



AMENDED NOTICE OF INITIATION

Review No. SC0039

Countervailing duties on imports of continuous filament glass fibre products originating in Egypt

Initiation of a Scope Review

The Trade Remedies Authority (TRA) makes the following amended Notice of Initiation under regulations 41(6) and 67(7) of The Trade Remedies (Dumping and Subsidisation) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 (the Regulations) expanding the issues to be considered in a scope review into continuous filament glass fibre products (GFR) originating in Egypt.

This scope review concerns countervailing measures imposed as a result of the European Commission (EC) investigation into subsidised imports from Egypt under Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/870. These measures were imposed from 24 June 2020. During the transition period, the Secretary of State for International Trade (the Secretary of State) determined that the measures should be maintained in the UK from 1 January 2021. This is set out in [taxation notice 2020/37: countervailing duty on continuous filament glass fibre products originating in Egypt](#).

The date of initiation of the review was **7 July 2023**.

INITIATION OF A SCOPE REVIEW

An application to initiate a scope review (the Application) was lodged by GRP Solutions Ltd (the Applicant), an importer of the goods subject to review.

The Applicant's address is provided as: 2500 Blueprint, Portfield Road, Portsmouth, PO3 5FJ.

The goods subject to review are those which are listed below in this amended Notice of Initiation.

The Application indicates that:

- the goods/description of goods should be varied; and
- the nature of that variation does not justify a full investigation.

The Application also provides additional evidence in relation to the points listed below.

- The Applicant claims that as countervailing measures on mats made of glass fibre filaments, excluding mats of glass wool, imported from the People's Republic of China under commodity code 70 19 14 00 90 were revoked as part of transition review no. TS0009, duties should also be removed in respect of the same goods imported from Egypt.
- The Applicant's claim is based on the fact that, in our final recommendation in transition review no. TS0009, we stated that "mats are not produced in the UK, and there are no plans for domestic production of mats in the foreseeable future." We also stated that "no areas of interchangeability between mats and the GFR goods produced in the UK have been found."

We have also considered:

- the relationship between the goods subject to review and the like goods in the domestic market in the UK;
- the impact, or potential impact, of any change in scope on the intended effects of the countervailing amount;
- whether any prejudice could be caused to the interests of any interested party or contributor; and
- whether the application of customs rules would resolve the issues raised by Applicant.

Having assessed the Application and the above listed factors, we considered that the Applicant had provided sufficient evidence to substantiate the need for a scope review and the scope review was initiated on 7 July 2023.

A non-confidential version of the Application can be seen on the [public file](#).

ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION IN A SCOPE REVIEW

When conducting this scope review, we will consider whether the goods or the description of goods to which the countervailing amount is applicable should be varied.

CONSULTATION TO EXPAND THE ISSUES TO BE CONSIDERED

On initiation of the scope review, the TRA provided an opportunity for interested parties and contributors to comment on a proposal to expand the issues to be considered, to include all four commodity codes for mats made of glass fibre filaments excluding mats of glass wool, rather than just considering the one commodity code referred to in the Application.

Following expiry of the consultation period, the TRA considered the comments received and has determined to proceed to expand the issues to be considered as proposed. In doing so we have concluded that, under Regulation 41(5) of the Regulations:

- It is likely the TRA would have initiated its review with a wider scope had the application been made on that basis;
- The proposed revision does not cause any prejudice to the interests of any interested party or contributor; and
- The proposed revision will not prevent the TRA from proceeding with the review expeditiously.

Accordingly, the TRA has decided to expand the issues to be considered in the review to include all four commodity codes related to mats. This will allow the TRA to assess whether the scope of the measure should be varied and to what extent.

HOW TO TAKE PART IN THE REVIEW

Registration period

Anyone interested in taking part in the review can register their interest through the [Trade Remedies Service](#) by 23 August 2023, if they have not already done so.

Please contact SC0039@traderemedies.gov.uk if you have any difficulties using this service.

Anyone registering their interest after 23 August 2023 may not be able to participate fully in the review process.

Interested parties and contributors

Once registered, interested parties and contributors can submit comments on any issues relevant to the review through the [Trade Remedies Service](#).

Interested parties may include:

- the government of Egypt;
- any overseas exporter or importer of the goods subject to review;
- any overseas producer of the goods subject to review;
- any trade or business association of overseas producers, overseas exporters or importers of the goods subject to review;
- any producer of the like goods in the UK; and
- any trade or business association of UK producers of the like goods.

Contributors are those, other than interested parties, who have notified the Secretary of State to advise that they would like to participate in the review.

Like goods are goods which are like the goods subject to review in all respects, or if there are no such goods, those which have characteristics closely resembling the goods subject to review.

THE GOODS SUBJECT TO REVIEW

The goods subject to review are:

mats made of glass fibre filaments excluding mats of glass wool.

The goods subject to review are subject to the following commodity codes:

70 19 14 00 10

70 19 14 00 90

70 19 15 00 10

70 19 15 00 90

SUMMARY OF THE REVIEW PROCESS

The Period of Investigation (POI) for this review is 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023.

The review will involve the following process:

- inviting parties to register their interest in the review;
- obtaining information from appropriate parties;
- analysing information gathered;
- determining whether to maintain or vary the countervailing amount; and
- publishing a Statement of Essential Facts. On publication, we will set a period of time, which will be no longer than 30 days, during which parties will be able to comment on the Statement of Essential Facts.

At the end of the review we will make a recommendation that the goods or the description of goods to which the countervailing amount is applicable should either be maintained or varied, or we will terminate the review. The Secretary of State will then decide whether to accept or reject that recommendation.

Sampling

Depending on the number of parties registering an interest in the review, we may consider it appropriate to limit examination to a sample of:

- overseas exporters;
- overseas producers;
- importers;
- categories of goods;
- UK producers;
- transactions for the purchase of the like goods in the UK; or
- anything else we consider appropriate to sample.

Hearings

Interested parties can request a hearing during the review process using the [Trade Remedies Service](#).

For further information about hearings, please see our [Meetings, Hearings and Visits guidance](#).

Confidential information

Information provided during a review may be treated as confidential. Anyone requesting that information be treated as confidential must demonstrate why and provide:

- a non-confidential summary of that information; or
- where that is not possible, a statement of reasons explaining why the information should be treated as confidential, and why it cannot be summarised.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Our [Trade Remedies Guidance](#) provides more information about the review process, including our requirements for [submitting and summarising confidential information](#).

Oliver Griffiths
Chief Executive Officer
Trade Remedies Authority

9 August 2023