

FAQs for Request for Comments on Additional Modifications to the 301 Action to Address COVID-19: China's Acts, Policies, and Practices Related to Technology Transfer, Intellectual Property, and Innovation

Docket ID Number: USTR-2020-0014

Regulations.Gov

Q: What is the due date for comments?

A: The docket for comments was open from March 25, 2020, to June 25, 2020.

Q: Who may submit a comment?

A: USTR invites comments from any interested persons with respect to whether a particular product covered by the action in this investigation is needed for the medical and public health related response to the COVID-19 outbreak. Interested persons would include producers, importers, purchasers, or users of the product in question.

Q: Regarding which products can an interested person submit a comment?

A: Comments may be submitted regarding any product covered by the action in this investigation, regardless of whether the product is subject to a pending or denied exclusion request, or whether an exclusion request has been filed. Please note that submissions should be limited to comments on products that are relevant to the medical and public health related response to the COVID-19.

Q: How can an interested person submit a comment?

A: Please submit all comments electronically via Regulations.gov at <https://www.regulations.gov/document?D=USTR-2020-0014-0001> (document ID: USTR–2020–0014). On the docket page, click on the link titled “Comment Now!” at the upper right side of the page. Please note that a submitted comment is not accessible on the docket immediately after submission. Rather, after submission, comments will be posted on the docket. Posted comments are viewable in the “primary documents” section.

Q: Where can I find more detailed instructions on submitting a comment?

A: For detailed instructions on how to submit a comment on the docket, please refer to the Federal Register Notice associated with USTR-2020-0014. To view the Federal Register Notice via www.regulations.gov, please go to <https://www.regulations.gov/document?D=USTR-2020-0014-0001> (document ID: USTR–2020–0014). The Federal Register Notice may also be viewed on <https://ustr.gov/issue-areas/enforcement/section-301-investigations/tariff-actions>.

Q: What information is required when submitting a comment?

A: In order to facilitate timely consideration of possible modifications, commenters should define the product of concern as precisely as possible. All comments must include the following information, to the extent possible: the ten-digit subheading of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) applicable to the product, and the identity of the particular product in terms of its functionality and physical characteristics (e.g., dimensions, material composition, or other characteristics). Commenters also may provide information concerning the producer, importer, ultimate consumer, or trademarks or tradenames.

Each comment should explain precisely how the product relates to the response to the COVID-19 outbreak. For example, the comment may address whether a product is directly used to treat COVID-19 or to limit the outbreak, and/or whether the product is used in the production of needed medical-care products. Comments should also address whether modification would affect the availability of the product.

Q: Will interested persons have an opportunity to submit a response to comments submitted by others?

A: Yes. To be assured of consideration, any responses to comments should be submitted within three (3) business days after a comment is posted on the docket.

Q: How can an interested person know which comments have been received by USTR?

A: Interested persons can view submitted comments on the regulations.gov docket at <https://www.regulations.gov/docket?D=USTR-2020-0014> (docket ID: USTR–2020–0014).

Q: Does this comment process affect the current product exclusion process?

A: No. This does not replace or change the existing product exclusion process.

Q: Will there be a hearing in regard to additional modifications to the 301 action to address COVID-19?

A: USTR is not planning to hold hearings.

Q: How can interested persons contact USTR with additional questions?

A: Please call our Section 301 hotline. Our Section 301 hotline remains open during normal business hours (Monday - Friday, 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM ET) to answer questions from interested persons: (202) 395-5725.

**** This Q&A is for informational purposes only. It does not replace, modify, or supplement the official Federal Register Notice. ****

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