Commerce within 30 days after the date of publication of this notice. Requests should contain the party's name, address, and telephone number, the number of participants, whether any participant is a foreign national, and a list of the issues to be discussed. Oral presentations at the hearing will be limited to issues raised in the briefs. If a request for a hearing is made, Commerce intends to hold the hearing at a time and date to be determined. Parties should confirm by telephone the date, time, and location of the hearing two days before the scheduled date.

U.S. International Trade Commission Notification

In accordance with section 703(f) of the Act, Commerce will notify the U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC) of its determination. If the final determination is affirmative, the ITC will determine before the later of 120 days after the date of this preliminary determination or 45 days after the final determination whether imports of aluminum extrusions from Indonesia are materially injuring, or threaten material injury to, the U.S. industry.

Notification to Interested Parties

This determination is issued and published pursuant to sections 703(f) and 777(i) of the Act, and 19 CFR 351.205(c).

Dated: March 25, 2024.

Abdelali Elouaradia,

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance.

Appendix I

Scope of the Investigation

The scope of this investigation includes certain frozen warmwater shrimp and prawns whether wild-caught (ocean harvested) or farm-raised (produced by aquaculture), headon or head-off, shell-on or peeled, tail-on or tail-off, deveined or not deveined, cooked or raw, or otherwise processed in frozen form. "Tails" in this context means the tail fan, which includes the telson and the uropods.

The frozen warmwater shrimp and prawn products included in the scope, regardless of definitions in the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS), are products which are processed from warmwater shrimp and prawns through freezing and which are sold in any count size.

The products described above may be processed from any species of warmwater shrimp and prawns. Warmwater shrimp and prawns are generally classified in, but are not limited to, the Penaeidae family. Some examples of the farmed and wild-caught warmwater species include, but are not limited to, whiteleg shrimp (Penaeus vannemei), banana prawn (Penaeus

merguiensis), fleshy prawn (Penaeus chinensis), giant river prawn (Macrobrachium rosenbergii), giant tiger prawn (Penaeus monodon), redspotted shrimp (Penaeus brasiliensis), southern brown shrimp (Penaeus subtilis), southern pink shrimp (Penaeus notialis), southern rough shrimp (Trachypenaeus curvirostris), southern white shrimp (Penaeus stylirostris), western white shrimp (Penaeus occidentalis), and Indian white prawn (Penaeus indicus).

Frozen shrimp and prawns that are packed with marinade, spices or sauce are included in the scope. In addition, food preparations, which are not "prepared meals," that contain more than 20 percent by weight of shrimp or prawn are also included in the scope.

Excluded from the scope are: (1) breaded shrimp and prawns (HTSUS subheading 1605.20.10.20); (2) shrimp and prawns generally classified in the Pandalidae family and commonly referred to as coldwater shrimp, in any state of processing; (3) fresh shrimp and prawns whether shell-on or peeled (HTSUS subheadings 0306.36.0020 and 0306.36.0040); (4) shrimp and prawns in prepared meals (HTSUS subheading 1605.20.05.10); (5) dried shrimp and prawns; (6) canned warmwater shrimp and prawns (HTSUS subheading 1605.20.10.40); (7) certain dusted shrimp; and (8) certain battered shrimp. Dusted shrimp is a shrimpbased product: (1) that is produced from fresh (or thawed-from-frozen) and peeled shrimp; (2) to which a "dusting" layer of rice or wheat flour of at least 95 percent purity has been applied; (3) with the entire surface of the shrimp flesh thoroughly and evenly coated with the flour; (4) with the nonshrimp content of the end product constituting between four and 10 percent of the product's total weight after being dusted, but prior to being frozen; and (5) that is subjected to IQF freezing immediately after application of the dusting layer. Battered shrimp is a shrimp based product that, when dusted in accordance with the definition of dusting above, is coated with a wet viscous laver containing egg and/or milk, and par-fried.

