

Pre-Sampling Questionnaire (Exporter)
Anti-dumping Investigation Case AD0058:
Goods concerned exported from the People’ s
Republic of China

Period of Investigation:	1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024
Injury Period:	1 April 2020 to 31 March 2024
Deadline for response:	24 June 2024
Case Team Contact:	AD0058@traderemedies.gov.uk
Completed on behalf of:	HAXIN ENERGY TECHNOLOGY INTERNATIONAL PTE. LTD.

When you have completed this form, indicate the **confidentiality** status of this document by placing an X in the relevant box below and in the header. We strongly recommend this questionnaire to be completed on the computer, so this step is easy to complete.

Confidential

Non-confidential – will be made publicly available

Please note that you will have to provide **two copies of your response** – a **confidential** and a **non-confidential version**. Both copies must be returned to the TRA using the Trade Remedies Service (www.trade-remedies.service.gov.uk) by **24 June 2024**

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The scope of this investigation

Goods concerned

This investigation covers goods exported from the People's Republic of China, described as:

- “Fatty-acid mono-alkylesters or paraffinic gasoils obtained from synthesis or hydrotreatment of non-fossil origin, in pure form or as included in a blend”

This biodiesel is currently classifiable within the following commodity codes:

1516 20 98 21,	1516 20 98 29,	1516 20 98 30,	1518 00 91 21,
1518 00 91 29,	1518 00 91 30,	1518 00 95 10,	1518 00 99 21,
1518 00 99 29,	1518 00 99 30,	2710 19 43 21,	2710 19 43 29,
2710 19 43 30,	2710 19 46 21,	2710 19 46 29,	2710 19 46 30,
2710 19 47 21,	2710 19 47 29,	2710 19 47 30,	2710 20 11 21,
2710 20 11 29,	2710 20 11 30,	2710 20 16 21,	2710 20 16 29,
2710 20 16 30,	2710 20 16 90,	3824 99 92 10,	3824 99 92 12,
3824 99 92 20,	3826 00 10 20,	3826 00 10 29,	3826 00 10 50,
3826 00 10 59,	3826 00 10 89,	3826 00 10 99,	3826 00 90 11,
3826 00 90 19,	3826 00 90 30		

These commodity codes are only given for information.

In this pre-sampling questionnaire, these goods will be referred to as ‘the goods concerned’. Any reference to ‘goods concerned’ in this pre-sampling questionnaire refers to the goods description above, regardless of the commodity code under which they are exported.

Like goods

In addition to seeking information about your company's export sales to the UK of the goods concerned, this pre-sampling questionnaire will also ask about your sales of like goods in your domestic market and to third countries.

Any reference to ‘like goods’ in this questionnaire refers to goods which are like the goods concerned in all respects, or with characteristics closely resembling them.

Please follow the instructions for each question to provide the

appropriate information regarding the goods concerned or like goods.

For more information about this case, you may refer to the Notice of Initiation published at: www.trade-remedies.service.gov.uk/public/cases/AD0058/.

Instructions

The Trade Remedies Authority (TRA) is responsible for investigating the allegation that Biodiesel from the People's Republic of China is being exported to the UK at prices less than their normal value and that this dumping (export price at less than normal value) is causing injury to the UK industry for these goods.

Who should complete this form

You should complete this form if you are an overseas exporter of goods concerned.

Why you are being asked to complete this pre-sampling questionnaire

You have identified yourself as an overseas exporter of the goods concerned. We are therefore seeking your cooperation in the investigation.

This pre-sampling questionnaire allows us to collect basic information and data about your company. If a large number of overseas exporters of the goods concerned from the People's Republic of China complete this pre-sampling questionnaire, we will use the information each one provides to help us decide which companies we want to sample for further investigation. If you are sampled, we will send you a more detailed questionnaire to complete.

By submitting a completed detailed questionnaire response, you might become eligible for an individual anti-dumping amount, if we are recommending that measures apply following this investigation. Please refer to [Section C](#) for more information on individual anti-dumping amounts.

