



DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[A-570-071, C-570-072]

Sodium Gluconate, Gluconic Acid, and Derivative Products from the People's Republic of China Continuation of Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Orders

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

SUMMARY: As a result of the determinations by the U.S. Department of Commerce (Commerce) and the U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC) that revocation of the antidumping duty (AD) and countervailing duty (CVD) orders on sodium gluconate, gluconic acid, and derivative products from the People's Republic of China would likely lead to the continuation or recurrence of dumping and countervailable subsidies, and material injury to an industry in the United States, Commerce is publishing a notice of continuation of these AD and CVD orders.

DATES: Applicable March 20, 2024.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Stephanie Trejo, AD/CVD Operations, Office IV, Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482-4390

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On November 13, 2018, Commerce published in the *Federal Register* the AD and CVD orders on sodium gluconate, gluconic acid, and derivative products from the People's Republic

of China.¹ On October 2, 2023, the ITC instituted,² and Commerce initiated,³ the first sunset review of the *Orders*, pursuant to section 751(c) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act). As a result of its reviews, Commerce determined that revocation of the *Orders*, would likely lead to the continuation or recurrence of dumping and countervailable subsidies, and therefore, notified the ITC of the magnitude of the margins of dumping and subsidy rates likely to prevail should the *Orders* be revoked.⁴

On March 20, 2024, the ITC published its determination, pursuant to sections 751(c) and 752(a) of the Act, that revocation of the *Orders*) would likely lead to continuation or recurrence of material injury to an industry in the United States within a reasonably foreseeable time.⁵

Scope of the *Orders*

The scope of the orders covers all grades of sodium gluconate, gluconic acid, liquid gluconate, and glucono delta lactone (GDL) (collectively GNA Products), regardless of physical form (including, but not limited to substrates; solutions; dry granular form or powders, regardless of particle size; or as a slurry). The scope also includes GNA Products that have been blended or are in solution with other product(s) where the resulting mix contains 35 percent or more of sodium gluconate, gluconic acid, liquid gluconate, and/or GDL by dry weight.

Sodium gluconate has a molecular formula of $\text{NaC}_6\text{H}_{11}\text{O}_7$. Sodium gluconate has a Chemical Abstract Service (CAS) registry number of 527-07-1, and can also be called “sodium salt of gluconic acid” and/or sodium 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 pentahydroxyhexanoate. Gluconic acid has a molecular formula of $\text{C}_6\text{H}_{12}\text{O}_7$. Gluconic acid has a CAS registry number of 526-95-4, and can

¹ See *Sodium Gluconate, Gluconic Acid, and Derivative Products From the People's Republic of China: Antidumping Duty and Countervailing Duty Orders* 83 FR 56299 (November 13, 2018) (*Orders*).

² See *Sodium Gluconate, Gluconic Acid, and Derivative Products From China; Institution of Five-Year Reviews* 88 FR 67807 (October 2, 2023).

³ See *Initiation of Five-Year (Sunset) Reviews*, 88 FR 67729 (October 2, 2023).

⁴ See *Sodium Gluconate, Gluconic Acid, and Derivative Products From the People's Republic of China: Final Results of the Expedited First Sunset Review of the Antidumping Duty Orders*, 89 FR 7369 (February 2, 2024), and accompanying Issues and Decision Memorandum (IDM); see also *Sodium Gluconate, Gluconic Acid, and Derivative Products From the People's Republic of China: Final Results of the Expedited First Sunset Review of the Countervailing Duty Order* 89 FR 7375 (February 2, 2024), and accompanying IDM.

⁵ See *Sodium Gluconate, Gluconic Acid, and Derivative Products From China; Determinations*, 89 FR 19876 (March 20, 2024).

also be called 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 pentahydroxycaproic acid. Liquid gluconate is a blend consisting only of gluconic acid and sodium gluconate in an aqueous solution. Liquid gluconate has CAS registry numbers of 527-07-1, 526-95-4, and 7732-18-5, and can also be called 2, 3, 4, 5, 6-pentahydroxycaproic acid-hexanoate. GDL has a molecular formula of C₆H₁₀O₆. GDL has a CAS registry number of 90-80-2, and can also be called d-glucono-1,5-lactone.

The merchandise covered by the scope of the orders is currently classified in the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) under subheadings 2918.16.1000, 2918.16.5010, and 2932.20.5020. Merchandise covered by the scope may also enter under HTSUS subheadings 2918.16.5050, 3824.99.2900, and 3824.99.9397. Although the HTSUS subheadings and CAS registry numbers are provided for convenience and customs purposes, the written description of the merchandise is dispositive.

Continuation of the *Orders*

As a result of the determinations by Commerce and the ITC that revocation of the *Orders* would likely lead to continuation or recurrence of dumping, countervailable subsidies, and material injury to an industry in the United States, pursuant to section 751(d)(2) of the Act, Commerce hereby orders the continuation of the *Orders*. U.S. Customs and Border Protection will continue to collect AD and CVD cash deposits at the rates in effect at the time of entry for all imports of subject merchandise.

The effective date of the continuation of the *Orders* is March 20, 2024.⁶ Pursuant to section 751(c)(2) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.218(c)(2), Commerce intends to initiate the next five-year reviews of the *Orders* not later than 30 days prior to fifth anniversary of the date of the last determination by the ITC.

Administrative Protective Order (APO)

This notice also serves as a final reminder to parties subject to an APO of their responsibility concerning the return or destruction of proprietary information disclosed under

⁶ *Id.*

APO in accordance with 19 CFR 351.305(a)(3), which continues to govern business proprietary information in this segment of the proceeding. Timely written notification of the return or destruction of APO materials, or conversion to judicial protective order, 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

These five-year (sunset) reviews and this notice are in accordance with sections 751(c) and 751(d)(2) of the Act and published in accordance with section 777(i) of the Act, and 19 CFR 351.218(f)(4).

Dated: March 22, 2024.

Ryan Majerus,

Deputy Assistant Secretary

for Policy and Negotiations,

performing the non-exclusive functions and duties

of the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance.

[FR Doc. 2024-06600 Filed: 3/27/2024 8:45 am; Publication Date: 3/28/2024]