

BOB GIBBS
7TH DISTRICT, OHIO

2446 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-6265

110 COTTAGE STREET
ASHLAND, OH 44805
(419) 207-0650

110 CENTRAL PLAZA SOUTH
CANTON, OH 44702
(330) 737-1631

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3507

TRANSPORTATION AND
INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE
SUBCOMMITTEES
WATER RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT
HIGHWAYS AND TRANSIT
AVIATION
AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE
SUBCOMMITTEES
GENERAL FARM COMMODITIES AND
RISK MANAGEMENT
BIOTECHNOLOGY, HORTICULTURE,
AND RESEARCH

January 19, 2018

The Honorable Wilbur Ross
Secretary, U.S. Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Ave. N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Secretary Ross:

I write to express my concern with the pending antidumping and countervailing duty investigations into the import of uncoated groundwood paper from Canada, including imported newsprint and other commercial printing papers. The U.S. newspaper publishing and commercial printing sector employs over 600,000 people and I urge you to consider the negative impact any trade remedy would have on these hardworking Americans.

The petitioner, the North Pacific Paper Corporation (NORPAC), employs approximately 260 individuals at a single mill located in the Pacific Northwest. Owned by a New York hedge fund manager, NORPAC has no additional pulp or paper operations in the United States. The majority of U.S. newsprint manufacturers, the American Forest and Paper Association, the U.S. forest and paper industry, and their major U.S. customers all oppose NORPAC's petition.

It is important to note, while there is a shift in digital alternatives to printed products, individuals in small towns and rural communities across America depend on their local newspapers, including families in Ohio's 7th Congressional District. NORPAC's petition threatens these companies, most of which will be forced to shut down operations while cutting off rural and small-town America from their local news.

Mr. Secretary, as the Department of Congress considers its preliminary determination to be made on March 7 of this year, I request you protect the hundreds of thousands of jobs and local news lifeline of rural America by rejecting trade sanctions on uncoated groundwood paper.

Sincerely,



Bob Gibbs
Member of Congress