



## **INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION**

**[Investigation Nos. 701-TA-650-651 (Final)]**

### **Phosphate Fertilizers from Morocco and Russia; Scheduling of the Final Phase of Countervailing Duty Investigations**

**AGENCY:** United States International Trade Commission.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Commission hereby gives notice of the scheduling of the final phase of countervailing duty investigation Nos. 701-TA-650-651 (Final) pursuant to the Tariff Act of 1930 (“the Act”) to determine whether an industry in the United States is materially injured or threatened with material injury, or the establishment of an industry in the United States is materially retarded, by reason of imports of phosphate fertilizers from Morocco and Russia, provided for in 3103.11.00, 3103.19.00, 3103.90.00, 3105.10.00, 3105.20.00, 3105.30.00, 3105.40.00, 3105.51.00, 3105.59.00, 3105.60.00, and 3105.90.00 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States preliminarily determined by the Department of Commerce (“Commerce”) to be subsidized.

**DATES:** November 23, 2020.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Calvin Chang ((202) 205-3062), Office of Investigations, U.S. International Trade Commission, 500 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20436. Hearing-impaired persons can obtain information on this matter 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 (<https://www.usitc.gov>). The public record for these

investigations may be viewed on the Commission's electronic docket (EDIS) at

<https://edis.usitc.gov>.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

Scope.-- For purposes of this investigation, Commerce has defined the subject merchandise as phosphate fertilizers in all physical forms (i.e., solid or liquid form), with or without coating or additives such as anti-caking agents. Phosphate fertilizers in solid form are covered whether granular, prilled (i.e., pelletized), or in other solid form (e.g., powdered). The covered merchandise includes phosphate fertilizers in the following forms: ammonium dihydrogenorthophosphate or monoammonium phosphate (MAP), chemical formula  $\text{NH}_4\text{H}_2\text{PO}_4$ ; diammonium hydrogenorthophosphate or diammonium phosphate (DAP), chemical formula  $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{HPO}_4$ ; normal superphosphate (NSP), also known as ordinary superphosphate or single superphosphate, chemical formula  $\text{Ca}(\text{H}_2\text{PO}_4)_2 \cdot \text{CaSO}_4$ ; concentrated superphosphate, also known as double, treble, or triple superphosphate (TSP), chemical formula  $\text{Ca}(\text{H}_2\text{PO}_4)_2 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$ ; and proprietary formulations of MAP, DAP, NSP, and TSP. The covered merchandise also includes other fertilizer formulations incorporating phosphorous and non-phosphorous plant nutrient components, whether chemically-bonded, granulated (e.g., when multiple components are incorporated into granules through, e.g., a slurry process), or compounded (e.g., when multiple components are compacted together under high pressure), including nitrogen, phosphate, sulfur (NPS) fertilizers, nitrogen, phosphorous, potassium (NPK) fertilizers, nitric phosphate (also known as nitrophosphate) fertilizers, ammoniated superphosphate fertilizers, and proprietary formulations thereof that may or may not include other nonphosphorous plant nutrient components. For phosphate fertilizers that contain nonphosphorous plant nutrient components, such as nitrogen, potassium, sulfur, zinc, or other nonphosphorous components, the entire article is covered, including the non-

phosphorous content, provided that the phosphorous content (measured by available diphosphorous pentaoxide, chemical formula  $P_2O_5$ ) is at least 5% by actual weight.

Phosphate fertilizers that are otherwise subject to this investigation are included when commingled (*i.e.*, mixed or blended) with phosphate fertilizers from sources not subject to this investigation. Phosphate fertilizers that are otherwise subject to this investigation are included when commingled with substances other than phosphate fertilizers subject to this investigation (*e.g.*, granules containing only non-phosphate fertilizers such as potash or urea). Only the subject component of such commingled products is covered by the scope of this investigation.

The following products are specifically excluded from the scope of this investigation:

- (1) ABC dry chemical powder preparations for fire extinguishers containing MAP or DAP in powdered form;
- (2) industrial or technical grade MAP in white crystalline form with available  $P_2O_5$  content of at least 60% by actual weight;
- (3) industrial or technical grade diammonium phosphate in white crystalline form with available  $P_2O_5$  content of at least 50% by actual weight;
- (4) liquid ammonium polyphosphate fertilizers;
- (5) dicalcium phosphate, chemical formula  $CaHPO_4$ ;
- (6) monocalcium phosphate, chemical formula  $CaH_4P_2O_8$ ;
- (7) trisodium phosphate, chemical formula  $Na_3PO_4$ ;
- (8) sodium tripolyphosphate, chemical formula  $Na_5P_3O_{10}$ ;
- (9) prepared baking powders containing sodium bicarbonate and any form of phosphate;
- (10) animal or vegetable fertilizers not containing phosphate fertilizers otherwise covered by the scope of this investigation;
- (11) phosphoric acid, chemical formula  $H_3PO_4$ .

The Chemical Abstracts Service (CAS) numbers for covered phosphate fertilizers include, but

are not limited to: 7722-76-1 (MAP); 7783-28-0 (DAP); and 65996-95-4 (TSP). The covered products may also be identified by Nitrogen-Phosphate-Potash composition, including but not limited to: NP 11-52-0 (MAP); NP 18-46-0 (DAP); and NP 0-46-0 (TSP).

The covered merchandise is currently classified in the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) at subheadings 3103.11.0000; 3103.19.0000; 3105.20.0000; 3105.30.0000; 3105.40.0010; 3105.40.0050; 3105.51.0000; and 3105.59.0000. Phosphate fertilizers subject to this investigation may also enter under subheadings 3103.90.0010, 3105.10.0000, 3105.60.0000, 3105.90.0010, and 3105.90.0050. Although the HTSUS subheadings and CAS registry numbers are provided for convenience and customs purposes, the written description of the scope is dispositive.

