Slip Op. 17-86

UNITED STATES COURT OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE

HEBEI GOLDEN BIRD TRADING CO., LTD., JINXIANG RICHFAR FRUITS & **VEGETABLES CO., LTD., OINGDAO** LIANGHE INTERNATIONAL TRADE CO., LTD., SHANDONG CHENHE **INTERNATIONAL TRADING CO., LTD.,** and WEIFANG HONGQIAO **INTERNATIONAL LOGISTICS CO., LTD.,** Plaintiffs, Before: Jane A. Restani, Judge V. **Court No. 15-00182 UNITED STATES,** Defendant, FRESH GARLIC PRODUCERS **ASSOCIATION, CHRISTOPHER RANCH,** L.L.C., THE GARLIC COMPANY, VALLEY GARLIC, and VESSEY AND COMPANY, INC., Defendant-Intervenors.

OPINION

[Commerce's results of redetermination in antidumping periodic review are sustained.]

Dated: July 17, 2017

Robert T. Hume, Hume & Associates, LLC, of El Prado, NM, for plaintiffs.

<u>Emma E. Bond</u>, Trial Attorney, Commercial Litigation Branch, Civil Division, U.S. Department of Justice, of Washington, DC, for defendant. With her on the brief were <u>Chad A.</u> <u>Readler</u>, Acting Assistant Attorney General, <u>Jeanne E. Davidson</u>, Director, and <u>Reginald T.</u> <u>Blades</u>, Jr., Assistant Director. Of counsel on the brief was <u>Khalil N. Gharbieh</u>, Attorney, Office of the Chief Counsel for Trade Enforcement & Compliance, U.S. Department of Commerce. <u>Michael J. Coursey</u>, John M. Herrmann, II, and Joshua R. Morey, Kelley Drye & Warren, LLP, of Washington, DC, for defendant-intervenors.

Restani, Judge: Before the court is the U.S. Department of Commerce ("Commerce")'s Final Redetermination Pursuant to Court Remand Order, ECF No. 74-1 ("<u>Remand Results</u>")¹ concerning the nineteenth periodic administrative review of the antidumping ("AD") duty order on fresh garlic from the People's Republic of China ("PRC"). <u>See Antidumping Duty Order:</u> <u>Fresh Garlic from the People's Republic of China</u>, 59 Fed. Reg. 59,209 (Dep't Commerce Nov. 16, 1994). The court previously remanded to Commerce the issue of whether mandatory respondent Hebei Golden Bird Trading Co., Ltd. ("Golden Bird") is eligible for a separate rate. <u>Shenzhen Xinboda Industrial Co. v. United States</u>, 180 F. Supp. 3d 1305, 1324 (CIT 2016) ("<u>Xinboda</u>"). For the reasons stated below, Commerce's <u>Remand Results</u> finding Golden Bird is not entitled to separate rate status are sustained.

BACKGROUND

The court presumes familiarity with the facts of the case as discussed in <u>Xinboda</u>, 180 F. Supp. 3d at 1308–12. For convenience, the facts relevant to this stage of the proceeding are summarized here. Following contestation by the parties of Commerce's original results, the court remanded the case to Commerce. <u>Id.</u> at 1324; <u>see also Fresh Garlic from the People's</u> <u>Republic of China: Final Results and Partial Rescission of the 19th Antidumping Duty</u> <u>Administrative Review; 2012-2013</u>, 80 Fed. Reg. 34,141 (Dep't Commerce June 15, 2015)

¹ Although Commerce issued its <u>Remand Results</u> in consolidated court number 15-00179, the consolidated action has since been severed, with the issues in each complaint being considered separately. <u>See</u> Order, July 12, 2017, ECF No. 85. Accordingly, all electronic case filing ("ECF") numbers refer to docket for consolidated court number 15-00179, unless otherwise indicated.

