March 5, 2018

The President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

On behalf of the Aluminum Association’s 114 member companies and the 713,000 U.S. jobs our industry supports, we are grateful for the attention that you and your administration have dedicated to our industry. However, we are deeply concerned about the effects of a global tariff on aluminum production and jobs in the United States. We would appreciate an opportunity to work with your administration on a targeted remedy that focuses on China and exempts vital trading partners including Canada, the European Union and other countries that operate as market economies.

China’s illegal subsidies to producers of both primary aluminum and semi-fabricated aluminum products have resulted in significant overcapacity and negatively impacted the operations of U.S. aluminum companies. This overcapacity has been a central focus of the Aluminum Association’s long-standing advocacy for a government-to-government negotiated agreement that brings China to the table to discuss – and act on – its illegally subsidized overcapacity.

Unfortunately, the tariffs proposed will do little to address the fundamental problem of massive aluminum overcapacity in China, while impacting supply chains with vital trading partners who play by the rules. We fear that the proposed tariff may do more harm than good, hurting rather than helping the 97 percent of aluminum industry jobs in mid-and-downstream production processes.

The Aluminum Association therefore proposes the following actions to address the serious global trade challenges facing the domestic aluminum industry today:

- **Address Chinese Overcapacity:** Move toward immediate government-to-government negotiations with China to address persistent overcapacity in both primary and semi-fabricated aluminum sectors;

- **Targeted Tariffs:** Implement a remedy that will address Chinese overcapacity through targeted action on China and possibly other countries with an established history of duty evasion and circumvention;
• **Exemption for Vital Trading Partners**: Avoid disruption of current trading relationships between the United States and critical trading partner countries that operate as market economies (including Canada and the European Union);

• **Support Full Industry Value Chain**: Address the needs of the entire domestic aluminum value chain to avoid unintended consequences for U.S. aluminum manufacturing jobs in mid-and-downstream production processes;

• **Import Monitoring System**: Adopt an aluminum import monitoring system to provide greater transparency for aluminum and aluminum products entering the United States.

As time is of the essence, we would appreciate an opportunity to discuss these recommended actions with members of your administration. We hope to ensure that the remedy you put in place ultimately achieves our common objectives of creating a level playing field for the U.S. aluminum industry, and maintaining its ability to make long-term contributions to our country’s economic strength, national security and jobs.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Heidi Brock
President & Chief Executive Officer

Cc:  The Honorable Wilbur L. Ross, Jr.
     Secretary of Commerce

     Ambassador Robert E. Lighthizer
     United States Trade Representative

     The Honorable Gary D. Cohn
     Assistant to the President and
     Director, National Economic Council

     The Honorable Peter Navarro
     Director of White House Office of Trade and Manufacturing Policy