

SEPTEMBER 29, 2010

**PREPARING FOR SUCCESS:
MOVING FORWARD ON MECHANICAL INSULATION LEGISLATION**

Dear Member,

September was a short work period for lawmakers in Washington, as we will soon see Congress adjourn once again as members return to their home districts and states prior to the November elections. We used this opportunity to build greater momentum for mechanical insulation incentives, particularly in the Senate. By continuing outreach to policymakers, we have positioned a tax deduction for consideration by key panels this year. However, one thing is clear: While members of Congress support the proposed tax incentive and understand its benefits, there is not likely time for a new energy bill to be compiled and enacted by both the House and Senate in the remaining weeks of the 111th Congress.

Still, the introduction of S. 3716 by Senators Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY) and Mike Johanns (R-NE) was an important step forward for our education and advocacy efforts. Building upon the great bipartisan support for H.R. 4296, we have worked hard to promote S. 3716 and the same value it would bring to businesses across the country. After a series of meetings with staff of Senator Jay Rockefeller (D-WV), we are very pleased to announce he is the newest cosponsor of S. 3716. Senator Rockefeller is a senior member of the Senate Finance Committee, which must pass the bill, so his support is truly valuable to our efforts.

To increase support of the Mechanical Insulation Installation Incentive Act among members and their staff, we continued our meetings to share the many benefits mechanical insulation provides for commercial buildings and industrial facilities throughout the country. Since last month, we've held important meetings with the offices of Finance Committee members, including Senators Bill Nelson (D-FL), Debbie Stabenow (D-MI), and Chuck Grassley (R-IA) – the top Republican on the committee. We also met with staff for Democratic Leader Harry Reid (D-NV) and Senators Patrick Leahy (D-VT), Jim Webb (D-VA), and Mark Warner (D-VA).

Meanwhile, our efforts to bring attention to the House bill, H.R. 4296, also continue. We are proud to report a total of 65 cosponsors. The newest additions include Representatives Jim Moran (D-VA), Dina Titus (D-NV), Mark Schauer (D-MI), Marcy Kaptur (D-OH), and Jerrold Nadler (D-NY).

Several key organizations influential in Washington have also endorsed creating a tax incentive for mechanical insulation. In addition to the 14 groups that joined NIA in signing a letter of thanks to Senators Gillibrand and Johanns for introducing the bill—including the American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy, Institute for Market Transformation, and National Institute of Building Sciences' National Mechanical Insulation Committee, among others—the Technical Association for the Pulp & Paper Industry (TAPPI) and Council of the North American Insulation Manufacturers Association (NAIMA) have joined our efforts in expressing their support for passing the legislation.

As always, we must recognize you, our members, for your continued support. As a result of your efforts we hand-delivered 480 letters of support to key Senators. It is not only the meetings and outreach that make an impact, but also the voices of policymakers' own constituents who will benefit from these measures that truly make a difference in earning their support. For your letter writing, involvement, and overall support, I thank you.

Regards,
Michele M. Jones, CMP
EVP/CEO