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Dear Chris,

Thank you for your engagement on the UK-US Economic Prosperity Deal on 14th May. You asked about the ethanol industry, the UK's border inspection regime for beef imports with a specific request for statistics on US exports of high quality beef into the UK, and our relations with other international trading partners, and I committed to write to you on these points. Please accept my apologies for the delay in coming back to you.

On ethanol, we already import a significant amount of ethanol from the US and have agreed a duty-free quota capped at 1.4 billion litres. DBT will continue to work closely with the UK bioethanol industry to understand the impacts of this trade deal as well as other pressures on the UK's two bioethanol companies. On 26th June we entered into negotiations with both companies on the scope of a potential support package.

On 30th June we introduced legislation that implements the commitments we made in the General Terms. This legislation creates two new quotas for imports of beef and ethanol originating from the US; both are effective from 30 June. The UK will also remove the 20% in-quota tariff for US-originating beef under the pre-existing WTO high quality beef quota, which has a volume of 1kt. As you know, this new market access on beef is reciprocal, with UK farmers given a guaranteed quota for 13,000 metric tonnes of beef exports at a very low tariff rate. This is a major opportunity for British farmers to increase their exports to the world's largest consumer market, helping them to grow their businesses.

All beef imports into the UK, including those via the new quota, must comply with all relevant UK import requirements, including SPS rules. That means that hormone treated beef will remain banned in the UK and will not be imported under this agreement. The UK has strong border controls in place, requiring documentary, identity and physical checks (including sampling). Fresh beef and beef products from the US are subject to 15% physical checks, and minced beef 30% physical checks. Each consignment of beef must be accompanied by an export health certificate signed by an official veterinarian which certifies that the product is hormone free.

You asked for the government's analysis of how much high-quality beef the US produces per annum and the expected level of imports of that beef into the UK. The UK government does not hold data on US production of beef by quality, and the grading of beef by quality

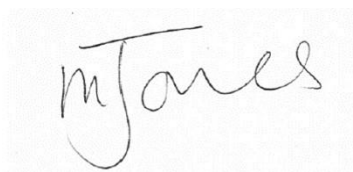
is not attached to trade data. According to the US Department of Agriculture (USDA), total US production in 2024/25 stood at 12.29 million tonnes. Of course, any duty-free imports to the UK via the new quota will be limited to the 13kt volume provided, and as mentioned, must meet all the UK's import requirements.

On the impact of a UK-US Economic Prosperity Deal with other international trading partners, this is not a choice between allies. This is separate to our negotiations with the EU. We have been clear that choosing between the EU and the US is a false choice, and the UK can do both – improving our trading relationship with Europe, while agreeing deals with the US and other nations. On China, in line with our long-term, consistent approach, trade and investment with China remain important to the UK. We are continuing to engage pragmatically in areas that are rooted in UK and global interests and co-operate where we can, compete where we need to, and challenge where we must.

I hope this response gives you the reassurances you need and thank you again for engaging on this important issue.

A copy of this letter will be deposited in the libraries of the House.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'm Jones', is centered on a light grey rectangular background.

BARONESS JONES OF WHITCHURCH
Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State (Minister for Legislation)
Department for Business and Trade