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NOPA'S BOARD VOTES TO SUPPORT THE TRANS-PACIFIC PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

WASHINGTON, D.C., November 23, 2015—The National Oilseed Processors Association (NOPA), after reviewing the text of the recently concluded Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) Agreement, expresses strong support for the TPP Agreement and calls upon the U.S. Congress to move swiftly to pass this landmark free trade agreement.

“Taken as a whole, the TPP Agreement meets our Association’s long-standing commitments to trade liberalization; expanded market access for oilseeds/oilseed products, and meat products; and strengthened and updated trade rules.” said Tom Hammer, NOPA President.

“Now that the text is publically available and President Obama has announced his intention to enter into the TPP Agreement, NOPA looks forward to working closely with Congress and the Administration to achieve the prompt passage of this powerful free trade agreement.” said Hammer.

Enactment of this landmark 21st-century agreement will unite an economically diverse and dynamic group of countries, including Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Canada, Chile, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Peru, Singapore, and Vietnam in a manner that will provide exciting new market access opportunities and updated trade rules for U.S. farmers and ranchers, processors, and exporters. Moreover, the TPP has the potential to provide even greater trade benefits if and when it is opened to additional countries in the Pacific region, such as Indonesia, the Philippines, South Korea, Taiwan and Thailand.

Hammer stated that, “Thanks to the tireless efforts of Ambassador Froman and the entire U.S. interagency negotiating team, the TPP has the potential to provide tremendous opportunities for U.S. processors of oilseed products, as well as our domestic poultry and livestock customers, to expand export sales to some of the fastest growing protein markets in the world.”

Established in 1930, NOPA’s mission is to assist the U.S. soybean, canola, flaxseed, sunflower seed and safflower seed processing industries to be the most competitive and efficient in the world by utilizing the combined expertise, knowledge and resources of its members to foster market- and science-based policies. NOPA represents 12 member companies who process over 1.8 billion bushels of oilseeds annually at 63 plants in 19 states.

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