

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

G/SG/69
20 January 2004

(04-0170)

Committee on Safeguards

Original: English

TRANSITIONAL PRODUCT SPECIFIC SAFEGUARD ON IMPORTS OF CERTAIN DUCTILE IRON WATERWORKS FITTINGS FROM THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

Request for Consultations from the United States

The following communication, dated 16 January 2004, is being circulated at the request of the Delegation of the United States.

Enclosed please find a notification of a request for consultations with the Government of the People's Republic of China, pursuant to Section 16.1 of Part I of the Protocol on the Accession of the People's Republic of China, with a view to seeking a mutually satisfactory solution regarding market disruption to US domestic producers, caused by imports of certain ductile iron waterworks fittings of Chinese origin into the United States.

./.

On 5 December 2003, the United States requested consultations with the Government of the People's Republic of China, pursuant to Section 16.1 of Part I of the Protocol on the Accession of the People's Republic of China, with a view to seeking a mutually satisfactory solution regarding market disruption to US domestic producers caused by imports of certain ductile iron waterworks fittings of Chinese origin into the United States.

The consultations request was made following a determination by the United States International Trade Commission (ITC), pursuant to section 421 of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended (19 U.S.C. 2451), that certain ductile iron waterworks fittings of Chinese origin are being imported into the United States in such increased quantities or under such conditions as to cause market disruption to the domestic producers of like or directly competitive products (Investigation No. TA-421-4, Certain Ductile Iron Waterworks Fittings from China).

For purposes of its investigation, the ITC considered certain ductile iron waterworks fittings to consist of cast pipe or tube fittings of ductile iron (containing 2.5 per cent carbon and over 0.02 per cent magnesium or magnesium and cerium, by weight) with mechanical, push-on (rubber compression) or flanged joints attached. Included within this definition are fittings of all nominal diameters and of both full-bodied and compact designs. The imported products are provided for in statistical reporting number 7307.19.3070 of the Harmonized Schedule of the United States (HTS).
