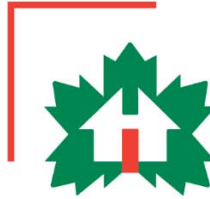


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Canadian
Home Builders'
Association



Association canadienne
des constructeurs
d'habitations

August 26, 2016

Richard Pragnell, Investigations Senior Program Officer &
Matthew Lurette, Investigations Senior Program Officer
SIMA Registry and Disclosure Unit
Trade and Anti-dumping Programs Directorate
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100 Metcalfe Street, 11th Floor
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Re: CBSA's dumping investigation on Gypsum Board

Dear Sirs:

I am writing on behalf of the Canadian Home Builders' Association (CHBA) regarding the September 6, 2016 preliminary determination or termination of the CBSA's dumping investigation into gypsum board originating in or exported from the United States of America, imported into Canada for use or consumption in the provinces of British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba, as well as the Yukon and Northwest Territories.

Depending on the results of this investigation, CHBA has concerns about the potential impact of any special import measures on the stability of the residential construction industry in the regions above and the cost of materials on the affordability of new homes and renovation projects.

Western Canada faces a very constricted supply of gypsum board – there are only two major suppliers. If a special import measure significantly reduces the amount of gypsum board being imported to this region, this could easily result in supply shortages and higher costs for consumers, not only in the future but for homes already costed out, pre-sold and under construction now.

Any significant supply shortage will also result in construction and completion delays that will further increase costs to home buyers.

In addition to negative impacts on affordability for new home buyers and those undertaking renovation projects in general, supply shortage or higher costs of gypsum board will have amplifying effects for both house prices in British Columbia and the potential for a downturn in precarious Alberta markets.

We ask that you keep these considerations in mind when making your determination.

Representing more than 8,500 small- and medium-sized businesses across Canada, the Canadian Home Builders' Association (CHBA) is the voice of Canada's residential construction industry. Housing and renovation are a vital part of Canada's economy in every community across the country. Residential construction and renovation directly and indirectly supports more than 1 million jobs, paying more than \$58.5 billion in wages. The residential industry generate \$128.7 billion in economic activity each year.

I appreciate the opportunity to express the CHBA's viewpoints. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Jason Burggraaf
Government Relations and Policy Advisor
Canadian Home Builders' Association