



DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[A-570-910, C-570-911]

Circular Welded Carbon Quality Steel Pipe from the People's Republic of China: Preliminary Affirmative Determination of Circumvention of the Antidumping Duty and Countervailing Duty Orders

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

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of Commerce (Commerce) preliminarily determines that imports of circular welded carbon quality steel pipe (CWP), completed in the Sultanate of Oman (Oman) using hot-rolled steel (HRS) produced in the People's Republic of China (China), are circumventing the antidumping duty (AD) and countervailing duty (CVD) orders on CWP from China. Interested parties are invited to comment on this preliminary determination.

DATES: Applicable [Insert date of publication in the *Federal Register*].

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Shawn Gregor, Office of Policy, Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482-3226.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On July 22, 2008, Commerce published in the *Federal Register* the AD and CVD orders on CWP from China.¹ On November 19, 2024, Commerce initiated a country-wide circumvention inquiry to determine whether certain imports of CWP completed in Oman using HRS produced in China are circumventing the *Orders*, and accordingly, should be covered by

¹ See *Notice of Antidumping Duty Order: Circular Welded Carbon Quality Steel Pipe from the People's Republic of China*, 73 FR 42547 (July 22, 2008); and *Circular Welded Carbon Quality Steel Pipe from the People's Republic of China: Notice of Amended Final Affirmative Countervailing Duty Determination and Notice of Countervailing Duty Order*, 73 FR 42545 (July 22, 2008) (collectively, *Orders* or *China Orders*).

the scope of the *Orders*.² On January 13, 2025, Commerce selected Al Jazeera Steel Products Company SAOG (formerly known as Al Jazeera Tube Mill Company SAOG) as the mandatory respondent in this circumvention inquiry.³ On March 18, 2025, Commerce extended the time limit for issuing the preliminary determination in this circumvention inquiry to July 17, 2025.⁴ For a complete description of the events that followed the initiation of this circumvention inquiry, *see* the Preliminary Decision Memorandum.⁵

Scope of the *Orders*

The products covered by the *Orders* include certain welded carbon quality steel pipes and tubes. For a full description of the scope of the *Orders*, *see* the Preliminary Decision Memorandum.⁶

Merchandise Subject to the Circumvention Inquiry

This circumvention inquiry covers CWP completed in Oman using Chinese-origin HRS and subsequently exported from Oman to the United States (inquiry merchandise).

Methodology

Commerce is conducting this circumvention inquiry in accordance with section 781(b) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act) and 19 CFR 351.226. A list of topics discussed in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum is included in Appendix I of this notice. 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>.

² *See Circular Welded Carbon Quality Steel Pipe from the People's Republic of China: Initiation of Circumvention Inquiry on the Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Orders*, 89 FR 91327 (November 19, 2024).

³ *See* Memorandum, "Respondent Selection," dated January 13, 2025.

⁴ *See* Memorandum, "Extension of Deadline for the Preliminary Determination in the Circumvention Inquiry Pertaining to the Sultanate of Oman," dated March 18, 2025.

⁵ *See* Memorandum, "Preliminary Decision Memorandum for the Circumvention Inquiry on the Antidumping Duty and Countervailing Duty Orders," dated concurrently with, and hereby adopted by, this notice (Preliminary Decision Memorandum).

⁶ *Id.* at 3-4.

In addition, a complete version of the Preliminary Decision Memorandum can be accessed directly at <https://access.trade.gov/public/FRNoticesListLayout.aspx>.

Preliminary Circumvention Determination

As detailed in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum, Commerce preliminarily determines that CWP completed in Oman using Chinese-origin HRS and subsequently exported from Oman to the United States is circumventing the *Orders* on a country-wide basis. As a result, in accordance with section 781(b) of the Act, we preliminarily determine that this merchandise is subject to the scope of the *Orders*. See the “Suspension of Liquidation and Cash Deposit Requirements” section below for details regarding suspension of liquidation and cash deposit requirements. See the “Certifications” and “Certification Requirements” sections below for details regarding the use of certifications.

Suspension of Liquidation and Cash Deposit Requirements

Based on the preliminary affirmative country-wide determination of circumvention with respect to Oman, in accordance with 19 CFR 351.225(l)(2), Commerce will direct CBP to suspend liquidation and to require a cash deposit of estimated duties on unliquidated entries of inquiry merchandise that were entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption, on or after November 19, 2024, the date of publication of the initiation of this circumvention inquiry in the *Federal Register*.

