Amendments to the Western Grain Transportation Act

Clause 213

Clause 213 amends subsection 2(1) and subsection 2(5). The definition of "movement" in subsection 2(1) is amended to only apply to grain in respect of which the government is required to pay a portion of the WGTA subsidy. The purpose of amendment is to exclude the transportation of grains through ports in British Columbia and Churchill in excess of Canada's maximum annual expenditure or volume limitations for the WGTA. Subsection 2(5) links Schedule III, which contains the expenditure and volume limits by category of grain for the implementation period, to the Schedule I which is amended to . Its the WGTA grains, crops and products into six categories in accordance with Canada's Schedule of Commitments for Export Subsidies, appended to the WTO Agreement.

Clause 214

Clause 214 adds a section 37.1. Subsection 37.1(1) specifies that after the maximum annual expenditure or volume limits are deemed to have been reached for a category the shippers of any additional volumes of grain in that category to ports in British Columbia and Churchill for the remainder of the crop year will be required to pay one hundred percent of the full WGTA rate.

Subsection 37.1(2) gives the National Transportation Agency ("Commission") the authority to fix the date as of which the maximum annual expenditure level or maximum annual volume level will be deemed to have been reached for a category if it is of the opinion that the expenditure or volume level for that category will be reached before the end of the crop year.