

	Period to be reviewed
China National Metals & Minerals I/E Corporation Zhenjiang Trading Corporation Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region Light Industrial Products I/E Yixing Sania Brush Making Co., Ltd Eastar B.F. (Thailand) Company, Ltd China National Native Product and Animal By-Product Import and Export Corporation All exporters of paint brushes from the People's Republic of China are conditionally covered by this review. Countervailing Duty Proceedings	
None	

For the antidumping duty orders listed above which were published before January 1, 1995, if requested within 30 days of the date of publication of this notice, the Department will determine whether antidumping duties have been absorbed by an exporter or producer subject to any of these reviews if the subject merchandise is sold in the United States through an importer which is affiliated with such exporter or producer.

Interested parties must submit applications for disclosure under administrative protective orders in accordance with 19 CFR 353.34(b) and 355.34(b).

These initiations and this notice are in accordance with section 751(a) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (19 U.S.C. 1675(a)) and 19 CFR 353.22(c)(1) and 355.22(c)(1).

Dated: March 12, 1996.

Joseph A. Spetrini,
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Compliance.
 [FR Doc. 96-6472 Filed 3-18-96; 8:45 am]

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[(A-821-802, A-834-802, A-844-802)]

Suspension Agreements on Uranium From the Russian Federation, Kazakstan, and Uzbekistan

AGENCY: Import Administration, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Request for public comments.

SUMMARY: In order to provide all parties an opportunity to comment on the Department of Commerce's proposed solution to an issue regarding natural uranium from the Russian Federation, Kazakstan, and Uzbekistan which is enriched in a third country prior to importation into the United States, the Department of Commerce requests that parties wishing to provide comments do so no later than 20 days after the date of publication of this notice.

EFFECTIVE DATE: March 19, 1996.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: James Doyle or Alexander Braier, Office of Agreements Compliance, Import

Administration, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20230, telephone: (202) 482-0172 or (202) 482-1324, respectively.

BACKGROUND: On March 27, 1995, the Department of Commerce (the Department) and the Republic of Kazakstan signed an amendment to the Kazakstani uranium suspension agreement. In part, this amendment provided that the quantitative restraints on Kazakstani-origin uranium include all uranium ore from Kazakstan that is milled into U₃O₈ and/or converted into UF₆ and/or enriched in U₂₃₅ in another country prior to direct and/or indirect importation into the United States. 60 FR 25692,25693 (May 12, 1995). In light of the fact that similar amendments were being considered for Uzbekistan and the Russian Federation, on September 22, 1995, the Department solicited contract-specific information from U.S. utilities that hold contracts for Kazakstani, Uzbek, or Russian uranium in order to assess the effect such an amendment has on importations pursuant to such contract. 60 FR 49259 (September 22, 1995). The Department received five responses to its Federal Register notice.

On October 13, 1995, the Department and the Government of Uzbekistan signed an amendment which, among other provisions, treats Uzbek-origin uranium in the same manner as the Kazakstani amendment. From January 22 to 26, 1996, and from February 19 to 23, 1996, the Department and the Ministry of Atomic Energy of the Russian Federation (MINATOM) held the fourth and fifth rounds of consultations regarding, among other issues, the enrichment of Russian-origin uranium in third countries.

OPPORTUNITY TO SUBMIT COMMENTS: Based on the factual information submitted to the Department and on views conveyed to the Department during numerous and frequent contacts with affected parties, the Department has prepared a proposed solution regarding the third country enrichment

issue. The specific elements of the proposal are included in the attached Annex.

Prior to reaching a final decision on this issue, the Department is providing an opportunity for full participation on the record to all parties wishing to comment. Accordingly, not later than 20 days from the date of publication of this notice, parties may submit comments with respect to the third country enrichment issue. Seven copies of the comments should be submitted to the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Compliance, Import Administration, International Trade Administration, Room B-099, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20230. All comments provided to the Department in response to this notice will be subject to release under Administrative Protective Order in accordance with 19 CFR 353.34. Therefore, all comments must properly identify information the submitter would like treated as business proprietary, and be accompanied by a properly bracketed public version. The Department will meet with affected or interested parties upon request to fully explain the calculations and procedures contained in the Annex to this notice.

Dated: March 12, 1996.

Joseph A. Spetrini,
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Compliance.

Annex—Third Country Enrichment of Subject Uranium Proposal

The Department of Commerce's proposed decision regarding the issue of third country enrichment of subject uranium permits the entry of portions of the volume specified in certain contracts. The contracts must have been signed by March 27, 1995, which was the effective date of the first amendment to a uranium suspension agreement which addressed this issue. After accounting for any previously entered volumes, the proposal divides the remaining subject material into two portions: (1) 75% of the volume will be permitted entry without additional conditions; and (2) the remaining 25% will be permitted entry only if matched with an equal amount of newly

produced U.S. uranium. The proposal also establishes certain procedures necessary for its efficient administration within the auspices of the suspension agreements and the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended.

