

January 30, 2019

United States Senator Bill Cassidy  
520 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Doctor Cassidy:

Thank you for taking the time to meet with us on January 10<sup>th</sup>, to discuss the construction of a Wanhua Chemical Group Co., Ltd (WCG) \$1.25 billion-dollar petrochemical plant in St. James Parish, on greenfield property under jurisdiction of the Port of South Louisiana. The plant will allow WCG to manufacture around \$600M dollars of methylene diphenyl diisocyanate ("MDI") in Louisiana that WCG is currently making in China and importing into North America.

In the current trade dispute with China, the Administration has implemented a series of tariffs that threaten the viability of WCG's Louisiana mega-project, including tariffs on aniline, an important feedstock in the creation of MDI, as well as tariffs on the modules, columns, and reactors necessary to construct the plant.

Without exclusions from the United States Trade Representative ("USTR") for aniline, the WCG will be forced to abandon the \$1.25 billion-dollar mega-project in Louisiana.

Your generous offer to work with your staff to engage with the Trump administration, to seek an exemption of aniline, on behalf of WCG, is most sincerely appreciated. We are hopeful your efforts will produce results, that will benefit all Louisianans and the nation.

As you may know, once completed, WCG's plant will create 170 full-time jobs with an average annual salary of over \$80,000, plus benefits. In addition, Louisiana Economic Development (LED) estimates that this plant will create over 1,230 permanent jobs in Louisiana. The building the plant also will create around 1,000 construction jobs. If WCG builds this plant, there is an opportunity for additional, large-scale investments by the WCG in St. James Parish.

The state of Louisiana – through LED and two Governors – has spent 4.5 years pursuing this investment from WCG. If your efforts to secure the product exclusion on behalf of WCG are successful, it will further demonstrate Louisiana's commitment to attracting foreign direct investment (FDI) to our state. In fact, since 2008, Louisiana has logged more than \$60 billion in FDI activity. Which, according to LED: "That track record puts the state in prized territory: No. 1 in the U.S. for per capita FDI attraction."

Again, we appreciate you and your staff's efforts on behalf of WCG, and we look forward to continuing to work closely together on this important matter for Louisiana.

Respectfully,

**Disseminated by AUX Initiatives LLC, a registered foreign agent, on behalf of Wanhua Chemical U.S. Operations L.L.C. More information is on file with the Dept. of Justice, Washington, D.C.**

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