



Customs House
5 Constitution Ave
Canberra
ACT 2601

Mr Merton Howard
Howard Consulting Pty Ltd
PO Box 4303
GEELONG VIC 3220

By email

Dear Mr Howard,

**INVESTIGATION INTO THE ALLEGED DUMPING OF
HOLLOW STRUCTURAL SECTIONS (HSS) EXPORTED FROM THE PEOPLE'S
REPUBLIC OF CHINA (CHINA), THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA (KOREA), MALAYSIA,
TAIWAN AND THE KINGDOM OF THAILAND (THAILAND)**

AND

**INVESTIGATION INTO THE ALLEGED SUBSIDISATION OF
HSS EXPORTED FROM CHINA**

I refer to your letter of 12 May 2012 that offers a price undertaking, in terms of subsection 269TEB(1) of the *Customs Act 1901* (the Act), in relation to your client, Alpine Pipe Manufacturing Sdn Bhd (Alpine).

The legislation requires that the exporter indicate in writing to the CEO of Customs and Border Protection the terms in which the exporter would be prepared to give an undertaking to the Minister. I note your letter is proposing to offer a price undertaking only in relation to a subset of the Alpine exports of HSS, namely - those goods with a wall thickness of 9mm or greater. You submit that such goods are non-injurious to OneSteel ATM and you state that none of the Australian HSS producers make such goods.

I have considered the Alpine price undertaking offer and I am not satisfied, in terms of subsection 269TEB(2) of the Act, that the price undertaking terms are adequate to remove the injury to which the application is addressed so far as the exporter is concerned.

My reasons for being not so satisfied include:

- evidence on the record that shows the Australian industry manufactured and sold HSS with a wall thickness of 9mm during and since the investigation period;
- the form of the price undertaking is such that it appears to exclude certain HSS (goods less than 9mm wall thickness), which were also found to be dumped in

- the investigation period by virtue of the product margin established for HSS exported by Alpine in the investigation period; and
- o it is not clear how the price undertaking offer is adequate to remove the injury to the Australian HSS industry that is caused by dumping.

Subsection 269TEB(3) of the Act provides that the exporter may, having regard to these reasons, indicate to the CEO of Customs and Border Protection that Alpine is prepared to give an undertaking in revised terms. Subsection 269TEB(4) of the Act requires that where an undertaking in revised terms is proposed, the CEO must:

- o if not satisfied that the undertaking as so revised is adequate to remove the injury to which the application is addressed - inform the exporter to that effect; and
- o if satisfied - recommend to the Minister that the Minister accept the undertaking as revised.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions regarding this matter.

Sincerely



Geoff Gleeson
Director, Operations 3
International Trade Remedies Branch

4 June 2012