

Call for Information on the Impact of a Merger between Nippon Steel Corporation and Sumitomo Metal Industries, Ltd., on Competition

June 1, 2011

Japan Fair Trade Commission

On May 31, 2011, the Japan Fair Trade Commission (hereinafter the “JFTC”) received a submission related to a merger as provided in Paragraph 2, Article 15, of the Antimonopoly Act submitted by Nippon Steel Corporation (“Nippon Steel”) and Sumitomo Metal Industries, Ltd. (“Sumitomo Metals”), and accepted the submission on the same day.

Upon conducting a review of the business combination, the JFTC has decided to call for information from third parties, including those in the same industry and business partners, on the impact on competition if the said merger actually takes place.

Notes

1. Methods of information provision

Please submit your information in Japanese by any of the following methods, indicating clearly your name (in kana characters), address, name of company or affiliated organization, relations with the business entities concerned (in the same industry, business partner, etc.), and contact information (e-mail address, facsimile number, or telephone number). Please note that no information is accepted over the phone.

<If sent via e-mail>

Please use the title “Provision of Information on the Impact of a Merger between Nippon Steel and Sumitomo Metals on Competition” in your e-mail message.

E-mail address: shinnittetsu-sumikin@jftc.go.jp

Note 1: If you are responding by e-mail, please attach your file in the text format, as a Microsoft Word file, or as a Just System Ichitaro file, using XXX.txt, XXX.doc, or XXX.jtd, respectively. (Overwrite the XXX portion with your company name, organization name, or personal name. If you wish to use a file format other than those above, please contact us at the contact information shown in 5. below.)

<If sent via facsimile>

Please address your facsimile to Mergers and Acquisitions Division, the JFTC, and use the title “Provision of Opinion on the Impact of a Merger between Nippon Steel and Sumitomo

Metals on Competition.”

Facsimile number: 03-3581-5771

<If sent via postal mail>

Please use the heading “Provision of Opinion on the Impact of a Merger between Nippon Steel and Sumitomo Metals on Competition” on the document for information provision.

Mail to: Mergers and Acquisitions Division, Japan Fair Trade Commission

1-1-1 Kasumigaseki Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-8987

2. Contents of information sought

Please note as specifically as possible what sort of impact is foreseen with which product (including services; hereinafter the same) if the said merger actually takes place. (Note 2) Examples include, but are not limited to, beliefs that the price would go up (down), the quality would be enhanced (deteriorate), the choices would widen (narrow), technological innovations would be promoted (stagnate), and procurement would be facilitated (made more difficult) with product XX. (Note 3)

Note 2: The impact on competition includes products manufactured and sold not only by the business entities concerned but also their subsidiaries, affiliates, etc. The products that the business entities concerned (including their subsidiaries, affiliates, etc.) are competing with are as shown in Attachment 1, but specific methods of products do not need to be exactly the same. Attachment 1 shows examples, and we also accept information on products not listed in Attachment 1.

Note 3: We might contact you for inquiries about the information you sent in.

3. Closing date for information provision

We ask that the information you send in arrives by Wednesday, June 15, 2011. However, we will continue accepting your response during the reviewperiod (Note 4), even after the closing date.

We will make a notice on the JFTC’s website when the acceptance of information has been closed.

Note 4: The flow of statutory procedures for plans on business combination is as shown in Attachment 2.

4. Handling of information

The JFTC will use the information sent in only for the purpose of the review and will not

disclose the information in any way that may identify the person who sent in the information to the business entities concerned or any other party. Please note that the JFTC will not send responses.

The JFTC is asking you to indicate your name, address, name of company or affiliated organization, e-mail address, facsimile number, and telephone number for the purpose of contacting you if it has any questions, and the information will not be used for any other purpose.

5. Contact information

Mergers and Acquisitions Division, Japan Fair Trade Commission

Tel: 03-3581-1803 (direct)

Major products with which Nippon Steel and Sumitomo Metals (including their subsidiaries, affiliates, etc.) compete with others:

- Thin steel sheets (hot-rolled steel sheets, cold-rolled steel sheets, electrogalvanized steel sheets, non-oriented electrical steel sheets, etc.)
- Medium and thick steel plates
- Shaped steel (H-section steel, light sections, etc.)
- Steel sheet piles
- Steel bars, wire rods (ordinary steel bars, deformed steel bars, ordinary steel wire rods, special steel bars, special steel wire rods)
- Steel pipes & tubes (small-diameter seamless steel pipes & tubes, small- and medium-diameter welded steel pipes & tubes, large-diameter welded steel pipes & tubes, etc.)
- High-strength bolts
- Automotive wheels
- Titanium products
- Pipeline engineering business

Flowchart of Business Combination Review (reference)

