



*Important Notice*  
The Depository Trust Company

<b>B #:</b>	1664-15
<b>Date:</b>	9/28/2015
<b>To:</b>	All Participants
<b>Category:</b>	Dividends
<b>From:</b>	International Services
<b>Attention:</b>	Operations, Reorg & Dividend Managers, Partners & Cashiers
<b>Subject:</b>	<b><u>Tax Relief</u></b> – Country: Japan KOBE STEEL LTD. <b><u>CUSIP</u></b> : 499892107 <b><u>Record Date</u></b> : 9/30/2015 <b><u>Payable Date</u></b> : TBA <b><u>CA Web Instruction Deadline</u></b> : 10/20/2015 8:00 PM EDT

Participants can use DTC’s Corporate Actions Web (CA Web) service to certify all or a portion of their position entitled to the applicable withholding tax rate. Participants are urged to consult TaxInfo before certifying their instructions over CA Web.

Important: Prior to certifying tax withholding instructions, participants are urged to read, understand and comply with the information in the Legal Conditions category found on TaxInfo over the CA Web.

Questions regarding this Important Notice may be directed to GlobeTax at +1-212-747-9100.

**Important Legal Information:** *The Depository Trust Company (“DTC”) does not represent or warrant the accuracy, adequacy, timeliness, completeness or fitness for any particular purpose of the information contained in this communication, which is based in part on information obtained from third parties and not independently verified by DTC and which is provided as is. The information contained in this communication is not intended to be a substitute for obtaining tax advice from an appropriate professional advisor. In providing this communication, DTC shall not be liable for (1) any loss resulting directly or indirectly from mistakes, errors, omissions, interruptions, delays or defects in such communication, unless caused directly by gross negligence or willful misconduct on the part of DTC, and (2) any special, consequential, exemplary, incidental or punitive damages. To ensure compliance with Internal Revenue Service Circular 230, you are hereby notified that: (a) any discussion of federal tax issues contained or referred to herein is not intended or written to be used, and cannot be used, for the purpose of avoiding penalties that may be imposed under the Internal Revenue Code; and (b) as a matter of policy, DTC does not provide tax, legal or accounting advice and accordingly, you should consult your own tax, legal and accounting advisor before engaging in any transaction.*

DTCC offers enhanced access to all important notices via a Web-based subscription service. The notification system leverages RSS Newsfeeds, providing significant benefits including real-time updates and customizable delivery. To learn more and to set up your own DTCC RSS alerts, visit [http://www.dtcc.com/subscription\\_form.php](http://www.dtcc.com/subscription_form.php).

Non-Confidential



**KOBE STEEL LTD.** has announced a cash dividend and BNY Mellon acts as Depository for the Depository Receipt (“DR”) program.

Participants can use DTC’s Corporate Actions Web (“CA Web”) instructions tab to certify all or a portion of their position entitled to the applicable withholding tax rate. Use of these instruction methods will permit entitlement amounts to be paid through DTC. By electing, Participants agree to the Agreements, Fees, Representations and Indemnification below.

As outlined in the Eligibility Matrix below, all qualifying holders will have the opportunity to receive their full treaty benefits on DR pay date. Holders not certified at the favorable or exempt withholding tax rates through CA Web will receive the dividend net of the full Japanese statutory withholding tax rate of 15.315% with the possibility to reclaim through the standard long form process.

DIVIDEND EVENT DETAILS	
COUNTRY OF ISSUANCE	JAPAN
COMPANY	KOBE STEEL LTD.
CUSIP#	499892107
DEPOSITARY	SPONSORED
DR RECORD DATE	9/30/2015
DR PAY DATE	TBA
DR GROSS DIVIDEND RATE ON PAY DATE	TBA
ORD GROSS DIVIDEND RATE ON PAY DATE	TBA
RATIO (DR to ORD)	1 : 5
STATUTORY WHT RATE	15.315% (5.0% additional local tax for Japanese individual residents only)

**FEEES & DEADLINES**

FILING METHOD	BATCH	PAYMENT METHOD	FEE	MINIMUM FEE PER BENEFICIAL OWNER	DOCUMENTATION DEADLINE
RELIEF AT SOURCE	PAYMENT ON PAY DATE	VIA DTC	15% - UP TO \$0.004 per DR	\$0	10/20/2015; 8:00 P.M. EST
			10% & 12.5% - UP TO \$0.005 per DR		
			0% - UP TO \$0.0075 Per DR		
LONG FORM	POST-CA Web PROCESS; ONGOING	VIA CHECK	UP TO \$0.01 per DR	\$25 TAX RELIEF FEE AND UP TO 40,000 JPY CUSTODIAL FEE.	9/29/2020

