



May 31, 2017

Brad Botwin  
Director, Industrial Studies  
Office of Technology Evaluation, Bureau of Industry and Security  
U.S. Department of Commerce  
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW, Room 1093,  
Washington, DC 20230

Port Tampa Bay is Florida's largest seaport. The Port generates an annual economic impact to our region of \$17.2 billion and supports 85,000 jobs. An important segment of our business, generally running 300,000 to 400,000 tons annually, is the shipment of imported steel products (primarily coils, pipe, rebar and structural steel) to support the construction and manufacturing industries in Central Florida, particularly along the I-4 Corridor. Steel is also an important industry cluster in the Tampa Bay region with several companies located on or near the port involved in the processing and distribution of steel products. The Port also exports some fabricated steel products, as well as scrap metal.

To support the economic needs of the 10 million people living in the corridor, and the 66 million annual visitors to this region, Port Tampa Bay plays a critical role in delivering the products needed for the fastest growing region of our nation's third largest state. Because of our location further down the Florida peninsula, a great distance from most U.S. domestic steel mills, and the limited availability of certain steel products in the Southeast, our region relies significantly on foreign steel shipments to augment steel from distant U.S. steel mills. Businesses throughout our port and throughout Central Florida, including the manufacturing and construction industries, will be negatively impacted if the availability of steel and increased steel prices result from U.S. trade restrictions as part of the current Section 232 Steel Investigation. Furthermore, we are concerned that such restrictions would lead to retaliatory measures by other nations against U. S. exports that could further negatively impact other segments of the Port's commercial activity.

Thank-you for this opportunity to present our concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "A. Paul Anderson".

A. Paul Anderson  
President & CEO