The products covered by the scope are currently classified under the following HTSUS subheadings: 0306.17.0004, 0306.17.0005, 0306.17.0007, 0306.17.0008, 0306.17.0010, 0306.17.0011, 0306.17.0013, 0306.17.0014, 0306.17.0016, 0306.17.0017, 0306.17.0019, 0306.17.0020, 0306.17.0022, 0306.17.0023, 0306.17.0025, 0306.17.0026, 0306.17.0028, 0306.17.0029, 0306.17.0041, 0306.17.0042, 1605.21.1030, and 1605.29.1010. These HTSUS subheadings are provided for convenience and for customs purposes only and are not dispositive, but rather the written description of the scope is dispositive.

Appendix II

I. Summary
II. Background
III. Scope Comments
IV. Scope of the Investigation
V. Diversification of Ecuador's Economy
VI. Injury Test
VII. Subsidies Valuation
VIII. Benchmarks and Discount Rates

IX. Analysis of Programs

X. Recommendation

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration [A-201-831]

Antidumping Duty Order on Prestressed Concrete Steel Wire Strand From Mexico: Preliminary Affirmative Determination of Circumvention

AGENCY: Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of Commerce (Commerce) preliminarily determines that imports of certain high carbon steel (HCS) wire that are produced in Mexico and assembled or completed into prestressed concrete steel wire strand (PC strand) in the United States are circumventing the antidumping duty (AD) order on PC strand from Mexico. As a result, all imports of certain HCS wire from Mexico will be subject to suspension of liquidation on or after July 31, 2023. Commerce is also imposing a certification requirement. We invite interested parties to comment on this preliminary determination.

DATES: Applicable April 2, 2024. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Craig Matney or Jonathan Schueler, Office VIII, Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482–2429 or (202) 482–9175, respectively.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On January 28, 2004, Commerce published in the **Federal Register** the AD order on U.S. imports of PC strand from Mexico.¹ On July 31, 2023, pursuant to section 781(a) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act), and 19 CFR 351.226(d)(1), Commerce initiated a country-wide circumvention inquiry to determine whether imports of HCS wire from Mexico that are assembled or completed into PC strand in the United States are circumventing the *Order* and, accordingly, should be covered by the scope of the *Order*.² On

¹⁵ See 19 CFR 351.310(d).

See Notice of Antidumping Duty Order:
Prestressed Concrete Steel Wire Strand from
Mexico, 69 FR 4112 (January 28, 2004) (Order).

² See Prestressed Concrete Steel Wire Strand from Mexico: Initiation of Circumvention Inquiry on the

September 25, 2023, Commerce selected Deacero S.A.P.I. de CV (Deacero) and Aceros Camesa S.A. de C.V. (Camesa), Mexican producers of HCS wire, as the mandatory respondents in this circumvention inquiry.3

On December 14, 2023, Commerce extended the deadline for issuing the preliminary determination in this circumvention inquiry until March 27, 2023.4 For a complete description of the events that followed the initiation of this circumvention inquiry, see the Preliminary Decision Memorandum.⁵ The topics included in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum are identified in Appendix I to this notice. The Preliminary Decision Memorandum is a public document and 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. In addition, a complete version of the Preliminary Decision Memorandum can be accessed directly at https://access.trade.gov/ public/FRNoticesListLayout.aspx.

Scope of the Order

The merchandise covered by this Order is PC strand. Merchandise covered by the Order is currently classifiable under subheadings 7312.10.3010 and 7312.10.3012 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS). While the HTSUS subheading and are provided for convenience and for customs purposes, the written description of the subject merchandise is dispositive. For a full description of the scope of the Order, see the Preliminary Decision Memorandum.

Merchandise Subject to the **Circumvention Inquiry**

This circumvention inquiry covers certain HCS wire imported from

Antidumping Duty Order, 88 FR 49438 (July 31, 2023) (Initiation Notice). We note that in the Initiation Notice, we stated that we are initiating this circumvention inquiry pursuant to 19 CFR 351.226(d)(1)(ii). However, this section was amended after the *Initiation Notice* was published, therefore we reference the latest version of the regulation. See Administrative Protective Order. Service, and Other Procedures in Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Proceedings, 88 FR 67069, 67078 (September 29, 2023).

