## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Marketing Service Fruit and Vegetable Programs 14th and Independence Ave., SW Washington, D.C. 20250

CERTIFICATE OF	)
OFFICIALS NOTIFIE	D)
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Docket No. [AO-FV-09-0138; AMS-FV-09-0029; FV09-970-1]

Leafy Green Vegetables Handled in the United States; Hearing on Proposed Marketing Agreement No. 970

I, Anne M. Dec, hereby certify that on the third day of September, 2009, by authority vested in me, and in accordance with the applicable rules of practice and procedure governing proceedings to formulate marketing agreements and marketing orders, as amended (7 CFR Part 900), I mailed a true copy of the notice of "Leafy Green Vegetables Handled in the United States; Hearing on Proposed Marketing Agreement No. 970" (74 FR 45565) to the Governors and the Secretaries of the Department of Food and Agriculture of each state in the nation and the District of Columbia.

Dated: 9-10-09

\*\*Mune M. Dec.

Anne M. Dec

**Assistant Branch Chief** 

Marketing Order Administration Branch

Fruit and Vegetable Programs

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United States Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service 1400 Independence Ave., SW Room 1406-S, Stop 0237 Washington, DC 20250

The Honorable Bill Ritter Governor of Colorado 136 State Capitol Denver, CO 80203

SEP 0 8 2009

Dear Governor Ritter:

A public hearing will be held to give persons an opportunity to comment on a proposed national marketing agreement covering the handling of leafy green vegetables. Notice of this hearing was published in the <u>Federal Register</u> on September 3, 2009 (copy enclosed). This is a formal rulemaking proceeding.

Hearings will be held in seven locations between September 22 and October 22, 2009. Details are provided in the notice of hearing.

USDA will produce an on-demand video recording of the September 22-24, 2009, hearing sessions. The on-demand-video recordings will be available for viewing by interested parties beginning September 23, 2009, at <a href="https://www.ams.usda.gov/moab">www.ams.usda.gov/moab</a>.

The proposal was submitted by a cross-section of producer and handler representatives from the fresh produce industry, collectively referred to as the "proponent group." The proposed agreement would authorize the development and implementation of production and handling regulations (metrics) designed to support the United States Food and Drug Administration's Good Agricultural Practices, and Good Handling Practices and Good Manufacturing Practices in the fresh leafy green vegetable industry. As a voluntary program, only signatory handlers to the proposed agreement would be regulated.

Sincerely,

Anne M. Dec

**Assistant Chief** 

Marketing Order Administration Branch

Sune M. Dec.

Fruit and Vegetable Programs

Enclosure

## A Similar letter was sent to:

The Honorable Mike Rounds Governor of South Dakota 500 East Capitol Avenue Pierre, South Dakota 57501

The Honorable Rick Perry Governor of Texas P.O. Box 12428 Austin, Texas 78711

The Honorable Jim Douglas Governor of Vermont 109 State Street Montpelier, Vermont 05609

The Honorable Tim Kaine Governor of Virginia Patrick Henry Building 1111 East Broad Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Richmond, Virginia 23219

The Honorable Chris Gregoire Governor of Washington P.O. Box 40002 Olympia, Washington 98504-0002

The Honorable Jan Brewer Governor of Arizona 1700 West Washington Phoenix, Arizona 85007

The Honorable Jack Markell Governor of Delaware Tatnall Building William Penn Street Dover, Delaware 19901 The Honorable Felix Camacho Governor of Guam Executive Chamber P.O. Box 2950 Hagatna, Guam 96932

The Honorable Jennifer Granholm Governor of Michigan P.O. Box 30013 Lansing, Michigan 48909

The Honorable Bill Richardson Governor of New Mexico State Capitol Fourth Floor Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501