countervailing duties required on those entries at the time of entry, or withdrawal from warehouse, for consumption and to continue to collect the cash deposit previously ordered.

This notice is not required by statute but is published as a service to the international trading community.

Dated: June 3, 1998.

Louis Apple,

Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Import Administration.

[FR Doc. 98–15468 Filed 6–9–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–DS–M

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[A–427–098]

Anhydrous Sodium Metasilicate from France; Notice of Recission of Antidumping Duty Administrative Review

AGENCY: Import Administration, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of recission of antidumping duty administrative review.

SUMMARY: On February 27, 1998, the Department of Commerce published in the **Federal Register** (63 FR 10002) a notice announcing the initiation of an administrative review of the antidumping duty order on anhydrous sodium metasilicate from France. This review covered the period from January 1, 1997 through December 31, 1997. The Department of Commerce has now rescinded this review as a result of the absence of shipments and entries into the United States of subject merchandise during the period of review.

EFFECTIVE DATE: June 10, 1998.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mark Ross or Richard Rimlinger, Import Administration, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230; telephone (202) 482–4733.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The Department of Commerce (the Department) published in the **Federal Register** on January 12, 1998 (63 FR 1820) a ''Notice of Opportunity to Request Administrative Review'' of the antidumping duty order on anhydrous sodium metasilicate (ASM) from France (46 FR 1667, January 7, 1981). On January 22, 1998, the PQ Corporation, the petitioner, requested an administrative review of Rhone-Poulenc, a manufacturer/exporter of ASM. The Department initiated the review on February 27, 1998 (63 FR 10002). On March 16, 1998, Rhodia Chimie, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Rhone-Poulenc that is responsible for Rhone-Poulenc's speciality chemical, fiber, and polymer businesses, submitted a letter explaining that the company did not export the subject merchandise to the United States during the period of review (POR). On April 3, 1998, the Department sent a no-shipment inquiry regarding Rhone-Poulenc to the Customs Service. The purpose of this inquiry was to determine whether the Customs Service suspended liquidation of entry summaries of this merchandise during the POR. The Customs Service did not identify any suspended entry summaries of ASM manufactured and/or exported by Rhone-Poulenc during the POR. Therefore, we have determined that there were no entries of subject merchandise into the customs territory of the United States during the POR and we are rescinding this review in accordance with 19 CFR 351.213(d)(3). The cash-deposit rate for Rhone-Poulenc will remain at 60 percent, the rate established in the most recently completed segment of this proceeding (61 FR 44038, August 27, 1996). This notice is being published in accordance with section 777(i) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended.

Dated: June 4, 1998.

Richard W. Moreland,

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Import Administration.

[FR Doc. 98–15475 Filed 6–9–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–DS–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[A–570–808]

Chrome-Plated Lug Nuts From the People's Republic of China; Preliminary Results of Antidumping Duty Administrative Review

AGENCY: Import Administration, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of preliminary results of the antidumping duty administrative review of chrome-plated lug nuts from the People's Republic of China.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce (the Department) is conducting an administrative review of the antidumping duty order on chrome-plated lug nuts (lug nuts) from the People's Republic of China (PRC) in response to a request by petitioner, Consolidated International Automotive, Inc. (Consolidated). This review covers shipments of this merchandise to the United States during the period of September 1, 1996 through August 31, 1997.

We have preliminarily determined that sales have been made below normal value (NV). If these preliminary results are adopted in our final results, we will instruct the U.S. Customs Service to assess antidumping duties based on the difference between export price and NV.

Interested parties are invited to comment on these preliminary results. Parties who submit argument are requested to submit with each argument (1) a statement of the issue and (2) a brief summary of the argument.

EFFECTIVE DATE: June 10, 1998.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Eric Scheier or Maureen Flannery, Antidumping/Countervailing Duty Enforcement, Import Administration, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington D.C. 20230; telephone (202) 482–4733.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Applicable Statute

Unless otherwise indicated, all citations to the statute are references to the provisions effective January 1, 1995, the effective date of the amendments made to the Tariff Act of 1930 (the Act) by the Uruguay Round Agreements Act. In addition, unless otherwise indicated, all citations to the Department's regulations are references to the regulations as codified at 19 CFR Part 351 (62 FR 27379, May 19, 1997).

