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August 9, 2016

Commissioner Hugh E. Weathers
South Carolina Department of Agriculture
Post Office Box 11280
Columbia, South Carolina 29211

Dear Commissioner Weathers:

Thank you for the important work in which you are engaged in the administration of the South Carolina Farm Aid Program, which makes available \$40 million dollars in relief funding to South Carolina farmers who suffered at least a 40% loss of an affected crop as a result of last October's flooding. On behalf of the entire Economic Development, Transportation, Natural Resources and Regulatory Subcommittee, I would like to thank you for sharing your time and knowledge with the subcommittee at our July 6, 2016, meeting.

The purpose of this letter is to share requests for information from the subcommittee as a follow up to the meeting. These requests are listed below.

- Please provide a brief overview of any relationships the Department of Agriculture may have with South Carolina State University public service activities.
- Please provide a brief summary about pivot irrigation systems, including any effects these system may have on wells.
- Please share with the subcommittee a copy of the stud[ies] you mentioned during our last meeting, including those which show how we may impact certain agricultural markets.
- Please provide any recommendations for revisions to laws that you would like the subcommittee to consider for inclusion as a part of its study.

We ask that you please provide this information by Friday, September 2, 2016. In your responses, please provide the subcommittee with any relevant, necessary context information. If the agency has any

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concerns about the format of these questions yielding answers that do not provide an accurate reflection of the agency, please express those concerns, prior to responding to the question, in a letter to me with a copy to committee staff. Please retain any working papers for these responses in the event the subcommittee would like to view those.

Sincerely,

Phyllis J. Henderson
Subcommittee Chair

cc: Economic Development, Transportation, Natural Resources, and Regulatory
Subcommittee Members