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March 30, 2001

Ms. Whitney Rick  
Chief of the Research and Promotion Staff  
Cotton Program, USDA  
Agricultural Marketing Service  
P. O. Box 96456  
Washington, D. C. 20090-6456

Dear Ms. Rick,

We were pleased, as one of the Certified Producer Organizations that nominates persons to serve on the Cotton Board, to receive invitation to comment on the decision of whether USDA will determine that a referendum is warranted for the continuation of the Cotton Research and Promotion Act. Delta Council works closely with the Cotton Board and their contract agency, Cotton Incorporated through its programs to implement the principles of the Cotton Research and Promotion Act. We have found the directors and the staff for both of these programs to be extremely responsive to the needs of growers and we can report that we have not had a single grower contact us in the past five years to request changes in the manner which the Cotton Board has administered its programs.

We urge the Secretary to continue support for the amendments to the Act of 1990 and to forego any expenses that might be incurred through a referendum. Thank you for your invitation to comment on this matter.

Sincerely,

Kenneth Hood  
President

KH/dl

Kenneth Hood, Gunnison, *President*

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