



ANTI-DUMPING NOTICE NO 2024/108

Public notice under section 269TC(4) of the *Customs Act 1901*

Certain strata steel bolts

Exported from the People's Republic of China

Initiation of Investigation No 659 into alleged dumping and subsidisation

Customs Act 1901 – Part XVB¹

I, Isolde Lueckenhausen, Acting Commissioner of the Anti-Dumping Commission (the Commissioner),² have initiated an investigation following an application lodged by DSI Underground Australia Pty Limited and Jennmar Australia Pty Limited (collectively, the applicants), manufacturers of certain strata steel bolts (friction bolts, or the goods) in Australia.

The application seeks the publication of a dumping duty notice in respect of the goods exported to Australia from the People's Republic of China (China), and a countervailing duty notice in respect of goods exported from China.

The application alleges that the goods have been exported to Australia at prices less than their normal value and were in receipt of countervailable subsidies, and that the dumping and subsidisation has caused material injury to the Australian industry producing like goods through:

- loss of sales volume and lost market share
- lower production volumes
- price depression
- price suppression
- loss of profits
- loss of profitability
- reduced capital investment
- reduced research and development expenditure

¹ All legislative references in this notice are to the *Customs Act 1901* (Cth) unless otherwise specified.

² References in this document to individuals holding positions within the Anti-Dumping Commission (commission) are references to whoever occupies the position at the time. This includes when the position is held in an acting capacity.

- reduced return on investment
- reduced capacity utilisation
- reduced employment
- reduced productivity
- reduced inventory turnover

The non-confidential version of the application, which contains the basis of the alleged dumping, subsidisation, and material injury to the Australian industry, is available on the electronic public record (EPR) for this case.³ The EPR can be found on the commission's website at www.adcommission.gov.au

Reasons for the decision to initiate this investigation are in *Anti-Dumping Commission Consideration Report No 659* (CON 659),⁴ which is available on the EPR. CON 659 outlines the basis upon which dumping and subsidisation are alleged to have occurred. Additionally, the factors upon which the allegation of material injury to the industry is based are also summarised in the report.

In accordance with section 269ZI(3), a copy of this notice and accompanying reasons will be provided to each of the countries whose exporters are affected by the decision to not reject the application.

The date of initiation of this investigation is the date of publication of this notice.

Particulars of the Goods

The goods, being the subject of the application (the goods) are:

Certain strata reinforcing steel bolts, hollow, made from flat rolled steel, whether or not metallic coated (e.g. galvanised), whether or not containing alloys, with an outside diameter from 44 millimetres up to and including 48 millimetres, of a length from 2.2 metres up to and including 2.5 metres, of a base metal thickness from 2.8 millimetres up to and including 3.4 millimetres, whether or not including the welded ring.

Further information

A strata bolt of a kind the subject of this application, referred to as a friction bolt, is manufactured from hot-rolled coil steel (HRC). All forms of HRC feed material are considered relevant to the goods, regardless of the particular grade or alloy content.

HRC is roll-formed into a hollow C-shape section with the diameter measured at the non-tapered end. A steel ring is welded at one end of the bolt, with the other end tapered.

A friction bolt, also known as a split set, or a friction 'lok', is a type of ground support used primarily in mining, tunnelling, and civil engineering projects. Its primary function is to stabilise rock formations and prevent rock falls in underground excavations.

³ EPR 659, document no 1.

⁴ EPR 659, document no 2.

Friction rock bolts are inserted into drilled holes in the rock. As the bolt is driven into the hole, it expands slightly due to its split design, creating friction along the length of the bolt. This friction holds the rock in place and helps prevent movement.

The subject goods are typically/nominally 2.4 metres in length, 47 mm in diameter at the non-tapered end, and with a base metal thickness (BMT) of 3.2 mm. Product characteristics however fall across the full spectrum of the definition set forth above.

Where the nominal and actual measurements vary, a product is within the scope if application of either the nominal or actual measurement would place it within the scope based on the definition set forth above.

The applicants consider that the Australian manufactured like goods are fully substitutable with all types of friction bolts imported from China.

Exclusions

Excluded from this application are strata reinforcing bolts that contain a solid centre reinforcing bar and locking system. These goods, commonly referred to as a mechanical point anchored bolt or mechanical lock, are used in underground strata support applications and include a tensionable point anchor by way of an internal solid steel bolt.

