



## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### International Trade Administration

[C-570-183, C-552-846]

### Thermoformed Molded Fiber Products from the People's Republic of China and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam: Countervailing Duty Orders

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

SUMMARY: Based on affirmative final determinations by the U.S. Department of Commerce (Commerce) and the U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC), Commerce is issuing the countervailing duty (CVD) orders on thermoformed molded fiber products (molded fiber products) from the People's Republic of China (China) and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam (Vietnam).

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

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Allison Hollander (China), Office IX, telephone: (202) 482-2805; and Thomas Martin (Vietnam), Office IV, telephone: (202) 482-3936; AD/CVD Operations, Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Background

In accordance with sections 705(d) and 777(i) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act), on September 30, 2025, Commerce published its affirmative final determinations that

countervailable subsidies are being provided to producers and exporters of molded fiber products from China and Vietnam.<sup>1</sup>

On January 5, 2026, pursuant to section 705(d) of the Act, the ITC notified Commerce of its final affirmative determinations that an industry in the United States is materially injured by reason of subsidized imports of molded fiber products from China and Vietnam, within the meaning of section 705(b)(1)(A)(i) of the Act, and its determination that critical circumstances exist with respect to imports of molded fiber products from Vietnam.<sup>2</sup>

#### Scope of the Orders

The product covered by these orders is molded fiber products from China and Vietnam. For a complete description of the scope of these orders, *see* the appendix to this notice.

#### Countervailing Duty Orders

Based on the ITC's affirmative final determinations that an industry in the United States is materially injured within the meaning of section 705(b)(1)(A)(i) of the Act by reason of subsidized imports of molded fiber products from China and Vietnam,<sup>3</sup> in accordance with section 705(c)(2) of the Act, Commerce is issuing these CVD orders. Moreover, because the ITC determined that imports of molded fiber products from China and Vietnam are materially injuring a U.S. industry, unliquidated entries of such merchandise entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption, are subject to the assessment of countervailing duties.

Furthermore, the ITC found that critical circumstances exist with respect to imports of molded fiber from Vietnam subject to Commerce's affirmative critical circumstances finding within the meaning of section 705(b)(4)(A) of the Act. As a result of Commerce's affirmative critical circumstances determination under section 705(a)(2) of the Act and the ITC's affirmative

---

<sup>1</sup> *See Thermoformed Molded Fiber Products from the People's Republic of China: Final Affirmative Countervailing Duty Determination*, 90 FR 46787 (September 30, 2025) (*China Final Determination*); *see also Thermoformed Molded Fiber Products From the Socialist Republic of Vietnam: Final Affirmative Countervailing Duty Determination and Final Affirmative Critical Circumstances Determination*, 90 FR 46805 (September 30, 2025) (*Vietnam Final Determination*).

<sup>2</sup> *See* ITC's Letter, "Notification of ITC Final Determination," dated January 5, 2026 (ITC Notification Letter).

<sup>3</sup> *Id.*

critical circumstances determination under section 705(b)(4)(A) of the Act, retroactive duties will be applied to the relevant imports for a period of 90 days prior to the suspension of liquidation (*i.e.*, 90 days prior to the publication of the *Vietnam Preliminary Determination*).<sup>4</sup>

Therefore, in accordance with section 706(a) of the Act, Commerce is directing U.S. Customs Border and Protection (CBP) to continue suspending liquidation of all relevant entries of molded fiber products from China and Vietnam. Countervailing duties will be assessed on unliquidated entries of molded fiber products from Vietnam which are entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after December 14, 2024, which is 90 days prior to the date of publication of the *Vietnam Preliminary Determination*.<sup>5</sup> Countervailing duties will be assessed on unliquidated entries of molded fiber products from China which are entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after March 14, 2025, the date of publication of the *China Preliminary Determination*.<sup>6</sup> Countervailing duties on unliquidated entries of molded fiber products from China and Vietnam will not be assessed on entries occurring after the expiration of the provisional measures period and before the publication of the ITC's final affirmative injury determination, as further described in the "Provisional Measures" section of this notice.

#### Suspension of Liquidation and Cash Deposits

In accordance with section 706 of the Act, Commerce intends to instruct CBP to reinstitute the suspension of liquidation of molded fiber products from China and Vietnam, effective on the date of publication of the ITC's final affirmative injury determination in the *Federal Register*, and to assess, upon further instruction by Commerce, pursuant to section

---

<sup>4</sup> See *Thermoformed Molded Fiber Products from the Socialist Republic of Vietnam: Preliminary Affirmative Countervailing Duty Determination, Preliminary Affirmative Critical Circumstances Determination, and Alignment of Final Determination With Final Antidumping Duty Determination*, 90 FR 12126 (March 14, 2025) (*Vietnam Preliminary Determination*); see also section 705(c)(4) of the Act; and Statement of Administrative Action Accompanying the Uruguay Round Agreements Act, H.R. Doc. 103-316, Vol. 1 (1994) at 876 ("If both agencies make affirmative critical circumstances determinations in their final investigations, retroactive duties will be applied for a period ninety days prior to suspension of liquidation.").

