steel is manufactured from carbon and alloy (including stainless steel) products such as angles, columns, beams, girders, plates, flange shapes (including manufactured structural shapes utilizing welded plates as a substitute for rolled wide flange sections), channels, hollow structural section (HSS) shapes, base plates, and plate-work components. Fabrication includes, but is not limited to cutting, drilling, welding, joining, bolting, bending, punching, pressure fitting, molding, grooving, adhesion, beveling, and riveting and may include items such as fasteners, nuts, bolts, rivets, screws, hinges, or joints.

The inclusion, attachment, joining, or assembly of non-steel components with fabricated structural steel does not remove the fabricated structural steel from the scope. Fabricated structural steel is covered by the scope of the investigation regardless of whether it is painted, varnished, or coated.

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8 See 19 CFR 351.309; see also 19 CFR 351.303 (for general filing requirements).

8. Excluded from the investigation are the following types of steel poles, segments of steel poles, and steel components of those poles:

- Steel Electric Transmission Poles, or segments of such poles, that meet (1) the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE)—Design of Steel Transmission Pole Structures, ASCE/SEI 48 or (2) the USDA RUS bulletin 1724E–214 Guide specification for standard class Steel Transmission Poles. The exclusion for steel electric transmission poles also encompasses the following components thereof: Transmission arms which attach to poles; pole bases; angles that do not exceed 8° x 8° x 0.75″; steel vangs, steel brackets, steel flanges, and steel caps; safety climbing cables; ladders; and steel templates.

- Steel Electric Substation Poles, or segments of such poles, that meet the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE)—Manuals and Reports on Engineering Practice, No. 113. The exclusion for steel electric substation poles also encompasses the following components thereof: Substation dead end poles; substation bus stands; substation mast poles, arm, and cross-arms, steel flanges, and steel caps; pole bases; safety climbing cables; ladders; and steel templates.

- Steel Electric Distribution Poles, or segments of such poles, that meet (1) American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE)—Design of Transmission Pole Structures, ASCE/SEI 48, (2) USDA RUS bulletin 1724E–204 Guide specification for steel single pole and H-frame structures, or (3) ANSI 05.1 height and class requirements for steel poles. The exclusion for steel electric distribution poles also encompasses the following components thereof: Distribution arms and cross-arms; pole bases; angles that do not exceed 8° x 8° x 0.75″; steel vangs, steel brackets, steel flanges, and steel caps; safety climbing cables; ladders; and steel templates.

- Steel Traffic Signal Poles, Steel Roadway Lighting Poles, Steel Parking Lot Lighting Poles, and Steel Sports Lighting Poles, or segments of such poles, that meet (1) the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO)—Specifications for Structural Supports for Highway Signs, Luminaire, and Traffic Signals, (2) any state or local derivatives of the AASHTO highway sign, luminaries, and traffic signals requirements, or (3) American National Standard Institute (ANSI) C136—American National Standard for Roadway and Area Lighting Equipment standards. The exclusion for steel traffic signal poles, steel roadway lighting poles, steel parking lot lighting poles, and steel sports lighting poles also encompasses the following components thereof: Luminaire arms; hand hole rims; pole bases; plate bases that connect to either the shaft or the arms; mast arm clamps; mast arm tie rods; transformer base boxes; formed but hidden anchor bolts; stop legs; internal cable guides; lighting cross arms; lighting service platforms; lights that do not exceed 8” x 8” x 0.75”; stainless steel hand hole door hinges and wind restraints; steel brackets, steel flanges, and steel caps; safety climbing cables; ladders; and steel templates.

9. Also excluded from the scope of the investigation are Shuttering, Formworks, Propring and Shoring and parts and accessories thereof that comply with ANSI/ASSE A10.9—Safety Requirements for Concrete and Masonry Work and ACI-347—Recommended Practice for Concrete Formwork. For Shoring and propping made from tube, the outside diameter of the tubing covered by this exclusion ranges from 48mm to 250mm. For Shuttering and Formworks, the panel sizes covered by this exclusion range from 25mm X 600mm to 3000mm X 3000mm.

The products subject to the investigation are currently classified in the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) under subheadings: 7308.90.3000, 7216.90.6000, and 7308.90.5500.

