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To: Lt. Governor's OfficeLtGov@scstatehouse.gov

Date: 9/6/2018 10:37:24 AM

Subject: American Energy Benefits from North American Trade

September 6, 2018

American Energy Benefits from North American Trade

Dear Kevin,

While last week's preliminary agreement between the U.S. and Mexico to modernize NAFTA is encouraging news for America's natural gas and oil industry, having Canada as a trading partner and a party to this agreement is important for North American energy security and U.S. consumers. A strong and modern trade agreement for North America will help ensure the U.S. energy revolution continues into the future, and we hope that negotiations will continue until all three countries can achieve that.

The U.S. energy sector has flourished thanks in part to free trade in North America—trade that our industry depends on to grow U.S. jobs and our economy, and to deliver for consumers. The U.S. sold 650 million barrels of crude oil and refined products to Canada and Mexico in 2016. This in turn has spurred economic activity that generates jobs and growth in businesses throughout the supply chain.

On top of the economic benefits, energy trade with our continental neighbors boosts our energy security, reinforcing the strategic buffer U.S. energy leadership provides against overseas dependency and disruptions.

Modernizing NAFTA for the 21st century can ensure those benefits keep flowing, but only if the final agreement provides long term reliability for the interdependent American, Mexican and Canadian energy markets and maintains key provisions like [Investor-State Dispute Settlement](#), or ISDS. ISDS ensures U.S. companies' investments in Canada and Mexico are protected – providing [U.S. businesses](#) operating across the border a level playing field with local competitors and guaranteeing the same property and due process protections found in the U.S. Constitution.

As negotiators work toward a final agreement, maintaining energy trade policies that help keep energy affordable and secure for U.S. consumers should be a priority.

Sincerely,

Mike Sommers
President and CEO
API

More Section 301 Tariffs Will Hurt Industry, the Economy and Consumers

A lot is at stake for U.S. energy in an intensifying trade standoff between the United States and China. Section 301 tariffs could have a significant negative impact, causing diminished access and higher costs for essential materials, leading to shortages and potentially delaying and/or blocking important energy projects that are central to U.S. economic strength. This could ultimately harm our energy renaissance, which provides high-paying jobs and affordable and reliable energy to Americans.



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