



Ohio Citizen Action

door to door democracy

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June 5, 2008

M. Michel Wurth, Member
Group Management Board
ArcelorMittal
19 Avenue de la Liberté
L-2390 Luxembourg
Luxembourg

Dear M. Wurth:

I was pleased to meet with you on May 13 as part of the new Global Action on ArcelorMittal group. As you know, the follow-up to that meeting is proceeding on its own path, and Ohio Citizen Action is fully in accord with Global Action on it.

I am writing you today, however, on behalf of Ohio Citizen Action only.

Tomorrow morning, Friday, we will post on our website, www.ohiocitizen.org, an English translation of the article that appeared in *La Voix*, May 14, 2008, under the headline “La réponse de Michel Wurth: ArcelorMittal se dit ouvert au dialogue et à la transparence,” and a copy of this letter. I hope that *La Voix* did justice to your views, and that our translation did justice to *La Voix*. Please let me know if otherwise.

From our point of view, the article is consistent with your remarks to us, and contains a number of welcome statements, beginning with the headline. We agree with you that improvements are necessary. We are ready to acknowledge steps ArcelorMittal has taken in Cleveland regarding safety and the environment, once we learn of them.

You are quite right that any assessment of ArcelorMittal’s management of the Cleveland mill must take into account the century of questionable management decisions that preceded Mittal’s 2005 purchase of it. Turning this plant into a good neighbor will take more than one day, to be sure.

And we want to learn more specifics about your experience with the Luxembourg facilities, such as how they compare with the Cleveland mill, what investments were made, when, what they cost, what were the actual emission levels before and after the investments, and so on.

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In the spirit of your statements, we are ready to begin talks with ArcelorMittal on what can be done to protect the health and safety of the 392,000 people who live within five miles of the Cleveland mill.

Over the years, it has become clear to us that no ArcelorMittal official in Cleveland or anywhere else in North America has the authority to conduct such talks. I have attached a memo containing the evidence supporting this conclusion.

Every company can decide for itself how it distributes authority internally, of course, and it is apparent that in ArcelorMittal, the people with the necessary authority for such talks are in London or Luxembourg. Accordingly, we invite you or another ArcelorMittal decisionmaker from London or Luxembourg to meet with us without preconditions.

I believe there is an opportunity here to create a model for how such problems can be resolved. Let's take advantage of it.

If you examine our website, you will find that we have had success with many companies by working out such problems through direct talks. We have also published a handbook on the subject, the *Good Neighbor Campaign Handbook*, which I have mailed you under separate cover.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Liz Ilg
Cleveland Program Director