

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

May 29, 2025

Ambassador Jamieson Greer
U.S. Trade Representative
Office of the U.S. Trade Representative
600 17th Street NW
Washington, D.C. 20508

Ambassador Greer,

We write today requesting that you prioritize improved market access for U.S. ethanol, distillers' dried grains with solubles (DDGS) and soybean meal (SBM) in your ongoing trade discussions with India. India has publicly expressed its willingness to proceed in high-volume agricultural trade negotiations with the U.S., increasing demand for American farmers. The long-term demand opportunity for DDGS alone could be two million metric tons per year valued at \$500 million, which would turn into the second largest export market (behind Mexico). For ethanol, India is already our 3rd largest export destination at 170 million gallons valued at \$393 million, however further reducing existing market barriers would allow for over \$400 million of additional exports. We are encouraged that the United States and India have been making rapid progress so far in negotiations on reciprocal trade, and are hopeful that farmers throughout the United States can benefit from results in the near future related to exports to India of DDGS and SBM, which comply with its strict non-GMO import restrictions.

India is forecast to have the world's second largest economy by 2075. Today, India represents the world's most populous nation with 1.46 billion people. India is already the world's 4th-largest feed market in the world, and as its population rises, the amount of animal feed production will rise significantly due to increased protein demand. India's growth rate for animal feed production in 2024 was 13.4 percent, compared to the global average which was a decline of 0.2 percent. This presents a tremendous opportunity for DDGS and SBM, which are excellent sources of protein and fiber for poultry, dairy, and aquaculture species. For SBM, India presents several barriers to entry, including a significant tariff disadvantage compared to other origins. A reduction or elimination of this tariff, as well as the establishment of a permanent tariff rate quote (TRQ) for U.S. SBM, would promote a more level playing field for U.S. soybean farmers in the Indian market.

Further, India is short 40 percent of its green fodder needs, a primary driver of neutral detergent fiber in dairy cattle diets. U.S. DDGS are a great source of neutral detergent fiber, an ingredient essential in maximizing milk yields from the world's largest cattle herd. As protein consumption increases in India, the country is likely to lean on its dairy sector to increase whey protein consumption. This will require a significant quantity of neutral detergent fiber. Additionally, India is short about two million metric tons of protein for animal feed, and that is projected to balloon to seven million metric tons by 2030. This equates to about \$700 million worth of trade opportunity today and \$2.45 billion by 2030. India's animal feed demand for all livestock sectors is projected to grow 73 percent by 2030 and will produce about 100 million metric tons of animal feed.

Currently, India only allows U.S. ethanol imports for industrial uses, however, expansion of market access to transport fuel blending and Synthetic Aviation Fuel (SAF) could create market opportunities for \$400 million of additional ethanol exports. This could grow rapidly in the years to come as use and market penetration increases.

President Trump's America First agenda includes increasing exports of U.S. agriculture products to reduce the trade deficit. Each year, American farmers continue to increase yield per acre with fewer inputs. Since 2010, corn and soybean production have increased by 20 percent and 31 percent, respectively. Unfortunately, commodity prices have dropped by over 30 percent in the past three years, intensifying the need to expand export markets to keep up with increasing supplies. We believe U.S. Ethanol, DDGS, and SBM exports to India represents an easy win for American farmers and will be a terrific way to begin addressing the federal trade deficit through mutually beneficial trade with India.

We look forward to collaborating with you on these important trade issues to expand opportunities around the world for American farmers, supporting their long-term profitability and viability.

Sincerely,



Randy Feenstra
Member of Congress



Adrian Smith
Member of Congress



Dusty Johnson
Member of Congress



Michelle Fischbach
Member of Congress



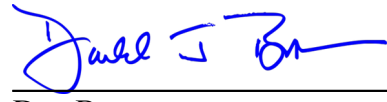
Tracey Mann
Member of Congress



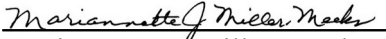
Derek Schmidt
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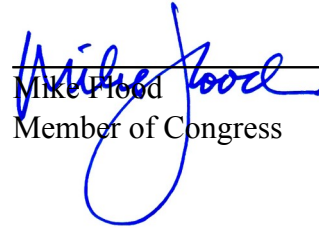
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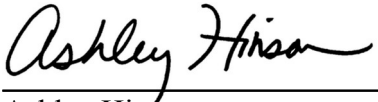
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Brad Finstad
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Mark B. Messmer
Member of Congress

CC: The Honorable Brooke Rollins,
U.S. Secretary of Agriculture