Re: USITC’s Freedom of Information Act Request 14-01

Dear [Name]

This is in response to your e-mail request dated October 21, 2013, which we received October 22, 2013. In that document you requested, pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), copies of all correspondence between the Commissioners and (1) Rep. Bill Cassidy or William “Bill” Cassidy from January 3, 2009 to present (2) Rep Steve Daines or Steven Daly “Steve” Daines from January 3, 2013 to present (3) Rep Shelley Capito or Shelley Moore Capito from January 3, 2001 to present (4) Rep “Jack” Kingston or John Heddens “Jack” Kingston from January 3, 1993 to present (5) Rep Paul Broun or Paul Collins Broun, Jr. from July 17, 2007 to present (6) Rep Phil Gingrey or John Phillip “Phil” Gingrey from January 3, 2003 to present, and (7) Rep Tom Cotton or Thomas B. “Tom” Cotton from January 3, 2013 to present.

We have found documents responsive to your request. They are enclosed.

The Commission makes a public docket, BDIS, available on the Internet at http://edis.usitc.gov. You may want to use that application’s search capability for further research.

Please feel free to call me or Jacqueline Gross on 202-205-2000 with any questions.

Sincerely,

Lisa R. Barton
Acting Secretary
Enclosures

1. Letter dated August 27, 2013 to the Honorable Bill Cassidy from Chairman Irving A. Williamson
2. Letter dated August 14, 2013 to the Honorable Shelley Moore Capito from Chairman Irving A. Williamson
3. Letter dated August 9, 2013 to Chairman Irving A. Williamson from the Honorable Shelley Moore Capito
4. Letter dated July 31, 2013 to Chairman Irving A. Williamson from the Honorable Shelley Moore Capito
5. Testimony dated July 18, 2013 from the Honorable Shelley Moore Capito to Chairman Irving A. Williamson and the Commission
6. Letter dated June 18, 2013 to the Honorable Phil Gingrey from Chairman Irving A. Williamson
7. Letter dated June 7, 2013 to Chairman Irving A. Williamson from the Honorable Phil Gingrey
8. Letter dated September 19, 2012 to the Honorable Shelley Moore Capito from Chairman Irving A. Williamson
9. Letter dated August 30, 2012 to Chairman Irving A. Williamson from the Honorable Shelley Moore Capito
10. Letter dated July 26, 2010 to Chairman Deanna Tanner Okun from the Honorable Shelley Moore Capito
11. Letter dated July 16, 2010 to Chairman Deanna Tanner Okun from the Honorable Shelley Moore Capito
12. Letter dated October 27, 2006 to the Honorable Shelley Moore Capito from Chairman Daniel R. Pearson
13. Letter dated October 24, 2006 to Chairman Daniel R. Pearson from the Honorable Shelley Moore Capito
15. Letter dated August 11, 2006 to Chairman Daniel R. Pearson from the Honorable Shelley Moore Capito
16. Letter dated June 20, 2005 to the Honorable Jack Kingston from Chairman Stephen Koplan
17. Letter dated December 15, 2004 to the Honorable Jack Kingston from Chairman Stephen Koplan
18. Letter dated November 30, 2004 to Chairman Stephen Koplan from the Honorable Jack Kingston
19. Letter dated June 12, 1996 to the Honorable Jack Kingston from Chairman Peter S. Watson
20. Letter dated April 12, 1996 to Chairman Peter S. Watson from the Honorable Jack Kingston
The Honorable Bill Cassidy  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515  

Dear Representative Cassidy:

Thank you for your joint letter of August 9, 2013, with 11 fellow members of the U.S. House of Representatives concerning Commission countervailing duty investigations Nos. 701-TA-491-497 (Final), Frozen Warmwater Shrimp from China, Ecuador, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, and Vietnam. You note the importance of the U.S. shrimp industry to the Gulf region, and ask that the Commission, in making its determinations, give full and fair consideration to the facts and positions submitted by the industry.

Your letter has been made a part of the Commission's record in these investigations, and the information you provide will be considered by the Commission when it makes its determinations. The Commission is currently scheduled to vote on its determinations on September 20, 2013, and to file its determinations and written views by October 1, 2013. The Commission will post a news release announcing its decisions on its website at www.usitc.gov shortly after it votes, and will post a copy of the public version of its determinations and written views on its website shortly after they are filed.

The U.S. Department of Commerce has made affirmative final determinations in its investigations with respect to the subject imports from China, Ecuador, India, Malaysia, and Vietnam, and has made negative final determinations with respect to the subject imports from Indonesia and Thailand. If the Commission makes affirmative final determinations in one or more its investigations with respect to subject imports from China, Ecuador, India, Malaysia, and Vietnam, Commerce will issue countervailing duty orders on imports of the products that are the subject of those affirmative determinations.

We appreciate your interest in these investigations, and thank you again for writing.

Sincerely,

Irving A. Williamson
The Honorable Irving A. Williamson
Chairman

The Honorable Daniel R. Pearson
The Honorable Shara L. Atanoff
The Honorable Dean A. Pinkert
The Honorable David S. Johnson
The Honorable Meredith Broadbent
Commissioners

U.S. International Trade Commission
500 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20436

Re: Frozen Warmwater Shrimp from China, Ecuador, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, and Vietnam Inv. Nos. 701-TA-491-497.

Dear Chairman Williamson and Commissioners:

On behalf of the U.S. shrimp industry in the Gulf region, we are writing to ask that full and fair consideration be provided in the International Trade Commission’s (ITC) investigation of whether the U.S. domestic shrimp industry has been materially injured by subsidized imports of frozen warmwater shrimp from China, Ecuador, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, and Vietnam. Relief from massively subsidized shrimp imports from these seven countries is crucial not only to the overall long-term survival of the entire Gulf shrimp industry, but to the economic and cultural well-being of this region as a whole.

The U.S. shrimp industry in the Gulf and South Atlantic states is responsible for tens of thousands of jobs and is a revenue source that contributes well over $1 billion dollars annually to the U.S. economy. Beyond being the life-blood of the area with its huge economic impact, the shrimp industry is integral to the rich cultural traditions of the Gulf region. It is thanks to the many family-owned and operated companies that have worked in our country for generations, that Gulf shrimp has an enviable reputation as being of the highest quality across the globe.

Sadly, we believe the vitality of the U.S. shrimp industry is gravely threatened by unfair competition from abroad. It has been widely reported that China, Ecuador, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, and Vietnam are all unfairly subsidizing their shrimp industries using tactics such as large government grants, loans far below market rates, debt forgiveness, extensive tax breaks, as well as countless export subsidies. We are told that these subsidized imports have suppressed and depressed the prices U.S. producers are able to get for their product, making it increasingly more difficult for them to simply cover their costs of production. In fact, the Department of Commerce found preliminary subsidy margins ranging from 1% to 62% in May 2013, and have instructed Customs and Border Protection to begin collecting bonds to cover the duties. Additionally, when the Coalition of Gulf Shrimp Industries (COGSI) filed this case in December 2012, they documented a staggering $13.5 billion dollars from more than 100 alleged specific subsidy programs from these seven countries. Together, the subject countries exported over 833 million pounds of shrimp to the United States in 2012, worth nearly $3.6 billion dollars, and accounting for eighty-nine percent of U.S. shrimp imports and over three quarters of the domestic market.
We hope that throughout the investigation process, it becomes increasingly clear that imposing duties to counter the harmful foreign subsidies is critical to the survival of the U.S. shrimp industry and the way of life of the thousands of shrimpers, docks and processors across the Gulf states. It is time to confront their abuses of the international trade system and counter any unfair trade practices. Thus, we strongly urge you give the facts and positions submitted by the U.S. shrimp industry in the Gulf region full and fair consideration and to fully enforce the U.S. trade remedy laws, allowing the domestic industry to be able to compete under fair and market conditions.

Sincerely,

Charles W. Boustany, Jr.
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

Steve Scalise
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

Bill Cassidy
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

Terri A. Sewell
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

Bennie G. Thompson
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

Alan Nunnelee
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

Cedric Richmond
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

Rodney Alexander
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

Walter B. Jones
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

Steve Scalise
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

Jack Kingston
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

Mike McIntyre
MEMBER OF CONGRESS
August 23, 2006

The Honorable Shelley Moore Capito
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Capito:

Thank you for your letter of August 11, 2006, concerning the Commission’s investigation Nos. 701-TA-442-443 and 731-TA-1095-1097 (Final), Certain Lined Paper School Supplies from China, India, and Indonesia. You note the importance of the paper industry to West Virginia, and express support for the position of the domestic industry and its workers.

Your letter has been made part of the Commission’s record in these investigations, and it will be considered by the Commission when it makes its determinations.

The Commission is currently scheduled to vote on its determinations on September 1, 2006, and will transmit its determinations, written views, and summary of information in the record to the U.S. Department of Commerce by September 21, 2006. The Commission will post a copy of its press release announcing its vote on its website at www.usito.gov shortly after the vote, and will post the public version of its determinations and written views on its website shortly after they are transmitted to Commerce.

We appreciate your interest in these investigations, and thank you for writing.

Sincerely,

Daniel R. Pearson
Daniel R. Pearson

Your ongoing interest in the Commission’s activities is appreciated.
From: David L. Pressman  
Chairman  
U.S. International Trade Commission  
530 5th Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20599  

To: Hon. Shelley Capito  
Chairman  
U.S. Senate Committee on Appropriations  
U.S. Senate, Dirksen Bldg.  
Washington, D.C. 20510  

August 14, 2006

Subject: School Supplies: Recent developments

Dear Chairman Capito:

I am writing to urge support for the domestic industry and workers producing certain metal products for school supplies. The industry is seeking relief from a flood of dumped and subsidized imports from China, India, and Indonesia. I understand that, after you receive this letter, the U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC) will announce its determination that these imports have caused injury to the domestic industry.

The school supplies industry is an important component of the West Virginia economy. Many of the workers in this industry are represented by the United Steel, Paper, and Forest Product Workers' International Union (USW). The USW represents thousands of workers in West Virginia in the paper, steel, and other industries. The USW estimates that it represents upwards of 5,000 workers in West Virginia.

I understand that some of the domestic producers of school supplies claim that dumped and subsidized school supplies are harming the domestic industry and its workers. As members of the U.S. industry, they have identified for this case the Commission finds that the statutory indicators of injury are present in their industry, regardless of the identity of the importer.

Thank you for your consideration of my views.

With best regards,

[Signature]

Chairman McCaprio, M.C.

[CO]

Shelby Capito  
Vice Chairman  
Senator Blanche Lincoln - Commissioner  
Stephen Kappel - Commissioner  
Bongino Thomas O'Nan - Commissioner  
Charlotte Lott - Commissioner
October 27, 2006

The Honorable Shelley Moore Capito
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Capito:

Thank you for your letter of October 13, 2006, concerning the Commission’s reviews in antidumping and countervailing duty investigation Nos. AA1921-197 (Second Review), 701-TA-319, 320, 325-327, 348, and 350 (Second Review); and 731-TA-573, 574, 576, 578, 582-587, 612, and 614-618 (Second Review), Certain Carbon Steel Products from Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Finland, France, Germany, Japan, Korea, Mexico, Poland, Romania, Spain, Sweden, Taiwan, and the United Kingdom. You note the importance of the steel industry to West Virginia and the nation, and express concern that a recurrence of dumping in the absence of the orders would be devastating to the recovery efforts still underway in the U.S. steel industry.

Your letter has been made part of the Commission’s record in these reviews, and the information you provided will be considered by the Commission when it makes its determinations. The Commission will also consider the information and arguments submitted by all the participants in the reviews, including the testimony provided at the Commission’s public hearings on October 17 and 19.

Under the statute, the Commission must determine whether revocation of the subject orders would be likely to lead to continuation or recurrence of material injury within a reasonably foreseeable time to the relevant domestic industry. The Commission expects to vote on its determinations in mid-December of this year, and will post a copy of its press release announcing the vote on its website at www.usitc.gov shortly thereafter.

We appreciate your interest in these reviews, and thank you for writing.

Sincerely,

Daniel R. Pearson
Dear Mr. Chairman:

I am writing with respect to the International Trade Commission’s sunset hearing on antidumping ("AD") and countervailing duty ("CVD") orders with respect to corrosion-resistant steel and cut-to-length plate.

Fair enforcement of AD/CVD laws is an important part of our country’s trade law. American workers can compete with anyone in the world on a fair and level playing field. Unfair trade practices make competition impossible for domestic companies and have cost thousands of jobs and decimated cities across the country.

The corrosion resistant steel case is one of particular importance to West Virginia and the entire country because of its impact on two of America’s most vital industries – the steel industry and the auto industry. Both of these sectors have had their recent struggles and many thousands of American workers have lost their jobs as a result.

Current AD/CVD orders were put in place in 1993 when the ITC found that the domestic steel industry was harmed by dumped and subsidized imports that increased by 450,000 net tons between 1990 and 1992 at a time when the domestic industry saw its operating income decrease by 81 percent. The orders were effective in reducing subject imports by 48 percent.

I support efforts aimed at protecting America’s auto industry and believe that they should have the opportunity to purchase steel at a fair market price. The steel industry has not fully recovered from a series of damaging, illegal trade practices over the past two decades. Steel companies are in the midst of restructuring their business models to enhance efficiencies and ensure their long term competitiveness. A recurrence of dumping with margins ranging from 10 to 36 percent as the Department of Commerce estimates would be devastating to these efforts.

I ask that as you consider this case you ensure that fair trade practices are implemented to protect jobs in both the auto and steel sectors.

Sincerely,

Shelley Moore Capito
Shelley Moore Capito, M.C.
The Honorable Shelley Moore Capito  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Capito:

Thank you for your letter of July 16, 2010, concerning the Commission's investigation No. 337-TA-688, Certain Hybrid Electric Vehicles and Components Thereof, which the Commission is conducting under section 337 of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1337). You express concern about the impact that an action in this investigation might have on the U.S. economy and on West Virginia, including employees at Toyota's engine and transmission plant in Buffalo, West Virginia, and Toyota dealers in West Virginia.

