

November 8, 2017

Gregory Bridges Agricultural Marketing Service U.S. Department of Agriculture 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W. Stop 0202, Room 3521, South Building Washington, D.C. 20250-0237 Sent via email: <u>AMS.FOIA@usda.gov</u>

FOIA REQUEST Fee waiver requested

Dear Mr. Bridges:

Pursuant to the Federal Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552, I am requesting the following documents produced between October 4, 2017 and November 8, 2017:

- All documents and correspondence (this would include any notes, presentations, photographs, videos, audio recordings, phone logs, calendars and other material either in hard copy or electronic form) that discuss or describe Aurora Organic Dairy of Boulder, CO (for any other corporate owned or contracted location), "Aurora Dairy," "Aurora," "AOD," or any other corporate permutation.
- All materials referenced above to or from, or that discuss, or in any way refer to Mark Pepperzak, Mark Retzloff, Scott McGinty, Sonja Tuitele or any other employee or officer affiliated with Aurora Organic Dairy or any related corporate entity. This would include any legal counsel engaged by these individuals or the aforementioned corporate entities.
- All documents that discuss or describe the Colorado Department of Agriculture organic certification program.

In its role as a government watchdog, The Cornucopia Institute employs doctorate-level

researchers and policy analysts with decades of experience on issues of food and agriculture policy. For more information on our capacity to review and analyze government documents, see the about section of our webpage (www.cornucopia.org).

With approximately 10,000 members, many of whom are organic farmers, The Cornucopia Institute is the largest member-organization of its kind. Through our email list of over 100,000 people, our quarterly newsletter, and other outreach tools, we communicate the information acquired through our requests to keep the public informed and knowledgeable about the actions of the USDA.

If my request is denied in whole or part, I ask that you justify all deletions by reference to specific exemptions of the Act. I, of course, reserve the right to appeal your decision to withhold any information or to deny a waiver of fees.

I look forward to your reply within 20 business days, as the statute requires.

Please send materials to the following address:

The Cornucopia Institute P.O. Box 126 Cornucopia, WI 54827

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Josen Cole

Jason Cole Research Associate The Cornucopia Institute