

January 31, 2025

President Donald J. Trump The White House 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President,

On behalf of the nationwide member companies of the National Stone, Sand & Gravel Association (NSSGA), I am writing to respectfully urge you to consider an exemption for the aggregates industry as your administration evaluates potential tariffs on imports from Canada and Mexico. Approximately 2.8 billion tons of aggregates are produced annually in the United States. These materials are essential for various construction and industrial applications, making them a significant part of the U.S. economy.

NSSGA proudly represents aggregates producers and the manufacturers of equipment and services that support the construction industry. Together, our members form the backbone of the U.S. infrastructure sector, contributing to more than 90 percent of the crushed stone and 70 percent of the sand and gravel produced annually across the nation. Our industry employs the hardworking men and women who produce the essential raw materials used in every home, building, road, port, dam and public works project.

Aggregates are indispensable to nearly every aspect of modern life. They are foundational to infrastructure including electric grids, telecommunications, buildings, bridges, airports, highways and public transit systems—and play an integral role in supporting other key industries. Aggregates are critical to the energy sector for constructing power plants and substations; the water management industry for improving drinking water systems and flood control; and the transportation sector for enabling efficient seaports, railways and airports. Additionally, aggregates are used in everyday consumer products, such as televisions and smartphones.

Including aggregates in the scope of tariffs would have significant unintended consequences. In areas of the country where natural deposits of aggregates meeting applicable specifications are limited, imports from Mexico and Canada are crucial to meeting market demands for public and private construction. Tariffs on aggregates would raise costs across multiple industries, ultimately burdening the American people with higher prices for essential goods and services and reducing the miles of highways that can be built and expanded. Recognizing this unique dynamic, Congress and the Federal Highway Administration have historically excluded aggregates from domestic content requirements to ensure the continuity of infrastructure projects nationwide.

Further, including aggregates in the scope of tariffs would significantly increase the cost of construction materials; straining federal, state and local government funding for infrastructure projects. With higher material costs, fewer projects could be completed within existing budgets, delaying critical improvements to roads, bridges and public works essential for economic growth and public safety.

The long-term impact of such tariffs would also hinder progress toward your broader national infrastructure goals. Modernizing America's infrastructure is essential for sustaining economic growth, improving quality of life and ensuring global competitiveness. Placing additional cost burdens on a fundamental industry like aggregates jeopardizes this vision by making it harder to deliver efficient, cost-effective infrastructure solutions. It is crucial not to constrain Congress or Secretary Duffy as they prepare to shape the next surface transportation reauthorization bill, ensuring the nation can prioritize infrastructure investments without the added burden of inflated construction material costs.

The results of the 2024 election have shown a clear mandate from the American people, entrusting your administration and the Republican majorities in Congress to prioritize policies that strengthen our nation's economy and infrastructure. Exempting the aggregates industry from tariffs aligns with this vision, as it protects a critical sector that supports job creation, infrastructure investment and economic growth.

We appreciate your leadership and the opportunity to work alongside your administration to champion policies that benefit the American people. Should you or your team have any questions or require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Thank you for considering our position on this critical matter.

Respectfully,

Michale Storing

Michele Stanley Interim CEO National Stone, Sand & Gravel Association