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Finegan Farm, Inc.
3775 N.W. Cornelius-Schefflin Rd.
Cornelius, OR 97113-6308
January 6, 2003

DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION
DOCKETS
03 JAN 13 PM 3:39

FMCSA Docket No. FMCSA-2002-13295 - 4
U.S. Department of Transportation
Dockets Management Facility, Rm PL-401
400 Seventh Str., SW
Washington, DC 20590-0001

Dear Sir:

We have farm-plated trucks transporting vegetables from our farm to a central receiving facility. The threat to removal of the special plates would have an adverse effect on our ability to get from field to market, our compliance to higher and redundant regulation would delay the arrival of fresh produce to a market under time constraints.

We already are subject to Oregon Dept. of Transportation inspection and county inspections. We do repair, and maintain scheduled maintenance in our own shop. We voluntarily have our trucks inspected by a state inspector before harvest season. The exemption has been working very well for the state of Oregon and us.

There is no reason to change something that is working well and the public safety is not compromised. The few accidents involving farm-plated trucks have been because the driver attempted to avoid hitting a passenger car or pick-up making unsafe movements on a busy street, or driver error, not because of equipment failures. Farm trucks travel on mostly back roads because that is where farms are more likely to be located and traffic is less for the short summer season we have in the Oregon area.

We support the position of Oregon Department of Transportation and the Executive Committee of the Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance.

Sincerely,



Marie P. Finegan
Sec/Treas.
Finegan Farm, Inc.