

IN RECOGNITION OF THE SERVICE
OF GENERAL WILLIAM SHELTON
TO THE UNITED STATES AND
THE CONSTITUENTS OF COLO-
RADO'S FIFTH DISTRICT

HON. DOUG LAMBORN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 2014

Mr. LAMBORN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize General William L. Shelton, Commander of Air Force Space Command, on the occasion of his retirement from the United States Air Force.

Over the course of his 38-year career in the United States Air Force, General Shelton has served with great distinction and made countless sacrifices for our country. We commend his service; the sacrifices of his family in support of his service, including his wife Linda and their two children Sara and Joel; and must express our great appreciation for his leadership and devotion to our Nation's security.

A graduate of the United States Air Force Academy, General Shelton's selection as the Commander of Air Force Space Command in January 2011 culminates a distinguished career that began in 1976 at the Space and Missile Test Center at Vandenberg Air Force Base, California. In a career dedicated to the space enterprise, he commanded units at Falcon/Schriever, F.E. Warren, Offutt, Vandenberg, and Peterson Air Force Bases. He also provided valuable leadership and counsel to the Secretary of the Air Force, Chief of Staff of the Air Force and Joint Staff community during multiple Headquarters U.S. Air Force assignments. His positive leadership directly influenced countless men and women in our Armed Forces, and the enduring effects of his service to our country will be felt for years to come.

General Shelton has been a vigilant advocate for national security space programs. As the Commander of Air Force Space Command, he was responsible for organizing, training and equipping more than 40,000 military and civilian personnel to assure space and cyberspace capabilities for the Combatant Commands and for the Nation. While space and cyberspace capabilities clearly contribute to making our military unmatched in combat operations, they also have become essential in humanitarian and disaster relief efforts and are now vital assets for the global community and world economy. Through his leadership, we enjoy unprecedented success in the areas of space launch and acquisition which have led to greater mission assurance and cost savings across the Department of Defense. Further, his vision on future space capabilities will position us to make the changes necessary to provide resilient, capable and affordable space capabilities for the joint force and the Nation well into the future.

General Shelton established an unmatched and sustained level of success during a time of increasing challenges. He has worked closely with the House Armed Services Committee, and it has been my great pleasure to work with him in that important capacity. His frank and informed discussions on our space systems, particularly the Global Positioning Satellite system, have helped leaders and citizens around the world appreciate the value

and need to protect our Nation's foundational space capabilities. As a member of the House Armed Services Subcommittee on Strategic Forces, I am grateful for General Shelton's wise counsel and firm resolve to always do what is best for the Nation and for the Airmen he has led.

With nearly four decades of exemplary service to our Nation, General William L. Shelton deserves our most heartfelt gratitude and praise. Thank you, General Shelton—and best wishes to you and your family.

EXPORT-IMPORT BANK REAUTHORIZATION

SPEECH OF

HON. MAXINE WATERS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday 30, 2014

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following letters in support of the Export-Import Bank:

1. Letter from Steve Wilburn, President and CEO, FirmGreen, July 21, 2014
2. Letter from Greenery Solutions, Inc, June 23, 2014
3. Letter from Brek Manufacturing to Ranking Member Maxine Waters
4. Letter from Hansen Engineering Company, July 23, 2014
5. Statement from Fritz-Pak, June 17, 2014
6. Letter from Boyle Energy Services & Technology, Inc, July 22, 2014

JULY 21, 2014.

HON. MAXINE WATERS,
Ranking Member, Committee on Financial Services, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR RANKING MEMBER WATERS: I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Ranking Member, Chairman Hensarling, all the Committee Members and staff, for the opportunity of testifying before the House Committee on Financial Services on June 25, 2014.

It was an extreme honor to appear before the Committee. Only in America can a disabled Veteran small business owner like me, hope to share the national stage with a multi-billion international conglomerate, and have my voice heard on such a critical issue as the Reauthorization of the Export Import Bank of the United States (Ex-Im Bank US).

I remain deeply concerned over the continuing negative comments and name calling emanating from many members of Congress concerning the Reauthorization of the Export Import Bank of the United States. I believe such public comments are harming US Exporters and helping to embolden our overseas competitors. As stated in my testimony, "Words have consequences." FirmGreen lost an order worth \$57 million due to the uncertainty created by a vocal minority of Congressional critics opposed to Ex-Bank Reauthorization.

I feel that the current economic recovery occurring in the US is fragile. We are experiencing mounting trade deficits. I firmly believe that the decades-long decline and deterioration of the once formidable United States industrial and manufacturing base is having a negative effect on our economy and our national security.

