INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

[Investigation No. 337-TA-1223]

Certain Shingled Solar Modules, Components Thereof, and Methods for Manufacturing the Same; Institution of Investigation


ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that a complaint was filed with the U.S. International Trade Commission on September 15, 2020, under section 337 of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended, on behalf of The Solaria Corporation of Fremont, California. A supplement to the Complaint was filed on September 25, 2020. The complaint, as supplemented, alleges violations of section 337 based upon the importation into the United States, the sale for importation, and the sale within the United States after importation of certain shingled solar modules, components thereof, and methods for manufacturing the same by reason of infringement of certain claims of U.S. Patent No. 10,522,707 (“the ’707 Patent”); U.S. Patent No. 10,651,333 (“the ’333 Patent”); and U.S. Patent No. 10,763,388 (“the ’388 Patent”). The complaint further alleges that an industry in the United States exists as required by the applicable Federal Statute. The complainant requests that the Commission institute an investigation and, after the investigation, issue a limited exclusion order and cease and desist orders.

ADDRESSES: The complaint, except for any confidential information contained therein, may be viewed on the Commission’s electronic docket (EDIS) at https://edis.usitc.gov. For help accessing EDIS, please email EDIS3Help@usitc.gov. Hearing impaired individuals are advised that information on this matter can be obtained by contacting the Commission’s TDD terminal on (202) 205-1810. Persons with mobility impairments who will need special assistance in
gaining access to the Commission should contact the Office of the Secretary at (202) 205-2000. General information concerning the Commission may also be obtained by accessing its internet server at https://www.usitc.gov.


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:


Scope of Investigation: Having considered the complaint, the U.S. International Trade Commission, on October 15, 2020, ORDERED THAT –

(1) Pursuant to subsection (b) of section 337 of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended, an investigation be instituted to determine whether there is a violation of subsection (a)(1)(B) of section 337 in the importation into the United States, the sale for importation, or the sale within the United States after importation of certain products identified in paragraph (2) by reason of infringement of one or more of claims 1, 8, 9, and 12-20 of the ’707 patent; claims 1, 8, 9, and 12-20 of the ’333 patent; and claims 1-11, 15-17, 19, and 20 of the ’388 patent; and whether an industry in the United States exists as required by subsection (a)(2) of section 337;

(2) Pursuant to section 210.10(b)(1) of the Commission’s Rules of Practice and Procedure, 19 CFR 210.10(b)(1), the plain language description of the accused products or category of accused products, which defines the scope of the investigation, is “tiled solar modules, shingled solar modules, and components thereof specifically solar cells, strips of solar cells, strings of solar cells, and strings of solar cell strips, whereby such modules and
components, either are covered by, or are manufactured or produced under, or by means of, a process covered by, one or more claims of the Asserted Patents”;

(3) For the purpose of the investigation so instituted, the following are hereby named as parties upon which this notice of investigation shall be served:

(a) The complainant:

The Solaria Corporation
45700 Northport Loop East
Fremont, CA 94538

(b) The respondents are the following entities alleged to be in violation of section 337, and are the parties upon which the complaint is to be served:

Canadian Solar Inc.
545 Speedvale Avenue West
Guelph, Ontario N1K 1E6
Canada

Canadian Solar (USA) Inc.
3000 Oak Road, Ste. 400
Walnut Creek, CA 94597

(4) For the investigation so instituted, the Chief Administrative Law Judge, U.S. International Trade Commission, shall designate the presiding Administrative Law Judge.

The Office of Unfair Import Investigations will not participate as a party in this investigation.
Responses to the complaint and the notice of investigation must be submitted by the named respondents in accordance with section 210.13 of the Commission’s Rules of Practice and Procedure, 19 CFR 210.13. Pursuant to 19 CFR 201.16(e) and 210.13(a), as amended in 85 Fed. Reg. 15798 (March 19, 2020), such responses will be considered by the Commission if received not later than 20 days after the date of service by the complainant of the complaint and the notice of investigation. Extensions of time for submitting responses to the complaint and the notice of investigation will not be granted unless good cause therefor is shown.

Failure of a respondent to file a timely response to each allegation in the complaint and in this notice may be deemed to constitute a waiver of the right to appear and contest the allegations of the complaint and this notice, and to authorize the administrative law judge and the Commission, without further notice to the respondent, to find the facts to be as alleged in the complaint and this notice and to enter an initial determination and a final determination containing such findings, and may result in the issuance of an exclusion order or a cease and desist order or both directed against the respondent.

By order of the Commission.


Lisa Barton,

Secretary to the Commission.

[FR Doc. 2020-23243 Filed: 10/20/2020 8:45 am; Publication Date: 10/21/2020]