



**Trade Remedies
Authority**

**Investigation No. AS0079 –
Creamy/White Limestone**

Countervailing duties on Creamy/White Limestone from Portugal

Note to public file

24th August 2026

Business responses

The TRA conducted an online survey of upstream and downstream businesses to help us to understand the economic impacts of the tariffs paid on Creamy/White Limestone from Portugal. The survey was open from 1st July 2026 to 31st July 2026. This document sets out the evidence received from this survey.

Number of responses and verification

We received 16 responses. We reviewed these and removed:

- Responses where only the first question had been completed
- Responses where the business identity could not be verified
- Responses from ineligible businesses (e.g. producers of creamy/white limestone)
- Responses from outside of the UK
- Duplicate responses

Once these responses were removed, there were 4 responses remaining.

Business responses (4 responses)

After checking and removing responses as set out above, 4 business responses remained.

Q1 How did you find out about this survey?

Email from TRA	3
News Story	
Social Media	
TRA Website	
Other (please specify)	1

Q2 How does creamy/white limestone relate to your business?

We sell to UK producers of Creamy/white limestone (Upstream business)	
We are a UK producer of Creamy/white limestone	
We are a foreign producer of Creamy/white limestone	
We sell Creamy/white limestone in our business (Downstream seller)	3
We use/blend Creamy/white limestone in our business (Downstream user)	1
None of above or unsure	

Upstream business (0 responses)

No respondents identified themselves as an upstream business.

Downstream businesses (3 responses)

The 3 respondents who identified as downstream sellers in **Q2** submitted the following answers:

Q10 Please describe what your business does.

Three businesses submitted a response to this question. All three respondents operate within the stone and masonry industry. Two respondents were involved in the supply and processing of stone products, while one respondent operated as a stonework contractor providing installation, restoration and refurbishment services.

Q11 Does your company transform the creamy/white limestone purchased in any way before selling it to your customers? If yes, how?

Three businesses submitted a response to this question. Two respondents reported processing creamy/white limestone into finished products through cutting, shaping and finishing activities. One respondent reported that it does not transform the stone before sale.

Q12 Please describe what type of creamy/white limestone you purchase and sell (e.g. in terms of colour, texture, technical properties etc. Is it Portland Stone / Moleanos Limestone / Cabeça Veada Limestone / something else?)

Three businesses submitted a response to this question. Respondents reported purchasing and selling a range of creamy/white limestones sourced from both the UK and overseas. Commonly referenced stone types included Portland Stone and Moleanos Limestone. Two respondents reported sourcing a broader variety of stone to meet customer requirements.

Q13 Does your company import creamy/white limestone?

Yes, we import	1
No, we buy from UK producers / retailers	1
Both, import and buy from the UK	1

Q14 – Q16 Please name your supplier(s) and their country(ies), (i.e. Company name, Country).

We did not ask for country of suppliers if they selected “No, we buy from UK producers / retailers” in Q13.

Three businesses submitted a response to this question, but their responses are not disclosed because the information in their responses could be commercially sensitive or could reveal their business identities.

Q17 Please provide your company's total sales revenue (in pound sterling) from the last financial year.

Two businesses submitted a response to this question, but their responses are not disclosed because the information in their responses could be commercially sensitive or could reveal their business identities.

Q18 Approximately what percentage of your total sales revenue in the last financial year were from sales of creamy/white limestone?

Only two businesses submitted a response to this question, but their responses are not disclosed because the information in their responses could be commercially sensitive or could reveal their business identities.

Q19 Who do you sell to? (Other businesses / final consumers, etc.)

Only two businesses submitted a response to this question. Both businesses primarily sell to other businesses within the construction and stonework supply chain, including contractors, fabricators and stonemasons.

Q20 Approximately how many UK employees does your company have?

Only two businesses submitted a response to this question but their responses are not disclosed because the information in their responses could be commercially sensitive or could reveal their business identities.

**Q21 If prices of creamy white limestone were to increase how would you respond?
(Respondents may select more than one option)**

Reduce purchases of creamy white limestone	1
Purchase same quantity of creamy white limestone	1
Reduce purchase of other goods to maintain quantity of creamy white limestone	
Purchase cheaper creamy white limestone from another country/ies (please specify)	

Other (please specify)	
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Q22 Are your products ever used because of a protected characteristic? Protected characteristics are: age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, and sexual orientation?

Only two businesses submitted a response to this question. Their answers were “No”.

Q23 Please tell us how a tariff on creamy/white limestone from Portugal would affect your company and industry?

Only two businesses submitted a response to this question. One respondent indicated that a tariff would increase business costs. The other respondent stated that a tariff would not significantly affect its operations, as it primarily uses indigenous stone, but suggested that it could benefit the UK extractive industry by improving the competitiveness of domestic suppliers.

Q24 In your experience are there any notable differences in creamy/white limestone from Portugal compared to those from other countries including the UK (e.g. in terms of price, quality or characteristics)?

Two businesses submitted a response to this question. Both respondents reported that Portuguese limestone is generally cheaper than UK alternatives. One respondent stated that Portuguese limestone is less strong than UK limestone. The other considered the quality of stone from reputable UK and overseas suppliers to be broadly similar but noted that some imported materials may perform less well in the UK's wetter and colder climate over the long term.

Q25 Is there any other information you would like to provide to help us assess the effects of a tariff on creamy/white limestone from Portugal on the overall economic interest of the UK?

One business submitted a substantive response to this question. The respondent expressed concern about the competitiveness of the UK extractive industry, stating that increasing use of imported stone may place domestic producers under pressure. The respondent also suggested that current market conditions do not provide a level playing field for UK producers and highlighted potential implications for net zero and circular economy objectives.

