

Without a Presidential Exemption, the Taconite RTR Rule would create significant unprecedented burdens for domestic steel industry and manufacturers and negatively impact the workforce, who are a vital part of the U. S. economy. The Taconite RTR Rule would require immediate actions by U. S. Steel that unfairly burden U. S. Steel, impose actions that are either unsafe, unlawful, impossible, impractical and/or are ineffective; and require U. S. Steel to spend over \$150 million on unproven technologies, thereby impacting its ability to support the nation's growing economy, infrastructure needs, and continued thriving investments. In addition, the Taconite RTR Rule would substantially raise costs to consumers across the country and would imperil the economic security of the nation.

CONCLUSION

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this Request for a Presidential Exemption. The bases of granting an exemption are well grounded in the facts that support a clear finding that the technologies to implement the Taconite RTR Rule are not available, and because of the financial and infrastructure implications, it is in the interest of national security to grant the request. Furthermore, while not a factor specifically listed as a basis for the exemption, it is important to note that granting the request will not result in any unacceptable risks to the public or the environment as EPA has determined that the taconite iron ore processing source category presents acceptable risks with an ample margin of safety with the present controls, and requirements and limits already in effect to which U. S. Steel consistently demonstrates compliance. If you have questions or need additional information, please contact me at (218) 749-7364.

Sincerely,



Chrissy Bartovich
Senior Director - Environmental
U. S. Steel Minnesota Ore Operations

cc: A. Szabo, EPA OA
J. Schwab, EPA OA
A. Tardif, EPA OAR
S. Campbell, USS
C. Hardin, USS
B. Tunno, USS
T. Woodwell, USS