

## U.S. PURCHASER'S QUESTIONNAIRE

### SILICON METAL FROM CHINA

This questionnaire must be received by the Commission by **January 19, 2018**

*See last page for filing instructions.*

The information called for in this questionnaire is for use by the United States International Trade Commission in connection with its review of the antidumping duty order concerning silicon metal from China (Inv. No. 731-TA-472 (Fourth Review)). The information requested in the questionnaire is requested under the authority of the Tariff Act of 1930, title VII. This report is mandatory and failure to reply as directed can result in a subpoena or other order to compel the submission of records or information in your firm's possession (19 U.S.C. § 1333(a)). Further information on this questionnaire can be obtained from Jonathan Ruder (202-205-3435, [jonathan.ruder@usitc.gov](mailto:jonathan.ruder@usitc.gov)).

<b>Name of firm</b> _____
<b>Address</b> _____
<b>City</b> _____ <b>State</b> _____ <b>Zip Code</b> _____
<b>Website</b> _____
Has your firm purchased silicon metal (as defined on the next page) <u>from any source</u> (domestic or foreign) at any time since January 1, 2012?
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>NO</b> (Sign the certification below and promptly return only this page of the questionnaire to the Commission)
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>YES</b> (Complete all parts of the questionnaire, and return the entire questionnaire to the Commission)
<b>Return questionnaire via the Commission Drop Box by clicking on the following link:</b> <a href="https://dropbox.usitc.gov/oinv/">https://dropbox.usitc.gov/oinv/</a> . (PIN: <b>SMFC</b> )

#### CERTIFICATION

*I certify that the information herein supplied in response to this questionnaire is complete and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief and understand that the information submitted is subject to audit and verification by the Commission. By means of this certification I also grant consent for the Commission, and its employees and contract personnel, to use the information provided in this questionnaire and throughout this proceeding in any other import-injury proceedings or reviews conducted by the Commission on the same or similar merchandise.*

*I, the undersigned, acknowledge that information submitted in response to this request for information and throughout this proceeding or other proceedings may be disclosed to and used: (i) by the Commission, its employees and Offices, and contract personnel (a) for developing or maintaining the records of this or a related proceeding, or (b) in internal investigations, audits, reviews, and evaluations relating to the programs, personnel, and operations of the Commission including under 5 U.S.C. Appendix 3; or (ii) by U.S. government employees and contract personnel, solely for cybersecurity purposes. I understand that all contract personnel will sign appropriate nondisclosure agreements.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Name of Authorized Official**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Title of Authorized Official**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Signature**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Phone:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Email address**

**PART I.—GENERAL INFORMATION**

**Background.**--On June 10, 1991, the Department published in the Federal Register the antidumping duty order on silicon metal from the People's Republic of China (PRC). On March 3, 2017, the Department published the notice of initiation of the fourth sunset review of the Order, pursuant to section 751(c) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act). On March 3, 2017, pursuant to 19 CFR 351.218(d)(1), the Department received a timely and complete notice of intent to participate in the sunset review from Globe Metallurgical, Inc., a domestic producer of silicon metal (Globe). This notice was filed within the time period specified in 19 CFR 351.218(d)(1)(i). On March 24, 2017, pursuant to 19 CFR 351.218(d)(3)(i), Globe filed a timely and adequate substantive response. The Department did not receive a substantive response from any respondent interested party. As a result, pursuant to section 751(c)(3)(B) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.218(e)(1)(ii)(C)(2), the Department conducted an expedited (120-day) fourth sunset review of the Order. Questionnaires and other information pertinent to this proceeding are available at [https://www.usitc.gov/investigations/701731/2017/silicon metal china/fourth review full.htm](https://www.usitc.gov/investigations/701731/2017/silicon%20metal%20china/fourth%20review%20full.htm)

**Silicon Metal** covered by the order is silicon metal containing at least 96.00 percent, but less than 99.99 percent of silicon by weight. Also covered by the order is silicon metal containing between 89.00 and 96.00 percent silicon by weight but which contains a higher aluminum content than the silicon metal containing at least 96.00 percent but less than 99.99 percent silicon by weight (58 FR 27542, May 10, 1993). Silicon metal is currently provided for under subheadings 2804.69.10 and 2804.69.50 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule (HTSUS) as a chemical product, but is commonly referred to as a metal. Semiconductor-grade silicon (silicon metal containing by weight not less than 99.99 percent of silicon and provided for in subheading 2804.61.00 of the HTSUS) is not subject to this order. Although the HTSUS numbers are provided for convenience and customs purposes, the written description remains dispositive.