In 1970, more than a quarter of U.S. employees worked in manufacturing. Today, the number is only one in 10. Over 76 percent of current jobs in the US are in the Service Sector.

Ensuring the viability of our manufacturing and industrial sectors is critical to providing jobs that pay good wages, is important to the recovery of our struggling economy and is vital to the defense of our Republic.

In my opinion, we cannot continue to be a global power capable of responding to serious threats to US interests worldwide, without the support of a strong industrial manufacturing base.

According to declassified CIA reports, China has overtaken Japan and is now second to the United States in terms of Gross Domestic Product (GDP). In recent years, led by a strong expansion of its Industrial and Manufacturing Base, China has more than doubled the USA's rate of growth in GDP.

According to the CIA's World Fact Book, as of 2013, China and the European Union are ahead of the United States in Exports. More troubling than the shrinking dollar amount of US exports, is a growing trade deficit in "manufactured" goods.

In order for US Exporters to recover from the recent economic downturn and create jobs, they must have access to sufficient working capital and credit support. Since the near total collapse of the Global Banking system in 2008, Export Credit Agencies (ECA's) and Development Finance Institutions (DFI's) have played an increasingly important role in financing exports.

While US commercial banks are still recovering, sources of capital for US exporters have become constrained. On the world stage, nations and private clients seeking to import manufactured goods and technology have increasingly looked to the competitively priced financial products provided by ECA's and DFI's. Chinese, Japanese and Korean competitors to FirmGreen, and other US Exporters have easy access to very attractive finance terms being offered by the Chinese, Japanese and Korean ECA's.

FirmGreen's export potential has been directly affected by the uncertainty of reauthorization of Ex-Im Bank US and the aggressive finance terms offered by the Korean Ex-Im Bank (KEXIM). (See Attached Letter from Greenery, Solutions, Inc.).

In many of the international markets where FirmGreen competes, ECAs are providing the only project finance available. In the energy infrastructure marketplace, fully nine out of 10 projects that get done on a true project finance basis have ECA support.

"JBIC remains a global leader for energy and infrastructure project finance; KEXIM is rising in prominence, particularly in energy; Chinese institutions are also very active and increasingly willing to work with other International finance providers as opposed to going it alone as they have done in the past." (Source Baker and McKenzie 2013 Report on the Rise of ECA's and DFI's).

The Export-Import Bank of the United States allows US Manufacturers, such as FirmGreen, to compete on an equal basis with the project finance terms being offered by foreign ECA's and DFI's. Ex-Im Bank US provides valuable comfort to US commercial banks, allowing them to provide the longer tenor loans that are essential for many US Exporters, and vital for FirmGreen's credit-worthy energy and infrastructure projects.

In summation, as a combat decorated Veteran, small business owner, job creator, exporter and concerned citizen, I believe that we should not unilaterally disarm and abandon the very governmental agency that allows US Manufacturers and other US Exporters to fairly compete on the world's trading stage.

I strongly urge members of Congress to support the Reauthorization of Export-Import Bank of the United States.

Respectfully Submitted,

STEVE WILBURN,
President, CEO.

JUNE 23, 2014.

Mr. STEVE WILBURN,
Chief Executive Officer, FirmGreen, Inc., Newport Beach, CA.

DEAR MR. WILBURN: In view of the uncertainty of the reauthorization of the Exim Bank, and project finance structure you proposed had become problematic, we have made the decision in May this year not to proceed with your project offering.

Our previous partner-developer has provided us assurance of the certainty of obtaining satisfactory finance from the Export-Import Bank of Korea for our Cavite Biomass-Waste-to-Energy Project.

With previous discussion with you, we had the impression that your company, FirmGreen can provide the best technology for our project, but without terms similar to what being offered by the Exim Bank of Korea, it will be impossible for our company to conclude a transaction.

If you can produce a Letter of Interest (LOI) from the Exim Bank of the United States by June 30, 2014, our company will reconsider using FirmGreen technology for the project and reconsider retaining FirmGreen as the project Technical Operator for this important project.

The roadmap to obtaining the long term project finance commitment on favorable terms is critical in our decision making process.

We hope that this all be worked out to the satisfaction of both our companies.

Very truly yours,

RUTH P. BRIONES,
President/CEO, Greenergy Solutions Inc.

AUGUST 26, 2014.

