

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

September 29, 2016

The Honorable Irving Williamson
Chairman
U.S. International Trade Commission
500 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20436

RE: USITC Investigation 332-557, Global Competitiveness of the U.S. Aluminum Industry

Dear Chairman Williamson,

As members of the Congressional Aluminum Caucus, we appreciate the attention that the Commission is giving to investigating factors affecting the global competitiveness of the U.S. aluminum industry. Our Congressional districts are directly impacted by the successes and challenges of U.S. aluminum producers in a global market and look forward to a comprehensive and detailed report that will be provided next year to the House Ways and Means Committee.

The aluminum industry is a critical economic and strategic element to the U.S. economy and to the communities where it employs thousands of workers. The aluminum industry represents \$186 billion of economic activity and employs over 160,000 workers. The contribution of aluminum products to our quality of life, our national security, and the economic well-being of numerous American communities cannot be overstated.

Aluminum products are used in everything from fuel efficient vehicles to sustainable packaging to green buildings, not to mention thousands of consumer products from cans to step ladders. The great news is that demand for aluminum products is growing in the United States and around the globe. At the September 29th hearing, the USITC will hear from many of the companies that are making aluminum products.

As promising as the demand outlook is for aluminum, the industry faces a number of challenges that are inhibiting an even brighter future for U.S. producers. Under normal circumstances, U.S. aluminum producers and workers would be well-positioned to benefit from increasing demand. However, as representatives of the U.S. industry will testify, the global supply of aluminum is far outpacing demand growth.

That fact is threatening the viability of the U.S. aluminum industry and its workers. Specifically, a large surge in capacity and production by Chinese producers over the past decade, and particularly over the past five years, has depressed global prices and has adversely affected both primary and secondary aluminum producers in the United States. We trust the Commission will examine factors driving increased Chinese production and the implications of global oversupply in its research and report.

We want to thank you for the work of the Commission and its staff on this endeavor. If we can be of any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,



Suzan DelBene
Member of Congress
Aluminum Caucus Co-Chairman



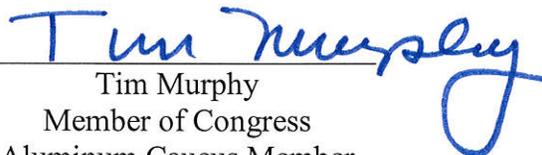
Bill Johnson
Member of Congress
Aluminum Caucus Co-Chairman



Dave Loeb sack
Member of Congress
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Larry Bucshon
Member of Congress
Aluminum Caucus Co-Chairman



Tim Murphy
Member of Congress
Aluminum Caucus Member