United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

December 10, 2012

The Honorable Rebecca M. Blank
Acting Secretary of Commerce
U.S. Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Secretary Blank:

We are writing to urge the Department of Commerce to maintain the scope of antidumping (AD) and countervailing duty (CVD) orders on oil country tubular goods (OCTG) from China, and extend all efforts within your authority to prevent circumvention and evasion of these orders which have provided relief to the U.S. industry and American workers hurt by dumped and subsidized OCTG imports from China. Since 2010, these orders have been instrumental in helping to level the trade playing field against China's unfair trade practices and protect jobs in our states.

Unfortunately, these orders have been undermined by a variety of schemes designed to weaken them. These efforts include outright evasion and circumvention of the orders as well as less obvious but equally harmful attempts to narrow their scope. If successful, these ploys will enable Chinese companies to dump massive quantities of subsidized Chinese OCTG into the United States without paying the AD and CVD duties that they rightfully owe. The consequences are significant. Chinese actions will result in further injury to the thousands of American workers and businesses as well as the weakening of U.S. trade law.

Therefore, it is essential that the United States effectively enforce these AD and CVD orders against the full range of Chinese OCTG products. For example, it is critical that the Department emphasize to those who would seek to narrow the scope of the orders that mere processing of OCTG from China in third countries through heat treatment or other finishing operations does not change its country-of-origin to exempt it from AD and CVD duties. More generally, it is important that the Department work closely with U.S. Customs and Border Protection to make sure that schemes to evade these orders are detected and prevented.

Thank you for your consideration and your continued work to ensure that the AD and CVD orders are effectively administered and strongly enforced.

Sincerely,

Sherrod Brown
United States Senator

Rob Portman
United States Senator

Carl Levin
United States Senator

Dan Coats
United States Senator

Debbie Stabenow
United States Senator

Jeff Sessions
United States Senator

Amy Klobuchar
United States Senator

Richard Shelby
United States Senator

Al Franken
United States Senator

Bob Casey, Jr.