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Hi Steven

Thank you for your time last week explaining the anti-dumping action initiated against imported RHS.

It deeply concerns me to hear and read about such short sighted and potential harmful actions that have not got the Australian manufacturing as a whole in mind only that of shortsighted few.

As I explained during our meeting we at Digga have already been forced to go overseas to buy components used in everyday manufacturing as a way to try and keep competitive in the Australian and overseas market. We are proud to say that Digga Manufacture in Australia but we can only continue to do so if we are able to use imported product at the imported price. If we were unable to continue to buy at our current rates then this would just force us to take the manufacture of finished goods or sub component of those products off shore to China or India. As I already bring in many items from China and India this would not be hard for us to do, unfortunately the continuation of this trend would undoubtedly mean the loss of jobs in our manufacturing facility.

To put the job losses in context at present we employ approx 70 people in manufacturing, if the price of our steel was to increase as a result of the anti dumping action then we would have to shift this manufacturing to China with a commensurate loss of jobs. There would still be some jobs but in assembly roles only as opposed to manufacturing.

Our competitors import assembled equipment from China and their costs are much less than ours however ironically we don't have the luxury of using the anti dumping system to protect our business as do Onesteel.

Onesteel's actions have the potential to cause our business and others like it irreversible damage.

In truth the introduction of an anti-dumping action on RHS would not mean the local suppliers pick up the account, it's more likely to be Australia loses yet more products to China and India.

Please let me know if we can be of any assistance in helping stop the introduction of any such anti-dumping action as I believe without Australian manufactures we all lose.

Regards,

Micah Stevens

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