

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

August 15, 2007

Francine C. Shaw
President & CEO
DuPont Performance Elastomers
300 Bellevue Pkwy # 300
Wilmington, Delaware 19809-3719

Dear Ms. Shaw,

Many workers and manufacturing companies in the rubber industry have contacted our offices to express concerns over the rising costs and shortage of Polychloroprene (PCR) - a key ingredient in their manufacturing processes. Industry experts describe this shortage as "a bad situation getting worse."

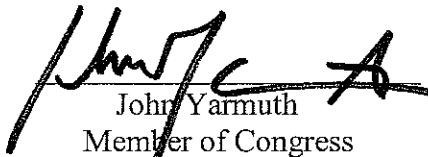
These workers and manufacturing companies are concerned that the lack of PCR coupled with rising prices for the material will negatively impact productivity and jeopardize the long-term viability of their business. Since many of these manufacturers are either headquartered or have facilities in our districts, we have a vested interest in making sure they stay in business and continue providing good-paying jobs.

According to industry sources, DuPont Performance Elastomers (DPE) is the only domestic producer of PCR. Due to trade restrictions, the only other source of PCR is German supplier Lanxess- which has informed many customers it cannot supply enough PCR to fulfill their needs. DPE is in a very unique position in the PCR market. We are concerned that DPE's decisions to discontinue several grades of PCR and shut down manufacturing capacity at its Louisville Works facility will only exacerbate the problem and result in even higher prices of PCR.

We respectfully request an opportunity to sit down with you and other leaders of DPE to discuss the rubber industry's concerns. Given the challenges facing our economy, and the loss of U.S. manufacturing jobs, it is critical that Members of Congress and corporate leaders work together to ensure the continued success of American companies.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. I encourage you to contact Lillian Pace in Congressman John Yarmuth's office at 202-225-4076 to coordinate this meeting. We look forward to working with you on this important issue.

Sincerely,


John Yarmuth
Member of Congress


Steven LaTourette
Member of Congress