

JOHN A. YARMUTH
MEMBER OF CONGRESS
3RD DISTRICT, KENTUCKY

COMMITTEE ON
WAYS AND MEANS
SUBCOMMITTEE:
SELECT REVENUE MEASURES
SUBCOMMITTEE:
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COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET

SENIOR WHIP



Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515-1703

August 19, 2010

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Mr. Ed Whitacre
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer
General Motors Company
300 Renaissance Center
Mail Stop 482-C39-B10
Detroit, MI 48265

Mr. Daniel Akerson
Incoming Chief Executive Officer
General Motors Board of Directors
General Motors Company
300 Renaissance Center
Detroit, MI 48265

Dear Chairman Whitacre and Mr. Akerson:

I am writing to strongly urge that General Motors Company (GM) -- a recipient of nearly \$50 billion in taxpayer funded federal financial assistance -- reconsider offshoring its jobs to Mexico at the expense of American workers.

In December 2008, as our country faced one of the worst economic crises in its history, President George W. Bush announced that more than \$17 billion in taxpayer funds would be allocated to support the ailing American automobile industry. The intention of that decision was simple and supported by members of both parties: to pull a signature domestic industry back from the brink of extinction and save millions of American jobs. GM subsequently received more than \$30 billion in additional federal financial assistance. Yet earlier this month, your company announced it would move the production of a new line of eight-cylinder engines and a new vehicle to Coahuila, Mexico, creating 390 jobs not in America, but south of the border.

While the leadership of GM may believe such a decision makes economic sense and helps boost profit margins, it ignores the fact that your company would not exist today were it not for the support of American taxpayers. Along with these dollars, GM should also have accepted a responsibility to put America's economic recovery first, and not that of any other nation.

The automotive workforce is critical to the manufacturing base of the American economy. According to a recent report by the Center for Automotive Research, 1.7 million automotive-related jobs impact over 8 million jobs in the private sector. It is both an economic and moral

imperative to the American people that these jobs are kept in the United States -- where my constituents and hardworking Americans across the nation footed the bill that saved GM.

Therefore, I strongly urge you to reconsider offshoring American jobs with U.S. taxpayer dollars, and instead focus on repaying your debts at home by helping get our citizens back to work. I appreciate your attention to this urgent request and will await your response.

Sincerely,



John Yarnuth
Member of Congress