# 2025 Regulatory Reform Opportunities

## 2025 Regulatory Reform Opportunities (Recent and in-train)

1. Introducing a pre-application service to guide businesses through application and investigation procedures.

**Objective:** Introduction of a Pre-Application Service to assist businesses to navigate the application and investigation processes

#### **Action:**

- The initiation of a pre-application service includes two parts:
  - o a discussion with applicants (and their representatives) regarding the application and investigation process, and
  - o an administrative screening check of the documentary completeness of an application.

#### Implementation:

The Commission welcomes an early pre-application discussion with Australian industry to:

- understand prospective applications and the issues the industry is facing
- explain the investigation process and timeline, including the best way to make an application that will proceed as quickly as possible, and
- explain the purpose of the proposed goods description and the need for it to accurately cover the kind of goods which are produced and for which measures are sought.

## **Benefit/Impact on Productivity:**

- The pre-application service aims to support Australian industry to access and understanding the anti-dumping system and its legislative requirements.
- The pre-application service should lead to a smoother and more efficient application and investigation process, in line with the Commission's commitment to continuous improvement.

**Timing:** Implementation complete. The Commission is currently monitoring effectiveness of the to identify opportunities for further improvement.

2. Streamlining application and information processes to improve stakeholder experience.

**Objective:** Improve and streamline the Commission's application and information processes for industry stakeholders **Action:** 

The Commission has made the following changes to its application and information processes to improve access for Australian industry:

- More guidance provided on standing, goods description and process

  Following consultation with International Trade Remedies Forum (ITRF) members, applicants for measures are now given additional guidance on how to understand and respond to the standing and goods description sections in the updated form 'Application for the publication of dumping and/or countervailing duty notices' (Form B108, plus associated guidance and appendices). The associated guidance also provides applicants with an overview of the process as a whole.
- A new form to streamline an existing process linking intermediaries
  Importers wishing to link an intermediary to an exporter can now use the new form 'Application to link a supplier to an exporter on a dumping and/or countervailing notice' (new Form ADC3).
- A new bespoke process and form corporate restructure

  Exporters who have undergone a corporate restructure (or similar) now have access to a purpose-built process and form to apply for the new entity to replace the previous one on the Dumping Commodity Register (DCR) (new Form ADC4).
- Clarity about possible outcomes in revocation applications
   Applicants are now expressly informed that if they apply for a revocation review the Commissioner may still examine whether the variable factors have changed even if the applicant has not requested it (Form B602).
- Help applicants to more quickly locate and understand lodgement requirements

  To ensure clarity for all system users, all existing forms have been updated to emphasise the manner of lodgement and staff duty hours for receipt of forms as notified in ADN 2024/075.

## Implementation:

- These improvements mean the Commission has published 2 new forms and republished 13 updated forms and associated documents.
- The Commission commenced using these forms and the new process on 18 June 2025
- To support the transition to the new updated forms, the Commission will accept the most recently repealed version of the forms until 31 July 2025.

## **Benefit/Impact on Productivity:**

- improved access for users
- streamline operations to reduce timeframes, and
- ensure case processes proceed efficiently.

**Timing:** Implementation complete. The Commission is currently monitoring effectiveness to identify opportunities for further improvement.

3. Strengthening intergovernmental data sharing to provide critical trade data to stakeholders, addressing requests from the International Trade Remedies

Forum

**Objective:** Strengthen data sharing across government in order to provide critical trade data to stakeholders.

#### Action:

- Improved coordination among the Anti-Dumping Commission, the Australian Border Force, the Australian Bureau of Statistics, the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, and the Department of Industry, Science and Resources in order to provide important trade data to stakeholders.
- Identify where data relevant to trade remedies stakeholders is generated in government and both remove barriers to its circulation dissemination to stakeholders (subject to privacy, commercial in confidence and security considerations), and create mechanisms where necessary to facilitate access to it in a useable form.
- Initial areas of focus should include data that provides:
  early indication of changes in trade flows relevant to anti-dumping such as changes in import volumes and prices, and shifting
  of imports into upstream or downstream segments of supply chains to assist Australian industry and the Commission
  anticipate and prepare for changes in the profiles of dumped or subsidised imports.
- information that assists Australian industry to decide whether to proceed with anti-dumping applications, and which can be used to support decision making by the Commission

## Benefit/impact:

- Enhanced coordination among government agencies will provide Australian industry and the Commission with more timely and relevant information that will enable swifter and more accurate responses to changes in the occurrence of dumping and subsidisation of imports into Australia. The resulting improvement in the operation of the trade remedies system will reduce barriers to industry accessing the anti-dumping system, lessening harm to Australian businesses from unfair trade.
- Improved coordination among government agencies has been requested by members of the International Trade remedies Forum which is composed of stakeholders of Australia's trade remedies system.

**Timing:** In train – the Commission has commenced preliminary discussions with all relevant agencies on strengthening cooperation.

