

Elissa Slotkin's campaign was funded by a registered foreign agent representing a Chinese Communist Party-backed company as it worked to secure a business deal in Michigan that could pose a national security threat. One former counterintelligence official even warned the project was "100%" likely to be used by China to conduct espionage in Michigan. Despite this, Slotkin even allowed her taxpayer-funded staffer to sign a secret non-disclosure agreement to hide conversations about the controversial project. Slotkin is another dishonest career politician who will sell America out to China. Slotkin should be fired, not promoted.

Gotion is a battery technology company, focused on clean energy.

- Gotion is a battery technology company, focused on clean energy. "Located in the heart of Silicon Valley, Gotion is a fast-growing energy solutions company that aims to innovate and create the next generation of battery technology...A simple thought really. In the near future, clean energy will be the main driver fueling many aspects of our daily lives. We want to be a part of that transition and journey." ("About Gotion," [Gotion](#), Accessed 3/27/23)

Gotion quietly registered as a Chinese foreign principal in April 2023 and disclosed that it is wholly owned and controlled by a Chinese parent company that employs nearly 1,000 members of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP), including the company's CEO.

- Gotion "quietly" registered as a Chinese foreign principal. "The company behind a controversial Michigan electric vehicle battery plant quietly appeared as a Chinese foreign principal in an under-the-radar registration, disclosures reviewed by Fox News Digital show. Gotion Inc., a Fremont, California-based energy company, has faced uproar from Republican politicians and residents in the state over potential Chinese Communist Party (CCP) influence concerns since it first unveiled plans to construct the multi-billion dollar facility with the support of Democratic Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer. Gotion Inc.'s parent company, Gotion High-Tech, is headquartered in Hefei City, China." (Joe Schoffstall and Thomas Catenacci, "Company behind contentious Michigan battery factory quietly appeared as Chinese foreign principal in filings," [Fox News](#), 08/18/23)
  - Gotion "quietly registered as a Chinese foreign principal, according to FARA filings" in April 2023 and disclosed that it is "wholly owned and controlled" by the China-based Hefei Gotion High-Tech Power Energy Co., LTD. "But just one day after her statement, on April 21, Gotion Inc. was quietly registered as a

Chinese foreign principal, according to FARA filings, which appears to have gone previously unreported. The U.S. subsidiary's document declares that its "wholly owned and controlled" by the China-based Hefei Gotion High-Tech Power Energy Co., Ltd." (Joe Schoffstall and Thomas Catenacci, "Company behind contentious Michigan battery factory quietly appeared as Chinese foreign principal in filings," [Fox News](#), 08/18/23)

- **The Chinese parent company of Gotion Inc. employs 923 Chinese Communist Party (CCP) members, including its CEO.** "The Chinese parent company of Gotion Inc., which intends to build two electric battery plants in Michigan, employs 923 Chinese Communist Party (CCP) members, including its CEO, according to its 2022 ESG report." (Philip Lenczycki, "EXCLUSIVE, CCP Officials Set Up Talent Recruitment Program At US Firm Behind Taxpayer-Backed EV Battery Plants," [Daily Caller](#), 09/12/23)
  - **Chinese-language documents show Gotion is led by a CCP member and employs hundreds more of them.** "While Gotion Inc.'s representatives deny CCP influence, Chinese-language documents show its Hefei-based parent company is led by a CCP member and employs hundreds more of them." (Philip Lenczycki, "EXCLUSIVE, CCP Officials Set Up Talent Recruitment Program At US Firm Behind Taxpayer-Backed EV Battery Plants," [Daily Caller](#), 09/12/23)

**Monique Field-Foster, an attorney at a firm who registered as a foreign agent on behalf of Gotion, has funded Elissa Slotkin's Senate campaign.**

- **Monique Field-Foster, an attorney at the firm acting as a foreign agent on behalf of Gotion, donated to Elissa Slotkin.** "Individuals at a law firm registered as foreign agents to lobby on behalf of Gotion, a Chinese electric vehicle battery company developing a controversial project in Michigan, and wired campaign contributions to several top Democrats. According to state and federal filings, Monique Field-Foster, an attorney at the Lansing office of the Warner Norcross + Judd law firm who is acting as a foreign agent on behalf of Gotion, donated to the campaigns of Democratic Gov. Gretchen Whitmer, Whitmer's sister Liz Geregthy and Michigan Democratic Senate hopeful Rep. Elissa Slotkin." (Thomas Catenacci and Joe Schoffstall, "Lobbyist for CCP-tied EV company funneled cash to Democrats after filing as foreign agents." [Fox News](#), 09/11/23)
- **Field-Foster is one of five lawyers at Warner Norcross + Judd who registered to represent Gotion, according to the firm's FARA filing from April 2023.** "Field-Foster is one of five lawyers at Warner Norcross + Judd registered to represent Gotion, according to the firm's April FARA filing. Her services for Gotion were listed as 'communications with Office of the Governor, State legislature and State departments to educate and advocate to state officials and decision makers on proposed battery project in Mecosta county.'" (Thomas Catenacci and Joe Schoffstall, "Lobbyist for CCP-tied EV company funneled cash to Democrats after filing as foreign agents." [Fox News](#), 09/11/23)

- The firm was hired to represent Gotion and perform real estate acquisitions, file applications for land rezoning and attend public rezoning hearings on behalf of Gotion. “An April Foreign Agents Registration Act (FARA) filing with the Department of Justice shows the firm was hired to represent Gotion, a California company whose parent is based in Hefei, China. The firm said it would perform real estate acquisitions, file applications for land rezoning and attend public rezoning hearings on behalf of Gotion.” (Thomas Catenacci and Joe Schoffstall, “Lobbyist for CCP-tied EV company funneled cash to Democrats after filing as foreign agents.” [Fox News](#), 09/11/23)
- **HEADLINE:** “Lobbyist for CCP-tied EV company funneled cash to Democrats after filing as foreign agents.”