("<u>Final Results</u>"). The court ruled that Commerce's decision that Golden Bird lacked independence from government control such that it was not entitled to a separate rate was unsupported by substantial evidence. <u>Xinboda</u>, 180 F. Supp. 3d at 1315–17.

In its <u>Final Results</u>, Commerce disregarded Golden Bird's separate rate information and applied the PRC-wide rate to Golden Bird as a total adverse facts available ("AFA") rate² because it found that Golden Bird's questionnaire responses were not credible due to its failure to cooperate in providing certain Chinese Export Declaration Forms ("export declarations") and China Inspection Quality Bureau inspection certificates ("Phyto-sanitary certificates") requested by Commerce. <u>Id.</u> at 1311. The court sustained Commerce's application of total AFA because Golden Bird failed to act to the best of its ability by not furnishing the export declarations, which Golden Bird was required to maintain under Chinese law and were necessary for Commerce to substantiate Golden Bird's export volume. <u>Id.</u> at 1314–15. But, in reasoning that a determination of separate rate status is a distinct inquiry from application of total AFA, the court held that Commerce's treatment of Golden Bird as part of a PRC-wide entity due to its determination regarding the unreliability of Golden Bird's sales data was not supported by substantial evidence. <u>Id.</u> at 1316–17. The court noted that a mere finding that sales data is "unreliable" did not justify a wholesale rejection of Golden Bird's submissions where

² Although not defined by statute, the term "total AFA" refers to Commerce's use of the facts otherwise available provision and the adverse inferences provision of 19 U.S.C. § 1677e to arrive at a total replacement margin. Commerce can use "facts otherwise available" in reaching an AD duty determination when necessary information is not available, or when an interested party withholds or fails to timely submit requested information or significantly impedes a proceeding. 19 U.S.C. § 1677e(a). Pursuant to 19 U.S.C. § 1677e(b)(1)(A), if Commerce finds that a party "has failed to cooperate by not acting to the best of its ability" to comply with its request for information, Commerce may reach its determination by using "an inference that is adverse to the interests of that party in selecting from among the facts otherwise available."

"extraordinary findings of bad faith and fraud . . . were not made." <u>Id.</u> at 1317 n.12. Although the court declined to decide how a finding of bad faith or fraud might impact the case, it stated that if Commerce "made an explicit finding that Golden Bird was engaged in . . . export funneling activities . . . based on record evidence" the finding "likely could be considered in selecting a total AFA rate for Golden Bird." <u>Id.</u> at 1317 n.12–13. Were Commerce to make such a finding, the court noted "it may be appropriate . . . for Commerce to select a separate rate incorporating the PRC-wide rate, to deter this type of non-compliance." <u>Id.</u> at 1317 n.13. The court, however, did not preclude Commerce from denying Golden Bird separate rate status. Rather, it remanded the matter to Commerce to reconsider Golden Bird's eligibility for a separate rate, and ordered that Commerce, as it had previously, "may not rely on a finding of unreliable sales data." Id. at 1324. More was required.

Upon remand, Commerce reconsidered Golden Bird's eligibility for a separate rate and determined that it remains ineligible. <u>Remand Results</u> at 1. In its remand proceedings, Commerce reopened the record of the nineteenth administrative review to consider further evidence submitted in the twenty-first review of the same AD order by Zhengzhou Harmoni Spice Co., Ltd. ("Harmoni") regarding alleged duty evasion by Golden Bird, and it allowed interested parties to submit information and comments. <u>Id.</u> at 9; Placing Docs. on the R. of the Nineteenth Antidumping Duty Administrative Review of Fresh Garlic from the People's Republic of China at 1–2, PD 1 (Dec. 20, 2016) ("Doc. Placement Mem."). Harmoni's letter alleged that Golden Bird engaged in an extensive export funneling scheme from the seventeenth through the nineteenth periods of review ("PORs") and misrepresented the nature of its ownership to Commerce. <u>Remand Results</u> at 10. Harmoni attached to the letter a sworn

