



United States Department of Agriculture

Office of the Secretary  
Washington, D.C. 20250

APR 22 2019

Ms. Alexis Taylor  
Director  
Oregon Department of Agriculture  
635 Capital Street NE  
Salem, Oregon 97301

Dear Ms. Taylor:

Thank you for your letter of March 6, 2019, in which you provided Oregon's regulatory plan for industrial hemp. I apologize for the delayed response.

On February 27, 2019, USDA issued a Notice to Trade stating that USDA had begun the process of gathering information to initiate rulemaking to implement this program. It is our goal to issue regulations in the fall of 2019 to accommodate the 2020 planting season.

During the 2019 planting season, the 2018 Farm Bill provides that states, tribes, and institutions of higher education can continue operating under authorities of the 2014 Farm Bill. The 2018 Farm Bill extension of the 2014 Farm Bill authority expires 12 months after USDA has established the plan and regulations required under the 2018 Farm Bill.

We have made resources available on our website to inform interested parties about the steps we are taking in the rulemaking process, including frequently asked questions and their respective answers. This information can be found at our website: <https://www.ams.usda.gov/rules-regulations/farmbill-hemp>.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sonny Perdue". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sonny Perdue  
Secretary

RECEIVED  
4/30/19