Testimony
Congressman Peter J. Visclosky
International Trade Commission
Drill Pipe from China
January 5, 2011

First, I would like to thank Chairman Okun and all the members of the Commission for allowing me to provide comments on this critical case involving antidumping duties and countervailing duties for drill pipe from China.

I always appreciate the serious consideration you give to all of your cases, and I also appreciate the timing of today's case as we enter the New Year of 2011. President Obama stated this past weekend that his New Year's resolution is to do everything he can do to make sure "our economy is growing, creating jobs, and strengthening our middle class." Today is also of note as it is the first day of the 112th Congress. So we stand here today at a time of new beginnings, and a time of renewed efforts to strengthen our economy and ensure that American steelworkers can fairly compete around the world.

As I have stated before this commission many times before, the success of the steel industry in Northwest Indiana and across the country correlates inherently to the enforcement of our trade laws. If U.S. trade laws are not enforced, and if China's leaders believe that they can ignore these laws by providing illegal subsides or dumping their products in the United States, then we all lose.

Just last week, *Manufacturing and Technology News* published an article about the Commerce Department's recent Manufacturing Council meeting, where companies on the advisory board told Secretary Gary Locke that the United States does not value manufacturing. Specifically, Dan DiMicco of Nucor said, and I quote, "We've got a group of people who really want to make a difference and raise manufacturing up in this country, but then we don't have a coordinated effort across all of the departments in our political leadership to make sure that that happens." Well, today you have an opportunity to show that the federal government does value our manufacturing base, and that we will not tolerate unfair trading practices.

In the same publication, indeed on the same page, appeared an article about what Mr. Lawrence Summers, President Obama's departing Director of the National Economic Council, stated during a recent speech. Specifically, he said that it is not necessary for the United States to domestically produce the goods that would be consumed by hundreds of millions of Americans. He argued that we are moving toward a knowledge and service-based economy, and that there is no going back to the past.

I would argue that if we cease to manufacture goods for Americans, then we will lose all of our manufacturing knowledge. And if we do not know how to manufacture goods, how to research and develop new ways to manufacture goods better, and how to maintain and service manufactured goods to Americans, then we will not have any foundation for a knowledge and service-based economy.

We must coordinate our efforts for American manufacturers and send the message that Chinese companies that receive illegal subsidies or dump their products in America will not be tolerated. Therefore, I encourage you, as you always do, to continue your fair, deliberate, and thorough consideration of this case, and demonstrate our renewed effort to ensure that American steel can compete everywhere in the world. Thank you.