MICHIGAN

## Lobbyists for CCP-tied EV company funneled cash to Democrats after filing as foreign agents

Lobbyists for Chinese green energy firm made donations to Democrats after registering as foreign agents



By Thomas Catenacci, Joe Schoffstall · Fox News

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(Thomas Catenacci and Joe Schoffstall, “Lobbyist for CCP-tied EV company funneled cash to Democrats after filing as foreign agents.” [Fox News](#), 09/11/23)

Gotion’s parent company participated in CCP-backed programs designed to acquire advanced technology and research to support China’s army, including a program to “clandestinely acquire U.S. technology and sensitive economic information.”

- **HEADLINE:** “Parent Of US Battery Maker Participated In Communist Party Programs That Acquire Tech For China’s Military.”

### EXCLUSIVE: Parent Of US Battery Maker Participated In Communist Party Programs That Acquire Tech For China’s Military



Photo by Kevin Frayer/Getty Images

(Nick Pope and Philip Lenczycki, “EXCLUSIVE: Parent Of US Battery Maker Participated In Communist Party Programs That Acquire Tech For China’s Military,” [Daily Caller](#), 1/16/24)

- **Gotion’s parent company participated in two CCP-backed programs, the 863 Program and the Torch Program, that were designed to acquire advanced technology and research to support China’s army.** “The Chinese parent company behind a U.S.-based battery firm has engaged in two Chinese Communist Party (CCP)-backed programs that are known to national security experts and the U.S. government for acquiring dual-use technology and research, according to materials reviewed by the Daily Caller News Foundation. Gotion High-Tech has participated in the 863 Program and Torch Program, two initiatives identified as projects designed to acquire advanced technology and research to support the People’s Liberation Army, according to a DCNF review of corporate materials.” (Nick Pope and Philip Lenczycki, “EXCLUSIVE: Parent Of US Battery Maker Participated In Communist Party Programs That Acquire Tech For China’s Military,” [Daily Caller](#), 1/16/24)

  - **The 863 Program provides funding and guidance for efforts to “clandestinely acquire U.S. technology and sensitive economic information.”** “The 863 Program ‘focuses on both military and civilian science and technology’ and aims ‘to accelerate the acquisition and development of science and technology in the [People’s Republic of China],’ according to a report from the House Select Committee on the CCP. The program, launched in 1986, ‘provides funding and guidance for efforts to clandestinely acquire U.S. technology and sensitive economic information,’ according to the Office of the National Counterintelligence Executive.” (Nick Pope and Philip Lenczycki, “EXCLUSIVE: Parent Of US Battery Maker Participated In Communist Party Programs That Acquire Tech For China’s Military,” [Daily Caller](#), 1/16/24)
  - **The Torch Program seeks to undercut and monitor Western innovations that can be applied in a military context.** “The program is ‘basically the Chinese state’s attempt to direct funding into industries that they think will allow them to become the dominant power in the fourth industrial revolution,’ with an external component focused on monitoring and undercutting Western innovations complementing the program’s internal aspects, Brandon Weichert, a geopolitical analyst and national security expert, told the DCNF. ‘Whatever China can get commercially from the U.S., they can apply in a military context,’ Weichert said, adding that Gotion High-Tech’s affiliation with the Torch Program could be of particular concern given the Pentagon’s plans to electrify its non-tactical vehicle fleet in the coming years.” (Nick Pope and Philip Lenczycki, “EXCLUSIVE: Parent Of US Battery Maker Participated In Communist Party Programs That Acquire Tech For China’s Military,” [Daily Caller](#), 1/16/24)
- **Joseph Cella, a former U.S. ambassador and co-founder of the Michigan-China Economic and Security Review Group, said the two programs are “weapons” in China’s “arsenal.”** “The United States is engaged in a second Cold War, now with China, and the federal government and state governments should engage accordingly and provide for our common defense,’ Joseph Cella, a former U.S. ambassador and co-founder of the Michigan-China Economic and Security Review Group, told the DCNF. ‘The People’s

Republic of China and the CCP are engaged in unrestricted warfare against the United States, and Program 863 and the Torch Program are weapons in their arsenal.” (Nick Pope and Philip Lenczycki, “EXCLUSIVE: Parent Of US Battery Maker Participated In Communist Party Programs That Acquire Tech For China’s Military,” [Daily Caller](#), 1/16/24)

### **Michigan leaders raised concerns over the Gotion plant’s proximity to a Michigan National Guard camp that has trained Taiwanese military personnel.**