Since the time of your letter, several developments have occurred relating to this investigation: (1) the parties in the investigation have entered into a settlement agreement; (2) the parties have filed a motion (on July 19, 2010) with the Commission's administrative law judge (ALJ) assigned to this matter asking that he issue an initial determination terminating the investigation on the basis of that agreement; and (3) the ALJ (on July 22, 2010) has issued an initial determination to such effect.

The matter is now before the Commission. The ALJ's initial determination will become the Commission's determination unless the Commission decides to review it. The Commission is in the process of considering whether to review the initial determination and, once it decides, will post a notice announcing its decision on its website at www.usitc.gov.

We appreciate your interest in this investigation, and thank you again for writing.

Sincerely,

Deanna Tanner Okun

Chairman
The Honorable Deanna Okun  
International Trade Commission  
500 E Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20436  

Re: Investigation No. 337-TA-688  

Chairman Okun:  

I am writing to express my concern about a pending investigation before the International Trade Commission (ITC) regarding Toyota's hybrid technology. I understand that a petitioner, Paice, LLC, is seeking to ban imports of certain Toyota hybrid vehicles and engines. West Virginia is home to a Toyota plant that manufactures engines and transmissions, and 13 Toyota dealerships, so I am keenly interested in the outcome of this investigation.

An exclusion order requested by Paice, LLC could adversely impact the production of hybrid vehicles throughout the United States according to Toyota Motor Corporation. Most importantly, I am concerned about the impact it could have on the economy. Toyota’s hybrid engines are currently used to produce the Camry Hybrid and a ban could deny U.S. consumers one of the most popular, fuel efficient vehicles on the road today.

With a plant located in Buffalo, West Virginia, Toyota employs over 1,000 workers in my district who depend on the continued production of Toyota engines. In the midst of an economic downturn, the possibility of further job losses in West Virginia and around the country is distressing.

I would urge the Commission to look carefully at the implications a negative ruling could have on our economy when considering this investigation. I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Shelley Moore Capito, M.C.
The Honorable Shelley Moore Capito  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515  

Dear Representative Capito:

Thank you for your letter of August 30, 2012, concerning the Commission’s antidumping duty reviews in investigations Nos. 731-TA-671-673 (Third Review), Silicomanganese from Brazil, China, and Ukraine. You indicate the importance of the antidumping duty orders to the employees of Felman Productions, Inc., which produces the domestic product in your district in Letart, West Virginia. You express support for continuation of the orders.

Your letter has been made a part of the Commission’s record in these reviews, and the information you provided will be considered by the Commission when it votes on its determinations. The Commission held a public hearing in these reviews on September 5, 2012, and representatives of the domestic industry, including Felman, participated. The Commission is scheduled to vote on its determinations on October 11, 2012, and to transmit its determinations and written views to the U.S. Department of Commerce on or about October 24, 2012. The Commission will issue a news release announcing its decisions shortly after the vote, and will post copies of the news release and the public version of its determinations and written views on its website at www.usitc.gov shortly after they become available.

Commerce has already made affirmative determinations in its reviews, finding that revocation of the antidumping duty orders would likely lead to continuation or recurrence of dumping. For each review on which the Commission makes an affirmative determination that revoking the existing antidumping duty order would be likely to lead to continuation or recurrence of material injury within a reasonably foreseeable time, Commerce will continue the antidumping duty order.

We appreciate your interest in these reviews, and thank you again for writing.

Sincerely,

Irving A. Williamson
August 30, 2012

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

Re: Silicomanganese from Brazil, China, and Ukraine  
Inv. Nos. 731-TA-671-673 (Third Review)

Dear Chairman Williamson:

I am writing today in strong support of continuation of the antidumping duty orders on imports of silicomanganese from Brazil, China and Ukraine, which are currently under review by the Commission. One of the two domestic producers of silicomanganese is Felman Production, LLC, which is located in my district in Letart, West Virginia. I am very concerned about what could happen to Felman Production and its more than 250 hard-working employees if these orders were not to be continued. In fact, revoking the orders might well open the door to a surge of dumped imports into our market.

As you likely know from reviewing the record, Felman Production, LLC, began operations in 2006 and is now a major local employer. In fact, in 2011, Felman Production accounted for about 35 percent of all manufacturing workers within Mason County. Additionally, Felman Production’s positive impact on the local economy encompasses more than just providing good jobs. A recent study by the College of Business and Economics of West Virginia University concluded that Felman Production has contributed significant revenue to both Mason County and the State. Specifically, Felman Production’s operations have contributed over $150 million to Mason County and over $166 million to the West Virginia economy as a whole. And in 2011, Felman Production’s expenditures of over $119 million generated nearly $32 million of additional economic activity in Mason County.

Considering the current high unemployment rates both nationally and in Mason County, I believe it is of the utmost importance to protect the jobs offered by domestic manufacturers like Felman Production in the face of foreign competition.

1 Economic Impact of Felman Production, Inc. on West Virginia 2011, Bureau of Business and Economic Research, College of Business and Economics, West Virginia University, at 3-5 (January 2012).

2 Id. at 4.
Felman Production against unfair trade. The evidence in the public record compiled by your staff makes clear that Brazil, China, and Ukraine are focused on growing their already massive silicomanganese industries. Additionally, the Commission’s Public Prehearing Staff Report indicates that the subject countries also remain substantially export-oriented due to significant surplus product. Thus, there is little to stop subject producers from inundating the U.S. market with dumped imports if the orders are revoked.

Indeed, the domestic industry is also especially vulnerable to injury from unfair imports because silicomanganese, a ferroalloy used as an input in steel production, is a fungible commodity product. Thus, price is of critical importance to purchasers. Consequently, a flood of unfairly-priced imports would very likely decimate domestic producers who would be forced to lower their prices to unsustainable levels or cease production.

The International Trade Commission has now reviewed these orders twice. Each time, the Commission unanimously voted to keep the orders in place. I very much appreciate the role the Commission has played in continuing to ensure that West Virginia’s companies and workers are treated fairly when facing illegal trade practices.

In closing, I am quite certain that Felman Production’s entrance into the market in 2006 is due in large part to the discipline on import volumes and prices imposed by the orders on imports from Brazil, China, and Ukraine. When dumping of a foreign product into our market is offset by the imposition of an antidumping duty order, market conditions which had been distorted by the dumping are restored, and domestic industries can thrive.

I respectfully submit that these orders continue to be necessary to maintain conditions of fair competition and pricing in this important industry to West Virginia and the overall domestic economy. I am confident that you and your colleagues will carefully review the record that is being compiled in this sunset review and arrive at the same conclusion.

Sincerely,

Shelley Moore Capito
Shelley Moore Capito, M.C.
Chairman Williamson and Members of the Commission:

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to appear before you today in support of the jobs of hundreds of workers in my home state of West Virginia. I have been privileged to testify before the Commission during past cases impacting West Virginia’s steel industry. I also wrote to the commission when you considered a similar case related the dumping of silicomanganese from Brazil, China, and the Ukraine last year. I appreciate very much the important role that this Commission plays in making sure that American businesses are allowed to compete on a fair playing field against international competitors.

I am testifying today in strong support of the antidumping duty orders on imports of silicomanganese from India, Kazakhstan, and Venezuela. One of the two U.S. producers of silicomanganese is Felman Production, LLC, which is located in Letart, Mason County, West Virginia. When I wrote to the Commission last year, the facility was in my congressional district. While this year’s redistricting has left the facility just outside of my district, many Felman employees remain my constituents.

Felman Production employs over 270 hardworking West Virginians, whose jobs could be permanently lost if the antidumping orders are not renewed. After reviewing the data, I am convinced that revocation of the antidumping duty orders on silicomanganese from India, Kazakhstan, and Venezuela would lead to material injury to Felman Production.

Felman Production began operations in 2006, and has grown to become a major local employer in Mason County, West Virginia. A recent study by the College of Business and Economics of West Virginia University concluded that Felman Production has contributed significant revenue to both Mason County and the State. Between 2011 and 2012, the number of Felman’s workers increased from 256 to 273. In Mason County, Felman’s operation generated a total business volume impact of over $165 million. It is also worth noting that the 273 workers Felman employs account for about 41 percent of all manufacturing workers within Mason County. Felman Production alone accounts for three percent of the total property taxes in Mason County. In West Virginia’s economy as a whole, Felman’s operation generated over $187.2 million that supported 524 direct and indirect jobs and $31.2 million in employee compensation.

In addition, it is evident that Felman played an important role in attracting the Armstrong World Industries, which produces mineral wool, to establish a manufacturing plant in neighboring Jackson County, West Virginia. Armstrong is investing around $40 million in the Jackson County plant and providing approximately 200 construction jobs. Once the plant is fully operational, it will hire 45 permanent employees. Armstrong requires slag product to produce mineral wool. Felman, located about 10 miles from Armstrong, has the opportunity to become
Armstrong's main supplier of slag, which Felman produces as a by-product. Felman's proximity to Armstrong would not only allow just-in-time delivery but also lower transportation costs.

If the jobs generated by Felman Production were lost, it would likely increase Mason County's unemployment rate to around 14 percent, which would leave Mason County with one of the highest unemployment rates in the state and nearly double the current national rate.

The low price of silicomanganese has had a significant negative impact on Felman's West Virginia operations. In June the company was forced to idle its operations for three months. I fear that the end of antidumping orders could lead to an even longer idling of the facility that would multiply the harm to Felman's workers and their families, as well as the Mason County community. Therefore, it is of the utmost importance to protect the jobs offered by domestic manufacturers like Felman Production against unfair trade.

The evidence in the public record compiled by your staff makes it clear that India, Kazakhstan, and Venezuela are focused on growing their silicomanganese exports. In the past five years India's exports have grown from 254,286 short tons to 1,024,597 short tons. From 2011 to 2012 exports from Kazakhstan grew from 126,176 short tons to 209,200 short tons. While Venezuela has exported a smaller amount of silicomanganese, its exports increased significantly between 2007 and 2012. Production in all three countries became more export driven over that five year period. There is little to prevent an influx of silicomanganese to the domestic market if the anti-dumping orders are not renewed.

A domestic company like Felman Production is especially vulnerable to injury from unfair imports because silicomanganese is a fungible commodity product. As one would assume with a fungible commodity product, price is of critical importance to purchasers. Consequently, a flood of unfairly-priced imports would very likely decimate domestic producers who would be forced to lower their prices to unsustainable levels, or cease production entirely. Therefore, there is a large monetary incentive for the silicomanganese producers in India, Kazakhstan, and Venezuela to inundate the U.S. market with cheap imports. The Commission recognized these facts when it imposed antidumping duty orders. In order to protect domestic business the antidumping duty orders on imports must be continued.

When dumping of a foreign product into our market is offset by the imposition of an antidumping duty order, market conditions which had been distorted by the dumping are restored, and domestic industries can thrive. In the case of Felman, the success of the domestic industry means hundreds of jobs and substantial investment in a rural part of West Virginia. On the other hand, the failure of the domestic industry would deal a catastrophic blow to West Virginia families and the surrounding communities.

I respectfully submit that these orders continue to be necessary to maintain conditions of fair competition and pricing in this important industry to West Virginia and the overall domestic economy. I very much appreciate the role that the International Trade Commission has played in continuing to ensure that West Virginia's companies and workers are treated fairly when facing illegal trade practices. I am confident that you and your colleagues will carefully review the
record that has been compiled and arrive at the conclusion that these anti-dumping orders remain necessary.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to appear before the Commission today.
United States International Trade Commission

Washington, D.C. 20436
August 14, 2013

The Honorable Shelley Moore Capito
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Capito:

Thank you for your joint letter of July 31, 2013, with Congressional Steel Caucus Chairman Murphy and Vice Chairman Visclosky and 24 fellow Members of the House of Representatives concerning the Commission’s countervailing duty and antidumping duty investigations Nos. 701-TA-499-500 and 731-TA-1215-1223 (Preliminary), Certain Oil Country Tubular Goods From India, Korea, Philippines, Saudi Arabia, Taiwan, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine, and Vietnam. You express support for affirmative preliminary determinations in these investigations.

Your letter has been made a part of the Commission’s record in these investigations and the information that you provided will be considered by the Commission when it makes its determinations in these investigations. The Commission expects to vote on its preliminary determinations in these investigations on August 16, 2013, and to notify the U.S. Department of Commerce of those determinations on that same day. The Commission will post a news release announcing its decisions on its website at www.usitc.gov shortly after it votes, and will post the public version of its determinations and written views on its website shortly after notifying Commerce of their availability.

If the Commission makes affirmative preliminary determinations, Commerce will continue to conduct its investigations on imports of these products. If both agencies make affirmative final determinations in their respective investigations, Commerce will issue countervailing duty and antidumping duty orders on imports of the products that are the subject of those affirmative determinations.

We appreciate your interest in these investigations, and thank you again for writing.

Sincerely,

Irving A. Williamson
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

Patrick Meehan
Member of Congress

Michael Michaud
Member of Congress

Shelley Moore Capito
Member of Congress
Honorable Jack Kingston  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515  

Dear Congressman Kingston:

Thank you for your recent letter concerning import duties on gum rosin. You indicate that a duty suspension that covered gum rosin imports from Indonesia and Brazil expired in July 1995, and ask that we update you on the status and potential for reinstating the suspension and whether the tariff subheading for gum rosin, because it is a 10-digit number, provides flexibility in setting duty rates.

To the best of our knowledge, Congress has never enacted legislation to suspend the duty on imports of gum rosin. Rather, gum rosin from Indonesia and Brazil was eligible for duty free treatment under the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) program, but legislation authorizing the GSP program expired on July 31, 1995. Since that time, all goods that previously entered duty free under the GSP program have been dutiable at the column 1 general rate of duty, which in the case of gum rosin is 5 percent ad valorem.