**Agreements, Fees, Representations and Indemnification of Participants and Beneficial Owners**

We hereby agree that this tax relief assistance service is wholly voluntary and discretionary and outside the terms and conditions of any applicable deposit agreement. We hereby accept and agree to pay the fees of BNY Mellon of up to \$0.0075 per Depository Receipt for Relief at Source, or up to \$0.01 per Depository Receipt for Long Form (with a minimum of \$25), and any other charges, fees or expenses payable by or due to BNY Mellon or its agents, including any custodian, in connection with the tax reclaim process, or to tax authorities or regulators (which fees, charges or expenses may be deducted from the dividend or any other distribution or by billing or otherwise in BNY Mellon’s discretion). We hereby agree that any such fees, charges or expenses may be due and payable whether or not a successful reduction in rate or reclamation is obtained. We hereby acknowledge that fees paid to BNY Mellon may be shared with its agents and affiliates. We hereby confirm that we have the applicable Form W-9 or Form W-8 beneficial owner series (W-8BEN, W-8BENE, W-8EXP, or W-8ECI) on file and agree to obtain and retain all underlying documentation required to support the tax relief benefits, including without limitation all IRS Forms W-9 and IRS Form W-8 for a period of at least seven years and to provide such documentation to you and/or the Japanese Tax Office upon your or the Japanese Tax Office’s request.

We hereby agree that in addition to statutory and documentation requirements and the deduction of fees, tax relief benefits will be subject to review and approval, and potential audits by the applicable custodian and the applicable tax regulators, and that BNY Mellon is not providing any

legal, tax, accounting or other professional advice on these matters and has expressly disclaimed any liability whatsoever for any loss howsoever arising from or in reliance hereto. Participants and/or investors should seek advice based upon their own particular circumstances from an independent tax advisor.

We certify that to the best of our knowledge each of the beneficial owners identified are eligible for the preferential rates as stated and we declare that we have performed all the necessary due diligence to satisfy ourselves as to the accuracy of the information submitted to us by these beneficial owners.

We will be fully liable for any and all claims, penalties and / or interest, including without limitation, any foreign exchange fluctuations associated therewith. BNY Mellon shall not be liable for the failure to secure any tax relief. We expressly agree that BNY Mellon and its agents or affiliates shall not have any liability for, and we shall indemnify, defend and hold each of BNY Mellon and its agents and affiliates harmless from and against, any and all loss, liability, damage, judgment, settlement, fine, penalty, demand, claim, cost or expense (including without limitation fees and expenses of defending itself or enforcing this agreement) arising out of or in connection herewith.

## ELIGIBILITY MATRIX – COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE

RATE DESCRIPTION	FILING METHOD	RECLAIM RATE	ELIGIBLE RESIDENTS	DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED
<b>EXEMPT – 0%</b>	RELIEF AT SOURCE	20.42%	PENSIONS – NETHERLANDS, SWITZERLAND, UNITED KINGDOM, UNITED STATES  ZAMBIA  WORLD EXEMPTS	1. APPENDIX A (ESP GENERATED. <b>TO BE KEPT ON FILE</b> ) 2. IRS W-9 / IRS W-8BEN ON FILE
<b>FAVORABLE – 10%</b>	RELIEF AT SOURCE	10.42%	AUSTRALIA, BRUNEI, CHINA, FRANCE, HONG KONG, HUNGARY, INDIA, KUWAIT, NETHERLANDS, OMAN, PAKISTAN, POLAND, PORTUGAL, ROMANIA, SAUDI ARABIA, SWEDEN, SWITZERLAND, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES, UNITED KINGDOM, UNITED STATES, VIETNAM	1. APPENDIX A (ESP GENERATED. <b>TO BE KEPT ON FILE</b> ) 2. IRS W-9 / IRS W-8BEN ON FILE
<b>FAVORABLE – 12.5%</b>	RELIEF AT SOURCE	7.92%	BRAZIL	1. APPENDIX A (ESP GENERATED. <b>TO BE KEPT ON FILE</b> ) 2. IRS W-8BEN ON FILE
<b>FAVORABLE – 15%</b>	RELIEF AT SOURCE	5.42%	ARMENIA, AZERBAIJAN, BANGLADESH, BELARUS, BELGIUM, BULGARIA, CANADA, CZECH REPUBLIC, DENMARK, EGYPT, FINLAND, GEORGIA, GERMANY, INDONESIA, IRELAND, ISRAEL, ITALY, KAZAKHSTAN, KOREA, REPUBLIC OF, KYRGYZSTAN, LUXEMBOURG, MALAYSIA, MEXICO, MOLDOVA, NEW ZEALAND, NORWAY, PHILIPPINES, RUSSIA, SINGAPORE, SLOVAK REPUBLIC, SOUTH AFRICA, SPAIN, TAJIKISTAN, TURKEY, TURKMENISTAN, UKRAINE, UZBEKISTAN	1. APPENDIX A (ESP GENERATED. <b>TO BE KEPT ON FILE</b> ) 2. IRS W-8BEN ON FILE
<b>15.315%</b>	RELIEF AT SOURCE	5.105%	ALL BENEFICIARIES <b>EXCEPT</b> JAPANESE INDIVIDUAL RESIDENTS, LARGE SHAREHOLDERS, TREATY ELIGIBLE PENSIONS & TREATY ELIGIBLE HOLDERS.	NO DOCUMENTATION OR ESP SUBMISSION REQUIRED
<b>20.315%</b>	RELIEF AT SOURCE	0.105%	JAPANESE INDIVIDUAL RESIDENTS	1. APPENDIX A (ESP GENERATED, <b>TO BE KEPT ON FILE</b> )
<b>UNFAVORABLE - 20.42%</b>	RELIEF AT SOURCE	0%	LARGE SHAREHOLDERS THAT HOLD 3% OR MORE OF THE OUTSTANDING SHARES EXCLUDING FOREIGN/(JAPANESE) & DOMESTIC CORPORATE LARGE SHAREHOLDERS FOR DIVIDEND INCOME	1. APPENDIX A (ESP GENERATED, <b>TO BE KEPT ON FILE</b> )