Background

The Department published in the **Federal Register** an antidumping duty order on lug nuts from the PRC on April 24, 1992 (57 FR 15052). On August 29, 1997, the Department published in the **Federal Register** (62 FR 45794) a notice of opportunity to request an administrative review of the antidumping order on lug nuts from the PRC covering the period September 1, 1996 through August 31, 1997.

On September 29, 1997, in accordance with 19 CFR 351.213(b)(1), Consolidated requested that we conduct an administrative review of the following PRC firms:

China National Automotive Industry I/E Corp.

China National Machinery & Equipment I/E Corp., Jiangsu Branch

Shanghai Automobile Import & Export Corp.
Tianjin Automobile Import & Export Co.
Ningbo Knives & Scissors Factory
China National Automobile Import & Export Corp., Yangzhou Branch
Jiangsu Rudong Grease Gun Factory
China National Automotive Industry I/E Corp., Nantong Branch

We published a notice of initiation of this antidumping duty administrative review on November 26, 1997 (62 FR 63069). The Department is conducting this administrative review in accordance with section 751 of the Act.

Scope of Review

The products covered by the order and this review are one-piece and two-piece chrome-plated and nickel-plated lug nuts from the PRC. The subject merchandise includes chrome-plated and nickel-plated lug nuts, finished or unfinished, which are more than 11/16 inches (17.45 millimeters) in height and which have a hexagonal (hx) size of at least 3/4 inches (19.05 millimeters) but not over one inch (25.4 millimeters), plus or minus 1/16 of an inch (1.59 millimeters). The term ''unfinished'' refers to unplated and/or unassembled chrome-plated lug nuts. The subject merchandise is used for securing wheels to cars, vans, trucks, utility vehicles, and trailers. Excluded from the order are zinc-plated lug nuts, finished or unfinished, stainless-steel capped lug nuts, and chrome-plated lock nuts.

The merchandise under review is currently classifiable under item 7318.16.00 of the *Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States* (HTSUS). Although the HTSUS subheading is provided for convenience and customs purposes, the written description of the merchandise is dispositive.

This review covers the period September 1, 1996 through August 31, 1997.

Facts Available

We preliminarily determine that, in accordance with section 776(a) of the Act, the use of facts available is appropriate for the following firms:

China National Automotive Industry I/E Corp.
China National Machinery & Equipment I/E Corp., Jiangsu Branch
Tianjin Automobile Import & Export Co.
Ningbo Knives & Scissors Factory
China National Automobile Import & Export Corp., Yangzhou Branch
China National Automotive Industry I/E Corp. Nantong Branch

Two of the above firms, the Tianjin Automobile Import & Export Co. and the Ningbo Knives & Scissors Factory, had mailing addresses that were undeliverable. *See* memorandum to the file dated December 9, 1997, ''Chrome-Plated Lug Nuts from the People's Republic of China.''

Neither the PRC Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation (MOFTEC) nor the Embassy of the PRC in Washington, DC gave us any indication that any of the addresses for the eight firms listed above was incorrect. See Letter to MOFTEC dated November 11, 1997 and Letter to the Embassy of the PRC dated November 11, 1997. In the letter to the Embassy of the PRC we requested that the Embassy of the PRC provide the names, addresses, phone numbers, and appropriate contact persons for each company in the PRC that produced and/or exported the subject merchandise during the POR, and that they include the names of any foreign corporations engaged in joint ventures and/or partnerships with each company. We included in the letter to the Embassy of the PRC a copy of the letters and questionnaire sent to each of the firms. We included all of the above in the letter to MOFTEC, including the letter to the Embassy of the PRC, and requested, if MOFTEC believed that the Embassy of the PRC was not the proper party to respond to this questionnaire, or wished to have another person or organization act as the Department's contact for this review, that MOFTEC provide the name and address of that person or organization. Neither MOFTEC nor the Embassy of the PRC responded to these letters.

