August 10, 2019 Eric Babson babson@math.ucdavis.edu 1094 Cragmont Avenue Berkeley CA, 94708

Dear Mr President:

I am concerned about the USDA. Our federal government has spent decades building the greatest system of research groups in the world. Your administration has worked to destroy these groups and to ignore or suppress their work in your headlong rush to deregulate. Besides editing and supressing reports and reassigning and sidelining senior people Secretary Perdue has now induced two thirds of two large USDA groups to quit rather than uproot to Kansas City. The slipshod nature of the move fits with your administrations usual lack of planning and Mr Mulvaney has boasted that the move was meant to destroy the groups. Federal research over the years has greatly improved food safety, the environment, our understanding of climate change and farming. This vandalism will take years to repair.

 $Please\ assure\ me\ that\ you\ will\ fire\ Secretary\ Perdue\ and\ keep\ the\ USDA\ together.$ 

I am very proud to be a US resident and a large part of that derives from our scientific dominance.

Sincerely, Eric Babson