



May 29, 2017

Federal Executive Order 232
Mr. Brad Botwin
Director Industrial Studies
Office of Technology Evaluation
Bureau of Industry and Security

Dear Brad,

After watching the Steel 232 COC hearing last week I know that a follow up communication is imperative. The hearing was so unbalanced I felt it was quite important to voice my opinion again.

Please review the two following points:

The domestic steel mills argued that they need more protection from imported steel so they can be more profitable. This would sustain investments needed to continue to produce steel in this country. This argument of course holds no water. All US steel mills were profitable last quarter. Nucor has always been profitable and recorded another record quarter. Big River steel just invested +- \$1 Billion dollars in a new steel mill. AM/NS just invested millions more for upgrades in the Calvert facility that is brand new by mill standards. Nucor just invested millions in the Berkley facility to upgrade hot rolling capabilities. They also just announced new rolling and galvanizing production in Kentucky. Acero Junction has just reopened now rolling steel. This is obviously only a few of the major investments in our domestic steel industry. The push for more egregious, protectionist, tariffs and quotas is nothing more than a free ride for this industry. There are legal avenues in place to make sure we are operating with fair trade. China's overcapacity in steel needs a political solution with strong support from all steel producing countries. The mood of the US right now is a path to further problems. We cannot be successful if we choose to solve our problems by building walls, banning immigration, shunning our allies and illegally trying to stop imported steel from entering our country.

Second, Titan Metal Service needs 5000 tons per month of light gauge (.011"- .018") galvanized commercial quality and structural steel to fill our customer requirements. These items are in VERY limited supply in the US. As we discussed all southern mills except for SDI will not produce these items. NMLK has limited availability and Nucor has asked to have them shut down under these 232 investigations by limiting slab supply. If Secretary Ross recommends any restriction on imported steel, we urgently request an exemption for all light gauge galvanized under .020". We are certain that the southeast construction industry will suffer to the point of devastating consequences if light gauge steel is restricted at all.

Yours Truly,

Matthew Rossi
Titan Metal Service, Inc.
1906 Maritime Blvd.
Tampa, FL 33605
Titanmetal.com