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301 Tariffs to Increase Sept. 27

Various imports from China will be subject to 301 tariff increases on September 27, 2024. The goods included for increase will be electric vehicles, EV batteries, solar cells and wafers, face masks, needles and syringes, critical minerals and steel and aluminum.

The USTR made some changes from the original proposal, including doubling the tariff on syringes from 50% to 100%; making an exclusion for enteral syringes; and providing an exemption for a new tariff on ship-to-shore cranes for cranes ordered before May 14. The action also temporarily drops Section 301 tariffs on some industrial machinery and adds various tariff lines outside solar manufacturing.

The last announcement had also dropped tariffs on 19 types of solar panel manufacturing equipment, but the modification has restored tariffs on 5 of the 19. The 5 include machines that help to make modules rather than the wafers or cells. For non-solar industrial equipment, an importer will have to apply for an exclusion, and those opposing the exclusion will be able to give their opinion why the exclusion should not be approved.

Rulemaking to Remove Section 301 Tariff Goods from De Minimis Coming

The Biden administration will issue a notice of proposed rulemaking to forbid all goods subject to major trade actions, including Section 301 tariffs, from de minimis entry, the White House announced. It will also issue a notice of proposed rulemaking to require information submissions for de minimis packages, including the 10-digit HTS code and the person receiving the goods.

In addition, Certificates of Compliance will be a requirement of the Consumer Product Safety Commission to be sent electronically to CBP and CPSC at the time of entry for any de minimis shipments.

The administration has also asked Congress to pass a bill restricting de minimis by the end of the year, and to exclude apparel from eligibility for de minimis. They also asked that section 301 goods be addressed as "legislative action by Congress to make this statutory change as it would help to achieve this important reform more quickly."

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