Lindsey Frese
629 Brookfield Road
Quincy, IL 62305

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The Honorable Alexandra Dunn
Assistant Administrator, Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention
Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Honorable Alexandra Dunn:

I am writing to you today in support of the American farmer and his/her freedom to operate using weed-controlling technology that is vital to accomplish both near- and long-term objectives. Low volatility dicamba herbicides like Xtendimax are extremely important for the most challenging weeds of our time including but not limited to water hemp, palmer amaranth and marestail. In the near term, the weeds in question when left to their own accord are horribly prolific in their seed production which can create mayhem in only one season. In the long term, if crop production innovations continue to be stifled by thinly-veiled, nefarious organizations then the productivity of our nation is at risk.

Having grown up on a farm in Illinois before the advent of biotechnology, I still recall manual weed control and inter-row cultivation as our primary means to reduce the yield-robbing effects of the primary weeds of yesteryear including velvet leaf, lambsquarters, cocklebur and sunflower. We do not want to return to these measures, but it appears that some special interest groups would prefer this alternative future. I have seen farms that were once thick with weeds become prosperous enterprises because of crop production innovation. Moreover, I have seen farming families rise up out of near-poverty conditions to become successful enterprises that benefit local economies. The progress I witnessed during my formative years is due in large part to weed control innovations.

I respectfully request that you consider this letter as a genuine message of concern and humility. We need your continued strong leadership to enable the American farmer to continue to be the foundation of our economy and the fabric of our nation. I very much appreciate all you have done and will continue to do to empower every farmer to be their best at providing safe and nutritious food for the world.

Sincerely,

Lindsey Frese

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