



NATIONAL STEEL BRIDGE ALLIANCE

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September 24, 2004

Mr. Kelly Parkhill
Director for Industry Support and Analysis
Import Administration, Room 3713
US Department of Commerce
14th and Constitution Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20230

Re: Request for Comments on Steel Import Monitoring and Analysis System

Dear Mr. Parkhill:

I am writing in response to a request for comments that appeared in a federal register notice of August 24, 2004. The decision by the US Department of Commerce to proceed with this effort to permanently install the import monitoring system is very important to the steel industry.

The National Steel Bridge Alliance (NSBA) encourages the use of domestic steel in the bridge construction. Steel production among the member countries of NAFTA is steadily becoming a more fair and transparent competition. The NSBA has not experienced the US program to be a barrier to trade, but rather it has served as a tool to increase transparency. We believe that the import monitoring system in North American trade is a critical initiative and that it is important to continue and expand its coverage over a broader range of steel products. By presenting information to the market this program assists in making trade more transparent and supplies our domestic steel producers with more encompassing and timely information.

The NSBA requests that the Department of Commerce work to ensure that the import monitoring system is permanently installed prior to March of 2005. Thank you for the consideration of my comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Conn Abnee', is written over a light-colored background.

Conn Abnee
Executive Director