declaration and associated evidence from the owner of a U.S. garlic distributor that claimed to purchase garlic from Golden Bird from 2010 to 2012 at a zero or near-zero rate. <u>Id.</u> at 10, 12; Doc. Placing Mem. at Attachs. 1–2 (hereinafter "Harmoni Fraud Allegation"). Commerce also explicitly considered the Fresh Garlic Producers Association ("FGPA")'s submission of General Administration of Customs of the PRC ("GACC") data, already on the record of this nineteenth POR, which shows a significant discrepancy between what Golden Bird reported to GACC and to U.S. Customs and Border Protection ("Customs") during the seventeenth through the nineteenth PORs. <u>Remand Results at 3–4, 18–21</u>.

After reviewing comments in response to the Harmoni Fraud Allegation, Commerce concluded that Golden Bird engaged in an extensive AD duty evasion scheme, in which it acted as a "service agent" for other Chinese companies subject to the PRC-wide rate to claim Golden Bird's lower rate. Id. at 1. Commerce relied on a substantial divergence in export and import volume, as evidenced by the GACC export quantity and Customs import quantity data, to support the conclusion that Golden Bird was apparently funneling the exports of other Chinese exporters. Id. at 3–4, 18–21. Commerce determined that "approximately sixty percent of all entries during the period of review were exported by companies subject to the PRC-wide cash deposit rate, but entered at a much lower rate or zero rate, including Golden Bird's." Id. at 1. Commerce noted that Golden Bird was still unable to provide more than a fraction of the export declarations and Phyto-sanitary certificates Commerce requested to determine whether Golden Bird was the exporter and that Golden Bird offered no explanation for the discrepancy in the GACC and Customs data. Id. at 4–5, 17. Citing the Harmoni Fraud Allegation and declaration

that Commerce partially corroborated,³ Commerce determined that Golden Bird misrepresented its export volume and the nature of its ownership and operations to Commerce in bad faith and perpetrated fraud on the proceeding. <u>Id.</u> at 21, 24. Commerce noted that the record evidence suggested that Golden Bird misrepresented matters relating to corporate control during the POR, but Commerce stated it was unable to corroborate all aspects of the allegations due to resource constraints and "therefore, [did] not draw[] specific conclusions" as to corporate control. <u>Id.</u> at 21, 25–26.⁴ Commerce, however, did reason that it was unable to determine which entities controlled specific exports because a majority of Golden Bird's purported exports were actually those of other Chinese exporters subject to the PRC-wide rate. <u>Id.</u> at 25–26. Commerce thus explained that Golden Bird's misrepresentations were pervasive, which it states justifies its rejection of Golden Bird's separate rate submissions as unreliable and incomplete, its finding that Golden Bird failed to cooperate, and its determination that Golden Bird was part of the PRCwide entity. <u>Id.</u> at 1–2, 19, 24–25.

Golden Bird challenges Commerce's finding that it engaged in fraud and the consequent application of the PRC-wide rate because it alleges Commerce improperly considered unreliable

³ Commerce noted in its <u>Remand Results</u> that its analysis of the declarant's testimony and documents rely "only on . . . specific, corroborated information." <u>Remand Results</u> at 34. Commerce states that it verified specific, proprietary information provided by the declarant by comparing it to information obtained by Customs. <u>Id.</u> at 21, 24–25.

⁴ Commerce suggested, but did <u>not</u> conclude, that Golden Bird was owned by Messrs. Bai and Wang during the POR, and that therefore Golden Bird misrepresented its ownership to Commerce. <u>Remand Results</u> at 10–11, 21. Such a finding implicating corporate ownership and control would have gone to the heart of separate rate eligibility. Commerce nonetheless relied on substantial evidence to support its determination that Golden Bird is ineligible for a separate rate because the evidence shows that Golden Bird likely funneled the exports of companies subject to the PRC-wide rate, as explained <u>infra</u>.

