

HIGGINS Rebecca

From: Shane Robinson [Shane@steelsupplies.com.au]
Sent: Friday, 25 November 2011 11:10 AM
To: Trade Measures Ops 3
Subject: FW: Manufacturing in Australia

Director Operations 3:
Attention: Mr Geoffrey Gleeson
International Trade Remedies Branch
Australian Customs and Border Protection Service
Customs House
5 Constitution Avenue
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Dear Mr Gleeson,

I would like to address the impact of the anti dumping action initiated against imported gal pipe and RHS.

Firstly I will outline what we do with these products. Firstly we are a whole sale steel merchant selling to manufacturing companys all over NSW employing 24 staff. We have tried to purchase Australian tubular from Onesteel and Bluescope since starting 10 years ago to no avail .

We sell over 700 tonne of tubular a month yet we cannot secure a direct line of supply from both manufacturers and are therefore forced to import goods to sell to our customers. We have always faced a smear campaign against imported products by both Onesteel and Bluescope yet they will not sell to us.

Over the years my friends in the industry have been able to buy Aussie tubular from both these companys at " import parity pricing" and in most cases they only have to buy in multiples of 24t per month. These friends have shown me the offers yet when we ask can we buy at these rates it always comes to a stale mate. If this ridiculous anti dumping comes in it will give the big boys a huge unfair advantage and we will no doubtably suffer huge job losses not just of my staff but associated things like fuel (\$25 per month) just to highlight one of many.

The solution is simple. Let us buy the Aussie material at the competitive parity rate. We will still sell it and keep Aussies in a job.

Secondly we have a manufacturing arm fabricating farm gates and cattle/sheep panels from post hot dipped galvanised pipe (i.e: out of gal pipe which we don't make any more in Australia) employing 10 staff plus truck drivers. We used to import the finished product but have been able to manufacture here to compete with the chinese(which we are very proud of). We have plans to expand our gate manufacturing plant to at least double its capacity but just can't fathom why there is an anti dumping cloud hanging over gal pipe when we don't even produce that product in Australia any more! We have put our plans on the back

burner until a resolution to this anti dumping issue comes along (surely common sense will prevail). If this is introduced we will have to go back to buying manufactured products from China causing further Aussie job losses.

In closing, I am at a loss to understand why both Bluescope and Onesteel have instigated this action as they are the biggest importers of gal pipe and rhs in Australia & that is the height of hypocrisy!

We would like to invite Customs to visit us at Wagga, which is not far from Canberra, to get a first hand look at what we do and to see the impact these dumping actions have on Australian manufacturing .

My contact details are below.

Regards

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Director

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