

For Immediate Release:
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MEDIA ADVISORY

Environmental, Consumer, Labor Groups Hold Telephone Press Conference on First Round of Proposed U.S.-EU Trade Deal

As Transatlantic Free Trade Agreement (TAFTA) Talks Start in Washington, U.S. Civil Society Groups Express Concern About Talks' Focus; European Parliamentarians Call for Launch to Be Halted Over Spying Revelations

WHAT: Telephone press conference Monday on the potential effects of the proposed Trans-Atlantic Free Trade Agreement (TAFTA). The first round of trade negotiations between the United States and the European Union will begin the same day in Washington, D.C.

While U.S. and EU consumer, environmental and labor organizations called for U.S.-EU negotiations to be used to raise public interest standards, the agenda adopted for these negotiations closely follows longstanding corporate demands. Since the mid-1990s, a coalition of large U.S. and EU corporations have pushed for negotiations of a TAFTA that would roll back the strongest consumer, environmental and other public interest safeguards on either side of the Atlantic, which they have labeled as "trade irritants." U.S. financial reforms have become a special target of this effort.

WHEN: 1:30 p.m. EDT Monday, July 8

WHO: Ilana Solomon, trade representative, Sierra Club
Lori Wallach, director, Public Citizen's Global Trade Watch
Celeste Drake, trade policy specialist, AFL-CIO
Karen Hansen-Kuhn, international program director, Institute for Trade and Agriculture Policy
William Waren, trade policy analyst, Friends of the Earth

CALL-IN NUMBER: 866-952-1906; confirmation code: TTIP

A recording of the telepresser will be available after the call.

Please RSVP to daniel.byrnes@sierraclub.org.

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