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Union of Concerned
Scientists

Waterkeeper Alliance

October 4, 2012

Dennis H. Treacy
Executive Vice President and Chief Sustainability Officer
Smithfield Foods, Inc.
200 Commerce Street
Smithfield, VA 23430

Dear Mr. Treacy,

We are writing as members of Keep Antibiotics Working, a coalition representing more than 11 million supporters concerned about the health impacts of overuse of antibiotics in livestock and poultry production. We support changes to both public policy and in the marketplace to help reduce antibiotic overuse in animal agriculture. In terms of the latter, we have worked in the past with major purchasers of pork raised with fewer or no antibiotics, including Chipotle, McDonald's, and Compass.

Given Smithfield Foods' leadership in hog production, your company can have a significant impact on the health of our nation by reducing the amount of antibiotics used in hog production. We have reviewed the forward-looking antibiotic policy on your web site,¹ and would very much like to arrange a conversation with you and your staff, to discuss the policy in more detail.

We are interested, for example, in the following:

- What year was the Smithfield Foods antibiotic policy written?
- Which are the antimicrobials that Smithfield Foods considers to be of human health significance?
- What is Smithfield Foods' policy on using antibiotics for growth promotion?
- What is Smithfield Foods' policy on using antibiotics for disease prevention?

We look forward to scheduling a meeting with Keep Antibiotics Working representatives at your convenience. Please arrange such a meeting with KAW Coalition Manager Lisa Isenhart at lisenhart@keepantibioticsworking.com or 773-525-4952.

¹ Available at <http://www.smithfieldcommitments.com/core-reporting-areas/animal-care/our-policies/antibiotic-policy/>

We thank you for your consideration and look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,

Cindy Roberts
Research Associate, Food Safety
Center for Science in the Public Interest

Steven Roach
Public Health Program Director
Food Animal Concerns Trust

Lisa Isenhardt
Coalition Manager
Keep Antibiotics Working

David Wallinga, MD
Senior Advisor in Science, Food and Health
Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy

Jonathan Kaplan
Senior Policy Specialist
Natural Resources Defense Council

Susan Vaughn Grooters, MPH
Director of Research and Education
STOP Foodborne Illness