



United States Department of Agriculture

Office of the Secretary  
Washington, D.C. 20250

OCT 02 2017

Ms. Emily Russell  
Chairwoman  
Sweetener Users Association  
One Massachusetts Avenue, NW.  
Suite 800  
Washington, D.C. 20001

Dear Ms. Russell:

Thank you for your letter of July 25, 2017, regarding recent steps the U. S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has taken to increase the availability of sugar in the United States marketplace. I apologize for the delayed response.

USDA plans to continue to closely monitor the U.S. sugar supply and ensure that an open and transparent process is used to enforce the agreement reached with Mexico.

We appreciate your advice and support for USDA in this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sonny Perdue". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional style.

Sonny Perdue  
Secretary