



GENERAL INFORMATION, INSTRUCTIONS, AND DEFINITIONS FOR COMMISSION QUESTIONNAIRES

Certain Circular Welded Carbon Quality Line Pipe from China, Korea, and Mexico Investigations Nos. 731-TA-1073-1075 (Final)

Further information.--If you have any questions concerning the enclosed questionnaire(s) or other matters related to this investigation, you may contact the following members of the Commission's staff (Fax 202-205-3205):

Fred Ruggles, investigator (E-mail fred.ruggles@USITC.GOV; 202-205-3187) regarding general questions and trade and related information;

John Ascienzo, auditor (202-205-3175; E-mail john.ascienzo@USITC.GOV) regarding financial information; and

Selam Legesse, economist (202-205-3493; E-mail selam.legesse@USITC.GOV) regarding pricing, market, and related information.

GENERAL INFORMATION, INSTRUCTIONS, AND DEFINITIONS

GENERAL INFORMATION

Background.--These investigations were instituted in response to petitions filed on March 3, 2004 by American Steel Pipe Division of American Cast Iron Pipe Co. ("ACIPCO"), Birmingham, AL; IPSCO Tubulars, Inc., Camanche, IA; Lone Star Steel Co., Dallas, TX; Maverick Tube Corp., Chesterfield, MO; Northwest Pipe Co., Portland, OR; and Stupp Corp., Baton Rouge, LA. Antidumping duties may be assessed on the subject imports as a result of these investigations if the Commission makes affirmative determinations of injury, threat, or material retardation, and if the U.S. Department of Commerce makes affirmative determinations of dumping.

Additional questionnaires will be supplied promptly upon request, or photocopies of the enclosed questionnaire(s) may be used. Address all correspondence to the United States International Trade Commission, Washington, DC 20436. Hearing-impaired individuals can obtain information regarding these investigations via the Commission's TDD terminal (202-205-1810).

Due date of questionnaire(s).--Return the completed questionnaire(s) to the United States International Trade Commission by no later than **November 10, 2004**. Use of an overnight mail service may be necessary to ensure that your response actually reaches the Commission by **November 10, 2004**. Please make sure the completed questionnaire is sent to the attention of Fred Ruggles. **Return only one copy of the completed questionnaire(s), but please keep a copy for your records so that you can refer to it if the Commission staff contacts you with any questions during the course of the investigations.**

Service of questionnaire response(s).--In the event that your firm is a party to these investigations, you are required to serve a copy of the questionnaire(s), once completed, on parties to the proceeding that are subject to administrative protective order (see 19 CFR § 207.7). A list of such parties is maintained by the Commission's Secretary and may be obtained by calling 202-205-1803. A certificate of service must accompany the copy of the completed questionnaire(s) you submit (see 19 CFR § 207.7).

Confidentiality.--The commercial and financial data furnished in response to the enclosed questionnaire(s) that reveal the individual operations of your firm will be treated as confidential by the Commission to the extent that such data are not otherwise available to the public and will not be disclosed except as may be required by law (see 19 U.S.C. § 1677f). Such confidential information will not be published in a manner that will reveal the individual operations of your firm; however, nonnumerical characterizations of numerical business proprietary information (such as discussion of trends) will be treated as confidential business information only at the request of the submitter for good cause shown.

GENERAL INFORMATION, INSTRUCTIONS, AND DEFINITIONS--Continued

GENERAL INFORMATION--Continued

Verification.--The information submitted in the enclosed questionnaire(s) is subject to audit and verification by the Commission. To facilitate possible verification of data, please keep all your workpapers and supporting documents used in the preparation of the questionnaire response(s).

Release of information.--The information provided by your firm in response to the questionnaire(s), as well as any other business proprietary information submitted by your firm to the Commission in connection with the investigations, may become subject to, and released under, the administrative protective order provisions of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. § 1677f) and section 207.7 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (19 CFR § 207.7). This means that certain lawyers and other authorized individuals may temporarily be given access to the information for use in connection with these investigations or other import-injury investigations conducted by the Commission on the same or similar merchandise; those individuals would be subject to severe penalties if the information were divulged to unauthorized individuals.