Legislation is currently pending in the Senate that would extend and amend the GSP program and make the extension retroactive. The Senate version of H.R. 3074, as amended by the Senate Committee on Finance, would extend the GSP program to May 12, 1997, and the extension would be retroactive to July 31, 1995. The bill would provide for refunds on request of any duty paid between July 31, 1995, and the effective date of the bill (October 1, 1996). The bill was reported out of the Finance Committee on May 13, 1996. The version of H.R. 3074 passed by the House does not include a GSP extension provision. Further information on the bill can be found in the Finance Committee's report on the bill (S. Rept. No. 104-270).
Gum rosin is provided for in subheading 3806.10.00.10 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule (HTS). The first eight numbers in the HTS subheading are the tariff rate line (legal) level. The additional two numbers (the second “10”) are statistical reporting suffixes only. The tariff rate line level (the eight-digit level) is the controlling level for duty rates. All goods described within statistical reporting suffixes (i.e., at the 10-digit level) under a given eight-digit rate line level are dutiable at the same rate. Rates of duty are set by Congress, or by the President pursuant to authority delegated by Congress.

If we can be of further assistance, please feel free to call upon us.

Sincerely,

(signed) Peter S. Watson

Peter S. Watson
Chairman

W.Gearhart/838a.wwg/5-23-96
Dear Chairman Watson:

I’m writing to you to enlist your assistance in resolving a problem we are experiencing in my District regarding a tariff on imported gum rosin. We have some industries that use this material to produce rosin based resins used in paints, printing inks, and thermal plastic highway marking. Within the past several years the United States has gone from a net exporter of gum rosin to a net importer. This means that our plants are having to purchase their rosin, which constitutes about 70% of their raw material, from Indonesia and Brazil.

Previous trade treaty agreements enacted in December 1994 had reinstated a zero duty on Indonesian and Brazilian gum rosin. Unfortunately, that temporary duty suspension expired on July 1, 1995 and they are now faced with a 5% duty. The Harmonized Tariff Schedule number for this item is 3806.10.0010, and I’m told that ten digit line items allow the U.S. more autonomy over establishing duty amounts and periods.

Large corporations such as Georgia Pacific, Union Camp, and International Paper enjoy the competitive advantage that rosin is a by-product of their paper manufacturing process. Since they consume the rosin they produce in their internal product lines, purchasing rosin locally from these companies is not an effective option.

One of our plants in Baxley, Georgia is preparing to make a substantial investment in plant modernization and expansion. The more than $250,000.00 a year in costs that this duty represents for this plant has a direct bearing on the long term security of the 100 jobs this one plant supports. I would appreciate any information your office could provide regarding the status and potential for reinstating the duty suspension on this imported gum rosin.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,

Jack Kingston
Member of Congress
The Honorable Jack Kingston  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515  

Dear Congressman Kingston:

Thank you for your letter of November 30, 2004, on behalf of Thompson Hardwoods, Inc., Hazlehurst, Georgia, concerning the Commission’s antidumping duty Investigation No. 731-TA-1058 (Final), Wooden Bedroom Furniture from China. You express concern that the imposition of antidumping duties on imports of wooden bedroom furniture from China will adversely affect jobs in the hardwood lumber industry and supporting industries in Georgia.

Your letter was a part of the Commission’s record at the time of the Commission’s vote in this investigation on December 10, 2004, and the information you provided was considered by the Commission. On the basis of the statute and after considering all the evidence in the record, including the arguments of the parties, the Commission made an affirmative final injury determination, finding that a U.S. industry is materially injured by reason of imports of wooden bedroom furniture from China that the U.S. Department of Commerce has determined is being sold in the United States at less than fair value (dumped). As a result, Commerce will issue an antidumping order and antidumping duties will be collected on the subject merchandise. The Commission will explain the reasons for its determination in the written views that it transmits to Commerce on December 22.

We have enclosed a copy of the Commission’s press release announcing its December 10 vote. The public version of the Commission’s determination and the views of the Commissioners will be posted on the Commission’s website at www.usitc.gov shortly after the Commission transmits its report to Commerce on December 22.

We appreciate your interest in the investigation, and thank you for writing to us.

Sincerely,

Stephen Koplan

Enclosure
Ms. Nancy Carman
Congressional Liaison
US International Trade Commission
500 E Street, SW, Room 716
Washington, D.C. 20436

Dear Ms. Carman:

One of my constituents has contacted me regarding a matter in which I believe your agency could be helpful. Therefore, the enclosed communication is submitted for your review.

I would very much appreciate your responding to the points raised by my constituent, and providing any assistance available under the applicable laws and regulations.

The contact person on my staff for this case is Bruce Bazemore. He can be reached at (912) 352-0101.

Thank you very much for your consideration and for advising me of any action you take in this matter.

Sincerely,

Jack Kingston
Member of Congress

Reply to: Bruce Bazemore
Congressman Jack Kingston
1 Diamond Causeway, Suite 7
Savannah, GA 31406
Dear Jack,

June 1st, 2005

Please contact the ITC board re: review of
decree tariff judgment against Thailand & India, Indonesia etc.

Please encourage them to not reverse judgment and keep tariff intact only for no other reason than the fact they are both well known child sex trade countries and do not deserve any breaks.

Thank you

[Handwritten text]

behalf of the
Co. Shangh Association
FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION FROM:

CONGRESSMAN JACK KINGSTON
POST OFFICE BOX 40
BAXLEY, GEORGIA 31515.

VOICE# (912) 367-7403 FAX# (912) 367-7404

TO: Nancy Carmen DATE: 11/30/04

FAX#: 202/205-2139 PAGES TO FOLLOW: 4

FROM: ☑ Shiela Elliott, District Director

☑ OTHER

Comments: Thanks, Nancy for your help with getting this to the Commission. Shiela
Mr. Stephen C. Kopland
U.S. International Trade Commission
500 E. Street
Washington, D.C. 20436

Dear Mr. Kopland:

I am writing on behalf of Thompson Hardwoods, Inc. located in Hazlehurst, Georgia in regards to the antidumping duty for wooden bedroom furniture imported from China.

It is my understanding that if Chinese imports of wooden bedroom furniture are materially injuring or threatening to injure the domestic hardwood lumber industry, then the International Trade Commission will recommend an antidumping order. Therefore, the attempt to save furniture manufacturing jobs will result in Georgia losing hardwood industry jobs and the support trade industries. The Preliminary Decision alone to invoke duties on the producers and exporters of wooden bedroom furniture is already having a negative effect on the hardwood lumber industry in Georgia.

I respectfully ask that you review this situation very carefully and consider all the economic impacts of such a tariff. Should you have any comments or questions, please feel free to contact my office. Thank you in advance for your review and reply.

Sincerely,

Jack Kingston
Member of Congress

JK/swe
Dear Representative Gingrey:

Thank you for your letter of June 7, 2013, concerning Commission antidumping duty investigations Nos. 731-TA-1202-1203 (Final), Xanthan Gum from Austria and China. You note that CP Kelco, the petitioner in these investigations, is headquartered in Atlanta, and you express support for the imposition of antidumping duty orders in these investigations.

Your letter has been made a part of the record of these investigations, and the information you provided will be considered by the Commission when it makes its determinations in these investigations. The Commission is currently scheduled to vote on its determinations on June 20, 2013, and expects to file its determinations and written views by July 2, 2013. The Commission will post a news release announcing its decisions on its website at www.usitc.gov shortly after it votes, and will post the public version of its determinations and written views on its website shortly after they are filed.

The U.S. Department of Commerce has already made affirmative final determinations in its antidumping duty investigations with respect to the subject imports from Austria and China. If the Commission makes affirmative final determinations in its counterpart investigations, Commerce will issue antidumping duty orders on the pertinent imports that are the subject of those investigations.

We appreciate your interest in these investigations, and thank you again for writing.

Sincerely,

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

June 7, 2013

Dear Chairman Williamson:

I write today regarding the continued dumping of xanthan gum by Chinese and Austrian producers. These companies continue to flood the market to the detriment of domestic producers.

U.S. biotechnology businesses such as CP Kelco headquartered in Atlanta, Georgia, have been significantly harmed by xanthan gum dumped in the U.S. market by producers based in China and Austria. As you know, imports from both countries have increased substantially from 2010 to 2012. The recent imposition of provisionary measures by the Department of Commerce has started to stem the tide of import dumping. However, a final order is needed to ensure that Chinese and Austrian producers are prohibited from flooding the market with unfairly traded xanthan gum.

I believe that imposing an anti-dumping order will provide meaningful relief to the domestic industry and hope that the U.S. International Trade Commission will soon make a final determination.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Phil Gingrey, M.D.  
Member of Congress
United States International Trade Commission

Washington, D.C. 20436
August 7, 2013

Re: USITC’s Freedom of Information Act Request 13-29

Dear:

This is in response to your requested dated July 17, 2013, which we received July 18, 2013. In that document you requested, pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), copies of all correspondence between U.S. Senator Mitch McConnell and the Commissioners from 1985 to the present (or as available).

We have found documents responsive to your request. They are enclosed.

The Commission makes a public docket, EDIS, available on the Internet at http://edis.usitc.gov. You may want to use that application’s search capability for further research.

Please feel free to call me or Jacqueline Gross on 202-205-2000 with any questions.

Sincerely,

Lisa R. Barton
Acting Secretary
Enclosures

1. Letter to the Honorable Mitch McConnell from Chairman Deanna Tanner Okun dated September 30, 2010
2. Letter to the Honorable Mitch McConnell from Chairman Deanna Tanner Okun dated July 16, 2010
3. Letter to Chairman Deanna Tanner Okun from Honorable Mitch McConnell, dated June 30, 2010
4. Letter to the Honorable Mitch McConnell from Chairman Shara L. Aranoff, dated December 17, 2008
5. Letter to Aranoff from the Honorable Mitch McConnell, dated November 21, 2008
7. Letter to Chairman Shara L. Aranoff to the Honorable Mitch McConnell, Dated October 7, 2008
10. Letter to the Honorable Mitch McConnell from Chairman Stephen Koplan, dated February 13, 2002
11. Letter to Chairman Koplan from the Honorable Mitch McConnell, dated January 9, 2002
13. Letter to the Honorable Mitch McConnell from Chairman Stephen Koplan, dated December 20, 2000
15. Letter to the Honorable Mitch McConnell from Chairman Stephen Koplan, dated September 1, 2000
16. Letter to the Honorable Mitch McConnell from Chairman Lynn M. Bragg, dated December 2, 1999
17. Letter to the Honorable Mitch McConnell from Chairman Marcia E. Miller, dated October 15, 1997
18. Letter to the Honorable Mitch McConnell from Chairman Marcia E. Miller, dated June 9, 1997
19. Letter from the Honorable Mitch McConnell to Chairman Marcia E. Miller, dated May 22, 1997
20. Letter to the Honorable Mitch McConnell from Chairman Don E. Newquist, dated September 4, 1992
21. Letter to Chairman Don E. Newquist from the Honorable Mitch McConnell, dated August 14, 1992
22. Letter to the Honorable Mitch McConnell from Chairman Don E. Newquist, dated April 8, 1992
The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator McConnell:

Thank you for your letter of September 21, 2010, concerning the Commission's countervailing duty and antidumping duty investigation Nos. 701-TA-470-471 and 731-TA-1169-1170 (Final), Certain Coated Paper Suitable for High-Quality Print Graphics Using Sheet-Fed Presses from China and Indonesia. You note that NewPage Corporation, one of the petitioners in these investigations, is an important employer in Kentucky, and you ask that we give careful consideration to the information and comments provided by NewPage in these investigations.

Your letter has been made a part of the record in these investigations and the Commission will consider the information you provided when it makes its determinations. The Commission is currently scheduled to vote on its determinations on October 22, 2010, and to transmit its determinations and written views to the U.S. Department of Commerce by November 10, 2010. The Commission will post a news release announcing its decisions on its website at www.usitc.gov shortly after the vote.

Commerce has already made affirmative final determinations of subsidies and dumping in its investigations. If the Commission makes affirmative final determinations in its investigations – that a U.S. industry is materially injured or threatened with material injury by reason of imports that are the subject of Commerce's affirmative final determinations – Commerce will issue countervailing duty and antidumping duty orders, and countervailing duties and antidumping duties in amounts equal to the subsidies and margins of dumping will be collected on the subject imports.

Thank you again for writing.

Sincerely,

Deanna Tanner Okun
September 21, 2010

The Honorable Marilyn R. Abbott
Secretary
U.S. International Trade Commission
500 E Street, SW
Room 112
Washington, DC 20436

Re: Certain Coated Paper Suitable for High-Quality Print Graphics
Using Sheet-Fed Presses from China and Indonesia
(Inv. No. 701-470-471 and 731-1169-1170 (Preliminary))

Dear Secretary Abbott:

I understand that the Commission is preparing to complete its investigation of certain coated printing paper from China and Indonesia which are alleged by the U.S. industry to be traded unfairly under the U.S. antidumping and countervailing duty laws. As I requested in a letter to you dated November 3, 2009, I urge the Commission to carefully review the data in this case, to give full consideration to the information and comments provided to you by NewPage Corporation—a petitioner in the case—and to apply the law accordingly.

NewPage Corporation employs nearly 500 people in Wickliffe, Kentucky and is the largest taxpayer in Ballard County. The company also has employees that live in the surrounding counties of McCracken, Carlisle, and Graves. I am informed that the unfair trade practices of Chinese and Indonesian producers directly or indirectly jeopardize the livelihood of my constituents who rely on the Wickliffe mill. In the past several years, more than 50 employees of the Wickliffe facility have reportedly lost their jobs due to unfair competition from China and Indonesia. Many who have kept their jobs now have reduced shifts. These hardworking Kentuckians deserve better.

