

General Administration of Customs of the People's Republic of China

Extremely Urgent

Shu Jian Han (2018) No. 152

Circular of the General Administration of Customs on Implementing Risk Alert and Supervision Measures against Imported U.S. Wastes and Scraps as Raw Materials

To: Guangdong Branch of, and All Customs Directly under, the General Administration of Customs (formerly, the Entry-Exit Inspection and Quarantine Bureaus)

Since 2018, ports throughout the country have continuously uncovered through inspection multiple shipments of imported U.S. wastes and scraps as raw materials that fail to meet the environmental protection requirements. For the purpose of implementing the requirements of the *Implementation Program on Prohibiting the Entry of Foreign Garbage and Advancing the Reform of the Solid Waste Import Administration System (Guo Ban Fa (2017) No. 70)* issued by the State Council, according to the provisions of the *Circular of the General Administration of Customs' Party Committee on Further Prohibiting the Entry of Foreign Garbage into China (Shu Dang Fa (2018) No. 26)*, and in accordance with the *Administrative Measures for the Inspection, Quarantine and Supervision of Imported Solid Waste Used as Raw Materials (AQSIQ Decree No. 194 in 2017)*, after much consideration, it is decided that the inspection and supervision of importation of wastes and scraps from the U.S. as raw materials shall be strengthened. The pertinent matters are set forth below:

- (1) From May 4, 2018 and forward, it shall be required that all of the wastes and scraps imported from the United States as raw materials be subject to 100% open-box inspection and quarantine and 100% devanning inspection and quarantine. Suspected thermosetting plastic waste and scrap of plastics, metal scraps containing powdery substance, and waste paper carrying special paper that is hard to identify (such as silicon oil paper, wax dipped paper, thermosensitive paper, moisture-proof paper, etc.), and waste paper mixed with suspected hazardous materials shall all be subject to 100% lab testing and analysis. Customs at each port shall implement stringent supervision and administration strictly in compliance with the national environmental protection standards and the inspection and quarantine procedures.
- (2) Effective as of May 4, 2018, the Class A risk alert measure shall be enforced against China Certification & Inspection Group (CCIC) North America Inc. for a period of one month (from May 4 to June 4, 2018). During the foregoing period, said company shall cease conducting pre-shipment inspection on importation of wastes and scraps as raw materials, and its access to the information management system for pre-shipment inspection on importation of wastes and scrap as raw materials (PSI) shall be suspended.

For any shipment of wastes and scraps as raw materials that has been inspected and issued the pre-shipment inspection certificate by CCIC North America Inc. no later than May 3, 2018 (inclusive), such shipment is still allowed to proceed with import customs clearance applications in accordance with previous rules. When processing the customs clearance applications, customs at each port shall carefully verify the issuance date of the pre-shipment inspection certificates.

- (3) Strengthening the review of certificates and shipping documents. The pre-shipment certificates, shipping documents and other related papers of imported U.S. wastes and scraps as raw materials shall be carefully reviewed for their authenticity, completeness, and mutual consistency. The domestic consignees are required to provide complete and true shipping information and materials. If the date of the pre-shipment inspection certificate is found to be later than the shipping date, or the location of inspection is found to be inconsistent with the location of departure, or the certificate is found to have been issued without inspection, or the pre-shipment inspection certificate is found to have been issued in violation of applicable rules, it shall be promptly reported to the Inspection Supervision Department of General Administration of Customs. The General Administration of Customs will focus on calling in pre-shipment inspection institutions in question for meetings to discuss special matters and on supervision and inspection of such institutions.

All of the involved offices should implement the above with a high sense of political responsibility, employ the paramilitary-like formal decision-making structures of the Customs' disciplinary force, allocate sufficient resources, and address the issues such as insufficient resources for first-line inspection capabilities arising from the tightened measures to fully implement the requirements, and to resolutely keep "foreign garbage" out of our country's gate.

This circular is hereby issued.

<Seal of General Administration of Customs of the
People's Republic of China>

May 3, 2018