INSTRUCTIONS

Answer all questions.--Do not leave any question or section blank unless a questionnaire expressly directs you to skip over certain questions or sections. If the answer to any question is "none," write "none." **If information is not readily available from your records in exactly the form requested, furnish carefully prepared estimates--designated as such by the letter "E"--and explain the basis of your estimates.** Answers to questions and any necessary comments or explanations should be supplied in the space provided or on separate sheets attached to the appropriate page of the questionnaire(s). If your firm is completing more than one questionnaire in connection with these investigations (i.e., a producer, importer, and/or purchaser questionnaire), you need not respond to duplicated questions in the questionnaires.

Consolidate all U.S. establishments.--Report the requested data for your establishment(s) located in the United States. **Firms operating more than one establishment should combine the data for all establishments into a single report.**

GENERAL INFORMATION, INSTRUCTIONS, AND DEFINITIONS--Continued

GENERAL INFORMATION--Continued

DEFINITIONS

Certain Circular Welded Carbon Quality Line Pipe (“Line Pipe”).—Circular welded carbon quality¹ steel pipe of a kind used for oil and gas pipelines, not more than 406.4 mm (16 inches) in outside diameter, regardless of wall thickness, surface finish (black, or coated with any coatings compatible with line pipe), and regardless of end finish (plain end, beveled ends for welding, threaded ends or threaded and coupled, as well as any other special end finishes), and regardless of stenciling. Line pipe is normally produced to specifications published by the American Petroleum Institute (“API”) including API A-25, 5LA, 5LB, and X grades from 42 to 80 and above, and/or any other customer specifications capable of line pipe usage. The petitions cover all pipe of a kind used in oil and gas pipelines, whether or not stenciled, and includes all multi-stenciled pipe with an API line pipe stencil. The subject merchandise is currently covered by statistical reporting numbers 7306.10.1010, 7306.10.1050, 7306.10.5010, and 7306.10.5050 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTS).²

¹ Carbon quality is defined as follows: products in which (1) iron predominates, by weight, over each of the other contained elements, (2) the carbon content is 2 percent or less, by weight, and (3) none of the elements listed below exceeds the quantity by weight respectively indicated: 1.80 percent of manganese, or 2.25 percent of silicon, or 1.00 percent of copper, or 0.50 percent of aluminum, or 1.25 percent of chromium, or 0.30 percent of cobalt, or 0.40 percent of lead, or 1.25 percent of nickel, or 0.30 percent of tungsten, or 0.10 percent of molybdenum, or 0.10 percent of niobium, or 0.15 percent of vanadium, or 0.15 percent of zirconium. The description of carbon quality is intended to identify typical products within the scope. Products should not be excluded from the scope simply because they do not strictly conform to the description of carbon quality.

² Prior to 2004, the subject merchandise was covered by statistical reporting numbers 7306.10.1013, 7306.10.1014, 7306.10.1015, 7306.10.1019, 7306.10.1053, 7306.10.1054, 7306.10.1055, 7306.10.1059, 7306.10.5013, 7306.10.5014, 7306.10.5015, 7306.10.5019, 7306.10.5053, 7306.10.5054, 7306.10.5055, and 7306.10.5059 of the HTS.

GENERAL INFORMATION, INSTRUCTIONS, AND DEFINITIONS--Continued

DEFINITIONS--Continued

Circular Welded Carbon Quality Standard and Structural Pipe and Tube (“Standard Pipe”).–

Circular welded carbon quality³ standard pipe and tube, not more than 406.4 mm (16 inches) in outside diameter, regardless of wall thickness, surface finish (black, galvanized, or painted), end finish (plain, beveled, threaded, or threaded and coupled), or industry specification (ASTM, proprietary, or other), as covered by subheadings 7306.30.10 and 7306.30.50 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTS).