Eligible Contracts and Permitted Volumes

- An eligible contract is defined as a natural uranium supply contract signed before March 27, 1995, that was identified in response to the Department's September 22, 1995, Federal Register notice. No other natural uranium contracts, regardless of origin, shall be eligible for inclusion within the terms of the third country enrichment proposal;

- The permitted volume for each contract is the nominal volume contained in each eligible contract.¹ If there is no specific nominal volume identified in the contract, the permitted volume shall be the midpoint between the highest and lowest volumes stipulated in the contract. For any contract containing an option for an additional volume which was exercised prior to March 27, 1995, the permitted volume shall be the nominal/midpoint volume of the eligible contract plus the volume of the exercised option. Similarly, for any contract which was amended prior to March 27, 1995 to provide for an additional volume, the permitted volume shall be the nominal/midpoint volume plus the volume specified in such amendment. For any contract containing an option for an additional volume which was exercised prior to March 27, 1995, and which was amended prior to March 27, 1995 to provide for an additional volume, the permitted volume shall be the sum of the nominal/midpoint volume, the optional volume, and the volume specified in the amendment.

- For each eligible contract, 75 percent of the permitted volume will be allowed entry with no conditions other than the ordinary entry requirements for non-subject uranium;

- For each eligible contract, the remaining 25 percent of the permitted volume will be allowed entry only if such importation is pursuant to a matching sale confirmed by the Department by June 30, 1996, for an equal amount of newly produced U.S. uranium;

- If uranium has been imported into the United States prior to the effective date of this notice and pursuant to an

eligible contract, then an equal portion of uranium may be imported, but only if the importation is pursuant to a matching sale confirmed by the Department by June 30, 1996, for an equal amount of U.S.-produced uranium. Furthermore, both the volume of uranium already imported and the volume that may be imported only if matched will be deducted from the permitted volume before the 75/25 split is applied;

Administrative Procedures

- All eligible contracts must be submitted to the Department and are releasable in their entirety only to those interested parties which specifically request access under administrative protective order;

- All holders of eligible contracts must agree to permit Department verification of information regarding shipment of the permitted volumes, including, but not limited to, analyses of the tails assays and enrichment percentages to derive feed-to-product ratios;

- In order to facilitate Customs clearance of shipments of permitted volumes, holders of eligible contracts shall provide the Department with appropriate shipping information at least 10 days in advance of the date the shipment is due to reach the United States. Upon receipt of complete and accurate shipping information, the Department will provide Customs with clearance within five days. Certifications or licenses from the appropriate suspension agreement countries shall not be required;

- The Department will administer each eligible contract on a contract-by-contract basis.

- The Department will administer any such matching sales consistent with the Department's existing practice, as specified in Section IV of the Amendment to the Agreement Suspending the Antidumping Investigation on Uranium from the Russian Federation, and appropriate Statements of Administrative Intent, and any subsequent amendments incorporating such practice.

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[C-122-815]

Preliminary Results of First Countervailing Duty Administrative Reviews: Pure Magnesium and Alloy Magnesium From Canada

AGENCY: Import Administration, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

EFFECTIVE DATE: March 19, 1996.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: David Boyland or Sue Strumbel, Office of Countervailing Investigations, Import Administration, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20230; telephone: (202) 482-4198 or (202) 482-1442, respectively.

Case History

On August 3, 1993, the Department published in the Federal Register a notice of "Opportunity to Request an Administrative Review" (58 FR 41239) of the countervailing duty orders on pure and alloy magnesium from Canada (57 FR 39392 (August 31, 1992)). On August 3 and 24, 1993, Norsk Hydro Canada Inc. (NHCI) and the Magnesium Corporation of America (Magcorp) requested that the Department conduct administrative reviews of the countervailing duty orders. We initiated the reviews for the period December 6, 1991 through December 31, 1992, on September 30, 1993 (58 FR 51053). (See also Period of Review section below). The Department is conducting this review in accordance with section 751 of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act).

On December 17, 1993, the Department issued questionnaires to NHCI, the Government of Canada (GOC), and the Government of Quebec (GOQ). The Department received questionnaire responses from NHCI, GOC, and GOQ on February 22, 1994.

On January 31, 1994, Magcorp alleged that NHCI was receiving subsidized electricity. On February 18, 1994, Magcorp was notified by the Department that its allegation could not be considered because it was filed 120 days after the initiation of this review (see 19 CFR 353.31(c)(1)).

Applicable Statute

The Department is conducting these administrative reviews in accordance with section 751(a) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act). Unless otherwise indicated, all citations to the statute and to the Department's regulations are references to the provisions as they existed on December 31, 1994. However, references to the Department's *Countervailing Duties; Notice of Proposed Rulemaking and Request for Public Comments*, (May 31, 1989) (*Proposed Regulations*), are provided solely for further explanation of the Department's countervailing duty practice. Although the Department has withdrawn the particular rulemaking proceeding pursuant to which the *Proposed Regulations* were issued, the

¹ Most natural uranium supply contracts specify a nominal volume around which buyers and sellers expectations converge. Typically these contracts also bracket the target volume with minimum and/or maximum volumes.