



24 September 2020

(20-6500)

Page: 1/2

Committee on Safeguards

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**NOTIFICATION UNDER ARTICLE 12.1(A) OF THE AGREEMENT ON
SAFEGUARDS ON INITIATION OF AN INVESTIGATION
AND THE REASON FOR IT**

THAILAND

Aluminium Foil

The following communication, dated 24 September 2020, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of Thailand.

A petition of a safeguard investigation pursuant to Section 13 of the Safeguard Measures on Increased Imports Act B.E. 2550 (2007) was lodged by the domestic industry (Varopakorn Public Co., Ltd. and Nikkei Siam Aluminium Limited). Following due consideration of its petition, the Committee on Safeguard Measures of Thailand announced the initiation of a safeguard investigation on imports of Aluminium Foil on 13 August 2020. To this end, Thailand hereby notifies the Committee on Safeguards of the above-mentioned initiation.

1 DATE OF INITIATION

The notice of the initiation of the investigation was published in the Royal Gazette on 18 September B.E. 2563 (2020).

2 PRODUCT CONCERNED

The product concerned is Aluminium Foil, not backed, of a thickness not exceeding 0.2 mm. The product concerned is currently classifiable under the Thai Customs Tariff Code at subheadings 7607.11.00.000 and 7607.19.00.090.

3 REASONS FOR THE INITIATION OF THE REVIEW

The investigation was initiated following a petition made by Varopakorn Public Co., Ltd. and Nikkei Siam Aluminium Limited whose collective output constitutes a domestic industry of the product concerned in Thailand.

The petitioner has provided sufficient evidence of a surge in imports of the product concerned showing that the volume has increased in absolute terms from 77,903 tons in 2017 to 94,735 tons in 2018. It has continued to significantly rise up to 82,092 tons in the first three quarters of 2019.

Meanwhile, based on a preliminary assessment of all relevant factors on the situation of the domestic industry concerned, especially the increase in the market share of the imports, the change in domestic sales, production, productivity, capacity utilization, profitability and employment, it was found that the increased imports of product concerned have caused or threaten to cause serious injury to the domestic industry in the form of a decline in market share, sales volume, productivity and capacity utilization.

4 DEADLINES AND PROCEDURES

As a result of the extraordinary circumstances related to the COVID-19 pandemic, all relevant importers, exporters and any other interested parties wishing to present evidence, documents, views or comments pertaining to the investigation shall submit the aforementioned information in writing to the Department of Foreign Trade, Ministry of Commerce of Thailand, by email at pavineeb@moc.go.th latest on 5 October 2020 before 16:30 ICT (GMT+7). Except for the exporters and any interested parties situated out of Thailand, the deadline for presentation of evidence, documents and views would be on 15 October 2020. Any interested parties having an opposing view may present the rebuttal argument in writing by 30 October 2020 before 16:30 ICT (GMT+7).

5 REQUESTS AND CONTACT REGARDING THE INVESTIGATION

The non-confidential summary of the petition for an initiation of the investigation regarding the safeguard measure (Thai version) is available in the web page:

<https://www.thaitr.go.th/th/search/SG1006>

Interested parties wishing to raise questions regarding the above proceedings or request for information should contact to the following address:

Trade Interests and Remedies Division, Department of Foreign Trade
Ministry of Commerce of Thailand
563 Nonthaburi Road, Bangkasor, Nonthaburi 11000 THAILAND
Telephone: (662) 547-4722, Facsimile: (662) 547-4741
Email: butrade@moc.go.th.
