



FACT SHEET

Commerce Preliminarily Finds Dumping of Imports of Ceramic Tile from China

- On November 7, 2019, the Department of Commerce (Commerce) announced its affirmative preliminary determination in the antidumping duty (AD) investigation of imports of ceramic tile from China.
- 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.
- Commerce assigned a preliminary dumping rate of 244.26 for mandatory respondent Belite Ceramics (Anyang) Co., Ltd. Commerce assigned a preliminary dumping rate of 114.49 for mandatory respondent Foshan Sanfi Import & Export Co., Ltd. Commerce calculated a preliminary dumping margin of 178.20 percent for the non-selected respondents eligible for a separate rate, and a preliminary dumping margin of 356.02 percent for the China-wide entity.
- As a result of the preliminary affirmative determination, Commerce will instruct U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to require cash deposits from ceramic tile from China based on these preliminary rates.
- The petitioner is the Coalition for Fair Trade in Ceramic Tile. The members of the Coalition for Fair Trade in Ceramic Tile are American Wonder Porcelain (Lebanon, TN), Crossville, Inc. (Crossville, TN), Dal-Tile Corporation (Dallas, TX), Del Conca USA, Inc. (Loudon, TN), Florida Tile, Inc. (Lexington, KY), Florim USA (Clarksville, TN), Landmark Ceramics (Mount Pleasant, TN), and StonePeak Ceramics (Chicago, IL).
- The scope of this investigation is listed in Appendix I.
- In 2018, imports of ceramic tile from China were valued at an estimated \$481.3 million.
- The Preliminary Decision Memorandum is 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 number A-570-108.

NEXT STEPS

- Commerce is scheduled to announce its final determination by March 23, 2020.

- If Commerce makes an affirmative final determination, and the U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC) makes an affirmative final determination that imports of ceramic tile from China materially injure, or threaten material injury to, the domestic industry, Commerce will issue an AD order. 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 determination approximately 45 days after Commerce issues its final determination, if affirmative.

PRELIMINARY DUMPING RATES:

COUNTRY	EXPORTER/PRODUCER	DUMPING RATE	CASH DEPOSIT RATE*
China	Belite Ceramics (Anyang) Co., Ltd.	244.26 %	233.72 %
	Foshan Sanfi Import & Export Co., Ltd.	114.49 %	103.95 %
	Separate Rate Companies**	178.20 %	167.66 %
	China-wide Entity	356.02 %	356.02 %

*Rates are adjusted for export subsidies.

**See the *Federal Register* notice for a list of companies receiving a separate rate.

CASE CALENDAR:

EVENT	AD INVESTIGATION
Petition Filed	April 10, 2019
DOC Initiation Date	April 30, 2019
ITC Preliminary Determination	May 28, 2019
DOC Preliminary Determination	November 6, 2019
DOC Final Determination	March 20, 2020
ITC Final Determination**	May 4, 2020
Issuance of Order***	May 11, 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:

CHINA	2016	2017	2018
Volume (Square Meters)	53,839,649	61,044,471	64,133,004
Value (USD)	405,982,080	457,776,925	481,274,815

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, accessed through Global Trade Atlas (HTSUS 6907 and 6908).

Appendix I:

- The merchandise covered by these investigations is ceramic flooring tile, wall tile, paving tile, hearth tile, porcelain tile, mosaic tile, flags, finishing tile, and the like (hereinafter ceramic tile). Ceramic tiles are articles containing a mixture of minerals including clay (generally hydrous silicates of alumina or magnesium) that are fired so the raw materials are fused to produce a finished good that is less than 3.2 cm. in actual thickness. All ceramic tile is subject to the scope regardless of end use, surface area, and weight, regardless of whether the tile is glazed or unglazed, regardless of the water absorption coefficient by weight, regardless of the extent of vitrification, and regardless of whether or not the tile is on a backing. Subject merchandise includes ceramic tile with decorative features that may in spots exceed 3.2 cm in thickness and includes ceramic tile “slabs” or “panels” (tiles that are larger than 1 square meter (11 square ft.)).

Subject merchandise includes ceramic tile that undergoes minor processing in a third country prior to importation into the United States. Similarly, subject merchandise includes ceramic tile produced that undergoes minor processing after importation into the United States. Such minor processing includes, but is not limited to, one or more of the following: beveling, cutting, trimming, staining, painting, polishing, finishing, additional firing, or any other processing that would otherwise not remove the merchandise from the scope of the investigations if performed in the country of manufacture of the in-scope product.

Subject merchandise is currently classified in the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) under the following subheadings of heading 6907: 6901.21.1005, 6907.21.1011, 6907.21.1051, 6907.21.2000, 6907.21.3000, 6907.21.4000, 6907.21.9011, 6907.21.9051, 6907.22.1005, 6907.22.1011, 6907.22.1051, 6907.22.2000, 6907.22.3000, 6907.22.4000, 6907.22.9011, 6907.22.9051, 6907.23.1005, 6907.23.1011, 6907.23.1051, 6907.23.2000, 6907.23.3000, 6907.23.4000, 6907.23.9011, 6907.23.9051, 6907.30.1005, 6907.30.1011, 6907.30.1051, 6907.30.2000, 6907.30.3000, 6907.30.4000, 6907.30.9011, 6907.30.9051, 6907.40.1005, 6907.40.1011, 6907.40.1051, 6907.40.2000, 6907.40.3000, 6907.40.4000, 6907.40.9011, and 6907.40.9051. Subject merchandise may also enter under subheadings of headings 6914 and 6905: 6914.10.8000, 6914.90.8000, 6905.10.0000, and 6905.90.0050. The HTSUS subheadings are provided for convenience and customs purposes only. The written description of the scope of these investigations is dispositive.