



# South ossetia solar panels

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WASHINGTON, Nov 30 -- US trade officials announced yesterday a new round of tariffs on solar panel imports from four Southeast Asian nations after American manufacturers complained that companies there are flooding the market with unfairly cheap goods.

It is the second of two preliminary decisions that President Joe Biden's Commerce Department is making this year in a trade case brought by Korea's Hanwha Qcells, Arizona-based First Solar Inc and several smaller producers seeking to protect billions of dollars in investments in US solar manufacturing.

The group, the American Alliance for Solar Manufacturing Trade Committee, accused big Chinese solar panel makers with factories in Malaysia, Cambodia, Vietnam and Thailand of causing global prices to collapse by dumping products into the market.

According to a preliminary decision posted on the US Commerce Department's website on Friday, the agency calculated dumping duties of between 21.31 per cent and 271.2 per cent, depending on the company, on solar cells from Cambodia, Malaysia, Thailand and Vietnam.

The department's final determinations are set for April 18, 2025, with the International Trade Administration set to finalise its determinations the following June 2 and final orders expected June 9.

"With these preliminary duties, we are moving closer to addressing years of harmful unfair trade and protecting billions of dollars of investment in new American solar manufacturing and supply chains," said Tim Brightbill, partner at Wiley Rein and lead counsel to the petitioners.

Biden's landmark climate change law, the Inflation Reduction Act, includes incentives for companies that produce clean energy equipment in the US -- a subsidy that has prompted a flurry of plans for new solar factories.

President-elect Donald Trump has called the Inflation Reduction Act too expensive, but also has said he plans to slap hefty tariffs on a range of sectors to protect American workers.

HANOI (Reuters): US trade officials are expected to announce on Friday a new round of tariffs on solar panel imports from four South-East Asian nations after American manufacturers complained that companies there are flooding the market with unfairly cheap goods.

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This is the latest chapter in a more than decade-long trade war with Chinese companies over their solar dominance. Chinese manufacturers have responded to US solar tariffs by moving their massive operations to nations where they will not face duties - including South-East Asia.

The Hanwha-led group has sought antidumping duty rates of between 70.35% and 271.45%, depending on the country, to offset the unfair pricing. It also has sought tariffs to combat unfair subsidies in those nations, and the Commerce Department imposed preliminary antisubsidy duties last month.

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