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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[C-570-938]

Citric Acid and Certain Citrate Salts from the People's Republic of China: Final Results of the Expedited Second Five-Year Sunset Review of the Countervailing Duty Order

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

SUMMARY: As a result of this sunset review, the Department of Commerce (Commerce) finds that revocation of the countervailing duty (CVD) order on citric acid and certain citrate salts (citric acid) from the People's Republic of China (China) would be likely to lead to continuation or recurrence of countervailable subsidies, at the levels indicated in the "Final Results of Sunset Review" section of this notice.

DATES: Applicable [INSERT DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE *FEDERAL REGISTER*].

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ian Hamilton, 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) 482-4798.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

[Background](#)

On May 29, 2009, Commerce published in the *Federal Register* a notice of the CVD order on citric acid from China.¹ On May 1, 2020, Commerce published the notice of initiation of the second sunset review of the *Order*, pursuant to section 751(c) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act).² On May 18, 2020, Commerce received a complete notice of intent to participate in the sunset review of the *Order* from domestic interested parties³ within the deadline specified in 19 CFR 351.218(d)(1)(i).⁴ The domestic interested parties claimed interested party status pursuant to section 771(9)(C) of the Act as manufacturers in the United States of the domestic like product.⁵

On June 1, 2020, the domestic interested parties filed an adequate substantive response within the deadline specified in 19 CFR 351.218(d)(3)(i).⁶ Commerce did not receive substantive responses from any other interested parties with respect to the *Order* covered by this sunset review. As a result, pursuant to section 751(c)(3)(B) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.218(e)(1)(ii)(C)(2), Commerce is conducting an expedited (120-day) sunset review of the *Order*.

Scope of the *Order*

The scope of the *Order* includes all grades and granulation sizes of citric acid, sodium citrate, and potassium citrate in their unblended forms, whether dry or in solution, and regardless

¹ See *Citric Acid and Certain Citrate Salts from the People's Republic of China: Notice of Countervailing Duty Order*, 74 FR 25705 (May 29, 2009) (*Order*).

² See *Initiation of Five-Year (Sunset) Review*, 85 FR 25386 (May 1, 2020).

³ The domestic interested parties are Archer Daniels Midland Company; Cargill, Incorporated; and Tate & Lyle Ingredients Americas LLC (collectively, domestic interested parties).

⁴ See Domestic Interested Parties' Letter, "Second Five-Year ("Sunset") Review of Antidumping And Countervailing Duty Orders On Citric Acid And Certain Citrate Salts from the People's Republic of China: Domestic Industry's Notice Of Intent To Participate," dated May 18, 2020.

⁵ *Id.* at 2.

⁶ See Domestic Interested Parties' Letter, "Second Five-Year ("Sunset") Review of The Countervailing Duty Order On Citric Acid And Certain Citrate Salts from the People's Republic of China: Domestic Industry's Substantive Response," dated June 1, 2020.

of packaging type. The scope also includes blends of citric acid, sodium citrate, and potassium citrate; as well as blends with other ingredients, such as sugar, where the unblended form(s) of citric acid, sodium citrate, and potassium citrate constitute 40 percent or more, by weight, of the blend. The scope of the *Order* also includes all forms of crude calcium citrate, including dicalcium citrate monohydrate, and tricalcium citrate tetrahydrate, which are intermediate products in the production of citric acid, sodium citrate, and potassium citrate. The scope of the *Order* does not include calcium citrate that satisfies the standards set forth in the United States Pharmacopeia and has been mixed with a functional excipient, such as dextrose or starch, where the excipient constitutes at least 2 percent, by weight, of the product. The scope of the *Order* includes the hydrous and anhydrous forms of citric acid, the dihydrate and anhydrous forms of sodium citrate, otherwise known as citric acid sodium salt, and the monohydrate and monopotassium forms of potassium citrate. Sodium citrate also includes both trisodium citrate and monosodium citrate, which are also known as citric acid trisodium salt and citric acid monosodium salt, respectively.

Citric acid and sodium citrate are classifiable under 2918.14.0000 and 2918.15.1000 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS), respectively. Potassium citrate and crude calcium citrate are classifiable under 2918.15.5000 and 3824.90.9290 of the HTSUS, respectively. Blends that include citric acid, sodium citrate, and potassium citrate are classifiable under 3824.90.9290 of the HTSUS. Although the HTSUS subheadings are provided for convenience and customs purposes, our written description of the scope is dispositive.

Analysis of Comments Received

A complete discussion of all issues raised in this sunset review, including the likelihood of continuation or recurrence of subsidization in the event of revocation of the *Order* and the

countervailable subsidy rates likely to prevail if the *Order* were to be revoked, is provided in the Issues and Decision Memorandum. A list of the topics discussed in the Issues and Decision Memorandum is attached as an appendix to this notice. The Issues and 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>. In addition, a complete version of the Issues and Decision Memorandum can be accessed directly at <https://enforcement.trade.gov/frn/>. The signed and electronic versions of the Issues and Decision Memorandum are identical in content.

Final Results of Sunset Review

Pursuant to sections 751(c)(1) and 752(b) of the Act, we determine that revocation of the *Order* on citric acid from China would be likely to lead to continuation or recurrence of countervailable subsidies at the following net countervailable subsidy rates:

Manufacturers/Producers/Exporters	Net Countervailable Subsidy (percent)
TTCA Co., Ltd.	60.07
Yixing Union Biochemical Co., Ltd. and Yixing Union Cogeneration Co., Ltd.	52.22
Anhui BBKA Biochemical Co., Ltd.	166.34
All Others	55.53

Administrative Protective Order (APO)

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

Notification to Interested Parties

We are issuing and publishing the final results and this notice in accordance with sections 751(c), 752(c), and 777(i)(1) of the Act, and 19 CFR 351.218(f)(3).

Dated: August 27, 2020.

Jeffrey I. Kessler,

Assistant Secretary

for Enforcement and Compliance.

Appendix

List of Topics Discussed in the Issues and Decision Memorandum

- I. Summary
- II. Background
- III. Scope of the Order
- IV. History of the Order
- V. Legal Framework
- VI. Discussion of the Issues
 1. Likelihood of Continuation or Recurrence of a Countervailable Subsidy
 2. Net Countervailable Subsidy Rates Likely to Prevail
 3. Nature of the Subsidies
- VII. Final Results of Sunset Review
- VIII. Recommendation

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