

December 18, 2012

Frida Vaserman
Precision Specialty Metals, Inc.
3301 Medford Street
Los Angeles, CA. 90063

Subject: Conflict Minerals



AK Steel has determined that, under the Securities and Exchange Commission's Proposed Rules implementing Section 1502 of the Dodd-Frank Act (governing the use of "conflict minerals"), we do **not** use any conflict minerals from mined sources that originate from the Democratic Republic of the Congo or any of its adjoining countries ("DRC Countries"). Although AK Steel utilizes both tin and niobium in various facets of its manufacturing processes, we have been informed that these materials do not originate from any of the DRC Countries. This conclusion was reached through a recently-completed due diligence investigation that we undertook collaboratively with our suppliers with respect to the relevant issues, in connection with which we received the suppliers' representations.

As additional clarification, please note that some of AK Steel's production processes make use of scrap metals that include various minerals, the source of which is incapable of being determined. However, under the SEC's Proposed Rules governing conflict minerals, because determining the origination source of scrap materials is impracticable, such sources are to be considered "conflict free".

The SEC has announced that it will not release its Final Rules governing conflict minerals until sometime between January and June 2012. Although AK Steel is proceeding as if the SEC's current Proposed Rules will be adopted in their entirety, we are unable to provide any further guidance until the SEC releases its Final Rules. If you have any further questions regarding this subject or AK Steel Specialty products generally, please do not hesitate to contact your Outside Sales Representative. Alternatively, for conflict minerals inquiries you may directly contact our Chief Compliance Officer, Joe Alter, at joe.alter@aksteel or (513) 425-2659.

Sincerely,
Michael Kidwell
Michael Kidwell
Senior Product Specialist, Specialty Products & Marketing
AK Steel Corporation