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June 27, 2016

The Honorable Jason Dockter  
 Chairman, Political Subdivision Tax Committee  
 North Dakota House of Representatives  
 600 East Boulevard Avenue  
 Bismarck, ND 58505-0360

RE: Overview of the North Dakota Soybean Industry

Dear Chairman Dockter and Members of the Political Subdivision Tax Committee:

We are writing to inform you about an exciting new development that has the potential to significantly impact the soybean industry in North Dakota and the State's economy. A new corporation - the North Dakota Soybean Processors, LLC - has been created and is working to secure funding to construct a new soybean crushing facility in eastern North Dakota. When fully operational, this new facility is expected to crush 120,000 – 125,000 bushels of soybeans per day, totaling 35-40 million bushels per year.

This is significant to our industry because currently, 95 percent of soybeans grown in North Dakota leave the state – largely due to the lack of a large crushing facility - which limits our in-state market potential. Approximately 70 percent of these soybeans are transported by rail to ports in the Pacific Northwest where they are crushed and shipped to southeast Asia. A new soybean processing facility will bring numerous benefits, including:

- An expanded local market for North Dakota soybean farmers;
- A new, local protein feed source for North Dakota livestock farmers; and
- Significant economic benefits to the state of North Dakota resulting from facility construction and job creation.

The soybean industry in North Dakota continues to experience phenomenal growth. Nearly six million acres of soybeans were produced in our state in 2015 and we expect this pattern of growth to continue. And – the North Dakota 2015 soybean crop value was \$1.56 billion! Having this crushing facility in our state will help create more demand for our commodity, generate increased revenue for our soybean producers and provide us with an in-state market. We are excited to have a project of this magnitude come to fruition and look forward to the many advantages it will bring to North Dakota and to our soybean industry.

Sincerely,

Tyler Speich  
 Chairman of the Board

Diana Beitelspacher  
 Chief Executive Officer