

Snowe, Collins, and Michaud Show Support for Pinkham Sawmill Workers with Request for Trade Adjustment Assistance

Tuesday, September 02 2008

WASHINGTON, D.C. - U.S. Senators Olympia J. Snowe and Susan Collins and Representative Mike Michaud today sent a letter to Department of Labor Secretary Elaine Chao urging the prompt certification of Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) for the displaced workers of the Irving Forest Products- Pinkham Sawmill in Nashville Plantation, Maine. According to the application, the workers were laid-off after the mill recently closed its doors as a result of increased imports and the company's shift of production to its Canadian mills over the past five years.

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"The workers of Irving Forest Products at the Pinkham Sawmill have endured months of job insecurity and are now being hit by the challenging blow of permanent job loss," Senators Snowe and Collins and Representative Michaud said. "The slumping economy has already burdened hard-working families across Maine and it is inevitable that the entire area around the Nashville Plantation community will be affected by these staggering layoffs. We must ensure that these workers receive the critical assistance they need to get back on their feet and find gainful employment for themselves and their families."

Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) is a program of the Department of Labor that helps workers who have lost their jobs as a result of increased imports or a shift of production outside of the United States. TAA provides these trade-affected workers with a variety of reemployment services and benefits to help them find new jobs and get back to work.

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