**Reporting of information.**-- If information is not readily available from your records in exactly the form requested, furnish carefully prepared estimates. If your firm is completing more than one questionnaire in connection with this proceeding (i.e., a producer, importer, and/or purchaser questionnaire), you need not respond to duplicated questions in the questionnaires.

**Confidentiality.**--The commercial and financial data furnished in response to this questionnaire that reveal the individual operations of your firm will be treated as confidential by the Commission to the extent that such data are not otherwise available to the public and will not be disclosed except as may be required by law (see 19 U.S.C. § 1677f). Such confidential information will not be published in a manner that will reveal the individual operations of your firm; however, general characterizations of numerical business proprietary information (such as discussion of trends) will be treated as confidential business information only at the request of the submitter for good cause shown.

**Verification.**--The information submitted in this questionnaire is subject to audit and verification by the Commission. To facilitate possible verification of data, please keep all of your files, worksheets, and supporting documents used in the preparation of the questionnaire response. Please also retain a copy of the final document that you submit.

**Release of information.**--The information provided by your firm in response to this questionnaire, as well as any other business proprietary information submitted by your firm to the Commission in connection with this proceeding, may become subject to, and released under, the administrative protective order provisions of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. § 1677f) and section 207.7 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (19 CFR § 207.7). This means that certain lawyers and other authorized individuals may temporarily be given access to the information for use in connection with this proceeding or other import-injury proceedings conducted by the Commission on the same or similar merchandise; those individuals would be subject to severe penalties if the information were divulged to unauthorized individuals.

I-1. **OMB statistics.**--Please report the actual number of hours required and the cost to your firm of completing this questionnaire.

Hours	Dollars

The questions in this questionnaire have been reviewed with market participants to ensure that issues of concern are adequately addressed and that data requests are sufficient, meaningful, and as limited as possible. Public reporting burden for this questionnaire is estimated to average 40 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering data, and completing and reviewing the questionnaire.

We welcome comments regarding the accuracy of this burden estimate, suggestions for reducing the burden, and any suggestions for improving this questionnaire. Please attach such comments to your response or send to the Office of Investigations, USITC, 500 E St. SW, Washington, DC 20436.

I-2. **Establishments covered.**--Provide the name and address of establishment(s) covered by this questionnaire, if different from that listed on the cover page. **Firms operating more than one establishment should combine the data for all establishments into a single response.**

**"Establishment"**--Each facility of a firm involved in the purchase of silicon metal, including auxiliary facilities operated in conjunction with (whether or not physically separate from) such facilities.

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I-3. **Ownership.**--Is your firm owned, in whole or in part, by any other firm?

No             Yes--List the following information.

Firm name	Address	Extent of ownership (percent)

I-4. **Related importers/exporters.**--Does your firm have any related firms, either domestic or foreign, that import silicon metal into the United States or that export silicon metal to the United States?

No             Yes--List the following information.

Firm name	Country	Affiliation

I-5. **Related producers.**--Does your firm have any related firms, either domestic or foreign, that produce silicon metal?

No             Yes--List the following information.

Firm name and country	Country	Affiliation

I-6. **Business plan.**--Does your company or any related firm have a business plan or any internal documents that describe, discuss, or analyze expected market conditions for silicon metal?

No	Yes	If yes, please provide these documents. If you are not providing the requested documents, please explain why not.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

**PART II.--PURCHASES**

**Contact information.**--Please identify the responsible individual and the manner by which Commission staff may contact that individual regarding the confidential information submitted in this questionnaire.

Name	
Title	
Email	
Telephone	

II-1. **Purchases and imports.**— Report separately your firm's domestic purchases and imports of silicon metal.

**"Purchase"**—Purchase from a U.S. entity such as a U.S. producer, a U.S. importer, or other U.S. firm.

**"Import"**—Purchase directly from a foreign supplier and your firm is the importer of record.

(a) Please estimate your firm's total U.S. purchases of silicon metal in 2016. (Do not include imports for which your firm was the importer of record; such imports should be reported in your U.S. importer's questionnaire.)

Purchased Quantity ( <i>short tons of contained silicon</i> )	
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(b) Estimate the percentage of the quantity of your firm's purchases of silicon metal in 2016 that were produced in each of the specified countries.

