



JIM DOYLE
GOVERNOR
STATE OF WISCONSIN

April 24, 2008

The Honorable Carlos M. Gutierrez
Secretary
United States Department of Commerce
Herbert Clark Hoover Building
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Secretary Gutierrez:

I am writing on behalf of Wisconsin's paper manufacturing industry to urge you to put a stop to unfair imports of lightweight thermal paper (LWTP) entering the U.S. market from Germany and China.

These artificially low-priced imports have had a severe, adverse impact on the domestic industry and put at great risk their investments in Wisconsin. Given this, and in light of the upcoming decision that the Commerce Department is scheduled to make in this matter, I respectfully request that you take every appropriate measure to protect the investments and jobs of the domestic LWTP industry from the dangerous effects of unfairly traded imports.

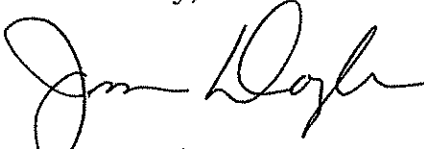
As we transition to new industries, Wisconsin's manufacturers are making investments in improved technologies and equipment in order to remain competitive abroad. Appleton Papers, the leading U.S. manufacturer of LWTP, has invested substantially in manufacturing technology to remain competitive on a global basis. Yet these investments will have little benefit if the company is forced to compete on unfair terms against foreign manufacturers who are selling their products in the U.S. market in suspiciously high volumes, and at low prices.

That these imports are arriving at sharply reduced prices is particularly surprising in light of recent, sharp increases in the cost of manufacturing inputs and freight, and in light of the decline of the dollar relative to the currencies of those countries. Yet as they do, domestic manufacturers of LWTP have seen their market share erode precipitously. I fear that if our domestic industry is forced to endure these conditions, U.S. producers will be unable to justify or recoup their substantial investments in jobs and capital equipment in Wisconsin and elsewhere. This could lead to further reductions in domestic paper manufacturing capabilities, which poses a very serious, direct threat to jobs and to communities across our state.

As you prepare to make a preliminary determination this May with respect to alleged dumping of LWTP by manufacturers from Germany and China, I urge you to consider these points. The domestic LWTP industry is an important part of Wisconsin's economy, as employers and taxpayers, and also as consumers of other products and services in the state. If they, along with other Wisconsin manufacturers, are to stand a chance of competing in the international market, they must be afforded a fair chance. I sincerely hope that your determination on May 6th will help to level the playing field for the manufacturers of the state of Wisconsin.

Thank you for your consideration of my views. I hope that you will keep me informed of any developments in this important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim Doyle". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jim" being more prominent than the last name "Doyle".

Jim Doyle
Governor

Cc: Honorable David M. Spooner, Assistant Secretary for Import Administration
Honorable Nathaniel F. Wienecke, Assistant Secretary for Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs