



Australian Government
Australian Customs and
Border Protection Service

PUBLIC
FILE

FOLIO

No: _____

Customs House
5 Constitution Avenue
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Mr Patrick Gay
Partner – Freehills
GPO Box 4227
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Mr Gay

Thank you for your letter of 18 January 2012 on behalf of Building Supplies Group Holdings Pty Ltd concerning the anti-dumping investigation into structural timber exported to Australia from a number of countries.

I agree with you that structural timber is a complex product, particularly in the context of an anti-dumping investigation. Customs and Border Protection has, to date, engaged independent accounting expertise to assess the verification procedures undertaken on the visits to exporters and the reliability of cost data provided. Non-confidential versions of these assessments will be placed on the public record concurrently with the exporter visit reports to which they relate.

I also agree that a further review by an expert familiar with the timber industry would provide additional rigour to the process. To this end, we have engaged in discussions with an independent consultant, Mr Tony Morse, who has extensive experience in the timber industry.

We believe that the exporter visit reports should be placed on the public record pending Mr Morse's review because the availability of the reports on the public file will give interested parties the opportunity to raise issues in sufficient time to be considered in formulating the statement of essential facts (which is due to be published by 12 March 2012) and may even provide valuable input to the exercise to be undertaken by Mr Morse.

The visit reports themselves represent preliminary findings of the visit teams and are in no way final. This is clearly reflected in a caveat on the front of each report.

If you have any further queries about this matter please contact Geoff Gleeson, Director Operations 3 on (02) 6275 6134 or geoffrey.gleeson@customs.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

Justin Wickes
A/g National Manager International Trade Remedies – Operations

25 January 2012