

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2503

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:

A constituent of mine, Wire Rope Corporation, has expressed concern regarding the scope of 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, the domestic wire industry employs approximately 21,000 workers in more than 156 plants in 33 states, and American manufacturers of steel wire industry have combined annual sales in excess of \$9.76 billion.

I request that you consider including the following products in the scope of both of these programs and that they be covered by any final steel subsidies agreement: 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).

Additionally, please review and consider including the above items to the scope of the SIMA system and also carbon wire rod (HT 7213, 7214, 7215) stainless wire rod (HT 7221, 7222), alloy wire rod (HTS 7227, 7228) and garment hangers (HTS 7326.20.0020).

I commend the work of the Department of Commerce 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

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.

Sincerely,

