

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

March 21, 2016

The Honorable Michael Froman
Ambassador
Office of the United States Trade Representative
600 17th Street NW
Washington, DC 20508

Dear Ambassador Froman:

We respectfully request you examine opportunities to reduce any tariffs on U.S. produced energy, including ethanol, as you continue to engage our allies in the European Union (EU) during Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (T-TIP) negotiations.


The U.S. ethanol industry has been unfairly targeted by the EU for increased duties which have subsequently eliminated U.S. share in the European market. These duties of \$83.20 per metric ton were imposed following an antidumping action, which continues to be challenged by the industry at the international level, and only serve as a punitive measure on a U.S. energy source. Currently, Europe cannot adequately produce enough volume for their own market without importing ethanol from foreign sources, such as the U.S.

As T-TIP negotiations progress towards completion, we are confident you can leverage access to all domestic energy sources, such U.S. natural gas, crude, and ethanol in order to achieve a favorable outcome for these industries and the reduction or elimination of trade obstacles to market access in Europe. Securing such a realized gain would be incredibly beneficial to our constituents. Further, U.S. access to European markets can assist our friends and allies by providing cleaner energy sources and decreasing their dependence on Russian natural gas.

At a time when farmers are struggling to cope with a volatile price of corn, having additional markets and demands for U.S. produced ethanol would be a welcome outlet for our corn commodity yields. Additionally, increasing worldwide demand for ethanol has created a significant number of good-paying jobs.

We trust you will use all the powers granted to the Administration under the Trade Promotion Authority to produce the best long term package for the U.S.

Sincerely,



Rod L. Blum
Member of Congress



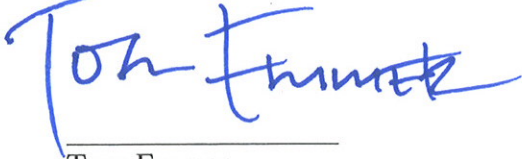
Collin C. Peterson
Member of Congress



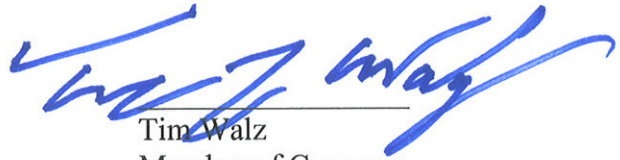
Rodney Davis
Member of Congress



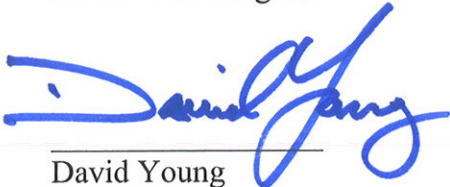
Steve King
Member of Congress



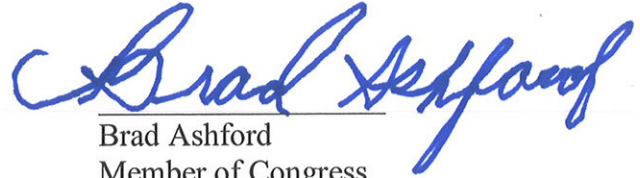
Tom Emmer
Member of Congress



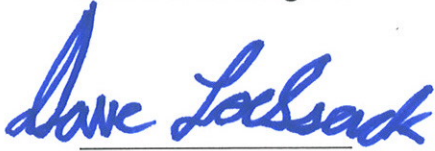
Tim Walz
Member of Congress



David Young
Member of Congress



Brad Ashford
Member of Congress



Dave Loebsack
Member of Congress