

2 December 2025

(25-8019)

Page: 1/4

Committee on Safeguards

Original: English

**NOTIFICATION UNDER ARTICLE 12.1(A) OF THE AGREEMENT ON  
SAFEGUARDS ON INITIATION OF AN INVESTIGATION AND  
THE REASONS FOR IT**

UNITED STATES

*Quartz surface products*

The following communication, dated and received on 1 December 2025, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of the United States.

Pursuant to Article 12.1(a) of the WTO Agreement on Safeguards (Safeguards Agreement), the United States notifies that a safeguard investigation has been initiated as follows:

**1. Specify the date when the investigation was initiated**

The U.S. International Trade Commission (Commission) initiated the investigation on November 17, 2025.

A copy of the notice of institution of the investigation, which includes the scheduling of public hearings and the applicable rules of procedure, is attached.<sup>1</sup>

The Commission has determined that this investigation is "extraordinarily complicated" within the meaning of 19 U.S.C. § 2252(b)(2)(B)) and will make its serious injury determination by April 1, 2026. If the Commission's determination is affirmative, or the Commission is equally divided, the Commission will submit its report to the President within 180 days of the date on which the petition was properly filed, May 18, 2026.

**2. Specify the product subject to the investigation**

The product covered by this investigation is quartz surface products (QSP), which consists of slabs and other surfaces created from a mixture of materials that includes predominately silica (e.g., quartz, quartz powder, cristobalite, glass powder) as well as a resin binder (e.g., an unsaturated polyester). The incorporation of other materials, including, but not limited to, pigments, cement, or other additives does not remove the merchandise from the scope. However, the scope only includes products where the silica content is greater than any other single material, by actual weight. QSP is typically sold as rectangular slabs with a total surface area of approximately 45 to 60 square feet and a nominal thickness of one, two, or three centimeters. However, the scope includes surface products of all other sizes, thicknesses, and shapes. In addition to slabs, the scope includes, but is not limited to, other surfaces such as countertops, backsplashes, vanity tops, bar tops, work tops, tabletops, flooring, wall facing, shower surrounds, fireplace surrounds, mantels, and tiles. QSP may be polished or unpolished, cut or uncut, fabricated or not fabricated, cured or uncured, edged or not edged, finished or unfinished, thermoformed or not thermoformed, packaged or unpackaged, and may have any type of surface finish. In addition, QSP is covered by the scope whether or not it is imported attached to, or in conjunction with, nonsubject merchandise such as

<sup>1</sup> A copy of the USITC's notice of institution has been submitted electronically, and is available from the WTO Secretariat. To consult it, please contact Ms Anne Richards of the Rules Division ([anne.richards@wto.org](mailto:anne.richards@wto.org)).

sinks, sink bowls, vanities, cabinets, and furniture. If QSP is imported attached to, or in conjunction with, such nonsubject merchandise, only the QSP is covered by the scope.

Subject merchandise includes material matching the above description that has been finished, packaged, or otherwise fabricated in a third country, including by cutting, polishing, curing, edging, thermoforming, attaching to, or packaging with another product, or any other finishing, packaging, or fabrication that would not otherwise remove the merchandise from the scope if performed in the country of manufacture of the QSP. The scope does not cover quarried stone surface products, such as granite, marble, soapstone, or quartzite.

For customs purposes, QSP covered by the investigation is provided for under Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States ("HTSUS") statistical reporting numbers 6810.99.0020, 6810.99.0040, and 7020.00.6000. These HTSUS numbers are provided for convenience and the written description of the scope is dispositive.

### **3. Provide the reasons for the initiation of the investigation**

(i) Was the investigation initiated pursuant to a petition from the domestic industry?

Yes, the investigation was initiated pursuant to a petition filed by the Quartz Manufacturing Alliance of America, which consists of producers of QSP in the United States. The Commission deemed the petition to have been properly filed on November 17, 2025.

