



**American
Iron and Steel
Institute**

Steelgram

Immediate Attention Requested

February 15, 2012

To: Members of the U.S. House of Representatives
House staff assigned to steel and/or energy & transportation issues

**VOTE YES ON H.R. 7, THE AMERICAN ENERGY & INFRASTRUCTURE ACT AND
H.R. 3408, THE "PIONEERS" ACT**

Background: Reliable and plentiful sources of energy, natural gas in particular, are essential to the productivity and international competitiveness of the domestic steel industry. Furthermore, steel pipe and tubing are integral to both the gathering and transmission of oil and natural gas, providing key market opportunities for domestic manufacturing. Access to abundant and affordable domestic energy supply is essential to ensure that highly-skilled steelmaking jobs are not lost to overseas competitors that have lower energy costs.

At the same time, enactment of a new surface transportation law is long overdue. The last multi-year authorization bill expired in 2009 and our highway programs have been operating since then under a series of short-term extensions, with the most current set to expire on March 31, 2012. Inaction on passing a new multi-year bill is leaving our roads and bridge repairs underfunded, undermining plans to address commuter and shipping concerns, thus undermining U.S. industry's ability to compete internationally. New investments in highways, bridges, and transit infrastructure projects will spur a significant increase in the demand for domestic manufactured steel.

Situation: H.R. 3408, the PIONEERS Act, will promote development of domestic energy sources, expanding access and production from American oil and natural gas resources, both on- and off-shore. H.R. 7, the American Energy & Infrastructure Jobs Act, will dedicate the revenues from this expanded oil and gas production to fund a long-term highway infrastructure program. Taken together, by both expanding domestic energy supply and making substantial investment in critical infrastructure needs, these bills will aid in the recovery of domestic manufacturing and spur national economic growth. By lowering government barriers to American energy production, H.R. 3408 will support the creation of more than one million private-sector jobs. Simultaneously, H.R. 7 will fund efforts to repair our nation's roads and bridges, where nearly 35,000 American jobs are supported by every \$1 billion invested in federal highways.

Request: AISI asks members of the House to support both H.R. 7, the American Energy and Infrastructure Act, and H.R. 3408, the PIONEERS Act, when they are considered by the full House this week. These bills will use domestic energy resources to help grow the American economy, create jobs, and rebuild our crumbling transportation infrastructure. Thank you for your attention and support of the steel industry.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Thomas J. Gibson".

Thomas J. Gibson