**NOTE:** Appendix A, IRS Form W-9 and IRS Form W-8BEN must be retained by the DTC Participant for production upon request at any time or from time to time. Please note that the Japanese Tax Office has the legal authority to audit claims filed for a period of seven years so it is the DTC Participant's responsibility to ensure that your document retention policies for US withholding tax documentation are adequate to support potential audits from the Japanese Tax Office.

## ELIGIBILITY MATRIX – INVESTOR TYPE

INVESTOR	RESIDENCY	TYPE	CONDITIONS	AUDIT DOCUMENTATION
<b>INDIVIDUAL</b>	U.S.	CERTIFIED PERSON	A COMPLETE AND VALID U.S. ADDRESS*	FORM W-9
	NON-U.S.	CERTIFIED PERSON	RESIDES IN A JURISDICTION THAT HAS A TREATY WITH JAPAN AND DOES NOT HAVE A PERMANENT ADDRESS IN JAPAN	FORM W-8BEN
<b>CORPORATION</b>	U.S.	S-CORP/C-CORP	A COMPLETE AND VALID U.S. ADDRESS*	FORM W-9
		LLC	DISREGARDED ENTITY, DISREGARDED INTO A US INDIVIDUAL OR OTHER BODY OF PERSONS THAT ARE ENTITLED TO CLAIM TREATY BENEFITS AND ELECTED TO BE TREATED AS A S OR C CORP THAT HAS A COMPLETE AND VALID US ADDRESS	
	NON-U.S.	CERTIFIED CORP	RESIDES IN A JURISDICTION THAT HAS A TREATY WITH JAPAN AND DOES NOT HAVE A PERMANENT ADDRESS IN JAPAN	FORM W-8BEN
<b>TRUST</b>	U.S.	COMPLEX	COMPRISED OF U.S. INDIVIDUALS OR OTHER BODY OF PERSONS THAT ARE ENTITLED TO CLAIM TREATY BENEFITS	FORM W-9
		GRANTOR	GRANTOR IS A U.S. INDIVIDUAL OR OTHER BODY OF PERSONS THAT ARE ENTITLED TO CLAIM TREATY BENEFITS	
		SIMPLE	BENEFICIARIES ARE U.S. OR OTHER BODY OF PERSONS THAT ARE ENTITLED TO CLAIM TREATY BENEFITS	
<b>RIC, REIT &amp; REMIC</b>	U.S.	N/A	A COMPLETE AND VALID U.S. ADDRESS*	FORM W-9, PROSPECTUS OR ANY LEGAL ANCILLARY DOCUMENT
<b>NON-PROFIT</b>	U.S.	CHARITY, FOUNDATION	TAX EXEMPT ORGANIZATIONS THAT MEET 501(c) REQUIREMENTS	FORM W-9 OR ANY LEGAL ANCILLARY DOCUMENT
<b>GOVERNMENT</b>	U.S.	GOVERNMENT, STATE AND ANY POLITICAL SUBDIVISION OR LOCAL AUTHORITY	A COMPLETE AND VALID U.S. ADDRESS*	FORM W-9
<b>PENSION</b>	U.S.	SEE EXHIBIT 1	A COMPLETE AND VALID U.S. ADDRESS*	FORM W-9
<b>TRANSPARENT ENTITY</b>	U.S.	PARTNERSHIP AND SIMILAR VEHICLES	IF UNDERLYING MEMBERS OF FISCALLY TRANSPARENT ENTITY ARE U.S. RESIDENTS THEN ALL OF THE INTEREST INCOME WOULD BE ELIGIBLE FOR THE BENEFITS OF THE CONVENTION. ALTERNATIVELY, THE PORTION ATTRIBUTABLE TO ELIGIBLE U.S. RESIDENTS WOULD BE ELIGIBLE TO CLAIM TREATY BENEFITS	FORM W-9

**NOTE:** The definition of a “Valid U.S. Address” is a U.S. address:

- that is not a PO Box; AND
- that is not in a U.S. Territory or Protectorate State; AND
- is supported by the Share of an IRS Form W9 prior to January 1 of the year in which the dividend payment occurred; AND
- the IRS Form W9 has not been revoked by the resident due to change in tax residence; AND
- the DTC Participant has no indication of a secondary residence and/or address in Japan

