

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Office of the Attorney General

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MEMORANDUM

To: Erin Williams Regulatory Coordinator Office of Policy, Planning, and Research Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

> Sandra J. Adams Commissioner Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

From: Justin I. Bell Assistant Attorney General

Date: April 27, 2016

Subject: Letter of Assurance for Periodic Review of Public Participation Guidelines 2 VAC 5-11.

Pursuant to the Code of Virginia and Executive Order 17 (2014), a periodic review of a regulation every four years shall include an examination by the Office of the Attorney General to ensure statutory authority. In that regard, I have reviewed the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services's Regulations referenced above. In my view, as counsel to the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, these regulations may be retained without change pursuant to Title 3.2 of the Code of Virginia. The regulations do not appear to conflict with the Constitution of the United States or the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Virginia, nor do they appeal to conflict with any federal or state law currently in effect. This memorandum addresses legal matters only and is not intended to serve, nor should it be construed, as a comment for or against the merits of the proposed regulations.