



October 9th, 2024

The Honourable François-Philippe Champagne

Minister of Innovation, Science and Industry

House of Commons

Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A6

Dear Minister Champagne,

As the NDP Critic for Labour, I stand in firm solidarity with the steelworkers of United Steelworkers (USW) Local 1005 at Hamilton Works and USW Local 8782 at Lake Erie Works as they face the uncertainty brought by the pending acquisition of Stelco by Cleveland-Cliffs. The hard-working men and women in these facilities have built a legacy within our nation's steel industry, and their jobs, pensions, and the future of their workplaces must be safeguarded.

We have seen before the damaging consequences of foreign takeovers in Hamilton Centre, such as U.S. Steel's acquisition of Stelco, which led to broken promises, job losses, and instability for workers. This cannot be allowed to happen again. The concerns raised by USW Locals 1005 and 8782 reflect the real fears of workers who have lived through these transitions before. They deserve transparency, security, and clarity as this process unfolds.

I fully support the call for the government to make public the commitments Cleveland-Cliffs has made under the Canada Investment Act. Workers and their communities deserve to know the details of agreements that will shape their future. The workers and union should obviously be privy to the commitments involving production, capital investment, and employment levels because they are in the best position to ensure they are fulfilled. Without transparency on critical matters such as job security, pension protection, investment, and environmental sustainability, there can be no true accountability.

It is vital that Cleveland-Cliffs' commitments are not only public but also enforceable. We cannot afford another situation where promises are made and then broken, leaving workers and communities to bear the consequences. The assurances about preserving Stelco's Canadian identity, protecting local jobs, and maintaining pension obligations must be backed by legally enforceable terms that put the interests of workers first.

I urge you, as Minister, to ensure that this acquisition undergoes the highest level of scrutiny. The government must not approve any deal without clear, enforceable guarantees that safeguard the jobs, pensions, and livelihoods of the workers at Stelco, Hamilton Works, and Lake Erie Works. These workers have built Stelco's success, and they deserve our full support.

In solidarity with USW Locals 1005 and 8782, I look forward to your response and to seeing this government stand firmly behind steelworkers and their families during this critical time.

In Solidarity,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Matthew Green". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Matthew" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Green".

Matthew Green, MP

NDP Critic for Labour, Employment, and Workforce Development
Hamilton Centre