- ³ See Memorandum, "Respondent Selection," dated September 25, 2023.
- See Memorandum, "Extension of Preliminary Determination." dated December 14, 2023.
- ⁵ See Memorandum, "Prestressed Concrete Steel Wire Strand (PC Strand) from Mexico: Preliminary Decision Memorandum for the Circumvention Inquiry with Respect to High Carbon Steel Wire Completed into PC Strand in the United States, dated concurrently with, and hereby adopted by, this notice (Preliminary Decision Memorandum).

Mexico. The HCS wire has a high carbon content (i.e., 0.60-0.85 percent),6 is not heat treated, and has a diameter less than 4.50 millimeters. The HCS wire is assembled or completed in the United States by stranding the HCS wire to produce PC strand of the type that would be subject to the *Order* (inquiry merchandise).

The inquiry merchandise is currently classifiable under HTSUS subheading 7217.10.8090. Although the HTSUS subheading is provided for convenience and customs purposes, the written description of the merchandise is dispositive.

Importers of the subject HCS wire that will not be converted into PC strand in the United States may certify that the HCS wire will not be further processed into subject merchandise covered by the scope of the *Order*. Failure to comply with the requisite certification requirement may result in the merchandise being found subject to AD duties.

Methodology

Commerce made this preliminary circumvention determination in accordance with section 781(a) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.226. For a full description of the methodology underlying the preliminary determination, see the Preliminary Decision Memorandum.

Preliminary Circumvention Determination

We preliminarily determine that PC strand, assembled or completed in the United States using Mexican-origin HCS wire produced by Deacero, is circumventing the Order. We also preliminarily determine that Mexicanorigin HCS wire produced by Camesa is not assembled or completed into PC strand in the United States, and therefore, is not circumventing the

As detailed in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum, we also preliminarily determine that U.S. imports of inquiry merchandise exported from Mexico are circumventing the Order on a countrywide basis. As a result, we preliminarily determine that this merchandise is

covered by the *Order*.

See the "Suspension of Liquidation" section below for details regarding suspension of liquidation and cash deposit requirements. See the "Certification" and "Certification Requirements" sections below for details regarding the use of certifications.

Suspension of Liquidation

Based on the preliminary affirmative country-wide determination of circumvention, in accordance with 19 CFR 351.226(l)(2), we will direct U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to suspend liquidation and require a cash deposit of estimated duties on unliquidated entries of HCS wire that are produced in Mexico and assembled or completed into PC strand in the United States, that were entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after July 31, 2023, the date of publication of the initiation of this circumvention inquiry in the Federal Register.⁷

For exporters of the HCS wire that have a company-specific cash deposit rate under the Order, the cash deposit rate will be the company-specific AD cash deposit rate established for that company in the most recently completed segment of the PC strand from Mexico proceeding.

If the exporter of the HCS wire from Mexico does not have a companyspecific cash deposit rate, the AD cash deposit rate will be the "all-others" rate (62.78 percent).8 The suspension of liquidation will remain in effect until further notice.

Certified Entries

Entries for which the importer has met the certification requirements described below and in Appendix II to this notice will not be subject to suspension of liquidation, or the cash deposit requirements described above. Failure to comply with the applicable requisite certification requirements may result in the merchandise being subject to AD duties.

Certification

In order to administer the preliminary country-wide and company-specific affirmative determinations of circumvention for Mexico, Commerce has established importer certifications. These certifications will permit importers to establish that specific entries of HCS wire from Mexico are not subject to suspension of liquidation or

⁶ We have revised the scope of the inquiry merchandise from that stated in the Initiation Notice to lower the required level of carbon content from 0.78 percent to 0.60 percent to align with the definition of HCS wire as specified by the HTSUS subheading for high carbon steel wire (i.e., 7217.10.8090) because record evidence indicates that certain merchandise being used to produce PC strand does not fall within the parameters of the inquiry merchandise as initiated, see Preliminary Decision Memorandum for further details. We invite interested parties to comment on this revised scope of the merchandise subject to the circumvention inquiry in their case briefs.

