

UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION
Washington, DC 20436

**MEMORANDUM ON PROPOSED TARIFF LEGISLATION
of the 110th Congress¹**

[Date approved: May 14, 2008]²

Bill No. and sponsor: H.R. 4555 (Mr. Jason Altmire of Pennsylvania).

Proponent name,³ location: LANXESS Corporation, Pittsburgh, PA.

Other bills on product (110th Congress only): None.

Nature of bill: Extension of temporary duty suspension through December 31, 2011.

Retroactive effect: None.

Suggested article description(s) for enactment (including appropriate HTS subheading(s)):

Ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymers, other than those in aqueous dispersions, containing 50 percent or more by weight vinyl acetate monomer (CAS No. 24937-78-8) (provided for in subheading 3905.29.00).

Check one: Same as that in bill as introduced.
 Different from that in bill as introduced (see Technical comments section).

Product information, including uses/applications and source(s) of imports:

The subject products range in vinyl acetate content from 48.5 to 82.0 percent by weight. According to the proponent, these products may be distinguished from domestic products in characteristics and use. Domestic products are reportedly limited to 5 to 40 percent by weight vinyl acetate monomer content and are more plastic-like, whereas proponent's products are more rubber-like, leaving little cross-over in their respective markets. They are used in a variety of applications in the wire and cable industry (automotive, telecommunications, etc.); the adhesives and sealant industries; packaging and film; and in the rubber industry in the production of hoses, belts and elastomeric seals. They are imported from Germany.

¹ Industry analyst preparing report: L. Johnson (202-205-3351); Tariff Affairs contact: David G. Michels (202-205-3440).

² Access to an electronic copy of this memorandum is available at http://www.usitc.gov/tata/hts/other/rel_doc/bill_reports/.

³ The sponsor/proponent did not identify any additional beneficiaries of this bill.

Estimated effect on customs revenue:

HTS subheading: 3905.29.00					
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Col. 1-General rate of duty	4.0%	4.0%	4.0%	4.0%	4.0%
Estimated value <i>dutiable</i> imports	\$3,600,000	\$4,000,000	\$4,500,000	\$5,000,000	\$5,500,000
Customs revenue loss 1/	\$0	\$160,000	\$180,000	\$200,000	\$220,000

1/ There is an existing duty suspension under HTS headings 9902.24.55 that expires on December 31, 2009. Therefore, there will be no customs revenue loss related to this bill for 2009.

Source of estimated dutiable import data: U.S. industry estimates.

Contacts with domestic firms/organizations (including the proponent):

Name of firm/organization	Date contacted	Claim US makes same or competing product(s)?	Submission attached?	Opposition noted?
		(Yes/No)		
LANXESS Corporation (Proponent) Michael Assaf, 412-809-3687	1/31/2008	No	No	No
Bayer Corp. Karen L. Niedermeyer, 412-777-2058	2/12/2008	No	No	No
Dow Chemical Co. Lisa Schroeter, 202-429-3407	2/12/2008	No	No	No
DuPont Elaine M. Olsen, 302-992-2263	2/12/2008	No	No	No
ExxonMobil Chemical Co. Donna Davis, 281-834-2036	2/12/2008	No	No	No
Rohm and Haas Company Hank Stoebenau, 215-654-9588	2/12/2008	No	No	No

Technical comments:⁴

None.

⁴ The Commission may express an opinion on the HTS classification of a product to facilitate consideration of the bill. However, by law, only the U.S. Customs Service is authorized to issue a binding ruling on this matter. The Commission believes that the U.S. Customs Service should be consulted prior to enactment of the bill.

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4555

To extend the suspension of duty on certain ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymers.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 13, 2007

Mr. ALTMIRE introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on Ways and Means

A BILL

To extend the suspension of duty on certain ethylene-vinyl
acetate copolymers.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. CERTAIN ETHYLENE-VINYL ACETATE COPOLY-**
4 **MERS.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Heading 9902.24.55 of the Har-
6 monized Tariff Schedule of the United States is amended
7 by striking “12/31/2009” and by inserting “12/31/2011”.

8 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by
9 subsection (a) applies to goods entered, or withdrawn from

- 1 warehouse for consumption, on or after the 15th day after
- 2 the date of the enactment of this Act.

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