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November 13, 2023

Chairwoman Rep. Lucy Dathan Chairman Sen. John Kissel Regulation Review Committee State Capitol Building, Room 011 Hartford, CT 06106

Dear Members of the Regulation Review Committee:

Connecticut Farm Bureau Association, and the undersigned farm businesses and trade associations, urge you to reject the adoption of the CT DEEP Proposed regulations - Advanced Clean Trucks and Medium and Heavy-Duty Vehicle and Engine Emissions and Warranty Standards. Our agricultural businesses contribute to the economy of Connecticut in output, jobs, and quality of life: up to \$4.0 billion in output, 21,696 jobs, and invaluable social and environmental benefits.

The proposed regulations will have a significant economic impact on our Connecticut farm businesses at a time when we are experiencing unprecedented losses from weather related events, labor shortages and escalating production costs.

- Our farms haul highly perishable products: bulk milk, dairy products, fresh produce, livestock, poultry, eggs, vegetables, processed meat products, nursery stock, potted plants, seedlings, and more. Farm products need to be delivered to the processing plants, wholesale, and retail markets in the shortest time possible to prevent spoilage. Trucks hauling highly perishable farm products cannot sit at charging stations or sit idle roadside waiting for repair of failed emissions sensors or equipment failure associated with EV technology. Failure to deliver a food safe product to its destination will result in a direct loss to our farm and our farm businesses.
- The electrical infrastructure, trained technicians, OEM reliability issues, and a state-funded voucher system must all be in place *before* Connecticut farms can incur the cost of compliance. Perishable farm products that spoil or livestock that suffer in transport due to EV technology failure is a direct and tragic economic loss to the farm.
- Our farms are heavily reliant on medium and heavy-duty trucks to transport supplies, feed, fertilizer, and other inputs onto the farm while relying on the same vehicles to haul products from the fields to the farm and to market. The proposed regulations include vehicles 8,500 GVWR and higher which includes three-quarter ton pick-up trucks such as an F250 Ford. These regulations will affect every farm in the state of Connecticut, from small vegetable growers to our larger dairy and poultry operations.

- The cost to purchase an EV truck is estimated at an additional \$10,000 for pick-up trucks up to \$80,000 for heavy duty trucks. Our dairy farms, nurseries, greenhouse operations and poultry operations own and operate dozens of trucks. The cost to replace their current fleets with EV trucks will be in the millions of dollars. This expense does not include the cost to install charging stations, back-up vehicles to have available while trucks are charging, or the increased cost of commercial auto insurance which has increased significantly on existing older vehicles.
- Connecticut weight laws limit freight to a maximum amount of 80,000 GVWR depending on the configuration of the truck. The weight of the batteries necessary to charge a heavy-duty vehicle adds 10% to the gross vehicle weight of the vehicle. This reduces the amount of feed, fertilizer, and farm products a truck can haul by 10% resulting in additional transportation costs to the farm.

While we understand the need to reach zero-emissions to combat climate change and improve our air quality, we must take a step back and strategically plan to reach those goals. We must build the electrical infrastructure, allow technology to catch up, and establish dedicated funding to assist farm businesses with the cost of compliance to these standards.

We, the undersigned, ask you to reject the proposed DEEP Regulations until our concerns have been addressed.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Kichels

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## Agricultural Trade Organizations

Connecticut Farm Bureau Dairy Committee Connecticut Nursery and Landscape Association Connecticut Professional Timber Producers Association Connecticut Vineyard and Winery Association

## Farm Businesses

Airline Farm	Frank McLean III	Cobalt
Airline Farm	Rebecca McLean	Cobalt
Almost Home Barn	Mary Ellen Wettemann	Guilford
Amazing Graze Wagyu	Gene Nazzaro	Redding
Arthur's Farms	Andrew Blum	Easton
Barry Farms	Robert Barry	Harwinton
Bishop's Orchard	Keith Bishop	Guilford
Blackmer Farm	Daniel Kelley	Thompson
Blue Moon Farm	Jim Murdock Jr	Harwinton

