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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-2506

September 28, 2004

The Honorable James Jochum
Assistant Secretary for Import Administration
Herbert C. Hoover Building
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20230
(FAX: 202-482-0947)

Dear Mr. Jochum:

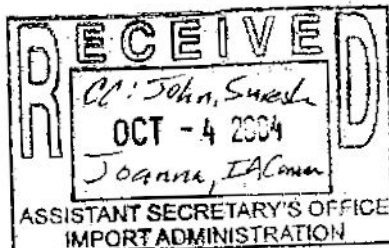
I have been asked by some constituents to contact you concerning two programs of great importance to the American wire and wire products industry – the OECD steel subsidy negotiations and the Steel Import Monitoring and Analysis (SIMA) System.

Wire and wire products are an important component of the steel industry. I am asking that you include these products in the scope of both of these programs. Carbon, stainless and other alloy steel wire (HTS 7217, 7223 and 7229) and wire products – including wire strand and rope (HTS 7312, barbed wire (HTS 7313), wire cloth, grill, netting and fencing (HTS 7314), and wire nails and staples (HTS 7317) must be covered by any final steel subsidies agreement and included in the scope of the SIMA system.

I am very pleased to learn that the United States has been the leader in pressing for the inclusion of wire and wire products in the steel subsidy negotiations, and I congratulate you and your staff for this achievement. I also urge you to continue to press our trading partners to resume these negotiations for a steel subsidies agreement. This is an important endeavor for all of the US steel industry, and it needs to be completed as soon as possible.

The domestic wire and wire products industry employs over 22,000 workers in over 160 plants and facilities located in 32 states. American manufacturers of steel wire and wire products have combined annual sales in excess of \$9.7 billion.

Thank you for your assistance in insuring that this vital part of the American steel industry is included in these important programs. If you have any questions, please contact my staff.



Spetina, Lorentzen

Sincerely,

Sam Graves
Member of Congress