

Throughout the rulemaking process, EPA worked to address technical and analytical flaws with these rules raised by multiple stakeholders. The modifications incorporated into the final rules in response to stakeholder feedback were important steps in the right direction, but we remain concerned they did not go far enough in addressing fundamental flaws with the rules. Further modifications are needed to address new information provided to EPA by stakeholders to ensure the rules are achievable by the industry, as required by the Clean Air Act, and that the regulations do not induce unintended consequences, such as loss of domestic steelmaking capacity and jobs. Given all that is at stake in terms of our country's advanced steel manufacturing capabilities and the good-paying, middle class union jobs the steel industry sustains, it is critically important that these rules are technically and economically feasible and do not undermine the competitiveness of the industry.

A stay of these rules will allow EPA to continue to work with industry stakeholders, including domestic companies and the USW, to obtain a complete and thorough understanding of the new information, equipment, and processes and ensure regulations moving forward are sound policy. Absent a stay, the steel industry will be forced to proceed with planning and spending for unproven technologies and work practices while the final provisions of the rules remain uncertain. Given that these regulations will impact nearly every aspect of the integrated iron and steelmaking process, it is imperative that EPA grant both the petitions for reconsideration and requests for stay of the rules.

We urge EPA to grant the industry's petitions for reconsideration and stay requests to ensure that these regulations both safeguard our environment and preserve production capacity and jobs in our strategically important integrated iron and steel sector. Thank you for your work to date with us on these important matters.

Sincerely,



Sherrod Brown
United States Senator



Mike Braun
United States Senator



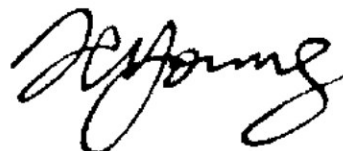
Robert P. Casey, Jr.
United States Senator



L.D. Vance
United States Senator



Amy Klobuchar
United States Senator



Todd Young
United States Senator

cc: Janet McCabe, Deputy Administrator, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency