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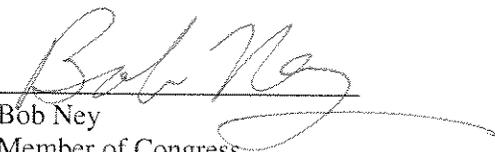
**Statement for the Congressional Steel Caucus**  
**JCCT Steel Dialogue Hearing June 14, 2006**

Establishing a fair playing field for American companies, including those in the steel industry, is something that I have fought for throughout my time in Congress. From marching with steelworkers during the Stand Up for Steel Campaign, to supporting section 201, and fair trade regulations, ensuring fair trade opportunities for domestic companies is a necessity.

US steel companies, such as Mittal Steel in Weirton and Wheeling Pittsburgh Steel, depend on policy like Section 201 tariff relief to stay competitive in the world market, and to continue recovering from the effects of illegally dumped foreign steel. Yesterday, I was pleased the US International Trade Commission recognized that the steel industry continues to need assistance in recovering from the illegal foreign dumping that took place in the 1990's. These and other tariffs that have been put in place on a variety of steel imports have been critical to the American steel industry and it is important that we continue moving forward instead of taking steps back.

We are all well aware that China's steel industry is growing at phenomenal rate. Some researchers suggest that China is now producing approximately one-third of all world production. This coupled with the new Steel Policy, which is said to include state provided tax support and interest subsidization support, the Chinese government has announced, it is more important than ever to work towards resolving any trade concerns that either government may have to maintain a fair playing field for the US steel industry.

I look forward to reviewing all the information that is shared today and will continue working side by side with all groups involved to ensure that the US government continues to stand up for steel.

  
Bob Ney  
Member of Congress

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