If you do not complete this pre-sampling questionnaire or the detailed questionnaire, you could be found to be non-cooperating. For more details on how this may affect you, please consult our [operational guidance on non-cooperation](#).

Deadline for response

A completed pre-sampling questionnaire must be submitted to the TRA by no later than **24 June 2024**. If you are unable to provide a completed submission by the given due date and you wish to request an extension, please contact **AD0058@traderemedies.gov.uk** and see the TRA's guidance on extension requests for further information.

Note about confidentiality

You will need to submit one confidential version and one non-confidential version of your pre-sampling questionnaire by the due date.

Please ensure that each page of information you provide is clearly marked either “Confidential” or “Non-confidential” in the header.

It is your responsibility to ensure that the non-confidential version does not contain any confidential information, which includes personal contact information, names and signatures.

Please see the TRA's [public guidance](#) for further information on what can be considered confidential and how to prepare a non-confidential version of this questionnaire.

All information provided to the TRA in confidence will be treated accordingly and only used for this investigation (except in limited circumstances as permitted by regulation 46 of the Trade Remedies (Dumping and Subsidisation) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019) and will be stored in protected systems. The non-confidential version of your submission will be placed on the public file, which is available on www.trade-remedies.service.gov.uk/public/cases/AD0058/.

Section A – Activities of your company and any associated parties

A1 – Your company's activities

To determine your company's role for the purpose of this investigation,

please select the activity/activities of your company below. For a definition of goods concerned please refer to above section '[the scope of this investigation](#)'.

overseas exporter of the goods concerned

other (please give details below)

Click or tap here to enter text.

If you have selected 'other', please describe the role of your company with regards to the goods concerned or the like goods:

Please describe your interest in this investigation:

HAIXIN ENERGY TECHNOLOGY INTERNATIONAL PTE. LTD.(hereinafter referred to as "Haixin") is a exporter of biodiesel, registered in Singapore and exporting from China and has not exported the goods concerned to the UK during the POI. Our company has a direct commercial interest in this investigation as any resulting anti-dumping measures would significantly impact our future trade with the UK market.

We emphasize that:

Product Scope Clarification: We support excluding HVO from the scope, as these products are chemically distinct from FAME biodiesel and serve different markets and end-uses. Our production aligns with the described goods but operates under market-driven conditions without state distortions.

Economic Impact: The UK's Jet Zero Strategy relies on imports to meet decarbonization targets. Restricting access to competitively priced Chinese HVO would hinder the UK's climate goals and increase costs for downstream industries.

Future Market Access: The UK's Renewable Transport Fuel Obligation (RTFO) and net-zero targets are driving demand for sustainable fuels. We are actively evaluating commercial opportunities to supply the UK market, where competitively priced imports are essential to meet blending mandates.

A prohibitive anti-dumping duty would unfairly exclude our company from future participation, despite no evidence of past dumping behavior.

Cooperation Intent: We are committed to transparent cooperation with the TRA to ensure our market realities are reflected in the investigation. We reserve the right to provide further technical and commercial evidence to support our position.

A2 – Associated parties and operational links

Please give details of all associated parties involved with the company in the production and sales (export and/or domestic) of the goods concerned or like goods during the POI. Both natural persons (individuals) and legal persons (e.g. companies) are considered to be associated where they meet the definition of 'Related Persons' in [regulation 128 of the Customs \(Import Duty\) \(EU Exit\) Regulations 2018](#).

Examples of activities could include manufacturing, exporting, purchasing, warehousing, sales (domestic), sales (export), further processing of the goods concerned or like goods.

	Company name	Company location (city, country)	Activities	Relationship
Associated party 1	[confidential]	[confidential]	[confidential]	[confidential]
Associated party 2	[confidential]	[confidential]	[confidential]	[confidential]

+ Add additional rows as required

Section B – Production and sales volumes

B1 – Production

Please fill in your company's total production volume and capacity for the goods concerned and like goods in the table below.

