

October 26, 2015

The Honorable Nikki Haley  
Office of the Governor  
1205 Pendleton Street  
Columbia, S.C. 29201

Dear Governor Haley:

I am writing you to request that you please give due consideration to the issue of power rates that Santee-Cooper is charging Century-Mt Holly. I'm an Environmental Engineer and have worked for Alcoa/Century Aluminum for over 25 years and I am very concerned about the potential closure of the Mt Holly facility given the current electrical rate. The U.S. aluminum industry is yet another example of how the Chinese government has targeted and monopolized a specific industry segment through currency manipulation, government subsidies, and unfair trade practices. The free trade agreements that the US has entered into with other countries are changing the landscape of America and unless these agreements are responsibly managed and the rules enforced, they will only serve to further destroy middle class America who have relied on these jobs to make the country what it is today. The economic impact that Alcoa-Mt Holly contributes to the tri-county region in both jobs and income (3000 jobs & >\$800 million annually) is an asset that cannot be taken for granted, not to mention all of the immeasurable contributions of Alcoa's employees volunteering their time and giving back to the communities where they live and raise their children.

Governor Haley, in 2011 you told the employees of Mt Holly that power cost would never be the reason that Mt Holly closed. You also recently stated that you didn't want to pick winners and losers in the negotiations with Santee-Cooper, but by not helping, you are making a choice which will put 600 employees and their families in the unemployment lines as financial wards of the State of South Carolina. Considering the revenues that the Mt Holly facility has provided to Santee-Cooper and the State of South Carolina over the last 30 years you would think that the least that could be done is to allow Mt Holly to pay Santee-Cooper to transmit power across their grid given that Santee-Cooper previously agreed to allow Mt Holly to do so. Why has Santee-Cooper now gone back on their word and disavowed this previous agreement ?

On a personal level, I formerly worked at an aluminum plant in North Carolina which was shut down in 2003 and I personally experienced the economic hardships imposed on myself and many of my friends and neighbors, and the community as a whole due to the plant closure. I am now 58 years old and the closure of Mt Holly will potentially take another huge toll on my family as I have a mortgage, children in college, and grandchildren who now live in the area who I don't want to leave behind at this point in my career, not to mention the huge impact on my future retirement funding and plans.

In closing, I would like to thank you for taking the time to understand the importance of this issue and doing whatever you can to take the necessary steps to prevent Alcoa-Mt Holly from becoming yet another negative statistic contributing to further job losses in South Carolina and the economic and personal hardships this will put our employees through.

Regards,



William L. McCaskill