- **Michigan Congressman John Moolenaar raised concerns that the plant would be built within 100 miles of a Michigan National Guard camp where Taiwanese military personnel have trained.** “Michigan Republican Rep. John Moolenaar pointed out the proposed factory would be a mere 100 miles from Camp Grayling, a Michigan National Guard training camp where military personnel from Taiwan have come to train for a possible Chinese attack. “Yet, Michigan’s state government leaders are siding with CCP-affiliated companies,” Moolenaar said, according to the outlet.” (Gretchen Clayson, “Rural Michigan Town Scores Victory Over CCP-Backed Company Gobbling Up US Farmland,” [Daily Caller](#), 8/14/23)
- **The Gotion plant project will be located within 60 miles of military armories and within 100 miles of Camp Grayling where the Michigan National Guard trains Taiwanese soldiers.** “The facility would be located within 60 miles of military armories and within 100 miles from Camp Grayling...Wall Street Journal reported earlier this year that the Michigan National Guard trains Taiwanese soldiers during annual military exercises at Camp Grayling.” (Thomas Catenacci, “CCP-tied EV company backed by Dems buys up Michigan land miles from US military bases,” [Fox News](#), 08/01/23)
- **Joseph Cella, the Director of the Michigan-China Economic Review Group, noted that the proposed Gotion plant would be close to a Michigan National Guard armory.** “Gotion is owned by Gotion High-Tech, which is owned by Volkswagen and Nanjing Gotion Holding Group Co., Ltd, among other partners. Joseph Cella, director Michigan-China Economic and Security Review Group, told lawmakers on March 15 that Gotion’s parent company is headquartered in the People’s Republic of China and that its proposed plant would be close to a Michigan National Guard armory.” (Scott McClallen, “Ferris State University responds to Gotion controversy,” [The Center Square](#), 3/27/23)
  - **Cella said in a testimony that Gotion could be a threat due to its Chinese Communist Party ties and could increase espionage and influence operations by the People’s Republic of China.** “Cella said in testimony that the Chinese Communist Party controls Gotion. ‘The PRC and the CCP are penetrating our shores on a sub-national level and beyond the eyes of the United States Government. This is manifested through industry, higher education and whenever economic engagement occurs, there is great peril to our national security and our state security.... The reports and threats of espionage, intelligence gathering and influence operations by the PRC against the United States government, military,

higher education and private sector, have soared in the last 15 years.’” (Scott McClallen, “Ferris State University responds to Gotion controversy,” [The Center Square](#), 3/27/23)

- **Gotion’s plant is slated to be built at the Big Rapids Industrial Park.** “The relationship with Big Rapids Township is still being built and I have high confidence that very soon, hopefully, they will be included in the overall plans. I do hope, and I do expect and have high confidence, that we will have the relationship with the Big Rapids Township much better cemented. It is just not there yet.’ Thelen said he understands there is apprehension about the project and questions that board members feel have not been answered properly, but he believes it will require some de-escalation of the situation to make them feel more comfortable about the project. ‘I am going to do my part in that,’ he said. ‘I am going to have conversations one-on-one with some of the board members and see what is bothering them or what questions they might have and answer them to the best of my ability.’ He said they would prefer to have the industrial park property included in the development because that would alleviate some of the wetland mitigation they would have in the Green Charter Township property, making everybody happier.’” (Cathie Crew, “BREAKING: Big Rapids Township may still be part of Gotion battery plant project,” [Big Rapids News](#), 3/2/23)

**In January 2024, former CIA Director and Defense Secretary Leon Panetta and former CIA Director and Secretary of State Mike Pompeo both warned that the Gotion plant could be used for Chinese espionage.**

- **In January 2024, former CIA Director and Defense Secretary Leon Panetta warned the Gotion plant could be used for Chinese espionage.** “Former CIA Director and Defense Secretary Leon Panetta told lawmakers that a proposed electric vehicle battery plant in Michigan could be used for Chinese espionage. Panetta made the comments during a House Select Committee on the Chinese Communist Party hearing on Tuesday afternoon which focused on the Chinese Communist Party's (CCP) support for America's adversaries. The former CIA director answered in the affirmative when Rep. John Moolenaar, R-Mich., asked if China could use the plant, which is being developed by a subsidiary of Hefei, China-based firm Gotion High-Tech, for espionage. ‘I don't think there's any question that they're going to take advantage of that situation,’ Panetta remarked. ‘And I think we have to be very vigilant about what the hell is going on. That's just the way they operate. They'll establish a manufacturing unit, they'll establish whatever they can, and then they will use that for their own intelligence purposes. They will use that for their own economic purposes.’” (Thomas Catenacci, “Former CIA Director Leon Panetta Warns China May Use Michigan EV Plant For Espionage,” [Fox News](#), 1/31/24)
- **Former CIA Director and Secretary of State Mike Pompeo also testified that the Gotion plant presented national security risks and should not be built.** “In addition to Panetta, former CIA Director and Secretary of State Mike Pompeo similarly testified during the hearing that the Gotion facility in Michigan presented national security risks and shouldn't

be built. 'I think it is worse than the fact that they will engage in espionage. I think that's just top of the list,' Pompeo told the panel. 'They will use this in ways that will leverage Chinese advantage. These plants are deeply dangerous to our national security and ought not be built.'" (Thomas Catenacci, "Former CIA Director Leon Panetta Warns China May Use Michigan EV Plant For Espionage," [Fox News](#), 1/31/24)