⁷ See Initiation Notice, 88 FR at 49438.

⁸ See Order.

the collection of cash deposits pursuant to this preliminary country-wide affirmative determination of circumvention because the merchandise will not be further processed into PC strand covered by the *Order* (see Appendix II to this notice).

Importers that claim that an entry of HCS wire is not subject to suspension of liquidation or the collection of cash deposits based on the end-use of such merchandise must complete the applicable certification and meet the certification and documentation requirements described below, as well as the requirements identified in the certification.

Certification Requirements

Importers are required to complete and maintain the applicable importer certification and retain all supporting documentation for the certification. With the exception of the entries described below, the importer certification must be completed, signed, and dated by the time the entry summary is filed for the relevant entry. The importer, or the importer's agent, must submit the importer's certification to CBP as part of the entry process by uploading it into the document imaging system (DIS) in ACE. Where the importer uses a broker to facilitate the entry process, it should obtain the entry summary number from the broker. Agents of the importer, such as brokers, however, are not permitted to certify on behalf of the importer.

Additionally, the claims made in the certifications and any supporting documentation are subject to verification by Commerce and/or CBP. Importers are required to maintain the certifications and supporting documentation until the later of: (1) the date that is five years after the latest entry date of the entries covered by the certification; or (2) the date that is three years after the conclusion of any litigation in United States courts regarding such entries.

For all shipments of HCS wire from Mexico that were entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption during the period July 31, 2023 (i.e., the date of publication of the initiation of this circumvention inquiry in the **Federal Register**), through the date of publication of this preliminary determination in the Federal Register, where the entry has not been liquidated (and entries for which liquidation has not become final), the relevant certification should be completed and signed as soon as practicable, but not later than 45 days after the date of publication of this preliminary determination in the Federal Register.

For such entries, importers have the option to complete a blanket certification covering multiple entries, individual certifications for each entry, or a combination thereof.

For unliquidated entries (and entries for which liquidation has not become final) of HCS wire that were declared as non-AD type entries (e.g., type 01) and entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption in the United States during the period July 31, 2023 (the date of initiation of this circumvention inquiry) through the date of publication of this preliminary determination in the Federal Register, for which none of the above certifications may be made, importers must file a Post Summary Correction with CBP, in accordance with CBP's regulations, regarding conversion of such entries from non-AD type entries to AD type entries (e.g., type 01 to type 03). The importer should pay cash deposits on those entries consistent with the regulations governing post summary corrections that require payment of additional

If it is determined that an importer has not met the certification and/or related documentation requirements for certain entries, Commerce intends to instruct CBP to suspend, pursuant to this preliminary country-wide affirmative determination of circumvention and the *Order*, all unliquidated entries for which these requirements were not met and to require the importer to post applicable AD cash deposits equal to the rates noted above.

Interested parties may comment in their case briefs on these certification requirements, and on the certification language contained in Appendix II to this notice.

Verification

As provided in 19 CFR 351.307, Commerce intends to verify information relied upon in making its final determination.

Public Comment

Case briefs or other written comments should be submitted to the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance no later than seven days after the date on which any verification report is issued. Rebuttal briefs, limited to issues raised in case briefs, may be submitted no later than five days after the deadline for case briefs. 10 Pursuant

to 19 CFR 351.309(c)(2) and (d)(2), parties who submit case briefs or rebuttal briefs in these circumvention inquiries must submit: (1) a statement of the issue; and (2) a table of authorities. Case and rebuttal briefs should be filed using ACCESS.