and biased evidence, specifically the Harmoni Fraud Allegation and the supporting declaration, even though those documents were originally submitted on the record of a different review. Cmts. on Commerce Department's Final Results of Redetermination Pursuant to Remand 12–13, ECF No. 77 ("Golden Bird Cmts."). Golden Bird also argues that Commerce infringed on its Fifth Amendment due process rights and abused the discretion applicable to the administrative protective order ("APO") in this case when it denied Golden Bird access to and sufficient opportunity to respond to portions of the new information because Commerce improperly double bracketed⁵ certain information and accepted hearsay statements made in the supporting declaration. <u>Id.</u> at 13–17. Golden Bird requests that the court remand to Commerce with instructions either to allow it a full opportunity to review the double-bracketed information and respond, or, alternatively, to remove the Harmoni Fraud Allegation from the record.⁶ Id. at 1–2.

⁵ Pursuant to 19 C.F.R. § 351.304(b)(2), parties may identify information in submissions to Commerce as non-releasable even under an APO by identifying such information within double brackets, rather than single brackets, if there is a "clear and compelling need" to withhold the information.

⁶ In addition, Golden Bird asks the court to take judicial notice of a separate district court case in which Harmoni unsuccessfully brought several claims against other Chinese exporters, including allegations of fraud using undisclosed declarants. Golden Bird Cmts. at 5; see also id. at Exs. 5– 7. It also submits various exhibits not on the administrative record that are related to court and administrative filings and decisions concerning other reviews of the AD order on fresh garlic from the PRC. See id. at Exs. 10–11, 13–15. The government and FGPA request that the court strike Golden Bird's Exhibits 5–7, 10–11, and 13–15 because they were not submitted on the administrative record of this review. Def.'s Resp. to Cmts. Regarding Remand Redetermination & Mot. to Strike Extra-Record Exs. 9–13, ECF No. 82 ("Gov't Resp."); Def. Intrvnrs.' Resp. to Cmts. on Remand Results 1, 4–6, ECF No. 84 ("FGPA Resp.").

Federal Rule of Evidence 201 states that the court, after a request from a party, must take judicial notice of an <u>adjudicative</u> fact that is "generally known" or that "can be accurately and readily determined from sources whose accuracy cannot reasonably be questioned." <u>See also</u> 28 U.S.C. § 2641(a) ("[T]he Federal Rules of Evidence shall apply to all civil actions in the Court of (continued . . .)

12-13.

JURISDICTION AND STANDARD OF REVIEW

The court has jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1581(c) (2012). The court will sustain Commerce's determination in an administrative review unless it is "unsupported by substantial evidence on the record, or otherwise not in accordance with law." 19 U.S.C.

§ 1581a(b)(1)(B)(i).

DISCUSSION

I. Consideration of the Harmoni Fraud Allegation

Commerce generally has the inherent authority to reopen the record of an administrative AD duty review and reconsider its decision, subject to certain limitations not applicable here. <u>Tokyo Kikai Seisakusho, Ltd. v. United States</u>, 529 F.3d 1352, 1360 (Fed. Cir. 2008). Commerce may exercise its authority to reopen in certain situations, such as when "newly revealed information 'raised questions' about the original proceedings," "after-discovered fraud 'is alleged," or "Commerce wishes 'to consider' new allegations." <u>Ad Hoc Shrimp Trade</u> <u>Action Comm. v. United States</u>, 882 F. Supp. 2d 1377, 1380 (CIT 2013) (first quoting <u>Tokyo Kikai</u>, 529 F.3d at 1360–61; then quoting <u>Home Prods. Int'l, Inc. v. United States</u>, 633 F.3d 1369, 1377 (Fed. Cir. 2011)). This power to reopen and reconsider is especially important when Commerce seeks "to protect the integrity of its own proceedings from fraud." <u>Tokyo Kikai</u>, 529 F.3d at 1361; see also US Magnesium LLC v. United States, 895 F. Supp. 2d 1319, 1325 (CIT

International Trade."); <u>Murakami v. United States</u>, 398 F.3d 1342, 1355 (Fed. Cir. 2005). Golden Bird's request for judicial notice is not specific to which adjudicative facts in the eight exhibits provided Golden Bird would like the court to notice. Instead, Golden Bird's request appears to be an improper attempt to supplement the record, and, accordingly, the court grants the government's request to strike the exhibits for their factual content.