**A former counterintelligence official testified it was "100%" likely that some of the people who come from China to work at the Gotion plant will spy for the Chinese Communist Party.**

- **A former counterintelligence official testified that the Chinese Communist Party will use Gotion's plant near Big Rapids for spy operations.** "Former counterintelligence official William Evanina said the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) will use Gotion Inc.'s electronic-vehicle battery plant near Big Rapids for spy operations during his sworn testimony on Wednesday to the House Select Committee on the Chinese Communist Party." (Rick Brewer, "Former counterintelligence official says it's '100%' likely CCP will use Big Rapids battery facility for spying," [WCMU Public Media](#), 07/31/23)
- **The counterintelligence official testified it was "100%" likely that some of the people who come from China to work on the project will spy for the Chinese Communist Party.** "U.S. Rep. John Moolenaar, R-Caledonia, a member of the select committee and whose congressional district includes Big Rapids, asked Evanina during Wednesday's hearing if it is 'basically a guarantee that some of the people who come from China to work on this project will spy for the CCP?' '100%,' said Evanina in response to Moolenaar's question. 'There will be an effort by the Communist Party of China to infiltrate that capability via cyber, human and hybrid methods using businessmen, engineers and what we call the non-traditional collector. They will go over and above to implement their efforts in that particular technology that's in your district.'" (Rick Brewer, "Former counterintelligence official says it's '100%' likely CCP will use Big Rapids battery facility for spying," [WCMU Public Media](#), 07/31/23)

**In July 2024, Gotion "quietly admitted" in an amended FARA filing that it has been subsidized by the Chinese government, even though a Gotion executive previously said the CCP had no presence in Gotion.**

- **In July 2024, Gotion "quietly admitted" in an amended FARA filing that it has been subsidized by the Chinese government, even though a Gotion executive previously said the CCP had no presence in Gotion.** "The taxpayer-funded U.S. arm of a Chinese electric vehicle (EV) battery maker quietly admitted on July 20 that it has received subsidies from the Chinese government after an executive suggested that the foreign power has no presence in the American subsidiary. Gotion, which is fully 'owned and controlled' by its China-based parent company Gotion High-Tech, disclosed in an amended Foreign Agents Registration Act (FARA) filing last month that it has received Chinese government

subsidies. Chuck Thelen, vice president of North American manufacturing for Gotion, told Politico in August 2023 that the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) has no presence in the American subsidiary and told concerned locals in June that the CCP is merely ‘a political party, like Republican or Democrat.’” (Nick Pope, “China-Tied Battery Manufacturer Admits It Is Subsidized By Chinese Gov’t After All,” [Daily Caller](#), 8/6/24)

- **Gotion, Inc. amended its FARA statement for the six-month reporting period ending in October 2023.**

3. This amendment is filed to accomplish the following indicated purpose(es):

To give notice of change in information as required by Section 2(b) of the Act.

To correct a deficiency in

Initial Statement

Supplemental Statement for the 6 month period ending **10/31/2023**

Other purpose (*specify*) \_\_\_\_\_

To give notice of change in an exhibit previously filed.

(Amendment to Registration Statement Pursuant to the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, as amended,” [FARA](#), 7/20/24)

- **In July 2024, the company’s attorney amended its registration to state that Gotion, Inc. is partially subsidized through funding of the CCP.**

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**Appendix  
Response to Item 5**

**Item 5: Each item checked above must be explained below in full detail together with, where appropriate, specific reference to and identity of the item in the registration statement to which it pertains.**

Warner Norcross - Judd's ("WNJ") original filing from April 21, 2023, answered "no" on Question 10(b) sub-question six of the Exhibit A registration for whether the foreign principal client - Gotion, Inc. ("Gotion") was subsidized in part by a foreign government, foreign political party, or other foreign principal. After a review from FARA office, it was determined that WNJ needed to amend this answer based on updated information.

WNJ amends its registration and states that Gotion is partially subsidized through government funding supplied by the People's Republic of China. 2023 Annual Report of Gotion High-tech Co., Ltd. (April 20, 2024), <https://en.gotion.com.cn/uploads/file/20240419/1713527229600070.pdf>

(Amendment to Registration Statement Pursuant to the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, as amended,” [FARA](#), 7/20/24)

- **HEADLINE: “China-Tied Battery Manufacturer Admits It Is Subsidized By Chinese Gov’t After All.”**

**ENERGY**

## **China-Tied Battery Manufacturer Admits It Is Subsidized By Chinese Gov’t After All**

(Nick Pope, “China-Tied Battery Manufacturer Admits It Is Subsidized By Chinese Gov’t After All,” [Daily Caller](#), 8/6/24)

- **HEADLINE: “CCP Gotion admits company ‘partially subsidized by ‘People’s Republic of China.’”**



ORIGINALS

## CCP Gotion admits company ‘partially subsidized’ by ‘People’s Republic of China’

Amended FARA filing after months of public denials

BY THE MIDWESTERNER STAFF  
JULY 29, 2024

(Staff, “CCP Gotion admits company ‘partially subsidized by ‘People’s Republic of China,’” [The Midwesterner](#), 07/29/24)

### Because Gotion is an American “subsidiary” of a Chinese corporation, mandates to promote and grow the Communist Party could be a requirement at the Big Rapids operation.

