

United States Senate

June 18, 2024

The Honorable David S. Johanson
Chairman
U.S. International Trade Commission
500 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20436

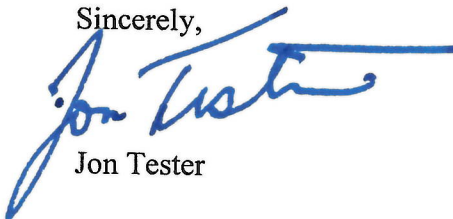
Dear Chairman Johanson:

I write regarding the ongoing Antidumping and Countervailing Duties (AD-CVD) investigation into trade practices of pea protein by the People's Republic of China (Investigation Nos. 701-TA-692 and 731-TA-1628 (Final)). I applaud the work you have already completed in the unanimous preliminary affirmative determination and support continued efforts to ensure Montana producers are getting a fair shake when they take their produce to market. I urge you to carefully consider the evidence presented by the petition and uphold our trade standards to make sure the playing field is level for American producers.

Family agriculture is the backbone of many rural economies, and if unfair trade practices are allowed to go unchallenged, the impacts would be felt across Montana and much of rural America. The Chinese Communist Party wants nothing more than to replace us as the world's leading superpower, and their trade cheating is part of that effort. Unfair trade practices by Chinese manufacturers of pea protein undermine our food security and our economic security.

Montana consistently ranks as one of the top producers of peas, but it goes beyond just the number of peas Montanans produce. From Plentywood to Cut Bank, farmers across the state can tell you the role they play in fixing nitrogen in the soil, disrupting pest and disease cycles, and the role pulses can play in the school lunch program. The bottom line is that this is valuable for Montana citizens and the ag producers that live there. Continuing the preliminary duties the commission has put in place would create a more level playing field for American producers and manufacturers.

Sincerely,



Jon Tester