Item	Share of quantity of 2016 purchases
<b>Purchases of silicon metal produced in:</b>	
United States	%
China	%
All other countries: <sup>1</sup>	%
Sources unknown	%
<b>Total purchases</b> (should sum to 100.0%)	% 0.0
<b>Imports of silicon metal from:</b>	
China	%
All other countries: <sup>1</sup>	%
Sources unknown	%
<b>Total imports</b> (should sum to 100.0%)	% 0.0

<sup>1</sup> Please identify these countries:

II-2. **Changes in purchasing patterns.**--Please indicate how the shares of your firm's purchases of silicon metal from different sources have changed since January 1, 2012.

Source of purchases	Did not purchase	Decreased	Increased	Constant	Fluctuated	Explanation for trend
United States	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
China	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
All other countries	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Sources unknown	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

II-3. **Country knowledge.**--Please indicate the countries of origin with which your firm has experience or information in the silicon metal market.

United States	China	Other countries	Other countries (specify)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

II-4. **Supplier identification.**--Please list your firm's **FIVE** largest suppliers for silicon metal since January 1, 2012. Also, provide the share of the quantity of your firm's total purchases of silicon metal that each of these suppliers accounted for in 2016.

No.	Supplier's name	City and state	Share of quantity of 2016 purchases
<b>1</b>			%
<b>2</b>			%
<b>3</b>			%
<b>4</b>			%
<b>5</b>			%

**PART III.--MARKET CHARACTERISTICS AND PURCHASING PRACTICES**

III-1. **Firm type.**--Which of the following best describes your firm as a purchaser of silicon metal (check all that apply)?

Primary aluminum producer	Secondary aluminum producer	Polysilicon and/or chemical producer	Distributor	Other	Describe other
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

*If your firm is a distributor of silicon metal, please answer questions III-2 and III-3.*

III-2. **Competition for sales.**--Do you compete for sales to your customers with the manufacturers or importers from which you purchase silicon metal?

No	Yes	If yes, please describe.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

III-3. **Types of customers.**--What are the major types of consumers to which you sell silicon metal?



***If your firm is an end user of silicon metal, please answer questions III-4 and III-5.***

**III-4. End uses.—**

- (a) List the top 3 products you make using silicon metal and estimate the percent of your total production cost that is accounted for by silicon metal and by other inputs (such as labor, energy, and other raw materials).

Product(s) your firm produces	Share of total cost in each of the product(s) your firm produces accounted for by				Total (should sum to 100.0% across)
	Silicon metal		Other inputs		
	%	+	%	=	0.0 %
	%	+	%	=	0.0 %
	%	+	%	=	0.0 %

- (b) Have there been any changes in the end uses of silicon metal since January 1, 2012? Do you anticipate any future changes?

Changes in end uses	No	Yes	Explain
Changes since January 1, 2012	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Anticipated changes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

**III-5. Demand for end use products.--**

- (a) Has the demand for your firm's final products incorporating silicon metal changed since January 1, 2012?

Increased	No change	Decreased	Fluctuated
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

- (b) Has this had any effect on your firm's demand for silicon metal?

No	Yes	Explain
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

III-6. **Substitutes.**—

(a) Can other products be substituted for silicon metal?

No                       Yes--Please fill out the table.

	Substitute	End use in which this substitute is used	Have changes in the price of this substitute affected the price for silicon metal?		
			No	Yes	Explanation
1.			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
2.			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
3.			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

(b) Have there been any changes in the number or types of products that can be substituted for silicon metal since January 1, 2012? Do you anticipate any future changes?

Changes in substitutes	No	Yes	Explain
Changes since January 1, 2012	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Anticipated changes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

III-7. **Demand trends.**-- Indicate how demand within the United States and outside of the United States (if known) for silicon metal has changed since January 1, 2012, and how you anticipate demand will change in the future. Explain any trends and describe the principal factors that have affected, and that you anticipate will affect, these changes in demand.

Market	Overall increase	No change	Overall decrease	Fluctuate with no clear trend	Explanation and factors
<b>Demand since January 1, 2012</b>					
<b>Within the United States-</b> Overall demand	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Polysilicon / chemical user demand	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Other sectors	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Outside the United States</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

<b>Anticipated future demand</b>					
<b>Within the United States-</b> Overall demand	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Polysilicon / chemical user demand	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Other sectors	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Outside the United States</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

III-8. **Market studies.**--Please provide as a separate attachment to this request any studies, surveys, etc. that you are aware of that quantify and/or otherwise discuss silicon metal supply (including production capacity and capacity utilization) and demand in (1) the United States, (2) each of the other major producing/consuming countries, including China, and (3) the world as a whole. Of particular interest is such data from 2012 to the present and forecasts for the future.

