



*Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515*

*Anna G. Eshoo
Eighteenth District
California*

A-122-861;
C-122-862
Investigations
Public Document
ADCVD OpsII: AS

January 9, 2018

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

Dear Secretary Ross,

I'm writing to share with you a letter I received from the California News Publishers Association (CNPA) regarding the Department of Commerce's current antidumping (AD) and countervailing duty investigations (CVD) of imports of uncoated groundwood paper from Canada (Investigations 701-TA - 584 and 731-TA - 1382).

I'm very concerned that any trade remedies levied by the Department of Commerce will jeopardize the 600,000 publishing and commercial printing jobs and 175,000 newspaper jobs in the U.S., and unintentionally harm the 35 million Americans who rely on printed newspapers as their primary source of daily news. I'm further concerned that the AD and CVD petitions were filed by a single paper company that operates one mill and is owned by a private equity firm that is likely only concerned with its bottom line and not the greater public good.

CNPA's letter notes that print newspaper subscriptions have declined precipitously over the last decade and newspapers are "operating on the slimmest of margins in an effort to continue producing the high-quality news and information content that communities deserve." If trade remedies are levied, domestic manufacturers will have an opportunity to take advantage of supply disruptions and increase prices of uncoated groundwood paper, jeopardizing the future viability of newspapers. I ask you to consider the devastating impact potential trade remedies will have on the future of newspapers in America, the hundreds of thousands of jobs the industry supports, and the tens of millions of Americans who rely on printed newspapers to stay informed.

I thank you in advance for your attention to this important matter, and I look forward to receiving your timely response.

Most gratefully,

Anna G. Eshoo
Member of Congress

Enclosure

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CALIFORNIA NEWS PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION CNPA Services, Inc.

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December 14, 2017

The Honorable Anna Eshoo
241 Cannon Building
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Re: *Newsprint Case before the U.S. Department of Commerce/International Trade Commission*

Dear Representative Eshoo:

This is to request your urgent assistance on a matter affecting the survival of printed newspaper publishing in the United States. The California News Publishers Association represents more than 1,500 newspapers that employ thousands of employees who help local communities stay informed across the state of California.

Our member newspapers are extremely troubled by countervailing and anti-dumping duty petitions regarding Canadian imports of uncoated groundwood paper which includes newsprint used by newspapers. NORPAC, which only operates one mill in Longview, WA with approximately 250 employees, filed these petitions calling for import duties in excess of 50 percent. The proposed duties endanger our members' ability to continue providing high-quality local journalism in communities across our state. Further, NORPAC's petitions are based on incorrect assessments of a changing market and are flatly inconsistent with the views of the broader paper industry.

To understand the seriousness of this issue to newspapers, it is necessary to understand the delicate posture in which newspapers operate in today's world. Newspapers are in the midst of a years-long process of our reader base shifting to digital platforms. Print subscriptions have declined by more than 30 percent over the last 10 years, and consequently the newspaper industry is using less newsprint.

Although newspapers have successfully increased digital readership, online advertising is less lucrative than print advertising. Many of our newspapers are operating on the slimmest of margins in an effort to continue producing the high-quality news and information content that our communities deserve. If NORPAC or other domestic manufacturers raises its own prices to take advantage of the supply disruptions caused by the duties, newspapers will suffer significant financial hardship, and will have to pass on

the increased costs by raising subscription prices or cutting costs. Price increases would cause additional subscribers to abandon print subscriptions, and ironically, accelerate the decline in the newsprint market hurting US newsprint producers. That is why other U.S. producers of newsprint and the American Forest and Paper Association - which represents the broader U.S. paper industry - oppose the NORPAC petitions.

Increased costs for newsprint will undermine our member newspapers ability to continue paying thousands of reporters, writers, photographers, editors and business-side employees that collectively produce and deliver a newspaper to your constituents' doorstep every day. Further, facing increased costs, many small-town newspapers will be at risk a failing. It's hard for us to believe that our trade laws could be used in a way to put American jobs at risk to protect temporarily a few jobs located in just one community.

On behalf of our member newspapers, we respectfully ask that you contact the U.S. Department of Commerce and the U.S. International Trade Commission to let them know that NORPAC's brazen attempt to manipulate the trade laws will have a devastating impact on the newspaper industry, and ironically, threaten more jobs in the U.S. than the jobs the petitions claim to protect.

We appreciate your consideration of this request. We look forward to hearing from you.

Respectfully,



Nikki Moore
CNPA Legal Counsel

cc: Bill Johnson, CNPA President, CEO, *Palo Alto Weekly*
Jeff Glasser, CNPA Governmental Affairs Chair, Vice President and Senior Counsel, *Los Angeles Times*
Thomas W. Newton, CNPA Executive Director
James W. Ewert, CNPA General Counsel

Missouri Johnson, Marcellina (Federal)

From: Rankin, Alex (Federal)
Sent: Tuesday, January 09, 2018 12:06 PM
To: Missouri Johnson, Marcellina (Federal); Jones, Sarah (Federal)
Subject: FW: Letter from Rep. Eshoo to Secretary Ross
Attachments: Rep. Eshoo Letter to Secretary Ross with enclosure 1.9.18.pdf

Marcy and Sarah,

Please see attached a new letter to the Secretary.

Thanks,
Alex

From: McMurray, Matthew [mailto:Matthew.McMurray@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, January 09, 2018 11:36 AM
To: Rankin, Alex (Federal) <ARankin@doc.gov>
Subject: Letter from Rep. Eshoo to Secretary Ross

Attached please find a letter from Rep. Eshoo to Secretary Ross regarding antidumping and countervailing duty investigations of imports of uncoated groundwood paper from Canada.

Thanks,

Matt

--
Matthew M. McMurray
Legislative Director
Congresswoman Anna G. Eshoo, CA-18
241 Cannon House Office Building
Phone: (202) 225-8104