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NBB STATEMENT ON EUROPEAN COMMISSION’S PUBLICATION OF PROVISIONAL DUTY REGULATIONS

WASHINGTON, DC – Manning Feraci, Vice President of Federal Affairs for the National Biodiesel Board (NBB), issued the following statement in response to the European Commission’s (EC) publication of Provisional Duty Regulations in the ongoing anti-dumping (AD) and countervailing duty (CVD) investigations of biodiesel from the United States:

“This is a flawed decision. The imposition of provisional duties is nothing more than a politically expedient effort to appease the protectionist whims of the European biodiesel industry and is inconsistent with the European Union’s (EU) World Trade Organization (WTO) obligations. This sets a dangerous precedent for global commerce.

“It is important to remember that this is an interim step in the ongoing investigations. To comply with WTO rules, the EC must prove that harm is being caused to the EU industry before duties are imposed. This simply is not the case, and the EC has data before it clearly demonstrating that the European biodiesel industry has not been harmed by U.S. competition. In fact, some EU companies have fared quite well. For those that have not, it is factors unrelated to U.S. competition – bad business models; high feedstock costs; and detrimental EU member state policy- that are to blame.

“Hopefully, the EC will now take more time to fully consider the evidence before it and render a final decision later this year that is consistent with the facts and the EU’s WTO obligations.”

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