



## SHEET METAL AND AIR CONDITIONING CONTRACTORS' NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

December 15, 2024

Mr. Howard Lutnick  
Ms. Linda McMahon  
Co-Chairs, Trump Transition Organization  
c/o The Republican National Committee  
310 First Street SE  
Washington, D.C. 20003

Dear Mr. Lutnick and Ms. McMahon:

The Sheet Metal and Air Conditioning Contractors' National Association (SMACNA) is an international trade association representing 3,500 signatory contracting firms engaged in industrial, commercial, public, residential, architectural and specialty sheet metal construction throughout the United States. Our corporate membership includes more than 100 chapters throughout the United States, Canada, Australia, and Brazil. SMACNA provides its sheet metal and air-conditioning contractor members with assistance in areas including business management, labor relations, marketing, governmental affairs, and technical research and development – on both a national and local level. SMACNA member contractors are found on a countless number of high profile industrial, commercial and infrastructure mega projects and public monumental structures from coast to coast.

On behalf of SMACNA's international membership, I offer our enthusiastic congratulations to President-elect Trump and his transition organization. We also wish to express our appreciation and support for your campaign commitments to addressing the country's workforce, energy and infrastructure needs in your first months in office. Our following policy letter is also intended to offer our assistance to the Trump 2024 Transition Team as it focuses on invigorating our markets, businesses and construction economy.

We are also pleased to share SMACNA's membership priority policy issues and look forward to working with the Trump Administration to advance them in the coming years. We urge the President-elect's Transition team and his Administration to consider the varied economic policies outlined below for both regulatory and legislative action and advocacy. As you know, there has been widespread bipartisan support for almost every one of these commonsense policies in the 118<sup>th</sup> Congress. We are confident these legislative initiatives will enjoy even wider bipartisan support in the incoming, 119<sup>th</sup> Congress with the Administration's endorsement. Each offers pathways to strengthen the infrastructure contracting industry and create far more high-quality skilled construction careers, careers that build greater family and community economic security.

SMACNA has offered policy recommendations on the following:

- Promote Sound Infrastructure Policies to replace our nation's aging infrastructure
- Enact Permanent Business Equipment and Capital Formation Tax Incentives
- Protect and Enforce Contracting Prevailing Wage Laws
- Reform Change Order Rules on Federal Construction Projects
- Upgrade Fire Life Safety in All Federal and Federally Assisted Facilities
- Modernize Retirement Plan Options through federal authorization of composite plans
- Prepare the Next Generation of Skilled Workers with registered apprenticeship programs



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- Invest in Energy Efficient Buildings and enforce strong and attainable building codes
- Enhance Manufacturing Construction Activity and Operational Efficiency
- Invest in the Conversion of Commercial to Residential Buildings
- Provide Tax Incentives to Upgrade Air Quality in Non-Residential Buildings
- Support Responsible Employers Through Bid Listing
- Support and Enact the SAFE Banking Reform Act
- Close Employee Misclassification Loophole through reform of existing tax law
- Recognition of “TABB” Certification of Testing, Adjusting, Balancing (TAB) Technicians

We greatly appreciate the commitments President-elect Trump made during the campaign to focus on sustaining and increasing manufacturing construction and skilled construction workforce quality as well as wages and job security. A great number of our priority policy goals align with the campaign’s pledges to boost skilled workforce opportunities through strategic and comprehensive infrastructure investments as well as providing opportunities for high-quality construction apprenticeships leading to career-building jobs. From investing in the country’s manufacturing, building, and energy infrastructure, to ensuring we are training and preparing the next generation of craftsmen through innovative and proven registered apprenticeship programs (RAPs), we stand ready to work with your Administration and strengthen the American economy through smart investments in workforce training development and expansion.

Thank you for your consideration of these important national policy options that will spur employment opportunities and economic growth across our country. If you would be interested in additional information on these policy options or other construction industry issues, please contact me. We have a first-rate Capitol Hill Office legislative and policy team standing ready to assist you and your transition team staff. From a close review of our association members’ role in the industry and the policy elements detailed above, I am sure you would agree that SMACNA and its industry leading firms and highly trained and skilled workforce are best qualified to handle the most challenging and complex federal and federally assisted projects now under construction and on the horizon in the years ahead.

Sincerely,



Stanley E. Kolbe, Jr.  
Executive Director  
Government and Political Affairs  
SMACNA Capitol Hill Office