



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Office of the General Counsel
1400 Independence Ave. SW
Washington, DC 20250-1400

April 15, 2022

Delivered via Electronic Mail

Austin Evers

American Oversight

C/o Megan Field

foia@americanoversight.org

**Re: Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request No. 2020-OSEC-03256-F
Second Interim Response**

Dear Mr. Evers:

This is the first interim response to the above-referenced March 31, 2020, FOIA request submitted to the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). The Office of Information Affairs (OIA), FOIA Division processed your request. OIA is under the purview of the Office of General Counsel (OGC) and serves as the focal point for USDA's FOIA program. It provides coordination and ensures agency-wide compliance with the FOIA. Additionally, the OIA processes requests and appeals on behalf of the Office of the Secretary (OSEC); the Under Secretaries; USDA's staff offices; and the Research, Education and Economics and Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs mission areas. This response is being provided on behalf of OSEC, for your request seeking:

1. Any records reflecting communications providing guidance or directives from the White House to USDA officials, including Secretary Perdue, regarding the relief strategy for farmers impacted by unjustified retaliation and trade disruption.⁷ At a minimum, this would include all communications with the following:
 - a. President Trump's 2018 directive to "Secretary Perdue to craft a short term relief strategy to protect agricultural producers while the Administration works on free, fair, and reciprocal trade deals to open more markets in the long run to help American farmers compete globally;"⁸
 - b. the President's authorization for "USDA to provide up to \$16 billion in programs;"⁹
 - c. any other Presidential authorizations for funding. Please provide all responsive records from March 1, 2018, through the date of the search.
2. All records (including preparatory briefings, materials shared during the meeting, notes taken during the meeting, memoranda memorializing the meeting, read-outs of the meeting) reflecting the content of or regarding the following meetings:
 - a. April 12, 2018 "Meeting with POTUS/Members of Congress/Governors on Agriculture and Trade -- The Cabinet Room, White House;"¹⁰
 - b. June 13, 2018, 9:00 AM-10:00AM, "Trade Meeting," with individuals

- outside of USDA, including Zippy Duvall, Chuck Conner, Chris Novak, Randy Russell, Randy Gordon, and Dale Moore;¹¹
- c. July 18, 2018, 3:30 PM-4:00PM, meeting with Todd Bastean, President of Bunge North America;¹²
 - d. July 25, 2018 “Meeting with POTUS & Members of Congress on Agriculture and Trade;”¹³
 - e. July 25, 2018, 5:30PM-5:45PM call with Newt Gingrich, “Topic: Trade;”¹⁴
 - f. September 5, 2018, 3:345PM-4:45PM, “Trade Mitigation Update”
3. The “china retaliation documents,” “Rob 330 mitigation documents” and “Z” listed on 3:30–4:00 PM calendar entry of Secretary Perdue’s calendar from March 27, 2018.¹⁷

Your request is being processed under the FOIA, 5 U.S.C. § 552.

Searches for responsive records were conducted by the OIA’s telecommunications provider, the Client Experience Center (CEC). The CEC provides comprehensive, fee-for-service information technology (IT) associated operations, security, and technical support services to USDA end users. The CEC also implements and manages enterprise IT solutions for users Department-wide. On April 4, 2022, you were sent a first interim response consisting of two hundred and twenty-nine (229) pages of records. The OIA is producing an additional two hundred and thirty-seven (237) pages of records responsive to this second interim response to your request. They are being released to you in part, as described below.

FOIA Exemption 5 – Pre-decisional/Deliberative

FOIA Exemption 5 protects from disclosure those “inter-agency or intra-agency memorandums or letters which would not be available by law to a party other than an agency in litigation with the agency.” One of the frequently invoked FOIA Exemption 5 privileges is the deliberative process privilege. To fall within FOIA’s deliberative process privilege, the records must be both pre-decisional and deliberative; the records must precede the adoption of an agency policy and include the opinions, recommendations, or deliberations on a legal or policy matter.

In this instance, the OIA is withholding portions of emails containing discussions about future agency statements, briefing documents used to aid in the decision-making process, draft statements, draft talking points, and colleague and interagency review of policy and/or recommendations. We are also withholding discussions and briefs regarding materials for preparation of testimony, and discussions of actions being contemplated regarding regulatory reforms. Messaging decisions are eligible for protection under the Deliberative Process Privilege because an agency’s decision regarding how to present its substantive policies to the public often involves the evaluation of alternative public relations policies, policies which are audience-sensitive and must anticipate public reaction.

Disclosure of such information would have a chilling effect on the ability of agency officials to engage in free and frank discussions regarding policy but also may cause confusion on the agency's actual position on the policy at issue. Specifically, release of this information would reveal the USDA's deliberative and pre-decisional discussions of policies that were not adopted in part (or in full) and/or contemplations of legal and policy matters that were not yet acted on or not adopted.

FOIA Exemption 6

Exemption 6 generally is referred to as the "personal privacy" exemption. It provides that the disclosure requirements of the FOIA do not apply to "personnel and medical files and similar files the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy." Application of the exemption involves balancing the public's interest in disclosure against individuals' privacy interests.

The information withheld under Exemption 6 consists of mobile telephone numbers, unpublished direct-dial phone numbers, and unpublished email addresses. This information qualifies as "similar files" because it is information in which individuals have a privacy interest. Releasing mobile phone numbers, and email addresses for individuals could subject the individuals to unwarranted or unsolicited communications and would not shed additional light on governmental operations. Because there are viable privacy interests that would be threatened by disclosure, Exemption 6 authorizes this office to withhold the information. Accordingly, we have determined that the public interest in the information's release does not outweigh the overriding privacy interests in keeping it confidential.

As this is an interim response, we will notify you of your appeal rights upon completion and delivery of the pending final response to your request.

You may seek dispute resolution services from the OIA's FOIA Public Liaison, Ms. Melanie Enciso. Ms. Enciso may be contacted by telephone at (202) 720-9425, or electronically at Melanie.Enciso@usda.gov or USDAFOIA@usda.gov.

You also have the option to seek assistance from the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS). Please visit <https://www.archives.gov/ogis/mediation-program/request-assistance> for information about how to request OGIS assistance in relation to a FOIA request.

Provisions of the FOIA allow us to recover part of the cost of processing your request. In this instance, no fees will be charged.

Please withhold any appeals until you have received the final response to this request. If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Mr. Jeff Crile at 202-720-7732 or electronically at Jeffrey.Crile@usda.gov or at USDAFOIA@usda.gov.

The OIA-FOIA appreciates the opportunity to assist you in this matter.

Sincerely,

Alexis R. Graves

Alexis R. Graves
Director
Office of Information Affairs

Enclosures: (237 pages)

From: Ohagan, Christopher - AMS
Sent: 27 Nov 2019 18:12:38 +0000
To: Garrigus, Ashley - AMS
Cc: Person, MichelleM (OCIO) - AMS; Osterlind, Anna - AMS
Subject: RE: Gathering input for Randall's upcoming remarks
Attachments: NFU AMS Input 2019.docx, Trade Mitigation talkers.docx

Hey Ashley,

I filled in the proper POC's for the programs below.

I'm also attaching a document with some talkers that I compiled from some of U/S Ibach's and Bruce's previous remarks to industry groups with regards to trade.

Please let me know if you need any additional topics but I expect that the National Farmers Union talkers would be a really good starting point for this audience.

Thanks!
-Chris

From: Garrigus, Ashley - AMS <ashley.garrigus@usda.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, November 27, 2019 1:00 PM
To: Ohagan, Christopher - AMS <christopher.ohagan@usda.gov>
Cc: Person, MichelleM (OCIO) - AMS <michellem.person@usda.gov>; Osterlind, Anna - AMS <Anna.Osterlind@usda.gov>
Subject: RE: Gathering input for Randall's upcoming remarks

I think we might start with all the programs, with the exception of C&T, since this is such a broad audience.

SCP- Sonia, Charles and Darrell Hughes
CP- Chris Purdy
TM- Karla, Tricia
FTPP- Mike, James, and Jeana Harbison
L&P- Jen, Melissa, Alex Smith
FGIS-Arthur, Andrew Ping, Kendra Kline
Dairy-Dana, Whitney Rick, Erin Taylor
NOP-Jenny and David
S&T- Ruihong and Kerry Smith

From: Ohagan, Christopher - AMS <christopher.ohagan@usda.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, November 27, 2019 12:54 PM
To: Garrigus, Ashley - AMS <ashley.garrigus@usda.gov>
Cc: Person, MichelleM (OCIO) - AMS <michellem.person@usda.gov>; Osterlind, Anna - AMS <Anna.Osterlind@usda.gov>
Subject: RE: Gathering input for Randall's upcoming remarks

Hey Ashley,

I'll look into what I have as far as talking points. I should have some things specific to trade and Trade Mitigation.

