

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

March 19, 2019

The Honorable Wilbur Ross  
Secretary of Commerce  
U.S. Department of Commerce  
1401 Constitution Avenue NW  
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Secretary Ross:

We write today to urge you to promptly consider and issue decisions on the Section 232 exclusion petitions filed by NLMK USA. NLMK has waited nearly a year for decisions on its petitions, a period that is well beyond your agency's estimates. This continued delay has cost the company \$160.7 million in tariffs since March 2018.

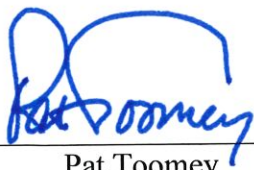
NLMK is a steel producer, with mills in Pennsylvania and Indiana. In Pennsylvania, NLMK emerged from the bankrupt and shuttered Sharon Steel mill and put American steelworkers back to work. It has requested exclusions from Section 232 duties for imports of its feedstock, 20-25 ton slabs that are only sporadically available in limited quantities domestically. Notably, imported slabs have no use except as feedstock for steel producers like NLMK.

NLMK originally filed its exclusion petitions on March 23, 2018, and they were accepted on April 12 and 13, 2018. In the nearly full year that has passed since then, NLMK has paid \$160.7 million in tariffs, a number that continues to rise with each month.

NLMK's steel mills employ 1,169 workers and supports another 7,945 indirect jobs. NLMK is the anchor tenant of the Paulsboro Marine Terminal on the New Jersey side of the Port of Philadelphia, an economic driver for Pennsylvania and New Jersey projected to bring over 2,000 jobs to the area. Prior to the implementation of the Section 232 tariffs, NLMK had planned a \$600 million investment to upgrade its facilities, including a substantial investment of approximately \$100 million in its Farrell, Pennsylvania facility. These plans are now on hold because of uncertainty in the market and — as it continues to await consideration of its exclusion petitions — in slab supply caused by the tariffs.

We thank you for your attention to this matter and again urge you to give NLMK's exclusion petitions prompt, full, and fair consideration. NLMK's steel production and manufacturing operations are critical contributors to Pennsylvania's economy. We stand ready to assist in any way that we can.

Sincerely,



Pat Toomey  
United States Senator



Mike Kelly  
Member of Congress