CWP completed in Oman from HRS that is not of Chinese origin is not subject to this inquiry. However, Commerce preliminarily finds that CWP completed in Oman using China-origin HRS is circumventing the AD and CVD orders on CWP from China. Imports of such merchandise are subject to certification requirements, and cash deposits may be required.

Entries for which the importer and exporter have met the certification and documentation requirements described below and in Appendix II to this notice will not be subject to suspension of liquidation or the cash deposit requirements.

Where the certification and documentation requirements are not met for an entry, Commerce intends to instruct CBP to suspend the entry and collect cash deposits at the rates applicable to the AD and CVD orders on CWP from China. For companies with their own company-specific rate under the *China Order*, the cash deposit rate will be the company-specific rate. Otherwise, Commerce will instruct CBP to require AD cash deposits equal to the China-wide rate of 85.55 percent and CVD cash deposits equal to 39.01 percent.

Commerce established the following third-country case number in the Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) for entries of CWP completed in Oman using China-origin HRS: A-523-910 and C-523-911.

These suspension of liquidation requirements will remain in effect until further notice.

Certifications

To administer the affirmative country-wide determination of circumvention for Oman, Commerce established importer and exporter certifications, which allow companies to certify that specific entries of CWP from Oman are not subject to suspension of liquidation or the collection of cash deposits pursuant to this preliminary affirmative country-wide determination of circumvention if the merchandise is not made with Chinese-origin HRS or is made with an input other than HRS (*see* Appendix II to this notice).

Importers and exporters that claim that the entry of CWP is not subject to suspension of liquidation or the collection of cash deposits because the merchandise is not made with Chinese-origin HRS or is made with an input other than HRS must complete the applicable certification and meet the certification and documentation requirements described below, as well as the requirements identified in the applicable certification.

Certification Requirements

Importers are required to complete and maintain the applicable importer certification, and maintain a copy of the applicable exporter certification, and retain all supporting documentation for both certifications. With the exception of the entries described below, the importer

certification must be completed, signed, and dated by the time the entry summary is filed for the relevant entry.

The importer, or the importer's agent, must submit the importer's certification, the exporter's certification, the commercial invoice, and the bill of lading to CBP at the time of entry summary by uploading these documents into the document imaging system (DIS) in ACE. Where the importer uses a broker to facilitate the entry process, the importer should obtain the entry summary number from the broker. Agents of the importer, such as brokers, however, are not permitted to certify on behalf of the importer. Consistent with CBP's procedures, importers shall identify certified entries by using importers' additional declaration (record 54) AD/CVD Certification Designation (type code 06) when filing entry summary.⁷

Exporters are required to complete and maintain the applicable exporter certification and provide the importer with a copy of that certification and all supporting documentation (*e.g.*, invoice, purchase order, production records, *etc.*). With the exception of the entries described below, the exporter certification must be completed, signed, and dated by the time of shipment of the relevant entries. The exporter certification should be completed by the party selling the CWP that was manufactured in Oman to the United States.

Additionally, the claims made in the certifications and any supporting documentation are subject to verification by Commerce or CBP. Importers and exporters are required to maintain the certifications and supporting documentation until the later of: (1) the date that is five years after the latest entry date of the entries covered by the certification; or (2) the date that is three years after the conclusion of any litigation in United States courts regarding such entries.

For all CWP from Oman that was entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption during the period November 19, 2024 (the date of initiation of this circumvention inquiry), through August 13, 2025, where the entry has not been liquidated (and entries for which

⁷ See Cargo System Messaging Service #59384253, dated February 12, 2024; see also *Announcing an Importer's Additional Declaration in the Automated Commercial Environment Specific to Antidumping/Countervailing Duty Certifications*, 89 FR 7372 (February 2, 2024).

liquidation has not become final), the importer and exporter certifications should be completed and signed as soon as practicable, but not later than September 8, 2025. The importer/exporter certifications, commercial invoice, and bill of lading should be uploaded to the DIS in ACE as soon as practicable, but not later than September 8, 2025. For such entries, importers, and exporters each have the option to complete a blanket certification covering multiple entries, individual certifications for each entry, or a combination thereof. The exporter must provide the importer with a copy of the exporter certification no later than September 8, 2025.

