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WILSON DEEPLY CONCERNED WITH UNITED STATES FINAL DETERMINATIONS OF DUMPING AGAINST CANADIAN STEEL

The Honourable Michael Wilson, Minister of Industry, Science and Technology and Minister for International Trade, expressed dismay and deep concern with today's announcement by the U.S. Department of Commerce (DOC) of final dumping determinations against imports of four flat rolled steel products from 19 countries, including Canada.

"The increases in dumping margins for Canadian exporters are shocking," said Minister Wilson.

"As the government has consistently emphasized, trade remedy actions like these make no commercial sense, given the integrated nature of the North American steel market. The government will continue to support the Canadian steel industry in any initiative that brings a sensible resolution to this situation."

Under United States trade law, anti-dumping duties will be imposed on imports if the United States International Trade Commission (ITC) makes a final determination of injury. The ITC is expected to vote on its final determination on July 27. Until duties are finalized, importers may continue to post bonds covering the provisional duties. The final determinations by the DOC considerably increased the margins of dumping against imports of these products from Canada, compared to the margins in the DOC's preliminary determinations of January 27, 1993.

Minister Wilson noted that all four of these final determinations may be challenged under the dispute settlement provisions of Chapter 19 of the Canada-United States Free Trade Agreement (FTA). "I urge Canadian producers who consider that U.S. trade remedy law was incorrectly applied to take full advantage of the dispute settlement provisions of FTA Chapter 19," said Mr. Wilson.