III-9. **Country preferences.**--Do you or your customers ever specifically order silicon metal from one country in particular over other possible sources of supply?

No	Yes	If yes, identify the countries and explain.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

III-10. **Importance of purchasing domestic product.**--Please fill out the table below, estimating the percentage of your firm's total 2016 purchases of silicon metal that required silicon metal produced in the United States.

	<b>Estimated percentage of your firm's total 2016 purchases of silicon metal</b>
<b>Purchases that did not require domestic product</b>	%
<b>Purchases that were required by law or regulation to be domestic product</b> (e.g., government purchases under "Buy American" provisions)	%
<b>Purchases that were not required by law or regulation, but were required by your customers to be domestic product</b>	%
<b>Purchases that were required to be domestic product for other reasons</b> (explain: )	%
<b>Total</b> (should sum to 100.0%)	0.0 %

**III-11. Conditions of competition.--**

(a) Is the silicon metal market subject to business cycles (other than general economy-wide conditions) and/or other conditions of competition distinctive to silicon metal?

<b>Check all that apply.</b>	<b>Please describe.</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>No</b>	Skip to question III-12.
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Yes-Business cycles (e.g. seasonal business)</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Yes-Other distinctive conditions of competition</b>	

(b) If yes, have there been any changes in the business cycles or conditions of competition for silicon metal since January 1, 2012?

<b>No</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>If yes, describe.</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

(c) Has the 2015 market entrance of silicon metal producer Mississippi Silicon LLC impacted conditions of competition?

<b>No</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>If yes, describe.</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

**III-12. Decisions based on producer and country-of-origin.--How often does your firm, and if you know, do your customers, make purchasing decisions involving silicon metal based on its producer or country of origin?**

	<b>Always</b>	<b>Usually</b>	<b>Sometimes</b>	<b>Never</b>	<b>If at least sometimes, explain.</b>
<b>Decision based on producer</b>					
Your firm	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Your customers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Decision based on country of origin</b>					
Your firm	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Your customers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	



III-13. **Availability of supply.**--Has the availability of silicon metal in the U.S. market changed since January 1, 2012? Do you anticipate any future changes?

Availability in the U.S. market	No	Yes	Please explain, noting the countries and reasons for the changes.
<b>Changes since January 1, 2012:</b>			
U.S.-produced product	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Imports from China	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Imports from all other countries	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Anticipated changes:</b>			
U.S.-produced product	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Imports from China	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Imports from all other countries	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

III-14. **Availability of specific product types.**--

(a) Are certain grades/types/sizes of silicon metal only available from certain country sources?

No	Yes	If yes, please identify the countries and the grade/type/size.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

(b) Are there some types of silicon metal that are not available from U.S. producers?

No	Yes	If yes, please identify the grade/type/size.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

III-15. **Supply constraints.**--Has any firm refused, declined, or been unable to supply your firm with silicon metal since January 1, 2012 (examples include placing customers on allocation or "controlled order entry," declining to accept new customers or renew existing customers, delivering less than the quantity promised, being unable to meet timely shipment commitments, etc.)?

No	Yes	If yes, please describe.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

III-16. **Purchasing frequency.**--

(a) How frequently do you make purchases of silicon metal (check one)?

Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Quarterly	Annually	Other	<i>If other, specify</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

(b) Do you expect this purchasing frequency to change in the next two years?

No	Yes	If yes, explain.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

III-17. **Number of suppliers contacted.**--How many suppliers do you generally contact before making a purchase? Between \_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_ firms.

**III-18. Supplier negotiations.—**

- (a) Does your firm's purchases of silicon metal usually involve negotiations between supplier and purchaser?

No	Yes	If yes, explain the factors your firm generally negotiates and note whether your firm quotes competing prices during negotiations.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

- (a) How often are the prices of your firm's purchases based on published price indexes?

Always	Usually	Sometimes	Never	Please describe. (Which published price indexes? How do they affect prices?)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

**III-19. Change in suppliers.--Has your firm changed suppliers since January 1, 2012?**

No	Yes	If yes, please list the supplier(s), whether the firm was added or dropped, and the reasons for the change.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

**III-20. New suppliers.--**

- (a) Are you aware of any new suppliers, either foreign or domestic, that have entered the market since January 1, 2012?

