

Australian Government Anti-Dumping Commission

ANTI-DUMPING NOTICE NO. 2013/54

Prepared or preserved peach products

Exported from South Africa

Initiation of an Investigation into Alleged Dumping

Customs Act 1901 – Part XVB

The Anti-Dumping Commissioner (the Commissioner) has initiated an investigation following an application lodged by SPC Ardmona Operations Limited (SPCA), a manufacturer of prepared or preserved peach products ("the goods") in Australia. The application seeks the publication of a dumping duty notice in respect of prepared or preserved peach products exported to Australia from South Africa.

The application alleges that the goods have been exported to Australia at prices less than their normal value and that the dumping has caused material injury to the Australian industry through:

- reduced market share;
- reduced revenues;
- price depression;
- price suppression;
- reduced profits;
- reduced profitability;
- reduced return on investment and loss of economies of scale associated with processing operations;
- reduced sales volumes; and
- reduced capacity utilisation.

The non-confidential version of the application, which contains the basis of the alleged dumping, is available on the public record.

A notice under subsection 269TC(4) of the *Customs Act 1901* (the Act) advising initiation of this investigation was published in *The Australian* newspaper on 10 July 2013.

The Goods

The goods subject of the application are:

Prepared or preserved peach products either whole (peeled or unpeeled) or in pieces (including halves, slices, diced), with or without added sugar or other

sweetening matter or spirit, prepared or preserved in container sizes from 300 grams up to and including 1.5 kilograms.

Goods excluded from this application are:

- individually packed prepared or preserved peach products of less than 300g which are sold for snacking purposes;
- peaches mixed with other fruit types such as pears, apples or nectarines;
- sizes greater than 1.5kg, which are more common in the food service channel; and
- multiple packs of individual packs of prepared or preserved peach products, each less than 300g, which are sold together to aggregate to greater than 300g.

The goods are currently classified to the tariff subheading 2008.70.00 (statistical code 51) of Schedule 3 to the *Customs Tariff Act 1995*. These goods exported from South Africa are subject to 5% Customs duty.

Investigation Process

The investigation period is 1 July 2012 to 30 June 2013. The Anti-Dumping Commission (the Commission) will examine exports to Australia of the goods during that period to determine whether dumping has occurred. The Commission will examine details of the Australian market from 1 January 2009 for injury analysis purposes.

Where the Minister for Home Affairs (Minister) is satisfied, as to goods of any kind, that:

- (a) the amount of the export price of the goods that have already been exported to Australia is less than the normal value of those goods, and the amount of the export price of like goods that may be exported to Australia in the future may be less than the normal value of the goods; and
- (b) because of that, material injury to an Australian industry producing like goods has been or is being caused or is threatened, or the establishment of an Australian industry producing like goods has been or may be materially hindered;

the Minister may, by public notice, impose interim dumping duties.

Lodgement of Submissions

Interested parties, as defined by subsection 269T(1) of the Act, are invited to lodge submissions concerning the publication of the dumping duty notice sought in the application, no later than the close of business on **19 August 2013**, addressed to:

The Director Operations 2 Anti-Dumping Commission 5 Constitution Avenue CANBERRA ACT 2601

Or by email operations2@adcommission.gov.au, or by fax to 1300 882 506.

Interested parties wishing to participate in the investigation must ensure that submissions are lodged by the due date. Interested parties should note that the Commissioner is not obliged to have regard to a submission received by the Commission after the date above if

to do so would, in the Commissioner's opinion, prevent the timely placement of the statement of essential facts on the public record.

Interested parties may reply to matters raised by other parties during the course of the investigation and in response to the statement of essential facts.

The Commissioner must maintain a public record of each inquiry. The public record must contain, among other things, a copy of all submissions from interested parties. Letters and electronic mail are generally regarded as submissions if they contain information relevant to the inquiry.

Interested parties claiming that information contained in their submission is confidential, or that the publication of the information would adversely affect their business or commercial interests, must:

- (i) provide a summary containing sufficient detail to allow a reasonable understanding of the substance of the information that does not breach that confidentiality or adversely affect those interests, or
- (ii) satisfy the Commissioner that there is no way such a summary can be given to allow a reasonable understanding of the substance of the information.

Submissions containing confidential information must be clearly marked "In-Confidence".

Interested parties must also lodge a non-confidential version or a summary of their submission in accordance with the requirement above, which will be placed on the public record.

Public Record

Documents included in the public record are available at <u>www.adcommission.gov.au</u>. Alternatively, the public record may be examined at Customs House, Canberra by contacting the Case Manager on the details provided below.

Provisional Measures

A preliminary affirmative determination may be made not earlier than 60 days after the date of initiation provided that there appears to be sufficient grounds for the publication of a dumping duty notice. In accordance with section 269TD of the Act, provisional measures, in the form of securities in respect of interim dumping duty that may become payable on the goods, may be imposed where a preliminary affirmative determination has been made.

Statement of Essential Facts

The dates specified in this notice for lodging submissions must be observed to enable the Commission to report to the Minister within the legislative timeframe. A statement of essential facts will be placed on the public record by 28 October 2013, or by such later date as the Minister may allow in accordance with section 269ZHI of the Act. The statement will set out the essential facts on which the Commissioner proposes to base a recommendation to the Minister. That statement will invite interested parties to respond to the issues raised within 20 days of the statement being placed on the public record.

Submissions received in response to the statement of essential facts within that time frame will be taken into account in completing the report and recommendation to the Minister.

Report to the Minister

A recommendation to the Minister will be made in a report on or before 12 December 2013 (or such later date as the Minister may allow), unless the Commissioner terminates the investigation.

The Minister must make a declaration within 30 days after receiving the report or, where due to special circumstances, such longer period as the Minister considers appropriate.

Anti-Dumping Review Panel

Certain parties will have the right to seek review with the Anti-Dumping Review Panel in accordance with Division 9 of Part XVB of the Act of either a decision by the Commissioner to terminate the investigation, or a decision of the Minister after considering the Commissioner's report.

Anti-Dumping Commission Contact

Enquiries about this notice may be directed to the case manager, Nicole Platt, on telephone number (02) 6275 5649, fax number 1300 882 506 or <u>operations2@adcommission.gov.au</u>.

Scott Wilson A/g National Manager - Operations Anti-Dumping Commission

10 July 2013