As you deliberate, I urge you to keep in mind the welfare of workers in Kentucky, their families and the communities which are dependent on the economic activity generated by demand for U.S.-made coated papers,

Sincerely,

MITCH MCCONNELL
UNITED STATES SENATOR
The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510  

Dear Senator McConnell:  

Thank you for your letter of June 30, 2010, concerning the Commission’s investigation No. 337-TA-688, *Certain Hybrid Electric Vehicles and Components Thereof*, which the Commission is conducting under section 337 of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1337). You note the importance of Toyota hybrid vehicle production to Kentucky and urge the Commission to give full and fair consideration to the submission made by Toyota in this investigation.

The investigation is currently before a Commission administrative law judge (ALJ) and he has scheduled a hearing in this matter for the week of July 19, 2010. He will likely receive evidence from the parties, including Paice LLC (the complainant), Toyota, and the Commission’s investigative attorney on the various issues before him, including the public interest considerations relating to remedy.

The Commission will consider the case after the ALJ issues his final initial determination, currently scheduled for October 2010. After the initial determination is issued, the Commission will invite non-parties to submit written statements regarding public interest considerations. Your letter is being made a part of the Commission’s file in connection with such Commission consideration.

We appreciate your interest in this investigation, and thank you again for writing.  

Sincerely,  

[Signature]  

Deanna Tanner Okun
June 30, 2010

The Honorable Deanna Tanner Okun
Chairwoman
U.S. International Trade Commission
500 E Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20436

Re: Investigation No. 337-TA-688

Dear Chairwoman Okun:

I am writing to urge you and your fellow commissioners to give full and fair consideration to the submission made by Toyota Motor Corporation in Investigation No. 337-TA-688. I understand that the petitioner in this case is seeking to ban the import of Toyota hybrid vehicles and Toyota hybrid engines into the United States. This petitioner has previously failed in its judicial efforts to ban the imports of Toyota hybrid vehicles and engines, and now seeks that same remedy at a new venue, the International Trade Commission (ITC).

If the petitioner’s request is granted, Toyota predicts a devastating impact on the production of its hybrid vehicles in Kentucky, occurring during an already serious economic downturn. Toyota employs nearly 9,400 workers in Kentucky. Of those, over 7,200 work in the Georgetown plant that uses Toyota’s hybrid transaxles to produce Camry hybrids. An exclusion order from the ITC, I am informed, would prevent hybrid vehicle production in Georgetown.

Consistent with all applicable law, I urge the Commission when it evaluates the issues in this investigation to consider the serious impact an adverse ruling could have on the thousands of Toyota workers in Kentucky.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

MITCH MCCONNELL
UNITED STATES SENATOR

cc: The Honorable Shara L. Aranoff
The Honorable Charlotte R. Lane
The Honorable Daniel R. Pearson
The Honorable Dean A. Pinkert
The Honorable Irving A. Williamson
The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510  

Dear Senator McConnell:

Thank you for your joint letter of November 21, 2008, with Senator Bunning concerning the Commission’s countervailing duty and antidumping duty investigation Nos. 701-TA-455 and 731-TA-1149-1150 (Final), *Circular Welded Carbon Quality Steel Line Pipe from China and Korea*. You note that IPSCO Tubulars, Inc., produces such line pipe in Kentucky. You urge that the Commission review the record carefully in making its determinations in these investigations.

Your letter has been made a part of the Commission’s record, and the Commission will take into account the information that you provided when it votes on its determinations in these investigations. The Commission expects to vote on its determination in its countervailing duty investigation concerning the subject line pipe from China on December 22, 2008 (Investigation No. 701-TA-455 (Final)). The Commission will post a news release announcing its decision on its website at [www.usitc.gov](http://www.usitc.gov) shortly after the vote. The Commission expects to transmit its determination and written views in that investigation to the U.S. Department of Commerce (Commerce) on or about January 7, 2009, and will post the non-confidential version of its determination and written views on its website shortly thereafter.

The petitioners have recently withdrawn their antidumping duty petition concerning the subject line pipe from Korea; accordingly, both Commerce and the Commission have terminated their investigations involving this product from Korea. Commerce has recently postponed to March 23, 2009, its final antidumping dumping determination concerning the subject line pipe from China; the Commission now expects to vote in its antidumping investigation concerning this product from China in late April 2009.

We appreciate your interest in these investigations, and thank you again for writing.

Sincerely,

Shara L. Aranoff

Shara L. Aranoff
The Honorable Shara L. Aranoff  
Chairman  
U.S. International Trade Commission  
500 E Street, S.W.  
Washington, DC 20436  

Dear Chairman Aranoff:

We are writing to you in regards to the investigation that you are conducting on certain circular welded steel line pipe (Nos. 701-TA-455 and 731-TA-1149 (Final)). We are told that a final injury hearing is scheduled for November 24, 2008, and we respectfully request that our comments be submitted for the record.

One of the petitioners in this case is IPSCO Tubulars Inc., based in Wilder, Kentucky. The company produces steel pipe products that are used to transmit gas or oil in pipeline or utility distribution systems. We are informed that IPSCO Tubulars is also an important customer of Gallatin Steel, a flat rolled steel manufacturer in nearby Ghent, Kentucky.

It is our understanding that IPSCO has 345 employees in the Commonwealth and Gallatin has 450, each of whom may be directly or indirectly affected by an adverse determination. Each affected job supports families, small businesses, communities, and ultimately the Commonwealth of Kentucky as a whole. In these uncertain economic times, we urge you to keep the interests of our constituents in mind as you make your decision.

Sincerely,

MITCH MCCONNELL  
United States Senator

JIM BUNNING  
United States Senator
Dear Senator McConnell:

Thank you for your joint letter of October 7, 2008 (received on October 17, 2008), with Senator Bunning concerning the Commission’s antidumping duty investigation Nos. 731-TA-1140-1142 (Final), Uncovered Innersprings Units from China, South Africa, and Vietnam. You note the importance of these investigations to Leggett & Platt and its employees in Kentucky, and ask that the Commission carefully consider the facts in making its determinations.

Your letter has been made a part of the Commission’s record in these investigations, and the Commission will consider the information you provided when it votes on its determinations. The Commission expects to vote on its determinations in its investigations involving imports from South Africa and Vietnam on or about November 21, 2008, and to transmit its determinations and written views in those investigations to the U.S. Department of Commerce on or about December 4, 2008. The Commission expects to vote on its determination in its investigation involving imports from China at a later date, after it receives notice of Commerce’s final antidumping duty determination in its investigation involving imports from China. The Commission expects to receive that notice on or about December 19, 2008.

The Commission will post a news release on its website at www.usitc.gov announcing its decisions shortly after its respective votes, and will also post a copy of its determinations and the public version of its written views shortly after they are transmitted to Commerce.

We appreciate your interest in these investigations, and thank you again for writing.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Shara L. Aranoff
The Honorable Shara L. Aranoff  
Chairman  
U.S. International Trade Commission  
500 E Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20436

Dear Chairman Aranoff:

We understand there is an upcoming final determination in the antidumping investigations involving uncovered innerspring unit imports from China, South Africa and Vietnam. We wrote to Chairman Daniel Pearson on January 29, 2008, and we are writing again today, to underscore the importance of this case to our constituents who work for Leggett & Platt Incorporated in the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

We are told that Leggett & Platt employs 1,200 individuals in the Commonwealth. It is our understanding that the final determination in this case may have either a direct or an indirect impact on these employees.

Of course, we are heartened by the Commission's preliminary determination, and we have been told that the relief already has had a positive impact on the Commonwealth. The company has told us that 97 new jobs have been added at Leggett & Platt's Winchester, Kentucky plant as a result of the preliminary ruling. In this regard, we are concerned that these gains could be reversed if your Commission denies final relief.

In making a final determination, we therefore respectfully request that the Commission carefully review the facts and consider the potential injury caused by these imports to the United States innerspring industry, including their impact on Kentucky.

Sincerely,

Mitt  McConnell  
United States Senator

Jim Bunning  
United States Senator
February 29, 2008

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator McConnell:

Thank you for your joint letter of January 29, 2008 (received on February 15, 2008), with Senator Bunning concerning the Commission's antidumping duty investigations Nos. 731-TA-1140-1142 (Preliminary), Uncovered Innerspring Units from China, South Africa, and Vietnam. You note that the petitioner in these investigations, Leggett & Platt, Inc., has a major presence in Kentucky. You ask that the Commission carefully review the facts in these investigations in making its determinations, and that we include your letter in the record.

On February 13, 2008, the Commission made unanimous affirmative preliminary determinations, determining that there is a reasonable indication that a U.S. industry is materially injured by reason of imports of uncovered innerspring units from China, South Africa, and Vietnam that are allegedly sold in the United States at less than fair value. As result of the Commission's affirmative determinations, the U.S. Department of Commerce will continue to conduct its antidumping investigations of imports of uncovered innerspring units from China, South Africa, and Vietnam, with its preliminary determinations due on or about June 9, 2008.

A copy of the Commission's news release announcing the Commission votes is enclosed. The Commission will shortly post a copy of its determinations and written views on its web site at www.usitc.gov. Your letter has been made a part of the record of these investigations.

We appreciate your interest in these investigations, and thank you again for writing.

Sincerely,

Daniel R. Pearson

Enclosure
Dear Chairman Pearson:

We understand that you are investigating, pursuant to U.S. anti-dumping law, uncovered innerspring units imported into the United States from China, South Africa, and Vietnam. Leggett & Platt, Incorporated filed the petition to initiate this investigation. We request that you would take into consideration the impact such trade practices have on Kentucky and place this letter into the record for consideration.

Leggett & Platt is a United States manufacturer of uncovered innersprings and has a major presence in Kentucky. It is our understanding that the company has almost 1,200 employees in the state. Four hundred and twelve of them work in operations that we are informed are directly affected by the innersprings imported from China, South Africa and Vietnam. An additional 616 Kentucky employees work in operations that are a part of Leggett & Platt's Residential Furnishings segment, that we are informed is directly affected by the imported innersprings.

At the same time that low-priced imports from China, South Africa, and Vietnam have entered the United States, Leggett has been forced to close three plants as well as several distribution centers that were in operation just three years ago. Several family-owned innerspring manufacturers, which had been in operation for more than 45 years, have completely ceased operations since 2004. We are told that these imports have also caused decreased production, capacity, sales, profits, and employment.

Despite its considerable investments in upgrading its operations, Leggett & Platt is at a competitive disadvantage because imports are apparently being sold at less than fair value in violation of our trade laws.

We are told this case is critical to the innerspring industry in Kentucky. Accordingly, we respectfully request that the Commission carefully review the facts of this case and closely consider the injury caused by these imports to the Kentucky innerspring industry.

Sincerely,

MITCH MCCONNELL
United States Senator

JIM BUNNING
United States Senator
The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510  

Dear Senator McConnell:

Thank you for your joint letter of January 9, 2002, with Senator Jim Bunning concerning our final countervailing duty and antidumping duty Investigations Nos. 701-TA-409-412 and 731-TA-909-912 (Final), Low Enriched Uranium From France, Germany, the Netherlands, and the United Kingdom. You express concern for the health of the domestic uranium enrichment industry, and ask that we give careful consideration to the importance of this industry to U.S. national security and national energy policy.

On January 22, 2002, the Commission made affirmative determinations in these investigations, determining that an industry in the United States is materially injured or threatened with material injury by reason of imports of low enriched uranium from France, Germany, the Netherlands, and the United Kingdom that the Department of Commerce (Commerce) has determined are subsidized, and those from France that Commerce has determined are also sold in the United States at less than fair value (dumped). Your letter was a part of the record of our investigations and was considered by us when we made our final determinations. A copy of our report on these investigations is enclosed.

As a result of the Commission’s affirmative determinations, Commerce will issue countervailing duty orders on imports of this product from France, Germany, the Netherlands, and the United Kingdom, and an antidumping duty order on imports of this product from France.

We appreciate your interest, and thank you for sharing your views with us regarding these investigations.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Stephen Koplan

Enclosure
January 9, 2002

The Honorable Stephen Koplan
Chairman
U.S. International Trade Commission
500 E Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20436

RE: Low Enriched Uranium from France, Germany, the Netherlands, and the United Kingdom, Inv. Nos. 701-TA-409-412 and 731-TA-909-912

Dear Chairman Koplan:

We write regarding the International Trade Commission's current investigation to determine if the U.S. enrichment industry has been materially injured by imports of enriched uranium from Western Europe.

Production of enriched uranium is a vital part of the U.S. nuclear fuel cycle. The technology involved is complex and, from a national security perspective, sensitive. Moreover, the U.S. enrichment plants represent a multi-billion dollar investment by the U.S. government stretching back to the 1950s.

The industry also provides the channel through which downblended nuclear weapons from stockpiles in the Russian Federation and the United States are introduced into the market — a non-proliferation burden, which is not shared by enrichment plants in Western Europe or elsewhere.

We have observed the economic health of the domestic enrichment industry over the past several years with increasing concern, particularly after the closure of the enrichment plant in Portsmouth, Ohio last year. The Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant in Paducah, Kentucky, is the only domestic enrichment plant remaining in operation, and a further weakening of this industry would jeopardize our national energy security. Now that the Department of Commerce has determined that imports of enriched uranium from Western Europe are being dumped or unfairly subsidized (or both, in the case of imports from France), the ITC has the vital task of assessing the impact of these unfairly traded imports on the U.S. enrichment industry and determining how these imports materially threaten the industry's economic future.

The outcome of the ITC's investigation will have a profound impact on our national energy policy. We urge you to give full and careful consideration to the importance of the uranium enrichment industry to U.S. national and energy security and to ensure that the industry is not placed at risk by unfairly traded imports.

Sincerely,

 MITCH MCCONNELL
UNITED STATES SENATOR

JIM BURNING
UNITED STATES SENATOR
CHAIRMAN

UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20436

May 23, 2001

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator McConnell:

This responds to your letter of May 17, 2001, concerning our review of the countervailing duty and antidumping duty orders in Investigations Nos. 701-TA-364 (Review) and 731-TA-711 and 713-716 (Review), Oil Country Tubular Goods from Argentina, Italy, Japan, Korea, and Mexico. You indicate the importance of the investigations to the NS Group, which operates Newport Steel in Newport, Kentucky, and ask that we consider the impact that revocation of the orders would have on the industry, its workers, and the steel producing communities.

