

United States Senate  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

The Honorable Elaine Chao  
Secretary of Labor  
200 Constitution Ave, NW  
Washington, DC, 20210

December 19, 2007

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing in strong support of the petition filed by the Glass, Molders, Pottery, Plastics and Allied Workers International Union. The petition was filed on behalf of the employees at American Standard Inc. in Tiffin, Ohio, for Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA), as outlined in the Trade Adjustment Act of 1974.

On December 5, 2007, a WARN notice was issued to the employees at American Standard Inc. The plant closure will adversely affect 165 hourly employees and 35 salary employees. I am confident that the investigation conducted by the Department of Labor will reveal that sales and production at American Standard Inc. have declined, largely as the result of foreign competition. Additionally, the company operates eight plants throughout Canada, Mexico and Brazil, resulting in an average wage and benefits disparity of nearly \$24/hr between the Tiffin and Mexico plants.

As a result of mass lay-offs at the Tiffin plant, the employees of American Standard Inc. were found eligible for TAA benefits in January of 2004. I believe it is both appropriate and essential that the Department of Labor make the same determination in this case and find the employees at American Standard Inc. eligible for TAA benefits. Please keep me updated regarding the status of the current TAA petition.

Thank you for your attention to this matter, and I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,



Sherrod Brown  
United States Senator

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March 7, 2008

Douglas Small  
Deputy Assistant Secretary  
U.S. Department of Labor, Division of Trade Adjustment Assistance  
200 Constitution Ave NW, Room C5311  
Washington, District of Columbia 20210

Dear Mr. Small:

I am writing on behalf of the employees of American Standard in Tiffin, OH. On December 5, 2007 a WARN notice was issued to the employees at American Standard Inc. The plant closure is adversely affecting 165 hourly and 35 salary employees. On December 14, 2007 a petition was filed for Trade Adjustment Assistance by Mr. Edward Bedocs of the Glass, Molders, Pottery, Plastics and Allied Workers International Union.

Please provide my office with information about the status of the TAA petition, including details about when the workers can expect to receive a decision. Inasmuch as time is of the essence for the workers and their families, your immediate response is greatly appreciated. Your response should be directed to my Cleveland office at 1301 East 9th Street, Suite 1710, Cleveland, Ohio 44114 (Phone: 216-522-7272; Fax: 216-522-2239).

Thank you for your attention to this request.

Sincerely,



Sherrod Brown  
United States Senator

SB:jg

cc: Craig Goshe  
Ron Fatzinger