

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20508
November 15, 2010

The Honorable Maurice Hinchey
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Hinchey:


The President asked that I respond to your letter of September 22, 2010, in support of the Section 301 petition filed by the United Steelworkers Union ("USW") concerning China's policies on green technology.

You will be pleased to know that on October 15, 2010, I decided to initiate a Section 301 investigation addressed to the issues in the USW petition. This decision illustrates the Administration's commitment to ensuring a level playing field for American workers, businesses, and entrepreneurs in the critical sector of green technology.

In light of the large number of allegations and the extensive documentation in the petition, I have asked my staff to utilize a period of up to 90 days to thoroughly examine and verify each of the allegations in the petition. For those allegations that are supported by sufficient evidence and that can effectively be addressed through WTO dispute settlement, we will vigorously pursue the enforcement of our rights through WTO litigation.

Thank you for writing on this important matter. I welcome any further input you might have as we proceed with the investigation.

Sincerely,



Ambassador Ron Kirk