Furthermore, the addresses to which we sent the questionnaires were identical to the addresses to which the questionnaires were sent in the most recent review, with the exception of the China National Automotive Industry I/E Corp. Nantong Branch (Nantong). In the 1994–95 administrative review of lug nuts, we addressed the questionnaire to Nantong's counsel. Because Nantong does not have counsel in this current review, we mailed the questionnaire to Nantong's business address as reported in the public version of their February 13, 1995 questionnaire response for the 1994–95 review. We were unable to find any more recent information regarding the two undeliverable addresses. See Memoranda to the File dated November 25, 1997 and June 1, 1998. Because necessary information is not available on the record with regard to sales by six firms during the period of review, the use of facts available for these six firms is warranted.

Where a respondent has failed to cooperate to the best of its ability, section 776(b) of the Act authorizes the Department to use facts available that are adverse to the interests of that respondent, which include information derived from the petition, the final determination, a previous administrative review, or other information placed on the record.

Because information from prior proceedings constitutes secondary information, section 776(c) of the Act provides that the Department shall, to the extent practicable, corroborate that secondary information from independent sources reasonably at its disposal. The Statement of Administrative Action (SAA) notes that ''corroborate'' means simply that the Department will satisfy itself that the secondary information to be used has probative value. H.#Doc. No. 316, Vol. 1, 103d Cong., 2d Sess. 870 (1994).

To corroborate secondary information, the Department will, to the extent practicable, examine the reliability and relevance of the information to be used. However, unlike other types of information, such as surrogate values, there are no independent sources for calculated dumping margins. The only source for calculated margins is administrative determinations. Thus, in an administrative review, if the Department chooses as total adverse facts available a calculated dumping margin from a prior segment of the proceeding, it is not necessary to question the reliability of the margin for that time period. With respect to the relevance aspect of corroboration, however, the Department will consider information reasonably at its disposal as to whether there are circumstances that would render a margin not relevant. Where circumstances indicate that the selected margin is not appropriate as adverse facts available, the Department will disregard the margin and determine an appropriate margin. (*See, e.g., Fresh Cut Flowers from Mexico; Final Results of Antidumping Duty Administrative Review*, 61 FR 6812 (February 22, 1996), where the Department disregarded the highest margin as best information available because that margin was based on an uncharacteristic business expense, which resulted in the high margin.) In this case, we have used the highest rate from this or any prior segment of the proceeding, 44.99 percent, which was the rate calculated for Nantong in the 1992–93 review, and which is the PRC-wide rate currently in effect. *See Chrome-Plated Lug Nuts From the People's Republic of China; Final Results of Antidumping Duty Administrative Review*, 61 FR 58519 (November 15, 1996). There is no information on the record that indicates that this rate is not appropriate. Because these firms are part of the PRC entity, this rate remains the PRC rate.

The Shanghai Automobile Import & Export Co. (Shanghai), which was not assigned a separate rate in any previous review, reported in its letter of December 3, 1997 that it did not export subject merchandise to the United States during the period of review. Because Shanghai has not been given a separate rate in any previous segment of this proceeding, and because there is no information on the record by which we might determine whether Shanghai should be considered for a separate rate in this review, we are considering Shanghai part of the PRC entity, and assigning it the PRC-wide rate of 44.99 percent.

Separate Rates

Of the firms named in the initiation of the administrative review, the only one to respond to the separate rate section of the Department's antidumping questionnaire was the Jiangsu Rudong Grease Gun Factory (Rudong). Therefore, only Rudong was considered for a separate rate.

