Ministry of Commerce of the People's Republic of China Notice No.30 (2024)

Notice on Initiation of Expiry Review Investigation on Anti-dumping Measures on Imports of Stainless Steel Billet and Hot-rolled Stainless Steel Plate (Coil) originating in the EU, UK, South Korea and Indonesia

On 22 July 2019, the Ministry of Commerce published the Notice No. 31 [2019] and decided to collect anti-dumping tariffs on the imported stainless steel billet and hot-rolled stainless steel plate (coil) originating in the EU, Japan, South Korea and Indonesia, and accepted the price undertaking proposed by POSCO Co., Ltd. The anti-dumping tariff rates are 43.0% for EU companies, 18.1%-29.0% for Japanese companies, 23.1%-103.1% for Korean companies, and 20.2% for Indonesian companies. The implementation period of the anti-dumping tariff and price undertaking is 5 years.

On 20 November 2020, the Ministry of Commerce issued Notice No. 55 [2020], deciding to conduct an interim review of the anti-dumping measures applicable to imported stainless steel billet and hot-rolled stainless steel plate (coil) produced by Indonesia Guangqing Nickel Co., Ltd. On 18 November 2021, at the request of Indonesia Guangqing Nickel Co., Ltd., the Ministry of Commerce issued Notice No. 38 [2021], terminating the interim review investigation.

On 29 January 2021, the Ministry of Commerce issued Notice No. 3 [2021]. According to the Notice, after the end of the Brexit transition period on 31 December 2020, the trade remedy measures previously implemented against the EU would continue to apply to the EU and the UK, and the implementation period would remain unchanged. After that date, new trade remedy investigations and review cases initiated against the EU would no longer treat the UK as an EU member state.

On 9 November 2023, the Ministry of Commerce issued Notice No. 46 [2023], deciding to reinvestigate the original anti-dumping case and implement the determinationa and recommendations of the Panel Report of the World Trade Organization Dispute Settlement Body on the dispute case "China-Anti-dumping Measures on Stainless Steel Products Originating in Japan". On 8 May 2024, the Ministry of Commerce issued Notice No. 19 [2024], deciding to continue to implement anti-dumping measures in accordance with Notice No. 31 [2019] of the Ministry of Commerce.

On 15 April 2024, the Ministry of Commerce received an application filed by Shanxi TISCO Stainless Steel Co., Ltd., Shandong TISCO Xinhai Stainless Steel Co., Ltd. and Baosteel Desheng Stainless Steel Co., Ltd. on behalf of the domestic stainless steel industry, for an expiry review on the anti-dumping measures. The applicants claimed that, if the anti-dumping measures were terminated, the dumping of the imported stainless steel billet and hot-rolled stainless steel plate (coil) originating in the EU, the UK, South Korea and Indonesia might continue or recur, and the injury to the domestic industry might continue or recur, and therefore requested MOFCOM to conduct an expiry review investigation of the imported stainless steel billet and hot-rolled stainless steel plate (coil) originating in the EU, the UK, South Korea and Indonesia, and to keep the anti-dumping measures imposed on the imported stainless steel billet and hot-rolled stainless steel plate (coil) originating in the EU, the UK, South Korea and Indonesia. Guangxi Beigang New Materials Co., Ltd., Guangxi Beigang

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Jinya Steel Co., Ltd., Angang Lianzhong (Guangzhou) Stainless Steel Co., Ltd. and Gansu Jiugang Group Hongxing Iron and Steel Co., Ltd. Stainless Steel Branch supported the application. The applicants did not file an application for an expiry review of the antidumping measures applied to imports of stainless steel billet and hot-rolled stainless steel plate (coil) originating in Japan.

