

Message

From: Jane DeMarchi [jdemarchi@betterseed.org]
Sent: 5/10/2018 1:57:24 PM
To: Beck, Nancy [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=168ecb5184ac44de95a913297f353745-Beck, Nancy]
CC: Bolen, Derrick [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=1ffc58b0468c4deca51a8bad735b7d95-Bolen, Derr]
Subject: RE: Request for Meeting
Attachments: May 9 2018.jpg

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Thanks for your quick response. Additional information on our concerns is below.

On Monday, May 7, EPA withdrew two prior proposed exemptions from pesticide regulation for improvements that:

- act by primarily affecting the plant, such as creating a stronger stalk or other structural barrier to pests attempting to attach to the plant, and
- are not likely to present new exposures to non-target organisms because genes are being transferred between sexually compatible plants [within the same gene pool?].

On Wednesday, May 9, an EPA scientist made a presentation at Iowa State University on gene-edited products which could be interpreted to set out EPA regulatory policy on the regulation of gene-edited products, and indicated that rulemaking would be required to allow these products to be exempted from regulation (see attached).

Derrick, thank you for helping to find a time for our group to meet.

Jane DeMarchi
VP, Government and Regulatory Affairs
American Seed Trade Association

Ex. 6 (office)
Ex. 6 (cell)

From: Beck, Nancy [mailto:Beck.Nancy@epa.gov]
Sent: Thursday, May 10, 2018 6:53 AM
To: Jane DeMarchi
Cc: Bolen, Derrick
Subject: Re: Request for Meeting

Jane,
I'm not sure what happened to cause confusion but I can assure you we have not taken a position and did not intend to take any positions in Iowa yesterday.
Derrick can assist in finding time for us to chat.

Regards,
Nancy.

Nancy B. Beck, Ph.D., DABT
Deputy Assistant Administrator
Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention

P: **Ex. 6**
M:

beck.nancy@epa.gov

On May 9, 2018, at 4:51 PM, Jane DeMarchi <jdemarchi@betterseed.org> wrote:

Dear Ms. Beck:

We are surprised and disappointed that EPA has chosen to publicly take a position on new plant breeding techniques via a public meeting in Iowa today. New plant breeding techniques, such as CRISPR/Cas and TALEN, essentially mimic conventional breeding methods in use for decades as well as breeding that occurs in nature.

We would like to request a meeting with you at your earliest convenience to discuss EPA's planned policy approach which appears to be at odds with USDA's recently announced approach. In addition to our organization, the American Seed Trade Association, we hope to include BIO, National Corn Growers Association, American Soybean Association, American Farm Bureau Federation, United Fresh Produce and the Produce Marketing Association in our meeting.

ASTA had a meeting scheduled with EPA staff including Rick Keigwin and Bob McNalley on May 17th at 1:00 pm to discuss this subject so it was something of a shock to see that it appears that significant decisions have already been made.

We greatly appreciate your taking the time to meet with us.

<image001.png>
Check out ASTA's new website!
www.betterseed.org

Jane DeMarchi
VP, Government and Regulatory Affairs
American Seed Trade Association
Ex. 6 (office)
Ex. 6 (cell)