



DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[A-570-972, A-583-848]

Stilbenic Optical Brightening Agents From the People's Republic of China and Taiwan: Continuation of Antidumping 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) orders on certain stilbenic optical brightening agents (OBAs) from the
People's Republic of China (China) and Taiwan would likely lead to the continuation or
recurrence of dumping and material injury to an industry in the United States, Commerce is
publishing a notice of continuation of these AD orders.

DATES: Applicable February 27, 2025.

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SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On May 10, 2012, Commerce published in the *Federal Register* the AD orders on OBAs
from China and Taiwan.¹ On July 1, 2024, Commerce initiated the second sunset review of the

¹ See *Certain Stilbenic Optical Brightening Agents from the People's Republic of China: Amended Final Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value and Antidumping Duty Order*, 77 FR 27423 (May 10, 2012); and *Certain Stilbenic Optical Brightening Agents from Taiwan: Amended Final Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value and Antidumping Duty Order*, 77 FR 27419 (May 10, 2012) (collectively, *Orders*).

Orders, pursuant to section 751(c) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act).² As a result of its review, Commerce determined that revocation of the *Orders* would likely lead to the continuation or recurrence of dumping, and therefore, notified the ITC of the magnitude of the margins of dumping likely to prevail should the *Orders* be revoked.³

On February 27, 2025, 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.⁴

Scope of the *Orders*

The OBAs covered by the *Orders* are all forms (whether free acid or salt) of compounds known as triazinylaminostilbenes (*i.e.*, all derivatives of 4,4'-bis [1,3,5- triazin-2-yl]⁵ amino-2,2'-stilbenedisulfonic acid), except for compounds listed in the following paragraph. The stilbenic OBAs covered by the *Orders* include final stilbenic OBA products, as well as intermediate products that are themselves triazinylaminostilbenes produced during the synthesis of stilbenic OBA products.

Excluded from the *Orders* are all forms of 4,4'-bis[4-anilino-6-morpholino-1,3,5-triazin-2-yl]⁶ amino-2,2'-stilbenedisulfonic acid, C₄₀H₄₀N₁₂O₈S₂ (“Fluorescent Brightener 71”). The *Orders* cover the above-described compounds in any state (including but not limited to powder, slurry, or solution), of any concentrations of active stilbenic OBA ingredient, as well as any compositions regardless of additives (*i.e.*, mixtures or blends, whether of stilbenic OBAs with each other, or of stilbenic OBAs with additives that are not stilbenic OBAs), and in any type of packaging.

² See *Initiation of Five-Year (Sunset) Reviews*, 89 FR 54435 (July 1, 2024).

³ See *Stilbenic Optical Brightening Agents from the People’s Republic of China and Taiwan: Final Results of the Expedited Second Sunset Review of the Antidumping Duty Orders*, 89 FR 88729 (November 8, 2024), and accompanying Issues and Decision Memorandum (IDM).

⁴ See *Certain Stilbenic Optical Brightening Agents from China and Taiwan*, 90 FR 10830 (February 27, 2025) (*ITC Final Determination*).

⁵ The brackets in this sentence are part of the chemical formula.

⁶ *Id.*

These OBAs are classifiable under subheading 3204.20.8000 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS), but they may also enter under subheadings 2933.69.6050, 2921.59.4000, and 2921.59.8090. Although the HTSUS subheadings 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 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 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* will be February 27, 2025.⁷ 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 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

⁷ See *ITC Final Determination*.

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 3, 2025.

Christopher Abbott,

Deputy Assistant Secretary

for Policy and Negotiations,

performing the non-exclusive functions and duties

of the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance.

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