August 1, 2013

U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Representative:

The National Association of Manufacturers (NAM), the largest manufacturing association in the United States representing manufacturers in every industrial sector and in all 50 states, supports Amendment #12 to H.R. 1582, the "Energy Consumers Relief Act of 2013." This amendment by Rep. Tim Murphy (R-PA) would prevent the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) from using its recently-released “social cost of carbon” calculations to inappropriately justify energy-related rules until a Federal law is adopted authorizing such use.

In recent years, manufacturers have been subject to an unprecedented number of regulations that increase the cost of energy, limit fuel diversity, and place tremendous economic burdens on domestic industry. The EPA adopted several of these rules without adequately considering energy costs, job losses or other significant impacts. A recent NAM study found that just six of these recent regulations would impose a $100 billion annual cost on manufacturers and threaten millions of jobs. The EPA justified many of the costs in these rules through benefits whose methodology and calculations never received proper review by the public.

Rep. Murphy’s amendment to H.R. 1582 would ensure that the EPA’s newly revised “social cost of carbon” calculation receives proper scrutiny before it can be used to justify regulations. The Agency’s newest calculation of the social cost of carbon, which increased the size of the benefit by 50 percent, was done without the benefit of public input.

The NAM supports the amendment to ensure that benefits and costs are calculated in a transparent manner that produces high-quality results.

Sincerely,

Ross Eisenberg
Vice President
Energy and Resources Policy