To establish whether a company operating in a state-controlled economy is sufficiently independent to be entitled to a separate rate, the Department analyzes each exporting entity under the test established in the *Final Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value: Sparklers from the People's Republic of China*, 56 FR 20588 (May 6, 1991), as amplified by the *Final Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value: Silicon Carbide from the People's Republic of China*, 59 FR 22585 (May 2, 1994). Under this policy, exporters in non-market economies (NMEs) are entitled to separate, company-specific margins when they can demonstrate an absence of government control, both in law and in fact, with respect to export activities. Evidence supporting, though not requiring, a finding of *de jure* absence of government control over export activities includes: (1) An absence of restrictive stipulations associated with an individual exporter's business and export licenses; (2) any legislative enactments decentralizing control of companies; and (3) any other formal measures by the government decentralizing control of companies. *De facto* absence of government control over exports is based on four factors: (1) Whether each exporter sets its own export prices independently of the government and without the approval of a government authority; (2) whether each exporter retains the proceeds from its sales and makes independent decisions regarding the disposition of profits or financing of losses; (3) whether each exporter has the authority to negotiate and sign contracts and other agreements; and (4) whether each exporter has autonomy from the government regarding the selection of management.

With respect to the absence of *de jure* government control over export activities, evidence on the record indicates that Rudong is a collectively-owned enterprise, does not coordinate with other exporters and has no relationship with the national, provincial or local levels of the PRC government. As a collectively-owned enterprise, Rudong has the legal right to set prices independent of all government oversight, as codified by *Chinese Law for Foreign Businesses*, Ch. 3 Art. 26. *Chinese Law for Foreign Businesses* and ''Excerpts from Regulations for Transformation of Operational Mechanism of State-Owned Industrial Enterprises,'' published in the December, 1992 edition of *The Bulletin of the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade of the People's Republic of China*, both of which regulate the operation of PRC collectively-owned industrial enterprises, are attached to *Memorandum to the File* dated June 2, 1998, ''Chrome-Plated Lug Nuts from the People's Republic of China: Laws and Regulations Governing Business Practices in the PRC.''

With respect to the absence of *de facto* control over export activities, Rudong's management is responsible for all decisions such as the determination of its export prices, profit distribution, marketing strategy, and contract negotiations. For more information, *see Separate Rate Analysis in the Administrative Review of Chrome-Plated Lug Nuts from the People's Republic of China* dated June 2, 1998 (*Separate Rates Memorandum*), which is on file in the Central Records Unit (room B099 of the Main Commerce Building).

Because evidence on the record demonstrates an absence of government control, both in law and in fact, over Rudong's export activities, the Department preliminarily grants Rudong a separate rate. For further discussion of the Department's preliminary determination that Rudong is entitled to a separate rate, *see Separate Rates Memorandum*.

United States Price

For sales made by Rudong, we based United States price on export price, in accordance with section 772(a) of the Act, because the subject merchandise was sold to unaffiliated purchasers in the United States prior to importation into the United States, and because constructed export price is not indicated by other facts of record.

We calculated export price based on the price to unaffiliated purchasers. We deducted an amount for foreign inland freight, insurance, and, for sales made on a CIF basis, international (ocean) freight. We selected India for all surrogate values with the exception of international freight, for the reasons explained in the ''Normal Value'' section of this notice.

We valued movement expenses as follows:

- To value truck freight, we used the rates reported in an April 20, 1994 newspaper article in the ''Times of India'' and submitted for the *Final Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value: Polyvinyl Alcohol From the People's Republic of China*, 60 FR 52647 (October 10, 1995). We adjusted the rates to reflect inflation through the POR using WPI published by the IMF.
- Where ocean freight was sourced from a market economy and paid for in a market-economy currency, we used the actual prices paid to the market-economy carriers; where ocean freight was provided by a nonmarket-economy carrier, we used a weighted average of the prices paid to the market-economy carriers. *See Final Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value: Manganese Sulphate from the People's Republic of China*, 60 FR 52155 (October 5, 1995).
- We valued marine insurance using the average rate in effect during the period November 1991 through April 1992. This rate was reported in public information placed on the record for the *Final Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value: Sulfur Dyes, Including Sulfur Vat Dyes, From India*, 58 FR 11835 (March 1, 1993). We adjusted this rate to reflect inflation through the POR using WPI published by the IMF.

