



December 2, 2009

Senate Finance Committee
219 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC, 20510

Subject: Senate Bill S.2567 – Carbonaceous Paste Tariff Suspension

I am writing on behalf of Elkem Carbon to express our support for Senate Bill S-2567 which includes the suspension of the tariff on carbonaceous paste.

Elkem was the last domestic producer of this material until 2006 when, due to decreasing US demand, our production facility in Keokuk Iowa was shut down. There are no producers of electrode paste in the US at this time.

Elkem is currently the major importer of this material, bringing product into the US from our production plants in Brazil, China, Norway and South Africa.

The elimination of this tariff will result in a savings to all of our US customers, who use this product in domestic manufacturing operations.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Nilsen'.

Mark Nilsen
Marketing & Sales Director

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