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Renderers Spotlight Mexico's Unfair Tax on Feed Ingredients as Violation of USMCA NARA Seeks to Testify at November 17 Hearing

ALEXANDRIA, VA, November 3, 2025 - The North American Renderers Association (NARA) today announced that it has [submitted formal comments](#) for the record in advance of the upcoming review of the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) and has requested to testify at the public hearing scheduled for November 17, 2025.

"As the voice for the rendering industry, NARA is stepping up — not just to talk about trade in general, but to call out what we believe is a clear barrier: Mexico's tax on feed-ingredient imports, which places U.S. renderers and their Mexican supply-chain partners at a competitive disadvantage," said Dana Johnson Dowing, NARA's SVP of International Programs. "We have made our case in our written submission, and we've asked for the opportunity to present directly at the hearing to ensure our industry's interests are heard."

Key Points of NARA's Submission

NARA's comments present evidence that a 16% Mexican value-added tax on imported feed ingredients undermines the cross-border value chain that U.S. renderers and their Mexican customers depend on.

The submission argues this tax constitutes a violation of USMCA provisions on fair treatment, market access and non-discrimination such as Articles governing national treatment and non-tariff barriers.

The comments include actionable recommendations to the Office of the United States Trade Representative (USTR) ahead of the Joint Review: improved monitoring and enforcement of compliance, deeper regulatory alignment with Mexico, and strengthened transparency for trade in rendered by-products and feed ingredients.

The rendering industry is deeply integrated across North America — U.S. processors, Mexican importers, feed mills, and downstream-users all rely on seamless trade flows. By raising this issue, NARA seeks to actively defend the interests of its members and their customers and ensure a level playing field.

NARA will attend or follow the public hearing: November 17, 2025, starting at 10 a.m. EST in the main hearing room of the U.S. International Trade Commission, 500 E Street SW, Washington, DC.

Going forward, NARA will advise members and their Mexican partners on any developments, and coordinate follow-up messaging as the countries advance the Joint Review (targeted July 1, 2026).

**At the time of this release it is currently unclear if the scheduled hearing will be held if the lapse in federal funding and government shutdown continues into mid-November.*

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About the North American Renderers Association

The North American Renderers Association (NARA) represents the interests of the North American rendering industry to regulatory and other governmental agencies, promotes the greater use of animal byproducts, and fosters the opening and expansion of trade between foreign buyers and North American exporters. In addition to its U.S.-based headquarters, the association maintains offices in strategic locations around the world. NARA publishes a bi-monthly trade magazine, *Render*. For more information, visit www.nara.org.