4. Upgrading the
Case
Management
System to
enhance
functionality and
enable faster
processing
times.

Objective: Upgrade the Commission's Case Management System (CMS) to improve functionality and enable faster processes

#### Action:

- Upgrade the Commission's CMS to strengthen Commission staff's data analytics capabilities and enable faster processes.
- Targeted training for Commission staff on the new interface and CMS functions.

## Benefit/impact:

- Improved delivery of timely and accessible remedies for Australian industry by removing inefficient and manual processes for Commission staff operating within the system.
- Improved case management efficiency will support case progression and the Commission's engagement with stakeholders.
- The upgraded CMS will improve functionality, recording and processing of data and information provided by Australian industry.

**Note:** This project is funded (confirmation from ECB pending).

Timing: Due to commence shortly and scheduled for completion by mid-2026.

5. Enhancing accessibility and reducing engagement barriers for small and medium enterprises (SMEs) withing the anti-dumping system.

**Objective:** Enhance accessibility and reduce barriers for engagement with the anti-dumping system for SMEs.

#### **Action:** The Commission to:

- Work with the International Trade Remedies Advisory (ITRA) Service to develop simplified application materials and guidance tailored to the needs and resource constraints of SMEs.
- Offer targeted training sessions in collaboration with the ITRA Service through webinars and workshops designed specifically for SMEs.

## Benefit/impact:

- Greater participation by SMEs resulting in a broader, more representative pool of stakeholders in investigations.
- Improved accessibility of the anti-dumping system
- greater access to trade remedies for SMEs would support business investment and growth.

**Note:** The Commission has taken steps to improve the accessibility of the anti-dumping system for SMEs including the recent updates to application forms.

Timing: Not commenced.

## 2025 Regulatory Reform Opportunities (Planned)

6. Expanding educational efforts to raise awareness among Australian industries about the anti-dumping system and improve access

Objective: Expand Outreach and Education to increase Australian industry's awareness of the anti-dumping system.

#### **Action:** The Commission to:

- Conduct regular workshops and webinars for industry stakeholders on how to navigate the anti-dumping system.
- Expand outreach to new industry sectors that may be threatened by unfairly traded imports including imports diverted by rises in tariffs outside Australia.

#### Benefit

- Greater access to the anti-dumping system by Australian businesses affected by unfair trade which would lessen harm to Australian businesses
- A clearer understanding of the Commission's role and what remedies it is able to offer Australian industry.

**Timing:** Not commenced. This would expand on the Commission's recent projects to improve accessibility and awareness such as the pre-application service initiative.

7. Upgrading the Anti-Dumping Commission's website to improve usability and stakeholder interaction

**Objective:** Upgrade the Anti-Dumping Commission's website to enhance accessibility, usability, and stakeholder engagement.

#### **Action:** The Commission to:

- Upgrade the Commission's website to provide clearer, more accessible information about investigations, decisions, and processes.
- Launch a comprehensive public education initiative that increases awareness of trade remedies and their functions in promoting fair competition.
- Engage with the Government's Digital Transformation Agency (DTA) to use DTA frameworks to simplify processes and reduce administrative burden, improve user satisfaction, reduce support costs, and engender greater public trust.

#### Implementation:

- Outdated navigation and content structures currently increase staff workload by generating avoidable queries. Implementation of a streamlined interface with self-service tools—such as intelligent interactive forms featuring real-time navigation and AI-powered chatbots for frequently asked questions and service navigation, will reduce administrative overhead.

## **Benefit/Impact on Productivity:**

- Improve accessibility through digital platforms and keeping regulatory processes modern and flexible to improve service delivery and support business certainty.
- Reduces time spent by stakeholders searching for relevant documentation. Enables faster submission and tracking of antidumping claims. Supports data-driven decision-making through improved access to historical case data.
- Strategic investment in user-centred design will strengthen public trust, boost internal efficiency (decreasing frequency of stakeholder inquiries to business services), and bring the Commission in line with leading digital government practices.

**Note:** This reform builds on the Commission's recent website updates to improve user navigation and processes.

**Note:** Customised dashboards are currently under development (pre-initiation stage) for frequent users, including industry applicants, consultants, and other interested parties.

Timing: Not commenced.

8. Developing an administrative framework for faster processing of exemption inquiries where not opposed by Australian industry.

**Objective:** The Commission to develop a framework to allow faster processing of exemption inquiries where not opposed by Australian industry

#### **Action:** The Commission to:

- Implement a risk-based approach to fast-track inquiries where the application is not objected to by relevant Australian industry members.
- Develop an internal framework for considering and processing low-risk exemption inquiries.
- Consult with stakeholders on system improvements and to mitigate risks.
- Amend relevant guidelines and notices to reflect the new framework.
- Targeted training for staff on new framework and procedures.
- Effectively communicate new processes with stakeholders.

## Benefit/impact

- Reduced processing times for some exemption inquiries.
- Greater predictability for businesses on potential outcomes.
- Improved operational efficiency for the Commission to focus resources on other cases.
- Improved system accessibility for all parties, including SME importers.

**Timing:** Not commenced. This project would take approximately 6 months.