For unliquidated entries (and entries for which liquidation has not become final) of CWP that were declared as non-AD or non-CVD type entries (*e.g.*, type 01) and entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption in the United States during the period November 19, 2024 (the date of initiation of these circumvention inquiries) through August 13, 2025, for which none of the above certifications may be made, importers must file a Post Summary Correction with CBP, in accordance with CBP's regulations, regarding conversion of such entries from non-AD or non-CVD type entries to AD or CVD type entries (*e.g.*, type 01 to type 03) as soon as practicable, but not later than September 8, 2025. Importers must report those AD or CVD-type entries using the third-country case numbers identified in the "Suspension of Liquidation and Cash Deposit Requirements" section, above. The importer must pay cash deposits on those entries consistent with the regulations governing post summary corrections that require payment of additional duties.

Interested parties may comment on the certification requirements and on the certification language contained in Appendix II to this notice in their case briefs.

Verification

As provided in 19 CFR 351.307, Commerce may verify information relied upon in making its final determination.

Public Comment

Case briefs should be submitted to the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance no later than seven days after the date on which the last verification report is issued. Rebuttal briefs, limited to issues raised in case briefs, may be submitted no later than five days after the deadline for case briefs.⁸ 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.⁹

As provided under 19 CFR 351.309(c)(2) and (d)(2), in prior proceedings we have encouraged interested parties to provide a public executive summary of their brief that should be limited to five pages total, including footnotes. In this proceeding, we instead request that interested parties provide at the beginning of their briefs a public, executive summary for each issue raised in their briefs.¹⁰ Further, we request that interested parties limit their executive summary of each issue to no more than 450 words, not including citations. We intend to use the executive summaries as the basis of the comment summaries included in the issues and decision memorandum that will accompany the final determination in this proceeding. We request that interested parties include footnotes for relevant citations in the executive summary of each issue. Note that Commerce has amended certain of its requirements pertaining to the service of documents in 19 CFR 351.303(f).¹¹

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, within 30 days after the date of publication of this notice in the Federal Register, filed electronically via ACCESS. Hearing requests should contain: (1) the party's name, address, and telephone number; (2) the number of participants and whether any participant is a foreign national; and (3) a list of the issues to be discussed. Issues raised in the

⁸ See 19 CFR 351.309; *see also* 19 CFR 351.303 (for general filing requirements).

⁹ See 19 CFR 351.309(c)(2)(d)(2).

¹⁰ We use the term "issue" here to describe an argument that Commerce would normally address in a comment of the Issues and Decision Memorandum.

¹¹ See *Administrative Protective Order, Service, and Other Procedures in Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Proceedings*, 88 FR 67069, 67077 (September 29, 2023).

hearing will be limited to issues raised in the respective comments.¹² If a request for a hearing is made, Commerce intends to hold the hearing at a date and time to be determined and will notify the parties through ACCESS.¹³ Parties should confirm the date, time, and location of the hearing two days before the scheduled date.

All submissions, including affirmative and rebuttal comments, as well as hearing requests, should be filed using ACCESS. An electronically-filed document must be received successfully in its entirety by ACCESS by 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on the established deadline.

U.S. International Trade Commission Notification

Commerce, consistent with section 781(e) of the Act, will notify the U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC) of this preliminary determination to include the merchandise subject to this circumvention inquiry within the *Orders*. Pursuant to section 781(e) of the Act, the ITC may request consultations concerning Commerce's proposed inclusion of the inquiry merchandise. If, after consultations, the ITC believes that a significant injury issue is presented by the proposed inclusion, it will have 60 days from the date of notification by Commerce to provide written advice.

Notification to Interested Parties

This determination is issued and published in accordance with section 781(b) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.226(g)(1).

Dated: July 17, 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.

¹² See 19 CFR 351.310.

¹³ See 19 CFR 351.310(d).

Appendix I

List of Topics Discussed in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum

- I. Summary
- II. Background
- III. Scope of the *Orders*
- IV. Merchandise Subject to the Circumvention Inquiry
- V. Period of Circumvention Inquiry
- VI. Surrogate Country and Valuation Methodology for Inputs from China
- VII. Statutory and Regulatory Framework for a Circumvention Inquiry
- VIII. Analysis of Statutory Criteria for the Circumvention Inquiry
- IX. Summary of Analysis
- X. Certification Process and Country-Wide Affirmative Determination of Circumvention
- XI. Recommendation

Appendix II

1. Certifications

IMPORTER CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that:

A. My name is {IMPORTING COMPANY OFFICIAL'S NAME} and I am an official of {IMPORTING COMPANY}, located at {ADDRESS OF IMPORTING COMPANY};