Your letter has been made a part of our record and will be considered by us when we make our determination. We will also take into account the testimony in support of continuation of the subject orders presented at our May 8 hearing by Rene J. Robichaud, President and Chief Executive Officer of NS Group, Incorporated.

We are tentatively scheduled to vote on June 15, and will post a copy of our press release announcing the vote on our Web site (http://www.usitc.gov) shortly thereafter. If we make an affirmative determination, the existing countervailing duty and antidumping duty orders will remain in place. We will send you a copy of our report when it becomes available in July.

We appreciate your interest in these reviews, and thank you for writing to us.

Sincerely,

Stephen Koplan
May 17, 2001

Ms. Donna Koehnke
Secretary
U.S. International Trade Commission
500 E Street S.W.
Room 112 F
Washington, D.C. 20436

Re: Five-year (sunset) reviews: Oil Country Tubular Goods from Argentina, Italy, Japan, Korea and Mexico - Inv. Nos. 701-TA-364 (Review) and 731-TA-711 and 713-716 (Review)

Dear Secretary Koehnke:

I write regarding the Commission’s hearing on May 8, 2001 concerning the five-year sunset reviews on oil country tubular products (OCTG) from Argentina, Italy, Japan, Korea and Mexico. I would appreciate it if you would include this letter as part of the record in this matter.

This matter is of significant importance to me and to The NS Group in Newport, Kentucky. The NS Group operates Newport Steel in Newport, KY and Koppel Steel in Beaver Falls, PA, and produces a variety of steel tubular products used in the energy industry. It is my understanding that NS representatives participated at this hearing to explain how any revocation of orders on OCTG products could impair their ability to compete in the future. I also understand that the growing levels of imports have taken a toll on their company, and that they were forced to close a portion of their operations in Newport, KY, which resulted in the loss of 300 jobs. It is essential that Newport Steel and other American producers be allowed to manufacture steel products, especially those vital to our energy infrastructure. American producers must be afforded every opportunity to operate and compete in a trade environment free from unfair trade practices. Newport Steel and its employees are vital contributors to Kentucky’s economy, and it is important to the state and regional economy that these jobs remain in Kentucky.

As the Commission deliberates and reviews this matter, please consider the impact any revocation of orders would have on the industry, its workers and steel producing communities.

Sincerely,

MITCH McCONNELL
UNITED STATES SENATOR
Northern Textile Association

Donna R. Koehnke
Secretary
U.S. International Trade Commission
500 E. Street SW
Washington, DC 20436

RE: US Market Conditions for Certain Wool Articles
[Investigation No. 332-427]

Dear Ms. Koehnke:

Please consider this a request to appear and be heard at the public hearing beginning 9:30 a.m. on May 31, 2001, in connection with investigation 332-427 (US Market Conditions for Certain Wool Articles). I write on behalf of the Northern Textile Association, a non-profit trade association whose members produce wool articles of the kinds that are the subjects of this investigation.

I request that the following persons be scheduled as a panel to speak at the hearing (for your information I am also listing the names of the employers and job titles of the persons for whom I am making the request):

KARL SPILHAUS, President, Northern Textile Association
JAMES LEONARD, Mgr. Economic Analysis, Burlington Industries, Inc.
PIER LUIGI LORO PIANA, Chief Executive Officer, Warren Corporation

Sincerely yours,

Karl Spilhaus
President

KS:dt
Dear Senator McConnell:

This responds to your letter of December 7, 2000, concerning our Investigation Nos: 701-TA-404-408 (Preliminary) and 731-TA-898-908 (Preliminary), HotRolled Steel Products From Argentina, China, India, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, the Netherlands, Romania, South Africa, Taiwan, Thailand, and Ukraine. In your letter you note the importance of these investigations to Gallatin Steel and the importance of Gallatin to Kentucky's economy, and urge that we carefully consider the merits of the case in making our determinations.

Your letter has been made a part of our public record in these investigations, and will be considered by us when we make our determinations. Gallatin has participated actively in the preliminary phase of our investigations, and Ed Puisis, Chief Financial Officer of Gallatin, testified at our conference on December 4. We are scheduled to vote on December 28, 2000, and to transmit our report to the U.S. Department of Commerce on January 5, 2001. We will post a copy of our press release announcing the results of our vote on our Web site (http://www.usitc.gov) shortly after we vote. We will send you a copy of our report when it becomes available in January.

If we make affirmative determinations in the preliminary phase of our investigations, Commerce will proceed to make preliminary and final determinations with respect to whether the subject imports are being subsidized or sold in the United States at less than fair value (dumped). If Commerce makes affirmative final countervailing duty and dumping determinations, the Commission will be required to make final injury determinations. If both agencies make affirmative final determinations, Commerce will issue
countervailing duty and antidumping duty orders, and countervailing duties and antidumping duties will be collected on imports of the subject merchandise.

We appreciate your interest in these investigations, and thank you for sharing your views.

Sincerely,

Stephen Koplan
December 7, 2000

The Honorable Donna Koehnke
Secretary
U.S. International Trade Commission
500 E Street, SW
Washington D.C. 20436

Dear Secretary Koehnke:

I write to express interest in a pending investigation at the ITC which involves Gallatin Steel of Ghent, Kentucky. I request that this letter be included in the public record for this investigation.

On November 13, 2000, Gallatin Steel joined with three U.S. mini-mill producers and four integrated steel producers to file Antidumping (AD) and Countervailing Duty (CVD) petitions regarding hot-rolled steel products. Gallatin Steel, which produces hot-rolled steel sheet at its plant, is one of the newer U.S. mini-mills and is an important contributor to Kentucky’s economy.

It is important to give Gallatin and other U.S. steel companies every opportunity to operate and compete in the global marketplace. I believe this can be achieved through free and fair trade. I hope the ITC will carefully review the merits of this investigation as it moves forward to ensure that U.S. companies will be allowed to compete fairly in the future. If this is allowed to occur, I have every confidence that Gallatin Steel will be able to prosper.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Mitt McCONNELL
UNITED STATES SENATOR

MM/lc
The Honorable Mitch McConnell
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator McConnell:

This letter responds to your letter of September 7, 2000, concerning the U.S. International Trade Commission’s Investigation No. 337-TA-424, Certain Cigarettes and Packaging Thereof. You express support for the issuance of a general exclusion order in this investigation.

Your letter has been made a part of the Commission’s record in this investigation. We will consider your views in making our decision.

The Commission has determined that gray market imports of Kool and Lucky Strike cigarettes produced for the export market violate section 337 of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. § 1337). We are currently considering, inter alia, the appropriate remedy for the violation of section 337 found to have occurred. We expect to make our final decision on remedy by October 16, 2000, and will send you a copy of our report when it becomes available, probably in late October. Brown & Williamson Tobacco Corporation, Louisville, Kentucky, is the complainant in this investigation.

We appreciate your interest, and thank you for sharing your views with us regarding this investigation.

Sincerely,

Stephen Koplan
September 7, 2000

The Honorable Donna R. Koehnke  
Secretary  
U.S. International Trade Commission  
500 East Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20436

Re: Inv. No. 337-TA-424; Certain Cigarettes and Packaging Thereof;  
Request for Comments 65 Federal Register 53334 (September 1, 2000)

Dear Secretary Koehnke:

I am contacting you to express my support for the issuance of a general exclusion order in Inv. No. 337-TA-424. I believe the issuance of such an order is warranted as part of the effort to protect consumers and the public interest. I understand that the Commission has determined that Kool and Lucky Strike cigarettes produced for the export market are not the same as those produced for the U.S. market, and I agree with those findings. I further believe that gray market cigarettes are frequently sold at greatly reduced prices, which can increase smoking generally and in particular among younger smokers.

In recent years, I have seen a dramatic rise in the level of gray market cigarettes sold in my state. I believe that this increase is due in part to the fact that reimported cigarettes are not subject to the payment premium of the Master Settlement Agreement, which deprives my state of an important source of revenue that could be used for public purposes. I am aware of federal and state legislative initiatives that are intended to stop the importation of gray market. However, I believe the problem is so widespread and pervasive that these legislative initiatives are not sufficient. A general exclusion order against Kool and Lucky Strike will focus further attention on this important issue and help ensure that, at the very least, gray market Kool and Lucky Strike cigarettes are not imported.

Thank you for this opportunity to submit comments.

Sincerely,

MICH McConnell  
UNITED STATES SENATOR
The U.S. International Trade Commission has released its annual report entitled "The Year in Trade: Operation of the Trade Agreements Program, 1999." It is a factual analysis and summary of the key events in trade for calendar year 1999.

Two special features were added to this year's report. The first relates to China's application for membership in the World Trade Organization. It includes the status of China's bilateral accession agreements with the United States and our major trading partners. Second, there is an examination of electronic commerce. The focus is on aspects of e-commerce related to our major trading partners, the World Trade Organization, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, and the Free Trade Area of the Americas.

A copy of the report is enclosed. We hope that you will find it to be a useful resource in your work on trade issues. Please do not hesitate to contact the Commission if we can be of assistance to you. Our Congressional Relations Officer, Nancy Carman, can be reached on (202) 205-3151.

Sincerely,

Stephen Koplan

Enclosure
December 2, 1999.

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator McConnell:

This responds to your joint letter of November 16, 1999 with Senator Bunning concerning Commission Investigation No. TA-201-70, Circular Welded Carbon Quality Line Pipe. You ask that we carefully review the domestic industry’s remedy request, and urge that we provide a strong remedy recommendation to the President.

Your letter has been made a part of the Commission’s record in this investigation. We will give careful consideration to all the evidence in the record, including the views expressed in your letter, when we address the question of remedy.

We are scheduled to vote on remedy on December 8, 1999, and to transmit our final report in this investigation to the President by December 17, 1999. We will send you a copy of the press release that we issue just after our remedy vote, and will send you a copy of our report to the President when it becomes available in late December or early January.

Sincerely,

Lynn M. Bragg
Chairman
November 16, 1999

Ms. Donna Koehnke, Secretary
U.S. International Trade Commission
500 E Street, SW - Room 112F
Washington, D.C. 20436

RE: Investigation No. TA-201-70 Circular Welded Quality Line Pipe

Dear Ms. Koehnke:

In light of the Commission's finding of injury in the Section 201 Line Pipe petition filed by U.S. producers earlier this year, we write with respect to the remedy hearing conducted earlier this month. It is our understanding that the Commission issued a 5-1 affirmative vote on injury in the case, and is now considering what remedies to recommend to the President.

Safeguard provisions are an essential part of U.S. trade laws and we commend the Commission for responding to the severity of the problem created by the unfair surge in line pipe products from Asia. Therefore, we ask the Commission to carefully review the industry's request for a remedy and urge members of the Commission to provide sufficient and meaningful relief to the line pipe industry.

Furthermore, it is important that under the remedy recommended to the President, immediate action be taken to curb the surge in line pipe imports. We strongly believe the Committee's recommendation should ensure that relief is effective and fair while allowing domestic producers to regain their economic footing. It is our belief that the goal of any remedy should be to facilitate a return to normal operations as quickly as possible, so that American workers and consumers will not be further harmed by these unfair imports.

We appreciate your careful consideration of this important matter, and look forward to the Commission's decision to provide a strong remedy recommendation.

Sincerely,

MITCH McCONNELL
UNITED STATES SENATOR

JIM BUNNING
UNITED STATES SENATOR
The Honorable Mitch McConnell
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator McConnell:

Thank you for your recent inquiry on behalf of Mr. Otis Reed, Jr., Human Resource Administrator of Collis, Inc., Elizabethtown, Kentucky, concerning the Commission's antidumping and countervailing duty investigations Nos. 701-TA-368-371 and 731-TA-763-766 (Final), Certain Steel Wire Rod from Canada, Germany, Trinidad and Tobago, and Venezuela. In your most recent inquiry, you requested an update on the status of these investigations. The following developments have occurred since our letter of June 9, 1997.

With respect to the countervailing duty investigations, on August 1, 1997, the Department of Commerce ("Commerce") made preliminary subsidy determinations and published preliminary countervailing duty rates applicable to all U.S. imports of the subject steel wire rod from Germany, Trinidad and Tobago, and Venezuela. With respect to Canada, Commerce published a preliminary countervailing duty rate applicable to U.S. imports of subject product manufactured by the Canadian producer Sidbec-Dosco (Ispat), Inc., but found preliminarily that estimated net subsidies to Canadian producers Ivaco, Inc. and Stelco, Inc. were de minimis and therefore imposed no preliminary countervailing duties on U.S. imports of steel wire rod manufactured by those firms.

In mid-September 1997, Commerce initialled proposed suspension agreements with the Governments of Trinidad and Tobago and Venezuela, whereby each
Government undertakes to restrict the volume of subject merchandise exported to the United States. If these agreements are finalized, the investigations pertaining to these companies will be suspended. Pursuant to 19 U.S.C. § 1671c(g), however, either the affected government or the U.S. domestic industry may request that an investigation be continued despite finalization of a suspension agreement.

Commerce is expected to issue its final countervailing duty determinations with respect to Canada and Germany on or about October 15, 1997. Commerce will also issue final countervailing duty determinations with respect to Trinidad and Tobago and Venezuela on that date if suspension agreements are not finalized, or requests for continuation are made. Because the Commission believes that requests for continuation are likely, pursuant to Commission rule 207.40(b) (19 C.F.R. § 207.40(b)), the Commission is continuing its own final phase countervailing duty investigations of all four countries. Under the present schedule, the Commission will hold a public hearing on October 16, 1997, and will issue its final determinations and written views by November 28, 1997.