Generally I reach out to the deputies and their chiefs of staff or designated point people. Do you know the programs you want to reach out to? I can let you know who to reach out to.

Thanks!

-Chris

From: Garrigus, Ashley - AMS <ashley.garrigus@usda.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, November 27, 2019 12:48 PM
To: Ohagan, Christopher - AMS <christopher.ohagan@usda.gov>
Cc: Person, MichelleM (OCIO) - AMS <michellem.person@usda.gov>; Osterlind, Anna - AMS <Anna.Osterlind@usda.gov>
Subject: Gathering input for Randall's upcoming remarks

Chris,

We are gathering information to prepare Randall's remarks for this event next week. I think we can focus on the AMS portion of trade, especially commodity procurement. Do you have any recent points that can get us started?

We also want to reach out to the programs to gather input. Do you usually send a note to the Deputies for that type of info, or do you reach out to a member of their staff?

Thank you,
Ashley

From: Jason Culotta (b) (6) <[\(b\)\(6\)@mwfpa.org](mailto:(b)(6)@mwfpa.org)>
Sent: Tuesday, November 26, 2019 2:57 PM
To: Garrigus, Ashley - AMS <ashley.garrigus@usda.gov>
Cc: Person, MichelleM (OCIO) - AMS <michellem.person@usda.gov>
Subject: Re: follow up convention question

Ashley,

Thanks for checking in and very pleased to have Mr. Jones help out in our pinch!

He will have a 40-60 minute window to present, which could include questions from attendees if he would like that option; we'll have two microphones set up on the floor for a different purpose that be utilized.

For subject matter, we had been looking for the Secretary's office to comment on trade, tariffs, and any trends in ag they would like to share. The same would apply for Mr. Jones, I would presume. Our

vegetable industry had a tough spring planting due to the wet spring and the harvest has also been a bit wet, so speaking to what these conditions mean for 2020 would also be insightful.

The event is open to press who seek credentialing from our group, but we seldom have any attend.

I will send a separate list of speakers when I'm back in the office this afternoon, but our convention webpage at www.mwfpa.org has details on the speakers. The other three keynote speakers are Keni Thomas (who was involved in the Blackhawk Down situation in Somalia), Dick Leinenkugel now with MillerCoors, and a comedian named Dan Diebert.

Again, thank you for reaching out! My cell number is (608) 332-5415 if additional questions arise that need quick resolution.

Jason

Sent from my iPhone

On Nov 26, 2019, at 10:50 AM, Garrigus, Ashley - AMS <ashley.garrigus@usda.gov> wrote:

Jason,

Good morning. I am following up on behalf of Randall Jones, who will be speaking at the upcoming MWFPFA convention. Can you please confirm how long Mr. Jones should plan to speak, what topics you would like him to cover, if the event is open press and any information about other speakers? Should he also be prepared to answer questions from the audience?

Thank you in advance,
Ashley

From: Preston, Warren - OCE <warren.preston@usda.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, November 26, 2019 9:45 AM
To: Jason Culotta <(b) (6)@mwfpa.org>
Cc: Jones, Randall - AMS <Randall.D.Jones@usda.gov>
Subject: RE: follow up convention question

Hello Jason,

Unfortunately, I indeed will be unable to speak at the MWFPFA annual convention this year. However, I am pleased to let you know that my former USDA Agricultural Marketing Service colleague, Randall Jones (cc'd above), will represent USDA at your meeting. Randall is AMS Associate Administrator / Chief Operating Officer and will be able to bring a broad perspective on issues that should be of interest to your members, such as commodity procurement, auditing & verification programs, labeling, fair trade practice programs, food labeling, and a host of other services offered by AMS.

Again, I regret that I will be unable to participate in the MWFPFA convention and wish you the best for a successful event.

Sincerely,
Warren

<image002.png>

Warren P. Preston

Deputy Chief Economist
Office of the Chief Economist
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave, SW Room 112-A
Washington, DC 20250-3810
202-720-5955

From: Jason Culotta <(b) (6)@mwfpa.org>
Sent: Monday, November 25, 2019 1:19 PM
To: Preston, Warren - OCE <warren.preston@usda.gov>
Subject: follow up convention question

Dr. Preston,

Hello! We are excited to have you confirmed as a speaker at the Midwest Food Products Association annual convention.

One question that's come up in our planning has been whether or not you would want to entertain questions from the floor at the convention. There will be over 900 people in attendance and were planning to have two microphones on the floor for other business that will be conducted at the event, but wanted to ask you before we see you on December 4th!

Also, just as housekeeping, I'll be providing an update on our 2019 scholarship winners and having a short video play before you'll be up to speak, which will be around 12:20-12:25.

Thanks again,
Jason

Jason Culotta
President
Midwest Food Products Association
4600 American Parkway #210
Madison, WI 53718
608-255-9946 (office)
(b) (6) (cell)
(b) (6)@mwfpa.org

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~~Under Secretary Greg~~
~~Ibach~~ Administrator Bruce Summers

Remarks: NFU
September ~~29~~, 2019
10:30 – 11:00 AM

20 Minutes of Remarks
10 Minutes Q&A

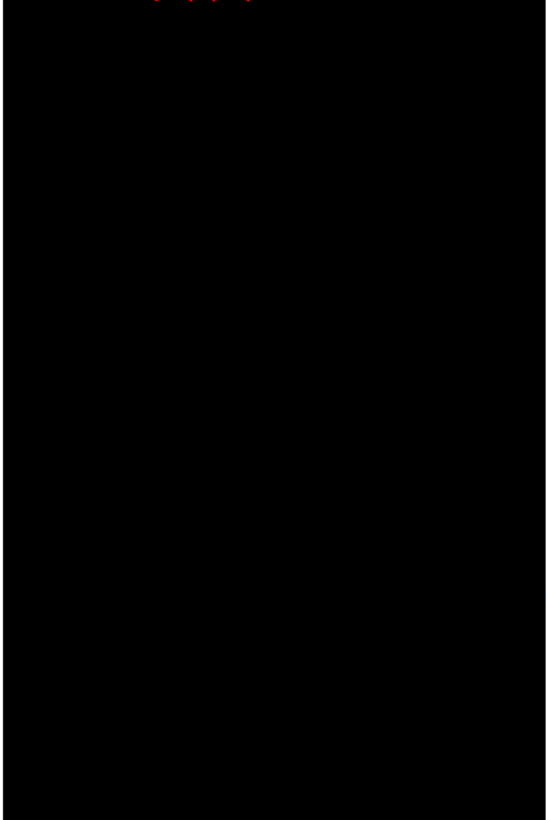
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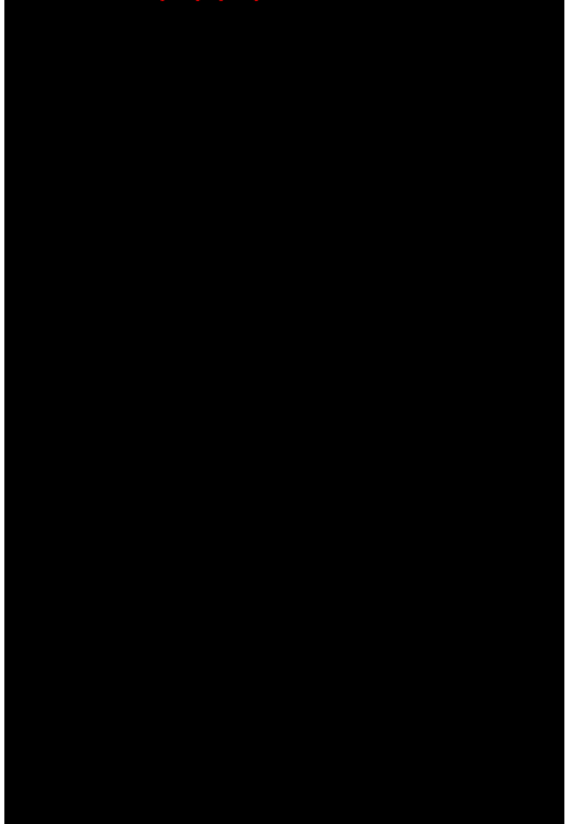
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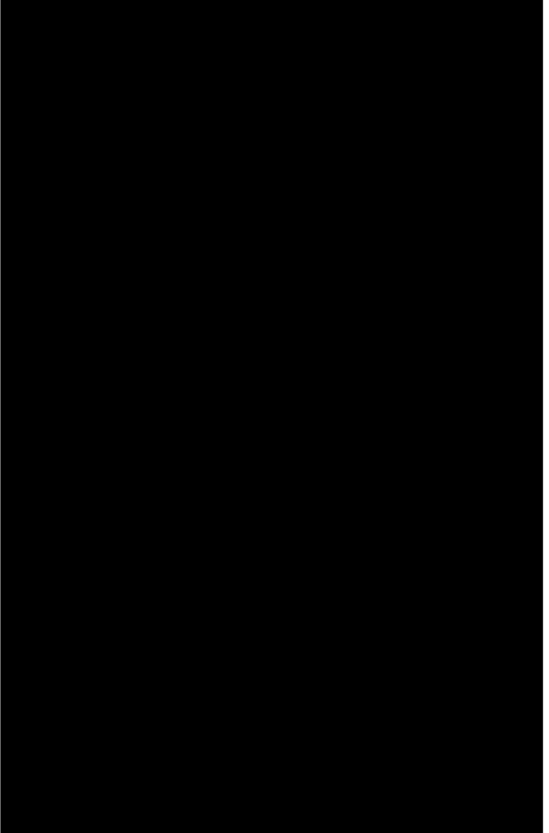
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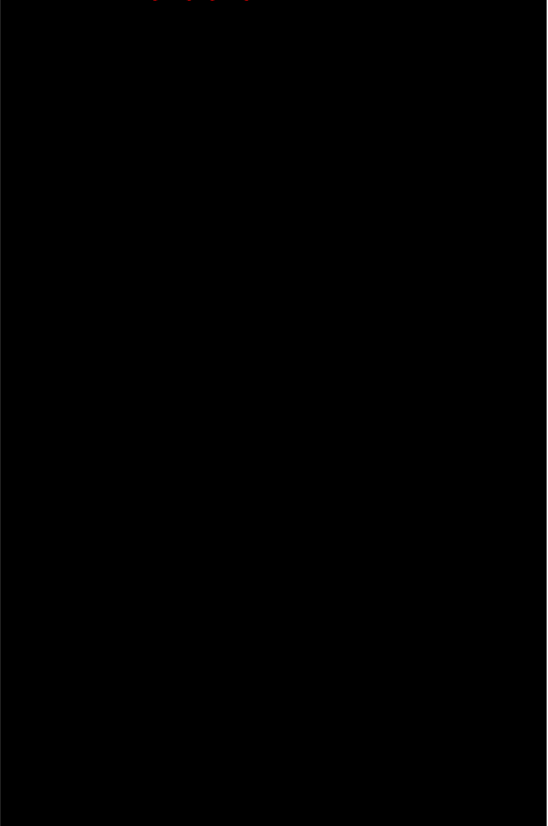
AMS: (b)(5) - Deliberative



