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United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510 - 3505

August 29, 2016

Irving A. Williamson, Chairman
U.S. International Trade Commission
500 E Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20436

Dear Chairman Williamson:

I am writing in advance of the International Trade Commission's (ITC) final determinations regarding *Cold-Rolled Steel Products from Brazil, China, India, Japan, Korea, Russia, and the United Kingdom* (701-TA-540-544 AND 731-51-1283-1287, 1289-1290). The outcome of this trade case will be significant for the domestic steel industry, which is struggling to compete against a flood of foreign steel products. I urge the Commission to ensure any determination in the case responds to all unfairly traded imports and provides the U.S. steel sector the relief they need.

It is my understanding that the Russian respondents in the above-mentioned case believe they should not be included in the ITC's investigation and final determination. Russian producers Severstal Companies (Severstal) and Novolipetsk Steel OJSC (Novolipetsk) are the only Russian producers being investigated. The Commerce Department calculated an antidumping margin of 13.36 percent for Severstal imports and a de minimis antidumping margin for Novolipetsk. In the countervailing duty case, Commerce calculated a 6.95 percent subsidy rate for Novolipetsk and a de minimis rate for Severstal. The Russian respondents believe that because each received a de minimis rate in one of the cases, they should be excluded from the Commission's final determination in the cold-rolled steel products case.

All Russian imports covered in the case were found to have been unfairly traded by Commerce, which merits their inclusion by the ITC. Excluding Russian producers from the case simply because all Russian imports were not found to be both subsidized and dumped has no basis in U.S. trade law and would disadvantage U.S. producers who have been injured by Russian cold-rolled steel products. I urge the Commission to fully enforce U.S. trade law and ensure any ITC determination in this and all cases accommodates all unfairly traded imports under consideration.

Sincerely,



Sherrod Brown
United States Senator