Dear Member,

While our children prepare to return to school and our elected officials will soon return to Washington following the summer recess, NIA has not let up in its push for greater awareness and support of mechanical insulation. Thanks to our efforts in the halls of Congress as well as our successful (and ongoing) call to action for our members to get involved, mechanical insulation has achieved yet another exciting milestone.

As you may now be aware from our special edition Insulation Advocate and national press release, on August 5 Senators Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY) and Mike Johanns (R-NE) introduced S. 3716, the Mechanical Insulation Installation Incentive Act. Senator Gillibrand—whose office closely followed the success of the companion bill H.R. 4296 and its ability to build bipartisan support in the House of Representatives—noted in her announcement precisely what we have been working to share with policymakers. “Investment in energy efficiency is a vital part of our economic recovery,” said Gillibrand. “This legislation would make mechanical insulation more accessible and affordable—helping to cut harmful emissions, improve the environment, lower energy bills, and create good-paying jobs right here at home. This program makes good sense for our economy and environment.”

Just as we worked to educate House members on the many benefits mechanical insulation provides in commercial buildings and industrial facilities throughout the country, we have now embarked on a similar mission in the Senate. Since the introduction of S. 3716 earlier this month, we have hit the ground running by holding productive meetings with the offices of Senators Max Baucus (D-MT), Jeff Bingaman (D-NM), Maria Cantwell (D-WA), John Cornyn (R-TX), Mike Crapo (R-ID), Michael Enzi (R-WY), Richard Lugar (R-IN), Pat Roberts (R-KS), Jay Rockefeller (D-WV), and Olympia Snowe (R-ME).

Although we’ve been fortunate to meet with so many congressional offices and have made great strides in raising awareness for mechanical insulation, there are still many more that have yet to learn of the importance of our industry. We will continue to work toward the next milestone for both H.R. 4296 and S. 3716, and ultimately toward creating more jobs through the greater use and maintenance of mechanical insulation.

Thanks to our members who have heeded our call to action in support of S. 3716. Your dedication to our shared cause is invaluable. If you have yet to get involved, there’s still plenty of opportunity to write your Senators and urge them to lend their support. Thanks for all you do, and keep those letters coming!

Regards,
Michele M. Jones, CMP
EVP/CEO