

Sanderson Farms, Inc.

GENERAL OFFICES Post Office Box 988 • Laurel, Mississippi 39441-0988 Telephone (601) 649-4030 • Facsimile (601) 426-1461

November 8, 2001

01-030N 01-030N-147 Doug Lee

Docket Clerk U.S. Department of Agriculture Food Safety and Inspection Service 300 12th Street, SW Room 102 Cotton Annex Washington, D.C. 20250

RE: Docket number 01-030N

Dear Sir:

I am requesting the extension of the effective date of the moisture retention and labeling regulation to August 1, 2004. I believe it will be impossible for the entire poultry industry to meet the current January 9, 2002 compliance date.

It would be unfair to the industry and consumer to not grant the extension. Without a reasonable extension most of the poultry industry would have to shut down. This would deprive consumers of having economical poultry products. Since nothing will change from a consumer's perspective if a postponement is granted, the only negative impact on the consumer is if a postponement is not granted.

Sincerely,

Doug Lee Director of Processing

DL:tk