

Michigan Small Farm Council

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December 19, 2012

To: Michigan Commission of Agriculture & Rural Development
Velmar Green, Chair
Bob Kennedy, Co-Chair
Diane Hanson, Secretary
Donald Coe, Member
Trevor Meachum, Member

As founding members of the Michigan Small Farm Council, we are writing to express our appreciation for your decision on December 12, 2012 to withhold approval of the proposed 2013 Site Selection GAAMPS, and to instead return those proposed changes to the Site Selection GAAMPS Committee for further review.

The Michigan Small Farm Council was created, in part, to bring the perspectives of urban, residential, and small farmers to the agricultural policy-making process at the state level. We believe that the strength of the Michigan Right to Farm Act is an asset not only to traditional and industrial farms, but also to every individual in the State of Michigan with agricultural ambitions and access to a plot of land. Farming at all levels enriches the individuals who undertake these efforts, the communities which gain access to locally grown foods, and the state which realizes an increase in agricultural interest and diversity. We look forward to working with you in the coming years, to sustain and broaden agricultural opportunities in Michigan.

Sincerely,

The Michigan Small Farm Council

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Midland

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Forsyth Township

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Sterling Heights

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