Normal Value

For companies located in NME countries, section 773(c)(1) of the Act provides that the Department shall determine NV using a factors-of-production methodology if (1) the merchandise is exported from an NME country, and (2) available information does not permit the calculation of NV using home-market prices, third-country prices, or constructed value under section 773(a) of the Act.

In every case conducted by the Department involving the PRC, the PRC has been treated as an NME country. Pursuant to section 771(18)(C)(i) of the Act, any determination that a foreign country is an NME country shall remain in effect until revoked by the administering authority. None of the

parties to this proceeding has contested such treatment in this review. Accordingly, we have applied surrogate values to the factors of production to determine NV.

We calculated NV based on factors of production in accordance with section 773(c)(4) of the Act and section 351.408(c) of our regulations. We determined that India 1) is comparable to the PRC in terms of level of economic development, and 2) is a significant producer of comparable merchandise. *See Memorandum to the File* dated January 29, 1998, ''Chrome-Plated Lug Nuts from the People's Republic of China—Significant Production in India of Comparable Merchandise.'' Therefore, for this review, we used publicly available information relating to India to value the various factors of production. *See Memorandum to the File from Eric Scheier*, dated June 2, 1998, ''Factor Values Used for the Preliminary Results of the 1996–1997 Administrative Review of Chrome Plated Lug Nuts from the People's Republic of China.''

We valued the factors of production as follows:

- For steel wire rods, we used a per kilogram value obtained from the *Monthly Statistics of Foreign Trade of India* (*Indian Import Statistics*). Using wholesale price indices (WPI) obtained from the *International Financial Statistics*, published by the International Monetary Fund (IMF), we adjusted these values to reflect inflation through the period of review (POR). We made further adjustments to include freight costs incurred between the supplier and Rudong. For transportation distances used for the calculation of freight expenses on raw materials, we added to surrogate values from India a surrogate freight cost using the shorter of (a) the distances between the closest PRC port and the factory, or (b) the distance between the domestic supplier and the factory. *See Notice of Final Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value: Collated Roofing Nails From the People's Republic of China*, 62 FR 51410 (October 1, 1997) (*Roofing Nails*).
- For chemicals used in the production and plating of lug nuts, we used per kilogram values obtained from the Indian publication *Chemical Weekly* and the *Indian Import Statistics*. We adjusted the Indian Import Statistics rates to reflect inflation through the POR using WPI published by the IMF. We made further adjustments to include freight costs incurred between the suppliers and Rudong, and to deduct sales and excise taxes from the prices listed in the *Chemical Weekly*. We obtained excise tax figures from the *Central Excise Tariff of India 1995–1996* and sales tax figures from the *All India Sales Tax Ready Reckoner: 1996 Edition*.
- For hydrochloric acid, we relied on the price used in the *Final Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value: Certain Helical Spring Lock Washers from the People's Republic of China (Lock Washers)* (62 FR 61794, November 19, 1997) because the *Indian Import Statistics* rely on an Indian tariff category that also encompasses hydrogen chloride in gaseous form. This price is derived from prices listed in the *Chemical Weekly* for the period of October 1995 through September 1996, and excludes prices that were found to be aberrational in *Lock Washers*. We adjusted this value to reflect inflation through the POR using WPI published by the IMF. We made further adjustments to include freight costs incurred between the supplier and Rudong.
- For labor, we used the PRC regression-based wage rate at Import Administration's homepage, Import Library, Expected Wages of Selected NME Countries, revised on June 2, 1997. *See* http://www.ita.doc.gov/import__admin/records/wages. Because of the variability of wage rates in countries with similar per capita GDPs, section 351.408(c)(3) of the Department's regulations requires the use of a regression-based wage rate. The source of these wage rate data on the Import Administration's homepage is found in the *1996 Year Book of Labour Statistics*, International Labour Office (''ILO'') (Geneva: 1996), Chapter 5B: Wages in Manufacturing.
- For factory overhead, we used information reported in the April 1995 *Reserve Bank of India Bulletin* for the Indian metals and chemicals industries. From this information, we were able to determine factory overhead as a percentage of the total cost of manufacture.
- For selling, general and administrative (SG&A) expenses, we used information obtained from the April 1995 *Reserve Bank of India Bulletin* for the Indian metals and chemicals industries. We calculated an SG&A rate by dividing SG&A expenses by the cost of manufacture.
- To calculate a profit rate, we used information obtained from the April 1995 *Reserve Bank of India Bulletin* for the Indian metals and chemicals industries. We calculated a profit rate by dividing the before-tax profit by the cost of manufacturing plus SG&A.
- For packing materials, we used per kilogram values obtained from the *Indian Import Statistics*. We adjusted these values to reflect inflation through the POR using WPI published by the IMF. We made further adjustments to include freight costs incurred between the suppliers and Rudong.
- To value electricity, we used the average price of electricity as of July 1995 published in *India's Energy Sector* by the Center for Monitoring the Indian Economy. We adjusted the value of electricity to reflect inflation through the POR using the WPI published by the IMF.
- Although Rudong did report banking charges, which it explains are incurred in connection with the collection of receivables, we are not allowing this adjustment. It is the Department's current practice not to make circumstance-of-sale adjustments in NME cases. The Department does not adjust for differences in selling expenses because there is insufficient detail about the selling expenses included in the surrogate SG&A to make an adjustment. *See Final Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value: Manganese Metal from the People's Republic of China* 60 FR 56045, 50–51 (November 6, 1995).

