



**NATIONAL
FARMERS
UNION**

January 4, 2010

Legal Policy Section
Antitrust Division
U.S. Department of Justice
450 5th St. NW, Suite 11700
Washington, DC 20001

To Whom It May Concern:

The National Farmers Union (NFU) is pleased to submit the nomination of Dr. Mary K. Hendrickson of the University of Missouri Extension to serve as a candidate for the United States Department of Agriculture and Department of Justice workshop being held to the livestock industry on August 26, 2010 in Ft. Collins, Colorado.

Dr. Hendrickson has been an active Farmers Union member in Missouri for many years, and she has experience as a rural sociologist researching agricultural market concentration. She has been a keynote speaker providing updates on the current state of market concentration and its implications for national and global agriculture.

She is the co-author, with Dr. William Heffernan, of the 2005 report, *Concentration of Agricultural Markets*, based on research funded in part by Farmers Union. She participated in the International Assessment of Agriculture Science and Technology for Development, for which she was a coordinating lead author of the North America/Europe sub-global report. She has served as president of the Agriculture, Food and Human Values Society and the Community Food Security Coalition, a national organization of groups interested in community-based sustainable agriculture, hunger, and the environment.

Today, she directs the University of Missouri Extension's Food Circles Networking Project, which promotes the consumption of safe, regionally grown food and encourages sustainable agriculture.

Professor Hendrickson is able to discuss the issues from the perspective of crops, poultry, dairy, social and economic impacts, marketing and retailing. She has a solid research foundation about the effect of market concentration on food security, world hunger, and family farmers and ranchers. She will ask the right questions from a local, regional, national and international perspective.

Dr. Hendrickson has a working knowledge of the livestock industry from the producer, regulatory, and policy angles, she would be an excellent candidate for the livestock workshop.

Thank you for your consideration of Dr. Mary Hendrickson as a candidate for the USDA/DOJ workshop on the livestock industry.

Sincerely,

Roger Johnson, President
National Farmers Union

RJ:cg