(ii) Evidence on the basis of which the investigation was initiated.

#### Increased Import Quantities

The petition<sup>2</sup> alleges that imports have increased, both in absolute terms and relative to U.S. production and consumption. According to the petition, QSP imports increased from 135 million square feet in 2020 to 234 million square feet in 2024, an increase of 73.4 percent. The ratio of imports to domestic production increased steadily over the same period.

#### Serious Injury or Threat of Serious Injury to the Domestic Industry

The petition alleges that imports are a substantial cause of serious injury because:

- the surge of imports of QSP into the U.S. market over the last five years has led to the idling of U.S. production facilities;
- the domestic industry also suffered from severely low levels of capacity utilization;
- the surge of imports of QSP has prevented a significant number of U.S. quartz producers to carry out domestic production of QSP at a reasonable profit; and
- the loss of U.S. market share over the past five years has had a negative effect on the domestic industry's employment.

With regards to threat of serious injury to the domestic industry, the petition alleges, among other factors, that the domestic industry suffered significant market share losses, deteriorating financial performance, low and declining capacity utilization, a negative impact on its employment, higher and growing inventories, and an inability to generate capital for investment and research and development.

#### Unforeseen Developments

The petition makes reference to the following unforeseen developments:

- despite the United States' attempts to alleviate the injury done to its domestic industry through the legitimate imposition of targeted antidumping (AD) and countervailing duty (CVD) orders, imports have nonetheless continued to increase, including surges from sources not subject to AD/CVD orders; situations where AD/CVD orders have seen such

---

<sup>2</sup> Much of the serious injury data is confidential business information. However, the United States has included relevant data and information regarding serious injury or threat of serious injury where possible.

- limited success were not foreseen when the United States made concessions when it joined the WTO;
- the initial CVD investigations unveiled substantial evidence of elaborate subsidy programs implemented by China, India, and Turkey; and
- foreign producers have developed uniquely creative and elaborate schemes to evade the imposed AD/CVD orders, and such evasion was not foreseen by U.S. negotiators.

More detailed information regarding all of the above is contained in the petition, which can be found at <https://edis.usitc.gov>.

- (iii) Evidence, if any, of critical circumstances where delay would cause damage which it would be difficult to repair.

The petitioner did not allege critical circumstances in the petition.

**4. Provide a point of contact for the investigation and identify the preferred means for corresponding.**

The point of contact for the investigation is:

Alejandro Orozco  
Office of Investigations  
U.S. International Trade Commission  
500 E Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20436  
Tel: (202-205-3177)

The public record for this investigation may be viewed on the Commission's electronic docket (EDIS) at <https://edis.usitc.gov>.

**5. Provide the deadlines and procedures for importers, exporters and other interested parties to present evidence and their views, including (i) deadlines and procedures for Members and exporters to identify themselves as interested parties, if so required, to participate in the investigation, and (ii) the date of an intended public hearing as provided for in Article 3.1.**

Persons wishing to participate in the investigation as parties must file an entry of appearance with the Secretary to the Commission not later than 21 days after publication of the notice of institution in the Federal Register. The Secretary will prepare a service list containing the names and addresses of all persons, or their representatives, who are parties to this investigation upon the expiration of the period for filing entries of appearance.

The Secretary will make confidential business information gathered in this investigation available to authorized applicants representing interested parties under the administrative protective order issued in the investigation, provided that the application is made not later than 21 days after the publication of the notice of institution in the Federal Register. A separate service list will be maintained by the Secretary for those parties authorized to receive confidential business information under the administrative protective order.

Each party who is an interested party may submit a prehearing brief to the Commission. The deadline for filing prehearing briefs on serious injury is February 17, 2026; that for filing prehearing briefs on remedy is April 7, 2026.

The Commission has scheduled separate hearings in connection with the serious injury and remedy phases of this investigation. The hearing on serious injury will be held on February 24, 2026, at the U.S. International Trade Commission Building, 500 E Street, SW, Washington, DC.

