Antidumping/Countervailing Duty Collection of New Shipper Single Entry Entry Bonds

July 9, 2020
Fiscal Year 2020 Report to Congress

U.S. Customs and Border Protection
Message from the Deputy Commissioner of CBP

July 9, 2020

I am pleased to submit the following report, “Antidumping/Countervailing Duty Collection of New Shipper Single Entry Bonds,” which has been prepared by U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP).


This report provides information concerning each Antidumping/Countervailing Duty (AD/CVD) order for which more than $25 million in assessed AD/CVDs secured by single entry bonds accepted by CBP pursuant to 19 U.S.C. § 1675(a)(2)(B)(iii) remains uncollected more than 2 years after the dates of liquidation of the secured entries.

Pursuant to congressional requirements, this report is being provided to the following Members of Congress:

The Honorable Lucille Roybal-Allard  
Chairwoman, House Appropriations Subcommittee on Homeland Security

The Honorable Chuck Fleischmann  
Ranking Member, House Appropriations Subcommittee on Homeland Security

The Honorable Shelley Moore Capito  
Chairman, Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Homeland Security

The Honorable Jon Tester  
Ranking Member, Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Homeland Security
I would be pleased to respond to any questions you may have. Please do not hesitate to contact my office at (202) 344-2001.

Sincerely,

Robert E. Perez
Deputy Commissioner
U.S. Customs and Border Protection
Executive Summary

CBP has a statutory responsibility to collect all revenue due to the U.S. Government that arises from the importation of goods into the United States. CBP is committed to ensuring that AD/CVD laws are enforced vigorously. To this end, CBP’s Office of Trade, Office of Field Operations, Office of Finance, and Office of Chief Counsel are engaged in efforts to ensure that AD/CVDs are collected successfully.

The collection of AD/CVD remains a complex challenge. Setting appropriate bonding levels for AD/CVD imports is a challenge because the final duty liability and payment risk are largely unknown by CBP at the time that the AD/CVD merchandise is imported.
Antidumping/Countervailing Duty Collection of New Shipper Single Entry Bonds (FY 2020)

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I. Senate Report Language

This document was compiled based on language set forth in Senate Report 116-125, which accompanies the Fiscal Year (FY) 2020 Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Appropriations Act (P.L. 116-93). Senate Report 116-125 states:

Antidumping and Countervailing Duties.—The Committee directs CBP to continue reporting on AD/CVD, as required in Senate Report 114–264 and as expanded in Senate Report 115–283.

As referenced in Senate Report 116-125, Senate Report 115-283 states:

The Committee directs CBP to continue reporting on antidumping and countervailing duties, as required in Senate Report 114–264.

As referenced in Senate Reports 116-125 and Senate Report 115-283, Senate Report 114-264 states, in relevant part:

The Committee directs CBP to continue submitting the reports on AD/CVD required in Senate Report 112–169 and the explanatory statement accompanying Public Law 113–6, including the same level of detail prescribed in such report and during the timelines prescribed for each report ... and AD/CVD Collection New Shipper Single Entry Bonds. A version of each report shall be posted on CBP's Web site.

Congress first described the “AD/CVD Collection New Shipper Single Entry Bonds” report in Senate Report 113-77 accompanying the FY 2014 DHS Appropriations Act (P.L. 113-76), which states:

The Committee further directs CBP to provide the Committee with a separate report that includes information concerning each AD/CVD order for which more than $25,000,000 in assessed AD/CVD duties secured by single entry bonds accepted by CBP pursuant to 19 U.S.C. 1675(a)(2)(B)(iii) remains uncollected more than 2 years after the dates of liquidation of the secured entries. This report shall be submitted to the Committee not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this act. For each relevant AD/CVD order, the report shall include the bond’s identification number, the date of the entry secured by the bond, and the bond’s face value. It shall also include the liquidation status of each entry, and if applicable, the date of liquidation, the amount of bond principal received by CBP, the amount of interest received by CBP, and the amount of any offer in compromise accepted by CBP. Further, the report shall include information about whether CBP has demanded performance on the bond or has withdrawn or abandoned its demand due to one or more defects in the bond, CBP’s inability to locate the bond, or expiration of the applicable statute of limitations. For each relevant AD/CVD order for which CBP has demanded performance on the bond, the report shall detail whether CBP’s
demand for bond performance was protested, and if applicable, the date on which the protest was filed, whether CBP has issued a decision on the protest, whether a subsequent appeal has been filed by the protesting party, and if applicable, the status of the appeal including whether a court summons has been issued, the date on which the summons was issued, and the amount of funds being held by CBP pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2637(a). The report shall also include a detailed strategy, including a specific series of actions and corresponding deadlines for completing those actions, to collect under the bond the antidumping or countervailing duties that remain uncollected.
II. Results

