

# RESPONSE TO AN APPLICATION FOR EXEMPTION FROM DUTY UNDER THE *CUSTOMS TARIFF (ANTI-DUMPING) ACT 1975*

Exemption inquiry EX0107 – response requested by 6 July 2026

## 1 Introduction

The Anti-Dumping Commission (the commission) requests your response to an application for exemption from anti-dumping measures under the *Customs Tariff (Anti-Dumping) Act 1975* (the Dumping Duty Act).

Sections 8(7)(a) and 10(8)(a) of the Dumping Duty Act provide discretion for the Minister for Industry and Innovation and Minister for Science (the Minister) to exempt goods from anti-dumping measures, where they are satisfied that like or directly competitive goods are not offered for sale in Australia to all purchasers on equal terms under like conditions having regard to the custom and usage of trade.

The commission has received an application for exemption from anti-dumping measures in respect of certain hot rolled coil steel (HRC) for the goods described at section 5 of this form (“the exemption goods”).

Your company has been identified as an Australian producer of the goods subject to measures.

The commission seeks your assistance in this exemption inquiry by responding to this questionnaire. The commission will use the information you provide in its assessment as to whether an exemption from dumping duties may be recommended to the Minister.

## 2 Current anti-dumping measures

Anti-dumping measures were initially imposed by public notice on 4 May 2026 by Anti-Dumping Notice (ADN) No. [2026/043](#) and ADN No. [2026/044](#) following consideration of *Anti-Dumping Commission Report No. 658* (REP 658). The interim dumping duties apply to all exporters of HRC from the People’s Republic of China (China). The interim countervailing duties apply to all exporters from China except Baoshan Iron & Steel Co Ltd, Baosteel Zhanjiang Iron & Steel Co Ltd, Shanghai Meishan Iron & Steel Co Ltd and Hunan Valin Lianyuan Iron & Steel Co., Ltd.

The goods subject to the anti-dumping measures are:

*Hot rolled coil steel (including in sheet form), with or without patterns in relief (known as checker plate), whether or not containing alloys, not clad, plated or coated (other than oil coated)*

### Exclusions

*Goods excluded from this application are plate steel products and flat merchant bars.*

The commission considers sheet-form HRC with a base metal thickness at or above 4.75 mm to be a plate steel product and is therefore excluded from the goods subject to measures.

### **Exempted goods**

As a result of *Ministerial Exemption Instrument No 1 of 2026* (exemption instrument),<sup>1</sup> certain HRC is exempt from the anti-dumping measures imposed by the Minister on 4 May 2026, as detailed below.

All goods meeting the description detailed in Attachment 1 of the exemption instrument are eligible for an exemption from dumping duties and countervailing duties under this instrument with an effective date of 16 January 2026, described as follows:

*Hot rolled coil steel, in sheet or coil form, alloyed, grade Q690MD, complying with standard GB/T 1591-2008 or later versions, having all of the following:*

- *Base metal thickness at or between 3 mm and 4 mm*
- *Width at or between 1,000 mm and 1,830 mm*
- *Length at or between 6,000 mm and 10,000 mm*
- *Chemical composition, by weight, not greater than:*
  - *0.12% carbon content*
  - *0.4% silicon content*
  - *2.0% manganese content*
  - *0.025% phosphorus content*
  - *0.010% sulphur content*
  - *0.11% niobium content*
  - *0.20% titanium content*
  - *0.12% vanadium content*
- *Chemical composition, by weight, not less than 0.015% acid-soluble aluminium content.*

All goods meeting the description detailed in Attachment 2 of the exemption instrument are eligible for an exemption from dumping duties and countervailing duties under this instrument with an effective date of 19 January 2026, described as follows:

*Hot rolled coil steel, in sheet or coil form, that conforms to all of the following:*

- *Steel grade BS700MCK2 or BS700MCK4, complying with standard Q/BQB 316-2018 or later versions*
- *Minimum yield strength at or above 680 MPa.*

### **3 Application for Exemption from Measures**

An application for an exemption has been made to the commission jointly by Baoshan Iron & Steel Co Ltd, Baosteel Zhanjiang Iron & Steel Co Ltd and Shanghai Meishan Iron & Steel Co Ltd (collectively referred to as “Baosteel”).<sup>2</sup> The application was made by way of a submission in Investigation 658 (INV 658). Your company was made aware of this application for an exemption by Baosteel in INV 658 and your company has provided submissions in response.

In INV 658, the Commissioner did not make a recommendation to the Minister in relation to this application. In this regard, the commission initiated exemption inquiry EX0107 (this inquiry) on 29 May 2026 to determine whether it should recommend the requested exemption.

All submissions made by your company in INV 658 will be considered in this exemption inquiry.

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<sup>1</sup> [Ministerial Exemption Instrument No 1 of 2026](#)

<sup>2</sup> EPR EX0107, [document 1](#)

## 4 Exemption Provisions

The Dumping Duty Act provides discretion for the Minister to exempt goods from dumping duties if one of the criteria in section 8(7)(a) is met, or to exempt goods from countervailing duties if one of the criteria in section 10(8)(a) is met.