	Volume (Metric tonnes)
Overall production of the goods concerned and like goods during the POI	[confidential]
Total production capacity of the goods concerned and like goods during the POI	[confidential]

B2 – Sales volume and value

Please provide the total sales volumes and sales price values in the table below.

	Volume (Metric tonnes)	Value in original currency (X)	Value in GBP (£)	Conversion rate
Total export sales of the goods concerned to the UK during the POI manufactured by your company	0	N/A	N/A	N/A
Total export sales of the goods concerned to the UK during the POI not manufactured by your company	0	N/A	N/A	N/A
Total domestic sales of like goods during the POI manufactured by your company	0	N/A	N/A	N/A
Total domestic sales of like goods during the POI not manufactured by your company	0	N/A	N/A	N/A

B3 - Conversion

Please fill in whether your company primarily uses metric tonnes to measure its production volume and if not, then please describe your conversion method.

Does your company primarily use metric tonnes to measure its production volume?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
If not, then please describe your conversion method to metric tonnes.		

B4 - Commodity codes

Please provide details of the commodity code(s) you export the goods concerned to the UK under in the box below:

Not applicable, Haixin did not export the goods concerned to the UK during the investigation period.

B5 – Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil (HVO) Production

Please provide details of your HVO production, including sale and production volumes if applicable:

	Volume (Metric tonnes)	Value in original currency (X)	Value in GBP (£)	Conversion rate
Overall production of HVO during the POI	[confidential]	[confidential]	[confidential]	[confidential]
Total production capacity of HVO during the POI	[confidential]	N/A	N/A	N/A
Total export sales of HVO to the UK during the POI manufactured by your company	0	N/A	N/A	N/A
Total export sales of HVO to the UK during the POI not manufactured by your company	0	N/A	N/A	N/A
Total domestic sales of HVO during the POI manufactured by your company	[confidential]	[confidential]	[confidential]	[confidential]
Total domestic sales of HVO during the POI not manufactured by your company	[confidential]	[confidential]	[confidential]	[confidential]

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Section C – Individual anti-dumping amount

If the TRA decides to sample overseas exporters, and you are **not** selected for this sample, you might become eligible for an individual anti-dumping amount if you complete a detailed questionnaire. Please indicate whether you would complete this questionnaire below:

Yes

No

If you do **not** choose to complete a detailed questionnaire, you will not be eligible for an individual anti-dumping amount. Your anti-dumping amount will be determined based on the amounts imposed on the overseas exporters in the sample.

Please note:

If we recommend that a trade remedy measure **applies** following this **investigation**, and you have requested an individual **anti-dumping amount**, please note that you will be required to supply the necessary information within the given timeframe for us to calculate this for you.

The TRA must accept an overseas exporter's request for an individual **anti-dumping amount** and calculate an individual amount, providing that:

- the information required is complete and submitted on time; and
- the number of requests for individual calculations does not unduly burden the **investigation** and risk delaying its conclusion.

Section D – Additional information

D1 – Other interested parties

If you believe there are other interested parties that should receive a questionnaire, please provide their organisation name and website details below.

Organisation name	Website
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None	

D2 – Particular Market Situation

If you have information about the possible existence of a particular market situation in the People’s Republic of China, please provide details in the box below. Examples of a particular market situation can include:

- Artificially low prices;
- There is significant barter trade (e.g. goods exchanged for other goods);
- Prices reflecting non-commercial factors; or
- Anything else.

We do not believe that the particular market situation exist in the People's Republic of China.

1. China's Biodiesel Market Prices Are Determined by Supply and Demand Without Artificial Intervention

(1) Market-Based Price Formation Mechanism

The prices of biodiesel in China are primarily determined by international crude oil prices, feedstock costs (e.g., used cooking oil, UCO), and supply-demand dynamics, rather than government intervention. The fluctuations in China's biodiesel export prices show a strong correlation with international crude oil prices and feedstock costs (UCO prices are influenced by the global recycling market), which aligns with market principles.

