

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

TESTIMONY OF MISSOURI SENATOR CLAIRE MCCASKILL

BEFORE THE U.S. INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

HEAVY WALLED RECTANGULAR WELDED CARBON STEEL PIPES

AND TUBES FROM KOREA

INVESTIGATIONS 701-TA-539 AND 731-TA-1280-1282

JULY 14, 2016

Chairman Williamson, Members of the Commission, thank you for allowing me to advocate on behalf of Missouri workers in the pipe and tube manufacturing industry, and the nearly 12,000 workers in this industry nationwide.

I submit this testimony in support of two companies important to the state of Missouri, who are petitioners in this case, Bull Moose Tube Company and EXLTUBE, as well as others in this industry. These companies not only provide quality pipe and tube products used in building applications that are essential to the construction industry, but more importantly, employ hundreds from Missouri and nearby states. In Missouri, Bull Moose has 85 employees in the St. Louis area and 80 in Gerald. EXLTUBE employs 103 in their North Kansas City pipe and tube mill.

These companies have been harmed and are under the threat of further harm from Korean, Mexican, and Turkish dumping of certain pipe and tube products. Without certainty that antidumping duties will be finalized, more than their bottom line will be harmed- their employees could be out on the street as well.

U.S. pipe and tube companies are here to make their case. They are alleging that Korean companies are selling to the U.S. at below the cost to produce. The Department of Commerce has found that Korean, Mexican, and Turkish companies are selling to the U.S. at dumped prices and that Turkish producers receive government subsidies. They are alleging that this dumping has led to revenue losses in 2014 and 2015 during the years of significantly increased imports.

Our trade laws exist to prevent this from happening and to protect American workers, which brings us to this hearing today. The U.S. International Trade Commission has already preliminarily acknowledged that this dumping is occurring, and the preliminary duties are indeed helping U.S. producers bounce back. Now it is time to thoroughly examine the facts in front of you today, and effectively use our trade remedies to ensure the long-term survival of this industry. The ITC should finalize these duties and give these companies certainty that there will be a level playing field.

Companies like Bull Moose and EXLTUBE in Missouri and across America are unafraid to compete with anyone in the world, but they need a fair and level playing field to do so. These companies are no less innovative, but are harmed because some companies are not playing by the rules.

After all the hard work done expand free and fair trade with other nations, it is your job to ensure that U.S. companies have a level playing field. I urge you to do everything you can to get this decision right. If you determine that dumping is occurring and affecting the U.S. industry, as this process has already preliminarily determined, it is your duty to make it right and take the appropriate action.

Thank you for your consideration.