## SSA Credit 4.1 Steel Supply Sourcing Requirements

## Supplier Declaration

***ASI Steel Sustainability Australia (SSA) Certification Program version 1.4***

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To Click or tap here to enter text.,

We are writing to request your cooperation as our steel supplier in meeting responsible steel supply requirements under the Steel Sustainability Australia Certification Program (SSA Program).

**Background and Intent**

The SSA Program was developed by the Australian Steel Institute (ASI) to support the responsible manufacturing, fabrication and processing of steel used in the Australian built environment. The SSA Program is a recognised initiative under the Green Building Council of Australia (GBCA) [Responsible Products Program](https://new.gbca.org.au/green-star/rating-system/responsible-products-framework/) and Green Star Buildings rating tool. The intent is to promote more sustainable building materials and certify downstream steel facilities (“SSA Certified Sites”) based on best practice sustainability indicators in the sourcing, manufacturing, fabrication, and processing of finished steel products.

One of the assessment criteria in the SSA Program is *Credit 4.1 Steel Supply Sourcing.* This credit verifies that the applicant can source steel feedstock (semi-finished steel products) from responsible manufacturers (raw steel mills) that meet best practice sustainability requirements, for projects specifying SSA certification. These requirements were developed in consultation with the GBCA to establish an acceptable standard of sustainability credentials for steel used in construction and infrastructure projects in Australia.

Steel feedstock manufacturing mills that have been independently verified to meet the requirements under SSA Credit 4.1A-E (see below) are publicly listed on the [supplier listing](https://www.steelsustainability.com.au/supplier-listing/).

**Timeframe on compliance**

To ensure a smooth transition to these requirements in the global supply chain, especially concerning steel sourced from international manufacturing mills, SSA Applicants can enact a 12-month grace period in their first year of SSA certification. This is extended to sites re-certifying to the SSA Program in 2025. From 2026, all steel feedstock manufacturers (raw steel mills) supplying steel products to SSA Certified Steel Sites and to projects specifying SSA certification must be SSA Verified.

Any steel feedstock manufacturing mill can [apply online](https://www.steelsustainability.com.au/) for independent verification to meet the SSA requirements. Please see the [SSA website](http://www.steelsustainability.com.au/become-certified/) for application fees. Once verified, the manufacturing mill will be publicly listed as ‘SSA Verified Steel Supplier’ on the [SSA Supplier Listing](https://www.steelsustainability.com.au/supplier-listing/).

**SSA Applicant Request for Supplier/Distributor Declaration**

As an Applicant seeking certification to the SSA Program, we request you to sign and return the below Supplier/Distributor Declaration, along with evidence that the SSA Credit 4.1 – Manufacturer Mill Declaration has been sent and a signed copy received back from the steel feedstock manufacturers (raw steel mills) supplying the semi-finished steel we procure.

**Supplier/Distributor Declaration:**

Click or tap here to enter text. declares that we have requested the steel feedstock manufacturer (raw steel mill) supplying steel to SSA Applicants and Clients to apply and become SSA Verified by 31 December 2025.

Signed,

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Date:

SSA Credit 4.1 Steel Supply Sourcing Requirements

Requirements for Steel Feedstock Manufacturing Suppliers (A-E)

Steel manufacturers seeking to be verified to meeting these requirements are to contact SSA on ssa@steel.org.au. Verified SSA steel manufacturing suppliers are verified to meet these requirements by an annual desktop audit conducted by an SSA appointed auditor and will be issued a certificate and publicly listed as a “SSA Verified Steel Supplier” on the [SSA website](https://www.steelsustainability.com.au/supplier-listing/).

**A. Environmental Product Declaration**

A product-specific environmental product declaration (EPD) can be provided which:

• Complies with EN 15804

• Includes all required environmental impact categories, including disclosure of carbon emissions

• Specifically applies to the product supplied

**OR:**

• Instead of an EPD, the product carbon footprint may be reported using an alternative method, provided it is third party verified to be compliant to ISO 14067

• Evidence must be provided of the third party verified carbon footprint

**B. Decarbonisation Requirements**

The manufacturer must:

i. Provide a publicly disclosed target for decarbonising the manufacturing and supply chain by 2050.

• Evidence of this commitment must be available on a public website.

ii. Have a current membership for the World Steel Association's Climate Action Program (WSA CAP).

• Evidence must be provided of current membership via link to the worldsteel website OR by providing a certificate for the relevant period.

iii. Provide evidence of an active decarbonisation program. The manufacturer has a public commitment to reduce the emissions intensity in their steel manufacturing and has a publicly disclosed strategy for how this will be achieved.

• The commitment and decarbonisation strategies must be publicly available via a link to a public website, or public corporate document.

**C. Environmental Management**

The manufacturer must:

i. Provide a current certificate demonstrating ISO 14001: Environmental management systems certification for steelmaker site.

**D. Water use reduction**

The water consumed by the steel feedstock’s manufacturing has been reduced on a year on-year basis when averaged over 5 years, OR a program is in place to increase the amount of recycled or reused water used.

The manufacturer must submit a record of their water use to:

• Provide evidence that the water consumption intensity from the manufacturing of the product has been decreasing over the past five years on average.

**OR**

• Provide evidence that initiatives are in place to recycle or reuse significant volumes of water.

**E. Responsible Sourcing**

There are three possible pathways to demonstrating compliance with this requirement:

1. Manufacturer must provide evidence of current certification to [ResponsibleSteel™ steel standard](https://www.responsiblesteel.org/standard/);

**OR**

2. Manufacturer must provide evidence of current certification to [GECA STEEL & STEEL PRODUCTS (SSPV1.0I-2019)](https://geca.eco/standards/steel-and-steel-products-sspv-sspv1-0i-2019/);

**OR**

3. Manufacturer must:

i. Achieve Credit 3.4 Modern Slavery (see below), **AND**

ii. Provide evidence of a company-wide Responsible Sourcing policy or documented strategy that addresses potential environmental, social and governance related impacts in the sourcing of their products or services, **AND**

iii. Provide evidence of a company-wide Code of Conduct policy or documented strategy that sets expectations of ethical standards and behaviours from employees and suppliers.

Credit 3.4 Modern Slavery

