



WASHINGTON MONITOR

A Weekly Review of U.S. Trade Policy Developments Affecting Japan

October 27, 2009

Volume 13 Issue 43

Contents

Trade Briefs

- Obama's Upcoming Trip to Japan

Dumping Watch

- Initiation of AD Reviews of SS Wire Rod from Japan, Italy, Korea, Spain, and Taiwan

The Week Ahead

The Washington Monitor is a product of the Japan Fair Trade Center in cooperation with the international trade practice of the U.S. law firm of Winston & Strawn LLP. All questions concerning its content should be addressed to:

Washington Monitor
Winston & Strawn L.L.P.
1700 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006
rmassony@winston.com

Trade Briefs

Obama's Upcoming Trip to Japan

President Obama will take a trip to Asia in mid-November to meet with various heads of state and discuss economic and security issues.

Obama will begin his trip in Tokyo on November 12-13 where he will have two meetings with the Japanese Prime Minister Yukio Hatoyama. Next, Obama will spend November 13-15 in Singapore for a meeting of the leaders of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC). Obama will then fly to Beijing to meet with Chinese officials on November 18-19. Finally, Obama will end his trip with a visit to Seoul to meet with South Korea's President Lee Myung-bak.

President Obama's trip to Japan and meetings with Prime Minister Hatoyama are likely to touch on security issues. Obama is now reviewing U.S. policy in the war in Afghanistan, and Japan's new government has announced that it will end its naval refueling mission that supported coalition forces in the Afghanistan-Pakistan region. Also, the Hatoyama Administration's election revealed latent Japanese discomfort over the U.S. troop presence in Japan. The two leaders are sure to discuss the agreement between the U.S. and Japan to relocate forces to a new air base on Okinawa. U.S. Secretary of Defense Robert Gates made blunt demands of the Japanese government to live up to its agreement. Finally, Obama and Hatoyama will probably address the North Korea nuclear issue, as both countries have a substantial security interest in seeing that problem defused.

While economic issues may take a back seat to security, they are sure to be discussed. The leaders will probably discuss ongoing trade issues like beef and insurance, but there may be a new focus on services in preparation for the APEC forum in Singapore.

Obama's visits to Singapore, Beijing, and Seoul will not be dominated by political flashpoints on security issues like his trip to Tokyo. Instead, Obama's visits to those nations will probably deal with broad security concerns but then concentrate on economic issues and how to get the global economy back on its feet. In Korea, for instance, the North Korea issue will be discussed. However, there will also be substantial discussion of the pending Korea-U.S. Free Trade Agreement (KORUS FTA) and how the two leaders might go about seeking its ratification.

Dumping Watch

Initiation of AD Reviews of SS Wire Rod from Japan, Italy, Korea, Spain, and Taiwan

On October 21, the International Trade Commission (ITC) gave notice that it was initiating full five-year reviews of the antidumping (AD) duty orders on stainless steel wire rod (SS wire rod) from Japan, Italy, Korea, Spain, and Taiwan. On October 5, the ITC determined that it would proceed to full five-year reviews of the AD orders on SS wire rod from these countries. The domestic interested party group responses to the notice of institution were not all adequate, but the ITC decided to go ahead with all five reviews in order to promote administrative efficiency. The schedule for these reviews will be announced later.

Federal Register Notices

International Trade Administration

[C-570-963] Certain Sodium and Potassium Phosphate Salts From the People's Republic of China: Initiation of Countervailing Duty Investigation *74 FR 54778-54781*, October 23, 2009.

[A-570-960, A-583-845] Certain Standard Steel Fasteners From the People's Republic of China and Taiwan: Initiation of Antidumping Duty Investigations *74 FR 54537-54543*, October 22, 2009.

[A-570-947] Certain Steel Grating from the People's Republic of China: Postponement of Preliminary Determination of Antidumping Duty Investigation *74 FR 54535-54536*, October 22, 2009.

[A-533-848] Notice of Final Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value: Commodity Matchbooks from India *74 FR 54536-54537*, October 22, 2009.

[C-570-961] Certain Standard Steel Fasteners From the People's Republic of China: Initiation of Countervailing Duty Investigation *74 FR 54543-54547*, October 22, 2009.

[C-533-849] Commodity Matchbooks From India: Final Affirmative Countervailing Duty Determination *74 FR 54547-54548*, October 22, 2009.

North Dakota State University, et al., Notice of Consolidated Decision on Applications for Duty-Free Entry of Electron Microscopes *74 FR 54021*, October 21, 2009.

[C-489-806] Certain Pasta From Turkey: Final Results of Countervailing Duty Changed Circumstances Review *74 FR 54022-54023*, October 21, 2009.

