THE SENATE

LANSING, MICHIGAN

SENATOR DON KOIVISTO
38TH SENATE DISTRICT
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APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
SUBCOMMITTEES:
AGRICULTURE
HIGHER EDUCATION
JOINT CAPITAL OUTLAY
NATURAL RESOURCES
GAMING AND CASINO OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

December 6, 2001

Laura Chappelle, Chairperson
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
6545 Mercantile Way - P.O. Box 30221
Lansing, Michigan 48909

David Svanda, Commissioner
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
6545 Mercantile Way - P.O. Box 30221
Lansing, Michigan 48909

Robert Nelson, Commissioner
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
6545 Mercantile Way - P.O. Box 30221
Lansing, Michigan 48909

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MICHIGAN PUBLIC SERVICE COMM.
DEC 10 2001
CHAIRMAN'S OFFICE

Dear Chairperson Chappelle and Commissioners Svanda and Nelson:

I am aware that there is a rate case before the Public Service Commission pertaining to stranded costs with Rouge Steel Company, one of the principals involved.

Rouge Steel is not in my legislative district, however, they are the largest customer of the Tilden Mine, which is indeed in my legislative district.

Steel companies nationwide are in a precarious financial condition, and each month a different one seems to be filing bankruptcy. They are not a cash cow that has an endless supply of money to divert from

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production. A weak economy, unfair import scenario, and overall poor market conditions have, and will, take there toll.

I am not writing you regarding the particulars of the rate case. What I am attempting to do is to make you aware that many of us in the legislative branch have a strong desire to see our steel and mining industries survive. We have successfully put together a Steel-Mining Caucus and are meeting weekly to see how we can have a positive impact on these industries. Once we lose them, they are gone forever because of the nature of their business. The financial impact is devastating to the individuals and communities affected.

As you consider the rate cases before you, I also ask you to consider the economic impact of your decisions.

Your consideration of my input is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Don Koivisto

DON KOIVISTO
State Senator - 38th District

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