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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[A-580-895]

Low Melt Polyester Staple Fiber from the Republic of Korea: Preliminary Results of Antidumping Duty Administrative Review; 2019-2020

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

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce (Commerce) preliminarily determines that the sole producer/exporter subject to this administrative review made sales of subject merchandise at less than normal value (NV) during the period of review (POR) August 1, 2019, through July 31, 2020. Interested parties are invited to comment on these preliminary results.

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

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Alice Maldonado or Melissa Kinter, 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) 482-4682 or (202) 482-1413, respectively.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On October 6, 2020, based on a timely request for review, in accordance with 19 CFR 351.221(c)(1)(i), we initiated an administrative review on low melt polyester staple fiber (low melt PSF) from the Republic of Korea (Korea).¹ The review covers one producer and exporter of the subject merchandise, Toray Advanced Materials Korea, Inc. (TAK). For a complete

¹ See *Initiation of Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Administrative Reviews*, 85 FR 63081, 63084 (October 6, 2020).

description of the events that followed the initiation of this review, *see* the Preliminary Decision Memorandum.²

Scope of the Order

The merchandise subject to this order is synthetic staple fibers, not carded or combed, specifically bi-component polyester fibers having a polyester fiber component that melts at a lower temperature than the other polyester fiber component (low melt PSF). The scope includes bi-component polyester staple fibers of any denier or cut length. The subject merchandise may be coated, usually with a finish or dye, or not coated.

Low melt PSF is classifiable under the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) subheading 5503.20.0015. Although the HTSUS subheading is provided for convenience and customs purposes, the written description of the scope of the order is dispositive.

Methodology

Commerce is conducting this review in accordance with sections 751(a)(1)(B) and (2) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act). Export price is calculated in accordance with section 772 of the Act. NV is calculated in accordance with section 773 of the Act.

For a full description of the methodology underlying our conclusions, *see* the Preliminary Decision Memorandum. 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>. In addition, a complete version of the Preliminary Decision Memorandum can be accessed directly at <https://enforcement.trade.gov/frn/>. A list of the topics discussed in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum is attached as an appendix to this notice.

Preliminary Results of the Review

² *See* Memorandum, "Decision Memorandum for the Preliminary Results of the 2019-2020 Administrative Review of the Antidumping Duty Order on Low Melt Polyester Staple Fiber from the Republic of Korea," dated concurrently with, and hereby adopted by, this notice (Preliminary Decision Memorandum).

As a result of this review, we preliminarily determine that the following estimated weighted-average dumping margin exists for TAK for the period August 1, 2019, through July 31, 2020:

Exporter/ Producer	Estimated Weighted-Average Dumping Margin (percent)
Toray Advanced Materials Korea, Inc.	3.00

Disclosure and Public Comment

Commerce intends to disclose the calculations performed in connection with these preliminary results to interested parties within five days after the date of publication of this notice.³ Interested parties may submit case briefs to Commerce no later than 30 days after the date of publication of this notice.⁴ Rebuttal briefs, limited to issues raised in the case briefs, may be filed no later than seven days after the time limit for filing case briefs.⁵ Parties who submit case briefs or rebuttal briefs in this proceeding 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.⁶ Case and rebuttal briefs should be filed using ACCESS.⁷

Pursuant to 19 CFR 351.310(c), interested parties who wish to request a hearing must submit a written request to the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance, U.S. Department of Commerce, filed electronically via ACCESS within 30 days after the date of publication of this notice.⁸ Hearing requests should contain: (1) the party's name, address, and telephone number; (2) the number of participants; and (3) a list of issues to be discussed. Issues raised in the hearing will be limited to issues raised in the briefs. If a request for a hearing is

³ See 19 CFR 351.224(b).

⁴ See 19 CFR 351.309(c).

⁵ Commerce is exercising its discretion, under 19 CFR 351.309(d)(1), to alter the time limit for filing of rebuttal briefs.

⁶ See 19 CFR 351.309(c)(2) and (d)(2).

⁷ See 19 CFR 351.303.

⁸ See 19 CFR 351.310(c).

made, Commerce intends to hold the hearing at a date and time to be determined.⁹ Parties should confirm the date, time, and location of the hearing two days before the scheduled date.

