



December 4, 2018

The Honorable Ted McKinney
Under Secretary for Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs
United States Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, DC 20250

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I am writing to you today in follow up to discussions we held in your office this past August. Thank you again for your generous time and interest in helping us work towards a resolution of the Chinese tariff impact on tobacco.

Farmers remain optimistic that negotiations will achieve a solution in the very near term. As we described to you in our previous discussions, TGANC has remained directly engaged with China Tobacco International (CTI) in conveying the importance of their business. Enclosed you will find a copy of the most recent communications we sent to China.

Please continue to help emphasize to the Chinese negotiators that you may be in communication with, that tobacco was not included in the USDA farm assistance package. And that further, tobacco is not a factor of influence on the part of the U.S. Government.

We believe that tobacco as a crop should not be included by the Chinese government as part of the tariff situation and your help in convincing them of these simple facts is greatly appreciated.

In closing, thank you and Secretary Perdue for your continued leadership for a strong agricultural industry in our country. Please call if we may be of further assistance, or if you can share any updates.

Sincerely,


Graham Boyd
Executive Secretary