

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

July 31, 2013

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

Re: Oil Country Tubular Goods (OCTG) from India, Korea, Philippines, Saudi Arabia, Taiwan, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine, and Vietnam (701-TA-499-500 and 731-TA-1215-1223 (Preliminary))

Dear Chairman Williamson:

We are writing to express support for our constituents in the domestic steel industry as it pertains to the ongoing investigation of unfairly-traded imports from countries in the above-referenced case filed on July 2, 2013.

The U.S. oil country tubular goods industry (OCTG) represents a critical segment in our nation's steel sector. Domestic pipe and tube makers produce highly advanced and valuable products that serve an array of energy producers and midstream companies. The health of the domestic OCTG industry is essential to the country's ability to secure energy independence and take full advantage of the economic opportunity posed by development of offshore resources and vast new shale play areas. OCTG manufacturers are also important customers of the nation's steel industry, acquiring the flat-rolled and billet products necessary to make OCTG finished goods.

While this segment of the steel industry has fought back to recover from the recession, the growth in development of the Marcellus Shale, Barnett Shale, and other oil and gas fields was looked at as a promising opportunity for manufacturers. Instead, the industry has faced a continued onslaught of unfairly-traded and illegally subsidized imports from the above-named countries.

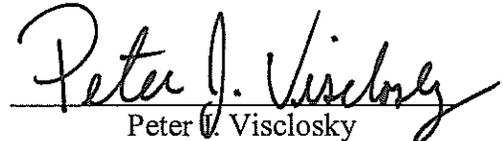
Imports of OCTG from the subject countries increased from 840,000 net tons in 2010 to more than 1,770,000 net tons in 2012. The rise in imports has continued into 2013 and, as a result, the domestic industry has experienced lost sales and a deterioration of its financial position — even in a period of historically strong demand. Import data show that prices for subject products have been consistently and dramatically undersold in the market; the petitions in these proceedings allege dumping margins that typically exceed 30 percent, and in most cases are far higher.

Unfairly-traded imports cannot be allowed to take sales and jobs away from American workers and employers. It is particularly troubling in the context of an industry that has seen repeated surges of unfair trade in recent years. At a time when manufacturing and employment is still depressed, it is vital that the Commission take action to ensure American producers can compete on a level playing field.

The Commission must fully and effectively enforce our trade laws, and ensure that foreign producers refusing to play by the rules are not permitted to injure American workers and companies. Therefore, we urge you to make an affirmative preliminary determination in this proceeding and allow a full and comprehensive investigation of the allegations in the petitions.

Sincerely,


Tim Murphy
Chairman
Congressional Steel Caucus


Peter J. Visclosky
Vice Chairman
Congressional Steel Caucus


Robert Brady
Member of Congress

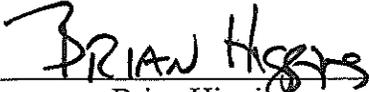

Rick Crawford
Member of Congress


Mike Doyle
Member of Congress

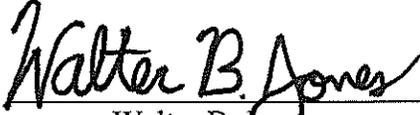

William Enyart
Member of Congress


Gene Green
Member of Congress


Ralph Hall
Member of Congress

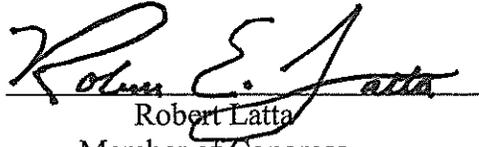

Brian Higgins
Member of Congress

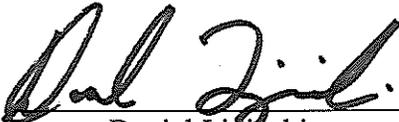

Bill Johnson
Member of Congress


Walter B. Jones
Member of Congress

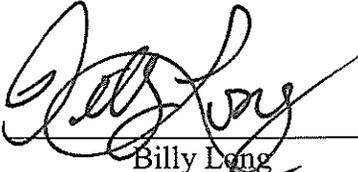

Marcy Kaptur
Member of Congress

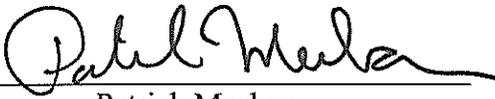

Mike Kelly
Member of Congress

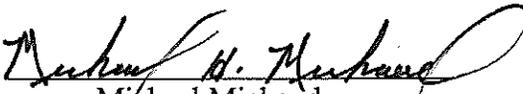

Robert Latta
Member of Congress


Daniel Lipinski
Member of Congress

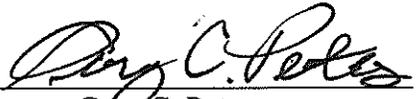

Dave Loebsack
Member of Congress


Billy Long
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Patrick Meehan
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Michael Michaud
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Shelley Moore Capito
Member of Congress



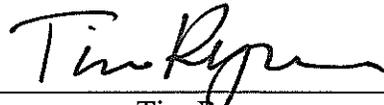
Gary C. Peters
Member of Congress



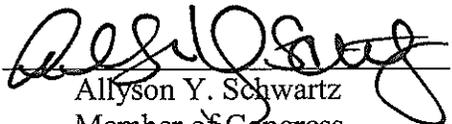
Nick J. Rahall, II
Member of Congress



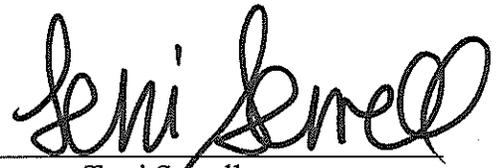
Keith Rothfus
Member of Congress



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Allyson Y. Schwartz
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Tim Walberg
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