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SUBJECT: MERCURY CONTENT

Keystone Steel & Wire Company (“Keystone”) and other Electric Arc Furnace (“EAF”) Steel Manufacturers are the largest recyclers in North America. Each year, the EAF steel industry recycles more material by weight than the total of all other recyclable materials combined. Keystone recycles approximately 700 thousand tons of scrap metal annually in the EAF to manufacture new steel products. The scrap metal feedstock is, in large part, comprised of end-of-life vehicles. While an excellent source of recyclable metals, scrap vehicles also sometimes contain undesirable materials, such as mercury, which typically is contained in hood and trunk light convenience switches. When a vehicle is crushed and shredded, it becomes impossible to locate and remove mercury switches from the vehicle, which can result in the release of mercury to the environment during recycling.

Keystone is pleased to announce its participation in, and strong support of, the National Vehicle Mercury Switch Recovery Program (“NVMSRP”). With a goal of removing mercury-containing switches from end-of-life vehicles before they enter the scrap supply, the NVMSRP is a national partnership among steelmakers, scrap suppliers, vehicle manufacturers, environmental groups, the Environmental Council of States, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Pollution prevention in the form of mercury switch recovery from end-of-life vehicles is the most effective option to avoid these emissions. The NVMSRP is designed to maximize mercury switch recovery at a point where the switches are still intact, contained, and readily accessible.

By participating in the NVMSRP, Keystone commits to establishing practices to reduce the amount of mercury in their feedstock by: (1) adopting corporate policies that embrace this goal; (2) developing and implementing a plan to achieve mercury minimization; (3) communicating these requirements to scrap suppliers, including through educational outreach and purchasing policies; and (4) strongly encouraging scrap suppliers to participate in the NVMSRP.

Keystone is proud to be a partner in the NVMSRP and is committed to its success.

MERCURY STATEMENT:

“Keystone Steel Wire and Rod products may contain trace amounts of Mercury which are not considered to be a risk to the environment or human health.”

Please contact us if you have questions or require additional information.

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