

SHERROD BROWN  
OHIO

COMMITTEES  
AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION,  
AND FORESTRY

BANKING, HOUSING,  
AND URBAN AFFAIRS

FINANCE

VETERANS' AFFAIRS

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510 - 3505

October 17, 2016

Ms. Mary Barra Chairman and CEO General Motors Company P.O. Box 33170  
Detroit, MI 48232-5170

Dear Ms. Barra:

Recently, General Motors Company announced plans to discontinue the manufacture of nodular iron parts at the GM foundry in Defiance, Ohio. This move will result in the loss of 157 jobs by 2018, on top of more than 300 jobs losses already scheduled for 2017.

It is my understanding that GM has pledged to find new jobs within the company for the employees affected by the closure of the iron casting division - either in Defiance or nearby Fort Wayne and Toledo. I ask you to confirm these plans and the specific steps that will be taken to reassign these workers. These hardworking and loyal employees deserve no less,

The community of Defiance has a long and proud history with General Motors, and its people are committed to helping General Motors produce quality trucks and cars for years to come. I encourage you to make the most of GM's talented and dedicated workforce in Defiance as General Motors develops new lines in the future.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if there are any ways I can be of assistance.

Sincerely,



Sherrod Brown United  
States Senator

SB:alo



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November 7, 2016

The Honorable Sherrod Brown United States Senate 713 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

**Re: October 17, 2016 letter regarding the GM Casting Operations in Defiance, Ohio**

Dear Senator Brown:

Thank you for your letter dated October 17, 2016, regarding production decisions at our Defiance Casting Operations facility. I welcome the opportunity to respond to your concerns.

As you noted, GM has a long and successful history in Defiance, beginning with the opening of the GM Defiance Casting Operations in 1948. The employees of Defiance have helped GM produce safe and high quality vehicles and we greatly value the relationships we have established over the years as an integral member of the community. This is why the decision to cease the manufacture of nodular iron parts was such a difficult one.

The plan we announced on September 23, 2016, informed employees that GM intends to begin phasing out nodular iron production work, which is no longer a core component of GM business and is declining in use across the industry. This plan will impact 107 hourly employees and 50 salaried employees of the total Defiance workforce of 1,128.

Although we will cease production of nodular iron parts, most Defiance employees will continue in their roles to manufacture safe, high quality GM products. The cessation of work will occur over the next two years in order to provide opportunities for many impacted employees to transition to roles in nearby GM operations, such as Toledo and Ft. Wayne. Impacted salaried workers will also be given opportunities to transfer to other GM locations.

In addition, we expect to insource new work at Defiance between now and 2020, giving some the opportunity to stay in Defiance or, for those that choose to leave, the potential to come back. We will continue to work with our partners at the UAW to identify those opportunities as is provided for in the GM/UAW National Agreement and local Memorandums of Understanding.

The hard work of our employees has resulted in the satisfaction of thousands of customers over the years, and GM wants to position Defiance Casting as a producer of key components for our propulsion systems for years to come.

Thank you for your letter and your leadership in the Senate. We look forward to working with you to be a constructive partner going forward to make GM the safest, highest quality automobile manufacturer in the world. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I may be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dan Turton', written in a cursive style.

Dan Turton  
GM North America Vice President, Public Policy