In the event that the Commission makes an affirmative serious injury determination or is equally divided on the question of serious injury in this investigation, a hearing on the question of remedy will be held on April 14, 2026.

Requests to appear at the hearings should be filed in writing with the Secretary to the Commission on or before February 13, 2026 for the serious injury hearing, and April 6, 2026 for the remedy hearing.

All parties and nonparties desiring to appear at the hearings and make oral presentations should participate in prehearing conferences to be held on February 20, 2026 for the serious injury hearing and April 10, 2026 for the remedy hearing, if deemed necessary.

Parties may file written testimony in connection with their presentation at the hearing. A nonparty who has testimony that may aid the Commission's deliberations may request permission to present a short statement at the hearings. Parties must submit any request to present a portion of their hearing testimony in camera no later than 7 business days prior to the date of the respective hearings.

The deadline for filing posthearing briefs for the serious injury phase of the investigation is March 3, 2026; the deadline for filing posthearing briefs for the remedy phase of the investigation, if any, is April 21, 2026.

In addition, any person who has not entered an appearance as a party to the investigation may submit a written statement of information pertinent to the consideration of serious injury on or before March 3, 2026, and pertinent to the consideration of remedy on or before April 21, 2026.

The attached notice of institution provides further information regarding deadlines and procedures applicable to this investigation.

The Commission's Handbook on E-Filing, available on the Commission's website at [https://www.usitc.gov/secretary/documents/handbook\\_on\\_filing\\_procedures.pdf](https://www.usitc.gov/secretary/documents/handbook_on_filing_procedures.pdf), elaborates upon the Commission's rules with respect to electronic filing.

---

definitions of the *Domestic Like Product* and *Domestic Industry*; if you disagree with either or both of these definitions, please explain why and provide alternative definitions.

**Authority:** This proceeding is being conducted under authority of Title VII of the Tariff Act of 1930; this notice is published pursuant to § 207.61 of the Commission's rules.

By order of the Commission.

Issued: November 25, 2025.

**Susan Orndoff,**

*Supervisory Attorney.*

[FR Doc. 2025–21685 Filed 11–28–25; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 7020–02–P**

## INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

[Investigation No. TA–201–79]

### Quartz Surface Products; Institution of Investigation, Scheduling of Public Hearings, and Determination That the Investigation Is Extraordinarily Complicated

**AGENCY:** United States International Trade Commission.

**ACTION:** Notice of Institution of Investigation and Scheduling of Public Hearings.

**SUMMARY:** Following receipt of a petition for import relief on September 15, 2025, as supplemented on September 23, 2025, and November 17, 2025, the Commission has instituted investigation No. TA–201–79 pursuant to section 202 of the Trade Act of 1974 (“the Act”) to determine whether quartz surface products (“QSP”) are being imported into the United States in such increased quantities as to be a substantial cause of serious injury, or the threat thereof, to the domestic industry producing an article like or directly competitive with the imported article. The Commission has deemed the petition, as supplemented, to have been properly filed on November 17, 2025. The Commission has determined that this investigation is “extraordinarily complicated,” and will make its serious injury determination by April 1, 2026. The Commission will submit to the President the report required under section 202(f) of the Act within 180 days after the date on which the petition was filed, or by May 18, 2026.

