

# Minnesota Grain and Feed Association



Since 1907

September 10, 2009

President Barack Obama  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Washington, DC 20500

Re: Section 421 Petition on Chinese Tires

Dear Mr. President:

The Minnesota Grain and Feed Association represents the interests of over 400 country elevators and feed mills, which are integral businesses in the rural communities they serve.

We know you understand that Rural America survives on a healthy farm economy, which, in turn, depends on our continued access to large consumer markets throughout the world. The largest of those markets is China, where U.S. soybeans, meat and dairy exports help feed their growing middle class.

With that in mind, I am writing today on behalf of our members to urge you to reject the Section 421 Trade Act petition to impose tariffs on low-cost tires imported into the U.S. from China. By all accounts, acceptance of the petition will trigger a U.S.-China trade war that will drastically curtail commodity, pork and dairy exports, pile up enormous surpluses and drop prices – at precisely the time we are all struggling to make our way out of this very tough recession.

As you have pointed out many times, Mr. President, when protectionism wins, no one wins. So once again, we respectfully urge you to reject the Section 421 petition when it reaches your desk on or before September 17.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Bob Zelenka'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Bob Zelenka  
Executive Director