B. I have direct personal knowledge of the facts regarding the importation into the Customs territory of the United States of circular welded carbon quality steel pipe (CWP) produced in the Sultanate of Oman (Oman) that entered under entry summary number(s), identified below, and are covered by this certification. "Direct personal knowledge" refers to facts the certifying party is expected to have in its own records. For example, the importer should have direct personal knowledge of the importation of CWP, including the exporter's and/or foreign seller's identity and location;

C. If the importer is acting on behalf of the first U.S. customer, include the following sentence as paragraph C of this certification:

The CWP covered by this certification was imported by {IMPORTING COMPANY} on behalf of {U.S. CUSTOMER}, located at {ADDRESS OF U.S. CUSTOMER};

If the importer is not acting on behalf of the first U.S. customer, include the following sentence as paragraph C of this certification:

{NAME OF IMPORTING COMPANY} is not acting on behalf of the first U.S. customer.

D. The CWP covered by this certification was shipped to {NAME OF PARTY IN THE UNITED STATES TO WHOM THE MERCHANDISE WAS FIRST SHIPPED}, located at {U.S. ADDRESS TO WHICH MERCHANDISE WAS SHIPPED}.

E. I have personal knowledge of the facts regarding the production of the imported products covered by this certification. "Personal knowledge" includes facts obtained from another party, (e.g., correspondence received by the importer (or exporter) from the producer regarding the source of hot-rolled steel (HRS) or other inputs used to produce the imported CWP);

F. This certification applies to the following entries (repeat this block as many times as necessary):

Entry Summary #:

Entry Summary Line Item #:

Foreign Seller:

Foreign Seller's Address:

Foreign Seller's Invoice #:

Foreign Seller's Invoice Line Item #:

Country of Origin of HRS:¹⁴

Producer:

Producer's Address:

G. The CWP covered by this certification does not contain HRS produced in the People's Republic of China (China);

H. I understand that {IMPORTING COMPANY} is required to maintain a copy of this certification and sufficient documentation supporting this certification (i.e., documents

¹⁴ Put "N/A" if the Country of Origin involves an input other than HRS.

maintained in the normal course of business, or documents obtained by the certifying party, for example, certificates of origin, product data sheets, mill test reports, productions records, invoices, *etc.*) until the later of: (1) the date that is five years after the date of the latest entry covered by the certification or; (2) the date that is three years after the conclusion of any litigation in the United States courts regarding such entries;

- I. I understand that {IMPORTING COMPANY} is required to maintain a copy of the exporter's certification (attesting to the production and/or exportation of the imported merchandise identified above), and any supporting documentation provided to the importer by the exporter, until the later of: (1) the date that is five years after the date of the latest entry covered by the certification; or (2) the date that is three years after the conclusion of any litigation in United States courts regarding such entries;
- J. I understand that {IMPORTING COMPANY} is required to submit a copy of the importer and exporter certifications, the commercial invoice, and the bill of lading at the time of entry summary by uploading these documents into the Document Imaging System in the Automated Commercial Environment, and to provide U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and/or the U.S. Department of Commerce (Commerce) with the importer certification, a copy of the exporter's certification, the commercial invoice, the bill of lading, and any supporting documentation provided to the importer by the exporter, upon request of either agency. Consistent with CBP's procedures, importers shall identify certified entries by using importers' additional declaration (record 54) AD/CVD Certification Designation (type code 06) when filing entry summary.
- K. I understand that the claims made herein, and the substantiating documentation, are subject to verification by CBP and/or Commerce;
- L. I understand that failure to maintain the required certification and supporting documentation, or failure to substantiate the claims made herein, or not allowing CBP and/or Commerce to verify the claims made herein, may result in a *de facto* determination that all entries to which this certification applies are within the scope of the antidumping duty (AD) and countervailing duty (CVD) orders on CWP from China. I understand that such finding will result in:
 - (i) suspension of liquidation of all unliquidated entries (and entries for which liquidation has not become final) for which these requirements were not met;
 - (ii) the importer being required to post the antidumping duty and countervailing duty cash deposits determined by Commerce; and
 - (iii) the importer no longer being allowed to participate in the certification process.
- M. I understand that agents of the importer, such as brokers, are not permitted to make this certification;

This certification was completed and signed on, or prior to, the date of the entry summary if the entry date after August 13, 2025. If the entry date is on or before August 13, 2025, this certification was completed and signed by no later than September 8, 2025, and the importer and exporter certifications, the commercial invoice, and the bill of lading were uploaded to DIS in ACE by no later than September 8, 2025.

- N. I am aware that U.S. law (including, but not limited to, 18 U.S.C. §1001) imposes criminal sanctions on individuals who knowingly and willfully make material false statements to the U.S. government.