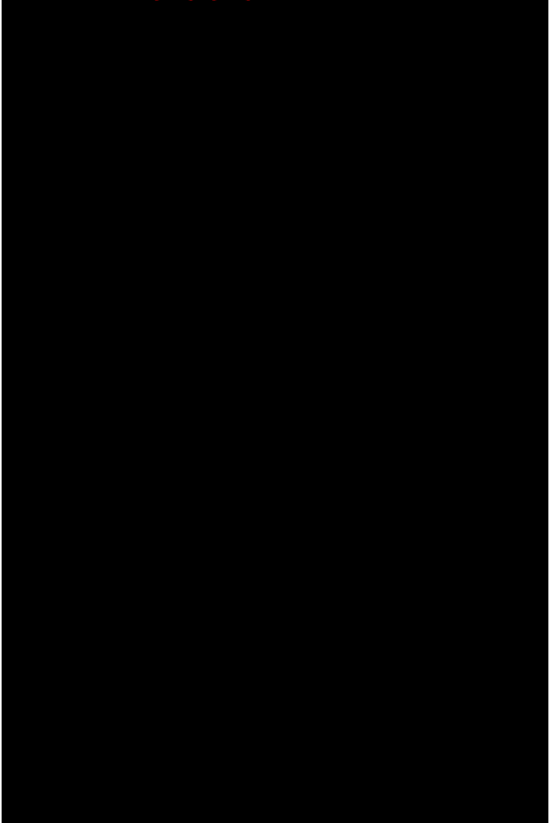
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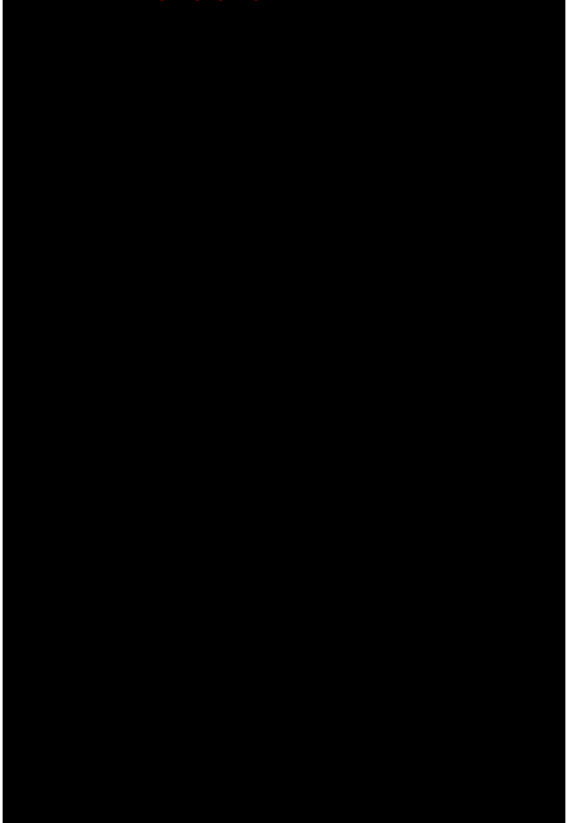


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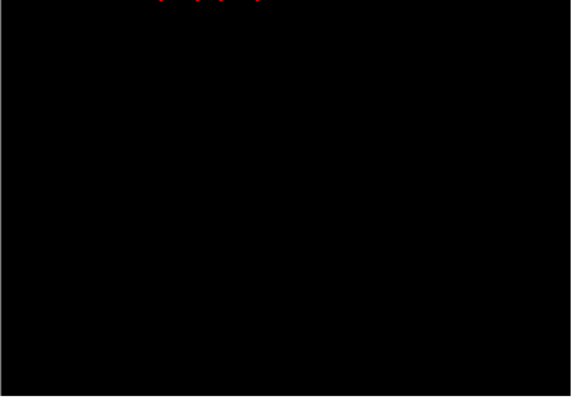
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I. Trade Mitigation

- One topic we know has generated lots of interest has been trade mitigation. Earlier this year President Trump authorized USDA to provide an additional \$16 billion in trade mitigation programs to support American agriculture, in line with the estimated impact of trade damage from China's trade disruption.
- These programs will assist agricultural producers by offsetting some of the costs of disrupted trade.
- Additionally, CCC Charter Act authority will be used to implement a \$1.4 billion Food Purchase and Distribution Program (FPDP) through AMS to purchase surplus commodities affected by trade retaliation such as fruits, vegetables, some processed foods, beef, pork, lamb, poultry, and milk.
- These products will be distributed by the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) to food banks, schools, and other outlets serving low-income individuals.
- AMS will buy affected products in four phases, starting after October 1, 2019, with deliveries beginning in January 2020.
- Of particular interest to this group are protein purchases that include:
 - \$208 million to buy pork
 - \$151 million for beef
 - \$432 million for poultry, including
 - \$371 million for chicken
 - \$41 million for turkey
 - \$20 million for eggs and egg products
 - And \$17 million for lamb
- We have been through this purchase process once before and received lots of good feedback on the first round of purchases – both from vendors and from the foodbanks receiving the food.
- We are constantly working to modernize our grading service and would like to hear your feedback about further improving our services.

II. Process Improvements for Commodity Certification

- Vendors producing some USDA foods will now have a choice about how AMS conducts contract compliance. Vendors can opt for continuous AMS grader oversight or routine quality-system-based audits conducted by AMS.
- We are soon offering contractors the choice of requesting contract compliance by either AMS grading or auditing services to produce certain commodities.
- We believe it makes sense to offer the choice of contract compliance method for those products where a contractor currently does (or can) produce both meat and poultry products that are similar in nature.
- Audit-based and grader-based performance monitoring offer essentially the same level of assurance; the difference is how and when they are performed, with audit-based being more involved before contract award, and grader-based being more involved post-award.

- Overall, in our commodity purchase programs, we recognize the need to move towards more performance-based requirements. The Agency is undertaking a program-wide initiative to review and improve the quality assurance requirements for all its commodity purchase programs—exploring everything from vendor pre-qualifications to food safety requirements to post-contract performance monitoring.
- The end goal is to establish requirements that are consistent across the board, provide the appropriate level of assurances to the government, while removing unnecessary burdens and cost to vendors.

From: Ohagan, Christopher - AMS
Sent: 6 Sep 2019 21:52:04 +0000
To: Summers, Bruce - AMS
Cc: Morris, Erin - AMS; Osterlind, Anna - AMS; Taylor, Jameelah - AMS
Subject: RE: NFU fill-in
Attachments: NFU AMS Focus 9-9-19.docx

Bruce,

Attached are the remarks I had prepared for MRP to use for the National Farmers Union remarks. Please let me know if you see any glaring edits.

