**Sample supplier letter to Congress - General Trade Letter**

Dear [Member of Congress]:

[Company] is proud to be a part of the [town name of facility] community, where we manufacture [products] with over [#] employees. While my company does not export directly, we sell to dairy processors that do, which benefits [company] and [town]. With 95 percent of the world’s population living outside of the United States, our company and dairy processors across America need access to markets abroad.

Trade and exports have already paid dividends for [company] and other dairy processors across America. Thanks to the implementation of Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) like the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), the U.S. is now a net exporter of dairy. While dairy sales and consumption are stable in the U.S., the need for dairy internationally is increasing quickly. It’s clear trade means growth for the U.S. dairy industry.

Today, [company sells our products that are inputs to dairy products] which are sold in [name of countries or number of countries]. Our customers’ growth in overseas markets has helped us add jobs and spur new investment, especially since global consumption of dairy is growing. People around the world consumed roughly 245 pounds of dairy on average in 2015.

Unfortunately, dairy processors in the United States risk falling behind other dairy exporting countries. We face more barriers overseas than many of our competitors in Europe and Asia, who are negotiating trade agreements that exclude and disadvantage us.

I urge you continue to work on a strong trade agenda and market-opening trade agreements that will level the playing field. Free trade is the best way to give the dairy industry a boost to compete globally.

Thank you for your time and engagement on this critical issue.

Best,

[Your name + Company]