U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) has identified only one antidumping and countervailing duty (AD/CVD) order with more than $25 million in assessed AD/CVDs secured by single entry bonds (SEB). This remains uncollected more than 2 years after the dates of liquidation of the secured entries. The antidumping order, A-570-831, is for fresh garlic from the People’s Republic of China. A detailed listing of these debts is included in the data found in Appendix B.

CBP’s analysis of the data has determined the following:

- Of the 147 bills listed in Appendix B, 84 of the bills (56 percent) currently are covered by a protest in suspended status.
- All of the entries (importations) of fresh garlic listed in Appendix B entered the United States more than 17 years ago.
- Only one of the bills listed in Appendix B never was protested.
- Ninety percent of the bills listed in Appendix B are currently more than 10 years old.
- Approximately three-quarters of the bills listed in Appendix B (by count as well as by amount owed) are associated with a surety that has been ordered into liquidation by a state court. CBP has taken the appropriate action in the state court liquidation proceeding.
III. Conclusion

Many of the concerns specific to New Shipper SEBs are no longer an issue for newly filed AD/CVD entries because Congress revoked the New Shipper SEB option when Congress enacted the Trade Facilitation and Trade Enforcement Act (P.L. 114-125) on February 24, 2016. (See Section 433 of P.L. 114-125.) Accordingly, importers no longer have an option to post an SEB in lieu of the cash deposit during New Shipper reviews.

CBP will continue to leverage its authority to require additional security to address risks and to maximize the collection of duties due to the U.S. Government for future entries. Although CBP uses all of its legal authorities to collect secured AD/CVD debt from sureties, CBP has faced significant legal challenges from sureties when attempting to collect on those bonds that secure AD/CVD bills.
IV. Appendices

Appendix A: List of Terms/Abbreviations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term/Acronym</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AD/CVD</td>
<td>Antidumping and Countervailing Duty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Application for Further Review (AFR) Requested</td>
<td>A “Y” indicates that the protesting party requested further review of the protest in the event that the center of excellence and expertise/port denies the protest in whole or in part.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AFR Request Date</td>
<td>The date that the AFR was requested</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CBP</td>
<td>U.S. Customs and Border Protection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Continuous Bond Amount (Annual)</td>
<td>The dollar limit of potential liability (annually) for the surety in connection with entries covered by the continuous bond. Please note that many entries in Appendix B are secured by the same continuous bond, within the same annual period. For all such entries secured by the same continuous bond and annual period, CBP may recover only once up to the limit of liability of the bond.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Continuous Bond Nbr</td>
<td>The unique number assigned to a continuous bond by CBP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DHS</td>
<td>U.S. Department of Homeland Security</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Entry Date</td>
<td>Date of entry of the merchandise covered by the bill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FOUO/LES</td>
<td>For Official Use Only/Law Enforcement Sensitive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY</td>
<td>Fiscal Year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liquidation Date</td>
<td>Date of liquidation of the entry associated with the bill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEB</td>
<td>Single Entry Bond or Single Transaction Bond</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEB Amount</td>
<td>The dollar limit of potential liability for the surety for the single entry covered by the bond, as indicated by the Automated Commercial System</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protest Filing Date</td>
<td>The date that a protest was filed with CBP pursuant to 19 CFR Part 174</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protest Status</td>
<td>DN – protest denied; PD – protest partly denied; SP – protest suspended, a final decision is pending; AP – protest approved; OP – protest open, a final decision is pending</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summons Date</td>
<td>The date indicated on the summons received from the court, if an action was filed in the U.S. Court of International Trade to dispute the denial of the protest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summons Nbr</td>
<td>If a number appears in this field, the protestant has filed a summons in the U.S. Court of International Trade regarding the entry and protest in question.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Write-Off Schedule Nbr</td>
<td>The existence of a number in this field indicates that the debt is scheduled for termination of collection and write-off (however, the debt has not necessarily been discharged formally as of this time).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Appendix B: List of Open Bills

This information is For Official Use Only (FOUO)/Law Enforcement Sensitive (LES) and will be transmitted to the Committees in a manner pursuant to limitations placed upon the sharing of FOUO/LES information.