### Section 8(7)(a)

The Minister may, by notice in writing, exempt goods from interim dumping duty or dumping duty if he or she is satisfied:

- (a) that like or directly competitive goods are not offered for sale in Australia to all purchasers on equal terms under like conditions having regard to the custom and usage of trade;

### Section 10(8)(a)

The Minister may, by notice in writing, exempt goods from interim countervailing duty or countervailing duty if he or she is satisfied:

- (a) that like or directly competitive goods are not offered for sale in Australia to all purchasers on equal terms under like conditions having regard to the custom and usage of trade;

The exemption provisions are subject to the discretion of the Minister and an exemption is not automatically granted, even where the criteria in the provision is met.

## 5 The Goods Subject to this Exemption Application

The goods the subject of this exemption inquiry (exemption goods) were defined by the applicant as:

*Hot rolled coil and sheet in the following widths and thicknesses:*

- *thicknesses ranging from 1.5 mm to 2.95 mm (where local production starts at 3 mm)*
- *widths ranging from 1,580 mm to 2,000 mm (where local production is limited to up to 1,550 mm)*

The exemption goods are classified to the tariff subheadings and statistical codes of Schedule 3 to the *Customs Tariff Act 1995* as set out in Table 2 of ADN No. 2026/079,<sup>3</sup> being the notification of the initiation of this exemption inquiry.

### Goods produced in Australia

The applicant claims that there are no Australian manufacturers of the exemption goods as described.

## 6 Instructions on Completing this 'Response to the Exemption Application'

The commission has identified your company as a producer of hot rolled coil steel.

Consequently, the commission has forwarded you this 'response to exemption application' (the response) to provide you with the opportunity to participate in this exemption inquiry.

The commission seeks your assistance with this exemption inquiry by responding to the questions in this form. The commission will use the information you provide to make a

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<sup>3</sup> EPR EX0107, [document 2](#)

recommendation as to whether an exemption from dumping and/or countervailing duty should be granted by the Minister for Industry and Innovation and Minister for Science.

Specifically, the information provided by Australian HRC producers will assist the commission in determining whether like or directly competitive goods are offered for sale in Australia and whether offers for sale of the goods are available to all purchasers on equal terms under like conditions having regard to custom and usage of trade.

**Due date for the response**

We request that you complete your response and return it to the commission by **6 July 2026**.

Please email your response to [investigations4@adcommission.gov.au](mailto:investigations4@adcommission.gov.au)

**Verification of the information that you supply**

The commission may seek to verify some or all of the information supplied in the response. The commission may request evidence to support the claims such as quotations and offers of sale.

An onsite visit by the commission may be required in some cases. A report will be prepared of visits conducted and a non-confidential version will be placed on the public record.

There is no legislative timeframe for completion of an exemption inquiry, however a recommendation to the Minister will be made as soon as practicable after obtaining all relevant information.

**Confidential and non-confidential submissions**

We request that you also lodge a non-confidential version of your response suitable for placement on the public record. The commission puts greater weight on submissions that are available to other interested parties for comment.

Please ensure that each page of information you provide is clearly marked either:

“SENSITIVE: Official” or “PUBLIC RECORD”.

All information provided to the commission in confidence will be treated accordingly. The non-confidential version of your submission will be placed on the public record.

**Outline of information required by the response**

<b>Part A</b>	Company contact information
<b>Part B</b>	Response to exemption application
<b>Part C</b>	Identical goods
<b>Part D</b>	Like or directly competitive goods
<b>Part E</b>	Capability to produce like or directly competitive goods
<b>Part F</b>	Additional comments
<b>Part G</b>	Your declaration

## Response to Exemption Application

### PART A – Company Information

A.1 Please provide the following company contact information:

Name:	██████████
Position in company:	██████████ BlueScope Steel Limited (BSL)
Address:	██████████
Telephone:	██████████
Facsimile number:	N/A
E-mail address of contact person:	██████████

### PART B – Response to Exemption Application

#### B.1

Does your company oppose or not consent to the request for an exemption?

- Oppose  
 Not oppose

**NOTE: If your company does not oppose the request for an exemption, you do not need to complete all parts of the questionnaire. Please indicate that you do not oppose the request (stating the reasons why), answer the questions that are relevant to your reasons for not opposing the request, sign and return the form as soon as possible.**

#### B.2

Please state the reasons why you do not oppose the request for an exemption to the goods.

### PART C – Identical Goods

#### C.1

Does your company produce, in Australia, goods that are identical in all respects to the goods described in section 5 of this 'Response to Exemption Form'?

If no, go to Part D – Like or directly competitive goods.

- Yes  
 No

#### C.2

Please provide evidence that you have produced and sold in Australia, in the last 12 months, goods that are identical in all respects to the goods subject to this application for exemption.