**Background**--The final phase of these investigations is being scheduled, pursuant to section 705(b) of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1671d(b)), as a result of affirmative preliminary determinations by Commerce that certain benefits which constitute subsidies within the meaning of § 703 of the Act (19 U.S.C. 1671b) are being provided to manufacturers, producers, or exporters in Morocco and Russia of phosphate fertilizers. The investigations were requested in petitions filed on June 26, 2020, by The Mosaic Company, Plymouth, Minnesota.

For further information concerning the conduct of this phase of the investigations, hearing procedures, and rules of general application, consult the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, part 201, subparts A and B (19 CFR part 201), and part 207, subparts A and C (19 CFR part 207).

**Participation in the investigations and public service list**--Persons, including industrial users of the subject merchandise and, if the merchandise is sold at the retail level, representative consumer organizations, wishing to participate in the final phase of these investigations as parties must file an entry of appearance with the Secretary to the Commission, as provided in § 201.11 of the Commission's rules, no later than 21 days prior to the hearing

date specified in this notice. A party that filed a notice of appearance during the preliminary phase of the investigations need not file an additional notice of appearance during this final phase. The Secretary will maintain a public service list containing the names and addresses of all persons, or their representatives, who are parties to the investigations.

Please note the Secretary's Office will accept only electronic filings during this time. Filings must be made through the Commission's Electronic Document Information System (EDIS, <https://edis.usitc.gov>.) No in-person paper-based filings or paper copies of any electronic filings will be accepted until further notice.

**Limited disclosure of business proprietary information (BPI) under an administrative protective order (APO) and BPI service list.**--Pursuant to § 207.7(a) of the Commission's rules, the Secretary will make BPI gathered in the final phase of these investigations available to authorized applicants under the APO issued in the investigations, provided that the application is made no later than 21 days prior to the hearing date specified in this notice. Authorized applicants must represent interested parties, as defined by 19 U.S.C. 1677(9), who are parties to the investigations. A party granted access to BPI in the preliminary phase of the investigations need not reapply for such access. A separate service list will be maintained by the Secretary for those parties authorized to receive BPI under the APO.

**Staff report.**--The prehearing staff report in the final phase of these investigations will be placed in the nonpublic record on January 27, 2020, and a public version will be issued thereafter, pursuant to § 207.22 of the Commission's rules.

**Hearing.**-- The Commission will hold a hearing in connection with the final phase of these investigations beginning at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, February 9, 2021. Information about the place and form of the hearing, including about how to participate in and/or view the hearing, will be posted on the Commission's website at <https://www.usitc.gov/calendarpad/calendar.html>. Interested parties should check the

Commission's website periodically for updates. Requests to appear at the hearing should be filed in writing with the Secretary to the Commission on or before Thursday, February 4, 2021. A nonparty who has testimony that may aid the Commission's deliberations may request permission to present a short statement at the hearing. All parties and nonparties desiring to appear at the hearing and make oral presentations should attend a prehearing conference to be held at 9:30 a.m. on Monday, February 8, 2021. Oral testimony and written materials to be submitted at the public hearing are governed by sections 201.6(b)(2), 201.13(f), and 207.24 of the Commission's rules. Parties must submit any request to present a portion of their hearing testimony in camera no later than 7 business days prior to the date of the hearing.

**Written submissions**.--Each party who is an interested party shall submit a prehearing brief to the Commission. Prehearing briefs must conform with the provisions of § 207.23 of the Commission's rules; the deadline for filing is February 3, 2021. Parties may also file written testimony in connection with their presentation at the hearing, as provided in section 207.24 of the Commission's rules, and posthearing briefs, which must conform with the provisions of § 207.25 of the Commission's rules. The deadline for filing posthearing briefs is February 17, 2021. In addition, any person who has not entered an appearance as a party to the investigations may submit a written statement of information pertinent to the subject of the investigations, including statements of support or opposition to the petition, on or before February 17, 2021. On March 4, 2021, the Commission will make available to parties all information on which they have not had an opportunity to comment. Parties may submit final comments on this information on or before March 8, 2021, but such final comments must not contain new factual information and must otherwise comply with § 207.30 of the Commission's rules. All written submissions must conform with the provisions of § 201.8 of the Commission's rules; any submissions that contain BPI must also conform with the requirements of §§ 201.6, 207.3, and 207.7 of the Commission's rules. The Commission's *Handbook on Filing Procedures*,

available on the Commission's website at

[https://www.usitc.gov/documents/handbook\\_on\\_filing\\_procedures.pdf](https://www.usitc.gov/documents/handbook_on_filing_procedures.pdf), elaborates upon the Commission's procedures with respect to filings.

Additional written submissions to the Commission, including requests pursuant to section 201.12 of the Commission's rules, shall not be accepted unless good cause is shown for accepting such submissions, or unless the submission is pursuant to a specific request by a Commissioner or Commission staff.

In accordance with §§ 201.16(c) and 207.3 of the Commission's rules, each document filed by a party to the investigations must be served on all other parties to the investigations (as identified by either the public or BPI service list), and a certificate of service must be timely filed. The Secretary will not accept a document for filing without a certificate of service.

**AUTHORITY:** These investigations are being conducted under authority of title VII of the Tariff Act of 1930; this notice is published pursuant to § 207.21 of the Commission's rules.

By order of the Commission.

Issued: December 2, 2020.

**Lisa Barton,**

*Secretary to the Commission.*

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