

FACTBOX-EU imposes duties on U.S. biodiesel imports

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March 12 (Reuters) - The European Union has imposed antidumping and anti-subsidy duties on imports of biodiesel from the United States, the latest in a series of trade frictions between the two trading giants. [ID:LC572079]

Who pays what?

COMPANY	ANTIDUMPING DUTY (EUR/tonne net)	ANTI-SUBSIDY DUTY (EUR/tonne net)
Daniels Midland	23.6	237
Cargill [CARG.UL]	60.5	213.8
Imperium Renewables	76.5	216.8
Green Earth Energy Fuels	70.6	213.4
World Energy Alternatives	82.7	211.2
Peter Cremer North America	208.2	211.2
Vinmar Overseas Limited		211.2
Most other U.S. biodiesel	122-182	219.4-237

When do the duties come into force and for how long?

- The duties come into force on March 13.
- They will remain in place for up to six months when the Commission must then decide whether to propose "definitive" duties, which normally last for five years. Definitive duties must be approved by EU governments before coming into force.

What is an anti-dumping and anti-subsidy duty?

- "Dumping" is the act of charging a lower price for a product in a foreign market than is charged for the same product in a domestic market, otherwise known as selling at less than "fair value".
- Anti-subsidy duties, also known as "countervailing duties", are imposed on imports from countries that award unfair financial subsidies to their domestic manufacturers within a particular industry.

Under World Trade Organisation (WTO) rules, both practices are not prohibited, but are frowned upon. A country or region may take retaliatory action if it feels it has suffered material injury to its own industry.

What action can now be taken by the United States?

Washington can appeal against the EU's decision to the World Trade Organisation if it believes Brussels has acted unfairly.

But any such litigation can take years to complete.

(Writing by Darren Ennis; editing by James Jukwey)

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