Thank you!
-Chris

From: Ohagan, Christopher - AMS
Sent: Friday, September 6, 2019 4:41 PM
To: Summers, Bruce - AMS <Bruce.Summers@usda.gov>
Cc: Morris, Erin - AMS <Erin.Morris@usda.gov>; Osterlind, Anna - AMS <Anna.Osterlind@usda.gov>
Subject: NFU fill-in

Hey Bruce,

I just received a call from Turner informing me that MRP needs you to fill in for U/S Ibach at the National Farmers Union event on Monday the 9th at 10:30am in the Jefferson Auditorium. It looks like it's going to be 20 mins of remarks followed by a few mins of Q&A.

We provided MRP some points on this today, I will pull together something more AMS focused and have that to you before the end of the day. I will have Jameelah try and fit this in on your schedule for Monday.

Thanks
-Chris

Administrator Bruce Summers

**Remarks: NFU
September 9, 2019
10:30 – 11:00 AM**

**20 Minutes of Remarks
10 Minutes Q&A**

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I. Intro

- Thank You
- Bio

II. About AMS

- AMS: Cotton & Tobacco; Dairy; Specialty Crops; Fair Trade Practices (Warehouse, Packers & Stockyards, PACA, Food Disclosure & Labeling); Organics; Livestock and Poultry; Transportation and Marketing; Science & Technology; Commodity Procurement; Grain Inspection.
- AMS prides ourselves on fulfilling the Secretary's directive, for USDA to be the most efficient, most effective, and most customer friendly department in the Federal

USDA-20-0743-B-000031

- Customer Service want to make sure farmers and ranchers have

access to the tools they need at the time they need.

- You deserve a government that works for you and with you.
- **Do right and feed everyone.**

III. Trade

- Under the first round of the **Food Purchase and Distribution Program**, AMS had the authority to purchase up to \$1.2 billion of affected commodities such as fruits, nuts, rice, legumes, beef, pork, poultry products, milk, and other commodities unfairly targeted by unjustified retaliation.
- As it stands today, AMS will have purchased \$1.1 billion of affected commodities before the end of this calendar year.
- On May 23, 2019 Secretary
USDA-20-0743-B-000032 Perdue announced that President Trump had authorized an

additional \$16 billion in farmer aid for FY 2020.

- Of this \$16 billion, up to \$1.4 billion has been allocated to the second round of the Food Purchase and Distribution Program.
- As in the first round, AMS will purchase product over four quarters in the second. Purchases will begin at the start of the Federal fiscal year, which starts October 1. Deliveries of these purchases will begin in January 2020.
- Purchase will be made or adjusted according to: growing conditions; product availability; market conditions; and program capacity, among other factors.
- Currently AMS is involved in Vendor Outreach and communicating with industry to ascertain optimal buying times

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for the various affected commodities.

- The Secretary knows America's farmers, ranchers, foresters, and producers are the ones who feed, fuel, and clothe this nation and the rest of the world.

IV. FTPP Rule

- The 2008 Farm Bill required the Secretary to identify criteria to be used when determining whether an undue or unreasonable preference or advantage has occurred in violation of Section 202(b) of the Packers and Stockyards Act.
- USDA published proposed rules with possible criteria in 2010 and 2016, with neither producing sufficient results for a final rule.
- ~~USDA-20-0743-B1000034~~ ~~AMS will publish a new proposed rule by fall 2019, establishing criteria to use when determining~~

whether an undue or unreasonable preference or advantage has occurred. The public will have 60 days to comment. We will carefully review all comments received as we develop a final rule for an anticipated publication date in Spring 2020.

V. Packers and Stockyards Enforcement

- On September 7th, 2017 USDA announced the realignment of GIPSA and AMS which was completed in December 2017. Since December 2017, AMS has been working towards achieving the Secretary's goal of providing a unified USDA focus on our customers and the services we

USDA-2017-07-13-B-000035

- In addition to the three P&S field regional offices that are each

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responsible for multi-state enforcement activities, AMS established two additional branches within P&S, the Enforcement and the Competition Branches, both of which will ensure a dedicated focus on each of these critical functions.

- PSD's Enforcement Branch is responsible for developing Division-wide policy regarding investigation and enforcement matters including providing litigation support to OGC in Administrative enforcement and litigation. This Division now works closely with OGC field attorneys in order to provide fast and accurate support, which has led to an increase in successfully

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- PSD's Competition Branch is responsible for developing

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Division-wide policy regarding economically related investigations. This Division conducts routine price monitoring of the livestock markets for possible anti-competitive effects and conducts investigations to determine if there is any evidence of price manipulation, collusion, restrictions of competition, unfair practices or unfair advantages in the livestock, poultry and meat industries.

VI. Organic Programs

- We continue to see significant growth in organics, in fact the industry just recently passed \$50 billion in sales in 2018.
- We see this trend continuing.
- USDA-20-0743-B-000037 We see our role is facilitating this growth by protecting and ensuring the integrity of the organic seal.

- As a farmer myself, I feel strongly about providing a level playing field for our U.S. producers.
- U.S. farmers aren't opposed to imports.
- They want to be sure the marketplace is a fair one.
- Fraudulent imports undermine farmers.
- To protect the strength of the USDA Organic Seal, AMS is in the process of writing a Strengthening Organic Enforcement Rule. The proposed rule introduces requirements to:
 - protect organic integrity, deter fraud, and bolster consumer confidence and trust in the USDA organic label.
 - The rule will strengthen organic control systems, improve farm to market traceability and import oversight, and provide robust

USDA-20-0743-B-000038

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enforcement of the USDA
organic regulations

- We **need your help**:
 - We will accomplish this through teamwork, transparency, consistency, and objectivity in our planning and decision making.
 - USDA stands ready to partner with you to achieve these goals.

VII. **Hot Topics** *(if time allows)*

- **AMS Accomplishments**:
 - **GAP Audits**: USDA audits assure buyers, from local restaurants and farmers markets to regional, national and international food distributors, that producers have met required food safety standards

USDA-20-0743-B-000039

- We recently announced that the Harmonized GAP Plus+ audit

program for specialty crops is now accepted as technically equivalent by the Global Food Safety Initiative (GFSI).

- Achieving technical equivalence means USDA can now offer producers a one-stop audit that is recognized internationally, is aligned with FDA's Produce Safety Rule and meets industry best practices.
- This comprehensive audit cuts down on paperwork, saves money and time, and ultimately grows markets for American farmers.
- **Market News:** AMS is also a statistical agency, tracking sales of produce at the wholesale level, across the country in real time.

USDA Market News reporters provide farmers, producers and other agricultural businesses the data

they need to evaluate market conditions, identify trends, make purchasing decisions, monitor price patterns, evaluate transportation equipment needs and accurately assess movement.

- Hemp Regulation:

- As was required by Congress in the 2018 Farm Bill, USDA is in the process of writing an interim final rule which will regulate the production of industrial hemp.
- We expect to have a rule published by the late fall of this year to ensure a 2020 planting season.
- More detail will be described in the rule, but each state or tribal plan submitted to USDA

USDA for 2020-2021 need to include certain procedures for maintaining information,

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testing and sampling, and complying with law enforcement procedures, among others

- While we are fast approaching issuing the hemp regulations, the 2018 Farm Bill does provide that States and institutions of higher education can continue operating under authorities of the 2014 Farm Bill until one year after the rule is effective.

VIII. Conclusion

- Thank you for your time, leadership, partnership and support in Doing Right and Feeding Everyone.

USDA-20-0743-B-000042

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From: Wilson, Erin E. - OSEC, Washington, DC
Sent: 11 Jun 2019 17:03:22 +0000
To: Rodgers, Marshall J. EOP/OMB; Jackson, Noah - OSEC, Washington, DC; Osterlind, Anna - OSEC, Washington, DC
Subject: RE: passback attached: LRM: [MJR-116-61] Due 06/06/2019 Thursday at 11:00AM -- USDA Oversight Testimony on Perspectives on U.S. Agricultural Trade
Attachments: Testimony for Senate Ag Hearing June 13th.pdf

Attachment withheld under (b)(5) Deliberative (5 pp.)

Hi Marshall,

Per our conversation, please see attached for Under Secretary McKinney's Testimony before the Senate Agriculture Committee on Thursday, June 13th.