## DESCRIPTION OF VARIOUS DOCUMENTATION

DOCUMENT NAME	DESCRIPTION	RECLAIM PROCESS	ORIGINAL / COPY	SIGNATURE REQUIREMENT
<b>APPENDIX A (COVER LETTER)</b>	LISTING OF BENEFICIAL OWNERS AND/OR JAPANESE INDIVIDUAL RESIDENTS GENERATED BY ESP.	AT SOURCE	COPY – <b>ONLY UPON AUDIT</b>	DTC PARTICIPANT
		LONG FORM	ORIGINAL	DTC PARTICIPANT
<b>IRS FORM W-9</b>	SELF CERTIFICATION OF US TAXPAYER INFORMATION - RECEIVED PRIOR TO JANUARY 1 OF THE YEAR IN WHICH THE DIVIDEND IS PAID; AND - HAS NOT BEEN REVOKED BY THE US RESIDENT DUE TO CHANGE OF TAX RESIDENCE	AT SOURCE	COPY – <b>ONLY UPON AUDIT</b>	BENEFICIAL OWNER
<b>IRS FORM W-8BEN</b>	SELF CERTIFICATION OF FOREIGN TAXPAYER INFORMATION (W-8BEN, W-8BENE, W-8EXP, or W-8ECI)	AT SOURCE	COPY – <b>ONLY UPON AUDIT</b>	BENEFICIAL OWNER
<b>IRS FORM 6166</b>	ISSUED BY THE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE, STATING THE NAME AND TAX PAYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER OF THE BENEFICIAL OWNER. IT MUST BE DATED WITHIN <b>8 MONTHS</b> FOR LONG FORM. CANNOT BE CERTIFIED FOR ANY OTHER COUNTRY.	LONG FORM	ORIGINAL	IRS REPRESENTATIVE
<b>JAPAN FORM 17</b>	ATTACHMENT FORM FOR LIMITATION OF BENEFITS ARTICLE. *ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS (e.g. PROSPECTUS, PR BROCHURE, EXPLANATION LETTER) MAY BE REQUIRED TO SUPPORT FORM 17 CERTIFICATIONS.	LONG FORM	ORIGINAL	BENEFICIAL OWNER
<b>JAPAN FORM 16</b>	LIST OF UNDERLYING MEMBERS OR PARTNERS OF TRANSPARENT ENTITY	LONG FORM	ORIGINAL	BENEFICIAL OWNER
<b>APPENDIX B (POWER OF ATTORNEY)</b>	SIGNED BY BENEFICIAL OWNER APPOINTING DEPOSITARY ON BENEFICIAL OWNER'S LETTERHEAD	LONG FORM	ORIGINAL	BENEFICIAL OWNER
<b>LIMITED POWER OF ATTORNEY</b>	IF THE POA IS SIGNED BY THE BROKER, TRUST AGREEMENT OR NOTARIZED LIMITED POA MUST ALSO BE SUBMITTED	LONG FORM	COPY	DTC PARTICIPANT
<b>PROOF OF PAYMENT</b>	DOCUMENT CERTIFYING PAYMENT HAS BEEN CREDITED TO THE PENSIONS FUNDS ACCOUNT.	LONG FORM	ORIGINAL	DTC PARTICIPANT

## CONTACT DETAILS

PRIMARY CONTACT	SHERELLE ISAACS
DOMESTIC PHONE (U.S.)	1-800-915-3536
DOMESTIC FAX (U.S.)	1-800-985-3536
INTERNATIONAL PHONE	1-212-747-9100
INTERNATIONAL FAX	1-212-747-0029
EMAIL ADDRESS	SHERELLE_ISAACS@GLOBETAX.COM
COMPANY	THE BANK OF NEW YORK AS DEPOSITARY
STREET ADDRESS	C/O GLOBETAX 90 BROAD STREET, 16TH FLOOR
CITY/STATE/ZIP	NEW YORK, NY 10004
ADDITIONAL CONTACTS	AINA MORENO JONATHAN STAAKE

**BNY Mellon, offers ESP powered by GlobeTax, an electronic withholding tax submission system. This system allows for the secure and simplified transfer of beneficial owner level data from the Participant to BNY Mellon and creates applicable documentation on the Participants behalf. Submit the data online through the web site below, print out the document on letterhead, sign, and mail to BNY Mellon / GlobeTax.**

**These claims should be submitted through the following web site. (Requires a one-time registration)**

<https://ESP.GlobeTax.com>

**Please contact Jonathan Staake at 212-747-9100 if you have any questions about this process.**

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)