2013).

Commerce acted within the bounds of its discretion in considering evidence of fraud initially placed on the record of the present remand proceedings from the twenty-first review. Harmoni's allegations were first filed after the underlying Final Results in this case had been published. Remand Results at 9–10. Here, Commerce rightly considered the new prima facie evidence that Golden Bird engaged in an extensive fraudulent scheme that impeached the reliability of its separate rate submissions, placed the allegations on the remand record of the present review, and then offered Golden Bird the opportunity to rebut those allegations.⁷ Id. at 1–2, 28; see also 19 C.F.R. § 351.301(c)(4) ("[Commerce] may place factual information on the record of the proceeding at any time. An interested party is permitted one opportunity to correct factual information placed on the record of the proceeding by [Commerce]"). Indeed, Commerce exercised its authority to reconsider the Final Results "to protect the integrity of its own proceedings from fraud," a situation in which Commerce's "power to reconsider is even more fundamental." Tokyo Kikai, 529 F.3d at 1361. In addition, Commerce properly adhered to the scope of the court's remand, recognizing that the court stated that Commerce could make an explicit finding that Golden Bird engaged in fraud and that such a determination might bear on any decision to disregard Golden Bird's separate rate submissions. <u>Remand Results</u> at 9, 35; Xinboda, 180 F. Supp. 3d at 1317 n.13. Thus, Golden Bird's argument that it was improper for

⁷ Golden Bird takes issue with Commerce's statement that Golden Bird had been aware of the Harmoni Fraud Allegation since the time it was filed on the record of the twenty-first administrative review, arguing that it was not a party to that review. Golden Bird Cmts. at 12. Regardless of when Golden Bird learned of the allegations, Commerce correctly noted that Golden Bird had two opportunities to substantively respond to the evidence in the remand proceedings of this review but failed to take advantage of that opportunity, leaving the allegations nearly entirely unrebutted. <u>Remand Results</u> at 29.

Commerce to place and consider evidence submitted in the twenty-first review on the record of the nineteenth review does not carry the day. <u>See</u> Golden Bird Cmts. at 12–13.

Furthermore, Commerce's determination that Golden Bird engaged in fraud and its subsequent assignment of the PRC-wide rate is supported by substantial evidence. Commerce stated that it relied on only corroborated information from the Harmoni Fraud Allegation and reasoned that the fact that the declaration was sworn under penalty of perjury supported the declaration's reliability. <u>Remand Results</u> at 10, 34. Its corroboration of the Harmoni Fraud Allegation and declaration included verifying "specific and proprietary shipment details provided by the declarant," such as bill of lading numbers, shipping dates, quantities, and container numbers, with information obtained from Customs. Id. at 13-14, 21, 23-25; see also Def.'s Resp. to Cmts. Regarding Remand Redetermination & Mot. to Strike Extra-Record Exs. 19-21, ECF No. 82 ("Gov't Resp."). Commerce also corroborated the Harmoni Fraud Allegation with the significant and unrebutted discrepancies in the GACC and Customs data, which suggested that Golden Bird fraudulently funneled the exports of other Chinese exporters subject to the PRC-wide rate, resulting in \$141.6 million in evaded AD cash deposits from the seventeenth through nineteenth PORs. Remand Results at 10, 18; see Ad Hoc Shrimp Trade Action Comm. v. United States, 925 F. Supp. 2d 1315, 1321–23 (CIT 2013) (denying respondent separate rate status because respondent's withholding and misrepresentation of its corporate structure and affiliations which Commerce corroborated with public registration documents impugned the credibility of its separate rate submissions). Based on this evidence, Commerce concluded that, at minimum, more than half of Golden Bird's exports were actually controlled by companies not found to be independent of the PRC-wide entity, that it would be impossible to determine which

