

USITC Announces Remedy Recommendations in its Global Safeguard Investigation Involving Imports of Quartz Surface Products

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Inv. No(s). Inv. No. TA-201-79 (Remedy)

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USITC ANNOUNCES REMEDY RECOMMENDATIONS IN ITS GLOBAL SAFEGUARD INVESTIGATION INVOLVING IMPORTS OF QUARTZ SURFACE PRODUCTS

The United States International Trade Commission (Commission or USITC) today announced the remedy recommendations in its global safeguard investigation regarding imports of quartz surface products that will be sent to the President.

Today's action follows the Commission's April 1, 2026 determination that quartz surface products are being imported into the United States in such increased quantities as to be a substantial cause of serious injury to the domestic industry producing an article like or directly competitive with the imported article. Information about the injury determination can be found in the April 1 [news release](#).

The [statements](#) of Chair Amy A. Karpel and Commissioner Jason E. Kearns regarding their remedy recommendations are attached. Both Commissioners recommend a tariff-rate quota (TRQ) on imports of quartz surface products, including slabs and fabricated quartz surface products, for a four-year period. The recommended in-quota tariff rate is 25 percent *ad valorem* and the recommended above-quota tariff rate is 40 percent *ad valorem* in Year 1 of the relief period, both of which decrease by one percentage point in each subsequent year of the four-year relief period. The TRQ recommended volume is 140,000,000 square feet in Year 1 of the relief period, 159,000,000 square feet in Year 2, 164,000,000 square feet in Year 3, and 169,000,000 square feet in Year 4; and the annual in-quota volume level is recommended to be allocated on a quarterly basis.

The Commissioners further recommend that U.S. imports from certain countries be excluded from the TRQ, and that a robust mechanism to reduce the potential for circumvention of this remedy is implemented. Commissioner Kearns makes certain additional recommendations. Full details on their recommendations will be included in the report to the President.

The Commission will forward its report, which will contain its injury determination, remedy recommendations, certain additional findings, and the basis for the findings, to the President by

May 18, 2026.

The President will make the final decision concerning whether to provide relief to the U.S. industry and the type and amount of relief.

The Commission's public report to the President, *Quartz Surface Products*, Inv. No. TA-201-79, USITC Publication 5738, May 2026, will be available [on the USITC website](#) by June 26, 2026.

COMMISSIONER STATEMENTS



UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, DC 20436

May 5, 2026

Quartz Surface Products
Investigation No. TA-201-79 (Remedy Phase)

Chair Amy A. Karpel recommends to the President the following actions:

Pursuant to Section 202(e) of the Trade Act of 1974, Chair Karpel recommends that the President take the following actions to address the serious injury that she has found to the domestic industry and to be most effective in facilitating the efforts of the domestic industry to make a positive adjustment to import competition.

Pursuant to Section 202(e)(2)(B) of the Trade Act of 1974, Chair Karpel recommends a tariff-rate quota (TRQ) on all imports of quartz surface products (“QSP”), exclusive of imports from countries with which the United States has entered into a free trade agreement, as detailed below. Specifically, she recommends a tariff-rate quota with an in-quota tariff rate of 25 percent *ad valorem* and an above-quota rate of 40 percent *ad valorem*. Chair Karpel recommends that this tariff-rate quota be implemented for four years. The in-quota volume level for Year 1 of the relief period would be 140,000,000 square feet. The in-quota volume level would be 159,000,000 square feet in Year 2, 164,000,000 square feet in Year 3, and 169,000,000 square feet in Year 4. She also recommends that the in-quota tariff rate decrease by 1 percentage point in each subsequent year of the four-year relief period, *i.e.*, to 24 percent in Year 2, to 23 percent in Year 3, and to 22 percent in Year 4. Chair Karpel further recommends that the above-quota tariff rate decrease by 1 percentage point in each subsequent year during the four-year relief period, *i.e.*, to 39 percent in Year 2, to 38 percent in Year 3, and to 37 percent in Year 4.

