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A LAW FIRM SERVING A DIVERSE CLIENTELE IN IMPORT, EXPORT, AND FOREIGN TRADE ZONE LAW.

AMENDMENTS TO CHINA SECTION 301 LIST 1 PRODUCT EXCLUSIONS FEBRUARY 11, 2020

On February 10, the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) announced four additional China Section 301 List 1 product exclusions and technical amendments to other approved China Section 301 List 1 product exclusions. The four new product exclusions will expire on October 2, 2020 and are retroactive to July 6, 2018. The product exclusions cover: (1) centrifugal pumps designed for use in artificial lift systems for extracting gas and oil; (2) piston housings for hydraulic fluid power pumps used in power lawn mowers; (3) furnace roll end-shafts of steel; and, (4) multi-phase AC motors with planetary gears.

The majority of the amendments incorporate various technical revisions to the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) between the enactment of the China Section 301 List 1 duties and January 1, 2020. Three of the amendments alter the product description of approved China Section 301 List 1 product exclusions to correct ministerial errors.

Product exclusions from the China Section 301 duties are available for any importer for any product that falls within the special product descriptions and enumerated ten-digit HTSUS classifications. This is true regardless of whether the importer filed an exclusion request. Clients may benefit through filing Post-Summary Corrections or Protests for those entries now covered by a List 1 product exclusion to secure refunds plus interest. It is important to identify affected entries and filing deadlines. The refund process is complicated and should be carefully considered.

Clients may contact Ryan Thornton to obtain an updated version of the comprehensive spreadsheet we have prepared of all product exclusions from China Section 301 duties to date.

Please contact Marshall Miller, Brian Murphy, Sean Murray, or Ryan Thornton with questions or for assistance.

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