



# STATE OF MINNESOTA

## Office of Governor Mark Dayton

116 Veterans Service Building ♦ 20 West 12th Street ♦ Saint Paul, MN 55155

July 8, 2014

The President  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss Minnesota's disastrous flooding with you during your recent visit here. Regrettably, I was unable to discuss another very serious issue with you.

I know you are well-aware of the importance of our country's steel industry to Minnesota's Iron Range. Currently, companies on the Range are operating at close to full production. However, their future production levels will depend upon the demand for domestic steel products. That demand is now being eroded by the dumping of foreign steel products on the U.S. market.

Severe damage is being inflicted by foreign imports of oil country tubular goods (OCTG), which are used in the extraction of oil and natural gas. Those imports have doubled since 2008, and they are taking an ever-increasing market share away from American steel producers.

A year ago, domestic producers petitioned the U.S. Department of Commerce to investigate whether foreign products were being dumped illegally on the U.S. market. In its preliminary determination, the Commerce Department ruled that OCTG imports from eight countries were, in fact, being dumped. However, the Department made the preliminary determination that there was not dumping by the Republic of Korea.

On May 15<sup>th</sup>, 57 U.S. Senators expressed their concerns to Secretary Pritzker. On June 10<sup>th</sup>, 155 Members of the U.S. House of Representatives sent a similar letter. The Senators' letter said, in part: "Korea has one of the world's largest steel industries but no domestic OCTG market. The result is that Korean producers are exporting an increasing volume of OCTG to the United States. We ask the Department to closely verify and further analyze the information submitted by the Korean producers to ensure its accuracy. We are concerned that certain information used for the preliminary determination did not fully reflect the costs of production and sales for the Korean producers . . . ."

I respectfully ask you to instruct the Commerce Department to fully consider those factors in its final determination. A halt to any illegal trade practices by the Republic of Korea is crucial to the Iron Range of Minnesota.

Thank you in advance for your attention to my request.

Sincerely,



Mark Dayton  
Governor