- Gotion is an American “subsidiary” of the Chinese corporation; therefore, mandates to promote and grow the Communist Party could be a requirement at the Big Rapids operation. “Gotion, which is headquartered in Hefei City in the Anhui Province of China, has hired a Big Rapids-area man named Chuck Thelen to serve as its American representative for the foothold in the state. He performs media interviews and interacts with government officials. The company’s corporate filing with the Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs calls Gotion a “foreign profit corporation” with an American beachhead established in Fremont, California. The LARA filing undermines the notion that the company is an American ‘subsidiary’ of the Chinese corporation as some have claimed. In other words, the mandates to promote and grow the communist party ‘at the grass-roots level of the Company’ would likely be a requirement at the Big Rapids operation, which the company says could employ 2,350 people.” (Kyle Olson, “MI-funded battery maker mandates allegiance to ‘Constitution of the Party of China,’ company bylaws say,” [The Midwesterner](#), 3/22/23)

### According to Gotion’s corporate documents, the company is a vehicle for the work of the Chinese Communist Party; the company even pledges its allegiance to the “Constitution of the Communist Party of China.”

- According to Gotion’s corporate documents, the company is a vehicle for the work of the Chinese Communist Party; the company even pledges its allegiance to the “Constitution of the Communist Party of China.” “Corporate documents obtained exclusively by The Midwesterner reveal the Chinese company the Michigan government is funding with \$715 million taxpayer dollars is a key vehicle for the work of the Chinese Communist Party. In July 2022, Gotion – the Chinese company purchasing 700 acres of property near Big Rapids – published a 94-page document titled, ‘Articles of Association,’ essentially the equivalent of an American company’s bylaws. The document, found on Gotion’s website, lays out the company’s governance structure and allegiance to the ‘Constitution of the Communist Party of China.’” (Kyle Olson, “MI-funded battery maker mandates allegiance to ‘Constitution of the Party of China,’ company bylaws say,” [The Midwesterner](#), 3/22/23)

- According to the company’s bylaws, the company shall “set up a Party organization and carry out Party activities in accordance with the Constitution of the Communist Party of China.”

Article 9 The Company shall set up a Party organization and carry out Party activities in accordance with the Constitution of the Communist Party of China. The Company shall ensure necessary conditions for carrying out Party activities. The secretary of the Party committee shall be the chairman.

(“Articles of Association,” [Gotion High-Tech Co., Ltd.](#), 7/22)

- Chapter Six of the Articles of Association for Gotion establishes a “Party Committee” to ensure the company is adhering to Communist Party doctrine and furthering its objectives. “Chapter VI of the Articles of Association (page 47) establishes a “Party Committee,” whose sole purpose is to ensure the company is adhering to Communist Party doctrine and furthering its objectives. ‘The Party Committee of the Company shall perform its duties in accordance with the Constitution of the Communist Party of China and other Party regulations,’ including, ‘Ensure and supervise the implementation of the Party’s guidelines, principles and policies in the Company, and implement major strategic decisions of the CPC (Communist Party of China) Central Committee and the State Council as well as relevant important work arrangements of the Party organization at the higher level.’” (Kyle Olson, “MI-funded battery maker mandates allegiance to ‘Constitution of the Party of China,’ company bylaws say,” [The Midwesterner](#), 3/22/23)

**Gotion’s founder, Li Zhen, is a former Chinese government employee and has discussed electric vehicle batteries with Chinese leader Xi Jinping.**

- Gotion’s founder Li Zhen is a former Chinese government employee and participant in the local Communist government leadership. “Aside from that as a requirement for doing business in China, the company’s founder, Li Zhen, is a former government employee and participant in the local communist government leadership. According to Moomoo Technologies, he was ‘a researcher at the Economic Research Center of the Hefei Municipal Government,’ and a ‘delegate to the 13th, 14th, and 15th sessions of the Hefei Municipal People’s Congress.’” (Kyle Olson, “MI-funded battery maker mandates allegiance to ‘Constitution of the Party of China,’ company bylaws say,” [The Midwesterner](#), 3/22/23)
- Zhen has experience in Chinese government agencies and recounted an interaction with Chinese President Xi Jinping regarding electric vehicle batteries. “A video posted in 2015 by Gotion shed more light on Li Zhen’s access and influence in the CCP. The Gotion founder says, ‘I used to work in the government and also have experience in government agencies.’ He recounted an interaction with communist dictator Xi Jinping while Li showed off the company’s electric bus technology, ‘When President Xi visited Hefei last time, I introduced to him about the battery we provided for JAC’s electric vehicle,’ and touted the

growth in battery capacity.” (Kyle Olson, “MI-funded battery maker mandates allegiance to ‘Constitution of the Party of China,’ company bylaws say,” [The Midwesterner](#), 3/22/23)

