

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

September 30, 2013

The Hon. Irving A. Williamson  
Chairman  
U.S. International Trade Commission  
500 E Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20436

*RE: Hot-Rolled Steel Products from China, India, Indonesia, Taiwan, Thailand, and Ukraine, Inv. Nos. 701-TA-405, 406, and 408 and 731-TA-899-901 and 906-908 (Second Review)*

Dear Chairman Williamson,

We are writing to urge the Commission to maintain countervailing duties ("CVD") on imports of hot-rolled steel from India, Indonesia, and Thailand; and to maintain antidumping ("AD") duties on imports of hot-rolled steel from China, India, Indonesia, Taiwan, Thailand, and Ukraine. The Department of Commerce has already determined that if the AD/CVD orders at issue are revoked, imports from the subject countries will again be dumped and subsidized. The only question left for the Commission is whether those unfairly-traded imports will likely cause material injury to domestic producers. This is certainly the case.

Domestic producers of hot-rolled steel are recovering from one of the worst economic crises in U.S. history. According to one estimate, U.S. consumption of hot-rolled steel fell by over 43 percent from 2007 to 2009. As a result, domestic producers suffered massive losses. Data in a recent Commission proceeding showed that in 2009, operating losses of U.S. mills totaled \$2.3 billion, while almost 18 percent of the U.S. workforce making hot-rolled steel lost their jobs. Furthermore, by last year U.S. consumption had still not returned to 2007 levels. These facts strongly indicate that U.S. mills are in no position to face a new surge of unfair trade.

There is compelling evidence to support our position that subject imports will return to the American market in significant volumes without action by the Commission. By one estimate the subject countries have almost 84 million tons of excess hot-rolling capacity — the inevitable result of the very market-distorting practices that led to the orders at issue. China, India, and the other subject countries are some of the world's most egregious practitioners of unfair trade and market-distorting practices. Accordingly, there is little doubt that the subject producers are incentivized to make sales wherever possible — especially in a market as large and open as this one. If even a relatively minor portion of their unused capacity is used to ship dumped and subsidized hot-rolled steel to this market, the results would be devastating.

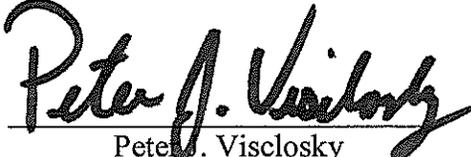
In addition, we understand that many of the subject producers have refused to participate in the Commission's proceeding, or to provide any information in response to

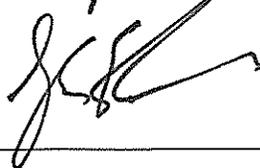
Commission requests. For companies that have failed to cooperate to be rewarded by having the orders at issue revoked would not only seriously harm U.S. workers and businesses, but would also run counter the spirit of the open and transparent process codified in statute by Congress.

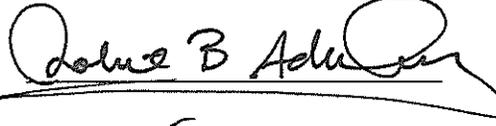
For years, Congress has relied upon this Commission to aggressively enforce our nation's trade laws. We believe that by doing so, you give American workers confidence that they are competing on a level playing field, and that our trade policy rewards hard work and innovation — not illegal behavior or unfair practices. At a time of enormous challenges for the U.S. economy — and for U.S. manufacturers in particular — it is absolutely vital that the Commission strictly and strongly enforce our trade laws. We urge you to do so here, and to keep this critical relief in place.

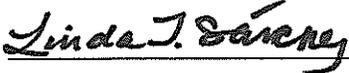
Respectfully submitted,

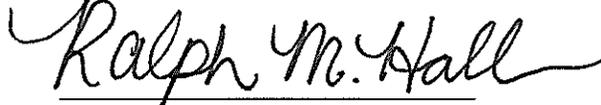
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Tim Murphy  
Chairman  
Congressional Steel Caucus

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Peter J. Visclosky  
Vice Chairman  
Congressional Steel Caucus

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
  
\_\_\_\_\_

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
  
\_\_\_\_\_

  
\_\_\_\_\_

  
\_\_\_\_\_

  
\_\_\_\_\_

  
\_\_\_\_\_

Alfred Sany

Jim Stowell

Wally Stokker  
Tom Rice

Carl Rutter

Del B...

Jeff Laback

Bob Mills

Janis B. Miller

Mo Brooks

Lee Davis

Richard Hedden

Gregg Hoyer

Mike Doyle

Mark...

Sam...

Dave Laback

Robert Pittenger

G. Butler

Shelley Moore Capito

Joe Wilson

J. T. Burt

Marcial Ojeda

Betty McClellan

Bill Johnson

Michael M. Michalek

Doug Peters

Mike Rahall

Paul Hingle

Michael R. Jensen

Bill Just

Tim Walberg

Michelle A.

Willie L. Ewart

Daniel Lipinski

Tim Ryan

Steve Cohen

Dillon MO-07

Adam Rie

James E. Ryan

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_