(b)(5) - Deliberative
(b)(5) - Deliberative

Thank you,

Erin Wilson
Office of Congressional Relations
United States Department of Agriculture
202-720-5478 (Direct)
(b)(6) Work Cell)

From: Rodgers, Marshall J. EOP/OMB (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, June 7, 2019 12:01 PM
To: Jackson, Noah - OSEC, Washington, DC <Noah.Jackson@usda.gov>; Osterlind, Anna - OSEC, Washington, DC <Anna.Osterlind@usda.gov>
Cc: Wilson, Erin E. - OSEC, Washington, DC <erin.wilson@usda.gov>
Subject: RE: passback attached: LRM: [MJR-116-61] Due 06/06/2019 Thursday at 11:00AM -- USDA Oversight Testimony on Perspectives on U.S. Agricultural Trade

Thanks. We clear.

Please send me a clean final copy of the statement.

From: Jackson, Noah - OSEC, Washington, DC <Noah.Jackson@usda.gov>
Sent: Friday, June 7, 2019 11:29 AM
To: Rodgers, Marshall J. EOP/OMB (b)(6) Osterlind, Anna - OSEC, Washington, DC <Anna.Osterlind@usda.gov>
Cc: Wilson, Erin E. - OSEC, Washington, DC <erin.wilson@usda.gov>
Subject: RE: passback attached: LRM: [MJR-116-61] Due 06/06/2019 Thursday at 11:00AM -- USDA Oversight Testimony on Perspectives on U.S. Agricultural Trade

Marshall— sorry for the delay. USDA is good with edits. See comment on question on page 2. Once you look over please respond with the final draft.

Also no issues with USTR testimony. Just a heads up for Greg to be aware of, USTR calculates trade numbers slightly different than USDA so the import export numbers are going to look a little different.

Sincerely,



Noah Jackson
Legislative Analyst

Office of Congressional Relations
United States Department of Agriculture
Phone: (202) 205-9994

From: Rodgers, Marshall J. EOP/OMB - (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, June 7, 2019 11:03 AM
To: Jackson, Noah - OSEC, Washington, DC <Noah.Jackson@usda.gov>; Osterlind, Anna - OSEC, Washington, DC <Anna.Osterlind@usda.gov>
Subject: RE: passback attached: LRM: [MJR-116-61] Due 06/06/2019 Thursday at 11:00AM -- USDA Oversight Testimony on Perspectives on U.S. Agricultural Trade

Noah – is USDA ok with those edits?

Also, are there any issues with the USTR testimony?

Thanks.

From: Jackson, Noah - OSEC, Washington, DC <Noah.Jackson@usda.gov>
Sent: Thursday, June 6, 2019 4:43 PM
To: Rodgers, Marshall J. EOP/OMB - (b)(6) Osterlind, Anna - OSEC, Washington, DC <Anna.Osterlind@usda.gov>
Cc: Burnim, John D. EOP/OMB - (b)(6)
Subject: RE: passback attached: LRM: [MJR-116-61] Due 06/06/2019 Thursday at 11:00AM -- USDA Oversight Testimony on Perspectives on U.S. Agricultural Trade

Marshall — Working on this now.

From: Rodgers, Marshall J. EOP/OMB - (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, June 6, 2019 12:24 PM
To: Jackson, Noah - OSEC, Washington, DC <Noah.Jackson@usda.gov>; Osterlind, Anna - OSEC, Washington, DC <Anna.Osterlind@usda.gov>

Cc: Burnim, John D. EOP/OMB <(b)(6)>
Subject: passback attached: LRM: [MJR-116-61] Due 06/06/2019 Thursday at 11:00AM -- USDA Oversight Testimony on Perspectives on U.S. Agricultural Trade

Noah --

Please see attached for comments/edits from OMB and USTR. We can clear the testimony if you accept these edits and respond to OMB's question on page 2. Please confirm.

Thanks.

From: Rodgers, Marshall J. EOP/OMB <(b)(6)>
Sent: Wednesday, June 5, 2019 10:32 AM
To: 'COMMERCE' <(b)(6)@doc.gov>; 'JUSTICE' <(b)(6)@usdoj.gov>; DL-NSS-LRM <(b)(6)@NSC.eop.gov>; DL-USTR-LRM <(b)(6)@USTR.eop.gov>; 'TREASURY' <llr@treasury.gov>
Cc: DL OMB NRD AB <(b)(6)@whmo.mil>; Lucas, Adrienne E. EOP/OMB <(b)(6)>; Herz, James P. EOP/OMB <(b)(6)>; Jordan, Colby R. EOP/OMB <(b)(6)>; DL OMB NSP IAD ECON <(b)(6)>; Fairweather, Rob S. EOP/OMB <(b)(6)>; Cunliffe, Laura M. EOP/OMB <(b)(6)>; Cantrell, Benjamin B. EOP/OMB <(b)(6)>; McIntyre, Natalie M. EOP/OMB <(b)(6)>; Yaworske, Jason A. EOP/OMB <(b)(6)>; Finer, Jonathan K. EOP/OMB <(b)(6)>; Freeland, Jeff K. EOP/WHO <(b)(6)@who.eop.gov>; Sugarman, Aj J. EOP/WHO <(b)(6)@who.eop.gov>; Kaldahl, Ryan M. EOP/WHO <(b)(6)@who.eop.gov>; DL-WHO-WHGC-LRM <(b)(6)@WHO.eop.gov>; DL OMB OGC <(b)(6)>; DL-OPD-NEC-LRM <DL-OPD-NEC-LRM@OPD.eop.gov>; Gross, Mackenzie A. EOP/WHO <(b)(6)@who.eop.gov>; DL NSC Legislative <(b)(6)@whmo.mil>; DL NSC Legal <(b)(6)@whmo.mil>; DL NSC INTECON <(b)(6)@whmo.mil>; Gray, Alexander B. EOP/NSC <(b)(6)@who.eop.gov>; Cole, Catherine A. EOP/WHO <(b)(6)@who.eop.gov>; Morgen, Hunter M. EOP/WHO <(b)(6)@who.eop.gov>; Navarro, Peter K. EOP/WHO <(b)(6)@who.eop.gov>; Page, Ben J. EOP/OMB <(b)(6)>; Turner, Austin F. EOP/OMB <(b)(6)>; 'Osterlind, Anna - OSEC, Washington, DC' <Anna.Osterlind@usda.gov>; Jackson, Noah - OSEC, Washington, DC <Noah.Jackson@usda.gov>; Rodgers, Marshall J. EOP/OMB <(b)(6)>; Burnim, John D. EOP/OMB <(b)(6)>; Vaeth, Matt J. EOP/OMB <(b)(6)>; Kinneen, Kelly A. EOP/OMB <(b)(6)>; O'Brien, Erin L. EOP/OMB <(b)(6)>
Subject: LRM: [MJR-116-61] Due 06/06/2019 Thursday at 11:00AM -- USDA Oversight Testimony on Perspectives on U.S. Agricultural Trade

DEADLINE: 11:00AM Thursday, Jun 06 2019

Attached for review is USDA U/S McKinney's draft testimony for a June 11 hearing before the House Agriculture Committee's s/c on Livestock and Foreign Agriculture. U/S McKinney intends to use the

same cleared testimony for a similar hearing on June 13 before the Senate Agriculture Committee. Please provide any comments or clearances on the attached by the deadline.

*LRD understands that USTR AMB Doud will also testify at those two hearings next week. LRD will circulate any USTR testimony when available.

Thanks.

LRM ID: MJR-116-61
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

Legislative Liaison Officer - See Distribution

FROM: Burnim, John (for) Assistant Director for Legislative Reference
SUBJECT: LRM: [MJR-116-61] Due 06/06/2019 Thursday at 11:00AM -- AGRICULTURE Oversight
Testimony on Perspectives on U.S. Agricultural Trade

OMB CONTACT: Marshall Rodgers(OMB)

E-Mail: (b)(6)

PHONE: (b)(6)

