

Dear Mr Phakade Sicwebu,

I trust you are well.

I would like to submit comment on the proposed tariff increase of 19.74% for the 2021/22 Financial Year. As a business port user, Importer and Exporter, we would like to oppose the suggested Tariff increase that was determined by the TNPA in the course of this year. South African businesses have been faced with challenges, specifically in this year, such as a weak national economy, a weakened currency, forced shutdown, loss of income and business activity and even retrenchments. The proposed increase will only add to the already suffering local businesses. The determination was surely based on pre-covid19 data and the impact of Covid19 is surely yet to be felt. As an import / export company we were forced to down size our business and retrench a portion of our company to ensure our companies remain open. We are barely surviving as the local industry has taken a knock. We rely on the international market to purchase from us and therefore, utilise the port by means of container exports to various destinations where our product is required.

For reference we export platinum grit (HS Code 2621) and Garnet (HS Code 2513) and Zircon (HS Code 2615). Our volumes average +/- 5000T per month. We might be a small business in comparison to the larger mineral and commodity exporters, however, these volumes are considered extremely high for our business. For this reason, we oppose any tariff increase for the next Financial year so that we and many other businesses like us are able to stabilise and grow after the effects of Covid19.

I look forward to hearing from you by means of acknowledgment of my email.

Regards

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