<sup>5</sup> See *Vietnam Preliminary Determination*.

<sup>6</sup> See *Thermoformed Molded Fiber Products from the People's Republic of China: Preliminary Affirmative Countervailing Duty Determination and Alignment of Final Determination With Final Antidumping Duty Determination*, 90 FR 12123 (March 14, 2025) (*China Preliminary Determination*).

706(a)(1) of the Act, countervailing duties on each entry of subject merchandise in an amount based on the net countervailable subsidy rates below. These instructions suspending liquidation will remain in effect until further notice.

Commerce also intends, pursuant to section 706(a)(1) of the Act, to instruct CBP to require cash deposits equal to the amounts as indicated below. Accordingly, effective on the date of publication of the ITC's final affirmative injury determination in the *Federal Register*, CBP will require, at the same time as importers would normally deposit estimated customs duties on the subject merchandise, a cash deposit for each entry of subject merchandise equal to the subsidy rates listed in the *China Final Determination*.<sup>7</sup> The all-others rates apply to all producers or exporters not specifically listed, as appropriate.

#### Provisional Measures

Section 703(d) of the Act states that the suspension of liquidation pursuant to an affirmative preliminary determination may not remain in effect for more than four months. Commerce published the *Preliminary Determinations* on March 14, 2025.<sup>8</sup> As such, the four-month period beginning on the date of the publication of the *Preliminary Determinations* ended on July 11, 2025. Therefore, entries of molded fiber products from China and Vietnam made on or after July 12, 2025, and prior to the date of publication of the ITC's final injury determinations in the *Federal Register*, are not subject to the assessment of countervailing duties due to Commerce's discontinuation of the suspension of liquidation.

In accordance with section 703(d) of the Act, Commerce instructed CBP to terminate the suspension of liquidation and to liquidate, without regard to countervailing duties, unliquidated entries of molded fiber products from China and Vietnam entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption, on or after July 12, 2025, the date on which the provisional CVD

---

<sup>7</sup> See *China Final Determination*, 90 FR at 46789; *Vietnam Final Determination*, 90 FR at 46806; section 706(a)(3) of the Act.

<sup>8</sup> See *China Preliminary Determination* and *Vietnam Preliminary Determination* (collectively, *Preliminary Determinations*).

measures expired, through the day preceding the date of publication of the ITC's final injury determinations in the *Federal Register*. Suspension of liquidation and the collection of cash deposits will resume on the date of publication of the ITC's final determinations in the *Federal Register*.

#### Establishment of the Annual Inquiry Service Lists

On September 20, 2021, Commerce published the *Final Rule* in the *Federal Register*.<sup>9</sup> On September 27, 2021, Commerce also published the *Procedural Guidance* in the *Federal Register*.<sup>10</sup> The *Final Rule* and *Procedural Guidance* provide that Commerce will maintain an annual inquiry service list for each order or suspended investigation, and any interested party submitting a scope ruling application or request for circumvention inquiry shall serve a copy of the application or request on the persons on the annual inquiry service list for that order, as well as any companion order covering the same merchandise from the same country of origin.

In accordance with the *Procedural Guidance*, for orders published in the *Federal Register* after November 4, 2021, Commerce will create an annual inquiry service list segment in Commerce's online e-filing and document management system, Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Electronic Service System (ACCESS), available at <https://access.trade.gov>, within five business days of publication of the notice of the order. Each annual inquiry service list will be saved in ACCESS, under each case number, and under a specific segment type called "AISL-Annual Inquiry Service List."<sup>11</sup>

Interested parties who wish to be added to the annual inquiry service list for an order must submit an entry of appearance to the annual inquiry service list segment for the order in

---

<sup>9</sup> See *Regulations to Improve Administration and Enforcement of Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Laws*, 86 FR 52300 (September 20, 2021) (*Final Rule*).

<sup>10</sup> See *Scope Ruling Application; Annual Inquiry Service List; and Informational Sessions*, 86 FR 53205 (September 27, 2021) (*Procedural Guidance*).

<sup>11</sup> This segment will be combined with the ACCESS Segment Specific Information (SSI) field which will display the month in which the notice of the order or suspended investigation was published in the *Federal Register*, also known as the anniversary month. For example, for an order under case number A-000-000 that was published in the *Federal Register* in January, the relevant segment and SSI combination will appear in ACCESS as "AISL-January Anniversary." Note that there will be only one annual inquiry service list segment per case number, and the anniversary month will be pre-populated in ACCESS.

ACCESS within 30 days after the date of publication of the order. For ease of administration, Commerce requests that law firms with more than one attorney representing interested parties in an order designate a lead attorney to be included on the annual inquiry service list. Commerce will finalize the annual inquiry service list within five business days thereafter. As mentioned in the *Procedural Guidance*,<sup>12</sup> the new annual inquiry service list will be in place until the following year, when the *Opportunity Notice* for the anniversary month of the order is published.

Commerce may update an annual inquiry service list at any time as needed based on interested parties' amendments to their entries of appearance to remove or otherwise modify their list of members and representatives, or to update contact information. Any changes or announcements pertaining to these procedures will be posted to the ACCESS website at <https://access.trade.gov>.

