



03 January 2017

President-elect Donald J. Trump
Presidential Transition Headquarters
1800 F Street, NW, Room G117
Washington, DC 20270-0117

Dear President-elect Trump,

Last year, you made a very clear, unequivocal statement regarding the H-1B program:

“The H-1B program is neither high-skilled nor immigration: these are temporary foreign workers, imported from abroad, for the explicit purpose of substituting for American workers at lower pay. I remain totally committed to eliminating rampant, widespread H-1B abuse and ending outrageous practices such as those that occurred at Disney in Florida when Americans were forced to train their foreign replacements. I will end forever the use of the H-1B as a cheap labor program, and institute an absolute requirement to hire American workers first for every visa and immigration program. No exceptions.”

As you prepare to take office, IEEE-USA is calling on you to immediately act on that statement by issuing an Executive Order, as President of the United States, to stop the federal government from using the H-1B program to outsource jobs during your Administration.

Unfortunately, previous administrations have shamefully used the H-1B program to outsource jobs in the federal government. For example, a 2016 article from [Politico](#) highlights this abuse within the U.S. Department of Labor. Astonishingly, the U.S. Department of Labor – the very federal agency with the mission “to foster, promote, and develop the welfare of the wage earners, job seekers, and retirees of the United States.....” – has used American taxpayer dollars to outsource U.S. government jobs to temporary, non-immigrants under the H-1B program.

While we realize that you will have to work with Congress to enact the type of comprehensive measures necessary to eliminate the rampant, widespread H-1B abuse underscored in your statement, as the chief executive of the federal government of the United States, you have the ability to immediately and unilaterally issue an executive order to end the abuse of the H-1B program across the federal government.

Taking this presidential action on day one would be an important first step and a clear signal that the Trump Administration is truly committed to draining the swamp in Washington, prioritizing the jobs of the American people, and protecting the American taxpayer.

IEEE-USA is an organizational unit of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, and a leading association for the advancement of technology and science. As the largest representative of technology professionals in the United States, our 200,000 power engineers, computer programmers, physicists, electrical engineers, and other professionals are actively engaged in ensuring a high-tech American workforce.

Thank you in advance for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Karen S. Pedersen". The signature is written in black ink on a white background.

Karen S. Pedersen, P.E.
2017 President, IEEE-USA