With respect to the antidumping duty investigations, on October 1, 1997, Commerce published preliminary dumping determinations in which it found preliminary dumping margins applicable to all U.S. imports of subject steel wire rod from Canada (including Ivaco and Stelco), Germany, Trinidad and Tobago, and Venezuela. Commerce is now in the final phase of its antidumping investigations and is expected to make its final dumping determinations in February 1998. The Commission has not yet announced the schedule for the final phase of its antidumping investigations, but will do so shortly and the schedule will be published in the Federal Register. The Commission will make its final determinations and issue written views within 45 days after receiving notice of Commerce's final antidumping determinations.

A copy of the present schedule for the final phase of the Commission's countervailing duty investigations is enclosed. We will send Mr. Reed a copy of the schedule for the final phase of the Commission's antidumping investigations when it becomes available.
Again, thank you for your interest in these investigations. Your correspondence will be made part of the official record for these investigations. We hope that this information is helpful.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Marcia E. Miller

Enclosure
UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

Investigations Nos. 701-TA-368-371 (Final)

CERTAIN STEEL WIRE ROD FROM CANADA, GERMANY, TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO, AND VENEZUELA


ACTION: Scheduling of the final phase of countervailing duty investigations.

SUMMARY: The Commission hereby gives notice of the scheduling of the final phase of countervailing duty investigations Nos. 701-TA-368-371 (Final) under section 705(b) of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. § 1671d(b)) (the Act) to determine whether an industry in the United States is materially injured or threatened with material injury, or the establishment of an industry in the United States is materially retarded, by reason of subsidized imports from Canada, Germany, Trinidad and Tobago, and Venezuela of certain steel wire rod, provided for in subheadings 7213.91.30, 7213.91.45, 7213.91.60, 7213.99.00, 7227.20.00, and 7227.90.60 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States.¹

For further information concerning the conduct of this phase of the investigations, hearing procedures, and rules of general application, consult the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, part 201, subparts A through E (19 CFR part 201), and part 207, subparts A and C (19 CFR part 207), as corrected by 62 FR 39438, July 23, 1997.

EFFECTIVE DATE: August 1, 1997.


¹ For purposes of these investigations, Commerce has defined the subject merchandise as “hot-rolled carbon steel and alloy steel products, in coils, of approximately round cross section, between 5.00 mm (0.20 inch) and 19.0 mm (0.75 inch), inclusive, in solid cross-sectional diameter. Specifically excluded are steel products possessing the above-noted physical characteristics and meeting the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) definitions for [being made of],(a) stainless steel; (b) tool steel; (c) high nickel steel; (d) ball bearing steel, (e) free machining steel that contains by weight 0.03 percent or more of lead, 0.05 percent or more of bismuth, 0.08 percent or more of sulfur, more than 0.4 percent of phosphorus, more than 0.05 percent of selenium, and/or more than 0.01 percent of tellurium; or (f) concrete reinforcing bars and rods. The following products are also excluded from the scope of the investigations:

Coiled products 5.50 mm or less in true diameter with an average partial decarburization per coil of no more than 70 microns in depth, no inclusions greater than 20 microns, containing by weight the following: carbon greater than or equal to 0.68 percent; aluminum less than or equal to 0.005 percent; phosphorus plus sulfur less than or equal to 0.040 percent; maximum combined copper, nickel and chromium content of 0.13 percent; and nitrogen less than or equal to 0.006 percent. This product is commonly referred to as “tire cord wire rod.”

Coiled products 7.9 mm to 18 mm in diameter, with a partial decarburization of 75 microns or less in depth and seams no more than 75 microns in depth, containing 0.48 percent to 0.73 percent carbon by weight. This product is commonly referred to as “valve spring quality wire rod.”
with mobility impairments who will need special assistance in gaining access to the Commission should contact the Office of the Secretary at 202-205-2000. General information concerning the Commission may also be obtained by accessing its internet server (http://www.usitc.gov or ftp://ftp.usitc.gov).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background.--The final phase of these investigations is being scheduled as a result of affirmative preliminary determinations by the Department of Commerce that certain benefits which constitute subsidies within the meaning of section 703 of the Act (19 U.S.C. § 1671b) are being provided to manufacturers, producers, or exporters of certain steel wire rod in Canada, Germany, Trinidad and Tobago, and Venezuela. The investigations were requested in a petition filed on February 26, 1997, by Connecticut Steel Corp., Wallingford, CT; Co-Steel Raritan, Perth Amboy, NJ; GS Industries, Inc., Georgetown, SC; Keystone Steel & Wire Co., Peoria, IL; North Star Steel Texas, Inc., Beaumont, TX; and Northwestern Steel & Wire, Sterling, IL.

Participation in the investigations and public service list.--Persons, including industrial users of the subject merchandise and, if the merchandise is sold at the retail level, representative consumer organizations, wishing to participate in the final phase of these investigations as parties must file an entry of appearance with the Secretary to the Commission, as provided in section 201.11 of the Commission's rules, no later than 21 days prior to the hearing date specified in this notice. A party that filed a notice of appearance during the preliminary phase of the investigations need not file an additional notice of appearance during this final phase. The Secretary will maintain a public service list containing the names and addresses of all persons, or their representatives, who are parties to the investigations.

Limited disclosure of business proprietary information (BPI) under an administrative protective order (APO) and BPI service list.--Pursuant to section 207.7(a) of the Commission's rules, the Secretary will make BPI gathered in the final phase of these investigations available to authorized applicants under the APO issued in the investigations, provided that the application is made no later than 21 days prior to the hearing date specified in this notice. Authorized applicants must represent interested parties, as defined by 19 U.S.C. § 1677(9), who are parties to the investigations. A party granted access to BPI in the preliminary phase of the investigations need not reapply for such access. A separate service list will be maintained by the Secretary for those parties authorized to receive BPI under the APO.

Staff report.--The prehearing staff report in the final phase of these investigations will be placed in the nonpublic record on October 2, 1997, and a public version will be issued thereafter, pursuant to section 207.22 of the Commission's rules.

Hearing.--The Commission will hold a hearing in connection with the final phase of these investigations beginning at 9:30 a.m. on October 16, 1997, at the U.S. International Trade Commission Building. Requests to appear at the hearing should be filed in writing with the Secretary to the Commission on or before October 8, 1997. A nonparty who has testimony that may aid the Commission's deliberations may request permission to present a short statement at the hearing. All parties and nonparties desiring to appear at the hearing and make oral presentations should attend a prehearing conference to be held at 9:30 a.m. on October 10, 1997, at the U.S. International Trade Commission Building. Oral testimony and written materials to be submitted at the public hearing are governed by sections 201.6(b)(2), 201.13(f), and 207.24 of the Commission's rules. Parties must submit any request to present a portion of their hearing testimony in camera no later than 7 days prior to the date of the hearing.
Written submissions.—Each party who is an interested party shall submit a prehearing brief to the Commission. Prehearing briefs must conform with the provisions of section 207.23 of the Commission’s rules; the deadline for filing is October 9, 1997. Parties may also file written testimony in connection with their presentation at the hearing, as provided in section 207.24 of the Commission’s rules, and posthearing briefs, which must conform with the provisions of section 207.25 of the Commission’s rules. The deadline for filing posthearing briefs is October 24, 1997; witness testimony must be filed no later than three days before the hearing. In addition, any person who has not entered an appearance as a party to the investigations may submit a written statement of information pertinent to the subject of the investigations on or before October 24, 1997. On November 13, 1997, the Commission will make available to parties all information on which they have not had an opportunity to comment. Parties may submit final comments on this information on or before November 17, 1997, but such final comments must not contain new factual information and must otherwise comply with section 207.30 of the Commission’s rules. All written submissions must conform with the provisions of section 201.8 of the Commission’s rules; any submissions that contain BPI must also conform with the requirements of sections 201.6, 207.3, and 207.7 of the Commission’s rules.

In accordance with sections 201.16(c) and 207.3 of the Commission’s rules, each document filed by a party to the investigations must be served on all other parties to the investigations (as identified by either the public or BPI service list), and a certificate of service must be timely filed. The Secretary will not accept a document for filing without a certificate of service.

AUTHORITY: These investigations are being conducted under authority of title VII of the Tariff Act of 1930; this notice is published pursuant to section 207.21 of the Commission’s rules.

By order of the Commission.

Donna R. Koehnke
Secretary

Issued: August 11, 1997
September 15, 1997

Ms. Marcia E. Miller
Chairman
International Trade Commission
#500 E Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20436

Dear Chairman Miller:

I am writing on behalf of one of my constituents, Mr. Otis Reed, of Collis, Inc. In Elizabethtown, Kentucky.

In recent correspondence to me regarding Mr. Reed’s concern with an artificial increase in the price for rolled wire, you stated that the Department of Commerce was to make a preliminary dumping determination by August 5th. Since your first response dated June 9th, I have received no further information. I have enclosed copies of Mr. Reed’s initial letter to me, my letter to you, and your response. I would appreciate your keeping me apprised of any further activity on this matter. Please direct all correspondence to me so that I may follow-up with Mr. Reed personally.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Mitch McConnell
United States Senator

MM/Img

Enclosures
June 9, 1997

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator McConnell:

Thank you for your recent inquiry on behalf of Mr. Otis Reed, Human Resource Administrator of Collis, Inc., Elizabethtown, Kentucky, concerning the Commission's ongoing antidumping and countervailing duty investigations Nos. 701-TA-368-371 and 731-TA-763-766 (Final), Certain Steel Wire Rod from Canada, Germany, Trinidad and Tobago, and Venezuela. Mr. Reed expressed concern that issuance of antidumping duty orders would result in higher steel wire rod prices to wire products manufacturers.

The investigations were initiated by the U.S. Department of Commerce pursuant to a petition filed by Connecticut Steel Corporation (Wallingford, CT), Co-Steel Raritan (Perth Amboy, NJ), GS Industries, Inc. (Georgetown, SC, and Kansas City, MO), Keystone Steel & Wire Company (Peoria, IL), North Star Steel Texas, Inc. (Beaumont, TX), and Northwestern Steel & Wire (Sterling, IL).

Antidumping and countervailing duty investigations are conducted by the U.S. Department of Commerce and the U.S. International Trade Commission. A full investigation involves four phases, including preliminary and final phases at each agency. Commerce may issue an antidumping or countervailing duty order only if Commerce has found dumping and/or a subsidy and the Commission has found that a domestic industry is materially injured or threatened with material injury, or that the establishment of an industry is materially retarded, by reason of imports of goods that Commerce has found are subsidized or are being sold at less than fair value (dumped).

The Commission instituted its preliminary phase of the requested investigations effective February 26, 1997. On March 19, 1997, the Commission's Director of Operations held a conference at which all parties expressing an interest were provided with an opportunity to present their views. On April 11, 1997, the Commission, by votes of 4-0 (for Canada, Germany, and Venezuela) and 3-1 (for Trinidad and Tobago), made affirmative determinations in the preliminary phase, finding that there is a reasonable indication that the domestic industry producing
certain steel wire rod is materially injured by reason of allegedly dumped and subsidized imports from Canada, Germany, Trinidad and Tobago, and Venezuela. A copy of the Commission's report issued in connection with this phase of the investigations is enclosed.

In light of the Commission's affirmative injury determinations in the preliminary phase of the investigations, the Department of Commerce must make preliminary dumping and subsidy determinations. If Commerce's preliminary dumping or subsidy determination is affirmative, it then makes a final dumping or subsidy determination. Under the currently announced schedule, Commerce is to make its preliminary dumping determinations by August 5, 1997, and its preliminary subsidy determinations by July 28, 1997. Commerce may extend these dates if more time is needed to make its determinations.

The Commission will proceed to make final injury determinations if Commerce makes affirmative final dumping or subsidy determinations. Assuming affirmative final Commerce determinations, the Commission is likely to make its final injury determinations sometime in late 1997 or early 1998. The timing of the Commission's final determinations will depend upon when Commerce makes its preliminary and final determinations.

With regard to Mr. Reed's concerns about rod prices and the availability of imports, the Commission is required by statute to consider the volume, price effects, and impact of the subject imports on the domestic industry producing steel wire rod in making its injury determinations. Your letter and the enclosed correspondence from Mr. Reed concerning the possible impact that antidumping and countervailing duty orders might have on wire consumers have been made part of the Commission's record in these investigations. Please be assured that the Commission, as it does in all investigations, will carefully and thoroughly consider the evidence presented by Mr. Reed and other parties on these issues when it makes its determinations. Again, thank you very much for your interest in these investigations.

Sincerely,

Marcia E. Miller
Chairman

Enclosure
April 29, 1997

Senator Mitch McConnell
S R 120 Russell Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515-1072

Dear Senator McConnell:

Recently the domestic wire producers have convinced the International Trade Commission that foreign wire rod mills have created an unfavorable selling climate for them. From Collis' perspective this is far from the truth.

On your recent visit to our plant, you saw the great demand we have for rolled wire. In April the domestic producers raised the price for the rolled wire we use. They have also talked about another increase in July. We are not able to absorb the large increase the rod producers have already given to us much less the one proposed in July.

In order to remain competitive with our foreign competitors, we must have relief from the artificially inflated domestic wire prices. The way that we propose to keep wire prices realistic is to make the International Trade Commission aware that by accepting the domestic wire producers story at face value creates a detrimental climate for the wire product manufacturers in this country.

As a Kentucky manufacturer and employer of over 200 associates we need your assistance to see that the International Trade Commission is made aware of the problem we face. It is our contention that by eliminating their foreign competition the domestic wire producers are fostering a climate in which they can arbitrarily raise prices. We strive to face all competitors through producing a quality product at a fair cost. For the long term viability of their industry domestic wire producers need to develop the same mentality.

Thank you for all of the attention you give to this request. Please feel free to contact me to discuss this problem in more detail.

Sincerely,

Otis Reed, Jr.
Human Resource Administrator
September 15, 1997

Ms. Marcia E. Miller
Chairman
International Trade Commission
#500 E Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20436

Dear Chairman Miller:

I am writing on behalf of one of my constituents, Mr. Otis Reed, of Collis, Inc. in Elizabethtown, Kentucky.

