









July 30, 2015

William J. Baer Assistant Attorney General U.S. Department of Justice Antitrust Division950 Pennsylvania Avenue NW Washington, D.C. 20530

## In re: JBS-Cargill pork packing acquisition

## Dear General Baer:

Enclosed please find the white paper *The Anticompetitive Effects of the Proposed JBS-Cargill Pork Packing Acquisition* submitted by Food & Water Watch, Iowa Farmers Union, Missouri Rural Crisis Center, and National Farmers Union. The paper analyzes the competitive implications of the proposed JBS-Cargill merger and concludes that, if approved, the acquisition would create a substantially more concentrated hog slaughter market. Such an increase in concentration would give JBS-Cargill the incentive and ability to exert this increased market power over its rivals and farmers, to the detriment of competition and consumers.

The co-signers to this letter —the American Antitrust Institute, Food & Water Watch, Iowa Farmers Union, Missouri Rural Crisis Center and National Farmers Union — encourage the U.S. Department of Justice Antitrust Division to issue a second request under the Hart-Scott-Rodino Act. Additional information, analysis, and careful scrutiny are necessary to fully examine the anticompetitive and anti-consumer impacts of the proposed acquisition.

Sincerely,

Diana L. Moss

President

American Antitrust Institute

Jana Linderman

President

Iowa Farmers Union

Wenonah Hauter Executive Director Food & Water Watch

Rhonda Perry Program Director

Missouri Rural Crisis Center

Roger Johnson

President National Farmers Union