



American Wire Producers Association

908 King Street, Suite 320

Alexandria, VA 22314

January 20, 2025

President Donald J. Trump  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Trump,

On behalf of the American Wire Producers Association (AWPA), I write to congratulate you on your historic inauguration. AWPA – a trade association representing between 80 and 90% of the production of carbon, alloy, and stainless steel wire and wire products in the United States – stands ready to work with the Trump-Vance Administration to further strengthen U.S. manufacturing, to the benefit of our economic and national security.

During your first term, you took historic action to reorient our country's trade policies. AWPA is grateful for your prioritization of U.S. manufacturing, and, in particular, your ongoing commitment to ensuring a robust domestic steel industry through your landmark Section 232 program as well as other initiatives. To that end, we emphasize that the wire and wire products sector is a critical piece of the domestic steel supply chain. As the Trump-Vance Administration works to further bolster the U.S. steel industry, we urge to you to do so in such a way that benefits not only basic steel manufacturing, but also those downstream products that are made primarily of steel, including a vast array of wire products. As our industry knows all too well, when the United States imposes trade measures on foreign imports in response to unfair trade practices, the U.S. market often sees imports shift downstream as foreign producers seek to avoid tariffs and other trade remedies. We strongly encourage your Administration to remain vigilant and responsive to these market dynamics.

Relatedly, we urge the Trump-Vance Administration to further improve the Commerce Department's Steel Import Monitoring and Analysis (SIMA) system, including through the inclusion of additional downstream steel products. This expansion would provide more timely data to help additional domestic companies and other stakeholders better monitor import trends – increasingly necessary as those seeking to evade our trade laws move downstream in the steel supply chain. Access to these timely statistics would make it easier to identify potential transshipment and circumvention of Section 232 tariffs as well as the Section 301 China tariffs on downstream steel products. More broadly, we would welcome the opportunity to continue working with the Commerce Department to improve the accuracy of our steel import data and to increase cross-border data sharing to better ensure that the steel products entering into the United States are doing so transparently and in a manner consistent with U.S. trade laws.

Finally, AWPA applauds your commitment to trade enforcement and we pledge to work with your Administration and our Congressional champions to further strengthen U.S. trade laws and hold bad actors accountable. Specifically, this includes the following bipartisan, bicameral measures:

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- *The Protecting American Industry and Labor from International Trade Crimes Act*, which directs the U.S. Department of Justice to establish a new task force dedicated to investigating and prosecuting international trade crimes, including customs fraud, duty evasion, and transshipment, and authorizes critical funding for these efforts;
- *The Leveling the Playing Field Act 2.0*, which would update U.S. trade laws to ensure that domestic industries are able to pursue and rely on remedies to address new and evolving unfair trade practices such as cross-border subsidies (e.g., China’s “Belt and Road” initiative) and “country hopping” to evade application of antidumping and countervailing duty orders; and
- *The Fighting Trade Cheats Act*, which would give Customs and Border Protection more tools to combat and deter customs fraud.

Again, on behalf of the AWPA, its member companies and their workers, congratulations on your inauguration. We wish you luck as you begin your second term and we look forward to working with you to strengthen the U.S. steel supply chain and to crack down on foreign competitors who continue to exploit our trade laws and undermine American companies and workers.

Sincerely,

Timothy Becker  
President, Hickory Springs Mfg.  
President, American Wire Producers Association

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