#### Special Instructions for the Petitioner and Foreign Governments

In the *Final Rule*, Commerce stated that, “after an initial request and placement on the annual inquiry service list, both petitioners and foreign governments will automatically be placed on the annual inquiry service list in the years that follow.”<sup>13</sup> Accordingly, as stated above, the petitioner and foreign governments should submit their initial entries of appearance after publication of this notice in order to appear in the first annual inquiry service lists for these orders. Pursuant to 19 CFR 351.225(n)(3), the petitioner and foreign governments will not need to resubmit their entries of appearance each year to continue to be included on the annual inquiry service list. However, the petitioner and foreign governments are responsible for making amendments to their entries of appearance during the annual update to the annual inquiry service list in accordance with the procedures described above.

#### Notification to Interested Parties

---

<sup>12</sup> See *Procedural Guidance*, 86 FR at 53206.

<sup>13</sup> See *Final Rule*, 86 FR at 52335.

This notice constitutes the CVD orders with respect to molded fiber products from China and Vietnam, pursuant to section 706(a) of the Act. Interested parties can find a list of antidumping duty and CVD orders currently in effect at <https://www.trade.gov/datavisualization/adcvd-proceedings>.

These CVD orders are issued and published in accordance with section 706(a) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.211(b).

Dated: January 22, 2026.

Christopher Abbott,  
Deputy Assistant Secretary  
for Policy and Negotiations,  
performing the non-exclusive functions and duties  
of the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance.

## Appendix

### Scope of the Orders

The merchandise subject to these orders consists of thermoformed molded fiber products regardless of shape, form, function, fiber source, or finish. Thermoformed molded fiber products are formed with cellulose fibers, thermoformed using one or more heated molds, and dried/cured in the mold.

Thermoformed molded fiber products include, but are not limited to, plates, bowls, clamshells, trays, lids, food or foodservice contact packaging, and consumer or other product packaging.

Thermoformed molded fiber products are relatively dense, with a typical fiber density above 0.5 grams per cubic centimeter, and are generally characterized by relatively smooth surfaces. They may be derived from any virgin or recycled cellulose fiber source (including, but not limited to, those sourced from wood, woody crops, agricultural crops/byproducts/residue, and agricultural/industrial/other waste). They may have any weight, shape, dimensionality, design, or size, and may be bleached, unbleached, dyed, colored, or printed. They may include ingredients, additives, or chemistries to enhance functionality including, but not limited to, anti-microbial, anti-fungal, anti-bacterial, heat/flame resistant, hydrophobic, oleophobic, absorbent, or adsorbent. Thermoformed molded fiber products may also be subject to other processing or treatments, including, but not limited to, hot or after pressing, die-cutting, punching, trimming, padding, perforating, printing, labeling, dyeing, coloring, coating, laminating, embossing, debossing, repacking, or denesting. Thermoformed molded fiber products subject to these orders may also have additional design features, including, but not limited to, tab closures, venting, channeling, or stiffening.

Thermoformed molded fiber products remain covered by the scope of these orders if the subject product is encased by exterior packaging. They also remain covered by the scope of these orders whether imported alone, or in any combination of subject and non-subject merchandise (*e.g.*, a lid or cover of any type packaged with a molded fiber bowl, addition of any items to make the thermoformed molded fiber packaging suitable for end-use such as absorbent pads). When thermoformed molded fiber products are imported in combination with non-subject merchandise, only the thermoformed molded fiber products are subject merchandise.

Also excluded from the scope of these orders are products covered by the scope of the antidumping and countervailing duty orders on paper plates from People's Republic of China, the Kingdom of Thailand, and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

Excluded from the scope of these orders are thermoformed molded fiber products imported as packaging material that enclose and/or surround non-subject merchandise prepackaged for final sale upon importation into the United States (*e.g.*, molded fiber packaging surrounding a cellular phone).

Thermoformed molded fiber products include thermoformed molded fiber products matching the above description that have been finished, packaged, or otherwise processed in a third country by performing finishing, packaging, or processing that would not otherwise remove the merchandise from the scope of these orders if performed in the country of manufacture of the thermoformed molded fiber products. Examples of finishing, packaging, or other processing in a third country that would not otherwise remove the merchandise from the scope of these orders if performed in the country of manufacture of the thermoformed molded fiber products include, but are not

limited to, hot or after pressing, die-cutting, punching, trimming, padding, perforating, printing, labeling, dying, coloring, coating, laminating, embossing, debossing, repacking, or denesting.

Thermoformed molded fiber products are classified under subheadings 4823.70.0020 and 4823.70.0040, Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS). Imports may also be classified under subheadings 4823.61.0020, 4823.61.0040, 4823.69.0020, 4823.69.0040, 4823.90.1000, HTSUS. References to the HTSUS classification are provided for convenience and customs purposes, and the written description of the merchandise of these orders is dispositive.

[FR Doc. 2026-01605 Filed: 1/26/2026 8:45 am; Publication Date: 1/27/2026]