

THE INSULATION CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION AND LOCAL 12

*Monday, August 23, 2010* - NEW YORK—August 23, 2010—The President of The Insulation Contractors Association of New York City, Inc. (ICA), Joseph Leo, and Business Manager, Dennis Ippolito, and Financial Secretary, Matthew Aracich, of The International Association of Heat and Frost Insulators and Allied Workers Local 12, recently met with G. Edward DeSeve, Assistant to the Vice President as well as Special Advisor to the OMB Director for Implementation of the Recovery Act and Jared Bernstein, Chief Economic Advisor to the Vice President, to discuss how the mechanical insulation industry can create green jobs and contribute to energy conservation efforts.

The groups met at the White House to discuss how mechanical insulation has been overlooked in discussions on energy conservation and energy auditing. The insulation industry has the ability to conduct Mechanical Insulation Energy Audits for building owners with great potential for reductions in energy costs and toxic gases. The industry can simultaneously stimulate the economy by adding green jobs such as installers and auditors of energy efficient mechanical insulation.

The industry representatives also spoke about two new bills, currently in Congress, designed to give greater rebates for the purchase of energy efficient insulation. The Mechanical Insulation Installation Incentive Act of 2009 includes a tax deduction for a percentage of all costs of installing and maintaining mechanical insulation materials including piping and equipment for commercial building owners. Mechanical insulation is used in a wide variety of settings including thermal, acoustical, and personnel safety requirements for mechanical piping and equipment, hot and cold applications and heating, venting and air conditioning applications.

The Building Star Energy Efficiency Act of 2010 is a second bill created to provide insulation rebates. With this bill, the Secretary of Energy will issue rebates to building owners to offset a portion of the cost of purchasing and installing qualifying equipment or materials that enhance the energy efficiency of existing buildings. There will additionally be a Building Star Energy Efficiency Loan Program and the Energy Secretary will be able to make guarantees for energy efficiency projects.

The ICA and Local 12 plan to hold a follow-up meeting with Robert Peck, Commissioner of Public Buildings for General Services Administration (GSA) and are currently planning an educational workshop on mechanical insulation for approximately 175 managers of the GSA.