

TRANSITION REVIEW No. TF0006

Safeguard measures on certain steel products

Note to the file

Note to interested parties and contributors

This note to the file records a meeting between members of the Trade Remedies Authority's (TRA) investigations team, and representatives from Liberty Pipes Hartlepool for discussion on the authentication of information provided in response to the Statement of Intended Preliminary Decision. This meeting took place at the request of the TRA on 2 June 2021.

In response to the Statement of Intended Preliminary Decision, the TRA received information relating to the production/sales of products in category 25 from Liberty Pipes Hartlepool.

The TRA conducted authentication activities to establish whether it is reasonable to treat the data provided by Liberty Pipes Hartlepool as verifiable.

In the meeting, the TRA were provided with explanations of how the information provided to the transition review was extracted from Liberty Pipes Hartlepool's internal systems. Liberty Pipes Hartlepool identified the difficulty for them to distinguish meaningfully between categories 25A and 25B as set out in the review. They stated that importers would be able to categorise between these categories to minimise tariff obligations. Liberty Pipes Hartlepool stated the distinction between was artificial, and not reflected in their production process or sales approach. The company's representatives provided an overview of their internal management systems and an explanation of how information was extracted and how the systems work. A sample year chosen by the TRA was taken to conduct a high level review of the balance sheet, profit and loss account, trial balances and financial statement. No concerns were found with these documents or the explanations provided in the meeting and the TRA concluded that it is reasonable to treat the data provided by Liberty Pipes Hartlepool as verifiable and it can therefore be considered in the transition review.

Further information

You can find more information about our investigations processes in our online trade remedies guidance: <u>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-uk-trade-remedies-investigations-process</u>

10 June 2021