### AT SOURCE QUESTIONS

WHAT INFORMATION DOES THE BENEFICIARY NEED TO DISCLOSE IN ORDER TO RECEIVE FAVORABLE TAX TREATMENT?	NAME, ADDRESS, COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE, AND SHARE POSITION. A TAX ID NUMBER IS ONLY REQUIRED FOR U.S. RESIDENTS.
DO SHAREHOLDERS REQUESTING 15.315% WITHHOLDING NEED TO DISCLOSE INFORMATION?	NO, DISCLOSURE ONLY APPLIES TO SHAREHOLDERS FILING FOR 10%, 12.5%, 15%, 20.315% & 20.42% WITHHOLDING RATES.
WILL HOLDERS WISHING TO BENEFIT FROM FAVORABLE TAX TREATMENT NEED TO FURNISH SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION UP FRONT?	NO, BROKERS MUST STORE W-9 AND W-8BEN ON FILE IN CASE OF AN AUDIT.
DOES THE JAPANESE LAW REQUIRE A CERTIFICATION OF RESIDENCE (FORM 6166) TO PARTICIPATE IN THE RECLAIM PROCESS?	NO. THE LAW GOVERNING THE PROCESSING OF DRs DOES NOT REQUIRE THE PRESENCE OR COLLECTION OF A CERTIFICATION OF RESIDENCY (FORM 6166) THOUGH PARTICIPANTS MAY BE REQUIRED TO PROVE THE ELIGIBILITY OF THE UNDERLYING INVESTORS. UPON REVIEW OF THE W-9 AND W-8BEN FORMS THE JAPANESE TAX OFFICE AGREED TO ACCEPT THESE AS PROOF OF ELIGIBILITY.
WILL A CERTIFICATE OF RESIDENCE (FORM 6166) BE REQUESTED DURING AN AUDIT?	THE JAPANESE MINSITRY OF FINANCE RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REQUEST ANY OTHER DOCUMENTATION IT MAY NEED TO DETERMINE THE ELIGIBILITY OF THE INVESTOR. WE HAVE BEEN ADVISED THAT THE JAPANESE TAX OFFICE MAY REQUEST A CERTIFICATE OF RESIDENCY IN RARE CIRCUMSTANCES WHERE THE INFORMATION PROVIDED IS INCONSISTENT AND CANNOT BE CONFIRMED THROUGH THE PROVISION OF OTHER DOCUMENTS OR EXPLANATIONS.
WHO IS CONSIDERED A "LARGE SHAREHOLDER"?	INDIVIDUAL (NON-CORPORATE) INVESTORS WHO HOLD 3% OR MORE OF THE NUMBER OF OUTSTANDING SHARES FOR DIVIDEND INCOME FROM LISTED SHARES, NOW FALL UNDER THE "LARGE SHAREHOLDER" CATEGORY. THESE "LARGE SHAREHOLDERS" WILL NO LONGER BE ELIGIBLE FOR THE PREFERENTIAL TAX RATES AND THUS BE APPLIED THE 20.42% TAX RATE FOR DIVIDENDS PAID AFTER SEPTEMBER 30, 2011. PARTICIPANTS ARE REQUIRED TO DISCLOSE THE NAME AND ADDRESS OF THESE "LARGE SHAREHOLDERS" TO THE DEPOSITARY BY THE DEADLINE STATED WITHIN THIS NOTICE. CORPORATE ENTITIES (BOTH JAPANESE AND NON-JAPANESE) WHO HOLD 3% OR MORE OF THE NUMBER OF OUTSTANDING SHARES FOR DIVIDEND INCOME FROM LISTED SHARES ARE STILL ENTITLED TO THE PREFERENTIAL WITHHOLDING RATES AND ARE ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE THE INCOME WITH A 15.315% WITHHOLDING RATE APPLIED OR MORE IF ELIGIBLE BASED ON THE TREATY BETWEEN THE INVESTORS COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE AND JAPAN. DIVIDEND INCOME FOR UNLISTED SHARES WILL CONTINUE TO BE WITHHELD AT THE 20.42% JAPANESE NATIONAL TAX RATE.