The products subject to the investigation may also enter under the following HTSUS subheadings: 7216.91.0010, 7216.91.0090, 7216.99.0010, 7216.99.0090, 7222.40.6000, 7228.70.6000, 7301.10.0000, 7301.20.1000, 7301.20.5000, 7308.40.0000, 7308.90.9530, and 9406.90.0010.
The HTSUS subheadings above are provided for convenience and customs purposes only. The written description of the scope of the investigation is dispositive.

List of Topics Discussed in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum

I. Summary
II. Background
III. Period of Investigation
IV. Postponement of the Final Determination
V. Scope Comments
VI. Scope of the Investigation
VII. Affiliation and Collapsing
VIII. Discussion of the Methodology
IX. Date of Sale
X. Universe of Sales Examined
XI. Product Comparisons
XII. Export Price/Constructed Export Price
XIII. Normal Value/Constructed Value
XIV. Currency Conversion
XV. Recommendation

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

SUMMARY:

ACTION:

Decision
Review: Notice of NAFTA Panel (NAFTA), Article 1904 Binational Panel International Trade Administration

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[FR Doc. 2019–19511 Filed 9–9–19; 8:45 am]

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration


AGENCY: United States Section, NAFTA Secretariat, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.


SUMMARY: On September 4, 2019, the Binational Panel issued its Interim Decision and Order in the matter of Softwood Lumber from Canada. The Binational Panel affirmed in part and remanded in part the Final Determination by the United States International Trade Commission. In accordance with NAFTA Article 1904.8, for reasons more fully set forth in within the Analysis section of the Decision (which shall be controlling in the event of conflict), and based upon the evidence in the administrative record, the applicable law, the written submissions of the Parties, and oral argument at the Panel’s hearing, the Panel remands the Commission’s determinations as follows:

With respect to the Business Cycle and Conditions of Competition, the Panel directs the Commission to reconsider the record evidence in relation to the business cycle(s) distinctive to the U.S. lumber industry, and to apply its findings in its analysis of volume, price effects, impact, and causation.

With respect to the use of Post-Petition data, the Panel remands the Commission’s decision to reduce the weight accorded to interim 2017 data and directs the Commission to provide a reasoned determination on whether or not to reduce the weight accorded to interim 2017 data:

The Panel directs the Commission to clarify whether or not it is also reducing the weight accorded to third- and fourth-quarter 2017 data. If, upon reconsideration, the Commission decides to reduce the weight given to post-petition data, the Commission is further directed to clarify what weight, if any, it is giving to post-petition data and the reasons for this determination.

With respect to the Substitutability conclusions, the Panel remands the matter to the Commission, and directs it to reconsider its calculation of substitution elasticity, explaining how it reached its conclusion and demonstrating how that conclusion was applied in the Commission’s analysis of volume, price effects, impact, and causation; and demonstrate how, and to what extent, the limitations to substitutability implied in its conclusion that the goods were “at least moderately substitutable” factored into its conclusion that subject imports experienced significant gains in market share directly at the expense of the domestic industry. The Panel directs the Commission to reconsider its volume analysis as the Commission determines appropriate.

With respect to the Price Effects analysis, as to the Domestic Capacity aspect of the price suppression analysis, the Panel remands this determination to the Commission and directs the Commission to consider whether to take the more recent Forest Economic Advisors (“FEA”) data into account in its domestic capacity analysis, explain its decision, and, if it decides to take the updated FEA data into account, reconsider its price effects analysis as it determines is appropriate.

As to the Different Softwood Species aspect of the price suppression analysis, the Panel remands this determination to the Commission and directs the Commission to reconsider its conclusion that the prices of different species closely track each other to take into consideration that price movements of one species “affect” prices of other species, the existence of a “great difference in price movement” of one species compared to another, and that prices for different species “generally track” each other, as well as any other record evidence, and to determine what effect such reconsideration has on its price suppression analysis.

As to the Cost of Goods Sold (“COGS”) and Pricing Trends aspect of the price suppression issue, the Panel remands this determination to the Commission and directs the Commission to reconsider its COGS and price trends analysis to take into account the Commission’s finding that subject imports and domestic products are at least moderately substitutable, and determine what effect such reconsideration has on its finding that subject imports prevented price increases which otherwise would have occurred to a significant degree.

With respect to the Questionnaire Responses aspect of the price suppression analysis, the Panel remands this determination to the Commission and directs the Commission to reconsider the responses aspect of the price suppression analysis, its conclusion that purchasers confirmed purchasing subject imports rather than