



Partners in Bioscience Growth

June 22, 2007

BY UNITED STATES MAIL AND ELECTRONIC MAIL

Honorable Jay Cohen
Undersecretary, Science and Technology Directorate
Department of Homeland Security
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Washington, D.C. 20528

Dear Undersecretary Cohen:

On behalf of the Kansas Bioscience Authority, we write to reiterate our strong support for the National Bio and Agro-defense Facility (NBAF) as a critical federal investment and our unequivocal support for its siting and construction in Kansas.

Kansas offers a number of unique advantages that make it an ideal location to site the NBAF. Principle among them include its central location and access to transportation infrastructure, the world's largest concentration of animal health vaccine manufacturers, highly skilled workforce, integrated human health and agriculture biosecurity research capacity and facilities, and strong support at all levels of local, state and federal government, as well as agriculture producer groups.

The State of Kansas has a long-standing commitment of supporting biosecurity research in partnership with the federal government. Most recently, Kansas and the federal government invested \$54 million in the Biosecurity Research Institute at KSU. Additionally, the State of Kansas has already demonstrated its strong support for the siting of NBAF in Kansas, as Governor Kathleen Sebelius and the Kansas Bioscience Authority have taken the initiative to create a task force of prominent industry leaders, public officials, including the entire Kansas Congressional Delegation, representatives from the Kansas Legislature, producer groups and leaders of prominent academic institutions to lead Kansas' bids for NBAF.

The Kansas Bioscience Authority has prioritized the NBAF as a critical national and state priority, leads the state's efforts to pursue this important program, and has dedicated substantial in-kind cost share toward both sites to acquire and improve the sites and fund research activities that will enable DHS and its partner agencies to accelerate the fulfillment of an integrated homeland security mission comprising research, development, testing, evaluation and response.

Both sites have the demonstrated research capacity, strong public support and necessary infrastructure to meet DHS' requirements to fulfill and implement its integrated national bio and agro-defense strategy. We urge your careful consideration of both of the Kansas proposals and look forward to ensuring the success of the NBAF in Kansas.

Regards,

Bill R. Sanford
Acting Chairman of the Board

Thomas V. Thornton
President and CEO

Kansas Bioscience Authority

