



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL
Washington, D.C. 20250



APR 19 2013

By E-MAIL and U.S. MAIL

Mr. Bill Bullard, Chief Executive Officer
R-Calf United Stockgrowers of America
P.O. Box 30715
Billings, MT 59107

Re: Audit Report No. 01099-0001-21

Dear Mr. Bullard:

This letter serves to acknowledge receipt of your April 5, 2013, letter regarding the **OIG Audit Report** entitled, "Agricultural Marketing Service Oversight of the Beef Research and Promotion Board's Activities," dated March 2013. We have reviewed your letter and have determined that it should be processed under Section 515 of Public Law 106-554 (codified at 44 U.S.C. §3516 note and commonly referred to as the Data Quality Act).

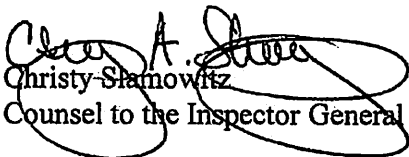
The Data Quality Act directed the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to issue Governmentwide guidelines that "provide policy and procedural guidance to Federal agencies for ensuring and maximizing the quality, objectivity, utility, and integrity of information (including statistical information) disseminated by Federal agencies." *Id.* OMB's final guidelines were published on February 22, 2002. See Guidelines for Ensuring and Maximizing the Quality, Objectivity, Utility, and Integrity of Information Disseminated by Federal Agencies, 67 Fed. Reg. 8452. The Act also required Federal agencies to issue implementing guidelines, establish mechanisms allowing affected persons to seek and obtain correction of information, and report requests for correction to OMB. The Department of Agriculture's implementing guidelines can be found at <http://www.ocio.usda.gov/policy-directives-records-forms/information-quality-activities> and **OIG's supplemental guidelines** can be found at <http://www.usda.gov/oig/qltyguidelinesrev.htm>.

If you wish to provide additional information for our review, pursuant to these guidelines, please do so by May 9, 2013. If we do not hear from you by May 9, 2013, we will continue to review your request, pursuant to the Data Quality Act and implementing guidelines, based upon the information provided in your April 5, 2013, letter.

Mr. Bill Bullard
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If you should have additional questions, please contact me at 202-720-9110 or
Christy.Slamowitz@oig.usda.gov.

Sincerely,


Christy Slamowitz
Counsel to the Inspector General