Slip Op 15-121

UNITED STATES COURT OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE

ICDAS CELIK ENERJI TERSANE VE ULASIM SANAYI, A.S.,

Plaintiff,

V.

Before: Leo M. Gordon, Judge

UNITED STATES,

Defendant.

Court No. 14-00267

MEMORANDUM and ORDER

[Defendant-Intervenor's motion for certification denied.]

Dated: October 30, 2015

<u>Matthew M. Nolan</u>, <u>Diana D. Quaia</u>, and <u>Nancy A. Noonan</u>, Arent Fox LLP of Washington, DC for Plaintiff Icdas Celik Enerji Tersane ve Ulasim Sanayi, A.S.

<u>Richard P. Schroeder</u>, Trial Attorney, Commercial Litigation Branch, Civil Division, U.S. Department of Justice of Washington, DC, for Defendant, United States. With him on the briefs were <u>Benjamin C. Mizer</u>, Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General, <u>Jeanne E.</u> <u>Davidson</u>, Director, and <u>Reginald T. Blades, Jr.</u>, Assistant Director. Of counsel on the briefs were <u>Scott McBride</u>, Senior Attorney, U.S. Department of Commerce, Office of the Chief Counsel for Trade Enforcement and Compliance of Washington, DC.

<u>Alan H. Price</u>, <u>John R. Shane</u>, and <u>Maureen E. Thorson</u>, Wiley Rein LLP of Washington, DC for Defendant-Intervenors Rebar Trade Action Coalition, Nucor Corporation, Gerdau Ameristeel U.S. Inc., Commercial Metals Company, and Byer Steel Corporation.

Gordon, Judge: Before the Court is Defendant-Intervenor Rebar Trade Action

Coalition's ("RTAC") motion for certification. See RTAC's Mot. for Order Certifying

Questions for Interlocutory Appeal 1 (Sept. 29, 2015), ECF No. 41 ("RTAC's Mot.").

Defendant opposes RTAC's motion. See Def.'s Resp. to Def.-Intervenors' Mot. for an

Order Certifying Questions for Interlocutory Appeal (Oct. 22, 2015), ECF No. 45 ("Def.'s Resp."). Plaintiff takes no position on the motion.

RTAC seeks certification of questions arising from the court's recent opinion and order granting Plaintiff's motion to amend the caption of its complaint and denying Defendant's and RTAC's cross-motions to dismiss for lack of subject matter jurisdiction. RTAC's Mot. at 1-5; <u>see lcdas Celik Energji Tersane ve Ulasim Sanayi, A.S. v. United States</u>, 39 CIT _____, Slip Op. 15-109, at 4-16 (Sep. 24, 2015). Under 28 U.S.C. § 1292(d), the court may certify questions for interlocutory appeal when there exists "a controlling question of law is involved with respect to which there is a substantial ground for difference of opinion" such that "an immediate appeal from that order may materially advance the ultimate termination of the litigation." 28 U.S.C. § 1292(d)(1) (2012). RTAC and Defendant agree that the court's opinion in <u>lcdas</u> presents a controlling question of law to which there is a substantial ground for disagreement. RTAC's Mot. at 1, 4-5; Def.'s Resp. at 1-3. RTAC and the Government dispute whether interlocutory appeal may materially advance the ultimate termination of this action.

RTAC argues that a favorable decision on appeal would relieve the court and the parties of the need to litigate the merits of Icdas' action. RTAC's Mot. at 5. The court does not agree. "Denial of a motion to dismiss a complaint is not sufficient, in itself, to warrant certification of an interlocutory appeal." <u>Nat'l Corn Growers Ass'n v. Baker</u>, 9 CIT 571, 583, 623 F. Supp. 1262, 1273 (1985) <u>rev'd on other grounds</u>, 840 F.2d 1547 (Fed. Cir. 1988). And as Defendant correctly points out, litigating an interlocutory appeal may well delay the ultimate disposition of this action. Def.'s Resp. at 4-5. Certifying RTAC's

questions for interlocutory appeal creates the potential for multiple rounds of briefing and argument at the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit. Even if the Court of Appeals accepts the interlocutory appeal and reverses this Court's decision, "many months, and perhaps more than a year . . . would pass" before the ultimate termination of the litigation. <u>Id.</u> The court can envision a scenario where resolution on the substance of Plaintiff's complaint actually <u>precedes</u> the appellate decision on jurisdiction. The court is also concerned that granting RTAC's motion would result in piecemeal litigation because the interlocutory appeal would place Icdas' action on a different track than RTAC's companion action challenging the same administrative determination. Given these considerations, the court concludes that granting RTAC's motion for certification for an interlocutory appeal will not materially advance the ultimate termination of this litigation.

Accordingly, it is hereby

ORDERED that Defendant-Intervenor's motion for certification is denied.

/s/ Leo M. Gordon Judge Leo M. Gordon

Dated: October 30, 2015 New York, New York