

**NON-CONFIDENTIAL**

June 11, 2025

**Trade Remedies Authority**

Premier House  
60 Caversham Road  
Reading RG1 7EB  
United Kingdom

**RE: Transition Review TS0060 – Submission on the Statement of Essential Facts**

To whom it may concern,

We write on behalf of **Alpek Polyester UK (APUK)**, the sole UK producer of virgin Polyethylene Terephthalate (PET), in response to the Statement of Essential Facts (SEF) issued by the Trade Remedies Authority (TRA) on 29 May 2025 in the matter of the **Transition Review TS0060 concerning countervailing measures on imports of PET from India**.

This submission is made in due time, in accordance with Regulation 62(2) of the Trade Remedies (Dumping and Subsidisation) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019, and in line with the deadline stated on page 3 of the SEF: “before 23:59 UK time on 13 June 2025.”

**I. Change of the name of the Representative and the Submission of these comments**

Please note that [REDACTED], who previously served as the main contact representing the company in TS0060, has now retired. I, [REDACTED], am now responsible for commercial operations at APUK and will act as the company’s representative before the TRA. I have registered on the Trade Remedies Service (<https://www.trade-remedies.service.gov.uk>); however, this registration occurred after the stated deadline. While I was still able to register interest, the system indicated that my opportunities to participate may be limited. For this reason, I am submitting this response via email to [REDACTED] and copying [REDACTED], and respectfully request that it be properly considered for the purposes of this proceeding.

**II. Support for TRA’s Findings and Recommendation**

APUK welcomes the findings set out in Section J of the SEF and fully supports the TRA’s final recommendation the Secretary of State to maintain the existing countervailing duties on PET from India for a further period of five years, pursuant to Regulations 100(1), (2)(a)(i) and 100A.

The TRA’s determination that subsidised imports from India are likely to recur, and that injury to the UK industry would also recur in the absence of the measure, is well-founded and supported by the evidence. As noted in the SEF (paragraphs 353–358), the proposed continuation of the existing duties is adequate.

**Alpek Polyester UK Ltd.**

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### **III. Continued Protection is Essential for the UK PET Industry**

The review confirms that APUK is the only known producer of virgin PET in the UK. The SEF recognises (paragraphs 56–63) that the UK PET industry is already operating under pressure from rising imports and declining domestic sales.

Despite substantial capacity, APUK has been unable to increase domestic supply due to price pressures driven by global competition and subsidised imports. Maintaining the countervailing measures is therefore critical to preserving fair competition and preventing long-term erosion of the UK production base.

### **IV. Lack of Cooperation from Indian Exporters**

APUK notes that no exporters or producers from India registered an interest in the investigation, nor did the Government of India submit any evidence or information. As stated in Section C2 of the SEF, this lack of cooperation severely limited TRA's ability to assess exporter-specific data, and required reliance on best information available.

In our view, the non-cooperation of Indian exporting producers and the government of India reflects a tacit acceptance of the existence of continued subsidisation. It further underscores the need to preserve the existing duties without recalculation, as recalibration would have depended on credible, verified data that was simply not made available.

### **V. Endorsement of TRA's Analytical Approach**

We commend the TRA for its balanced and evidence-based approach. In particular, the detailed analysis of ongoing Indian subsidy programmes (Section F3), exports and underutilised Indian production capacity (F4), and the attractiveness of the UK market (F5) demonstrates the robustness of the likelihood assessments under Regulation 99A.

Additionally, we welcome the recognition that no distinction is made between virgin and recycled PET under the product scope, confirming that all imports of PET with viscosity  $\geq 78$  ml/g fall within the scope of the measure—regardless of origin or processing.

### **VI. Alignment with the Economic Interest of the United Kingdom**

APUK agrees with the TRA's assessment that maintaining the current countervailing duties satisfies the Economic Interest Test, as outlined in Section H of the SEF and pursuant to Regulation 100(1E).

The duties support the only UK-based producer of virgin PET, help secure local production and jobs, and contribute to industrial resilience at a time when global supply chains remain vulnerable. In addition, the duties help prevent long-term structural injury to the UK's PET sector from persistently subsidised imports.

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Importantly, as noted during the course of this proceeding, PET is not a price-setting input in consumer goods. It represents only an insignificant share of the total cost in finished products such as beverage bottles or food containers. Given the multi-stage nature of the supply chain—spanning converters, packagers, and brand owners—the price of PET resin does not directly influence final consumer prices. Consequently, the continued application of duties on PET resin is unlikely to result in inflationary effects.

Overall, maintaining the measure supports fair market conditions without disrupting downstream industries or consumer welfare. In our view, this is a proportionate and economically sound course of action aligned with the broader public interest.

## VII. Call for Adoption of the Final Recommendation

Given the compelling evidence and well-reasoned conclusions presented by the TRA, APUK strongly urges the Secretary of State to adopt the TRA's final recommendation in full. Maintaining the current countervailing measures will safeguard the UK industry against a resurgence of unfairly traded imports and help ensure long-term market stability.

We remain available to provide any additional clarification or supporting information the TRA or the Secretary of State may require in the lead-up to the final determination.

Respectfully submitted,

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