



June 11, 2024

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr.
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Biden:

As leaders representing America's domestic steel producers and the millions of American workers that are employed as a result of our industry, we write with increased urgency to request that your administration take immediate action to address Mexico's ongoing and blatant violation of the [2019 joint steel agreement](#). We support your recent action to protect the U.S. steel and shipbuilding industry from China, but that action is insufficient. Mexico's ongoing breach is causing far more harm to our businesses, our investment, and our workers.

While Mexico has engaged in some negotiations, they are not negotiating in good faith. Their producers are too politically powerful and are benefiting from increased U.S. sales that they firmly do not want to give up. They profit from the breach and are using negotiations as a means to delay and avoid complying with what was agreed to in 2019—five years ago. The White House's continued inaction gives us little confidence in trade agreements due to the U.S. reluctance to enforce them.

A new [economic analysis](#) by the Coalition for a Prosperous America reveals Mexico's ongoing violations of the 2019 agreement, even though the U.S. has complied with it. Mexico's increased shipments now account for over 87% of U.S. imports of steel conduit and import levels are 472% over the historic baseline. Shipments of rebar have averaged at least 1,800% above baseline over the past two years, and wire rod is threatened. Mexico's shipments of Chapter 72 iron and steel products are, overall, 134% over the historic baseline, for purposes of the Joint Statement.

U.S. steel product manufacturing employment stalled due to the import surge and has now started to fall. The huge strain on local U.S. steel product manufacturers from these imports is causing financial stress that is diminishing market share. It is also leading toward more plant and production line closures as well as job losses.

The 2019 agreement provided for consultations in the event of a breach. Despite your administration engaging in those consultations, it is clear that those talks have reached an

unproductive stalemate. It is time for your administration to take action and enforce the agreement with tariffs and quotas designed to roll back the surge of imports to the historic baseline that Mexico agreed to.

Thank you for your attention to this serious and urgent matter.

Sincerely,

Coalition for a Prosperous America

The Committee on Pipe & Tube Imports

Steel Tube Institute

Atkore

Optimus Steel

Zekelman Industries