exports it did control, and that its separate rate submission is therefore substantially incomplete. See Remand Results at 19–20, 25–26. Because Commerce found that most of Golden Bird's exports are actually controlled by companies that received the PRC-wide rate and estimated its funneling activities to involve at minimum about one-third of the total export volume from companies subject to the PRC-wide rate, its determination that Golden Bird is ineligible for a separate rate is both reasonable and supported as many of Golden Bird's alleged exports were apparently actually controlled by PRC entities. <u>Id.</u> at 19–20. Commerce provided Golden Bird two opportunities to rebut the Harmoni Fraud Allegation and the GACC data discrepancy, but Golden Bird provided no substantive comments during the remand proceedings. <u>Id.</u> at 29. Consequently, Golden Bird's bare assertions that the Harmoni Fraud Allegation is unreliable fail because, again, Golden Bird has not challenged Commerce's specific corroboration of the detailed allegations on which Commerce relies.

Commerce complied with the court's remand instructions to reevaluate Golden Bird's eligibility for a separate rate, making an explicit finding of fraud based on substantial evidence that it lawfully considered. Because Commerce's finding of fraud impugned Golden Bird's separate rate submissions, such as ownership and control over its export activities, Commerce's determination that Golden Bird is ineligible for a separate rate was supported by substantial evidence. <u>See id.</u> at 10, 21, 25–26.

II. Procedural Due Process and Access to Proprietary Information

"[A]n importer may be entitled to procedural due process regarding the resolution of disputed facts involved in a case of foreign commerce when the importer faces a deprivation of 'life, liberty, or property' by the Federal Government." <u>NEC Corp. v. United States</u>, 151 F.3d

1361, 1370 (Fed. Cir. 1998); see U.S. Const. amend. V; <u>Buttfield v. Stranahan</u>, 192 U.S. 470,
492–93 (1904). When such deprivation occurs, the Constitution guarantees the right to be heard.
<u>NEC Corp.</u>, 151 F.3d at 1370.

Furthermore, by statute, Commerce is barred from disclosing proprietary information it receives without the consent of the party that submitted the information. 19 U.S.C. § 1677f(b)(1)(A). A party may submit proprietary information either in single brackets, which is then disclosed to interested parties under an APO, or in double brackets, which may not be released under an APO. <u>See Carpenter Tech. Corp. v. United States</u>, 34 CIT 1482, 1485 (2010); <u>see also</u> 19 C.F.R. § 351.304(b)(2). Commerce may lawfully withhold specific information in proceedings from interested parties under an APO, i.e., double-bracketed information, when there is a "clear and compelling need" in situations in which "substantial and irreparable financial or physical harm may result from disclosure." <u>Allied Tube & Conduit Corp. v. United States</u>, 898 F.2d. 780, 786 (Fed. Cir. 1990) (quoting H.R. Conf. Rep. No. 100–576, 100th Cong. 2nd Sess. 623 (1988), <u>reprinted in</u> 1988 U.S. Code Cong. & Admin. News 1656); <u>see</u> 19 U.S.C. § 1677f(c)(1)(A).

Golden Bird's generalized procedural due process allegations fail. Golden Bird merely concludes that Commerce deprived it of "life, liberty, or property" in denying it access to "statements that specifically referred to [Golden Bird]" without ever specifically identifying any such deprivation. Golden Bird Cmts. at 14. Although Golden Bird claims that the allegations are criminal in nature and that Commerce's finding of fraud might impact a separate Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organization Act ("RICO") case filed in a California district court, Golden Bird fails to identify how or why Commerce denied it due process of law in the civil administrative proceedings at issue, which are subject to different standards and principles of judicial review. <u>See Max Fortune Indus. Ltd. v. United States</u>, 853 F. Supp. 2d 1258, 1266 (CIT 2012) ("[Plaintiff] cites to no statutory or regulatory authority to support its proposition that it has a 'right to confront its accuser,' and this Court declines [plaintiff's] plea to read such a right into an administrative proceeding." (internal citation omitted)). Instead, the court will construe Golden Bird's constitutional due process challenges as claims that Commerce violated the governing statute by failing to disclose certain proprietary information to Golden Bird so that Golden Bird could have a meaningful opportunity to contest the allegations.

