

LIGHTS OUT ON U.S. MANUFACTURING?

Back in 2007, when George W. Bush was President, Congress passed a law to ban incandescent bulbs beginning in 2014. That helped push GE to recently close the last U.S. incandescent light bulb plant in Virginia. So we go green with American-made compact fluorescent bulbs (CFLs)? Nope. Now Americans will have to buy Chinese-made CFLs or Curly-Qs.

Is there a windfall of green manufacturing jobs here or are we just exporting more jobs to China? Think about it. In China, working conditions are poor and their concern for the environment is limited at best, making it easy for them to produce things cheaply.

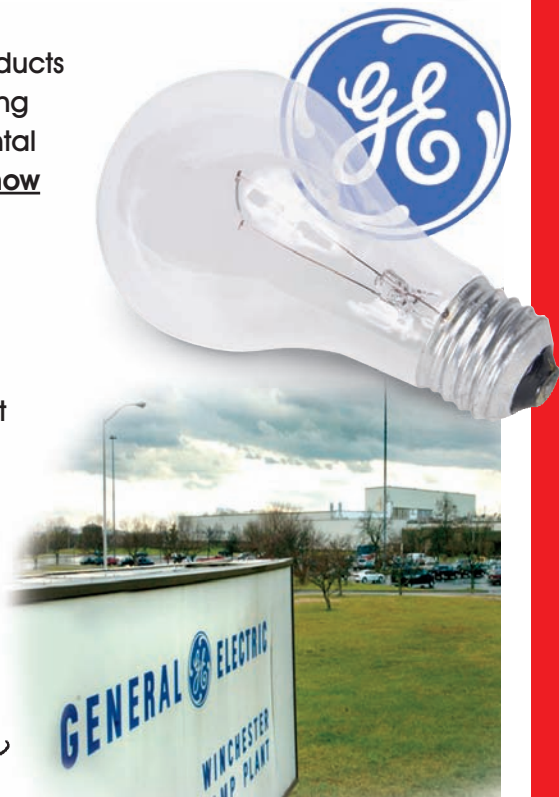
China gets to use their nearly non-existent environmental rules and working conditions to make green products like the CFLs. These products are more expensive and also have a higher mercury content, making disposal a big issue. All this so Americans can meet U.S. environmental laws while we watch more of our fellow citizens lose their jobs. Just how level is this playing field?

U.S. companies rely on innovation to compete. Trying to go head-to-head with the Chinese by giving away that innovation and then making it too costly for American companies to play is a losing battle. We saw that with the textile industry. Our government should be focusing on ways to help us compete globally, not getting in the way with ill-conceived and restrictive laws, in my opinion.

A rising tide lifts all boats. We are all in this together. We need to do our best to take care of our families first, then America, and then the world. What is fair?



Liz Uihlein
– Liz Uihlein



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ULINE



Thanks to all of you, Uline is on the move again...

- We just settled into our Pleasant Prairie, Wisconsin corporate headquarters with all departments under one roof for the first time in three years.
- **Seattle:** Look for our new branch to open in early 2011 – Serving the Pacific Northwest and Vancouver, Canada!
- **Atlanta:** Relocates into a new, larger facility in February 2011.
- **Monterrey, Mexico:** Our second Mexico location is opening in the late Summer of 2011.