



March 11, 2025

Hon. Howard Lutnick
Secretary of Commerce
U.S. Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Secretary Lutnick,

On behalf of the Border Trade Alliance (BTA), I am writing to express our concern regarding the tariffs imposed on imports from Canada and Mexico during the week of March 3, 2025. While we acknowledge that these tariffs were swiftly rescinded, it has come to our attention that certain importers were subjected to these duties during their brief enforcement period. In alignment with the principles of the United States–Mexico–Canada Agreement (USMCA), we respectfully request that the Department of Commerce initiate a process to refund these duties to the affected importers.

President Trump established the USMCA to strengthen the United States' hand in the North American economic marketplace. The unexpected imposition of tariffs on USMCA-compliant goods not only contradicts the spirit of this agreement and President Trump's goal but also places undue financial strain on U.S. businesses that rely on predictable trade policies.

The BTA believes that refunding the duties collected during this period is a necessary step to uphold the integrity of the USMCA and to maintain the trust of U.S. businesses engaged in cross-border trade.

We appreciate your attention to this matter and stand ready to assist in any way to facilitate the refund process. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Pete Sepulveda, Jr.
Chairman
Border Trade Alliance

Britton Mullen
President
Border Trade Alliance

CC: United States Trade Representative Jamieson Greer