

National Pork Producers Council
122 C Street, NW, Suite 875
Washington, DC, USA 20001

September 24, 2025

Office of United States Trade Representative
1724 F Street NW
Washington, D.C. 20508

Re: Request to Testify at Public Hearing, China's Compliance with WTO Commitments (Docket No. USTR-2025-0015)

On behalf of the National Pork Producers Council (NPPC), I request a representative appear at the October 7, 2025, public hearing for Docket No. USTR-2025-0015, Request for Comments and Notice of Public Hearing Concerning China's Compliance with WTO Commitments. We request that Ms. Shannon McMurtrey, Senior Director for International Affairs testify on behalf of NPPC at the October 7, 2025 public hearing.

Testimony will align with our written comments submitted on September 24, 2025, a summary of which follows:

NPPC is a national association representing the federal public policy and global interests of more than 60,000 U.S. pork producers. The U.S. pork industry is a major value-added sector in the agricultural economy and a significant contributor to the overall U.S. economy. More than 500,000 American jobs are supported by U.S. pork production with U.S. pork exports accounting for more than 70,000 of these jobs.

The United States is among the top global exporters of pork, shipping over 3 million metric tons (MT), valued at \$8.63 billion, to more than 100 countries annually. Gaining, maintaining, and expanding access to markets around the world is paramount to the growth of the U.S. pork industry.

China is by far the largest importer of pork variety meats in the world accounting for 67% of global imports last year. For the United States, China accounted for 59% of pork variety meat exports with Mexico as the other dominant buyer. Exports of feet, heads, stomachs, hearts, etc. add value to every pig produced in the U.S. There is no alternative market to take the volume and value of U.S. pork variety meat as is demanded by China, which is why ensuring that China adheres to WTO commitments is of critical importance to NPPC.

The People's Republic of China has long been a critical market for U.S. pork, as China has consistently been a top five market for U.S. pork and pork variety meat exports. In 2024, U.S. pork and variety meat exports to China totaled 467,257 metric tons (MTs). The value of U.S. pork and pork variety meat exports reached \$1.11 billion in 2024, down about 11% from \$1.24 billion in 2023. The decrease was primarily driven by a drop in muscle cut exports.

Unfortunately, there are clear and persistent market access issues implemented by China that stymie U.S. pork exports, which are violations of WTO commitments that also run contrary to science-based and internationally established food safety and animal health standards. Domestic subsidies are a unfair advantage to China's producers. Additionally, China applies several non-tariff barriers that run contrary to the Sanitary-Phyto Sanitary (SPS) Agreement and international Codex standards that slow U.S exports to China. SPS barriers related to veterinary drug residue tolerances and microbiological testing requirements, and facility registrations are just a few of the non-WTO SPS Agreement compliant barriers. Animal disease testing requirements and import standards that for porcine reproductive respiratory syndrome (PRRS) that don't align to World Organization on Animal Health (WOAH) guidance are among the most egregious SPS Agreement issues U.S. exporters must navigate to access the Chinese market.

NPPC supports efforts undertaken by the United States Trade Representative (USTR) to identify China's WTO non-compliances across all sectors, especially the agriculture sector, which relies heavily on exports and the expansive China market. Our members are eager to see China held accountable to their WTO commitments, as well as provisions of the Phase One Agreement implemented in 2020.

NPPC appreciates the opportunity to submit comments on Docket No. USTR-2025-0015 and would welcome the opportunity to testify at the October 7, 2025, hearing to further detail our views on China's lack of compliance with WTO commitments and the adverse impact that has on U.S. pork exports to China.

Sincerely,



Maria C. Zieba
Vice President of Government Affairs