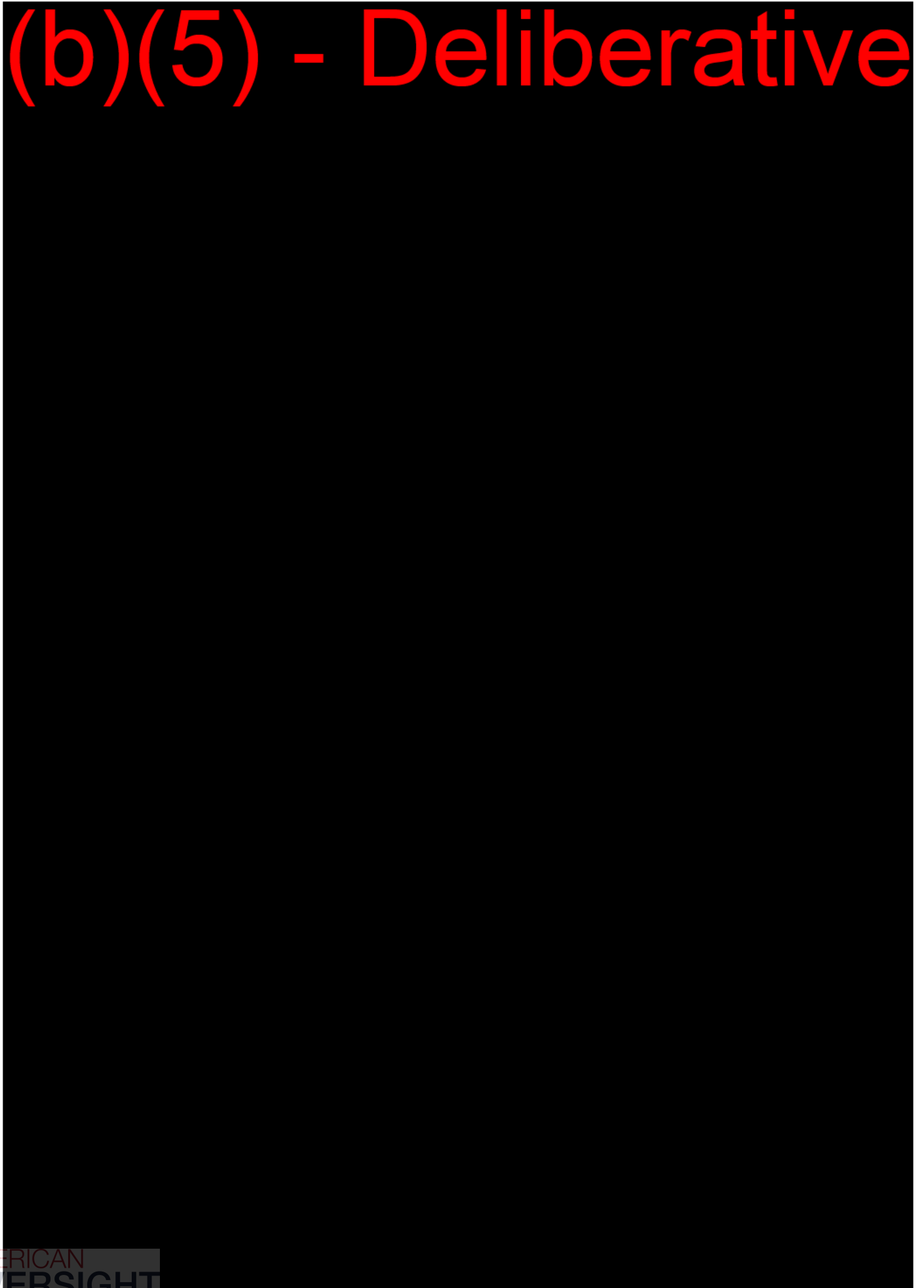
FAX: (b)(6)

In accordance with <A href="<https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/Circular-019.pdf/>">OMB Circular No. A-19, OMB requests the views of your agency on the above subject before advising on its relationship to the program of the President.

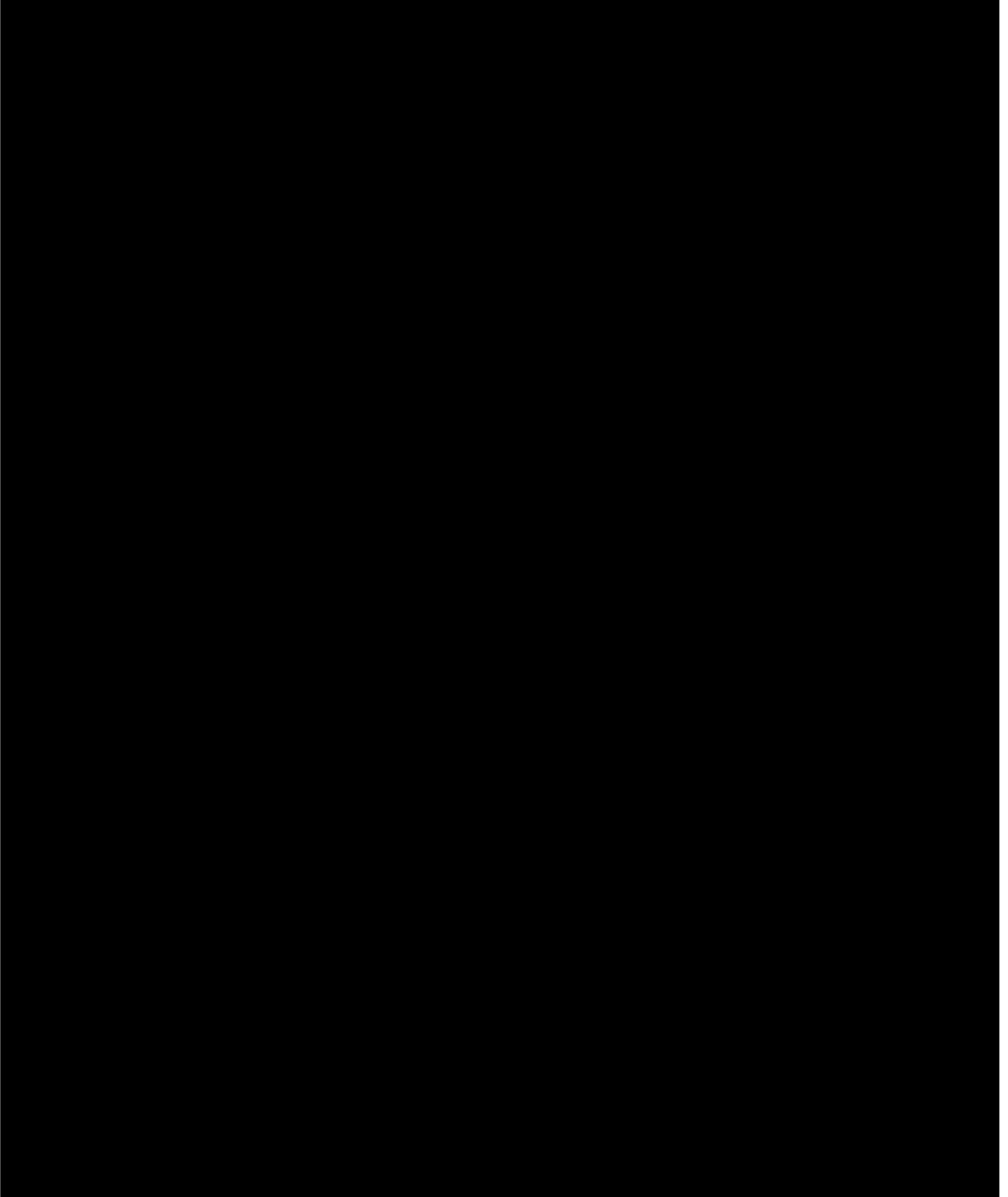
Please advise us if this item will affect direct spending or receipts for the purposes of the Statutory Pay-as-You-Go Act of 2010.

This electronic message contains information generated by the USDA solely for the intended recipients. Any unauthorized interception of this message or the use or disclosure of the information it contains may violate the law and subject the violator to civil or criminal penalties. If you believe you have received this message in error, please notify the sender and delete the email immediately.