Downstream users (1 response)

Due to the limited number of responses received, we are unable to publish a summary of the downstream user's survey response. This is because the information in the response could be commercially sensitive or reveal the name of the business that participated.

Annex A: Survey Questions

Q1 How did you find out about this survey?

Q2 How does Creamy/White Limestone relate to your business?

If Q2 answer is “Upstream”:

Q3 Please describe what your business does.

Q4 To your knowledge, are any products sold by your company used in the production of creamy/white limestone?

Q5 Please provide your company's total sales revenue (in pound sterling) from the last financial year.

Q6 Roughly what percentage of your total sales from the last financial year were to companies which produce creamy/white limestone?

Q7 Approximately how many UK employees does your company have?

Q8 Please tell us how a tariff on creamy/white limestone from Portugal would affect your company and industry?

Q9 Is there any other information you would like to provide to help us assess the effects of a tariff on creamy/white limestone from Portugal on the overall economic interest of the UK?

If Q2 answer is “Downstream Seller”:

Q10 Please describe what your business does

Q11 Does your company transform the creamy/white limestone purchased before selling it to your customers? If yes, how?

Q12 Please describe what type of creamy/white limestone you purchase and sell (e.g. in terms of colour, texture, technical properties etc. Is it Portland Stone / Moleanos Limestone / Cabeça Veada Limestone / something else?)

Q13 Does your company import creamy/white limestone?

If Q13 answer is “Yes”: Q14 Please name your supplier(s) and their country(ies), (i.e. Company name, Country).

If Q13 answer is “No”: Q15 Please name your supplier(s).

If Q13 answer is “Both”: Q16: Please list your supplier(s) of creamy/white limestone and their country(ies), (i.e. Company name, Country).

Q17 Please provide your company’s total sales revenue (in pound sterling) from the last financial year.

Q18 Approximately what percentage of your total sales revenue in the last financial year from sales of creamy/white limestone?

Q19 Who do you sell to? (Other businesses / final consumers, etc.)

Q20 Approximately how many UK employees does your company have?

Q21 If prices of creamy/white limestone were to increase how would you respond?
(Respondents may select more than one option)

Q22 Are your products ever used because of a protected characteristic? Protected characteristics are: age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, and sexual orientation?

Q23 Please tell us how a tariff on creamy/white limestone from Portugal would affect your company and industry?

Q24 In your experience are there any notable differences in creamy/white limestone from Portugal compared to those from other countries including the UK (e.g. in terms of price, quality or characteristics)?

Q25 Is there any other information you would like to provide to help us assess the effects of a tariff on creamy/white limestone from Portugal on the overall economic interest of the UK?

If Q2 answer is “Downstream User”:

Q26 Please describe what your business does.

Q27 Please describe what type of creamy/white limestone you use (e.g. in terms of colour, texture, technical properties etc. Is it Portland Stone / Moleanos Limestone / Cabeça Veada Limestone / something else?)

Q28 Does your company import creamy/white limestone?

If Q28 answer is “Yes”: Q29 Please name your supplier(s) and their country(ies), (i.e. Company name, Country).

If Q28 answer is “No”: Q30 Please name your supplier(s).

If Q28 answer is “Both”: Q31: Please list your supplier(s) of creamy/white limestone and their country(ies), (i.e. Company name, Country).

Q32 Please provide your company’s total sales revenue (in pound sterling) from the last financial year.

Q33 Approximately what percentage of your total sales revenue in the last financial year from sales of creamy?

Q34 What do you use creamy/white limestone for?

Q35 Approximately how many UK employees does your company have?

Q36 If prices of creamy/white limestone were to increase how would you respond?
(Respondents may select more than one option)

Q37 Are your products ever used because of a protected characteristic? Protected characteristics are: age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, and sexual orientation?

Q38 Please tell us how a tariff on creamy/white limestone from Portugal would affect your company and industry?

Q39 In your experience are there any notable differences in creamy/white limestone from Portugal compared to those from other countries including the UK (e.g. in terms of price, quality or characteristics)?

Q40 Is there any other information you would like to provide to help us assess the effects of a tariff on creamy/white limestone from Portugal on the overall economic interest of the UK?

If Q2 answer is “Unsure”:

Q41 Please describe what your business does.

Q42 Does your company import creamy/white limestone?

If Q42 answer is “Yes”: Q43 Please name your supplier(s) and their country(ies), (i.e. Company name, Country).

If Q42 answer is “No”: Q44 Please name your supplier(s).

If Q42 answer is “Both”: Q45: Please list your supplier(s) of creamy/white limestone and their country(ies), (i.e. Company name, Country).

Q46 Please provide your company’s total sales revenue (in pound sterling) from the last financial year.

Q47 Approximately what percentage of your total sales revenue in the last financial year were from sales of creamy/white limestone?

Q48 Who do you sell to? (Other business / final consumers, etc.)

Q49 Approximately how many UK employees does your company have?

Q50 If prices of creamy/white limestone were to increase, how would you respond?

Q51 Are your products ever used because of a protected characteristic? Protected characteristics are: age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, and sexual orientation?

Q52 Please tell us how a tariff on creamy/white limestone from Portugal would affect your company and industry?

Q53 In your experience are there any notable differences in creamy/white limestone from Portugal compared to those from other countries including the UK (e.g. in terms of price, quality or characteristics)?

Q54 Is there any other information you would like to provide to help us assess the likely effect of a tariff on creamy/white limestone from Portugal on the overall economic interest of the UK?