

## Section 232 Investigation Into Copper Imports

### THOMPSON COBURN TRADE ALERT - IMPORTS

**HEADLINE** Section 232 Investigation Into Copper Imports

**DATE** February 25 2025

**AGENCY** Department of Commerce; Trump Administration

**EFFECTIVE DATES** November 22 2025 - Report due date from Secretary of Commerce

**BACKGROUND** The Trump Administration has ordered the Secretary to conduct a 232 investigation into copper to determine whether imported copper and copper products impair the national security of the United States. This is the same statute President Trump used to impose duties on steel and aluminum in 2018, and to increase the duties on aluminum and eliminate the previously negotiated product and country-based exceptions to the [steel](#) and [aluminum](#) duties earlier this month.

**DETAILS** The EO directs the Secretary of Commerce to investigate the impacts of copper imports, including:

- Raw mined copper,
- Copper concentrates,
- Refined copper,
- Copper alloys,
- Scrap copper, and
- Derivative products.

The EO does not define what derivative products are to be included in the investigation. The Secretary is directed to submit a report within 270 days on the Department's findings and provide recommendations such as tariffs, export controls, or incentives for domestic production. Based on this timeframe, we can expect a report by November 22, 2025.

The findings from the Secretary may or may not result in additional tariffs on imported copper goods.

**BASIS** Section 232 of the Trade Expansion Act of 1962

**CITE** [Addressing the Threat to National Security from Imports of Copper - The White House Federal Register :: Addressing the Threat to National Security From Imports of Copper](#)

[Recent Trade & Compliance Actions Homepage](#)

authorsTest