



Diversified Restaurant Systems, Inc.
A Food Consulting and Marketing Company

August 6, 2008

Policy and Oversight Branch
Office of Extramural Programs
Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service
USDA
STOP 2299
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington DC 20250-2299
Email: RFP-OEP@csrees.usda.gov

RE: Specialty Crop Research Initiative RFA
Center for Produce Safety Proposal: Applied Produce Safety Competitive
Grant Program

To Whom It May Concern:

Diversified Restaurant Systems, Inc. strongly supports funding the Center for Produce Safety (CPS) Proposal: *Applied Produce Safety Competitive Grant Program* submitted to the Specialty Crop Research Initiative RFA. The CPS is a coordinated effort with the produce industry, government agencies and academia to provide ready-to-use science-based solutions that prevent or minimize produce safety vulnerabilities. This proposal uniquely identifies much-needed produce industry food safety research through its highly qualified Technical Committee and Advisory Board.

Diversified Restaurant Systems, Inc. (DRS) is a food consulting & marketing company, specializing in the procurement/distribution functions as they relate to the foodservice industry. DRS operates as an extension of IPC, the purchasing cooperative for SUBWAY®, managing produce procurement and quality control for approximately 24,000 restaurants.

We appreciate your attention to the Center for Produce Safety proposal and its importance to the industry.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Spinazzola', written over a light blue horizontal line.

Michael A. Spinazzola
President and COO