Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

December 3, 2025

The Honorable Jamieson Greer United States Trade Representative Office of the U.S. Trade Representative 600 17th Street NW Washington, D.C. 20508

Dear Ambassador Greer:

The upcoming 2026 review of the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) represents a critical opportunity to deliver to American dairy farmers, producers, and exporters the access to the Canadian market that was originally promised when the agreement entered into force over five years ago. This has long been a bipartisan priority, and we urge you to ensure the U.S. dairy industry finally reaps the full benefit of the bargain envisioned under USMCA.

After hard-fought negotiations in the dairy sector, USMCA promised expanded market access for U.S. dairy exporters—primarily through the creation of new tariff rate quotas (TRQs) exclusively for U.S. dairy products—and new disciplines on heavily subsidized Canadian exports, but neither promise has fully materialized due to Canada's dairy trade practices that disadvantage U.S. producers.

Furthermore, Canada has a long history of unfairly restricting imports of U.S. dairy products while simultaneously offloading artificially low-price nonfat milk solids onto the global market, which runs counter to its trade commitments and undermines U.S. producers both at home and abroad.

Canada has administered its dairy TRQs in a manner that limits U.S. access, preventing American producers from using the TRQs to fulfill the robust Canadian demand for U.S. dairy products. The bulk of quota allocations are reserved for Canadian processors who have limited incentive to import, with zero access granted to retailers, restaurants, food service providers, or others throughout the dairy supply chain who have a vested interest in maximizing TRQ use.

At the time of implementation, USMCA raised the bar for what trade agreements could be. However, despite continued engagement by the U.S. government under USMCA, Canada still has failed to abide by its USMCA commitments. The United States must make ongoing efforts to address this issue and utilize the USMCA review process to negotiate for additional meaningful and enforceable commitments to ensure that U.S. dairy producers and processors receive the full benefits of the market access commitments that were intended.

The Administration's decision to request that the U.S. International Trade Commission (USITC) launch a formal Section 332 investigation into the global nonfat milk solids market is an important step in addressing the use of loopholes in USMCA to avoid the agreement's dairy export disciplines. We are confident that the USITC's analysis will be an important tool to address the nonfat milk solids export loopholes during the formal review process.

Despite Canada's failure to uphold all of its dairy commitments under USMCA, the upcoming review process is the perfect opportunity to remediate these issues. Additionally, despite some challenges, we recognize and appreciate that Mexico has largely preserved the free flow of bilateral dairy trade. While certain steps are needed to ensure full implementation of its USMCA commitments on common cheese names, the agreement has been key in maintaining open U.S.-Mexico dairy trade, and this progress should be preserved.

USMCA has achieved significant wins for American farmers, manufacturers, small businesses, and workers. In 2024, U.S. farmers sold \$58.7 billion in agricultural exports to Canada and Mexico. While targeted adjustments must be made to ensure promises under USMCA are fully realized, the upcoming review process provides the appropriate mechanism to achieve these necessary changes.

U.S. dairy farmers, processors and the communities they support can compete anywhere in the world, as long as there is a level playing field. We ask that before and during the 2026 review process you work to strengthen USMCA, close these loopholes, and hold Canada accountable to its commitments. We look forward to working with you throughout this process to ensure that U.S. dairy producers are primed to fully benefit from USMCA moving forward.

Sincerely,

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Member of Congress

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