Hon. MAXINE WATERS,

DEAR RANKING MEMBER WATERS: Brek Manufacturing Company is a small business in California with 170 employees, who have a critical interest in foreign sale of Boeing Commercial Aircraft. The Export-Import Bank plays an important role as an intermediary in the sale of these aircraft. This letter is to express our support for the Ex-Im bank, as it is key to securing additional sales of Boeing Commercial Aircraft.

Our company produces approximately 40 percent of our output to Boeing Commercial Aircraft customers, with the other 60 percent representing military customers.

With the decrease of the military business available, it is critical that the commercial sales be kept as high as possible to preserve the industrial infrastructure that this company and that of other companies in our industry represent.

Our representatives who support the military must also be concerned with the Ex-Im Bank because of the role it plays in supporting jobs in companies like this one, large and small, across the country.

Although our company is not a household name like Boeing, we supply critical aircraft structural components which are key to successful, safe air transport and air defense. There are many others like us who represent thousands of high skilled and well paid positions with good benefits.

Please express our support for the Ex-Im Bank to your colleagues. We are counting on them to do the right thing and support American manufacturing jobs.

Regards,

WILLIAM A. CONRAD,
Director of Contracts.

JULY 23, 2014.

Hon. MAXINE WATERS,
Ranking Member, House Financial Services Committee.

DEAR CONGRESSWOMAN WATERS, Hansen Engineering Company is one of many small businesses in the South Bay area of Los An-

geles California that is dependent on Boeing contracts to support our business.

Hansen Engineering is a manufacturer of machined aerospace parts and assemblies with 90% of our contracts supporting Boeing aircraft either directly or indirectly through other prime aerospace companies throughout the world. My company staffs approximately 60 employees who live in the South Bay and surrounding areas and depend upon the support of Boeing for the wellbeing of their families. Without the reauthorization of the Ex-Im Bank it would have a big impact on the health of our business, its employees and their families.

This is a critical time for manufacturing and small businesses in America. Without the Export-Import Bank, many of Boeing's customers could decide to purchase commercial airplanes produced outside of the United States. Hansen Engineering Company is in strong support of legislation to approve the reauthorization of the Export-Import Bank of the United States.

Thank you for your support of the Export-Import Banking reauthorization initiative.

Sincerely,

GREG LAY,
*Vice President,
 Hansen Engineering Company.*

[June 17th, 2014]

HOW EX-IM BANK HELPED SAVE MY BUSINESS

(By Gabriel Ojeda, President of Fritz-Pak Corporation)

In 1998, I began the American Dream. I had been working for another company for over 14 years when I decided it was time that I work for myself. I was managing the concrete admixtures division there, and when it came up for sale, I borrowed money from everywhere I could and purchased it. I incorporated my new business, Fritz-Pak Corporation, in the state of Texas, where we are proud to manufacture all of our products to this day.

Concrete admixtures are chemicals used in construction to make handling, placing, and creating high performance concrete easily and efficiently. The most obvious examples are retarders and accelerators. During the summer, concrete will start to set faster due to the heat, so you use a retarder to slow down the setting time. In the winter, concrete will set slower due to the cold, so you use an accelerator to speed it up. Those are just two examples, and in total, we sell about 40 different specialty products.

Back in 1998, the sales distribution was only 15% international. To be honest, I only maintained the international accounts I inherited from the original sale of the business. We were fortunate that concrete construction in the USA started to take off, so I didn't really have a need to expand internationally. I grew the business from less than \$1 million in sales to over \$3 million by 2007. However, the recession that began in '07/'08 hit the construction industry hard.

Data from the US Geological Survey shows that US cement consumption in 2007 was 117 million metric tons (MMT), falling to 99 MMT in 2008 and 72 MMT in 2009. Likewise, our sales fell from over \$3 million to under \$2 million. Concrete construction in the US was deteriorating rapidly, along with our profits, sales, and our workforce. After a particularly hard round of layoffs in 2009, we were in complete survival mode, and I was beginning to consider selling the company.

With the American construction market failing, my son came to me with the idea to start promoting our products overseas to compensate for the loss in revenue. Expanding internationally had always appealed to us, but trying to come up with a cost effi-

cient and safe method for selling our products in other countries during the worst recession in our lifetime seemed like a pipe dream. How can we sell \$50,000 worth of goods to customers half way around the world we've never even met? How can we increase our payment cycle from 30 days to 60 days when we are struggling just to make payroll every month?