Tariff Classifications

The goods are generally, but not exclusively, classified to the following tariff subheadings of Schedule 3 to the *Customs Tariff Act 1995*:

- 7304.51.00 (statistical code 30)
- 7308.40.00 (statistical code 05)
- 7318.15.00 (statistical code 56 and 65)
- 7318.24.00 (statistical codes 22)
- 7318.19.00 (statistical code 03 and 19)

These tariff classifications and statistical codes may include goods that are both subject and not subject to this investigation. The listing of these tariff classifications and statistical codes are for convenience or reference only and do not form part of the goods description set out above. Please refer to the goods description for authoritative detail regarding the particulars of the goods, the subject of this investigation.

Investigation Process

The investigation period is **1 October 2023 to 30 September 2024**. I will examine exports to Australia of the goods during this period to determine whether dumping and subsidisation has occurred. I will examine details of the Australian market from **1 October 2020** for the purposes of injury analysis.

Where the Minister for Industry and Science (the Minister) is satisfied, as to goods of any kind, that:⁵

- (a) the amount of the export price of the goods that have 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.

Where the Minister is satisfied, as to goods of any kind, that:

- (a) a countervailable subsidy has been received in respect of the goods that have been exported to Australia, and (if applicable) may be received in respect of like goods that may be exported to Australia in the future 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 countervailing duties.⁶

Where there are grounds for the Minister to publish a dumping duty notice and a countervailing duty notice applying to China in respect of the goods, I will examine whether the trade in the dumped or subsidised goods gives rise to retrospective notices being published pursuant to section 269TN of the Act and make recommendations to the Minister accordingly.⁷

Proposed model control code structure

The commission undertakes model matching using a Model Control Code (MCC) structure to identify key characteristics that will be used to compare the goods exported to Australia and the like goods sold domestically in the country of export.⁸

The table below outlines the commission's proposed MCC structure for this investigation.

⁵ In accordance with section 269TG.

⁶ In accordance with section 269TJ.

⁷ In accordance with sections 269TG(1) and TJ(1).

⁸ Guidance on the commission's approach to model matching is in the Dumping and Subsidy Manual, available at www.adcommission.gov.au.

Category	Sub-category	Identifier ⁹	Sales data	Cost data
Finish	Galvanised	G	Mandatory	Mandatory
	None (e.g. mill finish, HRC, 'black')	N		
	Other	O		
Length	Less than 2.4 metres	L1	Mandatory	Optional
	2.4 metres	L2		
	Greater than 2.4 metres and up to and including 2.5 metres	L3		
Outside diameter	Less than 45 millimetres	D1	Mandatory	Optional
	Between 45 – 47 millimetres (inclusive)	D2		
	Greater than 47 millimetres and up to and including 48 millimetres	D3		
Base Metal Thickness (BMT)	Less than 2.7 millimetres	B1	Mandatory	Optional
	Between 2.7 – 3.5 millimetres (inclusive)	B2		

Proposals to modify the proposed MCC structure should be raised as soon as is practicable, but no later than **3 February 2025**.

Interested parties are encouraged to make a submission on whether any proposed modifications to the MCC structure should be accepted by the commission. Any changes to the MCC structure will be considered by the commission and reported in verification reports or in the statement of essential facts (SEF).

Public Record

I must maintain a public record of each investigation. Documents included in the public record are available at www.adcommission.gov.au.

The public record will contain, among other things, a copy of the application, CON 659,¹⁰ and copies of all non-confidential submissions from interested parties. Letters and electronic mail are generally regarded as submissions if they contain information relevant to the investigation.

Lodgement of Submissions

Interested parties, as defined by section 269T(1), are invited to lodge submissions concerning the publication of the dumping and countervailing duty notices sought in

⁹ The codes detailed in the identifier column of the proposed table are used by interested parties to identify the characteristics of the goods as listed in the sub-categories.

¹⁰ ERP 659, document no. 2.

the application, no later than the close of business on **3 February 2025**¹¹, addressed to:

The Director
Investigations
GPO Box 2013
Canberra ACT 2601
Australia

or by email to investigations@adcommission.gov.au.

Interested parties wishing to participate in the investigation must ensure that submissions are lodged by the due date. Interested parties should note that I am not obliged to have regard to a submission received after the date above if to do so would, in my opinion, prevent the timely placement of the SEF on the public record pursuant to section 269TDAA(3).

Interested parties should also note that I am directed to consider the matters set out in the *Customs (Extensions of Time and Non-cooperation) Direction 2015* in certain circumstances.¹² This is available at: www.legislation.gov.au.

