



March 24, 2021

The Honorable Brian Deese  
Assistant to the President for Economic Policy  
National Economic Council  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Subject: Request for Meeting with Tariff Reform Coalition

Dear Mr. Deese:

I am writing to you on behalf of the Tariff Reform Coalition (TRC), a broad-based alliance of 37 trade associations representing the many U.S. manufacturers, exporters, retailers, agricultural and food producers and other supply chain stakeholders adversely affected by the Section 232 and Section 301 tariffs imposed during the Trump Administration.

We believe many of these actions, which dramatically altered the cost structures of our member companies, failed to consider the broader effects on our businesses and workers, as well as the overall impact on our economy and trade relationships, while providing minimal benefit to the intended industries.


We would like to request a meeting with you and your team, so that a representative group from our businesses can describe the impacts they have experienced and present our recommendations. We hope this information will be helpful to you as your Administration reviews these tariffs. Our objective is to work with you to identify alternative strategies to address the legitimate concerns of steel and aluminum overcapacity and China's unfair trade practices.

We believe that unwinding the tariffs imposed by the Trump Administration, while at the same time implementing more workable alternatives to address legitimate policy concerns, will demonstrably improve the prospects for our industries to grow their businesses and expand their exports. This will in turn deliver far greater job gains than the current policies. Unwinding the tariffs will also enable the U.S. to repair relations with some of our most important allies and trading partners.

I am attaching a statement recently issued by our coalition that describes our concerns with the current tariffs and our recommendations to address those concerns. It includes a list of our member associations.

We look forward to meeting with you to share more details and perspectives on the impact of these tariffs on the different industries and sectors represented in our coalition.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rf Yt'.

Rufus Yerxa  
President