### **Gotion hosted CCP cultural trips for its employees and had them conduct party pledges to Communism.**

- **Gotion High-Tech’s CEO, Li Zhen, is the party secretary for the firm’s CCP committee.** “Gotion High-Tech’s CEO, Li Zhen, is also identified as the party secretary for the firm’s CCP committee within a section of the 2022 ESG report highlighting the company’s 2022 ‘party building work situation.’” (Philip Lenczycki, “EXCLUSIVE: Chinese Parent Behind Company Building Michigan Battery Plants Employs 923 CCP Members,” [Daily Caller](#), 08/31/23)
- **In 2022, Zhen led a portion of CCP member representatives, Gotion leader groups, and “every level of core personnel” on a road trip to cultural revolutionary memorials in Anhui Province, China.** “The company’s party secretary for its CCP committee, chairman of the board of directors, Li Zhen, led a portion of CCP member representatives, company leader groups and every level of core personnel on a road trip to Anhui province’s Jinzhai Revolutionary Martyr’s Memorial Tower, to tour the Red Army Memorial Hall and Jinzhai Revolutionary Museum,’ the firm’s ESG report states.” (Philip Lenczycki, “EXCLUSIVE: Chinese Parent Behind Company Building Michigan Battery Plants Employs 923 CCP Members,” [Daily Caller](#), 08/31/23)
  - **During the trips, Gotion workers wore Red Army outfits and pledged to “fight for communism to the end of my life.”** “During the trips, Gotion High-Tech workers wore Red Army outfits and pledged to ‘fight for communism to the end of my life.’” (Thomas Catenacci, “Michigan EV plant’s owner promotes Chinese communist ideology at worker retreats: report,” [Fox News](#), 09/01/23)
  - **The company also held a trip to Dabie Mountain to commemorate the CCP’s Long March, a historic march that led to the emergence of Chinese dictator Mao Zedong.** “One month later, the company held a trip to Dabie Mountain to commemorate the CCP’s Long March, an historic march that led to the emergence of Chinese dictator Mao Zedong in early 1935.” (Thomas Catenacci, “Michigan EV plant’s owner promotes Chinese communist ideology at worker retreats: report,” [Fox News](#), 09/01/23)

### **Gotion High-Tech “carried out thematic education activities” such as “red theme education.”**

- **Gotion High-Tech “carried out thematic education activities” such as “red theme education.”** “The company’s 2022 ESG report states Gotion High-Tech “carried out thematic education activities such as the study of the 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China, red theme education, and love for students,” The Midwesterner reported.” (Thomas Catenacci, “Michigan EV plant’s owner promotes Chinese communist ideology at worker retreats: report,” [Fox News](#), 09/01/23)

Gotion allegedly had plans to house 200 to 300 Chinese nationals at a nearby college whose President is helping to facilitate the Gotion plant.

- **Chuck Thelen, Gotion Global Vice President, confirmed in conversations with the Big Rapids Township treasurer that the company would bring 200 to 300 Chinese nationals to initiate the start-up of the battery plant.** “In an email to the Pioneer, Big Rapids Township treasurer Penny Currie stated that during a meeting in October, she spoke with Gotion Global Vice President Chuck Thelen regarding the question of bringing in Chinese nationals for the initial startup. ‘He (Thelen) voluntarily acknowledged the company would bring 200 to 300 Chinese nationals to our area to initiate the startup of the plant, citing that they would have the necessary extensive knowledge to initiate the beginning stages of the plant,’ Currie said. ‘When asked where these folks would live, he simply stated ‘we would build housing for them.’ When we questioned where, he ceased talking about the topic.’” (Cathie Crew, “Ferris State president, township treasurer speak up about housing Gotion battery workers,” [Big Rapids News](#), 3/26/23)
- **Nearby Ferris State University was proposed as a housing site for the Chinese nationals working for Gotion.** “Currie said shortly after the meeting, they were made aware of the suggestion that Ferris State University could house them. When the question was posed to Thelen regarding that possibility, she said, his answer was that FSU would do whatever necessary to partner with Gotion.” (Cathie Crew, “Ferris State president, township treasurer speak up about housing Gotion battery workers,” [Big Rapids News](#), 3/26/23)
- **The President of Ferris State University, Bill Pink, serves as board vice-chair for The Right Place, which facilitates economic development deals, including the Gotion plant.** “FSU stands to gain more jobs for students, graduates, and possibly taxpayer funding for a new EV center through a grant, according to a memo. According to FSU’s website, Pink serves as board vice-chair for The Right Place, which facilitates economic development deals, including the Gotion plant. FSU might back the Gotion plant because it could drive additional grants for the university. An FSU memo said a Michigan Economic Development Corporation grant targets shifting Michigan’s workforce from internal combustion engines to electric vehicles. The memo said the first-year award would total \$659,500. The memo said the grant would fund a battery production and testing center at FSU. ‘First, the center will curate a clearinghouse of expertise to develop the battery production and testing workforce within West Michigan,’ the memo said. ‘We will share this curriculum with partnering community colleges and sister universities. The center will also focus on applied research areas essential to the safe production of lithium batteries, a key technology for the future of the automotive industry.’” (Scott McClallen, “Ferris State University responds to Gotion controversy,” [The Center Square](#), 3/27/23)

It was later indicated Gotion planned to bring up to 50 employees from China to help set up the plant.

