

FEBRUARY 2010

MOMENTUM FOR MECHANICAL INSULATION

Dear Member,

It's been one year since NIA began our campaign in Washington, D.C., to generate more support for the mechanical insulation industry. Each step of the way, from passing legislation in the House to creating a mechanical insulation education program to securing funding for such a program at the Department of Energy, we've been building momentum to achieve our mutual goals.

High on our priority list was seeking federal appropriations—funding from the Department of Energy—to increase awareness and promote the use of mechanical insulation technology.

Each February marks the beginning of the congressional appropriations process for the following year's funding for federal agencies. This month on Capitol Hill we focused on submitting our requests for funding for 2011 and meeting with Appropriations Committee staff and Representatives Deborah Halvorson (D-IL), Alan Mollohan (D-WV), Debbie Wasserman Shultz (D-FL), Peter Visclosky (D-IN), Ben Chandler (D-KY), John Yarmuth (D-KY), Kendrick Meek (D-FL), and Jo Ann Emerson (R-MO).

It will take until mid-May for the legislation outlining the approved funding for federal programs to go through the hearing and voting process, and NIA will be there every step of the way to advocate for including the funding for the national mechanical insulation education and awareness campaign.

We also met again with top staffers at the Department of Energy on February 2. DOE is still determining how they will implement Congress' initial direction to use \$500,000 for the start-up of our education program. We will keep you updated as decisions are made, which we hope will be in the coming weeks.

Thanks again to all who participated in our massive grassroots letter writing campaign over the last few months. We hand-delivered more than 120 letters to Capitol Hill, and this outreach to your representatives in Washington helped us get 30 members of Congress to officially sign on in support of Representative Debbie Halvorson's bill H.R. 4296, the Mechanical Insulation Installation Incentive Act of 2009. To date, H.R. 4296 is supported by the following members of Congress:

Rep. Joseph Crowley (D-NY)
Rep. Yvette D. Clarke (D-NY)
Rep. Frank Pallone, Jr. (D-NJ)
Rep. Tim Ryan (D-OH)
Rep. Alan B. Mollohan (D-WV)
Rep. David Wu (D-OR)
Rep. Steve Driehaus (D-OH)
Rep. Nick J. Rahall (D-WV)
Rep. Michael H. Michaud (D-ME)
Rep. Mike Quigley (D-IL)
Rep. Jerry McNerney (D-CA)
Rep. Aaron Schock (R-IL)
Rep. Mike Ross (D-AR)
Rep. Gary C. Peters (D-MI)
Rep. Frank A. LoBiondo (R-NJ)

Rep. Jesse L. Jackson, Jr. (D-IL)
Rep. Dennis Moore (D-KS)
Rep. Jay Inslee (D-WA)
Rep. Joe Sestak (D-PA)
Rep. Steve Israel (D-NY)
Rep. Melissa Bean (D-IL)
Rep. Steve Kagen (D-WI)
Rep. Thaddeus G. McCotter (R-MI)
Rep. Carol Shea-Porter (D-NH)
Rep. Edolphus Towns (D-NY)
Rep. Joe Donnelly (D-IN)
Rep. Grace F. Napolitano (D-CA)
Rep. Carolyn B. Maloney (D-NY)
Rep. John J. Hall (D-NY)
Rep. Laura Richardson (D-CA)

Our work in 2009 is the base for our continued work in 2010. Additional federal funding, tax incentives, and the creation of the education program through authorizing legislation remain our top three goals. We have spent much of our time in the House, and next month it is on to the Senate to identify a champion for mechanical insulation!

With your continued support and participation, we will continue to achieve milestones that boost the mechanical insulation industry, create more jobs, and increase energy savings across the country.

Regards,
Michele M. Jones, CMP
Executive Vice President/CEO