**DATES:** November 17, 2025.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Alejandro Orozco (202–205–3177), Office of Investigations, U.S. International Trade Commission, 500 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20436. Hearing-impaired persons can obtain

information on this matter by contacting the Commission's TDD terminal on 202–205–1810. Persons with mobility impairments who will need special assistance in gaining access to the Commission should contact the Office of the Secretary at 202–205–2000. General information concerning the Commission may also be obtained by accessing its internet server (<https://www.usitc.gov>). The public record for this investigation may be viewed on the Commission's electronic docket (EDIS) at <https://edis.usitc.gov>.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

**Background.**—This investigation is being instituted, pursuant to section 202 of the Act (19 U.S.C. 2252), in response to a petition initially submitted on September 15, 2025, and supplemented on September 23, 2025, and November 17, 2025, by the Quartz Manufacturing Alliance of America (“QMAA”), which we have deemed to be properly filed on November 17, 2025.<sup>1</sup> QMAA alleges that QSP is being imported into the United States in such increased quantities as to be a substantial cause of serious injury, or the threat thereof, to the domestic industry producing an article like or directly competitive with the imported article. The Commission must submit its report on this investigation to the President no later than 180 days after the date on which the petition was filed, or by May 18, 2026. (19 U.S.C. 2252(f)).

The imported article covered by this investigation is QSP, which consists of slabs and other surfaces created from a mixture of materials that includes predominately silica (e.g., quartz, quartz powder, cristobalite, glass powder) as well as a resin binder (e.g., an unsaturated polyester). The incorporation of other materials, including, but not limited to, pigments, cement, or other additives does not remove the merchandise from the scope. However, the scope only includes products where the silica content is greater than any other single material, by actual weight. QSP is typically sold as rectangular slabs with a total surface area of approximately 45 to 60 square feet and a nominal thickness of one, two, or three centimeters. However, the scope includes surface products of all other sizes, thicknesses, and shapes. In addition to slabs, the scope includes, but is not limited to, other surfaces such

as countertops, backsplashes, vanity tops, bar tops, work tops, tabletops, flooring, wall facing, shower surrounds, fireplace surrounds, mantels, and tiles. QSP may be polished or unpolished, cut or uncut, fabricated or not fabricated, cured or uncured, edged or not edged, finished or unfinished, thermoformed or not thermoformed, packaged or unpackaged, and may have any type of surface finish. In addition, QSP is covered by the scope whether or not it is imported attached to, or in conjunction with, nonsubject merchandise such as sinks, sink bowls, vanities, cabinets, and furniture. If QSP is imported attached to, or in conjunction with, such nonsubject merchandise, only the QSP is covered by the scope.

Subject merchandise includes material matching the above description that has been finished, packaged, or otherwise fabricated in a third country, including by cutting, polishing, curing, edging, thermoforming, attaching to, or packaging with another product, or any other finishing, packaging, or fabrication that would not otherwise remove the merchandise from the scope if performed in the country of manufacture of the QSP. The scope does not cover quarried stone surface products, such as granite, marble, soapstone, or quartzite.

For Customs purposes, QSP covered by the investigation is provided for under Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (“HTSUS”) statistical reporting numbers 6810.99.0020, 6810.99.0040, and 7020.00.6000. These HTSUS numbers are provided for convenience and the written description of the scope is dispositive.

**Determination to institute this investigation.**—QMAA initially submitted a petition on September 15, 2025. Shortly thereafter, the Commission received a series of submissions containing statements from a current producer of QSP slab and more than 700 entities stating that they were independent fabricators of QSP that oppose the petition. On September 23, 2025, and November 17, 2025, QMAA supplemented the petition with signed statements on behalf of E-Stone USA Corporation, LX Hausys America, Inc., and Hendrix Industries, Inc. supporting the petition. The Commission determined that the petition, as supplemented, was supported by entities representative of a domestic industry producing QSP, including an industry producing QSP slabs, and an industry producing both QSP slabs and fabricated QSP. Therefore, the Commission determined

<sup>1</sup> At the time the petition was filed, the QMAA was composed of Cambria Company, LLC, Le Sueur, Minnesota; Dal-Tile LLC, Dallas, Texas; Guidoni USA, McRae-Helena, Georgia; and Architectural Surfaces, Inc., Austin, Texas; but Architectural Surfaces subsequently withdrew its participation in the QMAA, while Hyundai L&C USA, Norcross, Georgia became a member of the QMAA.

that the petition, as supplemented, was properly filed as of November 17, 2025.