- **It was later indicated that Gotion plans to bring up to 50 employees from China to help set up the plant.** “Thelen said the company will likely have 40-50 employees by year's end in engineering, IT and other positions essential for initial operations. A workforce training partnership with nearby Ferris State University is a key piece of its labor sourcing strategy. The plan also includes bringing 20-50 short-term employees from China to help set the plant up. A general contractor and architect are expected to be named in the next few days.” (Kurt Nagl, “Gotion lays out hiring plans, non-union preference for Michigan EV battery factory,” [AutoNews](#), 08/10/23)

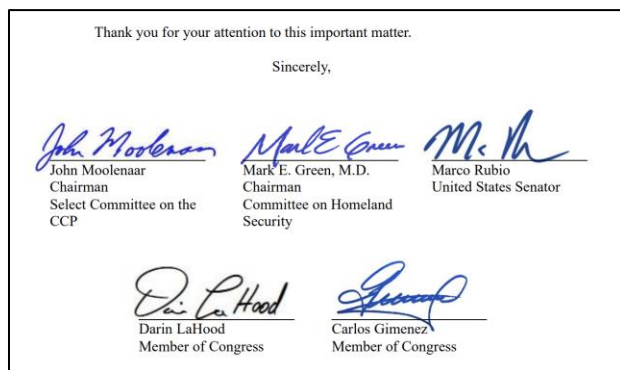
**In June 2024, the House committee tasked with investigating China revealed evidence implicating Gotion in “Chinese Communist Party state-sponsored slave labor and the ongoing Uyghur genocide,” and called on Biden to ban imports from the companies; Slotkin did not sign on to the effort.**

- **In June 2024, Chairman John Moolenaar of the Select Committee on the CCP and other lawmakers revealed evidence implicating both Gotion and CATL in “Chinese Communist Party state-sponsored slave labor and the ongoing Uyghur genocide.”** “In two letters to the Department of Homeland Security, Chairman John Moolenaar (R-MI) reveals shocking new evidence implicating major Chinese battery manufacturers, Gotion and CATL, in Chinese Communist Party state-sponsored slave labor and the ongoing Uyghur genocide. Despite CATL and Gotion holding these ties to Chinese paramilitary organizations and state-sponsored slave labor programs, the companies have operated and expanded their presence in the United States.” (Press Release, “Moolenaar, Rubio, Lawmakers Uncover Shocking New Evidence of Slave Labor Links at Chinese Battery Companies Gotion, CATL & Demand Immediate Blacklist,” [The Select Committee on the CCP](#), 6/6/24)
- **The lawmakers called on the Biden Administration to add Gotion and CATL to the import ban list.** “Republicans in both chambers of Congress are calling on the Biden administration to add two major Chinese EV battery makers working with companies such as Ford to an import ban list, accusing the corporations of using forced labor in their supply chains. Sen. Marco Rubio of Florida; Rep. John Moolenaar of Michigan, the new chair of the House Select Committee on the Chinese Communist Party; and their colleagues warned a top official at the Department of Homeland Security in two separate letters on Wednesday that leading Chinese electric vehicle battery manufacturers are relying on forced labor and should be blocked from importing goods into the U.S.” (Hannah Northey, “Republicans push Biden to blacklist Chinese EV battery makers,” [E&E News](#), 6/6/24)
  - **Slotkin did not sign on to the Gotion letter addressed to the Biden administration.**



(Letter, [Select Committee on the CCP](#), 6/5/24)

- Slotkin did not sign on to the CATL letter addressed to the Biden administration.



(Letter, [Select Committee on the CCP](#), 6/5/24)

According to the lawmakers, Gotion sources materials from companies with ties to forced labor, a company tied to a sanctioned Chinese paramilitary organization that contributes to the Uyghur genocide, and a company that “appears to maintain strong ties to the PRC’s military-industrial complex.”

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#### GOTION

- Gotion sources aluminum foil from a subsidiary of Xinjiang Nonferrous, a CCP state-owned enterprise known for its prolific use of forced labor, including forced housing of Han men with Uyghur women and families.
- Gotion sources material from Xinjiang Joinworld, a company that participated in ‘poverty alleviation through labor transfer.’ These programs are often a disguise for forced labor. A local CCP chapter even awarded a Xinjiang Joinworld employee an award for implementing the CCP’s ethnic policies.
- Gotion sources lithium-ion and other materials from companies with deep connections to XPCC, the sanctioned Chinese paramilitary organization that contributes to the Uyghur genocide.

(Press Release, “Moolenaar, Rubio, Lawmakers Uncover Shocking New Evidence of Slave Labor Links at Chinese Battery Companies Gotion, CATL & Demand Immediate Blacklist,” [The Select Committee on the CCP](#), 6/6/24)

- According to the lawmakers, Gotion sources from a company that “appears to maintain strong ties to the PRC’s military-industrial complex.”

