

Chris Barrington

From: Chris & Sue Barrington [ipia@pigiron.org.uk]
Sent: 19 December 2008 09:03
To: 'adriano.clary@vale.com'; 'Haroldo Elias'; 'Erik Scholten';
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'Dag Thulin'; 'Ursula Eriksson'; 'Yuri Mishin (y.mishin@metinvest.com)'
Cc: 'Versfeld Rob'; 'Adams, William (HSE)'; 'Klaus Rothenbacher'
Subject: Iron Ore Pellets call - December 18th 2008

Summary of the call yesterday:

- Update from the IP: we are moving ahead to the pre-SIEF and SIEF stages of the process and have offered to SIEF facilitators to manage the Pre-SIEF's and SIEF's. This will in the first instance require a communication tool as there are so many pre-registrants, more than 5,000 in the case of iron and, according to the latest information, 78 for pellets. The IP is evaluating various IT solutions.
- Corus, representing Eurofer members, has put itself forward to be the Lead Registrant for pellets on the grounds [a] that the European steel industry represents, collectively, the largest volume of pellets imported [Corus is also a producer in the Netherlands]; [b] that it is well placed to handle communication with ECHA and to represent the views of the European steel industry; [c] it can best protect the confidential technical data from the steel industry. Corus had previously produced an outline action plan in which the position of SIEF facilitator would be taken by an IP member.
- The IP is well aware of the need for strict attention to the treatment of confidential data from both the steel and mining industries and will be appointing a Trustee acceptable to all parties.
- LKAB has also put itself forward to be the Lead Registrant for pellets on the grounds that [a] the pellet producer members of the IP represent the largest global volume of pellets and LKAB with >20 million tonnes per year sales to EU steel mills is the single largest player in the EU market [the default REACH position is that, in the absence of another solution, the largest player should take the Lead Registrant role]; [b] LKAB has a good reputation among and is respected by its peers as well as the European steel industry and has a high level of knowledge and experience with both production and consumption of pellets.
- Vale's position was that it had no objection to either Corus or LKAB being Lead Registrant, but didn't have a firm position at this stage. A full understanding of the Lead Registrant role is needed. Vale might itself be willing to take either the SIEF facilitator role or the Lead Registrant role if it were possible for a Brazilian company to do so [its OR is the Vale ferro manganese producer in France].
- Rio Tinto's position was that it has no ambition to be the Lead Registrant for pellets.
- ArcelorMittal Mines Canada's position was that both Corus and LKAB were respected as highly qualified to take the Lead Registrant role and that it had no ambitions itself to be Lead Registrant. Vale as the world's largest pellet producer should make its position clear and the role of Lead Registrant should also be clarified. There is also the issue of haematite-based pellets.
- Metalloinvest has no ambition to be Lead Registrant and would support any logical solution agreed upon by the participants.
- After discussion the following plan was agreed upon:
 - Rio Tinto will tick the SIEF facilitator box as soon as able to do so [in practice on/after January 5th] on the basis the it would eventually un-tick the box in favour of any party agreed upon [in any case Rio Tinto would sub-contract the SIEF facilitator role to the IP]
 - Corus and LKAB will have a separate discussion together early in the new year to try and reach agreement
 - The IP will produce a summary of the role and responsibilities of the Lead Registrant
 - A meeting of all parties will be held on January 30th 2009 in Brussels, alongside the main IP meeting.

Please let me know if the above is in any respect inaccurate.

Best wishes

Chris Barrington

IPIA Secretariat

Reply to ipia@pigiron.org.uk

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