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Dear Mr. Secretary,

My name is Corde Siegel and I am a 5th generation farmer in Whitman County. The farm economy in my area is bleak as I see it. What we have is runaway expenses with very small return per acre at this time. The only net return on the land is the government support. As most all other industries besides farming we cannot give fuel surcharges to our product. One lending institution manager told me if the farm economy stays like this one more season, they would lose 50% of their accounts they do business with.

My feeling is that not all of those accounts have bad managers it is simply inputs versus costs run amuck because of Opec Oil nations controlling the U.S. economy.

If we don't have change quickly we could see the large food processor companies, for example Cargill or ADM, control all food in the U.S. or basically a food Opec.

Do you, me, and the people of the U.S. want to be held hostage for our food as we are with fuel? Instead of paying 10% of the taxpayer's wages in food we could see 80%.

What would that do to the U.S. economy; U.S. food subsidies are cheap in comparison.

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