



**Vice President for Research and Technology Transfer**

Oklahoma State University

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Dr. Brain Adam,  
Department of Agricultural Economics  
413 Agriculture Hall,  
Oklahoma State University  
Stillwater, OK 74078

14<sup>th</sup> November, 2011

Dear Dr. Adam,

I am pleased to endorse and support your proposal to establish the National Institute for Whole Chain Traceability and Food Safety (NIWCTFS) at Oklahoma State University. You and your colleagues have established a comprehensive partnership both within the university, with strong involvement from the Food and Agricultural Products Center (FAPC) and from the colleges the Agriculture (CASNR), Art & Sciences (CAS) and Engineering (CEAT), and outside the university, with meaningful collaborations with North Dakota State University, Michigan State University, and the University of Arkansas. The close association with the private sector with Pardalis Inc., and with international organizations, including the Hebrew University of Jerusalem in Israel and the China Agricultural University in Beijing, among others, is to be highly commended.

The NIWCTFS has the potential to bring to OSU a respected reputation in the field of supply chain traceability in the food sector, along with significant funding and commercial opportunities for Oklahoma. The Institute will be a perfect example of the role of a Land Grant University in today's world and I strongly support its initiation.

Finally, I wish to congratulate your team on obtaining significant USDA funding at this early stage in the project.

My office will be pleased to work with you to announce the formation of the Institute at the appropriate time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Stephen W.S. McKeever'.

Stephen W.S. McKeever  
VPRTT