However, after speaking with our bankers at Comerica, we were put in touch with Export-Import Bank. With the help of Ex-Im, we were able to insure our international receivables at minimal cost. With an affordable safety net, we were able to sell more volume with increased terms to compensate for international shipping. During the past 5 years, we've grown our international sales from 15 percent to over 35 percent of our business. Partners in over 30 different countries including Brazil, Russia, India, and Taiwan. Most recently, we exhibited our products at the BAUMA International Trade Fair in Munich, Germany. In addition, our products were used in the construction of the Sochi Winter Olympics in Russia.

So what is Fritz-Pak Corporation today? We're an American manufacturer of the best concrete admixtures in the world, and we sell them as far north as Yellowknife, Canada and as far south as Wellington, New Zealand. We may be small, but we think big. In an age where everything seems to be made some place else, we're thriving here in the USA. And it is in no small part due to the services provided by Ex-Im Bank.

BOYLE ENERGY SERVICES &
 TECHNOLOGY, INC.,
Manchester, NH, July 22, 2014.

Hon. MAXINE WATERS,

House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MRS. WATERS, Ma'am, BES&T needs every effort you and your team can expend to help with the Re-Authorization of the Export-Import Bank of the United States.

You see we are at a great moment in time. Our company, through our exporting, has invented a technology and been awarded US Patents for that technology which dramatically reduces the cost of commissioning energy facilities being built anywhere in the world. In fact we have recently been awarded an Innovation in Energy Award by the Coalition for Global Leadership for this technology. We are about to break through from being a small business to a midsize company working globally. Our revenues are going up dramatically by our ability to export our unique services, engineering and field equipment that helps our clients save millions of dollars.

I have a small line of credit from the Bank of America. I would not be able to support bid bonds and other financial work on the project without EXIM support. At present BOA does not have a means of securing the collateral against our credit while it is in foreign countries, nor does it support financing foreign receivables without EXIM. It is my experience that most US domestic banks behave the same way. While it might be possible to search for a new bank we do not have the resources, time, nor network to re-qualify a bank with what we do. It would be disastrous to us. BOA has taken 10 years to understand our business.

Since undertaking our R&D program in 2003-2008 we have gone from 4 million in revenue in 2003 to nearly 30 million now. We have gone from 10 employees to nearly 50. But ma'am these are not minimum wage jobs. We pay the top salaries in the world for what our people do. We pay 100 percent blue cross blue shield health insurance, 401K, life insurance etc. I have high school graduates who are considered by the energy industry as

the best people in the world at what they do making more than \$150,000 per year. BES&T is poised to triple in size again. Additionally we gave over \$150,000 to charity this year in celebration of our 20th anniversary as a company. We feel it is our civic duty to help those in need as we excel around the world.

We represent what America does best. We innovate through entrepreneurialism. We take that innovation and we run with it all over the world and here in the US. We hire our friends and neighbors who buy homes and cars and send their kids to college. We promote good will in the countries we work and make friends around the world.

I grew up on welfare in Massachusetts, needed school lunches to get through the day and chose to go into the Navy as an enlisted Boiler Technician for 6 years. At every turn I have leveraged the support of the United States and the states in which I lived to create a positive American life for me and for others. Our business is a direct result of the training I got during my enlistment. Now we rely on the EXIM bank for help while we push forward once more. I feel an incredible sense of pride and patriotism that the Export Import Bank of the United States stands with me and my employees. Its one of the great tools for small business in the country.

Several years ago I had the privilege to meet Chairman Hochberg at an outreach meeting hosted by Senator Shaheen of New Hampshire. Since then I have been invited by the Chairman to voice my opinion to him and the board of directors on a wide variety of subjects relating to the banks support of small business. What I can tell you is this, from the top office of the Chairman to the people who work for the bank. EXIM bank is committed to working and improving services for small businesses. I have been witness to countless improvements on behalf of small companies and the Chairman listens to the small business community and so does the board. They are committed to working with us, and it shows.

Mrs. Waters if there were a better, or cheaper way we would have done it. Small businesses always look for that edge. Right now our work with EXIM is highly valuable to our global growth. We work in 17 countries tonight. American women, men and equipment. We rely on EXIM for credit insurance and for our line of credit with BOA. We have never defaulted nor had a claim. We pay heavy fees and costs for this privilege. EXIM is a partner for us in our success.

I would ask you to convince the Chairman that this platform will hurt us, badly. I buy millions of dollars of equipment year on year to help with our exporting. We buy from vendors in Texas, and Tennessee, and California. All of these people would be hurt as well.

This is not a fight we should be undertaking at this time in our recovery. BES&T will continue to add jobs, and pay our taxes on the profits we incur. We will take care of our people and our neighbors. We will honor your trust and support.

