



**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

The Honorable Joseph Biden  
Vice President  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20500

March 10, 2010

Dear Vice President Biden:

As members of the Congressional Steel Caucus and strong supporters of domestic manufacturing, we write to request that you act to prohibit disbursement of funds under section 1603 of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) until the Energy Secretary can certify that renewable energy projects are using American-made equipment and creating good-paying American jobs. A recent report by American University's Investigative Reporting Workshop (IRW) found that of the \$2.1 billion in ARRA grant money distributed by the Department of Energy (DOE), 80 percent went to foreign corporations. Clearly, section 1603 grants made by the DOE are not fully adhering to "Buy America" provisions in the ARRA.

The IRW report states that of the 28 wind farm projects receiving taxpayer grants, nearly 70 percent of the 1,807 wind turbines installed were built by foreign manufacturers. For every 100 megawatts of wind power, 70 jobs are supported by installing new turbines, but 300 jobs are supported in manufacturing according to the Renewable Energy Policy Project. Enforcing the ARRA "Buy America" provisions would expand opportunities in domestic manufacturing, a sector of our economy particularly devastated by the recession.

This is not the first instance of taxpayer resources from ARRA being used to create jobs overseas instead of in America. In a December 2, 2009 letter to the administration, the Steel Caucus expressed concern that ARRA money would be used to finance a 36,000 acre wind power farm in Texas that utilized wind turbines manufactured in China even though the manufacturing capacity for these wind turbines exists at steel facilities located throughout the United States.

The funding provided to DOE through the ARRA was intended to further the goal of energy independence while putting Americans back to work. If "Buy America" provisions are not enforced, then we stand ready to pursue legislation that will ensure DOE follows congressional intent and ensures grant recipients purchase American-made equipment only. We stand ready to assist you in any way should you have any questions

or need any additional material. Thank you for your time and attention to this important issue. We look forward to your prompt reply and action on this matter.

Sincerely,

  
TIM MURPHY  
Member of Congress

  
BART STUPAK  
Member of Congress