An electronically filed document must be received successfully in its entirety by ACCESS by 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on the established deadline. Note that Commerce has temporarily modified certain of its requirements for serving documents containing business proprietary information.¹⁰

Commerce intends to issue the final results of this administrative review, including the results of its analysis of issues raised in any written briefs, not later than 120 days after the date of publication of this notice, unless otherwise extended.¹¹

Assessment Rates

Upon completion of the administrative review, Commerce shall determine, and U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) shall assess, antidumping duties on all appropriate entries.¹²

Pursuant to 19 CFR 351.212(b)(1), where the respondent reported the entered value of their U.S. sales, we calculated importer-specific *ad valorem* duty assessment rates based on the ratio of the total amount of dumping calculated for the examined sales to the total entered value of the sales for which entered value was reported. Where the respondent did not report entered value, we calculated the entered value in order to calculate the assessment rate. Where either the respondent's weighted-average dumping margin is zero or *de minimis* within the meaning of 19 CFR 351.106(c)(1), or an importer-specific rate is zero or *de minimis*, we will instruct CBP to liquidate the appropriate entries without regard to antidumping duties.

⁹ See 19 CFR 351.310(d).

¹⁰ See *Temporary Rule Modifying AD/CVD Service Requirements Due to COVID-19; Extension of Effective Period*, 85 FR 41363 (July 10, 2020).

¹¹ See Section 751(a)(3)(A) of the Act.

¹² See 19 CFR 351.212(b).

The final results of this review shall be the basis for the assessment of antidumping duties on entries of merchandise covered by the final results of this review and for future deposits of estimated duties, where applicable.

Commerce's "automatic assessment" will apply to entries of subject merchandise during the POR produced by TAK for which it did not know that the merchandise it sold to an intermediary (*e.g.*, a reseller, trading company, or exporter) was destined for the United States. In such instances, we will instruct CBP to liquidate unreviewed entries at the all-others rate if there is no rate for the intermediate company(ies) involved in the transaction.¹³ The all-others rate is 16.27 percent.¹⁴

Commerce intends to issue assessment instructions to CBP no earlier than 35 days after the date of publication of the final results of this review in the *Federal Register*. If a timely summons is filed at the U.S. Court of International Trade, the assessment instructions will direct CBP not to liquidate relevant entries until the time for parties to file a request for a statutory injunction has expired (*i.e.*, within 90 days of publication).

Cash Deposit Requirements

The following deposit requirements will be effective for all shipments of the subject merchandise entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after the publication date of the final results of this administrative review, as provided by section 751(a)(2)(C) of the Act: (1) the cash deposit rate for TAK will be equal to the weighted- average dumping margin established in the final results of this review, except if the rate is less than 0.50 percent and, therefore, *de minimis* within the meaning of 19 CFR 351.106(c)(1), in which case the cash deposit rate will be zero; (2) for companies not participating in this review, the cash deposit rate will continue to be the company-specific cash deposit rate published for the most recently

¹³ For a full discussion of this practice, see *Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Proceedings: Assessment of Antidumping Duties*, 68 FR 23954 (May 6, 2003).

¹⁴ See *Low Melt Polyester Staple Fiber from the Republic of Korea and Taiwan: Antidumping Duty Orders*, 83 FR 40752, 40753 (August 16, 2018).

completed segment; (3) if the exporter is not a firm covered in this review, or the original less-than-fair-value (LTFV) investigation, but the producer is, then the cash deposit rate will be the cash deposit rate established for the most recently completed segment for the producer of the merchandise; and (4) the cash deposit rate for all other producers or exporters will continue to be 16.27 percent, the all-others rate established in the LTFV investigation.¹⁵ These deposit requirements, when imposed, shall remain in effect until further notice.

Notification to Importers

This notice serves as a preliminary reminder to importers of their responsibility under 19 CFR 351.402(f)(2) to file a certificate regarding the reimbursement of antidumping duties prior to liquidation of the relevant entries during this review period. Failure to comply with this requirement could result in Commerce's presumption that reimbursement of antidumping duties occurred and the subsequent assessment of double antidumping duties.

Notification to Interested Parties

We are issuing and publishing these results in accordance with sections 751(a)(1) and 777(i)(1) of the Act.

Dated: April 30, 2021.

Christian Marsh,
Acting Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance.

¹⁵ *Id.*

Appendix

List of Topics Discussed in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum

- I. Summary
- II. Background
- III. Scope of the Order
- IV. Discussion of the Methodology
- V. Currency Conversion
- VI. Recommendation

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