



COALITION FOR FAIR LUMBER IMPORTS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Scott Shotwell or Deborah Regan

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202.862.4505 or 202.862.3686

LUMBER NEGOTIATIONS ADJOURN: U.S. LUMBER INDUSTRY PLEASED WITH PROGRESS, FIRM ON NEED FOR INTERGRATED FOREST PRODUCTS MARKET

WASHINGTON - The Coalition for Fair Lumber Imports is pleased with the initiative demonstrated by many of the provincial governments to address the administrative timber pricing practices that underlie the lumber trade dispute. The Department of Commerce and the Office of the United States Trade Representative have worked closely with the Canadian provincial and federal governments, and industries on both sides of the border toward a policy bulletin that sets standards for a market-based timber sales system, consistent with the U.S. law. When such standards are met, and a province demonstrates that timber is sold at a competitive market price, the Department will revoke the countervailing duty order on a provincial basis.

There have been good faith efforts on both sides of the border and the negotiations should benefit from a recess to allow for reflection. The Coalition for Fair Lumber Imports looks forward to continuing to work closely with U.S. negotiators in the near future in their effort to reach a long-term durable solution to the ongoing lumber dispute and encourage the development of an integrated market for forest products consistent with the goals of the North America Free Trade Agreement and sustainable forestry.

The U.S. Coalition for Fair Lumber Imports is a broad alliance of trade associations and lumber companies, their employees, loggers and woodland owners united in support of fair trade laws. For more information, visit the Coalition website at www.fairlumbercoalition.org.

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