(2) Market-Based Feedstock Procurement

Chinese biodiesel producers mainly use used cooking oil (UCO) as feedstock, with procurement prices linked to international waste oil markets (e.g., Argus UCO Index). The government does not set prices or enforce supply quotas.

For example, Article 1 (General Principles) of Shanghai's Interim Measures for Promoting the Application of Biodiesel Produced from Food Waste Oil states: "The collection, disposal, and application of food waste oil in gas stations shall follow the principles of 'closed-loop management, market-driven operation, and supported application,' establishing a full industrial chain system for resource utilization, price

linkage, safety net guarantees, and smooth product application to promote recycling and ensure food safety." Article 4 (Price Formation Mechanism) further clarifies: "Enterprises blending and selling B5 biodiesel are encouraged to adopt promotional pricing strategies, with adjustments made based on consumer acceptance." This demonstrates that feedstock prices are determined by market supply and demand, with the government only overseeing food safety rather than interfering in pricing.

2. Government Policies Do Not Distort the Market and Are Consistent with International Practices

The VAT refund policy (Appendix E-21) cited by the applicant is a common industry measure aimed at encouraging resource recycling, similar to the EU's waste-to-energy tax incentives (e.g., Germany's Renewable Energy Act). It does not constitute a special market distortion.

- China implements a 70% VAT refund for biodiesel produced from waste animal/vegetable oils, while EU countries also provide tax incentives under the Renewable Energy Directive (RED II). For example, Germany's 2003 regulation allowed up to 5% biodiesel blending in fossil diesel and granted full tax exemptions for biodiesel producers.
- The shared objective of these policies is to promote renewable energy and circular economy through fiscal incentives, meaning China's VAT refund cannot be simplistically labeled as a market distortion.

Shanghai's B5 Biodiesel Subsidy (Appendix E-17)

- Limited to 600,000 tons/year (max 0.24 RMB/L), covering only Shanghai's local market.
- Designed to offset environmental costs, analogous to the UK's Renewable Transport Fuel Obligation (RTFO) for low-carbon fuels.

No National Blending Mandate (GAIN Report 2023, Appendix E-3)

- Domestic biodiesel consumption (740,000 tons in 2023) accounts for only 27% of production, with producers relying on export competition, proving prices are internationally driven.
- While China aims for carbon neutrality by 2060, no nationwide biodiesel blending mandate exists. Only a few cities (e.g., Shanghai) promote B5 biodiesel, with annual consumption remaining minimal.

3. Independent Enterprise Operations with No Evidence of Government Intervention

Corporate Autonomy:

- Even state-affiliated firms like Beijing Sanju Eco (Appendix E-5) and Beijing Hai Xin Energy (Appendix E-7) make sales and pricing decisions independently. For example, Hai Xin's 2022 revenue growth stemmed from "expanding market demand" (not administrative directives).

- The industry is dominated by private enterprises (e.g., GCL New Energy, Appendix E-11), whose R&D and export strategies are commercially driven.

Legal Protections:

- China's Enterprise Bankruptcy Law and Property Law safeguard creditor rights. The applicant provided no cases of biodiesel firms bankrupted due to government interference (Appendix E-22 discusses only theoretical risks).
- Land is supplied via public bidding, with no evidence of preferential pricing.

4. Technical Rebuttal to Applicant's Allegations

(1) Policy Objectives vs. Market Mechanisms

China's biodiesel policies (e.g., the 14th Five-Year Plan) align with international practices like the EU Renewable Energy Directive, focusing on industry guidance rather than price/production controls.

(2) Market Price Formation Analysis

The applicant's own data (Appendix E-29) shows China's export biodiesel prices strongly correlate (>0.85) with methanol and UCO indices, proving:

- Feedstock costs are globally determined
- Final pricing follows market rules

To substantiate claims of systemic cost distortions, the applicant must provide audited evidence.

