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December 9, 2004

Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)  
Attn: Docket No. 2004D-0510  
Food & Drug Administration  
5630 Fishers Lane  
Room 1061  
Rockville, MD 20852

RE: Request for extension of comment period (Docket No.2004D-0510)

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am writing to request a 90-day extension of the comment period for the Notice announcing the "Proposed Referral Program from the Food & Drug Administration to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Seafood Inspection Program for the Certification of Live and Perishable Fish and Fishery Products for Export to the European Union and the European Free Trade Association", published in the Federal Register on November 21, 2004 (p. 68949).

Our company is involved in shipping live lobsters to the EU and our business depends on receiving EU Health Certificates from the FDA in a timely manner. The proposed referral program will have a dramatic and very costly impact on our company. Unfortunately the current 30-day comment period coincides with the busiest time of the year for all lobster exporters. For all of these reasons I request you extend the comment period for an additional 90 days so that we may develop and submit thoughtful comments.

Sincerely,

*V. Mortillaro*

Vincent Mortillaro

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