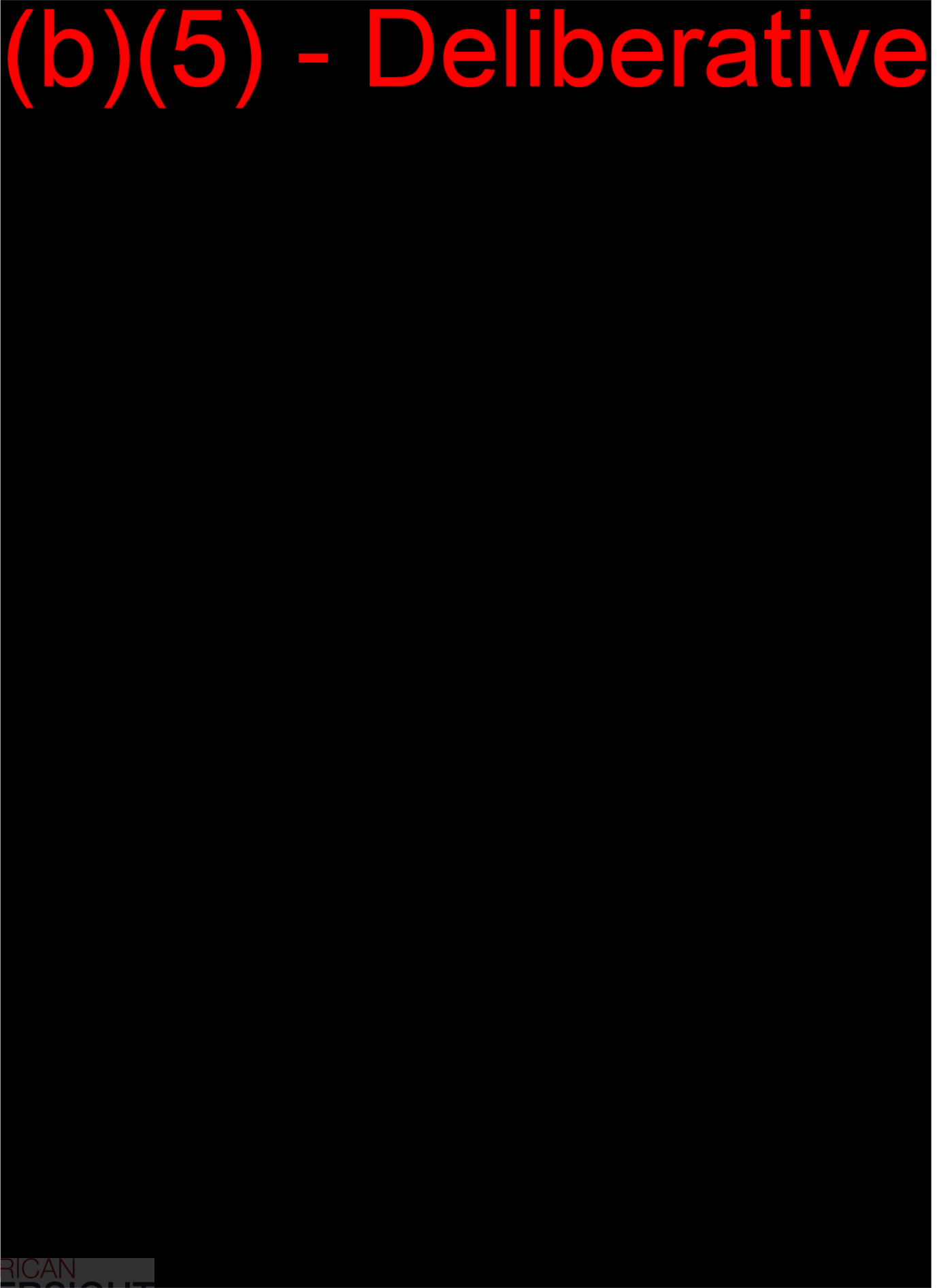
(b)(5) - Deliberative



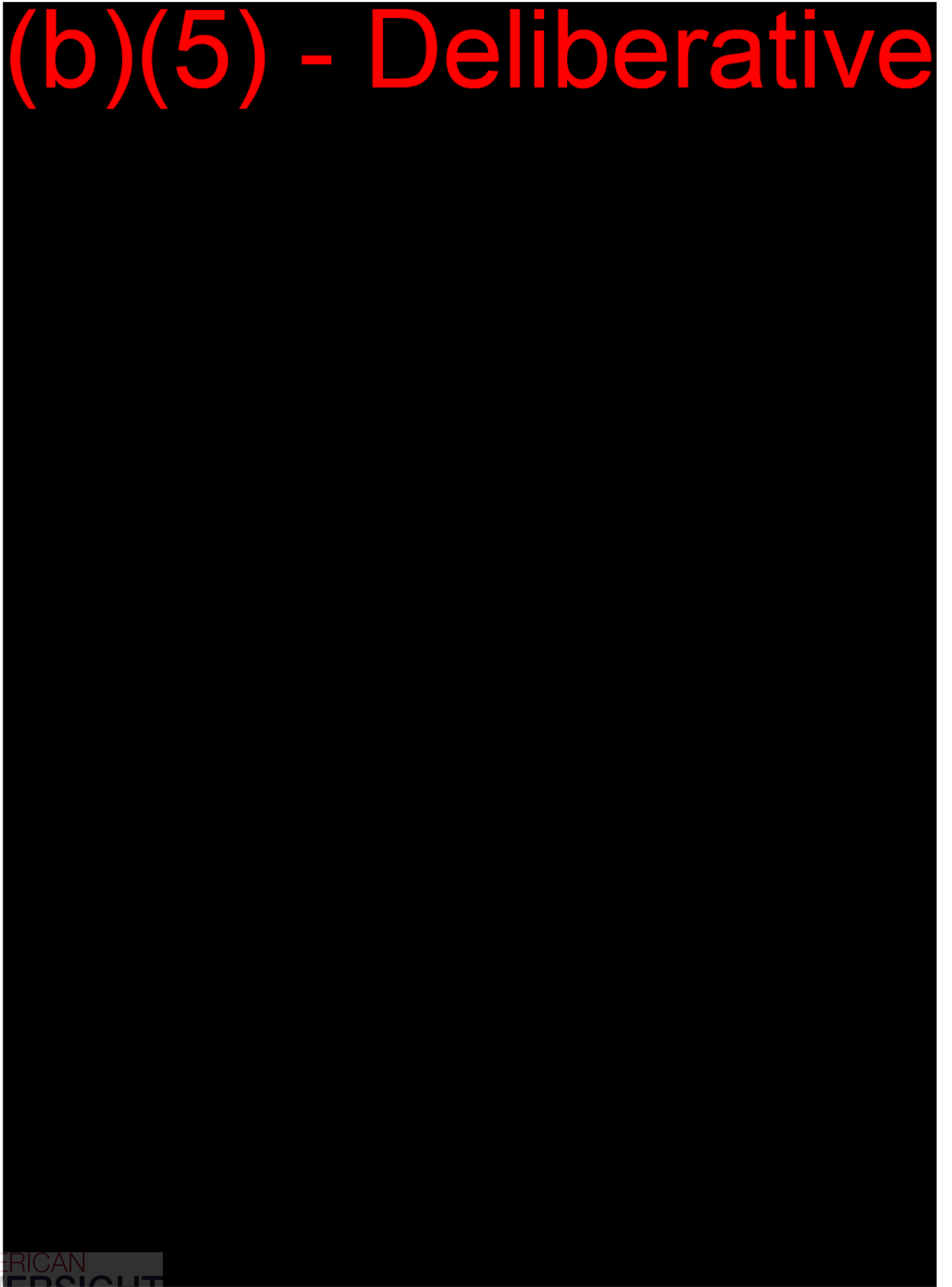
(b)(5) - Deliberative



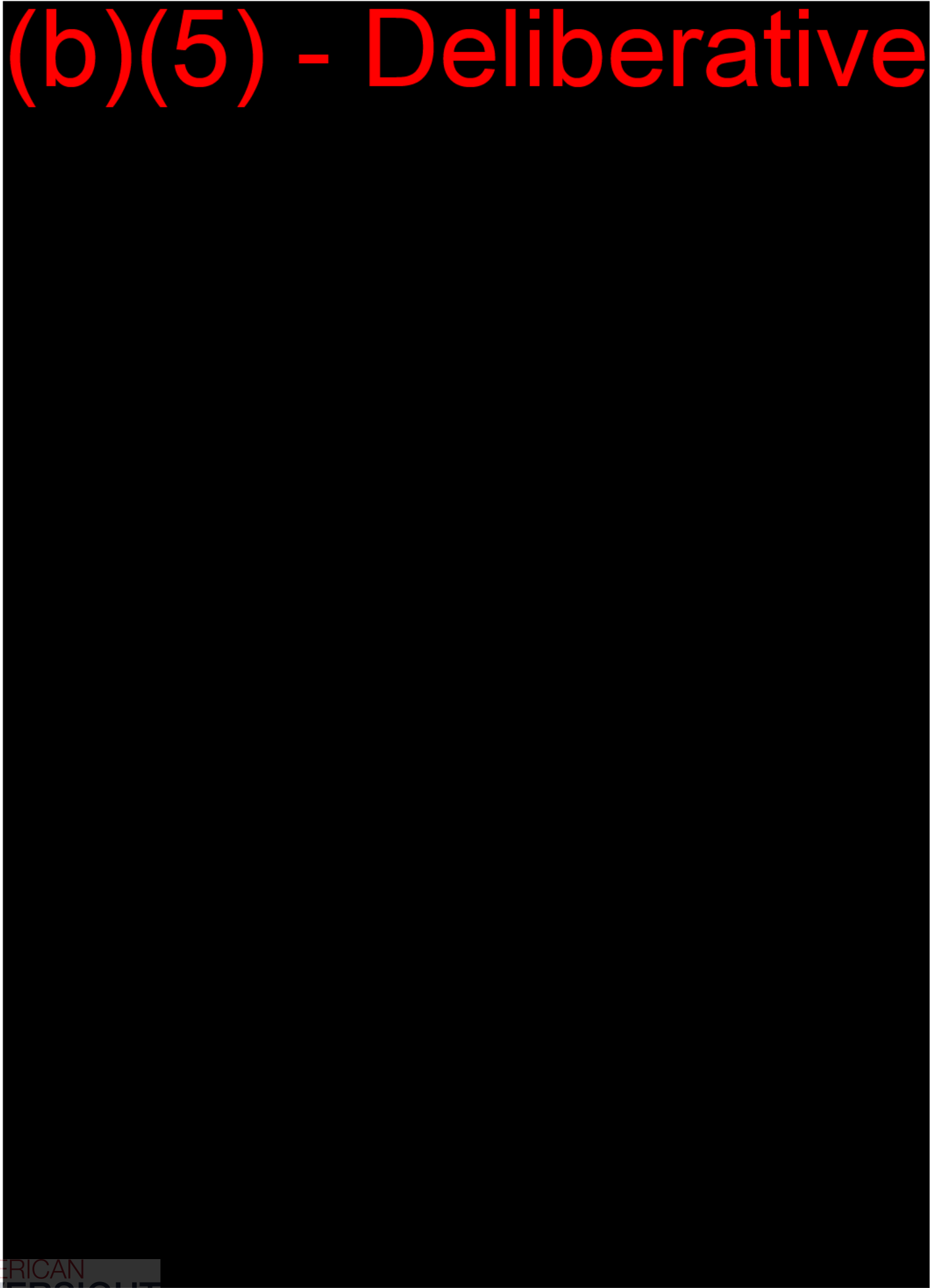
(b)(5) - Deliberative



(b)(5) - Deliberative



(b)(5) - Deliberative



From: Church, Chris - FAS, Washington, DC
Sent: 19 Jul 2019 17:38:57 +0000
To: Church, Chris - FAS, Washington, DC
Subject: Release and awards for USDA/FAS trade mitigation - Agricultural Trade Promotion Program
Attachments: ATP Release.docx

Good afternoon,

Attached is the Press Release that will be issued shortly to announce award allocations for the “third leg” of the Administration’s agricultural trade mitigation plan tomorrow.

A preview of the awards to funding recipients is at: The list of ATP funding recipients is available at: <https://www.fas.usda.gov/atp-funding-allocations>

Stay cool today,

Chris

Chris Church

Director of Legislative Affairs
USDA/Foreign Agricultural Service
Phone: (202) 720-6830



Linking U.S. Agriculture to the World

USDA Awards Agricultural Trade Promotion Funding

Washington, D.C., July 19, 2019 – U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue announced today that the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has awarded \$100 million to 48 organizations through the [Agricultural Trade Promotion Program \(ATP\)](#) to help U.S. farmers and ranchers identify and access new export markets.

In May, [President Trump authorized USDA to provide up to \\$16 billion in programs to support farmers](#), which is in line with the estimated impacts of unjustified retaliatory tariffs on U.S. agricultural goods and other trade disruptions. ATP is one of three programs that will assist agricultural producers while President Trump works to address long-standing market access barriers.

“China and other nations haven’t played by the rules for a long time and President Trump is standing up to them, sending a clear message that the United States will no longer tolerate their unfair trade practices,” Secretary Perdue said. “At USDA, we are always looking to expand existing markets or open new ones and this infusion of money will do just that. American farmers are so productive that we need to continue to expand our markets wherever we can to sell the bounty of the American harvest.”

