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REGAN WELCOMES MOVE BY U.S. TO END RESTRICTIONS ON CEMENT IMPORTS

The Honourable Gerald Regan, Minister for International Trade, today welcomed the action by the U.S. Congress to exempt cement from the Buy America restrictions applied under the U.S. Surface Transportation Assistance Act. These restrictions had the effect of precluding Canadian cement exports for use in federally-funded highway construction projects. Canadian producers will again be able to supply this market, resulting in additional exports of cement to the U.S. of approximately \$25 million annually.

Mr. Regan indicated that the Government had been pressing the U.S.A. to roll-back Buy America restrictions and, in light of this very positive development, is considering whether to terminate the surtax applied earlier this year to imports of certain speciality steel products imported from the United States.

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