NOV - 5 2019

Mr. Derek Underwood
Assistant Commissioner
South Carolina Department of Agriculture
1200 Senate Street
Wade Hampton Building, 5th Floor
Post Office Box 11280
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

Dear Mr. Underwood:

Thank you for your letter of August 15, 2019, in which you submitted a "placeholder" plan. The letter also provided information about South Carolina's intention to submit a revised hemp production plan for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) consideration after we publish the hemp production regulations.

We look forward to receiving your revised plan. For your information, the regulations published to the Federal Register on October 31, 2019, and are effective immediately.

As required by law, USDA is committed to completing its review of plans within 60 days of the rule's publication. Once you submit your revised plan, USDA will quickly review it and ensure that it meets all necessary requirements prescribed in the regulations. If your plan does not meet the requirements of the new regulations, USDA will notify you and provide technical assistance to guide your efforts for your plan to be compliant under the regulations. Our review process will be interactive, and we will work with you throughout the process.

Our website provides information about the new regulations and other rulemaking documents including the sampling and testing requirements; information for states, tribal governments, producers and testing laboratories; and frequently asked questions and their respective answers. For more information, please visit: https://www.ams.usda.gov/rules-regulations/hemp.

USDA shares your enthusiasm for a South Carolina hemp production program, and we look forward to working with you soon.

Sincerely,

Greg Ibach
Under Secretary
Marketing and Regulatory Programs