

EXPLANATION OF COMMISSION DETERMINATION ON ADEQUACY

in

Carbon and Alloy Seamless Standard, Line, and Pressure Pipe from the Czech Republic, Japan, Mexico, Romania, and South Africa, Inv. Nos. 731-TA-846-850 (Review)

On August 5, 2005, the Commission unanimously determined that it should proceed to a full review in the subject five-year reviews pursuant to section 751(c)(3)(B) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended, 19 U.S.C. §1675(c)(3)(B).

The Commission unanimously determined¹ that the domestic interested party group response to the notice of institution was adequate. The Commission received an adequate response filed jointly on behalf of three producers: United States Steel Corp., Koppel Steel Corp. and V&M STAR. Because the Commission received an adequate response from domestic producers accounting for a substantial percentage of U.S. production of small diameter pipe and all of the production of large diameter pipe, the Commission determined that the domestic interested party group response was adequate.

With respect to the reviews pertaining to the Czech Republic, Mexico, Romania, and South Africa, the Commission unanimously determined² that the respondent interested party group responses were adequate and determined to conduct full reviews. Foreign producers of small diameter subject pipe, Mittal Steel Ostrava, Mittal Steel Roman and Mittal Steel South Africa, filed an adequate joint response on behalf of respondents from the Czech Republic, Romania and South Africa. S.C. Silcotub S.A., a producer and exporter of small diameter pipe in Romania, also submitted an adequate response. These producers account for a majority of the production of small diameter pipe in the Czech Republic and Romania, and all of the production of small diameter pipe in South Africa. Tubos de Acero de Mexico S.A., a producer of large diameter pipe in Mexico that accounts for all Mexican production, submitted an adequate response as well.

As pertains to the review regarding Japan, only NKK Tubes, a producer of small and large diameter pipe in Japan that accounts for a minority of production of both small and large diameter Japanese pipe, filed a response. The Commission unanimously determined that the respondent interested party group response was inadequate.³ However, the Commission determined to conduct a full review in order to promote administrative efficiency in light of its decision to conduct full reviews with respect to carbon and alloy seamless standard, line, and pressure pipe from the Czech Republic, Mexico, Romania, and South Africa.

A record of the Commissioners' votes is available from the Office of the Secretary and at the Commission's web site.

¹Commissioner Miller did not participate.

²Commissioner Miller did not participate.

³Commissioner Miller did not participate.