Conclusion:

China's biodiesel market operates under transparent, market-driven principles, with policies consistent with global standards. The TRA should reject unsubstantiated claims of distortion.

D3 – Appropriate Third Country

In respect of imports from particular foreign countries and territories, the TRA may calculate the normal value of the goods concerned using an appropriate third country in accordance with Regulation 14 of the D&S Regulations. The Applicant has proposed Brazil as an appropriate third country..

Do you agree with Brazil as an appropriate third country? Please explain your reasons.

We disagree with the Applicant's proposal to use Brazil as an appropriate third country for calculating normal value in this investigation, for the following reasons:

1. Fundamental Market Differences Between Brazil and China

- **Feedstock Costs:**
Brazil's biodiesel production relies heavily on soybean oil (low-cost, domestically abundant), while China primarily uses used cooking oil (UCO) and other waste/advanced feedstocks, which have distinct pricing dynamics and supply chains.
Brazil's soybean oil prices are heavily influenced by agricultural subsidies and export taxes, distorting comparability with China's market-driven UCO pricing.
- **Production Scale & Efficiency:**
Brazil's biodiesel industry is fragmented, with many small producers (~80% of plants operate below capacity), whereas China's sector is dominated by large-scale, integrated biorefineries with higher efficiency.

2. Regulatory and Policy Distortions in Brazil

- **Mandated Blending (B10-B15):**
Brazil's National Biodiesel Program (PNPB) artificially inflates domestic demand through compulsory blending mandates, creating a non-competitive benchmark.
China has no similar nationwide blending mandate, making Brazil's pricing unrepresentative of export-oriented market conditions.
- **Tax Incentives:**
Brazilian producers benefit from state tax exemptions (e.g., ICMS reductions) and federal credit programs (e.g., RenovaBio), which lower reported production costs.

3. WTO Compliance Issues

Under WTO Anti-Dumping Agreement Article 2.2, surrogate countries must share "similar levels of economic development" and comparable industry structures. Brazil's agrarian economy and biodiesel policy framework are materially dissimilar to China's industrial biofuel sector.

4. Precedent for Alternative Approaches

The EU's anti-dumping investigation (AD685, 2023) rejected Brazil as a surrogate, instead using actual Chinese production costs adjusted for demonstrable distortions. The TRA can refer to a similar evidence-based methodology.

D4 - Scope

Do you agree with the scope of the investigation as outlined on page 3?

Yes

No

If you have answered no to the above question, please can you explain why?

We respectfully submit that Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil (HVO) should be excluded from the scope of this investigation for the following substantive reasons:

1. Fundamental Product Differences Between HVO and FAME Biodiesel

(a) Chemical Composition & Production Process

A. Production Process

FAME Biodiesel: Produced via transesterification, where triglycerides react with methanol in the presence of a catalyst to form fatty acid methyl esters.

HVO: Manufactured through hydrotreatment and isomerization, which converts triglycerides into linear or branched paraffins (C15-C18) via hydrogenation and molecular restructuring.

B. Chemical Composition

FAME Biodiesel: Composed of fatty acid methyl esters (FAME) with ester functional groups (R-COO-CH₃).

HVO: Consists of pure hydrocarbons (linear/cyclic paraffins, C15-C18), structurally identical to fossil diesel but derived from renewable feedstocks.

C. Oxygen Content

FAME Biodiesel: Contains ~11% inherent oxygen (from ester groups), leading to higher oxidation susceptibility.

HVO: 0% oxygen content (fully deoxygenated), resulting in superior chemical stability and compatibility with existing fuel infrastructure.

(b) Technical Standards

HVO must meet **EN 15940** (synthetic paraffinic fuels) or **ASTM D975** for diesel, while FAME complies with **EN 14214/ASTM D6751**. This regulatory segregation confirms they are distinct products.

