

MEMORANDUM

July 25, 2006

To: Senate Committee on Finance

From: Steven R. Valentine
Preston Gates Ellis & Rouvelas Meeds LLP
Counsel to Rhodia Inc.

Re: Comments on S. 1475, to Suspend Temporarily Duty on Cyclopentanone

Rhodia Inc. welcomes this opportunity to comment on Senator Vitter's bill, S. 1475, to suspend temporarily the duty on cyclopentanone. The bill was introduced at the request of Rhodia Inc., the U.S. operations of which are based in Cranbury, New Jersey.

Rhodia's cyclopentanone is a synthetic organic chemical that may be used in the production of flavor and fragrance chemicals. It is also used in the synthesis of other major chemical products, including agrochemicals, pharmaceuticals and various organic solvents. Rhodia imports cyclopentanone from France.

Rhodia Inc. strongly supports S. 1475 and urges its incorporation in the miscellaneous tariffs legislation that is being prepared by the Committee.