[A-570-962] Certain Sodium and Potassium Phosphate Salts From the People's Republic of China: Initiation of Antidumping Duty Investigation *74 FR 54024-54028*, October 21, 2009.

[A-570-894] Certain Tissue Paper Products from the People's Republic of China: Notice of Partial Rescission of Antidumping Duty Administrative Review *74 FR 54030-54031*, October 21, 2009.

[A-570-831] Fresh Garlic from the People's Republic of China: Partial Rescission of Antidumping Duty Administrative Review *74 FR 54029-54030*, October 21, 2009.

[A-533-840, A-549-822] Certain Frozen Warmwater Shrimp From India and Thailand: Notice of Extension of Time Limits for the Preliminary Results of the Fourth Administrative Reviews *74 FR 53700-53701*, October 20, 2009.

[A-552-802] Certain Frozen Warmwater Shrimp from the Socialist Republic of Vietnam: Amended Final Results of Antidumping Duty Administrative Review *74 FR 53701-53703*, October 20, 2009.

[C-560-824] Certain Coated Paper From Indonesia: Initiation of Countervailing Duty Investigation *74 FR 53707-53710*, October 20, 2009.

[C-570-959] Certain Coated Paper Suitable for High-Quality Print Graphics Using Sheet-Fed Presses from the People's Republic of China: Initiation of Countervailing Duty Investigation *74 FR 53703-53707*, October 20, 2009.

[C-423-809] Stainless Steel Plate in Coils from Belgium: Rescission of Countervailing Duty Administrative Review *74 FR 53707*, October 20, 2009.

[A-560-823, A-570-958] Certain Coated Paper Suitable for High-Quality Print Graphics Using Sheet-Fed Presses From Indonesia and the People's Republic of China: Initiation of Antidumping Duty Investigations *74 FR 53710-53716*, October 20, 2009.

[A-331-802] Certain Frozen Warmwater Shrimp From Ecuador: Amended Final Results of Antidumping Duty Administrative Review *74 FR 53465-53467*, October 19, 2009.

[A-423-808] Stainless Steel Plate in Coils From Belgium: Final Results of Antidumping Duty Administrative Review *74 FR 53468-53470*, October 19, 2009.

[A-570-886, A-557-813, A-549-821] Polyethylene Retail Carrier Bags From the People's Republic of China, Thailand, and Malaysia: Final Results of the Expedited Sunset Reviews of the Antidumping Duty Orders *74 FR 53470-53472*, October 19, 2009.

International Trade Commission

[USITC SE-09-028] Government In the Sunshine Act Meeting Notice *74 FR 54593*, October 22, 2009.

[Investigation Nos. 731-TA-394-A & 399-A (Second Review) (Remand)] Ball Bearings From Japan and the United Kingdom *74 FR 54070-54071*, October 21, 2009.

[Investigation No. 731-TA-208 (Third Review)] Barbed Wire and Barbless Wire Strand From Argentina *74 FR 54068*, October 21, 2009.

[Investigation No. 731-TA-149 (Third Review)] Barium Chloride From China *74 FR 54069-54070*, October 21, 2009.

[Inv. No. 337-TA-689] In the Matter of: Certain Dual Access Locks and Products Containing Same; Notice of Investigation *74 FR 54065-54066*, October 21, 2009.

[Investigation No. 731-TA-1047 (Review)] Ironing Tables From China *74 FR 54066-54067*, October 21, 2009.

[Investigation Nos. 731-TA-1043-1045 (Review)] Polyethylene Retail Carrier Bags From China, Malaysia, and Thailand *74 FR 54069*, October 21, 2009.

[Investigation No. 731-TA-44 (Third Review)] Sorbitol From France *74 FR 54068-54069*, October 21, 2009.

[Investigation Nos. 731-TA-770-773 and 775 (Second Review)] Stainless Steel Wire Rod From Italy, Japan, Korea, Spain, and Taiwan 74 FR 54068, October 21, 2009.

[Investigation No. 731-TA-1046 (Review)] Tetrahydrofurfuryl Alcohol From China 74 FR 54067-54068, October 21, 2009.

Summary of Commission Practice Relating to Administrative Protective Orders 74 FR 54071-54076, October 21, 2009.

Office of the U.S. Trade Representative

Generalized System of Preferences (GSP): Notice Regarding the 2009 Annual Product Review for Acceptance of Product Petitions 74 FR 54619-54620, October 22, 2009.

The Week Ahead

- On October 30, the ITC will hold a commission vote on the preliminary phase AD and CVD investigations into certain seamless carbon and alloy steel standard, line, and pressure pipe from China.