



Department of Energy  
Washington, DC 20585

May 21, 2010

The Honorable Thomas J. Vilsack  
Secretary of Agriculture  
Washington, D.C. 20250

Dear Mr. Secretary:

Thank you for your April 11, 2010, letter to Secretary Chu encouraging use of products designated in your BioPreferred Program. The Department of Energy is a very strong supporter of the government-wide initiatives to increase the purchase and use of renewable, environmentally friendly biobased products and in creating new green jobs and new markets for farmers, manufacturers and vendors.

The Department has well established programs and guidance that promote the acquisition and use of these products at the Federal level and by our contractors. Information on the Department's programs and guidance is available at [www.hss.energy.gov/pp/epp/biobased.html](http://www.hss.energy.gov/pp/epp/biobased.html). In addition, pursuant to the requirements of Executive Order 13541, these programs will be a key element of the Department's Sustainability Plan that will be submitted to the Office of Management and Budget next month.

We understand that the Federal Acquisition Regulatory Council has initiated efforts to prescribe regulations and make required modifications to the Federal Procurement Data System – Next Generation, to implement the data collection and reporting requirements of Section 9002 of the Food, Conservation and Energy Act of 2008. The Department has already implemented a process to assure that we are positioned to fulfill those data collection and reporting requirements upon completion of those efforts.

Sincerely,

Ingrid Kolb  
Director  
Office of Management