*Determination that investigation is extraordinarily complicated.*—The Commission has determined that this investigation is “extraordinarily complicated” within the meaning of section 202(b)(2)(B) of the Act (19 U.S.C. 2252(b)(2)(B)). The Commission’s decision to designate this investigation “extraordinarily complicated” is based on the complexity of the issues, including the existence of antidumping and countervailing duty orders on certain imports covered by this investigation. Ordinarily, the Commission would have been required to make its serious injury determination within 120 days after November 17, 2025, the date on which the petition was properly filed, or by March 17, 2026. (19 U.S.C. 2252 (b)(2)(A)). The statute permits the Commission to take up to 30 additional days to make its serious injury determination in an investigation where it determines that the investigation is extraordinarily complicated. In this instance, the Commission intends to take 15 additional days and make its serious injury determination by April 1, 2026.

*Participation in the investigation and public service list.*—Persons (other than petitioner) wishing to participate in the investigation as parties must file an entry of appearance with the Secretary to the Commission, as provided in section 201.11 of the Commission’s rules, not later than 21 days after publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**. The Secretary will prepare a service list containing the names and addresses of all persons, or their representatives, who are parties to this investigation upon the expiration of the period for filing entries of appearance.

Please note the Secretary’s Office will accept only electronic filings during this time. Filings must be made through the Commission’s Electronic Document Information System (EDIS, <https://edis.usitc.gov>.) No in-person paper-based filings or paper copies of any electronic filings will be accepted until further notice.

*Limited disclosure of confidential business information (CBI) under an administrative protective order (APO) and CBI service list.*—Pursuant to section 206.17 of the Commission’s rules, the Secretary will make CBI gathered in this investigation available to authorized applicants representing interested parties (as defined in 19 CFR 206.17(a)(3)(iii)) under the APO issued in the investigation, provided that the application is made not later than 21 days after the publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**. A separate

service list will be maintained by the Secretary for those parties authorized to receive CBI under the APO.

The Commission may transmit CBI to the Office of the United States Trade Representative (USTR) and may include CBI in the report it sends to the President and USTR for use in decision-making related to this proceeding. Additionally, all information, including CBI, submitted in this investigation may be disclosed to and used by (i) the Commission, its employees and Offices, and contract personnel (a) for developing or maintaining the records of this or a related proceeding, or (b) in internal investigations, audits, reviews, and evaluations relating to the programs, personnel, and operations of the Commission including under 5 U.S.C. Appendix 3; or (ii) by U.S. government employees and contract personnel for cybersecurity purposes. The Commission will not otherwise disclose any CBI in a manner that would reveal the operations of the firm supplying the information.

*Hearings on injury and remedy.*—The Commission has scheduled separate hearings in connection with the injury and remedy phases of this investigation. The hearing on injury will be held beginning at 9:30 a.m. on February 24, 2026, at the U.S. International Trade Commission Building, 500 E Street SW, Washington, DC. In the event that the Commission makes an affirmative serious injury determination or is equally divided on the question of serious injury in this investigation, a hearing on the question of remedy will be held beginning at 9:30 a.m. on April 14, 2026. Requests to appear at the hearings should be filed in writing with the Secretary to the Commission on or before February 13, 2026, for the injury hearing, and April 6, 2026, for the remedy hearing. A nonparty who has testimony that may aid the Commission’s deliberations may request permission to present a short statement at the hearings.

All parties and nonparties desiring to appear at the hearings and make oral presentations should participate in prehearing conferences to be held on February 20, 2026, for the injury hearing and April 10, 2026, for the remedy hearing, if deemed necessary. Parties shall file and serve written testimony and presentation slides in connection with their presentation at the hearing by no later than noon, on the business day prior to the hearing. Oral testimony and written materials to be submitted at the public hearings are governed by sections 201.6(b)(2) 201.13(f), and 206.5 of the Commission’s rules. Parties must submit any request to present a portion of their

hearing testimony *in camera* no later than 7 business days prior to the date of the respective hearings.