Signature

{NAME OF COMPANY OFFICIAL}

{TITLE OF COMPANY OFFICIAL}

{DATE}

EXPORTER CERTIFICATION

The party that made the sale to the United States should fill out the exporter certification.

I hereby certify that:

- A. My name is {COMPANY OFFICIAL'S NAME} and I am an official of {NAME OF FOREIGN COMPANY THAT MADE THE SALE TO THE UNITED STATES}; located at {ADDRESS OF FOREIGN COMPANY THAT MADE THE SALE TO THE UNITED STATES};
- B. I have direct personal knowledge of the facts regarding the production and exportation of the circular welded carbon quality steel pipe (CWP) from the Sultanate of Oman (Oman) for which sales are identified below. "Direct personal knowledge" refers to facts the certifying party is expected to have in its own records. For example, an exporter should have direct personal knowledge of the producer's identity and location;
- C. The CWP covered by this certification was shipped to {NAME OF PARTY IN THE UNITED STATES TO WHOM MERCHANDISE WAS FIRST SHIPPED}, located at {U.S. ADDRESS TO WHICH MERCHANDISE WAS SHIPPED};
- D. The CWP covered by this certification does not contain hot-rolled steel (HRS) produced in the People's Republic of China (China);
- E. This certification applies to the following sales to {NAME OF U.S. CUSTOMER}, located at {ADDRESS OF U.S. CUSTOMER} (repeat this block as many times as necessary):

Foreign Seller's Invoice # to U.S. Customer:

Foreign Seller's Invoice to U.S. Customer Line item #:

Producer Name:

Producer's Address:

Producer's Invoice # to Foreign Seller: *(If the foreign seller and the producer are the same party, put NA here.)*

Name of Producer of HRS:¹⁵

Location (Country) of Producer of HRS:¹⁶

- F. The CWP covered by this certification was shipped to {NAME OF U.S. PARTY TO WHOM MERCHANDISE WAS SHIPPED}, located at {U.S. ADDRESS TO WHICH MERCHANDISE WAS SHIPPED};

¹⁵ Put "N/A" if the producer did not use HRS in the production of CWP.

¹⁶ Put "N/A" if the producer did not use HRS in the production of CWP.

- G. I understand that {NAME OF FOREIGN COMPANY THAT MADE THE SALE TO THE UNITED STATES} is required to maintain a copy of this certification and sufficient documentation supporting this certification (*i.e.*, documents maintained in the normal course of business, or documents obtained by the certifying party, for example, product data sheets, mill test reports, productions records, invoices, *etc.*) until the later of: (1) the date that is five years after the latest date of the entries covered by the certification; or (2) the date that is three years after the conclusion of any litigation in the United States courts regarding such entries;
- H. I understand that {NAME OF FOREIGN COMPANY THAT MADE THE SALE TO THE UNITED STATES} is required to provide the U.S. importer with a copy of this certification and is required to provide U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and/or the U.S. Department of Commerce (Commerce) with this certification, and any supporting documents, upon request of either agency;
- I. I understand that the claims made herein, and the substantiating documentation, are subject to verification by CBP and/or Commerce;
- J. I understand that failure to maintain the required certification and supporting documentation, or failure to substantiate the claims made herein, or not allowing CBP and/or Commerce to verify the claims made herein, may result in a *de facto* determination that all sales to which this certification applies are within the scope of the antidumping duty and countervailing duty orders on CWP from China. I understand that such a finding will result in:
- (i) suspension of all unliquidated entries (and entries for which liquidation has not become final) for which these requirements were not met;
 - (ii) the importer being required to post the antidumping duty and countervailing duty cash deposits determined by Commerce; and
 - (iii) the seller/exporter no longer being allowed to participate in the certification process.
- K. I understand that agents of the seller/exporter, such as freight forwarding companies or brokers, are not permitted to make this certification.
- L. This certification was completed and signed, and a copy of the certification was provided to the importer, on, or prior to, the date of shipment if the shipment date is after August 13, 2025. If the shipment date is on or before August 13, 2025, this certification was completed and signed, and a copy of the certification was provided to the importer, by no later than September 8, 2025; and
- M. I am aware that U.S. law (including, but not limited to, 18 U.S.C. §1001) imposes criminal sanctions on individuals who knowingly and willfully make material false statements to the U.S. government.

Signature

{NAME OF COMPANY OFFICIAL}

{TITLE OF COMPANY OFFICIAL}

{DATE}

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