



LOUISE M. SLAUGHTER
CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
25TH DISTRICT, NEW YORK

November 17, 2014

Dr. Willie E. May
Acting Under Secretary of Commerce for Standards and Technology
National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST)
100 Bureau Drive, Stop 1000
Gaithersburg, MD 20899-1000

Dear Under Secretary May:

As members of the New York State congressional delegation, we are writing in strong support of a proposal being submitted to the National Institute of Standards and Technology in response to Federal Funding Opportunity Announcement 2014-NIST-AMTECH-01, NIST Advanced Manufacturing Technology Consortia (AMTech) Program, Planning Awards. One of our state's preeminent institutions, **Rochester Institute of Technology**, has been invited to submit a Full Proposal to NIST for a project that will develop a collaborative infrastructure to support long-term, pre-competitive, basic and applied research relevant to the remanufacturing industry, to develop broadly-deployable technologies that can improve the advanced manufacturing capabilities of U.S.-based firms along the entire value chain. Their project is entitled "**Consortium Formation and Technology Roadmap Development for Remanufacturing in the Circular Economy.**"

Dr. Nabil Nasr, Director of GIS and world-renowned expert in the remanufacturing industry, will lead this project, and will partner with Energetics Inc., an engineering and management company with over 35 years' experience in strategic planning and technology roadmap development, who will serve as roadmapping facilitator.

The project objective is to launch an industry-led Remanufacturing Research Consortium and develop a technology roadmap which will provide a tangible, actionable plan to overcome technological barriers that inhibit the growth of advanced manufacturing capabilities in the industry. Advancement of technology will be developed in the framework of a Circular Economy, a term used to describe an industrial economy that is, by design or intention, restorative.

As an initial step, GIS will convene a founding consortium committee comprised of prominent remanufacturing (reman) industry groups, including the Remanufacturing Industries Council, Motor and Equipment Remanufacturers Association, International Imaging Technology Council, and Automotive Parts Remanufacturing Association, who will assist with the formation of the Remanufacturing Research Consortium. The Consortium will include diverse stakeholders to

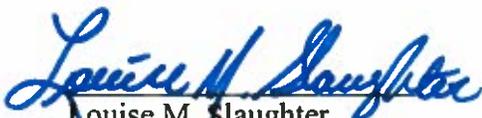
ensure voices are heard from across the value chain throughout the industry as well as non-industrial stakeholders (e.g. policy makers, research labs), who can provide important input. Representation will include large, medium and small enterprises in the reman industry, national labs (e.g. Argonne), industry groups, RIT researchers, and government. Stakeholders who have already expressed interest in joining the consortium include: Caterpillar, Detroit Diesel Remanufacturing, SRC Holdings, GE, John Deere Reman, Cummins, Davies Office Refurbishing, and the Professional Electrical Apparatus Recyclers League (PEARL), and Rochester area companies such as D&W Diesel. RIT has had a long history of global expertise in remanufacturing and manufacturing is a critical industry sector for the greater Rochester region, making this initiative a natural fit and at the same time one that will have significant national impact.

To develop the roadmap, Dr. Nasr and GIS staff engineers will gather initial data from 12 reman sectors on their technology needs and challenges, through literature review, phone interviews with remanufacturers of all sizes across the country, and site visits at companies in each sector. The collected data will be analyzed to develop a white paper, which will serve to inform in-person stakeholder workshop discussions.

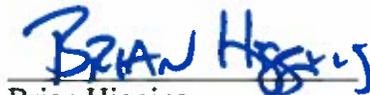
Addressing technical challenges facing the industry will have substantive national impacts, such as supporting the health and growth of SMEs, retaining and creating jobs, increasing exports, decreasing U.S. reliance on materials sourced in foreign countries, and addressing environmental challenges.

The greater Rochester region has also received the Investing in Manufacturing Communities Partnership designation and this project is very consistent with the goals and objectives of that program. It will leverage the region's assets and expertise in a critical manufacturing technology and create opportunities for improving the competitiveness of our manufacturing sector and job growth. We want to emphasize our collective support for Rochester Institute of Technology's response to the call for proposals for Advanced Manufacturing Technology Consortia Program, Planning Awards, and trust that it will emerge as one of the winning applications.

Sincerely,



Louise M. Slaughter
Member of Congress



Brian Higgins
Member of Congress



Eliot Engel
Member of Congress



Dan Maffei
Member of Congress

Chris Collins

Chris Collins
Member of Congress