Xinjiang Joinworld appears to maintain strong ties to the PRC’s military-industrial complex, as evidenced by its designation as a “National Torch Plan Key High-Tech Enterprise,” its ability to secure military-related financing approvals from the CSRC, and its engagement with State Administration of Science, Technology and Industry for National Defense (SASTIND, 国家国防科技工业局) and the XUAR’s Defense Science and Technology Industry Office.<sup>22</sup> The company has extensively participated in Chinese national programs with potential military applications, such as the “863” Program, the National Science and Technology Support Program, and the National Science and Technology Major Project, further highlighting its role as a “military supporting enterprise” in high-tech industrialization efforts relevant to the CCP’s military modernization goals.<sup>23</sup>

(Letter to DHS Under Secretary for Strategy, Policy, and Plans, [The Select Committee on the CCP](#), 6/5/24)

**In February 2023, Elissa Slotkin’s spokesperson, Austin Cook, confirmed that Slotkin’s staff signed an NDA with MEDC for the Gotion project so he could “be part of those conversations...about significant economic development” and to see “if there are ways to help from the federal level.”**

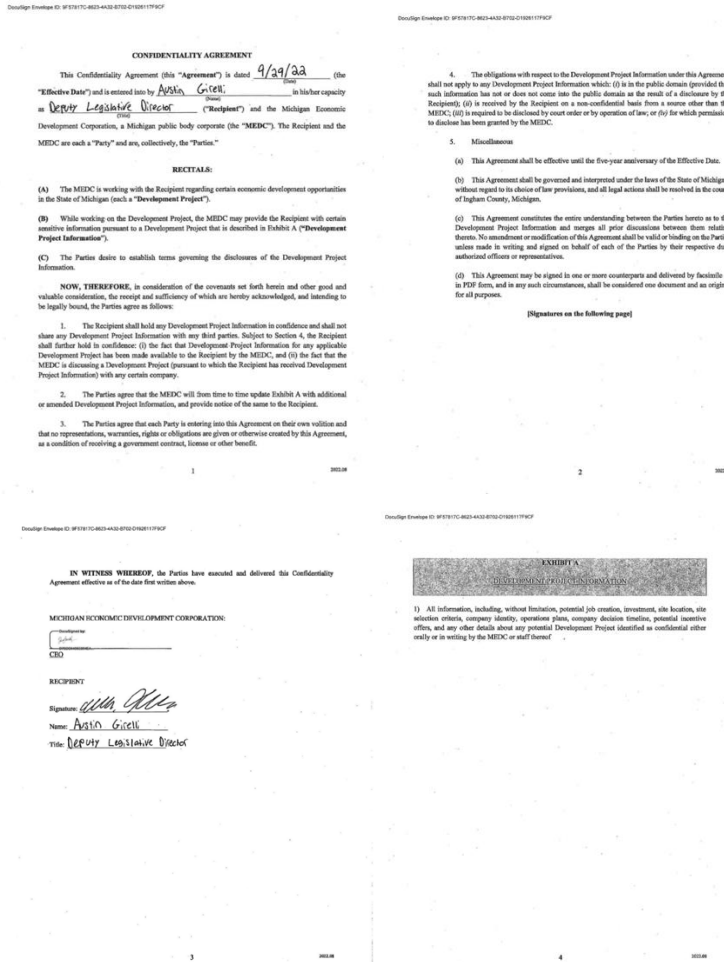
**Editor’s Note:** *The Member’s Representational Allowance (MRA) is [funded](#) through fiscal year appropriations.*

- In February 2023, Elissa Slotkin’s spokesperson, Austin Cook, confirmed that Slotkin and a member of her staff signed an NDA with MEDC for the Gotion project so she could “be part of those conversations...about significant economic development” and to see “if there are ways to help from the federal level.” “Another NDA was signed by staffer Austin Girelli, deputy legislative director for Democratic U.S. Rep. Elissa Slotkin of Lansing, but only after the Gotion project had already been announced publicly. Girelli appears to represent the only federal entity to engage in such an agreement with the state, at least as it relates to the Gotion deal... On Friday, Slotkin’s office said the congresswoman believed it was important, as part of the Michigan congressional delegation, ‘to learn more about significant economic development projects like this to better understand their impact, and if there are ways to help from the federal level.’ ‘To be part of those conversations, MEDC required Congresswoman Slotkin and members of our staff to sign an NDA,’ said Austin Cook, a spokesman for Slotkin.” (Beth LeBlanc, “How Michigan uses code names, NDAs to keep business incentive talks secret,” [The Detroit News](#), 2/6/23)
- Slotkin’s staff “did sign an NDA, described as ‘all-encompassing,’ which included but was not specific to Gotion” which limited his “ability to discuss the project.” “Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer required stakeholders in the deal to sign nondisclosure agreements, limiting their ability to discuss the project. One staffer on Slotkin’s staff, Austin Girelli, did sign an NDA, described as “all-encompassing,” which included but was

not specific to Gotion.” (Steph Whiteside and Joe Khalil, “NRSC attacks Democratic representative over China factory deal,” [NewsNation](#), 04/28/23)

**As part of the Gotion confidentiality agreement package, Austin Girelli, Deputy Legislative Director for Elissa Slotkin, signed an NDA in September 2022 for the document titled 2022.08.**

- As part of the Gotion confidentiality agreement package, Austin Girelli, Deputy Legislative Director for Elissa Slotkin, signed an NDA in September 2022 in a document titled 2022.08.



(MEDC Response to June 2023 FOIA, Austin Girelli NDA, Signed 08/29/22)