

March 21, 2024

President Joseph R. Biden Jr.
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

To President Biden:

Thank you for your leadership in passing the historic Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and Inflation Reduction Act. These two pieces of legislation are instrumental in reshoring, repowering, and decarbonizing industrial manufacturing in the United States. As a result of these monumental wins, companies like Nippon Steel have taken a renewed interest in America. **We, the undersigned climate, environmental justice and consumer advocacy organizations, urge you to assess any potential U.S. Steel sale through a health and climate lens, and prevent any investments that extend the life of coal-based steelmaking. Instead, a new owner must create transition plans for these facilities based on robust, transparent data and in deep consultation with workers and communities.**

U.S. Steel has a carbon footprint of over 19 million metric tons, equivalent to approximately five coal-fired power plants. Any new owner of U.S. Steel's assets must align with your administration's target to achieve a 50-52 percent reduction from 2005 levels in economy-wide net greenhouse gas pollution in 2030. Without new investment, we have seen how workers and communities, such as those in Granite City, Illinois, get left behind. In addition to transition plans, any acquisition must be conditioned on the company immediately investing in a union-run, fossil-free iron and steelmaking facility.

Adding to the toll, U.S. Steel's coal-based facilities release hazardous air pollution, including 6,116 tons of nitrogen oxides, 4,278 tons of sulfur dioxide, and 2,460 tons of fine particulate matter annually. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is taking action to address health-harming air pollution associated with coal-based steelmaking. A new owner must not only abide by these new rules, but break from U.S. Steel's pattern of opposing and legally challenging public health safeguards.

Furthermore, in line with the Justice40 Initiative, Executive Order 14063 and your administration's commitment to community benefit agreements, we urge you to ensure that all union agreements are upheld, and that community benefit agreements protect and promote public health at all current and future U.S. Steel operations.

We welcome your historic efforts to reshore, repower, and decarbonize industrial manufacturing. Any operator of U.S. Steel's assets, including U.S. Steel, must align its investments with that vision. We urge you to carefully consider the climate implications of any potential deal and require investment in clean, modern iron and steelmaking facilities that protect community health and good union jobs.

Thank you,

Breathe Project (Pennsylvania)

Citizens Action Coalition (Indiana)

Group Against Smog & Pollution (Pennsylvania)

Indiana Conservation Voters

Industrious Labs

Interfaith Power & Light

Just Transition Northwest Indiana

Metro East Green Alliance (Illinois)

Mighty Earth

Ohio River Valley Institute

Public Citizen

Sierra Club

The Sunrise Project

United Congregations Of Metro East (Illinois)