Blue Moon Woolworks Frances Larson Coventry
Blue Slope Sawdust Co Inc Alfred Staebner Franklin
Bomba Bros. Dairy, Inc. Vickie Bomba-Seymour

Lewandoski

Brookfield Farm Melissa Dziurgot Durham
Brookside Acres Joe Matteis Tolland
Buell's Orchard Jeffrey Sandness Eastford
Bush Meadow Farm Nancy Kapplan Union

Bussa Orchards Doug Bussa South Glastonbury

**Buttermilk Lane** Ray Holden Orange Castle Hill Farm Diana Paproski Newtown Castle Hill Farm Stephen Paproski Newtown Cecarelli's Harrison Hill Farm William Dellacamera Northford Cedar Hill farm Stephen Bespuda Jr Orange Charlyn Farm Preston Lynwood Crary Clover Nook Farm Lars Demander Bethany Crystal Spring Farm Bruce Deming Torrington Cushman Farms LP James Smith Franklin Cushman Farms **Brandon Smith** Franklin Darlene Gugliotti **Prospect** Frank Gugliotti Prospect

Double G Ranch Double G Ranch East Willow Farm Tom Satkowski Columbia Eight Mile River Farm David and Elizabeth Potts Lyme Evening Star Farm Ginni Dodd Woodbury Fairvue Dairy Farm Paul Miller Woodstock Fairweather Growers Ethan Starks Cromwell Farm Force One LLC Jesse Clarke Columbia Fonicello Farms LLC Mark Fonicello

Fonicello Farms LLC

Mark Fonicello

Stafford Springs

Fort Hill Farms

Kies Orr-LaVack

Thompson

North Canaan

Full Bloom Apiaries

Alan Holmberg

North Franklin

Galon Form, LLC

Plaine Tellman

Fairfield

Galen Farm, LLC Blaine Tallman Fairfield Geer Hill Farm William Geer Ledyard Gleann Beag Jim Malcolm Middlefield Graywall Farms Robin Chesmer Lebanon Half Mile Acres Barbara Hammarlund Guilford Half Mile Acres John Hammarlund Guilford Hart Herbs LLC Susan Segal Hartland Highland Ridge Farms Gary Paganelli Winchester Highland Ridge Farms Beverly Paganellu Winchester Ed Hoffman Bozrah

Hillandale Farms

Ed Hoffman

Bozrah

Hilldale Farm

Hop Brook Farm

Wendy Grieger

Hopkins Vineyard

Hilary Criollo

Warren

Horticulture Therapy Farm, LLC Lisa Ford Litchfield Ben Hull Pomfret Center Hull Forestlands Inc. Johnnycake Mountain Farm **Dwight Harris** Burlington Ted Jones Farmington Jones Apiaries Jones Family Farms Jamie Jones Shelton Diane Karabin Karabin Farms Southington Karabin Farms Michael Karabin Southington KARV Cattle Co Kirsten Kruger Haddam Neck South Windsor **KDW Livestock** Kevin Woolam **KDW Southdowns** Donna G Woolam South Windsor Kogut's Hemlock Hill Tree Farm Meriden & Enfield Bill Kogut

K-T Farm Katharine Danielle Suffield

Aguirre

Laurelbrook Farm LLCCricket JacquierEast CanaanLeah DiGioia Suffolk Sheep FarmLeah DiGioiaHigganumLynch Farm IncBrian LynchGoshenM&M FarmNicholas Mucciaro, JrWaterburyMaple Row FarmJames EdwardsEaston

