

*International Trade Commission
Hearing on Countervailing Duty and Antidumping Investigations
On Oil Country Tubular Goods from South Korea
July 15, 2014
Statement of Hon. Mike Doyle*

Good morning Chairman Broadbent and Members of the Commission. I want to thank you for giving me the opportunity to testify before you today regarding the harm caused by unfairly traded imports of Oil Country Tubular Goods. Your review is crucial to America's steel industry, as it focuses on the latest example of how the industry remains under siege by foreign producers who flood the U.S. market with unfairly traded steel products. This has been a decades-long problem for this vital American industry, and it is essential that this panel continues to enforce our trade laws to ensure the survival of this pivotal sector of our economy.

You will hear today that unfairly traded imports have prevented us from realizing the promise of America's energy renaissance. Not only have we lost the opportunity to create new jobs, we have actually had layoffs at plants that produce the steel used in energy development. That is unacceptable.

I want to be clear that I am a strong supporter of fair trade when there is a level playing field – because I have every confidence that when given an equal shot, American workers can and will be able to surpass their competition. American workers are some of the most hardworking and productive people in the world, and I challenge any country to supply a better, more dedicated workforce.

To that end, it is our responsibility to make sure that the playing field is, in fact, even, and to prevent other countries with horrendous labor practices and -below market pricing that make it impossible for us to compete. Allowing the subject countries to continue with their unfair trading practices has real life implications. U.S. Steel issued a WARN notice for the closures of two mills, one located in McKeesport, Pennsylvania, in the

heart of my district. This means the loss of hundreds of jobs locally, and could ultimately affect more than half of a million jobs nationwide if we allow the American Steel Industry to fail. The demand for OCTG is skyrocketing – and the United States should be reaping the same benefits as our competitors.

I have spent a lot of time over the last 20 years urging our government to stand up for American manufacturing and impose internationally approved remedies like countervailing duties. Utilizing these tools is how we protect U.S. Industry, and thereby how we strengthen our economy. Today, Oil Country Tubular Goods are just the latest class of foreign steel products that are receiving unfair subsidization and distorting the markets, and it must end.

As you know, I represent the 14th District of Pennsylvania, including the city of Pittsburgh, and the people of my district know steel as well as any community in America. Our city was largely build on steel, but unfairly traded imports keep threatening to tear it down. The U.S. Steel industry is still the best in the world, and it will survive as long as others are forced to play by the rules. It cannot, however, compete effectively against foreign producers who persistently engage in unfair trade practices. Therefore I urge you to fulfill your obligation to uphold U.S. Trade Laws and give the American steel industry the tools to succeed.

I thank you for the opportunity to present my views today and would be happy to respond to any questions you may have.