



Office of the Secretary  
Washington, DC 20250

March 20, 2023

BILL BULLARD  
*Chief Executive Officer*  
R-CALF USA  
P.O. Box 30715  
Billings, MT 59107

Dear CEO Bullard:

Thank you for your letter of January 30, 2023, regarding the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) proposed rule, Docket No. APHIS-2021-0020, "Use of Electronic Identification Eartags as Official Identification in Cattle and Bison."

Officials with USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) have noted your comment and request for an extension and have included your letter in the rule-making record for this regulatory action. Once the comment period closes, APHIS officials will carefully consider all comments received as they proceed with decision making on the proposed rule.

I appreciate you sharing your views on this important topic and look forward to any other input your organization would like to share during the comment period. If you have additional questions, please have a member of your staff contact USDA's Congressional Relations Office of External and Intergovernmental Affairs at (202) 720-7095.

Sincerely,

THOMAS J. VILSACK  
*Secretary*