

OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS



UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, DC 20436

April 19, 2005

To Whom It May Concern:

The enclosed questionnaire pertains to the United States International Trade Commission's investigation concerning steel. Section 204(d) of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. § 2252) (the Act) requires the Commission, following termination of a relief action,¹ to evaluate the effectiveness of the action in facilitating positive adjustment by the domestic industry to import competition, consistent with the reasons set out by the President in the report submitted to the Congress under section 203(b) of the Act. The purpose of this questionnaire is to provide the Commission with first-hand information for use in the evaluation report to be submitted to the President and the Congress. This is the only time the Commission has systematically collected data on the entire period of import relief along with the period immediately prior for comparison purposes. A copy of the Commission's notice of this investigation is enclosed.

The data furnished in response to this request that reveal the individual operations of your firm will be treated as business confidential by the Commission to the extent that such data are not otherwise available to the public and will not be disclosed except as may be required by law. Your response will be consolidated with the responses of other firms and such business proprietary information will not be published in a manner that will reveal the individual operations of your firm. The questions in the questionnaire have been reviewed with market participants to ensure that issues of concern are adequately addressed and that data requests are sufficient, meaningful, and as limited as possible.

Please provide the information requested in the attachment to this letter directly to the Commission (U.S. International Trade Commission, Room 615, 500 E Street, SW, Washington, DC, 20436) by no later than May 18, 2005. No copies are necessary. Correspondence and any questions concerning the questionnaire or other matters related to the investigation should be addressed to Russell Duncan (202-708-4727) (long and stainless products) or Dana Lofgren (202-205-3185) (flat and tubular products) of the Commission's staff.

Sincerely,

Robert Carpenter
Director

Enclosures

¹ In 2001, the Commission conducted an investigation on steel (Investigation No. TA-201-73) under section 202 of the Act. Following receipt of a report from the Commission in December 2001 containing determinations and remedy recommendations by the Commission, the President, pursuant to section 203 of the Act (19 U.S.C. § 2253), imposed import relief in the form of a tariff-rate quota and increased import duties on imports of certain steel products for a period of 3 years and 1 day effective March 20, 2002, and instructed the Secretaries of Commerce and Treasury to establish an import licensing system. On December 4, 2003, the President issued a proclamation that terminated the tariff-rate quota and the increased import duties, but also directed the Secretary of Commerce to continue the licensing and monitoring system until the earlier of March 21, 2005, or such time as the Secretary of Commerce established a replacement program. On March 11, 2005, Commerce published interim final rules for a replacement system (the Steel Import Monitoring and Analysis System).