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Sent: Thursday, January 7, 2010 2:43 AM
To: ATR-Agricultural Workshops <agriculturalworkshops@usdoj.gov>
Subject: HSUS Comments Re Agriculture & Antitrust Enforcement Issues in Our 21st Century Economy (electronic submission)
Attach: Humane Society of the U.S. _DOJ_USDA Comments Re Agriculture & Antitrust Enforcement 4 Jan 2010.doc

Dear Mr. Tobey:

I am writing on behalf of the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) to provide an electronic copy of HSUS's Comments Regarding Agriculture and Antitrust Enforcement Issues in Our 21st Century Economy submitted via Federal Express overnight courier on January 4, 2010.

I also wanted to briefly clarify the reason our comments were submitted shortly after the December 31, 2009 deadline. I am the lead attorney responsible for drafting and submitting HSUS's comments to DOJ. On the morning of Dec. 31 my computer's hard drive crashed due to an apparent hardware malfunction and I was unable to recover my documents, including HSUS's comments, using back-up or rescue disks. Needless to say, I was in a bit of a bind. Not knowing what to do, I called the number on the Federal Register notice and left a couple of voice mail messages explaining my predicament.

Shortly thereafter, I received a call from Sam Dinning who was courteous and affable in assuring me I needn't worry because HSUS could submit its comments by courier on Tuesday January 4, 2010 because the staff would not begin their review until the beginning of the New Year. That is precisely what we did and the comments were delivered the following day.

In closing, I wanted to express our gratitude for the brief extension since without it we could not have responded to the Division's request for information regarding a matter of significant concern for HSUS and our 11 million supporters. On behalf of HSUS and our supporters, thank you.

Very best regards,

Leana Stormont

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