

## The Organic Specialists

March 19, 2013

Ms. Michelle Arsenault, Special Assistant National Organic Standards Board USDA-AMS-NOP 1400 Independence Avenue, SW Room 2648-So, Ag Stop 0268 Washington, DC 20250-0268

Docket: AMS-NOP-12-0070

RE: Handling Subcommittee – Auxiliary/"Other Ingredients" Proposal

Dear Members of the National Organic Standards Board,

Wolf, DiMatteo + Associates (WDA) fully supports the comments of the Organic Trade Association on the Auxiliary/"Other Ingredients" Proposal. We urge you to give serious consideration to the Organic Trade Association's suggestions and changes. We believe that these changes will bring additional clarity and accuracy to the Handling Subcommittee's proposal.

WDA thanks the Handling Subcommittee for its work and for bringing forward a proposal that realistically addresses a complex issue. Keep up your efforts to develop balanced, pragmatic recommendations and come to decisions that stimulate both growth and integrity within the organic sector.

Sincerely,

Bill Wolf, Katherine DiMatteo and Sandy Mays Partners

The partners and associates of Wolf, DiMatteo + Associates have over 100 years of combined experience in the organic sector. We have served hundreds of farms and businesses with their organic production systems and regulatory compliance, both nationally and internationally. We have been involved in the founding of several key organic organizations including the Organic Trade Association, Organic Materials Review Institute and the Organic Center. We are fiercely committed to continual improvement and to provide our clients and the organic sector with the tools to advance organic, environmental, and social practices.