Any requests to appear as a witness via videoconference must be included with your request to appear. Requests to appear via videoconference must include a statement explaining why the witness cannot appear in person; the Chairman, or other person designated to conduct the investigations, may in their discretion for good cause shown, grant such a request. Requests to appear as remote witness due to illness or a positive COVID-19 test result may be submitted by 3:00 p.m. the business day prior to the hearing. Further information about participation in the hearing will be posted on the Commission’s website at <https://www.usitc.gov/calendarpad/calendar.html>.

*Written submissions.*—Each party who is an interested party may submit a prehearing brief to the Commission. Prehearing briefs must conform with the provisions of sections 201.8, 206.7, and 206.8 of the Commission’s rules. The deadline for filing prehearing briefs on injury is February 17, 2026; that for filing prehearing briefs on remedy, including any commitments pursuant to 19 U.S.C. 2252(a)(6)(B), is April 7, 2026. Parties may also file written testimony in connection with their presentation at the hearing, as provided in sections 201.13, 206.5, and 206.8 of the Commission’s rules, and posthearing briefs, which must conform with the provisions of sections 201.8, 201.13, 206.7, and 206.8 of Commission’s rules. The deadline for filing posthearing briefs for the injury phase of the investigation is March 3, 2026; the deadline for filing posthearing briefs for the remedy phase of the investigation, if any, is April 21, 2026.

No posthearing brief, either in the injury phase or any remedy phase, shall exceed fifteen (15) pages of textual material, double-spaced and single-sided, when printed out on pages measuring 8.5 x 11 inches. In addition, the presiding official may permit persons to file answers to questions or requests made by the Commission at the hearing for the injury phase, and at any hearing for the remedy phase, within a specified time. In addition, any person who has not entered an appearance as a party to the investigation may submit a written statement of information pertinent to the consideration of injury on or before March 3, 2026, and pertinent to the consideration of remedy on or before April 21, 2026. All written submissions must conform with the provisions of section 201.8 of the Commission’s rules; any submissions that contain CBI must also conform with

the requirements of sections 201.6 and 206.17 of the Commission's rules. The Commission's *Handbook on E-Filing*, available on the Commission's website at <https://edis.usitc.gov>, elaborates upon the Commission's rules with respect to electronic filing.

Any additional written submissions to the Commission, including requests pursuant to section 201.12 of the Commission's rules, will not be accepted unless good cause is shown for accepting such a submission, or unless the submission is pursuant to a specific request by a Commissioner or Commission staff.

In accordance with section 201.16(c) of the Commission's rules, each document filed by a party to the investigation must be served on all other parties to the investigation (as identified by the service list), and a certificate of service must be timely filed. The Secretary will not accept a document for filing without a certificate of service.

For further information concerning the conduct of this investigation and rules of general application, consult the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, part 201, subparts A and B (19 CFR part 201), and part 206, subparts A and B (19 CFR part 206).

**Authority:** This investigation is being conducted under authority of section 202 of the Act; this notice is published pursuant to section 202(b)(3) of the Act.

By order of the Commission.

Issued: November 26, 2025.

**Susan Orndoff,**

*Supervisory Attorney.*

[FR Doc. 2025-21715 Filed 11-28-25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7020-02-P

## INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

[Investigation Nos. 701-TA-463 and 731-TA-1159 (Third Review)]

### Oil Country Tubular Goods From China; Institution of Five-Year Reviews

**AGENCY:** United States International Trade Commission.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Commission hereby gives notice that it has instituted reviews pursuant to the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended, to determine whether revocation of the antidumping and countervailing duty orders on oil country tubular goods ("OCTG") from China would be likely to lead to continuation or recurrence of material injury. Pursuant to the Act, interested parties are requested to respond to this notice by submitting the information specified below to the Commission.