In recent correspondence to me regarding Mr. Reed’s concern with an artificial increase in the price for rolled wire, you stated that the Department of Commerce was to make a preliminary dumping determination by August 5th. Since your first response dated June 9th, I have received no further information. I have enclosed copies of Mr. Reed’s initial letter to me, my letter to you, and your response. I would appreciate your keeping me apprised of any further activity on this matter. Please direct all correspondence to me so that I may follow-up with Mr. Reed personally.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

MITCH McCONNELL
UNITED STATES SENATOR

MM/Img

Enclosures
May 22, 1997

Ms. Marcia E. Miller
Chairman
International Trade Commission
#500 E Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20436

Dear Chairman Miller:

I am writing on behalf of one of my constituents, Mr. Otis Reed, of Coils, Inc. in Elizabethtown, Kentucky.

Mr. Reed is concerned that with an artificial increase in the price for rolled wire. I have enclosed a copy of Mr. Reed's letter to me and would appreciate a review of his concerns. Please direct all correspondence to me so that I may follow-up with Mr. Reed personally.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

MITCH MCCONNELL
UNITED STATES SENATOR

Enclosure
April 29, 1997

Senator Mitch McConnell
S R 120 Russell Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515-1072

Dear Senator McConnell:

Recently the domestic wire producers have convinced the International Trade Commission that foreign wire rod mills have created an unfavorable selling climate for them. From Collis’ perspective this is far from the truth.

On your recent visit to our plant, you saw the great demand we have for rolled wire. In April the domestic producers raised the price for the rolled wire we use. They have also talked about another increase in July. We are not able to absorb the large increase the rod producers have already given to us much less the one proposed in July.

In order to remain competitive with our foreign competitors, we must have relief from the artificially inflated domestic wire prices. The way that we propose to keep wire prices realistic is to make the International Trade Commission aware that by accepting the domestic wire producers story at face value creates a detrimental climate for the wire product manufacturers in this country.

As a Kentucky manufacturer and employer of over 200 associates we need your assistance to see that the International Trade Commission is made aware of the problem we face. It is our contention that by eliminating their foreign competition the domestic wire producers are fostering a climate in which they can arbitrarily raise prices. We strive to face all competitors through producing a quality product at a fair cost. For the long term viability of their industry domestic wire producers need to develop the same mentality.

Thank you for all of the attention you give to this request. Please feel free to contact me to discuss this problem in more detail.

Sincerely,

Otis Reed, Jr.
Human Resource Administrator
Honorable Mitch McConnell  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510-1702  

Dear Senator McConnell:

Thank you for your letter on behalf of your constituent, Jeffrey L. Mackin, General Counsel for Metal Sales Manufacturing Corporation in Louisville, Kentucky, regarding the recently filed unfair trade petitions on flat-rolled steel products from 21 countries. You note particular concern that the cases may result in antidumping duties being placed on imports of thin gauge galvanized steel products, which, according to Metal Sales, are not available from domestic producers or not available in sufficient quality to meet the firm's needs.

We appreciate receiving your views on this matter. In making its determinations, the Commission is required, among other things, to analyze the volume of imports, the effect of imports on U.S. prices of like merchandise, and the effect of imports on U.S. producers of like products. The issue of whether various niche products, including galvanized thin gauge steel, compete with domestic products is a matter of dispute between the parties and will be addressed further in final ITC investigations. Both sides agree, however, that the current large-scale modernization of the galvanizing sector will result in an expansion of the range and quality of products available domestically.
The preliminary investigations, based on 84 antidumping and countervailing petitions filed by domestic steel producers, were instituted by this agency on June 30, 1992. The Commission made affirmative preliminary determinations (i.e., that there is a reasonable indication of material injury or threat of material injury to the domestic industry) in 72 of the investigations, including investigations concerning corrosion-resistant (galvanized) products from Australia, Brazil, Canada, France, Germany, Japan, Korea, Mexico, New Zealand, and Sweden. Negative determinations were made in 12 investigations, including those involving corrosion-resistant products from Taiwan, which will terminate those investigations. Enclosed is a copy of the Commission's press release, which will provide you with additional information.

Commerce will continue its investigations with respect to the imported merchandise that was subject to an affirmative ITC preliminary determination. Commerce is presently scheduled to make its preliminary countervailing duty determinations on or about November 27, 1992, and its preliminary antidumping determinations on or about January 26, 1993.

If Commerce makes an affirmative preliminary determination, it notifies the ITC and the ITC commences a final injury investigation. At the time Commerce makes its affirmative preliminary determination it begins to require importers thereafter to post a cash deposit, bond or other security in an amount equal to the subsidy or margin of dumping that Commerce has found. If Commerce makes an affirmative final determination and the ITC also makes an affirmative final determination that the U.S. industry has been materially injured, or is threatened with material injury, by reason of the subsidized or dumped imports, Commerce then collects appropriate countervailing duties and antidumping duties on the imported merchandise.

If we can be of further assistance, please feel free to call upon us.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Don E. Newquist
Chairman

Enclosure
August 14, 1992

Mr. Don E. Newquist  
Chairman  
U.S. International Trade Commission  
500 E Street, SW  
Suite 700  
Washington, D.C. 20436

Dear Mr. Newquist:

I have recently received the enclosed letter from Mr. Jeffrey L. Mackin, General Counsel for Metal Sales, Manufacturing Corporation in Louisville, Kentucky.

Mr. Mackin is writing to express his concerns with the possible imposition of duties on certain steel products. Mr. Mackin points out that several steel items have been unfairly pulled into an anti-dumping suit, and that if a duty is placed on these materials, it would have a detrimental impact on the company, Metal Sales.

I share Mr. Mackin's concerns that the materials to which he refers which are not manufactured in the United States may be unfairly subjected to the proposed tariff. I would appreciate you looking into this matter and reviewing the products which may be subject to a tariff at your earliest possible convenience. Please forward your response to the attention of Patti Fine in my Washington office.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

MITCH McCONNELL  
UNITED STATES SENATOR  

MM/pef

Enclosure
The Honorable Wendell H. Ford  
Senate Majority Whip  
United States Senate  
S-148 Capital Bldg.  
Washington, D. C. 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
United States Senate  
Capital Bldg.  
Washington, D. C. 20510

Gentlemen:

Metal Sales Manufacturing Corporation is a Kentucky based nationwide manufacturer of building components with revenues exceeding $100 million and over 350 employees.

Enclosed please find a copy of a letter from Metal Sales' purchasing manager to Don Newquist, Chairman of the ITC concerning the potential levy of tariffs on some raw materials which Metal Sales is forced to import due to unavailability from domestic steel mills. These materials have been unfairly swept-up in the anti-dumping suits recently brought by several of the domestic steel mills. As Mr. Dowdell's letter notes, subjecting these materials to prohibitive tariffs could have a disastrous effect on Metal Sales' ability to remain competitive.

On behalf of the owners and employees of Metal Sales, many of whom are your constituents, I appeal for your vigorous, urgent assistance to insure that the materials to which Mr. Dowdell refers are not subjected to the proposed tariffs.

Thank you for your assistance with this matter and if I can provide any additional information or if you wish to discuss this matter, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey L. Mackin
General Counsel

JLM/jb

cc: J. L. Mackin
Don McClinton
Tom Morris
Scott Dowdell
July 14, 1992

Mr. Don Newquist,
Chairman
United States Inter. Trade Commission
Office of Investigation
Room 615
500 Street, SW
Washington, D. C. 20436

Reference: Tariff #7210.70.6060 - Prepainted Galvanize
Tariff #7219.49.0090 - Unpainted Galvanize
Tariff #7210.60.0000 - Painted and Unpainted Galvalume

Dear Mr. Newquist:

We are deeply concerned about the recent filing of trade lawsuits by several U.S. steel mills against the foreign producers of coated sheet products which we cannot otherwise purchase from domestic sources.

Our company, Metal Sales Manufacturing Corporation, is a national manufacturer of steel roofing and siding, which we sell through a broad network of distributors into the agricultural, industrial commercial, architectural and residential markets of all fifty U.S. states.

We purchase various widths and gauges of prepainted and bare flat rolled coiled sheet in both galvanize and galvalume substrates. In order to meet our specification, quality, and volume requirements, we must purchase our raw materials from a broad range of domestic and offshore suppliers.

A large percentage of our products, particularly those produced and sold on the West Coast, require prepainted and bare, .015 and lighter gauge, grade E coated steel coil which is either, not produced in the United States, or not produced to the quality levels which we require. The inclusion of these products in the recent steel trade lawsuit will either eliminate our ability to obtain raw materials altogether, raise the cost of this material unnecessarily, or force us to redesign our products.
Any of these occurrences will greatly affect our ability to compete against alternative products and puts the long term viability of our company at risk.

We, therefore, request that you eliminate these items and producing countries such as Japan, Australia, and Korea from the anti dumping and countervailing petitions filed by the U.S. steel industry.

Respectfully,  

Scott A. Dowdell, C.P.M.  
Purchasing Manager

cc: Jeff Mackin
Honorable Mitch McConnell  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510  

Dear Senator McConnell:

Thank you for your recent letter on behalf of your constituent Mr. Jim Ludwiczak, President of Blasting and Mining Consultants, Inc., Owensboro, Kentucky. Mr. Ludwiczak expressed concern about the burden imposed upon his firm in completing a Commission importer questionnaire in a recent preliminary Commission countervailing duty investigation, Portable Seismographs from Canada, investigation No. 701-TA-313 (Preliminary). He asserted that the petition forming the basis for the investigation was "frivolous" and seeks reimbursement for his expenses in completing the questionnaire.

The investigation to which Mr. Ludwiczak refers is a preliminary injury investigation conducted by the Commission under the U.S. countervailing duty law (section 701 et seq. of the Tariff Act of 1930, (19 U.S.C. 1671 et seq.). The Commission instituted the investigation in February 1992 following the filing of a petition with the Commission and the U.S. Department of Commerce by GeoSonics, Warrendale, Pennsylvania, alleging that a domestic industry is materially injured or threatened with material injury by reason of imports of portable seismographs from Canada that are allegedly subsidized by the Canadian Government.

Commerce, whose rules govern the content of petitions, found the petition to be properly filed and to provide sufficient basis for instituting an investigation. Subsequently, the Commission on March 24 made a unanimous affirmative preliminary injury determination. A copy of the Commission's report and findings on the preliminary investigation is enclosed.
Honorable Mitch McConnell  page 2

By way of background, under the U.S. countervailing duty law, petitions alleging injury from foreign subsidies are filed with the Commission and Commerce. If Commerce finds a subsidy and the Commission finds that a domestic industry is materially injured or threatened with material injury or the establishment of a domestic industry is materially retarded by reason of such subsidy, Commerce issues a countervailing duty order and a countervailing duty in an amount equal to the subsidy is collected on imports of the subject product.

Under the procedures set forth in the U.S. law, the Commission conducts preliminary and (if appropriate) final injury investigations. Preliminary injury investigations are completed within 45 days after the petition is filed. In such preliminary investigations the Commission determines whether there is a "reasonable indication" of the requisite injury by reason of the allegedly subsidized imports.

If the Commission makes a negative determination, proceedings at the Commission and Commerce are terminated. If the Commission's preliminary determination is in the affirmative, Commerce proceeds with its investigation and if it finds a subsidy, the Commission conducts a final investigation to determine whether the domestic industry is materially injured or threatened with material injury, or the establishment of a domestic industry is materially retarded, by reason of the imports that Commerce has found to be subsidized.

In making its preliminary and final injury determinations, the Commission is required, by statute, to base its decision on "substantial evidence" and to consider certain specified criteria including the volume of imports of the merchandise subject to investigation, the effect of those imports on prices in the United States for like products, the impact of such imports on domestic producers of like products, and other relevant economic factors. Since sufficiently detailed data are not generally available to the Commission from its files or from other Government agencies, the Commission generally must collect the necessary evidentiary data from domestic producers, importers, and other appropriate parties through questionnaires.

Commission questionnaires are mandatory and the Commission is authorized by law to compel recipients to provide information necessary to the Commission's decision-making process. Generally, the Commission estimates that it will take a domestic producer (who must provide considerably more information than an importer) about 60 hours to complete a.
producer's questionnaire, and that it will take an importer about 20 hours to complete an importer's questionnaire.

The Commission recognizes that the completion of questionnaires can be burdensome to companies. To the extent possible, the Commission seeks to minimize the amount of information required. Also, when possible, the Commission field tests draft questionnaires with firms in an industry in order that it might ask for data at a level of detail that firms can readily meet. Commission countervailing duty investigation questionnaires have been reviewed by the Office of Management and Budget and have been found to satisfy the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act.

The Commission is not authorized to reimburse a questionnaire respondent for costs incurred in completing a questionnaire, nor is the Commission authorized to seek to compel a petitioner to reimburse the respondent.

If we can be of further assistance in this matter, please feel free to call upon us.

Sincerely,

Don E. Newquist
Chairman

Enclosure
March 16, 1992

The Honorable Kenneth R. Mason  
Secretary  
U.S. International Trade Commission  
500 E Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20436

Dear Secretary Mason:

I have recently received the enclosed letter from Mr. Jim Ludwiczak, President of Blasting and Mining Consultants, Inc. in Owensboro, Kentucky.

Mr. Ludwiczak is concerned about the ramifications on his business of a complaint of unfair trade practices filed by the company GeoSonics against a Canadian firm, Instantel, Inc. Mr. Ludwiczak is interested in finding out whether or not GeoSonics can be held accountable for their actions. I would appreciate it if you would respond to Mr. Ludwiczak's concerns at your convenience. Please forward your response to the attention of Patti Fine in my Washington office.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

MITCH MCCONNELL  
UNITED STATES SENATOR

MM/pef  
Enclosure
Senator Mitch McConnell
241 Main Street, Room 102
Bowling Green, KY

February 27, 1992

Dear Senator McConnell,

Enclosed is a copy of a letter of protest I sent (in behalf of Blasting and Mining Consultants, BMC) to Secretary Mason, of the United States International Trade Commission. Case number (INV. no. 701-TA-313) (Preliminary).

