



## Canadian Pork Council Not Surprised by Trade Rulings

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 7, 2005

(Ottawa, ON) – The U.S. Department of Commerce (DOC) released final decisions today on the countervail and antidumping cases against Canadian live swine exports. Petitions were launched on March 5, 2004 by the U.S. National Pork Producers Council (NPPC).

The DOC reconfirmed its August 2004 preliminary determination that Canadian hog producers do not receive countervailable subsidies, but finalized dumping margins for the Canadian exporters who were investigated in this case. Dumping occurs when product is sold in the U.S. market at less than fair value. The rates established by the DOC were Ontario Pork – 12.68%, Hytek – 0.53% (de minimis), Premium Pork – 18.87% (Hytek and Premium Pork not included in ‘all others’ rate), Excel – 4.64%. The “all others” rate established is 10.63%.

“We are not surprised by today’s ruling. We reject the NPPC’s claims that countervailable subsidies are being provided to producers and exporters of live swine,” says Clare Schlegel, President of the Canadian Pork Council. “Furthermore, Canada and the U.S. operate in the same integrated North American pork market. Canadian swine producers are no more dumping than are U.S. hog producers. We all function in the same price structure. Despite a trade law written to find dumping in almost every case, Canadian pigs and hogs are not injuring the U.S., but rather contribute to the very success of the North American sector.”

“Now, the focus is on the final injury determination by the U. S. International Trade Commission (ITC), continues Schlegel. “We fully expect the ITC to determine that Canadian hog exports are not causing injury to the U.S. industry. ”

The ITC determination is due in April. In the event where the ITC finds imports of live swine have not injured, and do not risk injuring, the U.S. hog industry, the case will end and all duty deposits will be refunded.

The Canadian Pork Council is the national association representing the interests of Canada’s hog producers.

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