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

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 me 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 "OFFICIAL: Sensitive".

Interested parties must lodge a non-confidential version or a summary of their submission in accordance with the requirement above (clearly marked "PUBLIC RECORD").

¹¹ 37 days provided for under section 269TC(4)(c) of the Act, plus an additional 8 days to account for reduced activity period and public holidays over the Christmas and New Year period. As the due date falls on Sunday 2 February 2025, the due date becomes Monday 3 February 2025, being the next business day.

¹² Certain powers and functions under the *Customs (Extensions of Time and Non-cooperation) Direction 2015* have been delegated to the Anti-Dumping Commission's Deputy Commissioners (Anti-Dumping Notice No 2017/10, available at: www.adcommission.gov.au refers).

Lodgement of Exporter Questionnaires

Exporters of the goods to Australia are invited to participate in this investigation by completing the exporter questionnaire and the associated spreadsheets by **3 February 2025**¹³.

The exporter questionnaire and the associated spreadsheets are available under the case information for case number 659.¹⁴ Alternatively, exporters can email investigations@adcommission.gov.au upon receipt of this letter and the Commission will forward the exporter questionnaire and spreadsheets for completion.

Provisional Measures

Pursuant to section 269TD, I will make a preliminary affirmative determination (PAD) provided I am satisfied that there appears to be sufficient grounds for the publication of a dumping and countervailing duty notice or there appears that there will be sufficient grounds for the publication of a dumping and countervailing duty notice subsequent to the importation of the goods into Australia. This can occur no earlier than day 60 of an investigation.

In accordance with section 269TD, the Commonwealth may apply provisional measures, including the taking of securities under section 42, in respect of interim dumping and/or countervailing duty that may become payable on the goods, where: a PAD has been made; and the Commissioner is satisfied that it is necessary to do so to prevent material injury to an Australian industry occurring while the investigation continues.

Where a PAD is not made 60 days after initiation of the investigation, the *Customs (Preliminary Affirmative Determinations) Direction 2015* (the PAD Direction) directs me to publish a status report providing reasons why a PAD was not made. The PAD Direction is available on the Federal Register of Legislation website at www.legislation.gov.au.

Statement of Essential Facts

The dates specified in this notice for lodging submissions must be observed to enable me to report to the Minister within the legislative timeframe. In accordance with section 269TDAA of the Act, a SEF will be placed on the public record by **8 April 2025**, or by such later date as allowed in accordance with section 269ZHI.¹⁵ The SEF will set out the essential facts on which I propose to base my recommendations to the Minister. Interested parties are invited to lodge submissions in response to the SEF within 20 days of it being placed on the public record.

Submissions received in response to the SEF within 20 days of that statement being placed on the public record will be taken into account in completing the report and recommendations to the Minister. Pursuant to section 269TEA(4), I am not obliged to

¹³ 37 days provided for under section 269TDAA(2)(a)(ii) of the Act, plus an additional 8 days to account for reduced activity period and public holidays over the Christmas and New Year period. As the due date falls on Sunday 2 February 2025, the due date becomes Monday 3 February 2025, being the next business day.

¹⁴ This can be found under 'current cases and their electronic public record' on the Commission website, www.adcommission.gov.au

¹⁵ On 14 January 2017, certain powers and functions of the Minister under section 269ZHI were delegated to the Commissioner. Refer to ADN No 2017/10 for further information.

have regard to submissions received more than 20 days following publication of the SEF if to do so would, in my opinion, prevent the timely preparation of the report to the Minister.

Report to the Minister

Recommendations to the Minister will be made in a report on or before **23 May 2025** (or such later date as allowed under section 269ZHI) based on the examination of exportations of the goods to Australia during the investigation period, unless I terminate the investigation.

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

Anti-Dumping Review Panel

Certain persons will have the right to seek review with the Anti-Dumping Review Panel in accordance with Division 9 of Part XVB in relation to a decision by me to terminate the investigation or a decision of the Minister to publish or not to publish a dumping duty notice and countervailing duty notice after considering my report.

Interested Party List

Throughout the investigation, the commission will maintain an internal list of interested parties. Updates on the investigation will be sent to parties on this list. If you would like to be added to the interested party list, please email investigations@adcommission.gov.au.

Anti-Dumping Commission Contact

Enquiries about this notice may be directed to client services on telephone number 02 6213 6000 or investigations@adcommission.gov.au.

Isolde Lueckenhausen
Acting Commissioner
Anti-Dumping Commission

19 December 2024