## LONG FORM QUESTIONS

CAN I SUBMIT A TRUST AGREEMENT IN LIEU OF A POA SIGNED BY THE BENEFICIAL OWNER?	YES, BUT A LIMITED POA SIGNED BY THE PARTICIPANT MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY THE TRUST AGREEMENT
ARE FORM 6166S WITH IRS CODE RULING 81-100 ACCEPTED?	YES, WITH A TAX DETERMINATION LETTER & PENSION DECLARATION LETTER.
DOES THE BENEFICIARIES NAME ON THE FORM 6166 NEED TO MATCH THE POA?	YES, THE BENEFICIARIES NAME ON BOTH DOCUMENTS SHOULD BE IDENTICAL.
HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE FOR LONG FORM CLAIMS TO BE PAID?	WE ESTIMATE IT TAKES UP TO ONE YEAR FOR LONG FORM CLAIMS TO BE PAID
DOES THE LONG FORM PROCESS HAVE A MINIMUM POSITION REQUIREMENT PER BENEFICIAL OWNER?	YES, PLEASE CALL FOR MORE DETAILS.
WHAT IS THE STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS FOR FILING JAPANESE RECLAIMS?	IT IS 5 YEARS FROM ORDINARY PAY DATE. CLAIMS RECEIVED AFTER OUR SUBMISSION DEADLINE WILL BE FILED ON A BEST EFFORT BASIS.
WHAT IF THE BENEFICIAL OWNER NAME AND/OR ADDRESS IS NOT CONSISTANT WITH THE OTHER DOCUMENTS?	PLEASE SEND A LETTER ON PARTICIPANT LETTERHEAD EXPLAINING THE DISCREPANCY AND BE SURE TO INCLUDE THE TAX ID NUMBER.
HOW OFTEN ARE LONG FORM CLAIMS FILED WITH THE JAPANESE CUSTODIANS?	DUE TO QUARTERLY FILING LIMITATIONS GLOBETAX FILES ON FEBRUARY 20TH, MAY 20TH, AUGUST 20TH & NOVEMBER 20TH OF EACH YEAR.
WILL BNY MELLON ACCEPT CLAIMS FILED DIRECTLY TO THEM BY BENEFICIAL ONWERS?	BNY MELLON ONLY ACCEPTS CLAIMS FILED BY THE DTC PARTICIPANT WHO WAS HOLDING SECURITIES THROUGH DTC AND ONLY TO THE EXTENT THAT DTC HAS REPORTED THESE HOLDINGS TO US AS VALID RECORD DATE HOLDINGS. BENEFICIAL OWNERS ARE REQUIRED TO FILE THEIR CLAIMS THROUGH THE CUSTODY CHAIN TO THE DTC PARTICIPANT OF RECORD. ALL CLAIMS NOT RECEIVED DIRECTLY FROM THE DTC PARTICIPANT WILL BE RETURNED TO THE BENEFICIAL OWNER.
DO PENSION PLANS NEED TO DISCLOSE ANY UNDERLYING HOLDER INFORMATION FOR THE LONG FORM PROCESS?	YES, EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 1, 2012 PENSION PLANS WILL NEED TO DISCLOSE THE TOTAL NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS, THE NUMBER OF TREATY ELIGIBLE PARTICIPANTS AND THE DATE OF FISCAL YEAR END.
IS THIS LONG FORM PROCESS FREE OF CHARGE?	NO. THIS TAX RECLAIM ASSISTANCE SERVICE IS WHOLLY VOLUNTARY AND DISCRETIONARY AND OUTSIDE THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF ANY APPLICABLE DEPOSIT AGREEMENT. FEES WILL BE CHARGED FOR THIS ASSISTANCE SERVICE OF UP TO \$0.01 PER DEPOSITARY RECEIPT FOR STANDARD LONG FORM RECLAIMS WITH A MINIMUM OF \$25.00. RECLAIMS RECEIVED POST DEADLINE CANNOT BE ASSURED AND MAY BE SUBJECT TO A PER BENEFICIARY FEE AS WELL AS OTHER CHARGES, FEES OR EXPENSES PAYABLE BY OR DUE TO BNY MELLON OR ITS AGENTS, INCLUDING THE CUSTODIAN OR TAX AUTHORITIES. IN ADDITION, CHARGES MAY APPLY TO ANY LONG FORM CLAIMS REJECTED OR NOT ACCEPTED BY THE CUSTODIAN. FEES PAID TO BNY MELLON MAY BE SHARED WITH ITS AGENTS.

***Warning and Disclaimer:***

BNY Mellon will not be responsible for the truth or accuracy of any submissions received by it and all Participants and holders, whether or not following the procedures set forth herein or otherwise submitting any information, agree to indemnify and hold harmless BNY Mellon and its agents for any and all losses, liabilities and fees (including reasonable fees and expenses of counsel) incurred by any of them in connection herewith or arising herefrom. BNY Mellon and its agents will be relying upon the truth and accuracy of any and all submissions received by them in connection with the tax relief process and shall hold all participants and DR holders liable and responsible for any losses incurred in connection therewith or arising there from. There is no guarantee that the applicable tax authorities will accept submissions for relief. Neither BNY Mellon nor its agents shall be responsible or liable to any holders of DRs in connection with any matters related to, arising from, or in connection with the tax relief process described herein. See also “**Agreements, Fees, Representations and Indemnification**” above.

All tax information contained in this Important Notice is based on a good faith compilation of information obtained and received from multiple sources. The information is subject to change. Actual deadlines frequently vary from the statutory deadlines because of local market conditions and advanced deadlines set by local agents. To mitigate risk it is strongly advised that DTC Participants file their claims as soon as possible as the depositary and/or their agents will not be liable for claims filed less than six months before the specified deadline. In the event that local market rules, whether implemented by a local agent or a Tax Authority, conflict with the information provided in the important notice, either prior to or after publication, the local market rules will prevail.



## APPENDIX A – COVER LETTER

### (DTC Participant’s Letterhead)

To: The Bank of New York as Depository  
 C/O GlobeTax  
 90 Broad Street, 16th Floor  
 New York, New York 10004-2205  
 Phone: 1-800-915-3536 Fax: 1-800-985-3536  
 Attn: Japan

### Re: Withholding Certification for **KOBE STEEL LTD. ; CUSIP# 499892107**

I / We the undersigned \_\_\_\_\_ (Contact Name) \_\_\_\_\_ authorized representative of \_\_\_\_\_ (DTC Participant Name) \_\_\_\_\_ holding shares at Cede & Co. under DTC# \_\_\_\_\_ (DTC PTS Number) of **KOBE STEEL LTD. ; CUSIP# 499892107**, request that the upcoming cash dividend payable to holders as of **9/30/2015**, receive their entitled tax reclaim.