In accordance with the relevant provisions of the *Anti-Dumping Regulation of the People's Republic of China*, the Ministry of Commerce examined the qualifications of the applicants, the situation of the investigated products and like-products in China, the imports of the investigated products during the period of the anti-dumping measures, the likelihood of the continuation or recurrence of dumping, the likelihood of the continuation or recurrence of injury, and the relevant evidence. The available evidence shows that the applicants meet the requirements of Articles 11, 13 and 17 of the *Anti-Dumping Regulations of the People's Republic of China* regarding the industry representativeness, and that they are qualified to file the application on behalf of China's stainless steel billet and hot-rolled stainless steel plate industry. The investigation authority believes that the applicants' claims and the prima facie evidence submitted meet the requirements for initiating an expiry review investigation.

In accordance with the Article 48 of the *Anti-Dumping Regulation of the People's Republic of China*, the Ministry of Commerce decided to initiate an expiry review investigation on the anti-dumping measures on imports of stainless steel billet and hot-rolled stainless steel plate (coil) originating in the EU, the UK, South Korea and Indonesia as of 22 July 2024. The relevant details are hereby made public as follows:

I. Continuation of anti-dumping measures

Based on the recommendation of the Ministry of Commerce, the Customs Tariff Commission of the State Council decided to continue levying anti-dumping tariffs on imports of stainless steel billet and hot-rolled stainless steel plate (coil) originating in the EU, the UK, South Korea and Indonesia, in accordance with the product scope and the tariff rates published in Notice No. 31 [2019]. The price undertaking for stainless steel billets and stainless steel hot-rolled plates produced by POSCO Co., Ltd. will continue to be implemented in accordance with Notice No. 31 [2019]. As of 28 June 2024, the anti-dumping measures applied to imports of stainless steel billet and hot-rolled stainless steel plate (coil) originating in Japan will expire and terminate.

The anti-dumping tariff rates imposed on the EU companies are as follows:

EU companies:

All EU companies 43.0%

UK companies:

All UK companies 43.0%

South Korea companies:

POSCO Co. Ltd
Other South Korea companies
103.1%

Indonesia companies:

All Indonesia companies 20.2%

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During the implementation period of POSCO Co., Ltd.'s price undertaking, no anti-dumping tariffs will be levied on the investigated products exported to China at a price not lower than the committed price produced by the company. If there is a violation of the price commitment or other circumstances of termination of the price undertaking, anti-dumping tariffs will be levied according to the company's anti-dumping tariff rate.

II. Period of the review investigation

The dumping investigation period for this review is from 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2023, and the industrial injury investigation period is from 1 January 2019 to 31 December 2023.

III. The product scope of the review

The product scope of this review is the same as that the Notice No. 31 [2019] applied, as follows.

The product under investigation: stainless steel billet and hot-rolled stainless steel plate (Coi)

Product description: Stainless steel billets and hot-rolled stainless steel plates/coils refer to alloy steels with a carbon content of 1.2% or less and a chromium content of 10.5% or more by weight, except for cold rolling, regardless of whether they contain other elements. Stainless steel billets are rectangular (except square) cross-sections, or other stainless steel semi-finished products. Hot-rolled stainless steel plates/coils are made from stainless steel billets after hot rolling and other processes, in the form of rolls or plates, regardless of width and thickness.

Main uses: There are usually two uses, one is as a raw material for cold-rolled stainless steel, which is made into cold-rolled stainless steel products after cold rolling process; the other is sold directly as a final product, mainly used in ships, containers, railways, electricity, petroleum, petrochemicals and other industries.

The products are listed in the *Import and Export Tariff of the People's Republic of China*: 72189100, 72189900, 72191100, 72191210, 72191290, 72191312, 72191319, 72191322, 72191329, 72191412, 72191419, 72191422, 72191429, 72192100, 72192200, 72192300, 72192410, 72192420, 72192430, 72201100, 72201200. According to the *2021 Import and Export Tariff of the People's Republic of China*, the tariff codes 72191200 involved in the MOFCOM Notice No. 31 [2019] has been split into 72191210 and 72191290.