The letter is self explanatory as far as our feelings toward the complaint filed by GeoSonics (a Pennsylvania firm) of unfair trade practices against Instantel, Inc. While we feel that this complaint will be dismissed, the servicing of this complaint has cost BMC considerably in loss time and money. Aside from filing costly legal action against GeoSonics ourselves, is there any other way where GeoSonics can be held accountable for their actions?

If not, is there some legislative action that can be introduced by your office to stop this kind of "harassing complaints" by disgruntled manufacturer whatever the product in the future?

I know that you and your staff are very busy, but could you follow this action to insure that BMC's interest is protected and that the matter is properly handled?

I appreciate you assistance.

YOURS TRULY,

JIM LUDWICZAK,
PRESIDENT

BLASTING AND MINING CONSULTANTS, INC.

enc: Letter to Secretary Mason.
      Cover of Importers' Questionnaire.
Madame Chairwoman: Thank you for the privilege of presenting a statement to the U.S. International Trade Commission this morning and especially for accommodating my "first day" schedule.

You are examining an issue of extreme importance to Kentucky. One of every fourteen jobs in my state is dependent upon the tobacco industry. The influx of imported tobacco has had a major role in the decline of tobacco production in Kentucky and for this reason, I called upon President Reagan in April, 1983 to carefully consider the impact of the imported product upon the domestic industry. My strong feeling is that the importation of foreign tobacco has a clearly demonstrable effect of enormous proportions, not only upon Kentucky, but all producing states.

I present the following points for your thoughtful deliberation in support of my position that imports are materially interfering with domestic tobacco programs and in particular, Burley tobacco, Kentucky's number one cash crop.

- Imports are up 289 percent since 1975 and 51.5 percent since 1978.
- Loan stock levels are dangerously high. Growers have placed an average of 37.4 percent of each year's crop for 1982-84 under price support.
- World production has increased steadily in the last 10 years.
- The U.S. price for Burley is substantially above the world price, indicating that the large world supply is aimed at the United States.
- Large losses are expected on loan stocks, which will cause grower assessments to rise. The costs of running the program are increasing substantially.
- Growers' income will drop substantially as a result of high loan stocks and large co-op losses.
For all of the above reasons plus many more which have been well presented by colleagues, I firmly believe that import relief is the last chance to provide an opportunity for other elements of the tobacco program to work. I am confident that you will conclude that imported tobacco substantially conflicts with the sound operation of the tobacco price support and production adjustment programs.

Thank you again for the opportunity to appear before you.
June 3, 2013

Re: USITC's Freedom of Information Act Request 13-22

Dear [Name],

This is in response to your requested dated April 17, 2013, which we received May 3, 2013. In that document you requested, pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), a copy of each written response or letter from the U.S. International Trade Commission to a Congressional Committee (not a congressional office) (or Committee Chair) in calendar years 2012 and 2013 to date.

We have found documents responsive to your request. They are enclosed.

The Commission makes a public docket, EDIS, available on the Internet at http://edis.usitc.gov. You may want to use that application's search capability for further research.

Please feel free to call me or Jacqueline Gross on 202-205-2000 with any questions.
Sincerely,

Lisa R. Barton
Acting Secretary

Enclosures
1. Letter to the Honorable Max Baucus dated February 20, 2013
2. Letter to the Honorable Max Baucus dated January 9, 2013
3. Letter to the Honorable Dave Camp dated October 15, 2012
4. Letter to the Honorable Max Baucus dated April 26, 2012
5. Letter to the Honorable David Camp dated April 23, 2012
February 20, 2013

The Honorable Max Baucus
Chairman
Committee on Finance
United States Senate
219 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

In response to your letter of December 13, 2012, the United States International Trade Commission has instituted the second of two investigations, No. 332-540, Digital Trade in the U.S. and Global Economies, Part 2, under section 332(g) of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1332(g)), for the purpose of providing the second of two reports requested by the Committee.

Enclosed for your information is a copy of the Commission's notice announcing institution of the investigation, which is being published in the Federal Register.

Please continue to call on us whenever we can be of assistance to you.

Sincerely,

Irving A. Williamson

Enclosure
The Honorable Max Baucus  
Chairman  
Committee of Finance  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510  

Dear Mr. Chairman:  

In response to your letter of December 13, 2012, the U.S. International Trade Commission has instituted the first of two investigations, No. 332-531, *Digital Trade in the U.S. and Global Economies, Part I*, under section 332(g) of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1332(g)).

Enclosed for your information is a copy of the Commission’s notice announcing institution of the investigation, which is being published in the *Federal Register*. The Commission expects to institute the second investigation relating to preparation of the second report in late January or early February 2013.

Please continue to call on us whenever we can be of assistance to you.

Sincerely,

Irving A. Williamson

Enclosure
Dear Mr. Chairman:

In response to your letter of September 12, 2012, the U.S. International Trade Commission has instituted investigation No. 332-537, Olive Oil: Conditions of Competition between U.S. and Major Foreign Supplier Countries, under section 332(g) of the Tariff Act of 1930.

The Commission has scheduled a public hearing for this investigation on December 5, 2012, and expects to transmit its report to the Committee by August 12, 2013. Enclosed for your information is a copy of the Commission's notice announcing institution of the investigation, which is being published in the Federal Register.

Please continue to call on us whenever we can be of assistance to you.

Sincerely,

Irving A. Williamson

Enclosure
The Honorable Max Baucus  
Chairman  
Committee on Finance  
United States Senate  
SD-219 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

In response to the Committee on Finance letter of April 26, 2011, the U.S. International Trade Commission has conducted its investigation No. 332-524, *Brazil: Competitive Factors in Brazil Affecting U.S. and Brazilian Agricultural Sales in Selected Third Country Markets*, under section 332(g) of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1332(g)). Copies of the report requested are enclosed.

The Commission will release this report to the public on May 25, 2012 unless instructed by the Committee to do so sooner.

Please continue to call on us whenever we can be of assistance to you.

Sincerely,

Deanna Tanner Okun

Enclosure
Dear Chairman Camp:


The Commission will release this report to the public on May 23, 2012, unless instructed by the Committee to do so sooner.

Please continue to call on us whenever we can be of assistance to you.

Sincerely,

Deanna Tanner Okun

Enclosure
For the two studies referenced in the enclosed transmittal letters (Inv. No. 332-524, *Brazil: Competitive Factors in Brazil Affecting U.S. and Brazilian Agricultural Sales in Selected Third Country Markets* and Inv. No. 332-526, *Business Jet Aircraft Industry: Structure and Factors Affecting Competitiveness*) dated April 26, 2012 and April 23, 2012, we assumed that you were requesting the transmittal letters and not the reports in your FOIA request. Electronic copies of the reports are available at the following weblinks:


Re: USITC’s Freedom of Information Act Request 12-07

Dear [REDACTED]

This is in response to your e-mail dated December 10, 2011, which we received on December 13, 2011. In that document you requested, pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), (1) an electronic copy of the records provided to the Honorable Chairman Danell Issa in January 2011 relating to the administration of the Freedom of the Information Act and (2) a copy of any correspondence sent to the Honorable Chairman Darrell Issa on the subject of the January 2011 inquiry, and any correspondence sent during the calendar year 2011 to Chairman Issa’s office on the subject of FOIA.

We have found documents responsive to your request. A portion of your request is being provided on CD in excel and bracketed where information is being withheld. The Commission has determined to withhold portions of the document pursuant to FOIA Exemption 6 (U.S.C. 552(b) (6)). Exemption 6 protects information about individuals when the disclosure of such information “would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.”

The Commission makes a public docket, EDIS, available on the Internet at edis.usitc.gov. You may want to use that application’s search capability for further research.

Please feel free to call me or Jacqueline Gross on 202-205-2000 with any questions.
Enclosures

1. Letter to Issa dated February 15, 2011 and excel spreadsheet sent (redacted)
2. Letter from Issa dated January 25, 2011

Sincerely,

James R. Holbein
Secretary
February 15, 2011

The Honorable Darrell B. Issa
Chairman
Committee on Oversight and Government Reform
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Thank you for your letter of January 25, 2011, requesting a copy of the Commission's Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) log for the past five years, certain information relating to currently outstanding FOIA requests, and certain information relating to instances in which the Commission was ordered to pay attorneys' fees or other litigation costs of a FOIA requestor.

Your letter listed five items, and we will respond in that order.

(1) The Commission's log for the period 2006 to the present is available and is provided on the enclosed disk, which is formatted in Excel;

(2)-(3) The Commission has no FOIA requests that are more than 45 days old.

(4)-(5) The Commission has not been ordered by a court to pay attorneys' fees or other litigation costs incurred by a FOIA requestor during the past five years.

We hope that the above and enclosed information is responsive to your request. If your staff has any questions, including about the information on the enclosed disk, they should feel free to call James R. Holbein, the Commission's Freedom of Information Act Officer (202-205-1873).

Sincerely,

Deanna Tanner Okun

Enclosure
Definition of Terms

1. The term "record" means any written, recorded, or graphic matter of any nature whatsoever, regardless of how recorded, and whether original or copy, including, but not limited to, the following: memoranda, reports, expense reports, books, manuals, instructions, financial reports, working papers, records notes, letters, notices, confirmations, telegrams, receipts, appraisals, pamphlets, magazines, newspapers, prospectuses, interoffice and intra office communications, electronic mail (e-mail), contracts, cables, notations of any type of conversation, telephone call, meeting or other communication, bulletins, printed matter, computer printouts, teletypes, invoices, transcripts, diaries, analyses, returns, summaries, minutes, bills, accounts, estimates, projections, comparisons, messages, correspondence, press releases, circulars, financial statements, reviews, opinions, offers, studies and investigations, questionnaires and surveys, and work sheets (and all drafts, preliminary versions, alterations, modifications, revisions, changes, and amendments of any of the foregoing, as well as any attachments or appendices thereto), and graphic or oral records or representations of any kind (including without limitation, photographs, charts, graphs, microfiche, microfilm, videotape, recordings and motion pictures), and electronic, mechanical, and electric records or representations of any kind (including, without limitation, tapes, cassettes, disks, and recordings) and other written, printed, typed, or other graphic or recorded matter of any kind or nature, however produced or reproduced, and whether preserved in writing, film, tape, disk, videotape or otherwise. A record bearing any notation not a part of the original text is to be considered a separate record. A draft or non-identical copy is a separate record within the meaning of this term.

2. The term "communication" means each manner or means of disclosure or exchange of information, regardless of means utilized, whether oral, electronic, by document or otherwise, and whether face-to-face, in a meeting, by telephone, mail, telexes, discussions, releases, personal delivery, or otherwise.

3. The terms "referring or relating," with respect to any given subject, means anything that constitutes, contains, embodies, reflects, identifies, states, refers to, deals with or is in any manner whatsoever pertinent to that subject.
January 25, 2011

Marilyn R. Abbott
Secretary to the Commission
United States International Trade Commission
500 E Street, S.W., Room 112A
Washington, D.C. 20436

Dear Ms. Abbott:

The Freedom of Information Act (“FOIA”) is one of the most important tools for government transparency and accountability. In their mission to find waste, fraud, and abuse, the oversight and investigative committees of Congress, including the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform (“Committee”), are often assisted by tips, complaints, and briefings from media organizations, watchdog groups, and concerned citizens. These private-sector actors are often the first to become aware of federal inefficiency or malfeasance. FOIA allows them to scrutinize the activities of federal agencies. Without FOIA, they could not hold the government accountable, nor could they provide crucial assistance to Congressional oversight. President Obama recognized the importance of FOIA when he made it the subject of an executive memorandum on his second day in office.¹

The Committee, as the principal oversight committee in the House of Representatives with broad oversight jurisdiction as set forth in House Rule X, is very interested in ensuring that all federal agencies respond in a timely, substantive, and non-discriminatory manner to requests for information under FOIA. To enable the Committee to understand the impact of recent changes to FOIA procedures and to evaluate agencies’ compliance with FOIA, please provide the following information, records, and explanations by February 15, 2011 at 5:00 pm.

1. Provide your agency’s FOIA log(s) for the five years preceding the date of this letter, in Microsoft Excel or a similar format that allows sorting by column or information category, including at least the following information: (a) the name of the requestor; (b) the date of the request; (c) a brief description of the documents or records sought by the request; (d) any tracking number assigned to the request by your agency pursuant to Section 7 of the OPEN Government Act of 2007;² (e) the date the request was closed, if it

²Pub. L. No. 110-175.
is not still outstanding; (f) whether any records were provided in response to the request; and (g) any additional identification number or code assigned to the request by your agency for internal use.

2. On each log provided in response to Request No. 1, identify each FOIA request to your agency that was submitted more than 45 days prior to the date of this letter and to which your agency has not yet issued a complete and final response.

3. For each FOIA request identified in response to Request No. 2, provide all communications between your agency and the requestor.

4. Identify any federal judicial action in which your agency, within the five years preceding the date of this letter, has been ordered by the court to pay any attorneys’ fees or other litigation costs incurred by a FOIA requestor under 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(E) or under any similar law or regulation.

5. For each federal action identified in response to Request No. 4, provide a copy of the court order requiring your agency to pay attorney fees or other litigation costs.

Please note that for purposes of responding to this request, the terms “records,” “communications,” and “referring or relating” should be interpreted consistently with the attached Definitions of Terms.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter. If you have any questions regarding this request, please contact Hudson Hollister or Tegan Millsap with the Committee staff at (202) 225-5074.

Sincerely,

Darrell Issa
Chairman

cc: Hon. Elijah Cummings, Ranking Member, Committee on Oversight and Government Reform

David Ferriero, Archivist of the United States

Miriam Nisbet, Director, National Archives, Office of Government Information Services

Attachment