

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

June 10, 2026

The Honorable Chris Wright
U.S. Secretary of Energy
Forrestal Building
1000 Independence Ave., SW
Washington, DC 20585

Dear Secretary Wright,

We write to thank you for the decision by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) to retain the \$500 million Industrial Demonstrations Program award for Middletown Works. We write in strong support of the U.S. Department of Energy's decision to retain the \$500 million Industrial Demonstrations Program award for Cleveland-Cliffs' Middletown Works facility in Middletown, Ohio, and to respectfully urge your continued engagement to bring this investment to timely completion.

Cleveland-Cliffs' planned \$1 billion investment in Middletown Works represents a transformational commitment to American steelmaking. Middletown Works is among the most capable integrated steel mills in the United States, producing high-quality, first-melt steel for the automotive industry and other critical domestic industrial sectors. The facility currently employs 2,300 workers represented by the International Association of Machinists and stands as an economic anchor for the Middletown community and Southwest Ohio.

This investment would generate approximately 1,500 building trades jobs at peak construction and secure the future of advanced steelmaking in Middletown for 20 or more years. It directly advances President Trump's energy dominance agenda while strengthening the resilience of Ohio's steel industry and broader domestic manufacturing capacity.

We wish to emphasize that time is of the essence. Cleveland-Cliffs has already filed for an air permit with the State of Ohio, and equipment and materials procurement must begin in the coming months to maintain the project's viability. Any further delay risks jeopardizing this significant private-sector commitment.

Accordingly, we respectfully request that the Department work expeditiously with Cleveland-Cliffs to finalize the necessary rescoping amendment and modified project terms and conditions no later than July 2026. Meeting this deadline is critical to ensuring the project proceeds on schedule and delivers on its full economic and energy potential.

We are grateful for your leadership and that of your team in supporting this monumental project.

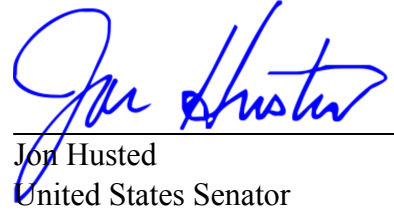
We look forward to your continued partnership and stand ready to assist in any way that would help bring this investment to fruition.

Thank you for your consideration of this important and time-sensitive request.

Sincerely,



Bernie Moreno
United States Senator



Jon Husted
United States Senator



Warren Davidson
Member of Congress



Michael R. Turner
Member of Congress