

October 16, 2020

Tariffs to Increase on Solar Cells, Bifacial Exemption Ended

Dear Valued U.S. Import Customer,

On October 10, 2020 President Donald Trump issued a proclamation that increases the tariff for imports of crystalline solar photovoltaic cells (“solar cells”) and ended the exemption for bifacial panels from the safeguard duties on solar cells. The effective date of the order is October 25, 2020.

The announcement detailed that the bifacial solar panels will be subject to the safeguard tariffs on October 25, and it stated that the exclusion of the panels had “impaired the effectiveness” of the safeguard tariffs. The proclamation also increases the over-quota tariff rate to 18% from 15% for 2021, the fourth year of the safeguard, to “achieve the full remedial effect envisaged” from the original proclamation.

The original safeguard tariff was announced in January 2018 by Presidential Proclamation 9693, and had imposed a four year, phased down safeguard. The Office of the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) has sought to eliminate the bifacial panel exemption since 2019, but an injunction issued by the Court of International Trade (CIT) prevented the change. The USTR is currently appealing the CIT ruling in Federal Court.

October 10, 2020 Proclamation:

[October 10, 2020 - Proclamation to Further Facilitate Positive Adjustment to Competition From Imports of Certain Crystalline Silicon Photovoltaic Cells](#)

January 23, 2018 Proclamation:

[January 23, 2018 - Proclamation 9693 - To Facilitate Positive Adjustment to Competition from Imports of Certain Crystalline Silicon Photovoltaic Cells](#)

Thank you for being our Valued Customer. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact your C.H. Robinson commercial representative for further information.

Sincerely, C.H. Robinson

Our information is compiled from a number of sources that to the best of our knowledge are accurate and correct. It is always the intent of our company to present accurate information. C.H. Robinson accepts no liability or responsibility for the information published herein.

