

Joint Letter To Trump On China's Trade Barriers

Article By:

B&C® Biobased and Sustainable Chemicals Practice Group Bergeson & Campbell, P.C.

On February 7, 2017, the [Renewable Fuels Association, Growth Energy, and the U.S. Grains Council](#) sent a joint letter to President Donald Trump to request the Administration's assistance in addressing [China's recent implementation of protectionist trade barriers, which are shutting out U.S. exports of ethanol and distillers dried grains](#). The letter states that China's actions have significantly injured U.S. ethanol producers and farmers, and undermined the substantial investments made to develop a cooperative and mutually beneficial trade relationship with the country. In 2015, China imported 6.5 million metric tons of U.S. distillers dried grains, and began importing U.S. ethanol as part of an effort to increase the use of cleaner-burning renewable fuels and reduce smog formation. By the end of 2016, China had become the U.S. ethanol industry's third-largest export market. In September 2016, after a nine month investigation regarding alleged dumping and injury to domestic industries, China imposed a preliminary antidumping duty of 33.8 percent against U.S. distillers dried grains, as well as a countervailing duty of ten to 10.7 percent -- despite the fact that the investigation did not find any evidence of dumping or injury to domestic industries. The letter states the details of this investigation and the U.S. industries' cooperation throughout the investigation, and requests that the incoming U.S. Trade Representative place the Chinese trade barriers near the top of the China trade agenda.

©2025 Bergeson & Campbell, P.C.

National Law Review, Volume VII, Number 48

Source URL: <https://natlawreview.com/article/joint-letter-to-trump-china-s-trade-barriers>