



ADRP Conference Summary

Review No. 130 – Steel Reinforcing Bar exported from the Republic of Korea, Singapore, Spain (except Nervacero S.A.) and Taiwan (except Power Steel Co. Ltd)

Panel Member	Scott Ellis
Review type	Review of Minister's decision
Date	29 January 2021
Participants	[REDACTED] InfraBuild
Time opened	10.30 am AEDT (7.30 am AWST)
Time closed	11.30 am AEDT (8.30 AWST)

Purpose

I participated in a conference with representatives of InfraBuild (Newcastle) Pty Ltd (InfraBuild) on 29 January 2021 at which the following was read:

The purpose of this conference was to obtain further information in relation to the review before the Anti-Dumping Review Panel (Review Panel) in relation to Steel reinforcing bar exported from the Republic of Korea, Singapore, Spain (except Nervacero S.A.) and Taiwan (except Power Steel Co. Ltd).

The conference was held pursuant to section 269ZZHA of the *Customs Act 1901* (the Act).

In the course of the conference, I was able to ask parties to clarify any argument, claim or specific detail contained in their application or submission. The conference was not a formal hearing of the review, and was not an opportunity for parties to argue their case before me.

I will only have regard to information provided at this conference to the extent that it relates to relevant information within the meaning of section 269ZZK of the Act. Any conclusions reached at this conference are based on that relevant information. Information that relates to some new argument not previously put in an application or submission is not something that the Review Panel may have regard to and, therefore, is not reflected in this conference summary.

At the time of the conference, I advised the participants:

- That the conference was being recorded and transcribed by Express Virtual Meetings Pty Ltd, and that the recording would capture everything said during the conference.



- That the conference was being recorded for the Review Panel to have regard to when preparing a conference summary. The conference summary would then be published on the Review Panel's website.
- Any confidential information discussed during the conference would be redacted from the conference summary prior to publication.

At this conference, InfraBuild confirmed that these matters could be taken as read.

Prior to the conference, participants were provided with a copy of the Review Panel's Privacy Statement. The Privacy Statement outlines who the conference recording and transcript may be disclosed to. The Privacy Statement is available on the Review Panel's website [here](#). At the conference, the participants indicated that they understood the Privacy Statement and consented to:

- The recording of the conference; and
- The recording being dealt with as set out in the Privacy Statement.

Discussion

A list of matters about which information might be sought was circulated prior to the conference. A common list was used for conferences with the ADC and subsequent conferences with other participants in the review. InfraBuild indicated that it could not provide additional material in relation to matters 4 to 8 on the list.

The remaining matters in the list and the further information are set out below.

1. *The normal values and export prices derived from all investigations and reviews (including ADRP Reviews) associated with the measures under review (but not including duty assessments)*

The relevant inquiries are 489/486 concerning Korea and Taiwan (which were both subject to ADRP Review 108), Circumvention Inquiry 452, which concerned Korea and was subject to ADRP Review 85, and the original Investigation No. 286 concerning Korea and Taiwan and subject to ADRP Review 30.

2. *What information, if any, did the Commissioner have in relation to the normal value of goods exported from each of Korea and Taiwan (other than the price information*



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provided by InfraBuild and other than the prior determinations of normal value and export price in relation to goods exported from those countries)?

3. *Does the Commission have arrangements in place which permit it to use the price information from commercial information providers contained in Confidential Attachments A and B to InfraBuild's application?*

Items 2 and 3 were dealt with together.

InfraBuild understands from prior reports published by the ADC that it has subscriptions to S&P Global Platts trading as SBB. As part of that subscription, it would have access to published articles concerning domestic price surveys, including for Taiwan. InfraBuild considered that the ADC would have access to the confidential information in Attachment C of its application to the ADRP, in particular tabs 2018 and 2017. InfraBuild noted that the Commission had used S&P data extracts in Reviews of Measures 563 and 564 which concern rebar and rod in coil exported from China.

4. *What would the dumping margins for Daehan, other Korean exporters and Taiwanese exporters have been had the normal value been adjusted using the changes in domestic prices identified by InfraBuild in its application and in its application for review?*

InfraBuild had provided this information previously.

9. *The extent to which straights and coil are interchangeable products.*

Straights and coils are different models of the same product and are interchangeable in many applications. Choice between products comes down to price and processing equipment. Larger diameter bars (beyond 20mm) are usually only available as straight bar. The customer balances price and the engineering, strength requirements and the diameter of the bar.

Processing coil is quicker and there is less waste (i.e. fewer odd lengths left over).

Turkey has an increasingly strong representation in straights and some Turkish mills are now seeking and obtaining ACRS accreditation for coil also. They are active in the coil export market but not in the same volumes as with straights.



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It is a little more difficult to make coils because it requires coiling equipment. Coils are more compact than straights for storage and transport, but there is a (common) weight limit for (road) transportation. Straights take up a larger footprint in a warehouse. There can be more wastage with straights following processing.

Businesses that can process coil (i.e. have an off-coiler) can also typically process straights.

Bars of larger diameter are too big to be coiled.

I asked about details of the quantities (in tonnes) of the sales of the goods identified at page 13, Appendix B of the Application for Review. InfraBuild confirmed that the table was extracted from information provided as part of the review and undertook to provide that information after the conference. It is confidential to InfraBuild.

InfraBuild pointed out that it was not appropriate for the ADC to have regard to the change in export prices in determining the change in the normal value because the export price information was not relevant to the determination of the normal value. InfraBuild said that Anti-circumvention Inquiry 452 was an example where normal values for Korea did not follow the trend for export prices.

Other inquiries include:

- Review 566 of variable factors for Korea and Spain
- Continuation 560 – China
- Investigation 418 (which involves another Taiwanese exporter)

Scott Ellis

Member

Anti-Dumping Review Panel

9 February 2021