

04-002324-2

Waycross Recycling Company, Inc.

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May 25, 2004

The Honorable Don Evans, Secretary
Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Mr. Evans:

In 1999 the scrap metal recycling company my husband worked for closed the doors putting 20 people out of jobs, my husband included. None of them having more than a high school education and jobs scarce in this area, we went out on a limb and purchased the property and equipment. It took every penny we could scrape together and becoming more in debt than I could ever imagine, but there were 20 less people in the unemployment line.

I had never worked in the recycling industry before and was surprised to see the number of people in the community who also depended on this little company to help supplement their poverty level incomes - from the unemployed to single parents to the elderly. I have an 84-year-old gentleman who rides his bicycle all over town collecting used beverage cans to sell. He comes by at least once a day, rain or shine, in the cold of winter and the heat of summer.

In 2002 when scrap prices plummeted, there was a lot of recycling businesses that were unable to hold on. Again we had to go back to the banks with our hands out and our hearts in our shoes. We were barely able to hold on until prices started on the incline again.

Now in 2004 with the economy on the rise, there appears to be those who would like to have control over the recycling industry. The Copper and Brass Fabricators Council, Inc, and the Non-Ferrous Founders Society have recently filed an export control petition arguing that copper is in short supply in the U.S. and must be protected under section 7C of the Export Control Act. A steel group may soon be filing a similar petition, again claiming a shortage.

This is not the case. Neither copper nor steel is in short supply as these are global commodities. Their prices are not likely to be lowered by restricting exports as history suggests prices would rise higher. Scrap metals markets, like those of other commodities are cyclical. Increases in price are always followed by declines as is happening now.

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We respectfully ask you to protect the free trade of copper and ferrous scrap by opposing the copper petition for export controls and the steel petition if it is filed. There are a lot of mom and pop companies such as ours that would be adversely affected should this action be set in place. Please help us save our and our employees livelihood.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "K. Lynette Cantrell".

K. Lynette Cantrell