



FACT SHEET

Commerce Preliminarily Finds Dumping of Imports of Polyethylene Terephthalate Sheet from Korea and Oman

- On February 26, 2020, the Department of Commerce (Commerce) announced its affirmative preliminary determinations in the antidumping duty (AD) investigations of imports of polyethylene terephthalate sheet (PET Sheet) from Korea and Oman.
- The AD law provides U.S. businesses and workers with a transparent, quasi-judicial, and internationally accepted mechanism to seek relief from the market distorting effects caused by injurious dumping of imports into the United States, establishing an opportunity to compete on a level playing field.
- For the purpose of AD investigations, dumping occurs when a foreign company sells an imported product in the United States at less than fair value.
- In the Korea investigation, Commerce calculated a preliminary dumping rate of 8.02 percent for mandatory respondent Jin Young Chemical Co., Ltd. Commerce assigned a preliminary dumping rate of 52.01 percent to mandatory respondent Plastech Co., Ltd., based on total adverse facts available. This rate will also apply to companies that failed to respond to Commerce's requests for information. Commerce assigned a preliminary dumping margin of 8.02 percent to all other producers/exporters in Korea.
- In the Oman investigation, Commerce calculated a preliminary dumping margin of 2.78 percent for mandatory respondent OCTAL SAOC – FZC (OCTAL). Commerce assigned a preliminary dumping margin of 2.78 percent to all other producers/exporters in Oman. Commerce assigned a preliminary dumping margin of 2.78 percent to all other producers/exporters in Oman.
- As a result of the preliminary affirmative determinations, Commerce will instruct U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to require cash deposits for imports of PET sheet from Korea and Oman based on these preliminary rates.
- The petitioners are Advanced Extrusions, Inc. (Rogers, MN), Ex-Tech Plastics, Inc. (Richmond, IL), and Multi-Plastics Extrusions, Inc. (Hazleton, PA).
- The scope of these investigations is listed in Appendix I.
- In 2018, imports of PET sheet from Korea and Oman were valued at an estimated \$90.0 million and \$208.3 million, respectively.
- The Preliminary Decision Memoranda are on file electronically via Enforcement and Compliance's Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Centralized Electronic Service System (ACCESS). ACCESS is available to registered users at <https://access.trade.gov>, and to all parties in the Central Records Unit,

Room B8024 of the main Department of Commerce building. Please refer to case numbers A-580-903 (Korea) and A-523-813 (Oman).

NEXT STEPS

- Commerce is scheduled to announce its final determinations by July 16, 2020.
- If Commerce makes affirmative final determinations, and the U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC) makes affirmative final determinations that imports of PET sheet from Korea and Oman materially injure, or threaten material injury to, the domestic industry, Commerce will issue AD orders. If either Commerce or the ITC issues a negative final determination, no AD order will be issued. The ITC is scheduled to make its final injury determinations approximately 45 days after Commerce issues its final determinations, if affirmative.

PRELIMINARY DUMPING RATES:

COUNTRY	EXPORTER/PRODUCER	DUMPING RATE
Korea	Jin Young Chemical Co., Ltd.	8.02 %
	Plastech Co., Ltd.	52.01%
	All Others	8.02 %

COUNTRY	EXPORTER/PRODUCER	DUMPING MARGIN
Oman	OCTAL SAOC – FZC (OCTAL)	2.78 %
	All Others	2.78 %

CASE CALENDAR:

EVENT	AD INVESTIGATION
Petition Filed	July 9, 2019
DOC Initiation Date	August 19, 2019
ITC Preliminary Determination	September 12, 2019
DOC Preliminary Determination	February 25, 2020
DOC Final Determination	July 15, 2020
ITC Final Determination**	August 31, 2020
Issuance of Order***	September 8, 2020

NOTE: Commerce preliminary and final determination deadlines are governed by statute. For AD investigations, the deadlines are set forth in sections 733(b) and 735(a)(1) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended. These deadlines may be extended under certain circumstances.

**This will take place only in the event of an affirmative final determination from Commerce.

***This will take place only in the event of affirmative final determinations from Commerce and the ITC.

IMPORT STATISTICS:

Korea	2016	2017	2018
Volume (kilograms)	19,713,265	25,197,658	30,990,906
Value (USD)	64,322,587	84,675,859	89,954,857
Oman			
	2016	2017	2018
Volume (kilograms)	123,060,451	134,628,139	117,795,844
Value (USD)	179,983,753	206,434,866	208,308,678

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, accessed through Global Trade Atlas (Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) subheading 3920.62.0090). Imports of PET sheet enter under an HTSUS subheading which is a basket category and covers a significant amount of non-subject merchandise.

Appendix I:

The scope of the investigations is as follows:

The merchandise covered by these investigations is raw, pretreated, or primed polyethylene terephthalate sheet, whether extruded or coextruded, in nominal thicknesses of equal to or greater than 7 mil (0.007 inches or 177.8 μm) and not exceeding 45 mil (0.045 inches or 1143 μm) (PET sheet). The scope includes all PET sheet whether made from prime (virgin) inputs or recycled inputs, as well as any blends thereof. The scope includes all PET sheet meeting the above specifications regardless of width, color, surface treatment, coating, lamination, or other surface finish.

The merchandise subject to these investigations is properly classified under statistical reporting number 3920.62.0090 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS). Although the HTSUS statistical reporting number is provided for convenience and customs purposes, the written description of the merchandise is dispositive.