



United States Department of Agriculture

Office of the Secretary
Washington, D.C. 20250

Mr. Dennis C. Wolff
Secretary
Department of Agriculture
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
2301 North Cameron Street
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17110-9408

Dear Secretary Wolf:

Thank you for your letter of July 29, 2008, on behalf of the Northeast Dairy Leadership Team (NEDLT), forwarding general comments regarding implementation of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (2008 Farm Bill). The 2008 Farm Bill offers new opportunities to shape our Nation's landscape through the proper management of our natural resources. Over the coming months, the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) will consider revisions to our current program rules based on statutory changes in the 2008 Farm Bill.

We invite NEDLT to submit official remarks on rule changes published in the *Federal Register* during the official public comment period. Public comments may be made electronically following the directions in the *Federal Register* publication for each rule, through the governmentwide rulemaking Web site at www.regulations.gov. An announcement of the *Federal Register* publication of program changes will also be made at www.regulations.gov, and the NRCS Web site at www.nrcs.usda.gov.

Again, thank you for sharing your insights into conservation programs. We look forward to continuing to work with you to preserve and protect our Nation's natural resources. If we can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us. A similar letter has been sent to your colleagues.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "E. Schafer", written in a cursive style.

Edward T. Schafer
Secretary