No	Yes	If yes, please identify the firms.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

- (b) Do you expect new silicon metal suppliers to enter the U.S. market?

No	Yes	If yes, please explain.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	



III-21. **Supplier qualification.**--Do you require your suppliers to be or to become certified or qualified to sell silicon metal to your firm?

If yes, provide the following information.

- The number of days to qualify a new supplier.
- A general description of the certification or qualification process. Also, a brief description of the factors that you consider when qualifying a new supplier (e.g., quality of product, reliability of supplier, etc.).

No	Yes	Number of days	Process and factors
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		

III-22. **Failure to certify.**--Since January 1, 2012, have any domestic or foreign producers failed in their attempts to certify or qualify their silicon metal with your firm or have any producers lost their approved status?

No	Yes	If yes, please identify these firms, the countries where they are located, and the reasons why they failed the certification/qualification.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

III-23. **Major purchasing factors.**--Please list, in order of their importance, the three major factors your firm considers in deciding from whom to purchase silicon metal (examples include availability, extension of credit, contracts, price, quality, range of supplier's product line, traditional supplier, etc.).

1.	
2.	
3.	
Please list any other factors that are very important in your purchase decisions:	

III-24. **Purchasing factors.**--Please rate the importance of the following factors in your firm's purchasing decisions for silicon metal.

<b>Factor</b>	<b>Very important</b>	<b>Somewhat important</b>	<b>Not important</b>
Availability	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Delivery terms	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Delivery time	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Discounts offered	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Extension of credit	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Minimum quantity requirements	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Packaging	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Price	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Product consistency	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Product range	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Quality meets industry standards	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Quality exceeds industry standards	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reliability of supply	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Technical support/service	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
U.S. transportation costs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

III-25. **Quality characteristics.**--What characteristics does your firm consider when determining the quality of silicon metal?

III-26. **Minimum quality.**--How often does silicon metal from the following countries meet minimum quality specifications for your uses or your customers' uses?

Source	Always	Usually	Sometimes	Rarely or never	Don't know
United States	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
China	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other(s):	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

III-27. **Frequency of decisions based on price.**--How often does your firm purchase the silicon metal that is offered at the lowest price?

Always	Usually	Sometimes	Never
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

III-28. **Choice of product not based on price.**--If you purchased silicon metal from one country source although a comparable product was available from another country source at a lower price, please explain your reasons for doing so (please specify by country).

III-29. **Price leaders.**--A price leader is defined as (1) one or more firms that initiate a price change, either upward or downward, that is followed by other firms, or (2) one or more firms that have a significant impact on prices. *A price leader is not necessarily the lowest-priced supplier.*

Please list the names of any firms you considered price leaders in the silicon metal market since January 1, 2012.

Firm(s)	Describe how the firm(s) exhibited price leadership

III-30. **Changes in U.S. industry.--**

- (a) Please identify and discuss any improvements/changes in the U.S. silicon metal industry since January 1, 2012 and explain the factors, including the order(s) under review, that were responsible for each improvement/change.

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- (b) Please discuss any improvements/changes that you anticipate in the future in the U.S. silicon metal industry. Identify the time period and causes for these improvements/changes.

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III-31. **Effect of revocation of orders.--** What do you think will be the effects of any revocation of the antidumping duty order on imports of silicon metal from China on (1) the future activities of your firm and (2) the U.S. market as a whole? Please note the future time period to which you are referring.

<b>Activities of your firm</b>	
<b>Entire U.S. market</b>	

**PART IV.--PRODUCT COMPARISONS**

IV-1. **Interchangeability.**--Is silicon metal produced in the United States and in other countries interchangeable (i.e., can they physically be used in the same applications)?

Please indicate A, F, S, N, or O in the table below:

- A = the products from a specified country-pair are *always* interchangeable
- F = the products are *frequently* interchangeable
- S = the products are *sometimes* interchangeable
- N = the products are *never* interchangeable
- O = *no familiarity* with products from a specified country-pair

Country-pair	China	Other countries
United States		
China	X	
For any country-pair producing silicon metal that is <i>sometimes</i> or <i>never</i> interchangeable, identify the country-pair and explain the factors that limit or preclude interchangeable use:		

IV-2. **Factors other than price.**--Are differences other than price (e.g., quality, availability, transportation network, product range, technical support, etc.) between silicon metal produced in the United States and in other countries a significant factor in your firm's purchases of the products?

