

Minister of Industry,  
Science and Technology and  
Minister for International Trade



Ministre de l'Industrie, des  
Sciences et de la Technologie et  
ministre du Commerce extérieur

## News Release

## Communiqué

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### MINISTER WILSON OBJECTS TO PRELIMINARY RULING BY U.S. COMMERCE DEPARTMENT IN MAGNESIUM TRADE DISPUTE

Minister of Industry, Science and Technology and Minister for International Trade, the Honourable Michael H. Wilson, today said he strongly objected to the U.S. Department of Commerce's preliminary determination that Canadian magnesium exports were benefiting from subsidies at a rate of 32.8 per cent.

The Minister said he is working closely with the province of Quebec and other interested parties to fight this case. He added that Canada has retained U.S. legal counsel to ensure that everything that can be done will be done to defend against the subsidy allegations. The Government's counsel will review the details of the preliminary subsidy finding to ensure that it was based on objective analysis.

"This action by the United States is inconsistent with its obligations under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT)," said Mr. Wilson. "We are protesting the initiation of this case on the grounds that the U.S. petitioner, the Magnesium Corporation of America, lacked proper standing to request an investigation. We have consulted with the United States under the GATT on this issue and will be taking the matter to conciliation under the GATT Subsidies Code."