

Economics Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Industry, Innovation and Science Portfolio
2016-17 Supplementary Budget Estimates
20 October 2016

DEPARTMENT: DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND SCIENCE

TOPIC: A4 copy paper

REFERENCE: Written Question – Senator Carr

QUESTION No.: SI-125

During the estimates hearing on Thursday 20 October 2016 the Commissioner was asked a series of questions about estimated dumping margins in the Consideration report compared to the Preliminary Affirmative Determination, in relation to the application from Australian Paper regarding dumped A4 copy paper:

Senator KIM CARR: Perhaps you can just explain this to me. I was at a bit of a loss, in terms of the information I have been provided with, to understand what has happened. I am told that you estimated the dumping margin at the outset on A4 copy paper, compared to the margins found in the PAD for each of the markets. In the case of Brazil, it was put to me that there was a margin of 46.9 per cent at the outset, but in the PAD it was identified as only 5.7 per cent. In the case of China, it was 51 at the outset, and then in the PAD it was reduced to four to 17.8 per cent. With regard to Indonesia, it was 72 per cent at the outset and down to the minus 20 to 18 range in the PAD. With regard to Thailand, at the outset it was 15 per cent, reduced to the 18 to 23 per cent range in the original PAD. Can you explain to me how that variation occurs?

Mr Seymour: The first set of numbers that you are quoting are the applicant's estimate and the second set of numbers are the numbers that my team have calculated based on the preliminary information available to us in terms of where the investigation has got to. It is not unusual for those numbers to be different. It is quite normal that they would be different, because it is just the applicant's view, and I am testing that view.

Senator KIM CARR: You say the applicants estimated a much higher rate, overestimated it, and you have come back at this other rate. Is that the proposition?

Mr Seymour: That is correct.

Does the Anti-Dumping Commissioner wish to make any corrections to this evidence, including the claim that the initial dumping margins are the applicant's estimate, and that the applicant overestimated the dumping margins in the Consideration report?

ANSWER

The estimated dumping margins in the column headed "The Commission's estimate" in the table on page 23 of the Commission's *Consideration Report No. 341* are based on a comparison of export price information from the Department of Immigration and Border Protection's (DIBP's) import database and the applicant's estimates of normal values. None of the data used was verified by the Commission at that stage of the investigation process.

Refer to the answers to SI-56 for further details of the dumping margins found at each stage of the investigation.