Currency Conversion

We made currency conversions pursuant to section 351.415 of the Department's regulations at the rates certified by the Federal Reserve Bank.

Preliminary Results of Review

We preliminarily determine that the following dumping margins exist:

Manufacturer/Exporter	Time period	Margin (percent)
Jiangsu Rudong Grease Gun Factory	09/01/96–08/31/97	5.44
PRC rate	09/01/96–08/31/97	44.99

Parties to the proceeding may request disclosure within 5 days of the date of publication of this notice in accordance with 19 CFR 351.224(b). Any interested party may request a hearing within 30 days of publication in accordance with 19 CFR 351.310(c). Any hearing, if requested, will be held 39 days after the publication of this notice, or the first workday thereafter. Interested parties may submit case briefs within 30 days of the date of publication of this notice in accordance with 19 CFR 351.309(b)(2)(ii). Rebuttal briefs, which must be limited to issues raised in the case briefs, may be filed not later than 37 days after the date of publication. The Department will publish a notice of final results of this administrative review, which will include the results of

its analysis of issues raised in any such comments.

The Department shall determine, and the U.S. Customs Service shall assess, antidumping duties on all appropriate entries. Individual differences between export price and NV may vary from the percentage stated above. We have calculated importer-specific duty assessment rates for lug nuts by dividing the total dumping margins (calculated as the difference between NV and EP) for each importer/customer by the total number of units sold to that importer/customer. We will direct Customs to assess the resulting per-unit dollar amount against each unit of merchandise in each of the importer's/customer's entries during the review period.

Furthermore, the following deposit rate will be effective upon publication of the final results of this administrative review for all shipments of lug nuts from the PRC entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after the publication date, as provided for by section 751(a)(2)(C) of the Act: (1) For Rudong, which has a separate rate, the cash deposit rate will be 5.44 percent; (2) for all other PRC exporters, the rate will be the PRC country-wide rate; and (3) for non-PRC exporters of subject merchandise from the PRC, the cash deposit rate will be the rate applicable to the PRC supplier of that exporter.

These deposit rates, when imposed, shall remain in effect until publication of the final results of the next administrative review.

This notice also serves as a preliminary reminder to importers of their responsibility under 19 CFR 351.402(f) to file a certificate regarding the reimbursement of antidumping duties prior to liquidation of the relevant entries during this review period. Failure to comply with this requirement could result in the Secretary's presumption that reimbursement of antidumping duties occurred and the subsequent assessment of double antidumping duties.

