determine that there is not a reasonable basis to believe or suspect that critical circumstances exist with respect to imports of disposable pocket lighters from these three companies. In addition, with respect to Cli-Claque, and all non-responding producers/exporters of disposable pocket lighters from the PRC, we preliminarily determine, as best information available, that critical circumstances exist.

We will make a final determination concerning critical circumstances when we make our final determination of sales at less than fair value in this investigation.

This determination is published pursuant to section 733(f) of the Act and 19 CFR 353.15(a)(4).

Dated: December 23, 1994.

Susan G. Esserman,

Assistant Secretary for Import Administration.

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[A-821-807]

Notice of Preliminary Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value and Postponement of the Final Determination: Ferrovanadium and Nitrided Vanadium from the Russian Federation

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

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 4, 1995.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: David J. Goldberger or Louis Apple, Office of Antidumping Investigations, Import Administration, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20230; telephone: (202) 482–4136 or (202) 482–1769, respectively.

Preliminary Determination:

We preliminarily determine that imports of ferrovanadium and nitrided vanadium from the Russian Federation (Russia) are being, or are likely to be, sold in the United States at less than fair value (LTFV), as provided in section 733 of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act). The estimated margins are shown in the "Suspension of Liquidation" section of this notice.

Case History

Since initiation of the investigation on June 20, 1994 (59 FR 32952, June 27, 1994), the following events have occurred.

On July 15, 1994, the U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC) notified the Department of Commerce (the Department) of its preliminary determination that there was a reasonable indication that an industry in the United States is materially injured, or threatened with material injury, by reason of imports of ferrovanadium and nitrided vanadium from Russia.

On July 29, 1994, the Russian Ministry for Foreign Economic Relations (MINFER) advised us that the only producers of the subject merchandise are SC Vanadium Tulachermet (Tulachermet) and Chusavoy Metallurgical Works (Chusavoy).

On August 10, 1994, we sent the antidumping questionnaire to the Embassy of the Russian Federation, as well as to Tulachermet and Chusavoy. (The antidumping questionnaire was divided into three sections: section A requesting general information on each company; section C requesting information on, and a listing of, U.S. sales made during the period of investigation (POI); and, section D requesting information on the production process, including specific amounts of each input used in manufacturing ferrovanadium and nitrided vanadium). We requested the Embassy's assistance in forwarding the questionnaire to all Russian exporters and producers of ferrovanadium and nitrided vanadium and submitting complete questionnaire responses on their behalf.

In September, we received responses to Section A of the questionnaire from Tulachermet, Chusavoy, and Odermet Limited (Odermet), an exporter of the subject merchandise headquartered in the United Kingdom. Based on information in these responses, as well as additional information submitted by the petitioner, we issued the antidumping questionnaire (limited to Sections A and C) during September, October, and November to trading companies operating in various European countries and the Russian Federation, which may have exported the subject merchandise to the United States during the POI.

In response to these questionnaires, Gesellschaft fhr Elektrometallurgie m.b.H. (GfE)(a German subsidiary of Metallurg, Inc. and related party to Shieldalloy Metallurgical Corporation (Shieldalloy)), submitted a Section A response in October 1994. Five trading companies—AIOC, Axel Johnson AB (which is related to AIOC), VVO Tiajpromexport, VO Promsyrioimport, and Technoinvest—indicated that they did not sell the subject merchandise

during the POI. Three companies did not respond to the questionnaire: Marc Rich Co., AG, Wogan Resources, Ltd., and one Russian trading company that cannot be named in this notice because its identity is deemed business proprietary information.

Two other questionnaires sent to Russian trading companies were returned to us as undeliverable. Finally, we received an unsolicited Section A response from Galt Alloys, Inc.(Galt), an exporter of the subject merchandise, in November 1994.

On September 28, 1994, the Department postponed its preliminary determination until December 27, 1994 (59 FR 50559, October 4, 1994).

In October and November, 1994, the Department received responses to questionnaire section C from Galt, GfE, Odermet, and Tulachermet, and to questionnaire section D from Chusavoy and Tulachermet. In addition, Odermet claimed that it should be considered a reseller of ferrovanadium under section 773(f) of the Act, and that its foreign market value should be determined on the basis of its sales to Germany, the intermediate country in which the subject merchandise was sold. Accordingly, Odermet also submitted a questionnaire response for its sales to Germany.

During October and November 1994, the Department requested clarifications of the submitted responses from Chusavoy, Galt, GfE, Odermet, and Tulachermet. In addition, the Department presented to GfE section E-2 of the antidumping questionnaire, regarding information on further manufacturing performed in the United States, because GfE reported that all of its sales in the U.S. were further manufactured by its related affiliate, Shieldalloy, prior to sale to unrelated parties in the United States. Responses to these supplemental information requests were received during November and December. Additional information concerning GfE's Section E-2 was requested and received in December 1994.

In November 1994, the Department provided interested parties with the opportunity to submit publicly-available, published information for the Department to consider when valuing the factor inputs (see "Foreign Market Value" section below). Responses to this request were submitted during December 1994.

On December 19, 1994, the Department received a letter from Marc Rich Co. A.G., (now known as Glencore International A.G. (Glencore)) requesting that the Department provide it with a second questionnaire and