

Free Trade Agreement Policy and New Issues Section
Office of Trade Negotiations
RG Casey Building
John McEwen Crescent
BARTON ACT 0221

Submitted via email to: egnegotiations@dfat.gov.au

3 June 2014

Dear Sir/Madam

RE: REMOVAL OF TARIFFS FROM ENVIRONMENTAL GOODS

The Green Building Council of Australia appreciates the opportunity to provide comment to the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade regarding the removal of tariffs from environmental goods. The GBCA believes that the removal of tariffs will deliver both immediate and ongoing benefits for our members, industry and the wider community.

The GBCA is the nation's authority on sustainable buildings, communities and cities. Our mission is to accelerate the transformation of Australia's built environment into one that is healthy, liveable, productive, resilient and sustainable. We work together with industry and government to encourage policies and programs that support our mission. We educate thousands of people each year on how to design and deliver sustainable outcomes for our buildings, communities and cities. We operate Australia's only national voluntary and holistic rating system for sustainable buildings and communities – Green Star.

The GBCA has over 780 member organisations including more than 130 building product manufacturers, suppliers and distributors (a list of these organisations can be found at Appendix A.). These organisations offer products that provide solutions for a range of issues encountered in the built environment including heat and energy management, air pollution control and testing, waste and water management, and environmental monitoring, analysis and assessment.

The removal of tariffs on environmental goods will remove a market barrier and will be a positive step towards making environmental goods more accessible, affordable and attractive. It will also provide an incentive for organisations in the product manufacturing and supply sector to grow their businesses and seek new markets.

The Australian property and construction industry is a world leader in creating solutions for a more sustainable environment, and the removal of tariffs will further support Australia's international competitiveness and boost the sector's contribution to the economy. The GBCA has a strong, ongoing working relationship with AusTrade, working together to showcase

APPENDIX A – GBCA MEMBERS: BUILDING PRODUCT MANUFACTURERS, SUPPLIERS AND DISTRIBUTORS

Akzo Nobel Pty Limited	Cummins Power Generation	Get Fast Waste Bins
Altro APAC Pty Ltd	DAAC Holdings Pty Ltd	Gibbon Group
Arens International	DECOR BLINDS AUSTRALIA	Glad Group Pty Ltd
Arkistruct Ltd	Decorative Imaging Pty Ltd	Godfrey Hirst Carpets
Armstrong World Industries Pty Ltd	Delta Building Automation	Greenearth Energy
Autex Pty Ltd	Ductware, a div. of RMD Industries Pty Ltd	Greensense
Azzurra Bathroom Furniture	Dulux Group (Australia) Pty Ltd	GuardIt Solutions P/L
Bar-Tech Automation P/L	Dunlop Flooring	Havencab Sustainable Cleaning Solutions
Bluescope Lysaght	Dynamic Composite Technologies Pty Ltd	Holdfast Adhesives
BlueScope Steel Limited	Earp Bros Innovative Tile Solutions	Hunter Douglas Ltd.
Blygold Australia	Edsring Property Maintenance Pty Ltd	HydroHeat Supplies P/L
BuildingIQ Pty Ltd	Elven Group Pty Ltd	iAutomation
CaesarStone Australia Pty Ltd	Entro.py Australia Pty Ltd	Innowood Australia Pty Ltd
Camfil Australia Pty Ltd	Envac Australia Pty Ltd	Interface
Cavalier Bremworth Carpets	Enviro Building Services	Interior Office Systems
Ceilite Pty Ltd	EpiMax Technologies	Javac Pty Ltd
Ceramic Solutions	Eternal Cleaning Services Pty Ltd	Joint Systems
Challenger Services Group Pty Ltd	Feltex Carpets	Karndean Designflooring
Crane Group Limited	Fletcher Building Australia	Kenbrock Flooring Pty Ltd
CSM Office Storage & Filing Solutions	Foilboard Australia Pty Ltd	Kerakoll (IDA Group P/L importers distributors Australia)
CSR Bradford Insulation	Forbo Floorcoverings Pty Ltd	Kimberley Kampers Pty Ltd
CSR Ceilector Ceiling Systems	Frenchams	Kingspan Insulated Panels Pty Ltd
CSR Edmonds	Furniture Concepts Queensland	Kingspan Insulation Pty Ltd (Aust)
CSR Gyprock & Fibre Cement	GEO Flooring	Knauf Insulation
CSR Limited	Gerflor Australasia P/L	Knauf Plasterboard Pty Ltd
CSR Viridian		Krantz Asia-Pacific
CTA Australia Pty Ltd		Lease A Leaf Pty Ltd
		Light Application

LU-VE CONTARDO
PACIFIC PTY LTD
Lynx Integrated Systems
Mapei Australia Pty Ltd
Mark Perry Business
Furniture
Metro Group
ModWood Technologies
Pty Ltd
Monkey Bar Couplers Pty
Ltd
NU Energy
Office Spectrum Pty Ltd
OneSteel Trading Pty Ltd
Ontera Modular Carpets
P/L
Ozone Panel Pty Ltd
Panelwall Pty Ltd
Planex Sales Pty Ltd
Polyester Solutions
Polyflor Australia Pty Ltd
Polymax Insulation, Div of
Martini Industries Pty Ltd
QPS Geothermal
Quantum Quartz Pty Ltd
Ravenscroft Australia Pty
Ltd
Refire Glass
Regupol (Australia) Pty Ltd
Reliant FM Pty Ltd
ROLUX COATINGS QLD
PTY LTD
Rynat Industries Australia
Schueco Australia Pty Ltd
Shaw Contract Group
Australia Pty Ltd
Signature Floorcoverings
Pty Ltd

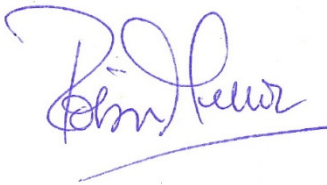
SILENT GLISS
Smartcool Systems
Australia Pty Ltd
Solatube
Somfy Pty Limited
Soundmask Australia Pty
Ltd
Sustainable Living Fabrics
Pty Ltd
Switch Automation
Tasman Sinkware Pty Ltd
Tate Tasman Access
Floors
Taubmans Paints
The General Mat Company
Pty Ltd
The Laminex Group
UCI Pty Ltd
Ultra Violet Energy
Systems Australia Pty Ltd
Unique Window Services
Uniroll Australia Pty.Ltd.
USG Australasia
Verosol Aust Pty Ltd
Vertilux Corporation
Victoria Carpets
Vinidex Pty Ltd
VLL
WaterPave Australia Pty
Ltd
Wattyl Australia Pty Ltd
Wire By Click
WK Marble & Granite Pty
Ltd

Australian innovation, leadership and expertise, encourage inward investment and linking Australian companies with international markets.

The GBCA advocates to all levels of government for a range of coordinated policies, regulations and initiatives that will accelerate the transformation of Australia's built environment into one that is healthy, liveable, productive, resilient and sustainable. The removal of tariffs on environmental goods is an important part of an integrated approach to delivering a range of environmental, social and economic benefits to the Australian and international communities.

I have written directly to our members asking them to consider making a submission to this consultation. Please do not hesitate to contact me if there is any further information that I can provide.

Yours faithfully,



Robin Mellon
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