Maple Tree Farm Robert A Page North Branford

Mapleleaf Farm Enterprises Werner Rechlin Hebron Mapleleaf Farm Enterprises LLC Ned Ellis Hebron March Farms LLC Susan March Bethlehem Maugle Sierra Vineyards LLC Paul Maugle Ledyard Middletown Ag Science & Technology Amanda Thomson Colchester Mountain Dairy Craig Stearns Mansfield Mountain Dairy Stacey Stearns Mansfield Nadeau Farm Charles Hilton Hamden Nichols Forestry Joan Nichols Franklin Norm Bloom and Son James Bloom Norwalk CT Nutmeg Acres Farm Joshua Tanner Warren Oakridge Dairy Seth Bahler Ellington

OB Farm
Vincent Senatore
Middletown
Ox Hollow Farm
Stephanie Maynard
Roxbury
Oxen Hill Farm, LLC
Jonathan Griffin
East Granby
Passionfruit Estate, LLC
Gary Schulte
Stonington
Patch's Hillside Farm LLC
Patrick Hedden
Hebron

Petersen Flower Farm Susan Petersen South Windsor

Planters' Choice, LLC Darryl Newman Newtown/Watertown

Pleasant View Farms
Lou Lipton
Somers
Prides Corner Farms
Mark & Lisa Sellew
Lebanon
Race Hill Farms
David Dupuis
Glastonbury

Raffia Farms Inc Gary Raffia Enfield

Raffia Tobacco, LLC Andrew Urbanowicz Enfield Ross Girardin West Suffield RG Farms LLC Middlefield Ridgeland Farms Lori Vogel-brown Judith Saunders Rocky Meadow Tree Farm Danbury John N Rogers Rogers Orchards Inc. Southington Round Tuit Ranch Jennifer Seymour Enfield Karen Bobowick Rowledge Pond Aquaculture Sandy Hook **RWR Farm** Russell Robinson Durham Sam Bridge Nursery and Greenhouses LLC Nick Bridge Greenwich Second chance farm Peter Larese East Windsor Selbuort Valley Farm John White Woodstock Peter Sepe Sandy Hook Sepe Farm LLC Sheehy Farm Jay Sheehy Stratford Skerryvore Farms Barbara Robinson Greenwich Smith's Acres Teresa Smith East Lyme South Norfolk Lumber Co Henry Gundlach Norfolk Southdown Pastures Karen Zagurski Terryville Sprucedale Gardens Nursery and Greenhouse Paul Larson Woodstock Still River Farm Andrew Dappollonio Coventry Stone Oak Farms Blain Kukevitch Lebanon Stonepasture Farm Walter Adametz Killingworth Strong's farm Steve Strong East Hampton Peter and Diane DiGioia Sycamore Farm Higganum Peter N DiGioia Higganum Sycamore Farm Meats Bill Syme East Windsor Syme Family Farm LLC Tangle Tree Farm Bob Keefe Colchester Tetlak Family Farm Tyler Grailich Oxford, CT The Modern Milkman **Ethan Martins** Ellington Townline Farm Cristian Mortali Woodbridge Trailside Nursery Sammy Bridge Greenwich Guilford Kimberly Brockettt Tripledale Farm Tulmeadow Farm Don Tuller West Simsbury Andrew Urbanowicz Urbanowicz Farm Enfield John Gileau Voluntown V Town Ag Supply LLC Valentines Daniel Valentine Wilton Valley View Dairy Benjamin Learned North Stonington Varga Farms Paul Varga Ashford Walnut Hill Farm Sydney Mintz Middlefield Wee Bit of Scotch Farm LLCV Reginald Patchell Hanover Paul Wettemann Guilford Wettemann Farm Wimler Properties LLC Richard Porter Durham Windmere Farm Amy Bentley Lebanon

Robert Garthwaite

Windsor

Windsor Hunt Stables, LlC

Woodmansee Farm Clark Woodmansee Preston
Wysocki Farm James Wysocki Ellington

## Individuals

Nancy Haack Prospect

Matthew Staebner South Glastonbury

Nina Stietzel Redding