Chair Karpel further recommends that the annual tariff-rate quota level be allocated on a quarterly basis, with each quarter allowing for 25 percent of the in-quota volume.

| | Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 | Year 4 |
|---|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| In-Quota Volume (millions of square feet) | 140 | 159 | 164 | 169 |
| In-Quota Tariff Rate (<i>ad valorem</i>) | 25 | 24 | 23 | 22 |
| Out-of-Quota Tariff Rate (<i>ad valorem</i>) | 40 | 39 | 38 | 37 |

Having made findings that U.S. imports from Australia, the CAFTA-DR countries, Colombia, Honduras, Israel, Jordan, Panama, Peru, Singapore, South Korea and the beneficiary countries under the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act were not a substantial cause of the serious injury experienced by the domestic industry, Chair Karpel recommends to the President that U.S. imports from these countries be excluded from the tariff-rate quota. Having also made negative findings with respect to imports from Canada and Mexico under section 302 of the United States-Mexico-Canada Free Trade Agreement Implementation Act, she recommends that the President exclude such imports from the tariff-rate quota.

Chair Karpel further recommends that the President consider policy proposals suggested by the Petitioners to mitigate potential circumvention via non-covered countries.



UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, DC 20436

May 5, 2026

Statement of Commissioner Jason E. Kearns on remedy recommendations in the global safeguard investigation *Quartz Surface Products, Inv. No. TA-201-79*

I recommend that for a four-year period the President impose a tariff-rate quota (TRQ) on imports of quartz surface products (QSP) with:

- a) A quota volume built on a base level of 154 million square feet (SF), allocated quarterly, reduced in the first year to address the estimated excess import inventories built up in 2025 and increasing 3 percent each year to account for projected growth in apparent consumption;
- b) An in-quota tariff rate of 25%, reduced by one percentage point each year; and
- c) An out-of-quota tariff rate of 40%, reduced by one percentage point each year.

De-stacking: I recommend “de-stacking” these and any other additional tariffs to prevent multiple additional duties on QSP, in consideration of the downstream impact. This does not apply to AD/CVD tariffs since they serve a different purpose of remedying unfair trade.

Compensation for Downstream QSP Users Based on TRQ Revenue: I recommend that the President submit to Congress a legislative proposal to distribute TRQ revenue generated by this action to downstream users of the article, to the extent necessary to reduce injury to downstream users.

Circumvention: I recommend a robust mechanism to reduce the potential for circumvention of this remedy, building off the strengthened enforcement of anti-dumping/countervailing duty (AD/CVD) orders on imports from certain countries.

International Negotiations: I recommend that President continue broad-based negotiations with trading partners to reduce overcapacity and global imbalances that drive U.S. imports of QSP and other products to levels that injure domestic producers.

Product Exclusion Process: I recommend that the President authorize the establishment of an exclusion process to allow for importation of covered imports without application of the tariff-

rate quota in the case of a demonstrated lack of production in the United States for a particularized QSP product or in the case of a critical short supply of a particularized QSP product from domestic sources.

FTA and Trade Preference Countries: Having made findings that U.S. imports from Australia, the CAFTA-DR countries, Colombia, Honduras, Israel, Jordan, Panama, Peru, Singapore, South Korea and the beneficiary countries under the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act were not a substantial cause of the serious injury experienced by the domestic industry, I recommend to the President that U.S. imports from these countries be excluded from the tariff-rate quota. Having also made negative findings with respect to imports from Canada and Mexico under section 302 of the United States-Mexico-Canada Free Trade Agreement Implementation Act, I recommend that the President exclude such imports from the tariff-rate quota.

For ease of reference, I provide the following table concerning the TRQ on QSP, which includes both unfabricated and fabricated slabs within the scope:

| | Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 | Year 4 |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| In-Quota Tariff Rate | 25% | 24% | 23% | 22% |
| In-Quota Volume Level (SF) | 140 million | 159 million | 164 million | 169 million |
| Out-of-Quota Tariff Rate | 40% | 39% | 38% | 37% |