



**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**

April 3, 2020

Commissioner Mark A. Morgan  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
1300 Pennsylvania Ave, NW  
Washington, DC 20229

Dear Commissioner Morgan,

I write to urge you to restore the hours of operation to 24-hours for the Port of Raymond in northeast Montana. As our country continues to address the COVID-19 outbreak, it is vital that our farmers and essential agriculture inputs can move across the border without any additional, unnecessary obstacles.

Keeping the border accessible during planting season is essential. It is already difficult for trucks to keep up with demand for fertilizer and other products that support millions of farmable acres under normal circumstances. With planting expected to accelerate in the coming weeks, there is an urgent need to keep shipments of supplies moving across the border. The current pandemic only exacerbates these challenges. Reducing the hours of the Port of Raymond could create a bottle neck that will place additional burdens on Montana's farmers.

Agriculture is Montana's number one economic driver, and forcing suppliers to alter their schedules or reduce delivery during the height of planting season is irresponsible. Maintaining the current hours of operation is critical to the continued flow of goods and economic activity between Montana and Canada.

Again, I urge you to reverse the temporary reduction of hours at the Port of Raymond to help farmers have timely access to products to support their crops. I thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Greg Gianforte  
Member of Congress