May 15, 2003

To Whom It May Concern:

The enclosed questionnaire pertains to the United States International Trade Commission’s investigation concerning barium carbonate. The investigation is being conducted under the provisions of section 731 of the Tariff Act of 1930.

In this investigation the Commission must determine whether an industry in the United States is materially injured or is threatened with material injury, or the establishment of an industry in the United States is materially retarded, by reason of imports from China of barium carbonate that have been found to be sold in the United States at less than fair value. A copy of the Commission’s notice of this investigation is enclosed and will be published in the Federal Register.

The business proprietary information you supply in this questionnaire or in connection therewith will be so treated by the Commission and will not be disclosed except as may be required by law. Your response will be consolidated with the responses of other firms and will form much of the statistical base for the Commission’s determination. The questions in the questionnaire have been reviewed with market participants to ensure that issues of concern are adequately addressed and that data requests are sufficient, meaningful, and as limited as possible.

Please return the completed questionnaire to the Commission by no later than June 12, 2003. If you have any questions concerning the questionnaire or other matters related to the investigation, please contact Raymond Cantrell (202-205-3362) of the Commission’s staff. Correspondence may be sent to the above address or via FAX to 202-205-3205.

Sincerely,

Robert Carpenter
Director

Enclosures