

## #TruthInTrade

*NAFTA Opens U.S. Roads to Poorly Regulated Trucks from Mexico*

### **Background**

Today's trade deals put international corporate interests ahead of domestic public safety policies and give foreign corporations more power than citizens.

*NAFTA Required Access to U.S. Roads for Trucks Not Meeting U.S. Safety or Environmental Standards*

NAFTA included a provision that guaranteed access to all U.S. roads and highways for Mexico's truck fleet. The trade agreement did not require Mexican trucking standards to meet U.S. safety, emissions and driver standards. In fact, reports by the Department of Transportation Inspector General revealed severe safety and environmental problems with Mexico's truck fleet and drivers' licensing, so the Clinton administration refused access.

After a NAFTA "court" imposed sanctions of [\\$2.4 billion](#) on the United States for failing to open access, trucks from Mexico were allowed on U.S. roads after a deal was reached with the Obama administration in 2011. The deal also established a pilot program to evaluate the ability of trucks from Mexico to operate safely in the U.S. However, because of required pre-approval of trucks for safety and environmental standards, only 49 trucks have participated in the pilot program.

Furthermore, thanks to NAFTA, if the U.S. fails to provide open access by 2015, Mexico will be allowed to reinstate its massive trade sanctions. Even so, an association of Mexican trucking firms is demanding [\\$30 billion](#) from U.S. taxpayers to compensate for the years they could not drive on American highways as NAFTA promised.