

F. No. No. 6/31/2024-DGTR
Government of India
Department of Commerce
Ministry of Commerce & Industry
(Directorate General of Trade Remedies)
4th Floor, Jeevan Tara Building 5, Parliament Street, New Delhi – 110001

Dated: 04.12.2024

To,
All interested parties

Subject: Final PUC and PCN methodology – Anti-dumping investigation concerning imports of Soda Ash originating in or exported from Turkey, Russia, USA and Iran/ UAE.

1. This has reference to the initiation notification no. 6/31/2024-DGTR dated 30th September, 2024. Vide the said notification, the interested parties were requested to provide their comments or suggestions, if any, for the finalization of the scope of PUC and the PCN methodology within prescribed time limits. Thereafter the timeline for filing of the comments or suggestions to the PUC/PCN methodology was extended to 29th October, 2024.
2. A meeting was conducted on 19.11.2024 at 12:30 PM (IST) to discuss the scope of PUC and PCN methodology. The domestic industry and the other interested parties made their oral submissions during the meeting on the scope of the PUC. Thereafter, written submissions were filed by the interested parties by 26th November, 2024. The Authority has examined the submissions made by the domestic industry and the other interested parties.
3. The other interested parties have made request for exclusion of “natural soda ash” as the domestic industry produces soda ash through synthetic route. The domestic industry has not agreed to this exclusion claiming that the goods produced by the domestic industry is same as natural soda ash. The domestic industry has submitted that the synthetic soda ash produced and supplied by the domestic industry constitutes like article to the imported natural soda ash. The consumers are interchangeably using the natural and synthetic soda ash. The Authority shall consider the exclusion requests during the course of the investigation. The interested parties are advised to submit all supporting information and evidence for their claims within the timeframe specified in this notice.
4. The scope of the product under consideration is thus considered the same as defined in the initiation notification which is reproduced below:

‘The product under consideration is "Disodium Carbonate", also popularly known as "Soda Ash" having formula as Na₂CO₃. Soda Ash is a white, crystalline, water-soluble material. it is produced in two forms by the Indian Producers - Light Soda Ash and Dense Soda Ash. The difference in the two types is the bulk density. It can be either natural soda ash or synthetic soda ash. Both products are essentially the same and the application filed by the applicant includes all types and form of Soda Ash'

The product under consideration is imported under Chapter 28 of the Customs Tariff Act, 1975, under the code 283620. The customs classification is indicative only and is not binding on the scope of the product under consideration.'

5. The other interested parties have also suggested making separate PCN for light and dense soda ash. The domestic industry has referred to its cost audit reports and has submitted that the cost difference between light and dense soda ash is less than 5%. The Authority notes that separate PCN for light and dense were not considered by the Authority in any of the past investigation on subject goods. The interested parties have not provided any evidence showing more than 5% difference in cost of production of light and dense soda ash. It is noted that the cost difference between light and dense soda ash is minimal, being below 5%. Therefore, separate PCNs are not required for light and dense soda ash.
6. As regards separate PCN for natural and synthetic soda ash is concerned, it is noted that PCN are made for different forms of a product. Natural soda ash and synthetic soda ash are not two different forms of soda ash. These are merely two different sources through which soda ash is produced. Synthetic soda ash is produced by the domestic industry and natural soda ash is imported. The two products are essentially the same and are not different forms of soda ash. Therefore, separate PCNs are not required for natural and synthetic soda ash.
7. It is also informed to all interested parties that this is the final notice on the scope of the PUC and PCN methodology.
8. The specifics of any exclusion(s) are subject to determinations made by the Authority during the course of the investigation and the Authority reserves the right to make the final decision based on the investigation's outcomes.
9. In view of the above, all interested parties are requested to file their questionnaire responses for the scope of the product under consideration set out above and in accordance with the above mentioned PCN-methodology latest by **04.01.2025**.
10. No further extension of time will be granted by the Authority to file the questionnaire responses, as anti-dumping investigation is time bound.
11. This issues with the approval of the Designated Authority.

Sd/-
Rajiv Kumar Soni
Director (FT)
Email: jd12-dgtr@gov.in
Ph: 011-23408728