As provided in 19 CFR 351.309(c)(2) and $(\hat{\mathbf{d}})(2)$, in prior proceedings we have encouraged interested parties to provide an executive summary of their brief that should be limited to five pages total, including footnotes. In this circumvention inquiry, we instead request that interested parties provide at the beginning of their briefs a public, executive summary for each issue raised in their briefs. 11 Further, we request that interested parties limit their executive summary of each issue to no more than 450 words, not including citations. We intend to use the executive summaries as the basis of the comment summaries included in the issues and decision memorandum that will accompany the final determination in this circumvention inquiry. We request that interested parties include footnotes for relevant citations in the executive summary of each issue. Note that Commerce has amended certain of its requirements pertaining to the service of documents in 19 CFR 351.303(f).12

Pursuant to 19 CFR 351.310(c), interested parties who wish to request a hearing, limited to issues raised in the case and rebuttal briefs, must submit a written request to the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance, U.S. Department of Commerce, within 30 days after the date of publication of this notice in the Federal Register. Requests should contain: (1) the requesting party's name, address, and telephone number; (2) the number of individuals from the requesting party that will attend the hearing and whether any of those individuals is a foreign national; and (3) a list of the issues that the party intends to discuss at the hearing. If a request for a hearing is made, Commerce intends to hold the hearing at a time and date to be determined. Parties should confirm by telephone the date, time, and location of the hearing two days before the scheduled date of the hearing.

U.S. International Trade Commission Notification

Commerce, consistent with section 781(e) of the Act, will notify the U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC) of this preliminary determination to

⁹ See Order.

¹⁰ See 19 CFR 351.309(d); see also Administrative Protective Order, Service, and Other Procedures in Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Proceedings, 88 FR 67069 (September 29, 2023) (APO and Service Final Rule).

¹¹ We use the term "issue" here to describe an argument that Commerce would normally address in a comment of the Issues and Decision Memorandum.

¹² See APO and Service Final Rule.

include the merchandise subject to this circumvention inquiry within the *Order*. Pursuant to section 781(e) of the Act, the ITC may request consultations concerning Commerce's proposed inclusion of the inquiry merchandise. If, after consultations, the ITC believes that a significant injury issue is presented by the proposed inclusion, it will have 60 days from the date of notification by Commerce to provide written advice.

Notification to Interested Parties

This determination is issued and published in accordance with section 781(a) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.226(g)(1).

Dated: March 26, 2024.

Abdelali Elouaradia,

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance.

Appendix I

Topics Discussed in the Preliminary Decision Memorandum

I. Summary

II. Background

III. Scope of the Order

IV. Merchandise Subject to Circumvention Inquiry

V. Period of the Circumvention Inquiry

VI. Statutory and Regulatory Framework for the Circumvention Inquiry

VII. Statutory Analysis for the Circumvention Inquiry

VIII. Summary of Statutory Analysis

IX. Country-Wide Affirmation Determination of Circumvention and Certification Requirements

X. Recommendation

Appendix II

Importer Certification

I hereby certify that:

A. My name is {IMPORTING COMPANY OFFICIAL'S NAME} and I am an official of {NAME OF IMPORTING COMPANY}, located at {ADDRESS OF IMPORTING COMPANY}.

B. I have direct personal knowledge of the facts regarding the importation into the Customs territory of the United States of subject high-carbon steel (HCS) wire produced in Mexico that entered under the entry summary number(s), identified below, and which is covered by this certification. "Direct personal knowledge" refers to the facts the certifying party is expected to have in its own records. For example, the importer should have direct personal knowledge of the exporter's and/or seller's identity and location.

C. If the importer is acting on behalf of the first U.S. customer, include the following sentence as paragraph C of this certification:

The imported subject-HCS wire covered by this certification was imported by {NAME OF IMPORTING COMPANY} on behalf of {NAME OF U.S. CUSTOMER}, located at {ADDRESS OF U.S. CUSTOMER}.

If the importer is not acting on behalf of the first U.S. customer, include the following sentence as paragraph C of this certification:

{NAME OF IMPORTING COMPANY} is not acting on behalf of the first U.S. customer.