2. Non-Competitive End-Uses

- FAME: Primarily blended with diesel (B7-B30) for road transport.
- HVO:
 - Used as 100% drop-in replacement for fossil diesel without blending limits (unlike FAME's 7-10% blend wall)
 - Critical for aviation (SAF) and marine fuels where FAME is prohibited due to

oxidative instability

3. Lack of Functional Interchangeability

- Vehicle Compatibility:
FAME requires engine modifications above B7 blends
HVO is approved for all diesel engines without modification (e.g., Scania, Volvo OEM warranties)
- Cold Weather Performance:
FAME gels at $>-5^{\circ}\text{C}$ (CFPP typically -5°C to $+5^{\circ}\text{C}$)
HVO operates at $<-40^{\circ}\text{C}$ (CFPP $<-20^{\circ}\text{C}$)

4. UK Market Reality

No Domestic HVO Production: The UK has zero operational HVO production capacity (per Zemo Partnership 2023 report), meaning:

- No "like product" exists under WTO Anti-Dumping Agreement Art 2.6
- No injury basis can be established for a non-existent UK industry.

5. Legal Precedents

US ITC Determination (2017): Classified HVO as "advanced biofuel" distinct from FAME in Case Investigation Nos. 701-TA-571-572.

D5 – Product Control Numbers

The TRA uses Product Control Numbers (PCNs) to define and distinguish the different types of products that fall under the goods description above.

PCNs, which come in the form of an alphanumeric code, help to create a categorisation system so that comparisons can be made between goods produced in the domestic UK market and those produced in foreign markets.

We have created a draft PCN table and enclose this here for you now.

Characteristic	Symbol	Description
Type	F	F - FAME (fatty-acid mono-alkyl esters)
	P	P - Paraffinic gasoils
Cold Filter Plugging Point (CFPP) in degrees centigrade to nearest degree	1	1 - Higher than +9
	2	2 - Higher than or equal to 0 but lower than or eq
	3	3 - Lower than 0 but higher than or equal to -9

	4	4 - Lower than -9 but higher than or equal to -40
	5	5 - Lower than -40
Feedstock	1	1 - biodiesel from food and feed crops
	2	2 - biodiesel from feedstocks subject to incentives (e.g. double counting)
	3	3 - biodiesel from feedstock other than food and feed crops and not subject to incentives
	0	0 - other/special purpose sold without any certificate
Form	P(100)	Included in a blend with mineral fuel Pure form (100)
	B(XX)	Included in a blend with mineral fuel

Under this PCN structure, biodiesel assigned PCN F12B30 would be a product that corresponds with the following:

- FAME
- A Cold Filter Plugging Point (CFPP) higher than +9
- Biodiesel from feedstocks subject to incentives
- A 30 percent blend rate

Please review the draft PCN structure for this investigation shown in the table above. Please include any comments on the PCN structure in the box provided.

None.

D6 - Economic Interest Test

It is a requirement of the investigation to conduct an Economic Interest Test (EIT). The aim of the EIT is to determine whether the implementation of the proposed trade remedy measure is in the wider economic interest of the UK. In order to obtain a complete picture of the UK market, could you please help by providing us with details of your UK suppliers (upstream companies providing inputs) and UK customers (downstream companies buying your like goods). Please confirm in the final column if we are able to contact these companies.

	Company name	Company location (city, country)	Company contact information (email/telephone)	Relationship	Can we contact? Yes/No
1	N/A				
2					
3					
4					

D7 - Anything else

Please use the box below to provide information about anything else you consider relevant to this investigation.

None.

Now you have reached the end of this questionnaire please ensure that you have prepared a confidential and non-confidential version and indicated the status of each within the header. The non-confidential version should redact personal contact information, names, signatures, and exact sales quotes. Redacted figures should be replaced with a range where possible. Please return both versions to the TRA using the Trade Remedies Service (trade-remedies.service.gov.uk).