Fact Sheet:
Second Sunset Reviews of Cut-to-Length Steel Plate
India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan and Korea
701-TA-388-391 and 731-TA-817-821
October 19, 2011

- The U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC) will hold a hearing on Wednesday, October 19, 2011 in the second sunset review of antidumping (AD) and countervailing duty (CVD) orders against imports of cut-to-length steel plate from India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan and Korea. The ITC is expected to vote in early December 2011 to determine whether to sunset the orders or to continue orders for an additional five years.

- The U.S. Department of Commerce (DOC) has already determined that if the orders are revoked, plate from these countries would again enter the United States at subsidized or dumped prices.

- The U.S. industry producing cut-to-length steel plate originally filed antidumping and countervailing duty petitions against imports from these countries and France in February 1999 after imports of cut-to-length steel plate from these countries (including France) reached over 1 million tons in 1998.

- After duties were imposed against these imports via antidumping and countervailing duty orders in 2000, the Commission voted in the first sunset reviews in 2005 to continue the orders against five countries and to sunset the order as to France.

- Imports of cut-to-length steel plate from these countries were less than 100,000 tons in 2010, a reduction of 90% from the year prior to the filing of the petitions. This demonstrates the effectiveness of the imposition of antidumping and countervailing duties to level the playing field against unfair trade practices.

- The domestic industry today primarily consists of Arcelor Mittal U.S.A., Evraz Oregon Steel Mills, and Evraz Claymont, Nucor Corporation, and SSAB Americas. These companies operate plate mills in Alabama, Delaware, Indiana, Iowa, North Carolina, Oregon, and Pennsylvania. The industry employs approximately 4,000 production workers, but tens of thousands of additional jobs are tied to the supply of raw materials, maintenance, and transportation necessary to support these major manufacturing plants.

- Demand for cut-to-length steel plate remains weak by historical standards after the recession and financial crisis. There has been some modest recovery from the depths of the recession in 2009.
Allowing the return of unfairy traded imports into this weak demand environment will result in the curtailment of domestic production, injury to the direct and indirect work forces at these mills, and will result in pricing and profit pressures that will make it difficult for the industry to continue reinvestment in these plants in order to stay competitive in the future. Therefore, the U.S. industry will ask the Commission to continue these orders.

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