



State of Utah

GARY R. HERBERT
Governor

GREG BELL
Lieutenant Governor

Department of Agriculture and Food

LEONARD M. BLACKHAM
Commissioner

KYLE R. STEPHENS
Deputy Commissioner

KATHLEEN CLARKE
Deputy Commissioner

CLAIR A. ALLEN
Director, Plant Industry

01-15-10 P

January 14, 2010

Miles McEvoy
Deputy Administrator
USDA-AMS-TMP-NOP
Rm. 4008-South Building
1400 Independence Ave., SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-0020

Miles,

The Utah Department of Agriculture and Food has experienced deep budget cuts over the past 2 years. Due to these budgetary shortfalls and the resultant reduction in staff we have shifted our focus. Therefore, the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food is formally requesting withdrawal of certification from 7 CFR part 205 § 205.620 State Organic Program. We will continue to conduct organic audits as an NOP Accredited Certification Agent under 7 CFR part 205 subpart F.

We look forward to working cooperatively with USDA in the future.

Sincerely,

Leonard M. Blackham
Commissioner