IV. Content of review

This review investigation is about whether the termination of anti-dumping measures on imports of stainless steel billet and hot-rolled stainless steel plate (coil) originating in the EU, the UK, South Korea and Indonesia is likely to lead to the continuation or recurrence of dumping and injury.

V. Respondent Registration

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Any interested party may, within 20 days of the publication of this notice, apply to the Bureau of Trade Remedy and Investigation of the Ministry of Commerce to participate in the expiry review investigation. Interested parties should provide information in accordance with the reference registration form, such as basic identity information, quantity and value of the investigated products exported or imported into China, quantity and value of producing same kind products. The reference registration form can be downloaded from the website of the Trade Remedy and Investigation Bureau of the Ministry of Commerce.

The interested parties registered to participate in this investigation shall submit electronic version through the Trade Remedy and Investigation Information Platform (https://etrb.mofcom.gov.cn), and at the same time submit the written version according to the requirements of the Ministry of Commerce. The electronic version and the written version shall keep consistent in terms of content and format.

The interested parties in the notice refer to the individuals and organisations defined in the Article 19 of the Anti-Dumping Regulation of the People's Republic of China.

VI. Access to Public Information

The interested parties can download from relevant website or go to the Trade Remedy Public Information Office (phone number: 0086-10-65197878) to search, read and copy non-confidential documents of the application of the case. During the investigation, the interested parties can download from relevant website or go to the Trade Remedy Public Information Office to search, read and copy public information of the case.

VII. Comments on Initiation of the case

The interested parties can submit their comments in written form within the 20 days if they have different opinions on the standing of the applicants, the alleged countries (regions) and other relevant issues.

VIII. Investigation Approaches

According to Article 20 of the *Anti-Dumping Regulations of the People's Republic of China*, Mofcom may conduct the investigation and acquire information from the interested parties by means of questionnaire, sampling, public hearing, and on-the-spot verification.

For acquiring necessary information for this investigation, Mofcom usually issues the investigation questionnaires to the interested parties within 10 working days upon the ending of registration set by this Notice. The interested parties may also download investigation questionnaires from relevant websites.

Interested parties shall submit complete and accurate response to the questionnaires within the provided time period. The response should include all information required in the investigation questionnaire.

IX. Submission and processing of Information

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The interested parties, when submitting comments and questionnaires during the investigation, shall submit electronic version through the Trade Remedy and Investigation Information Platform (https://etrb.mofcom.gov.cn), and at the same time submit the written version according to the requirements of the Mofcom. The electronic version and the written version shall keep consistent in terms of content and format.

For confidential information, interested parties can submit the request and reason to the Mofcom for confidential processing of the information. If the Mofcom agrees to the request, the interested party should submit the non-confidential outline summary of the confidential information. The outline should include sufficient meaningful information to allow other interested parties to have reasonable understanding of the confidential information. If the interested party cannot provide the outline, it should clarify the reasons. If the interested party does not indicate confidential requests when submit information, the Mofcom will treat the information as non-confidential.

X. Result of Non-cooperation

In accordance with the Article 21 of the Anti-Dumping Regulation of the People's Republic of China, the interested parties shall provide authentic information and relevant documentation to the Mofcom in the investigation. In the event that any interested party does not provide authentic information and relevant documentation, or does not provide necessary information within a reasonable time limit, or significantly impedes the investigation in other ways, the Mofcom may make a determination on the basis of the facts already known and the best information available.

XI. The investigation Period

The investigation starts from 22 July 2024 and shall normally end by 23 July 2025 (excluding this date).

XII. Contact Method of MOFCOM:

Add: No. 2 Dong Chang An Ave., Beijing, 100731

Trade Remedy and Investigation Bureau, MOFCOM

Tel: 0086-10-65197589 65198197

Fax: 0086-10-65198172

The website of Trade Remedy and Investigation Bureau: http://trb.mofcom.gov.cn

Ministry of Commerce 22 July 2024