

Carpenters Industrial Council

United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America

12788 S.E. Stark Street • Portland, Oregon 97233-1539
(503) 228-0235 • Fax (503) 228-0245 • www.cic-ubc.org

December 21, 2016

The Honorable Irving A. Williamson
Chairman, U.S. International Trade Commission
500 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20436

The Honorable Paul Piquado
Assistant Secretary, Import Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Ave NW
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Chairman Williamson and Assistant Secretary Piquado:

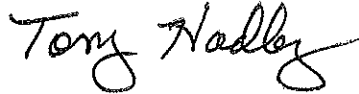
The Carpenters Industrial Council writes today regarding the antidumping and countervailing duty (AC/CVD) petitions filed on November 18, 2016, by the Coalition for Fair Trade of Hardwood Plywood. As an American union that has experienced harm due to imbalanced trade practices from China, we urge full consideration of this petition.

American woodworkers and hardwood industries produce high-quality, sustainably developed American plywood at fair prices. However, over the past 10 years, American companies representing the hardwood plywood industries have lost thousands of jobs due to an influx of dumped products from China. Trade data shows that from 2013 through the first six months of 2016, Chinese imports of hardwood and plywood volume increased by more than 40% into the American market, a nearly \$300 million increase within three years. Despite growing U.S. demand and an increase in housing starts, Chinese imports now account for almost 50 percent of the current U.S. market, while shipments by the domestic industry have decreased. The reason for these statistics is simple: hardwood and plywood products from China are being dumped into the US market and are subsidized by the Chinese government.

The thousands of manufacturing and related jobs in the forest products industry are largely in smaller and rural communities where some of the highest economic poverty exists. One of these communities is Springfield, OR, which is the location of Roseburg Forest Products, many of whose workers are represented by Lumber & Sawmill Workers Local 2949. These jobs are nothing short of the lifeblood for many of these areas and cannot withstand further inaction by the United States to enforce fair trade. We understand that in 2012, the ITC and Department of Commerce received a similar petition addressing this issue, and that the Commission issued a negative determination. However, the statistics noted above demonstrate that American manufacturers have experienced significant and material economic injury since that decision.

On behalf of American jobs and manufacturing, the Carpenters Industrial Council urges full consideration of the petitions filed by the Coalition for Fair Trade of Hardwood Plywood.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tony Hadley". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "T" and "H".

Tony Hadley
Executive Secretary Treasurer
Carpenters Industrial Council