**DATES:** Instituted November 3, 2025.<sup>1</sup> To be assured of consideration, the deadline for responses is December 31, 2025. Comments on the adequacy of responses may be filed with the Commission by February 6, 2026.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Rachel Devenney (202-205-3172), Office of Investigations, U.S. International Trade Commission, 500 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20436. Hearing-impaired persons can obtain information on this matter by contacting the Commission's TDD terminal on 202-205-1810. Persons with mobility impairments who will need special assistance in gaining access to the Commission should contact the Office of the Secretary at 202-205-2000. General information concerning the Commission may also be obtained by accessing its internet server (<https://www.usitc.gov>). The public record for this proceeding may be viewed on the Commission's electronic docket (EDIS) at <https://edis.usitc.gov>.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Background.**—On January 20, 2010, the Department of Commerce ("Commerce") issued a countervailing duty order on imports of OCTG from China (75 FR 3203). On May 21, 2010, Commerce issued an antidumping duty order on imports of OCTG from China (75 FR 28551). Commerce issued a continuation of the antidumping and countervailing duty orders on imports of OCTG from China following Commerce's and the Commission's first five-year reviews, effective May 18, 2015 (80 FR 28224) and second five-year reviews, effective December 3, 2020 (85 FR 78117). The Commission is now conducting third five-year reviews pursuant to section 751(c) of the Act, as amended (19 U.S.C. 1675(c)), to determine whether revocation of the orders would be likely to lead to continuation or recurrence of material injury to the domestic industry within a reasonably foreseeable time. Provisions concerning the conduct of this proceeding may be found in the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure at 19 CFR part 201, subparts A and B, and 19 CFR part 207, subparts A and F. The Commission will assess the adequacy of interested party responses to this notice of institution to determine whether to conduct full or expedited reviews. The Commission's determinations in any expedited reviews will be based on the facts available, which may include

information provided in response to this notice.

**Definitions.**—The following definitions apply to these reviews:

(1) *Subject Merchandise* is the class or kind of merchandise that is within the scope of the five-year reviews, as defined by Commerce.

(2) The *Subject Country* in these reviews is China.

(3) The *Domestic Like Product* is the domestically produced product or products which are like, or in the absence of like, most similar in characteristics and uses with, the *Subject Merchandise*. In its original determinations and its expedited first and second five-year review determinations, the Commission defined a single *Domestic Like Product* consisting of all OCTG, coextensive with Commerce's scope.

(4) The *Domestic Industry* is the U.S. producers as a whole of the *Domestic Like Product*, or those producers whose collective output of the *Domestic Like Product* constitutes a major proportion of the total domestic production of the product. In its original determinations and its expedited first and second five-year review determinations, the Commission defined a single *Domestic Industry* consisting of all domestic producers of OCTG.

(5) An *Importer* is any person or firm engaged, either directly or through a parent company or subsidiary, in importing the *Subject Merchandise* into the United States from a foreign manufacturer or through its selling agent.

**Participation in the proceeding and public service list.**—Persons, including industrial users of the *Subject Merchandise* and, if the merchandise is sold at the retail level, representative consumer organizations, wishing to participate in the proceeding as parties must file an entry of appearance with the Secretary to the Commission, as provided in § 201.11(b)(4) of the Commission's rules, no later than 21 days after publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**. The Secretary will maintain a public service list containing the names and addresses of all persons, or their representatives, who are parties to the proceeding.

Former Commission employees who are seeking to appear in Commission five-year reviews are advised that they may appear in a review even if they participated personally and substantially in the corresponding underlying original investigation or an earlier review of the same underlying investigation. The Commission's designated agency ethics official has advised that a five-year review is not the

<sup>1</sup> Due to the lapse in appropriations and ensuing cessation of Commission operations, the deadlines in this proceeding have been tolled.