This determination is issued and published in accordance with sections 751(a)(1) and 777(i)(1) of the Act.

Dated: June 2, 1998.

Robert S. LaRussa,

Assistant Secretary for Import Administration.

[FR Doc. 98–15471 Filed 6–9–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–DS–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[A–580–809]

Circular Welded Non-Alloy Steel Pipe From the Republic of Korea; Rescission of Antidumping Duty Administrative Review and Clarification of Final Results of Changed Circumstances Review

AGENCY: Import Administration, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce

ACTION: Notice of rescission of antidumping duty administrative review and clarification of final results of antidumping duty changed circumstances review.

SUMMARY: In response to timely withdrawals of request for review by Hyundai Pipe Co. Ltd., Korea Iron and Steel Co., Ltd., SeAH Steel Corporation and Shinho Steel Co., Ltd., the Department of Commerce is rescinding the 1996/1997 antidumping duty administrative review of circular welded non-alloy steel pipe from the Republic of Korea. Also, we are clarifying the cash deposit rate for SeAH Steel Corporation which was incorrectly stated in the final results of antidumping duty changed circumstances review published April 27, 1998.

EFFECTIVE DATE: June 10, 1998.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Marian Wells or Cynthia Thirumalai, Import Administration, International Trade Administration, US Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington DC 20230; telephone (202) 482–6309 and 482–4087 respectively.

The Applicable Statute and Regulations

Unless otherwise indicated, all citations to the statute are references to the provisions effective January 1, 1995, the effective date of the amendments made to the Tariff Act of 1930 (the Act) by the Uruguay Round Agreements Act (URAA). In addition, unless otherwise indicated, all citations to the Department of Commerce's (the Department's) regulations refer to the regulations, codified at 19 CFR part 351 published in 62 FR 27295 (May 19, 1997).

Scope of Review

The merchandise subject to this review is circular welded non-alloy steel pipe and tube, of circular cross-section, not more than 406.4mm (16 inches) in outside diameter, regardless of wall thickness, surface finish (black, galvanized, or painted), or end finish (plain end, beveled end, threaded, or threaded and coupled). These pipes and tubes are generally known as standard pipes and tubes and are 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 also be used for light load-bearing applications, such as for fence tubing, and as structural pipe tubing used for framing and as support members for reconstruction or load-bearing purposes in the construction, shipbuilding, trucking, farm equipment, and other related industries. Unfinished conduit pipe is also included in this order.

All carbon-steel pipes and tubes within the physical description outlined above are included within the scope of this review except line pipe, oil-country tubular goods, boiler tubing, mechanical tubing, pipe and tube hollows for redraws, finished scaffolding, and finished conduit. In accordance with the Department's *Final Negative Determination of Scope Inquiry on Certain Circular Welded Non-Alloy Steel Pipe and Tube from Brazil, the Republic of Korea, Mexico, and Venezuela* (61 FR 11608, March 21, 1996), pipe certified to the API 5L line-pipe specification and pipe certified to both the API 5L line-pipe specifications and the less-stringent ASTM A–53 standard-pipe specifications, which falls within the physical parameters as outlined above, and entered as line pipe of a kind used for oil and gas pipelines is outside of the scope of the antidumping duty order.

Imports of these products are currently classifiable under the following Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) subheadings: 7306.30.10.00, 7306.30.50.25, 7306.30.50.32, 7306.30.50.40, 7306.30.50.55, 7306.30.50.85, and 7306.30.50.90. Although the HTSUS subheadings are provided for convenience and customs purposes, our written description of the scope of this proceeding is dispositive.

Recession of 1996/97Antidumping Duty Administrative Review

On December 23, 1997, we published our *Notice of Initiation of Antidumping and Countervailing Administrative Reviews* (62 FR 246). Subsequently, we received timely withdrawals of request for review from Hyundai Pipe Co. Ltd., Korea Iron and Steel Co., Ltd., SeAH Steel Corporation (''SeAH'') and Shinho Steel Co., Ltd. Because there was no other request for review for these