

UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION
Washington, DC 20436

**MEMORANDUM ON PROPOSED TARIFF LEGISLATION
of the 109th Congress¹**

[Date approved: September 23, 2005]²

Bill No. and sponsor: H.R. 1715 (Mr. Mike McIntyre of North Carolina).

Proponent name, location: Fortron Industries, Wilmington, NC
Celanese Corp., Dallas, TX.³

Other bills on product (109th Congress only): None.

Nature of bill: Temporary duty reduction through December 31, 2008.

Retroactive effect: None.

Suggested article description(s) for enactment (including appropriate HTS subheading(s)):

p-Dichlorobenzene (CAS No. 106-46-7) (provided for in subheading 2903.61.30).

Check one: Same as that in bill as introduced
 Different from that in bill as introduced (explain differences in Technical
 comments section)

Product information, including uses/applications and source(s) of imports:

Celanese uses p-dichlorobenzene, PDCB, as an intermediate in the production of linear thermoplastic polymer products known under the trade name Fortron. The generic name for this class of plastics is polyphenylene sulfide (PPS). PDCB is also used in plastics used in the electronic controls of hybrid cars and in the production of bag filters in coal-fired power plants. PDCB is also used in toilet deodorizers, insecticides, pest fumigants and for many other uses.

PDCB is imported from Germany, China, India and Japan.

Estimated effect on customs revenue:

¹ Industry analyst preparing report: Jack Greenblatt (202-205-3353); Tariff Affairs contact: David Michels (202-205-3440).

² Access to an electronic copy of this memorandum is available at www.usitc.gov/tata/hts/other/rel_doc/bill_reports/index.htm.

³ Fortron Industries is a joint venture between Ticona and Kureha Chemical of Japan. Ticona is the engineering plastics division of Celanese Corp.

HTS subheading: 2903.61.30					
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Col. 1-General rate of duty change	5.5%	5.5%	5.5%	5.5%	5.5%
Estimated value <i>dutiable</i> imports	\$11,388,045	\$12,128,268	\$12,916,605	\$13,756,185	\$14,650,337
Customs revenue loss ^{1/}	\$512,462	\$545,772	\$581,247	\$619,028	\$659,265

^{1/}The estimated revenue losses are based on a temporary duty reduction from 5.5 percent ad valorem to 1.0 percent ad valorem. A significant increase in imports during January-April 2005, reported in official U.S. Government statistics, may indicate that imports will increase faster than the projections shown above.

Source of estimated dutiable import data: U.S. Government statistics and industry estimates.

Contacts with domestic firms/organizations (including the proponent):

Name of firm/organization	Date contacted	US production of same or competitive product claimed?	Submission attached?	Opposition noted?
		(Yes/No)		
Celanese Corp./Fortron Industries (proponent) Robert Carpenter Tel: 202-637-3469	6/22/2005	No	No	No
PPG Industries Judith Maskrey Tel: 412-434-2476	6/21/2005	Yes	Yes	Yes

Technical comments:⁴

None.

⁴ The Commission may express an opinion on the HTS classification of a product to facilitate consideration of the bill. However, by law, only the U.S. Customs Service is authorized to issue a binding ruling on this matter. The Commission believes that the U.S. Customs Service should be consulted prior to enactment of the bill.

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1715

To reduce until December 31, 2008, the duty on PDCB (p-Dichlorobenzene).

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 20, 2005

Mr. MCINTYRE introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on Ways and Means

A BILL

To reduce until December 31, 2008, the duty on PDCB
(p-Dichlorobenzene).

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. TEMPORARY REDUCTION OF DUTY ON PDCB.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter II of chapter 99 of
5 the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States is
6 amended by inserting in numerical sequence the following
7 new heading:

“	9902.04.81	p-Dichlorobenzene (CAS No. 106-46-7) (provided for in subheading 2903.61.30)	1.0%	No change	No change	On or before 12/31/2008	”.
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8 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by
9 subsection (a) applies with respect to articles entered, or

- 1 withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, on or after
- 2 the 15th day after the date of the enactment of this Act.

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