

Department Administrative Order No. 22-14 Series of 2022

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF GENERAL SAFEGUARD MEASURE ON IMPORTATIONS OF ORDINARY PORTLAND CEMENT TYPE 1 (AHTN 2017 NO. 2523.29.90) AND BLENDED CEMENT TYPE 1P (AHTN 2017 NO. 2523.90.00) FROM VARIOUS COUNTRIES (TCI (SG) No. SG-2022-EX1-Cement) (DTI Safeguard Measures Case No. 01-2018)

ORDER

On 05 October 2022, the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) received the Tariff Commission's (Commission) Formal Investigation Report on the Petition for Extension of general safeguard measures on importations of Ordinary Portland Cement Type 1 (classified under AHTN 2017 Subheading No. 2523.29.90) and Blended Cement Type 1P (classified under AHTN 2017 Subheading No. 2523.90.00), from various countries. The period covered by the review are the years 2019 to 2021.

The Commission, in accordance with the Safeguard Measures Act (RA 8800), its Implementing Rules and Regulations (JAO No. 03, Series of 2000), and the WTO Agreement on Safeguards, concluded that:

- The production output of the petitioner representing the domestic industry constituted a major proportion of the total domestic production of Ordinary Portland Cement Type 1 and Blended Cement Type 1P and thus satisfies the requirement under Section 4(f) of RA No. 8800.
- The domestic cement industry has undertaken, and continues to undertake
 considerable efforts to comply with its adjustment plans and is thus making
 positive adjustment to import competition. During the period under review
 (2019-2021), the domestic industry maintained its market standing, increased
 its mill capacities, stabilized its manufacturing costs, and improved its
 profitability.
- During the period under review, there was no significant overall impairment in the position of the domestic cement industry that constituted serious injury.
- There is no existence of an imminent threat of serious injury and significant overall impairment to the position of the domestic cement industry in the near future.

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The Commission thus, recommends that the imposition of the definitive general safeguard measure on importations of Ordinary Portland Cement Type 1 (classified under AHTN 2017/2022 Code 2523.29.90) and Blended Cement Type 1P (classified under AHTN 2017/2022 Code 2523.90.00), no longer be extended.

The non-confidential version of the final report of the formal investigation by the Commission on the petition for extension of the safeguard measure against importations of Ordinary Portland Cement Type 1 and Blended Cement Type 1P from various countries, can be accessed at the Commission's website https://tariffcommission.gov.ph/.

IN VIEW THEREOF, the petition for extension of general safeguard measure on importations of Ordinary Portland Cement Type 1 (classified under AHTN 2017/2022 Code 2523.29.90) and Blended Cement Type 1P (classified under AHTN 2017/2022 Code 2523.90.00), is hereby dismissed. Accordingly, the definitive safeguard measure imposed for a period of three (3) years commencing on 22 October 2019 shall expire on 22 October 2022.

The DTI Order can be accessed at the DTI website: bit.ly/extension-GSM-cement

Let this Order be published in two (2) newspapers of general circulation and let individual notices be sent to all interested parties including the country members concerned.

This Order shall take effect upon the issuance of the relevant Customs Memorandum Order by the Bureau of Customs.

SO ORDERED.

24 October 2022