

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

September 30, 2013

The Honorable Michael Froman
United States Trade Representative
6007 17th Street NW
Washington, DC 20508

Dear Ambassador Froman:

We are writing to ask your assistance in helping resolve a lockout of American grain workers by two Japanese grain conglomerates, Marubeni and Mitsui as you discuss Japan's involvement in the Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement.

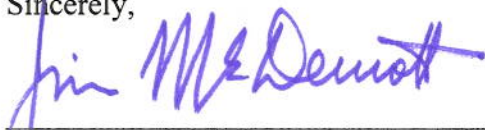
TEMCO, a major American grain company co-owned by Cargill and CHS, has employed International Longshore and Warehouse Union (ILWU) workers for decades as part of a multi-employer association known as the Pacific Northwest Grain Handlers Association (PNGHA). When Marubeni and Mitsui, which operate grain facilities in Oregon and Washington as members of PNGHA, demanded hundreds of concessions from workers last fall and imposed a concessionary contract in December, Cargill/CHS continued to negotiate with the ILWU and reached a fair contract with the union that was ratified in February and that protects good American jobs.

In contrast, Mitsui and Marubeni forced workers to work under a concessionary contract that had been rejected by a 94% union membership vote, and locked out hundreds of American workers beginning in February and May at their two U.S. facilities. Marubeni and Mitsui are currently operating their facilities with management staff and non-union replacement workers, while the TEMCO, by contrast, is operating under a union contract that was approved by a membership vote of 75% in favor.

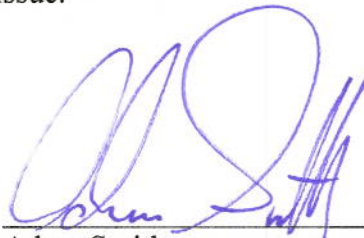
The continued intransigence by Marubeni and Mitsui is placing great stress on workers dependent on these facilities for their livelihoods. The lockout is negatively affecting wheat and grain farmers in the Pacific Northwest and other states that depend on grain export terminals.

Our constituents deserve to be employed by responsible corporations who strive for fair and equitable treatment of their employees, whether they be domestic or a foreign owned entities. Again, we request your assistance in this important issue.

Sincerely,



Jim McDermott
Member of Congress



Adam Smith
Member of Congress



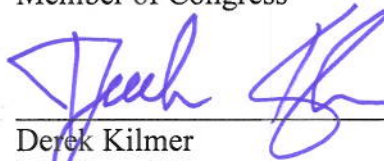
Rick Larsen
Member of Congress



Suzan DelBene
Member of Congress



Denny Heck
Member of Congress



Derek Kilmer
Member of Congress