

June 3, 2005

The Honorable Vernon J. Ehlers, Michigan, Chairman House Science Committee, Subcommittee on Environment, Technology, and Standards 2320 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Ehlers,

Please find attached 'post-hearing' testimony that we have prepared for submission to the Subcommittee on Environment, Technology and Standards in connection with the recent hearing on Standards that took place on May 11, 2005. We would appreciate your Subcommittee's inclusion of this testimony within the official 'hearing record'.

The Institute for Trade, Standards and Sustainable Development, Inc. is an independent and non-partisan not-for-profit organization dedicated to the promotion of a positive global paradigm of sustainable development consistent with World Trade Organization (WTO) principles. We have undertaken considerable research and public outreach activities to highlight the increasing use of disguised regulatory trade barriers cast in the form of overly stringent environment, health and safety regulations and standards that are justified by reference to the need to achieve 'sustainable development'. We have both observed and analyzed how such measures have increasingly threatened U.S. products and technologies and the science and intellectual property rights-based legal and economic frameworks which are critical to maintaining U.S. global competitiveness in the future.

We thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony, and we remain at your Subcommittee's disposal should it be interested in speaking with us further about these issues.

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Very truly yours,

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