



The Shrimp e-Advocate

The Southern Shrimp Alliance (SSA) is a non-profit alliance of members of the U.S. shrimp industry in eight states committed to preventing the continued deterioration of America's shrimp industry and to ensuring the industry's future viability. SSA serves as the national voice for the shrimp fishermen and processors in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Texas.

Commerce Department Finds that Vietnamese Exporters Continue to Dump Shrimp in the U.S. Market; U.S. International Trade Commission Announces Provisional Schedule for Sunset Review

August 6, 2010

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On Monday, the Federal Register will publish the Final Results of the Commerce Department's fourth administrative review of the antidumping duty order on shrimp from Vietnam. Commerce found that both Vietnamese exporters individually investigated (the Minh Phu Group and Nha Trang) dumped shrimp into the United States between February 1, 2008 through January 31, 2009. The agency's announcement comes on the heels of Commerce's recent preliminary determination that Vietnamese exporters would continue to dump shrimp into the U.S. market if the antidumping duty order on Vietnamese shrimp was revoked.

The determination that Vietnamese exporters continued to dump shrimp into this market is significant, as it demonstrates that the largest Vietnamese exporters are not entitled to an exemption from antidumping duties. In contrast, two weeks ago, the Commerce Department announced Final Results of the fourth administrative review of antidumping duties on Indian shrimp and, as a result of that proceeding, Devi Sea Foods Limited (a major Indian exporter) was excluded from the antidumping duty order based on repeated Commerce determinations that the company was not dumping shrimp into the United States. The results in Commerce Department's review of the duties on Vietnamese shrimp are principally the product of the hard work of agency officials responsible for reviewing Vietnamese exporters' sales activities. At the same time, the active participation of the Ad Hoc Shrimp Trade Action Committee in the proceeding directly aided in insuring that Commerce accounted for the full measure of dumping occurring in the U.S. marketplace.

Separately, the U.S. International Trade Commission has released a provisional schedule for the agency's inquiry into whether the domestic shrimp industry would be materially injured or threatened with material injury if the antidumping duty orders on shrimp from Brazil, China, India, Thailand and Vietnam are revoked. In order to evaluate the economic condition of the shrimp industry, the Commission is likely to issue questionnaires to some shrimp fishermen and processors in late October, with responses due on November 22nd. A hearing has been provisionally scheduled by the agency for February 1, 2011, with a proposed vote to be taken as to whether to continue the antidumping duty orders on March 15th.