

April 29, 2013

Dr. Jonathan Edelson, Interim Associate Director  
Oklahoma Agricultural Experiment Station  
Stillwater, OK 74078

Dear Dr. Edelson:

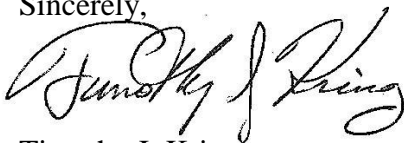
We appreciate your service as Administrative Advisor to SDC351. You are aware that the Multistate Review Committee reviewed the project proposal for the regional project and decided to *defer approval* until a number of specific items were addressed by the writing committee (March 29, 2013).

The MRC appropriately objected to a number of significant omissions in the project as it was submitted for their review. In particular, the proposal did an inadequate job of (1) providing a justification based on current literature, (2) adequately documenting the previous work conducted under S-1034 that provided the basis for the new proposal and (3) clearly identifying the responsibilities of the various states in the research methodology. The MRC also indicated that the milestones should be time-linked accomplishments and that they be tied to the overall project objectives.

Given the need to provide a rapid turn-around on this revision, Dr. Kris Giles (OSU) and I decided to address this revision on behalf of the writing committee. The attached document is a major revision of the Justification, Related/Previous Work and Methods sections of the proposal, and we feel that it adequately addresses the shortcomings identified in items (1)-(3) above. We also created an entirely new "Milestones" section that is directly linked to the overall objectives. However, because the regional project covers a large number of overlapping cooperative programs at different levels of maturity, we did not provide individual, time-linked accomplishments that "must be completed before subsequent activities can begin or be completed". However, we did provide Milestones that follow the sequential nature of a biological control program and identified specific projects that would attain those goals within the identified timeframe.

On behalf of the SDC351 writing committee, we appreciate your efforts in helping us work through this revision, and regret that this extra step became necessary. However, we feel this revision is significantly improved as a result of your efforts and those of the MRC.

Sincerely,



Timothy J. Kring  
Professor