

June 1, 2026

The Honorable Howard Lutnick  
Secretary of Commerce  
U.S. Department of Commerce  
1401 Constitution Avenue., NW  
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Secretary Lutnick:

On behalf of American farmers, we renew our call for the Department of Commerce to revoke the countervailing duty (CVD) order on imports of phosphate fertilizer. The Administration has the power to build on its efforts to help America's farmers.

Last week, on a North Texas farm near McKinney, over 100 farmer-leaders from 18 states heard Federal Trade Commission Chairman Andrew Ferguson announce a major, industry-wide investigation into the fertilizer industry's pricing practices and concentration. The announcement drew a standing ovation. It builds on the antitrust inquiry the Department of Justice opened earlier this year into whether the nation's largest fertilizer producers coordinated to raise prices, and on President Trump's December 6, 2025, executive order directing USDA, FTC, and DOJ to confront concentration across the food and agricultural supply chain.

We write because a Commerce Department policy directly undermines USDA, FTC, and DOJ's efforts. The CVD orders on phosphate fertilizer, supported by The Mosaic Company and Simplot and in effect since March 2021, do not protect a vulnerable domestic industry from unfair competition. Rather, they further prop up two companies who already dominate the domestic market and will continue to dominate that market absent CVD protection. We respectfully ask the Administration to end these duties to support additional availability return to the U.S. phosphate market.

The cost of these duties to farmers is not speculative. An independent analysis by the Agricultural and Food Policy Center (AFPC) at Texas A&M University, prepared at the request of Congressman Pat Fallon, estimates the CVD on Moroccan phosphate raised input costs for farmers of corn, soybeans, wheat, rice, sorghum, and cotton by roughly \$6.9 billion over the 2021 through 2025 growing seasons. At its full initial rate of 19.97 percent, the duty drove up the U.S. price of diammonium phosphate (DAP) by an estimated 28.6 percent.

These costs land on an already fragile farm economy. Net farm income has fallen roughly 31 percent from its 2022 peak, fertilizer prices are up more than 150 percent since 2020, and Chapter 12 farm bankruptcies have surged to their highest levels in several years. For farmers facing a fourth straight year of losses, an added fertilizer cost imposed by our own government is the difference between sustaining family farms for generations to come – or seeing legacies come to an end.

Critically, the CVD order is unnecessary. Mosaic accounts for roughly three-quarters of the U.S. phosphate market. Far from safeguarding domestic supply, Mosaic continues to curtail its own production, even as supply tightened at home. In fact, Mosaic announced further curtailments amidst already high prices and strong demand as recently as last week, apparently due to its own problems with inputs. These duties fail to do more than drive up costs for farmers and risk our national food security by limiting the large majority of our annual phosphate needs to a single supplier that continues to curtail production – enhancing our risks to supply chain disruptions.

This Administration repeatedly recognizes the burden concentrated fertilizer markets place on farmers and consumers. Ending the phosphate CVDs is the most direct step available to lower a major input cost, increase supply availability, and reinforce – rather than undercut – the very investigations the FTC and DOJ have now launched. On behalf of American farmers, we respectfully urge the Administration to act.

Respectfully,

National Corn Growers Association  
American Soybean Association  
National Cotton Council  
National Sorghum Producers  
U.S. Rice Producers Association  
USA Rice

Alabama Soybean and Corn Association  
Arkansas Rice Federation  
Arkansas Soybean Association  
California Rice Commission  
California Walnut Commission  
Colorado Corn Growers Association  
Corn Growers Association of North Carolina  
Georgia Corn Growers Association  
Illinois Corn Growers Association  
Indiana Corn Growers Association  
Iowa Corn Growers Association  
Iowa Soybean Association  
Kansas Corn Growers Association  
Kansas Sorghum Producers  
Kentucky Corn Growers Association  
Kentucky Soybean Association  
Louisiana Cotton & Grain Association  
Louisiana Rice Producers Group  
Maryland Grain Producers Association  
Michigan Corn Growers Association  
Michigan Soybean Association  
Mid-Atlantic Soybean Association  
Minnesota Corn Growers Association

Minnesota Soybean Growers Association  
Mississippi Corn Growers Association  
Mississippi Rice Council  
Missouri Corn Growers Association  
Missouri Rice Council  
Missouri Soybean Association  
Nebraska Corn Growers Association  
Nebraska Sorghum Producers  
Nebraska Soybean Association  
New Mexico Sorghum Producers  
New York Corn and Soybean Growers Association  
North Dakota Corn Growers Association  
North Dakota Soybean Growers Association  
Ohio Corn & Wheat Growers Association  
Ohio Soybean Association  
Pennsylvania Corn Growers Association  
Plains Cotton Growers  
South Carolina Corn and Soybean Association  
South Dakota Corn Growers Association  
South Dakota Soybean Association  
South Texas Cotton & Grain Association  
Southern Cotton Growers  
Southwest Council of Agribusiness  
Tennessee Corn Growers Association  
Tennessee Soybean Association  
Texas Citrus Mutual  
Texas Corn Producers Association  
Texas Grain Sorghum Association  
Texas Grain Sorghum Producers Association  
Texas Rice Producers Legislative Group  
Texas Soybean Association  
Texas Vegetable Association  
Texas Wheat Producers Association  
Virginia Grain Producers Association  
Virginia Soybean Association  
Wisconsin Corn Growers Association