Standard pipe is intended for the low-pressure conveyance of water, steam, natural gas, air, and other liquids and gases in plumbing and heating systems, air conditioning units, automatic sprinkler systems, and other related uses. Standard pipe may carry liquids at elevated temperatures but may not be subject to the application of external heat. It may also be used for light load-bearing and mechanical applications, such as for fence tubing, and for protection of electrical wiring, such as conduit shells, and for structural applications in general construction. It primarily is made to American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) A-53, A-135, and A-795 specifications, but can also be made to the British Standard (BS)-1387 specification.

Structural pipe is intended for use in the construction of bridges and buildings, and general structural applications. It also can be used for making steel scaffolding and for piling applications. It primarily is made to ASTM A-500 and A-252 specifications.

Note – Dual-certified A-53/API 5L pipe is not included in this definition (as it is already included in the definition for line pipe, above).

OCTG.– For the purposes of these investigations, oil country tubular goods (“OCTG”) are welded hollow steel products of circular cross-section, of iron (other than cast iron) or steel (both carbon and “carbon quality”), whether or not conforming to American Petroleum Institute (API) or non-API specifications, whether finished or unfinished. Welded OCTG is used below ground in the drilling and completion of oil or gas wells, and consists of casing, which is the structural retainer for the walls of oil and gas wells, and tubing, which is used within the casing to convey oil or gas to ground level.

³ Carbon quality is defined as follows: products in which (1) iron predominates, by weight, over each of the other contained elements, (2) the carbon content is 2 percent or less, by weight, and (3) none of the elements listed below exceeds the quantity by weight respectively indicated: 1.80 percent of manganese, or 2.25 percent of silicon, or 1.00 percent of copper, or 0.50 percent of aluminum, of 1.25 percent of chromium, or 0.30 percent of cobalt, or 0.40 percent of lead, or 1.25 percent of nickel, or 0.30 percent of tungsten, or 0.10 percent of molybdenum, or 0.10 percent of niobium, or 0.15 percent of vanadium, or 0.15 percent of zirconium. The description of carbon quality is intended to identify typical products within the scope. Products should not be excluded from the scope simply because they do not strictly conform to the description of carbon quality.

GENERAL INFORMATION, INSTRUCTIONS, AND DEFINITIONS--Continued

DEFINITIONS--Continued

Firm--An individual proprietorship, partnership, joint venture, association, corporation (including any subsidiary corporation), business trust, cooperative, trustee in bankruptcy, or receiver under decree of any court.

Related firm--A firm that your firm solely or jointly owned, managed, or otherwise controlled; a firm that solely or jointly owned, managed, or otherwise controlled your firm; and/or a firm that was solely or jointly owned, managed, or otherwise controlled by a firm that also solely or jointly owned, managed, or otherwise controlled your firm.

Establishment--Each facility of a firm in the United States involved in the production, importation, and/or purchase of line pipe and/or standard pipe (as defined above), including auxiliary facilities operated in conjunction with (whether or not physically separate from) such facilities.

United States--For purposes of these investigations, the 50 States, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the District of Columbia.

U.S. geographic market area--For purposes of these investigations, the following U.S. geographic market areas are defined below:

Northeast--Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

Midwest--Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin.

Southeast--Alabama, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia.

Central Southwest--Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas.

Mountains--Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming.

Pacific Coast--California, Oregon, and Washington.

Contiguous U.S.--Refers to the largest part of the United States that is delimited by a continuous border. Specifically, this includes 48 states (excluding Alaska and Hawaii) and the District of Columbia.

Other--Examples of other U.S. geographic market areas not previously listed may include Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

GENERAL INFORMATION, INSTRUCTIONS, AND DEFINITIONS--Continued

DEFINITIONS--Continued

Importer--Any person or firm engaged, either directly or through a parent company or subsidiary, in importing line pipe and/or standard pipe (as defined above) into the United States from a foreign manufacturer or through its selling agent.

