



June 21, 2017

The Honorable Wilbur L. Ross, Jr.
Secretary
U.S. Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Secretary Ross,

We, the undersigned representatives of the domestic aluminum industry – primary, midstream and downstream producers – respectfully request the Section 232 investigation into the national security implications of imported aluminum consider the effect of rampant Chinese aluminum overcapacity, and exempt Canadian imports and other foreign producers such as the European Union who are not the primary contributors to rising global overcapacity. We applaud the Administration's clear intent to support U.S. aluminum producers, fabricators, and recyclers that support nearly 713,000 direct and indirect American jobs and \$186 billion in economic output, which is more than 1 percent of U.S. Gross Domestic Product.

It is essential that any final action in this investigation provide solutions to the true underlying problem of Chinese aluminum overcapacity, which currently results in depressed global prices and negatively affects the global aluminum market. We also urge the Administration to address the issue of persistent Chinese evasion of existing U.S. customs tariffs and antidumping and countervailing duties. At the same time, the investigation must minimize unintended consequences for integrated U.S. aluminum supply chains and imports from our responsible trading partners.

The U.S. aluminum industry has long relied on Canada as a vital trading partner. For instance, it is estimated that the average car part, will cross the U.S.-Canada border six times before final use. Furthermore, Canadian factories are defined under U.S. law as part of our National Defense Technology and Industrial Base. Any action that needlessly impedes the flow of metal between the U.S. and Canada would seriously damage supply chains that the domestic industry has built over decades, and put at risk 97 percent of jobs in the U.S. aluminum industry.

The fundamental issue hurting the aluminum industry today is China's rampant overcapacity, and its distortive market incentives. Now is the time to address these issues threatening the U.S. aluminum industry.

Sincerely,

Heidi Brock
President & CEO
The Aluminum Association

Jeff Henderson
President
Aluminum Extruders Council