Name of Beneficiary	Complete Address	Country of Residence	Tax ID#	# DRs

We hereby agree that this tax relief assistance service is wholly voluntary and discretionary and outside the terms and conditions of any applicable deposit agreement. We hereby accept and agree to pay the fees of BNY Mellon of up to \$0.0075 per Depository Receipt for Relief at Source, or up to \$0.01 per Depository Receipt for Long Form (with a minimum of \$25), and any other charges, fees or expenses payable by or due to BNY Mellon or its agents, including any custodian, in connection with the tax reclaim process, or to tax authorities or regulators (which fees, charges or expenses may be deducted from the dividend or any other distribution or by billing or otherwise in BNY Mellon’s discretion). We hereby agree that any such fees, charges or expenses may be due and payable whether or not a successful reduction in rate or reclamation is obtained. We hereby acknowledge that fees paid to BNY Mellon may be shared with its agents and affiliates.

We hereby confirm that we have the applicable Form W-9 or Form W-8 beneficial owner series (W-8BEN, W-8BENE, W-8EXP, or W-8ECI) on file and agree to obtain and retain all underlying documentation required to support the tax relief benefits, including without limitation all IRS Forms W-9 and IRS Form W-8 for a period of at least seven years and to provide such documentation to you and/or the Japanese Tax Office upon your or the Japanese Tax Office’s request.

We hereby agree that in addition to statutory and documentation requirements and the deduction of fees, tax relief benefits will be subject to review and approval, and potential audits by the applicable custodian and the applicable tax regulators, and that BNY Mellon is not providing any legal, tax, accounting or other professional advice on these matters and has expressly disclaimed any liability whatsoever for any loss howsoever arising from or in reliance hereto. Participants and/or investors should seek advice based upon their own particular circumstances from an independent tax advisor.

We certify that to the best of our knowledge each of the beneficial owners identified hereby are eligible for the preferential rates as stated herein and we declare that we have performed all the necessary due diligence to satisfy ourselves as to the accuracy of the information submitted to us by these beneficial owners.

We will be fully liable for any and all claims, penalties and / or interest, including without limitation, any foreign exchange fluctuations associated therewith. BNY Mellon shall not be liable for the failure to secure any tax relief. We expressly agree that BNY Mellon and its agents or affiliates shall not have any liability for, and we shall indemnify, defend and hold each of BNY Mellon and its agents and affiliates harmless from and against, any and all loss, liability, damage, judgment, settlement, fine, penalty, demand, claim, cost or expense (including without limitation fees and expenses of defending itself or enforcing this agreement) arising out of or in connection herewith.

**Incorrect claims and/or elections and failure to retain documentation could result in fines and/or penalties.**

<b>CONTACT INFO</b>	
<p>_____  <b>TELEPHONE</b></p> <p>_____  <b>FAX</b></p>	<p>_____  <b>PRINT NAME OF SIGNATORY</b></p> <p>_____  <b>POSITION OF SIGNATORY</b></p>

**APPENDIX B – POWER OF ATTORNEY**

**(Pension Fund’s Letterhead)**

Power of Attorney

**( Name of Pension Fund/IRA = the Undersigned)**, with address in **(City, State, Country)** hereby appoints BNY Mellon (“Bank”) and/or the Bank’s designated standing proxy(ies) as its true and lawful attorney with full Power of Attorney to do all or any of the following acts with respect to the American Depository Shares representing shares in **KOBE STEEL LTD.** (“Securities”) that the Bank holds in its safe custody on behalf of the Undersigned through a Participant in the Depository Trust Company .

- i) To sign and file required forms with competent tax authorities in order to secure any tax privileges and benefits such as tax reduction or tax-exemption at source.
- ii) To receive on behalf of the Undersigned tax repayments made by competent tax authorities as a result of lodging reclaim forms.
- iii) To perform any other act as may be necessary to execute the acts mentioned herein.

The Undersigned also authorizes the Bank and/or the Bank’s designated standing proxy(ies) to submit this power of attorney or a photocopy of it to competent tax authorities.

**(Name of the Pension Fund/IRA)**

<Place and Date>  
Place and Date

<Signature of Officer of Beneficiary>  
Authorized Signature(s)/Title(s)

In addition, the authorized representative:

Confirms that more than 50% of the beneficiaries, members or participants of the eligible pension fund were individual residents of the \_\_\_\_\_ or Japan as of the prior taxable period.

**(Name of the Pension Fund/IRA)**

<Place and Date>  
Place and Date

<Signature of Officer of Beneficiary>  
Authorized Signature(s)/Title(s)