Evidence can be in the form of production reports and sales invoices. To the extent that production reports or sales invoices do not refer to the goods in the same detail as set out in the description of the goods (section 5), please provide additional information that indicates that identical goods have been produced or sold. The evidence should be attached to this form to ensure that it can be linked to this specific response. Please also include any available product literature respecting the identical goods you have produced and sold.

### C.3

Provide evidence of the terms and conditions of sale of these identical goods. Are these products available to all purchasers on equal terms under like conditions? If so, provide evidence and explain why you consider that these products are available to all purchasers on equal terms under like conditions.

Evidence can be in the form of sales invoices, sales contracts, sales reports or advertisements and brochures.

## PART D – Like or Directly Competitive Goods

### D.1

If your company does not produce identical goods, does it produce and sell in Australia goods that are like or directly competitive to the goods subject to this application for exemption?

Yes.

In determining whether the goods are like or directly competitive, the commission will consider whether the goods have characteristics closely resembling each other and are substitutable.

The commission may also consider:

- whether physical characteristics of the goods are similar (including size, weight, shape, content, appearance, grade, standards, strength and purity)
- whether the goods are commercially alike, this may include consideration of the following
  - whether the goods directly compete in the same market sector
  - the extent to which participants in the supply chain are willing to switch between the goods and the goods subject to the application for exemption
  - how the price of the goods and goods subject to the application influences consumption
  - whether the goods share similar distribution channels and
  - whether the goods are similarly packaged.
- functional likeness – whether the goods are suitable with regard to end use, this may include an assessment of
  - the extent to which the goods are functionally substitutable
  - the extent to which the goods are capable of performing the same or similar function
  - whether the goods have the same or similar quality standards and
  - consumer behavior in relation to the goods and goods subject to this application for exemption.
- production likeness, this may include an assessment of
  - the extent to which the goods are constructed of the same or similar materials
  - the manufacturing process of the goods and
  - whether any patented processes or inputs are involved in the production of the goods.

**D.2**

If you answered yes to question D.1, please provide a description of the goods produced by your company that you consider to be like or directly competitive to the goods subject to this application. Your description of the goods your company produces should refer to all aspects of the goods as set out in the description of the goods in section 5.

BSL opposes the granting of the requested exemption over the goods described at section 5 on the basis that it does produce like or directly competitive goods for sale in Australia to all purchasers on equal terms under like conditions, having regard to the custom and usage of trade, and/or that suitably equivalent goods are produced/manufactured in Australia.

BSL confirms that, during the investigation period, it manufactured and sold HRC goods at the requisite thicknesses that the interested party has sought exemption over. Confidential Attachment 1 further details the widths of BSL-produced HRC that are substitutable.

Please provide evidence that the goods you consider like or directly competitive to the goods subject to this application for exemption have recently been produced or sold in Australia by your company. Evidence can be in the form of production reports and sales invoices. To the extent that production reports or sales invoices do not refer to the goods described in the above table, please provide additional information that indicates that the goods have been produced or sold. The evidence should be attached to this form to ensure that it can be linked to this specific response. Please also include any available product literature concerning the like or directly competitive goods you produced and sold.

**D.3**

Provide evidence of the terms and conditions of sale of these like or directly competitive products. Are these products available to all purchasers on equal terms under like conditions? If so, provide evidence and explain why you consider that these products are available to all purchasers on equal terms under like conditions.

Evidence can be in the form of sales invoices, sales contracts, sales reports or advertisements and brochures.

Refer above.

**PART E – Capability to Produce Identical or Like or Directly Competitive Products**

**E.1**

If your company has not produced and sold in Australia products that are identical to, or like or directly competitive to the goods subject to this application for exemption, is your company capable of producing such goods?

PART E has not been completed on the basis that BSL manufactures like and directly competitive goods.

Yes

No

**E.2**

If you answered yes to question E.1, indicate whether the product that you can produce is identical to, or like or directly competitive to the goods subject to this application for exemption.

**E.3**

If you can produce the goods, detail the manufacturing process from start to finish, identifying which party is involved in each stage of the manufacturing process. If third parties are involved, please detail the third party and whether the activity is conducted in Australia or overseas.

**E.4**

If you are capable of producing identical, like or directly competitive goods, explain why you have not produced such goods.

Provide evidence of your production capability, including evidence of the production and sale of similar products, certification of the identical, like or directly competitive goods and at what cost they could be produced, as well as any plans for the imminent production of the goods or orders for the goods and any relevant information.

**E.5**

If you are capable of producing identical, like or directly competitive goods, provide reasonable evidence of likely terms and conditions of sale for these goods.

**PART F – Additional Comments**

**F.1**

Provide any additional comments including any other information that will assist the commission in reaching a recommendation to the Minister regarding this application for exemption.

**PART G – Declaration**

I hereby declare that [BlueScope Steel Limited](#) has completed the attached response to application for exemption and, having made due inquiry, certify that the information contained in this submission is complete and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

**Name** : [REDACTED]

**Signature** :

[REDACTED]

**Position in Company** : [REDACTED]

**Date** : 6 July 2026