Imports--Those products identified for Customs purposes as imports for consumption for which your firm was the importer of record (i.e., was responsible for paying any import duty) or consignee (i.e., to which the merchandise was first delivered).

Import quantities--Quantities reported should be net of returns.

Import values--Values reported should be landed, duty-paid values at the U.S. port of entry, including ocean freight and insurance costs, brokerage charges, and import duties (i.e., all charges except inland freight in the United States).

Purchaser--Any person or firm engaged, either directly or through a parent company or subsidiary, in purchasing line pipe and/or standard pipe (as defined above) from another firm that produces, imports, or otherwise distributes line pipe and/or standard pipe .

Purchases--Purchases from all sources, NOT including direct imports from foreign producers (which should be reported in an importer questionnaire).

Purchase quantities--Quantities reported should be net of returns.

Purchase values--Values reported should be net values (i.e., gross purchase values less all discounts, allowances, rebates, and the value of returned goods), delivered to your U.S. receiving point.

Shipments--Shipments of products produced in or imported by your U.S. establishment(s). Include shipments to the contracting firm of product produced by your firm under a toll agreement.

Shipment quantities--Quantities reported should be net of returns.

Shipment values--Values reported should be net values (i.e., gross sales values less all discounts, allowances, rebates, prepaid freight, and the value of returned goods), f.o.b. your U.S. point of shipment. The value of domestic shipments to the contracting firm under a toll agreement is the conversion fee (including profit).

GENERAL INFORMATION, INSTRUCTIONS, AND DEFINITIONS--Continued

DEFINITIONS--Continued

Types of shipments:

U.S. shipments.--Commercial shipments, internal consumption, and transfers to related firms within the United States.

Commercial shipments.--Shipments, other than internal consumption and transfers to related firms, within the United States.

Internal consumption.--Product consumed internally by your firm.

Transfers to related firms.--Shipments made to related domestic firms.

Export shipments.--Shipments to destinations outside the United States, including shipments to related firms.

Inventories.--Finished goods inventory, not raw materials or work-in-progress.

The following definitions apply only to the PRODUCER QUESTIONNAIRE.

Average production capacity.--The level of production that your establishment(s) could reasonably have expected to attain during the specified periods. Assume normal operating conditions (i.e., using equipment and machinery in place and ready to operate; normal operating levels (hours per week/weeks per year) and time for downtime, maintenance, repair, and cleanup; and a typical or representative product mix).

Toll agreement.--Agreement between two firms whereby the first firm furnishes the raw materials and the second firm uses the raw materials to produce a product that it then returns to the first firm with a charge for processing costs, overhead, etc.

Production.--All production in your U.S. establishment(s), including production consumed internally within your firm and production for another firm under a toll agreement.

PRWs.--Production and related workers, including working supervisors and all nonsupervisory workers (including group leaders and trainees) engaged in fabricating, processing, assembling, inspecting, receiving, storage, handling, packing, warehousing, shipping, trucking, hauling, maintenance, repair, janitorial and guard services, product development, auxiliary production for plant's own use (e.g., power plant), recordkeeping, and other services closely associated with the above production operations.

GENERAL INFORMATION, INSTRUCTIONS, AND DEFINITIONS--Continued

DEFINITIONS--Continued

Average number employed.--Add the number of employees, both full-time and part-time, for the 12 pay periods ending closest to the 15th of the month and divide that total by 12. For the January-September periods, calculate similarly and divide by 9.

Hours worked.--Include time paid for sick leave, holidays, and vacation time. Include overtime hours actually worked; do not convert overtime pay to its equivalent in straight-time hours.

Wages paid.--Total wages paid before deductions of any kind (e.g., withholding taxes, old-age and unemployment insurance, group insurance, union dues, bonds, etc.). Include wages paid directly by your firm for overtime, holidays, vacations, and sick leave.

Fiscal year.--The 12-month period between settlement of your firm's financial accounts.

Purchases other than direct imports.--Purchases from U.S. producers, U.S. importers, and other U.S. sources.