



December 3, 2014

The Honorable Cliff Hite
Chairman
Ohio Senate Agriculture Committee
1 Capitol Square, First Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215

RE: H.B. 490 -- Ohio Steel Industry Support for Steel Pipe Monitoring Program

Dear Chairman Hite:

We write on behalf of Ohio's steel manufacturers in opposition of the proposed change to the steel pipe monitoring program included in House Bill 490.

The current steel pipe monitoring program provides for a transparent record keeping system of the country of origin for manufactured oil country tubular good (OCTG) steel products used in the exploration of natural gas or hazardous liquids.

Ohio's steel industry is supportive of the responsible development of the Utica and Marcellus Shale in Ohio. As one of the largest energy consumers, the steel industry looks forward to the abundant supply of natural gas to affordably fuel our country. However, the change proposed in H.B. 490 would delay the original effective date for the steel pipe monitoring program by two years. [Section 1509.16. (B)]

The current steel pipe monitoring program supports Ohioans – supports Ohio's manufacturing base – and supports State leadership. We urge you to reinstate the original effective date of program implementation (March 31, 2015) and remove the change to the program's effective date as proposed in House Bill 490. We thank you for your interest in this important issue. Please let us know if you have any questions, or wish to discuss further.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Brenda Schulz".

Brenda Schulz
Nucor Steel Marion, Inc.
Chair, Ohio Steel Council

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Emily Petrovich".

Emily Petrovich
United States Steel Corporation
Chair, Ohio Steel Council Government Affairs
Committee

Cc: Senate Agriculture Committee