

National Organic Program 1400 Independence Avenue, SW Room 2642-South, STOP 0268 Washington, DC 20250-0268

MEMORANDUM TO THE NATIONAL ORGANIC STANDARDS BOARD

May 6, 2025

FROM: Erin Healy, Standards Division Director

National Organic Program (NOP)

SUBJECT: Petition Withdrawn: Compostable Plastics as Allowed Compost Feedstocks

This memorandum is to inform the National Organic Standards Board (NOSB) that World Centric has withdrawn its petition on compostable products, as of April 23, 2025. In March 2025 World Centric submitted a petition requesting changes to the organic regulations to allow compostable products that meet ASTM standards and are free of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). However, based on further communication, it became clear that it was intended to be a letter of support for the Biodegradable Products Institute's <u>August 2023 petition for rulemaking</u>, which addresses the same topic, and not a separate petition.

Please disregard the previous memo to the NOSB (below) asking it to review the petition and if appropriate, submit feedback or a recommendation to NOP.



Secretary of Agriculture Brooke Rollins

U.S. Department of Agriculture 1400 Independence Ave., S.W. Washington, DC 20250

April 22, 2025

RE: Withdrawal of Petition to Update National Organic Program Regulations to Include ASTM-Certified Compostable Plastics Without PFAS as Allowed Compost Feedstock Materials

Dear Secretary Rollins,

On behalf of World Centric, I am writing to formally withdraw our petition submitted on March 19, 2025, requesting an update to the National Organic Program (NOP) regulations to explicitly allow ASTM-certified compostable products that are free of PFAS as acceptable compost feedstock materials in organic production.

While we remain strongly supportive of the underlying intent, to ensure that safe, certified compostable materials can be used in the production of compost for organic systems, we have decided to withdraw our petition at this time in order to streamline stakeholder efforts and avoid duplicative requests currently under consideration.

In particular, we support the broader industry dialogue now underway, including the petition submitted by the Biodegradable Products Institute, which addresses this same topic and reflects input from a range of stakeholders across the composting and packaging sectors. We believe a more consolidated approach will better support thoughtful review and progress through the NOSB and USDA rulemaking process.

World Centric remains committed to advancing compostable materials that align with both organic principles and composting infrastructure. We appreciate the time and consideration the USDA and the National Organic Standards Board have given this issue, and we look forward to continued engagement as this important conversation evolves.

Sincerely,

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