American Iron and Steel Institute

Steelgram

Immediate Attention Requested

June 9, 2009

To: Members of the House Steel Caucus
House staff assigned to steel and/or energy issues

PLEASE SUPPORT H.R. 2227 - The American Conservation and Clean Energy Independence Act

Background. As a product of the bipartisan Energy Working Group, H.R. 2227, the American Conservation and Clean Energy Independence Act is a comprehensive and balanced solution that addresses the energy reliability and supply concerns of U.S. manufacturers.

While the North American steel industry is already one of the most energy efficient in the world and the steel sector continues to make significant progress to further reduce greenhouse gas emissions by improving energy efficiency, a sound energy policy is imperative for future growth and current industry recovery. Reliable and reasonably priced natural gas is essential to steel industry's productivity and competitiveness. Natural gas availability and price increases put job security at risk in the steel industry, and highly-skilled steelmaking jobs will be pushed overseas to parts of the world that have lower energy costs if Congress does not act.

The American Conservation and Clean Energy Independence Act moves forward with the leasing program of the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS), putting us on a path to energy independence, while also containing equitable revenue sharing provisions for environmental restoration, energy infrastructure projects, alternative energy development and energy efficiency, and conservation programs. In order for the U.S. to totally rebound from the current economic crisis, a comprehensive energy plan, like H.R. 2227, must be in place.

Situation. H.R. 2227 was recently introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives by Congressmen Neil Abercrombie (D-HI) and Tim Murphy (R-PA) and has been referred to the House Committees on Natural Resources, Oversight and Government Reform, Energy and Commerce, Ways and Means, Science and Technology, Transportation and Infrastructure, Education and Labor, the Budget, Rules, and the Judiciary.

Request: Please cosponsor this legislation which will put the U.S. on a path toward energy independence by utilizing today's emerging new technologies to produce cleaner energy with our natural resources, such as nuclear power, clean coal, petroleum, natural gas, and alternative and synthetic fuels.

Thank you for your continued efforts on behalf of American manufacturing.

Sincerely,

Thomas J. Gibson

Thomas J. Gibson
President and CEO