



FACT SHEET

Commerce Initiates Antidumping Duty (AD) and Countervailing Duty (CVD) Investigations of Imports of Cast Iron Soil Pipe from China

- On February 16, 2018, the Department of Commerce (Commerce) announced the initiation of AD and CVD investigations of imports of cast iron soil pipe from China.
- The AD and CVD laws provide 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 and unfair subsidization 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 a product in the United States at less than its fair value. For the purpose of CVD investigations, a countervailable subsidy is financial assistance from a foreign government that benefits the production of goods from foreign companies and is limited to specific enterprises or industries, or is contingent either upon export performance or upon the use of domestic goods over imported goods.
- The petitioner is the Cast Iron Soil Pipe Institute (Mundelein, IL).
- The merchandise covered by these investigations is cast iron soil pipe, whether finished or unfinished, regardless of industry or proprietary specifications, and regardless of wall thickness, length, diameter, surface finish, end finish, or stenciling. The scope of these investigations includes, but is not limited to, both hubless and hub and spigot cast iron soil pipe. Cast iron soil pipe is nonmalleable iron pipe of various designs and sizes. Cast iron soil pipe is generally distinguished from other types of nonmalleable cast iron pipe by the manner in which it is connected to cast iron soil pipe fittings.

Cast iron soil pipe is classified into two major types – hubless and hub and spigot. Hubless cast iron soil pipe is manufactured without a hub, generally in compliance with Cast Iron Soil Pipe Institute (CISPI) specification 301 and/or American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) specification A888, including any revisions to those specifications. Hub and spigot pipe has one or more hubs into which the spigot (plain end) of a fitting is inserted. All pipe meeting the physical description set forth above is covered by the scope of these investigations, whether or not produced according to a particular standard.

The subject imports are currently classified in subheading 7303.00.0030 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS): Cast iron soil pipe. The HTSUS subheading and specifications are provided for convenience and customs purposes only; the written description of the scope of these investigations is dispositive.

- In 2017, imports of cast iron soil pipe from China were valued at \$11.5 million.
- The Initiation Decision Checklists 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-570-079 for the AD investigation and C-570-080 for the CVD investigation.

NEXT STEPS

- The U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC) is scheduled to make its preliminary injury determinations on or before March 12, 2018.
- If the ITC determines that there is a reasonable indication that imports of cast iron soil pipe from China materially injure, or threaten material injury to, the domestic industry in the United States, the investigations will continue, and Commerce will be scheduled to announce its preliminary CVD determination in April 2018 and its preliminary AD determination in July 2018, though these dates may be extended. If the ITC's determinations are negative, the investigations will be terminated.

ALLEGED DUMPING MARGINS:

COUNTRY	DUMPING MARGIN
China	93.32 percent

ESTIMATED SUBSIDY RATE:

COUNTRY	SUBSIDY RATE
China	Above <i>de minimis</i> *

* *de minimis* = less than 1% for developed countries, less than 2% for developing countries.

CASE CALENDAR:

EVENT	CVD INVESTIGATION	AD INVESTIGATION
Petitions Filed	January 26, 2018	January 26, 2018
DOC Initiation Date	February 15, 2018	February 15, 2018
ITC Preliminary Determinations*	March 12, 2018	March 12, 2018
DOC Preliminary Determinations†**	April 23, 2018*	July 5, 2018
DOC Final Determinations†	July 5, 2018	September 18, 2018
ITC Final Determinations***	August 20, 2018*	November 2, 2018
Issuance of Orders****	August 27, 2018*	November 9, 2018

* Where the deadline falls on a weekend/holiday, the appropriate date is the next business day.

† These deadlines may be extended under the governing statute.

** This will take place only in the event of a preliminary affirmative determination from the U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC).

*** This will take place only in the event of a final affirmative determination from the International Trade Administration (ITA).

**** This will take place only in the event of a final affirmative determination from the ITA and the ITC.

IMPORT STATISTICS:

China	2015	2016	2017
Volume (metric tons)	13,634	20,147	15,695
Value (USD)	10,605,089	13,565,149	11,483,272

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, accessed through Global Trade Atlas. (HTSUS 7303.00.0030)