D. The imported HCS wire covered by this certification was shipped to {NAME OF PARTY IN THE UNITED STATES TO WHOM THE MERCHANDISE WAS FIRST SHIPPED}, located at {U.S. ADDRESS TO WHICH MERCHANDISE WAS SHIPPED}.

E. Select the appropriate statement below:

a. I have personal knowledge of the facts regarding the end-use of the imported products covered by this certification because my company is the end-user of the imported product covered by this certification and I certify that the imported subject-HCS wire will not be used to produce subject merchandise. "Personal knowledge" includes facts obtained from another party, (e.g., correspondence received by the importer (or exporter) from the producer regarding the source of the inputs used to produce the imported products).

b. I have personal knowledge of the facts regarding the end-use of the imported product because my company is not the enduser of the imported product covered by this certification. However, I have been able to contact the end-user of the imported product and confirm that it will not use this product to produce subject merchandise. The enduser of the imported product is {COMPANY NAME} located at {ADDRESS}. "Personal knowledge" includes facts obtained from another party (e.g., correspondence received by the importer from the end-user of the product).

F. The imported subject-HCS wire covered by this certification will not be further processed into prestressed concrete steel wire strand (PC strand) in the United States. (Note: For certifications related to entries made on or after the date of publication of the Preliminary Determination, and through 14 days after the date of publication of the Preliminary Determination, the importer should replace "will not be further processed" with "were not further processed" in the certification, as necessary).

G. This certification applies to the following entries (repeat this block as many times as necessary):

Entry Summary #:

Entry Summary Line Item #:

Foreign Seller:

Foreign Seller's Address:

Foreign Seller's Invoice #:

Foreign Seller's Invoice Line Item #:

Producer:

Producer's Address:

H. I understand that {NAME OF IMPORTING COMPANY} is required to maintain a copy of this certification and sufficient documentation supporting this certification (*i.e.*, documents maintained in the normal course of business, or documents obtained by the certifying party, for example, mill certificates, product specification sheets, production records, invoices, *etc.*) until the later of: (1) the date that is five years after the

latest entry date of the entries covered by the certification; or (2) the date that is three years after the conclusion of any litigation in United States courts regarding such entries.

I. I understand that {NAME OF IMPORTING COMPANY} is required to provide this certification and supporting records to U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and/or the U.S. Department of Commerce (Commerce), upon the request of either agency.

J. I understand that the claims made herein, and the substantiating documentation, are subject to verification by CBP and/or Commerce.

K. I understand that failure to maintain the required certifications and supporting documentation, or failure to substantiate the claims made herein, or not allowing CBP and/or Commerce to verify the claims made herein, may result in a *de facto* determination that all entries to which this certification applies are entries of merchandise that is covered by the scope of the antidumping duty order on PC strand from Mexico. I understand that such a finding will result in:

(i) suspension of liquidation of all unliquidated entries (and entries for which liquidation has not become final) for which these requirements were not met;

(ii) the importer being required to post the antidumping duty cash deposits determined by Commerce; and

(iii) the importer no longer being allowed to participate in the certification process.

L. I understand that agents of the importer, such as brokers, are not permitted to make this certification. Where a broker or other party was used to facilitate the entry process, {NAME OF IMPORTING COMPANY} obtained the entry summary number and date of entry summary from that party.

M. This certification was completed and signed on, or prior to, the date of the entry summary if the entry date is more than 14 days after the date of publication of the notice of Commerce's preliminary determination of circumvention in the Federal Register. If the entry date is on or before the 14th day after the date of publication of the notice of Commerce's preliminary determination of circumvention in the Federal Register, this certification was completed and signed by no later than 45 days after publication of the notice of Commerce's preliminary determination of circumvention in the Federal Register.

N. I am aware that U.S. law (including, but not limited to, 18 U.S.C. 1001) imposes criminal sanctions on individuals who knowingly and willfully make materially false statements to the U.S. government.

{NAME OF COMPANY OFFICIAL} {TITLE OF COMPANY OFFICIAL}

[FR Doc. 2024–06946 Filed 4–1–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-DS-P

{DATE}