December 16, 2019

Chairman Richard Neal
House Committee on Ways & Means
102 Longworth House Office Building
Washington D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Neal,

I write to express my concerns regarding Grupo Mexico’s subsidiary Asarco. Unfortunately, Asarco has a history of violating U.S. labor laws and exploiting the environment. It is reported that this company has released over one million gallons of copper sulfate into a major watershed, has refused to recover the bodies of 63 mine workers killed in an explosion at a Grupo Mexico’s mine and has not adequately compensated the families for their loss.

As you continue to finalize H.R. 5430, the USMCA implementing legislation, I ask that the labor provisions included will ensure protections and enforcement measures for workers and the environment from these types of companies. It is unacceptable that workers and our environment are subject to these abuses without transparency and accountability measures in place. We must ensure that we do not repeat these abuses in signing the USMCA.

I look forward to reviewing the final implementation legislation and working with you to support workers. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Raúl M. Grijalva
Member of Congress