

KING & SPALDING

Trade & Manufacturing Alert

February 2016 | Print Issue

President Obama Highlights TPP, Cuba Embargo in Final State of the Union Address

Jordan Shepherd

On January 12, President Obama delivered his seventh and final State of the Union Address to Congress and the American people. Among the many topics that he raised in this annual [speech](#) were two trade-related priorities that may directly impact manufacturers in the United States: passing the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) and lifting the trade embargo against Cuba. [More »](#)

Business, Labor, Manufacturing, and Agriculture Representatives Provide ITC with Different Perspectives on Likely Impact of the Trans-Pacific Partnership

J. Michael Taylor, Jeffrey M. Telep, Joseph A. Laroski Jr., & Kathleen L. Benner

The U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC) held hearings during January 13-15 concerning the likely impact of the Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement (TPP) on the U.S. economy. Witnesses from a variety of governments, industry groups, companies, labor organizations, and academic institutions offered testimony and responded to questions from the Commissioners. The ITC will use the information gathered during the hearings (along with information from the pre-hearing submissions, post-hearing briefs, and filed statements) to prepare a report on the expected impact of the Agreement. [More »](#)

TransCanada Challenges Denial of Permit for Keystone XL Pipeline

Clint Long

As previously reported in the [Trade & Manufacturing Alert](#), on November 6, 2015, President Obama officially rejected TransCanada's application to build the Keystone XL Pipeline. As proposed, the pipeline would have transported Canadian oil to the United States across nearly 1,200 miles from Alberta to Nebraska. The pipeline was

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News of Note

- USTR Issues Report on China's Implementation of WTO Agreements
- U.S. International Trade Commission to Investigate Possible Modifications to the Generalized System of Preferences
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the source of [significant debate](#), including multiple lawsuits and contested efforts in Congress to approve the pipeline, one of which was a bill that Congress passed earlier in 2015 that President Obama vetoed. Supporters and opponents of the pipeline disagree on the benefits of the pipeline and Canadian oil to the United States, the environmental impact of building the pipeline and oil extraction in Canada, the number of jobs that would be created by the pipeline's construction, and other issues. [More »](#)

News of Note

- USTR Issues Report on China's Implementation of WTO Agreements** – [Quinn Bailey & Liz Owerbach](#) – The office of the United States Trade Representative (USTR) recently issued an annual report on China's implementation of its obligations under the World Trade Organization (WTO) Agreements. [More »](#)
- U.S. International Trade Commission to Investigate Possible Modifications to the Generalized System of Preferences** – [Erienne Kilgore & Patrick Togni](#) – The U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC) has commenced an investigation concerning potential modifications to the products eligible for duty-free treatment under the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP). [More »](#)
- The United States Plans to Suspend South Africa's AGOA Benefits, Subject to Implementation of Agriculture Agreement** – [Kathleen L. Benner](#) – On January 11, President Obama announced that the United States will suspend South Africa's African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) benefits as of March 15, 2016 as part of an ongoing dispute over South African's treatment of agricultural imports from the United States. [More »](#)

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