Commerce's decision to protect the identity of the declarant was reasonable and comported with Commerce's obligations pursuant to the statute and its regulations. As the double-bracketed information was limited to the identifying information of the declarant, it does not constitute withholding of "wholesale allegations" such that the bracketing might violate Golden Bird's right to meaningfully comment. <u>See Carpenter Tech. Corp.</u>, 34 CIT at 1486. The general allegations and structure of the fraud were made public, and Golden Bird's counsel had access to much of the substantive information pertaining to the fraud scheme that was designated as releasable under the APO. <u>Remand Results</u> at 33. Commerce reasonably explained that it double bracketed the declarant's identifying information and kept certain statements confidential based on the declaration's "highly damaging allegations" relating to a large number of Chinese exporters, Harmoni's claim that the safety of the declarant and the safety of its family in China were in danger, the extortion attempt referenced in the Harmoni Fraud Allegation, and the filing of the separate RICO action. <u>Id.</u> at 11, 32–33; <u>see also Max Fortune</u>, 853 F. Supp. 2d at 1266 (upholding Commerce's decision to double bracket identifying information of a researcher

because disclosing its identity "could prove a danger to the researcher and the researcher's methods of obtaining information in the future."). Golden Bird's assurances to its counsel that "no threats had been made" to the declarant do not call into question Commerce's reasoning regarding the need to protect the declarant, <u>see</u> Golden Bird Cmts. at 14, as these off-the-record assurances cannot be verified, are neither specific nor meaningful given that Golden Bird claims it does not know the identity of the declarant, and otherwise do not challenge Commerce's reasoned explanation as unsupported by substantial evidence.

In addition, Golden Bird has not squarely addressed why the identity of the declarant is necessary for it to rebut the claims. As Commerce points out, rebutting proprietary information is routine, and counsel could have worked with Golden Bird to formulate a path to rebuttal without disclosing any proprietary information. <u>Remand Results</u> at 33; <u>see Max Fortune</u>, 853 F. Supp. 2d at 1265–67. And, Commerce, rather than basing its decision on the double-bracketed information, relied on corroborated information from the Harmoni Fraud Allegation and the unrebutted data from GACC and Customs.⁸ <u>Remand Results</u> at 32, 34–35. Golden Bird's speculation about the undisclosed declarant's lack of credibility and its assertion that the sworn nature of its testimony do not ensure its reliability are insufficient to rebut the record evidence relied upon by Commerce. <u>See</u> Golden Bird Cmts. at 10–11; <u>Remand Results</u> at 34. Thus, Commerce's decision to designate certain identifying information of the undisclosed declarant under an APO was not arbitrary, and Commerce did not infringe on Golden Bird's Fifth

⁸ Golden Bird, however, contends that Commerce improperly relied upon a hearsay statement. Golden Bird Cmts. at 14. But, the alleged hearsay statement Golden Bird points to relates to whether or not Messrs. Bai and Wang owned Golden Bird, and Commerce specifically stated that it did not make a finding of whether Messrs. Bai and Wang controlled Golden Bird and, therefore, did not rely on any such hearsay statement. <u>See Remand Results at 10–11, 21</u>.

Court No. 15-00182

Amendment right to procedural due process.

CONCLUSION

For the reasons stated above, Commerce's determinations regarding Golden Bird in the

<u>Remand Results</u> are sustained. Judgment will enter accordingly.

Dated: July 17, 2017 New York, New York /s/ Jane A. Restani Jane A. Restani Judge