If I may of any assistance to either you or Chairman Hensarling in this matter please call upon me at once.

Please re-authorize the EXIM bank its good for America, and BES&T.

Respectfully,

MICHAEL P. BOYLE,
President/CEO.

GRAYCE UYEHARA

HON. MARK TAKANO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 2014

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, today, I want to remember a stalwart leader in the Japanese

American community, Grayce Uyehara, who passed away recently on June 22nd.

Grayce was a leading force in organizing and drawing attention to the Redress campaign—with her well-known Action Alerts and grassroots mobilization efforts—during her tenure as the executive director of Japanese American Citizens League's Legislative Education Committee.

Her commitment to the Japanese American community, as well as this country more broadly, was a stunning display of courage and dedication in seeking justice for injustices throughout.

Her legacy will be one not only of justice and fairness, but of true leadership and perseverance.

HONORING TAKAYUKI KUBOTA

HON. JULIA BROWNLEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 2014

Mrs. BROWNLEY of California. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize Takayuki Kubota. For seventy-five years Mr. Kubota has been involved in the study and practice of the martial arts and is one of the most widely known and respected Karate masters in the United States.

Born on September 20, 1934 on the Japanese Island of Kyushu, Mr. Kubota's commitment and study of the martial arts began when he was four years old under the guidance and direction of his father. His dedication and daily training led to studying diverse styles of martial arts, which include incorporating the study of meditation and history, as well as the non-combative facets of the arts.

This dedication and passion inspired Mr. Kubota to start the International Karate Association with affiliated schools throughout the globe. Through his association, he teaches his own unique style of karate, known as Gosoko Ryu Karate, and is recognized around the world for its effectiveness.

Over the years, Mr. Kubota has had thousands of students from around the world come to learn and practice his karate style. These students are attracted to his versatility in his ways of teaching. In addition, he has trained a multitude of federal, state, law enforcement personnel, largely on a volunteer basis.

It is with sincere appreciation that I recognize Takayuki Kubota for the value he has contributed to his community through his dedication and teachings of the martial arts.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA'S INSTITUTE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES (IFAS) COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICES

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 2014

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the University of Florida's Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS) Cooperative Ex-

tension Services. IFAS is a highly successful federal-state-county partnership that has helped support Florida's farmers and agricultural industry for more than 100 years.

IFAS Extension was born from two important laws, the Morrill Act of 1862, which created Land-Grant universities throughout the country including the University of Florida, and the Smith-Lever Act of 1914, which established the Cooperative Extension Service as a partnership between the Department of Agriculture and Land-Grant universities, jointly administered with state extension agents, and local county officials. In its early history, IFAS Extension was focused on increasing agricultural production and improving the lives of rural residents by tapping the latest information from the world class research being done at the University of Florida and Florida A&M University and converting it into practical knowledge that Floridians could use to improve agricultural techniques and home economics. These core extension services have helped serve millions of Floridians, and today IFAS operates 1,249 buildings, 3,622,462 gross square feet and 27,279 acres with locations in all 67 counties. Thanks to these efforts, the value-added contribution of IFAS Extension add more than \$100 billion to the state economy.

In addition to the core agricultural support programs, IFAS also contributes greatly to the development of Florida's youth through the 4-H program. The 4-H youth development programs began in 1909 with "corn clubs" for young men, which showed Florida's youth how to prepare and plant their fields with hybrid corn seed. Cash prizes were awarded to those who produced the most corn, with additional prizes for youth whose crops out-produced their parents. Two years later, in 1911, tomato clubs were established for young women to plant, harvest and can tomatoes. When the IFAS Extension Service was established in 1915, it took over administration of the clubs, and in 1924, the various clubs were officially recognized as 4-H Clubs. As a former 4-H participant, I can attest to the incredible leadership and educational opportunities that 4-H provides to Florida's youth.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am privileged to recognize the 100th Anniversary of the University of Florida's Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS) Cooperative Extension Services. Agriculture is a vital component of Florida's history and economic success, and I join Floridians in appreciation of the first-class work and effort that IFAS provides to support our state.

A TRIBUTE TO THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WEST MIDLAND FAMILY CENTER

HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 2014

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the West Midland Family Center in commemoration of the organization's 40th anniversary.

The West Midland Family Center (WMFC) first opened its doors in 1974. Originally an abandoned school, in 1931, WMFC founder Phyllis Breedlove and several other dedicated community members began the transformation