## EXHIBIT 1

<b>TREATY ELIGIBLE PENSIONS</b>		
COUNTRY OF PENSION FUND	DESCRIPTION	QUALIFYING PLANS
<b>UNITED STATES</b>	<p>APPLIES TO A BENEFICIAL OWNER OF THE DRs THAT:</p> <p>1) IS NOT ENGAGED IN A TRADE OR BUSINESS IN JAPAN THROUGH A PERMANENT ESTABLISHMENT SITUATED IN JAPAN, WITHIN THE MEANING OF THE U.S. DOUBLE TAXATION TREATY WITH JAPAN</p> <p>2) IS A QUALIFYING "PENSION FUND" AS DEFINED ON PAGE 11 OF THE TECHNICAL EXPLANATION OF THE NEW TAX TREATY BETWEEN THE U.S. AND JAPAN, PUBLISHED BY THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY</p> <p>3) IS ABLE TO CERTIFY THAT MORE THAN 50 % OF THE BENEFICIARIES, MEMBERS OR PARTICIPANTS OF THE ELIGIBLE PENSION FUND WERE INDIVIDUAL RESIDENTS OF THE U.S. OR JAPAN AS OF THE PRIOR TAXABLE PERIOD.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- QUALIFIED PLANS UNDER SECTION 401(A)</li> <li>- INDIVIDUAL RETIREMENT PLANS (INCLUDING THOSE THAT ARE A PART OF A SIMPLIFIED EMPLOYEE PENSION PLAN THAT SATISFIES 408(K))</li> <li>- INDIVIDUAL RETIREMENT ACCOUNTS, INDIVIDUAL RETIREMENT ANNUITIES, SECTION 408(P) ACCOUNTS</li> <li>- ROTH IRAS UNDER SECTION 408 A</li> <li>- SECTION 457 GOVERNMENTAL PLANS</li> <li>- SECTION 403(A) QUALIFIED ANNUITY PLANS</li> <li>- SECTION 403(B) PLANS</li> <li>- SECTION 401(K) PLANS QUALIFY AS PENSION FUNDS BECAUSE A 401(K) PLAN IS A TYPE OF 401(A) PLAN.</li> <li>- ANY OTHER FUND IDENTICAL OR SUBSTANTIALLY SIMILAR TO THE FOREGOING SCHEMES THAT ARE ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO LEGISLATION INTRODUCED AFTER THE DATE OF SIGNATURE OF THE CONVENTION.</li> </ul>
<b>UNITED KINGDOM</b>	<p>APPLIES TO A BENEFICIAL OWNER OF THE DRs THAT:</p> <p>1) IS NOT ENGAGED IN A TRADE OR BUSINESS IN JAPAN THROUGH A PERMANENT ESTABLISHMENT SITUATED IN JAPAN, WITHIN THE MEANING OF THE U.K. DOUBLE TAXATION TREATY WITH JAPAN,</p> <p>2) IS A QUALIFYING "PENSION FUND" AS DEFINED BY ARTICLE 22, PARAGRAPH 2(E) OF THE INCOME TAX CONVENTION BETWEEN JAPAN AND THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND, PUBLISHED BY THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE JAPAN</p> <p>3) IS ABLE TO CERTIFY THAT MORE THAN 50 % OF THE BENEFICIARIES, MEMBERS OR PARTICIPANTS OF THE ELIGIBLE PENSION FUND WERE INDIVIDUAL RESIDENTS OF THE U.K. OR JAPAN AS OF THE PRIOR TAXABLE PERIOD.</p>	
<b>SWITZERLAND</b>	<p>APPLIES TO A BENEFICIAL OWNER OF THE DRs THAT:</p> <p>1) IS NOT ENGAGED IN A TRADE OR BUSINESS IN JAPAN THROUGH A PERMANENT ESTABLISHMENT SITUATED IN JAPAN, WITHIN THE MEANING OF SWITZERLAND DOUBLE TAXATION TREATY WITH JAPAN,</p> <p>2) IS A QUALIFYING "PENSION FUND" AS DEFINED BY ARTICLE 22A, PARAGRAPH 2(E) OF THE INCOME TAX CONVENTION BETWEEN JAPAN AND SWITZERLAND, PUBLISHED BY THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE JAPAN</p> <p>3) IS ABLE TO CERTIFY THAT MORE THAN 50 % OF THE BENEFICIARIES, MEMBERS OR PARTICIPANTS OF THE ELIGIBLE PENSION FUND WERE INDIVIDUAL RESIDENTS OF SWITZERLAND OR JAPAN AS OF THE PRIOR TAXABLE PERIOD.</p>	
<b>NETHERLANDS</b>	<p>APPLIES TO A BENEFICIAL OWNER OF THE DRs THAT:</p> <p>1) IS NOT ENGAGED IN A TRADE OR BUSINESS IN JAPAN THROUGH A PERMANENT ESTABLISHMENT SITUATED IN JAPAN, WITHIN THE MEANING OF THE NETHERLANDS DOUBLE TAXATION TREATY WITH JAPAN,</p> <p>2) IS A QUALIFYING "PENSION FUND" AS DEFINED BY ARTICLE 21, PARAGRAPH 2(D) OF THE INCOME TAX CONVENTION BETWEEN JAPAN AND THE NETHERLANDS PUBLISHED BY THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE JAPAN</p> <p>3) IS ABLE TO CERTIFY THAT MORE THAT 50 % OF THE BENEFICIARIES, MEMBERS OR PARTICIPANTS OF THE ELIGIBLE PENSION FUND WERE INDIVIDUAL RESIDENTS OF THE NETHERLANDS OR JAPAN AS OF THE PRIOR TAXABLE PERIOD.</p>	