Please indicate A, F, S, N, or O in the table below:

- A = such differences are *always* significant
- F = such differences are *frequently* significant
- S = such differences are *sometimes* significant
- N = such differences are *never* significant
- O = *no familiarity* with products from a specified country-pair

Country-pair	China	Other countries
United States		
China	X	
For any country-pair for which factors other than price <i>always</i> or <i>frequently</i> are a significant factor in your firm's sales of multilayered wood flooring, identify the country-pair and report the advantages or disadvantages imparted by such factors:		

IV-3. **Factor country comparisons.**--For the factors listed below, please rate how silicon metal produced in each country you identified in your response to the first question in Part IV compares with silicon metal produced in each of the other countries you identified.

*If you are unfamiliar with the product from a particular country, please leave the boxes for those country comparisons blank.*

Factor	Product from <u>United States</u> compared to product from <u>China</u>			Product from <u>United States</u> compared to product from <u>other countries</u>			Product from <u>China</u> compared to product from <u>other countries</u>		
	Superior	Comparable	Inferior	Superior	Comparable	Inferior	Superior	Comparable	Inferior
Availability	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Delivery terms	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Delivery time	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Discounts offered	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Extension of credit	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Minimum quantity requirements	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Packaging	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Price <sup>1</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Product consistency	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Product range	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Quality meets industry standards	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Quality exceeds industry standards	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reliability of supply	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Technical support/service	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
U.S. transportation costs <sup>1</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<sup>1</sup> A rating of superior on price and U.S. transportation costs indicates that the first country generally has lower prices/U.S. transportation costs than the second country.									

IV-4. **Change in price.**--

- (a) Since January 1, 2012, has there been a change in the price of silicon metal? If so, has the price of U.S.-produced silicon metal changed more or less than the price of imported silicon metal from China?

<input type="checkbox"/>	No change in price.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Prices have changed by the same amount.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Price of U.S.-produced silicon metal has changed relative to the price of silicon metal from China.

- (b) If the price of U.S.-produced silicon metal has changed relative to the price of silicon metal from China, the price of U.S.-produced silicon metal is now relatively

<b>Higher</b>	<b>Lower</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	than those from China.

**PART V.—ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

- V-1. **Other explanations.**--If your firm would like to further explain a response to any question that did not provide a narrative response box, please note the question number and the explanation in the space provided below.

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## HOW TO FILE YOUR QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSE

This questionnaire is available as a “fillable” form in MS Word format on the Commission’s website at:

[https://www.usitc.gov/investigations/701731/2017/silicon\\_metal\\_china/fourth\\_review\\_full.htm](https://www.usitc.gov/investigations/701731/2017/silicon_metal_china/fourth_review_full.htm)

***Please do not attempt to modify the format or permissions of the questionnaire document.*** Please submit the completed questionnaire using one of the methods noted below. If your firm is unable to complete the MS Word questionnaire or cannot use one of the electronic methods of submission, please contact the Commission for further instructions.

- **Upload via Secure Drop Box.**—Upload the MS Word questionnaire along with a scanned copy of the signed certification page (page 1) through the Commission’s secure upload facility:

**Web address:** <https://dropbox.usitc.gov/oinv/>      **Pin:** **SMFC**

- **E-mail.**—E-mail the MS Word questionnaire to [jonathan.ruder@usitc.gov](mailto:jonathan.ruder@usitc.gov); include a scanned copy of the signed certification page (page 1). *Submitters are strongly encouraged to encrypt nonpublic documents that are electronically transmitted to the Commission to protect your sensitive information from unauthorized disclosure. The USITC secure drop-box system and the Electronic Document Information System (EDIS) use Federal Information Processing Standards (FIPS) 140-2 cryptographic algorithms to encrypt data in transit. Submitting your nonpublic documents by a means that does not use these encryption algorithms (such as by email) may subject your firm’s nonpublic information to unauthorized disclosure during transmission. If you choose a non-encrypted method of electronic transmission, the Commission warns you that the risk of such possible unauthorized disclosure is assumed by you and not by the Commission.*

**If your firm does not purchase this product**, please fill out page 1, print, sign, and submit a scanned copy to the Commission.

***Parties to this proceeding.***—If your firm is a party to this proceeding, it is required to serve a copy of the completed questionnaire on parties to the proceeding that are subject to administrative protective order (see 19 CFR § 207.7). A list of such parties may be obtained from the Commission’s Secretary (202-205-1803). A certificate of service must accompany the completed questionnaire you submit (see 19 CFR § 207.7). Service of the questionnaire must be made in paper form.