



**American
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Institute**

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Thomas J. Gibson
President and Chief Executive Officer

May 12, 2011

The Honorable Tim Murphy
322 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Bill Shuster
204 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Jim Costa
1314 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Tim Walz
1722 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressmen:

On behalf of the American Iron and Steel Institute (AISI), I am writing to express our support for your legislation, the Infrastructure Jobs and Energy Independence Act. This legislation will lower energy costs for domestic manufacturing, like the steel industry, allowing us to maximize our productivity and international competitiveness, while maintaining valuable American jobs.

AISI is the trade association representing U.S. and North American steelmaking companies. We are comprised of 25 member companies, including integrated and electric arc furnace steelmakers, and 118 associate and affiliate members who are suppliers to, or customers of, the steel industry. AISI's member companies represent approximately 80 percent of both U.S. and North American steel capacity.

In order to reduce its energy costs, the industry has lowered its energy-intensity by 30% since 1990. In fact, a recent Department of Energy-sponsored report concluded that the steel industry in the U.S. is the most energy efficient of any major steel producing country. Nevertheless, as major consumers of energy, and natural gas in particular, steel companies are negatively impacted by high prices. Reliable and plentiful natural gas is essential to our current productivity, future growth, and international competitiveness.

Furthermore, steel pipe and tubing are integral to both the gathering and transmission of oil and natural gas. It is essential that these materials be produced in the U.S., rather than in other nations with lower rates of energy efficiency, so that American manufacturing can benefit from domestic energy exploration and production.

Your legislation will move forward with the leasing program of the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS), putting us on a path to energy independence, while also using the revenue generated to address national infrastructure, alternative energy, and energy efficiency goals. The bill is a key part of a comprehensive national energy independence strategy, and AISI is proud to support it.

The steel industry urges all members of the House of Representatives to cosponsor your legislation, and we thank you for your continued efforts on behalf of American manufacturing.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Thomas J. Gibson".

Thomas J. Gibson

*Representing steel producers
in Canada, Mexico and the United States*