The 48 recipients are among the cooperator organizations that applied for [\\$200 million in ATP funds in 2018](#) that were awarded earlier this year. As part of [a new round of support for farmers](#) impacted by unjustified retaliation and trade disruption, those groups had the opportunity to be considered for additional support for their work to boost exports for U.S. agriculture, food, fish, and forestry products.

Already, since the \$200 million in assistance was announced in January, U.S. exporters have had significant success, including a trade mission to Pakistan that generated \$10 million in projected 2019 sales of pulse crops, a new marketing program for Alaska seafood that led to more than \$4 million in sales of salmon to Vietnam and Thailand, and a comprehensive marketing effort by the U.S. soybean industry that has increased exposure in more than 50 international markets. These funds will continue to generate sales and business for U.S. producers and exporters many times over as promotional activity continues for the next couple of years.

The list of ATP funding recipients is available at: <https://www.fas.usda.gov/atp-funding-allocations>

#

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

From: Osterlind, Anna - OSEC, Washington, DC
Sent: 24 Jul 2019 13:40:28 +0000
To: Adams, Kiki - RD, Washington, DC
Cc: Tkacz, Kailee - OSEC, Washington, DC
Subject: Call with Ron Kind
Attachments: 072419 DepSec_Ron Kind Call.docx, USMCA Agriculture 1-Pager.pdf, wisconsin_usmca_07162019.pdf

Attachment 1: Withheld under (b)(5) Deliberative privilege (2 pp.)

Attachment 2: Non-Responsive Record (1 p.)

Kiki –

I'm attaching the briefing materials for the call today with Congressman Kind. I'm not sure whether Ken, Evan or I will be staffing yet, but one of us will be there. I'm going to be on the Hill with Ibach so not sure if I will be back in time.

Do you mind having two printed copies of these in case Ken or Evan staff the call?



Anna Osterlind
Office of Congressional Relations
United States Department of Agriculture
202.650.7942
anna.osterlind@usda.gov



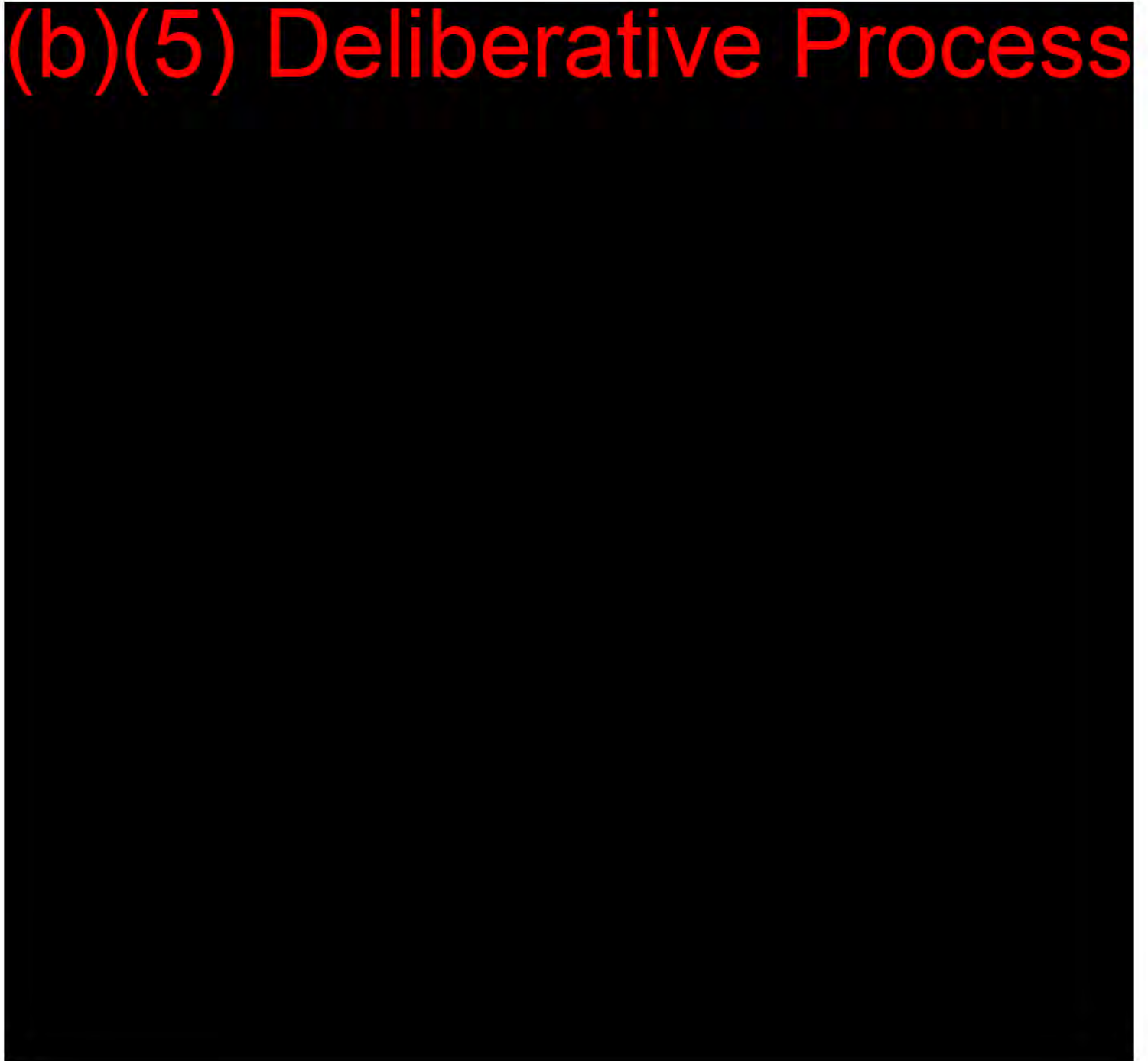
PRE-DECISIONAL, DELIBERATIVE BRIEFING DOCUMENT

Call with Representative Ron Kind (D-WI-03)

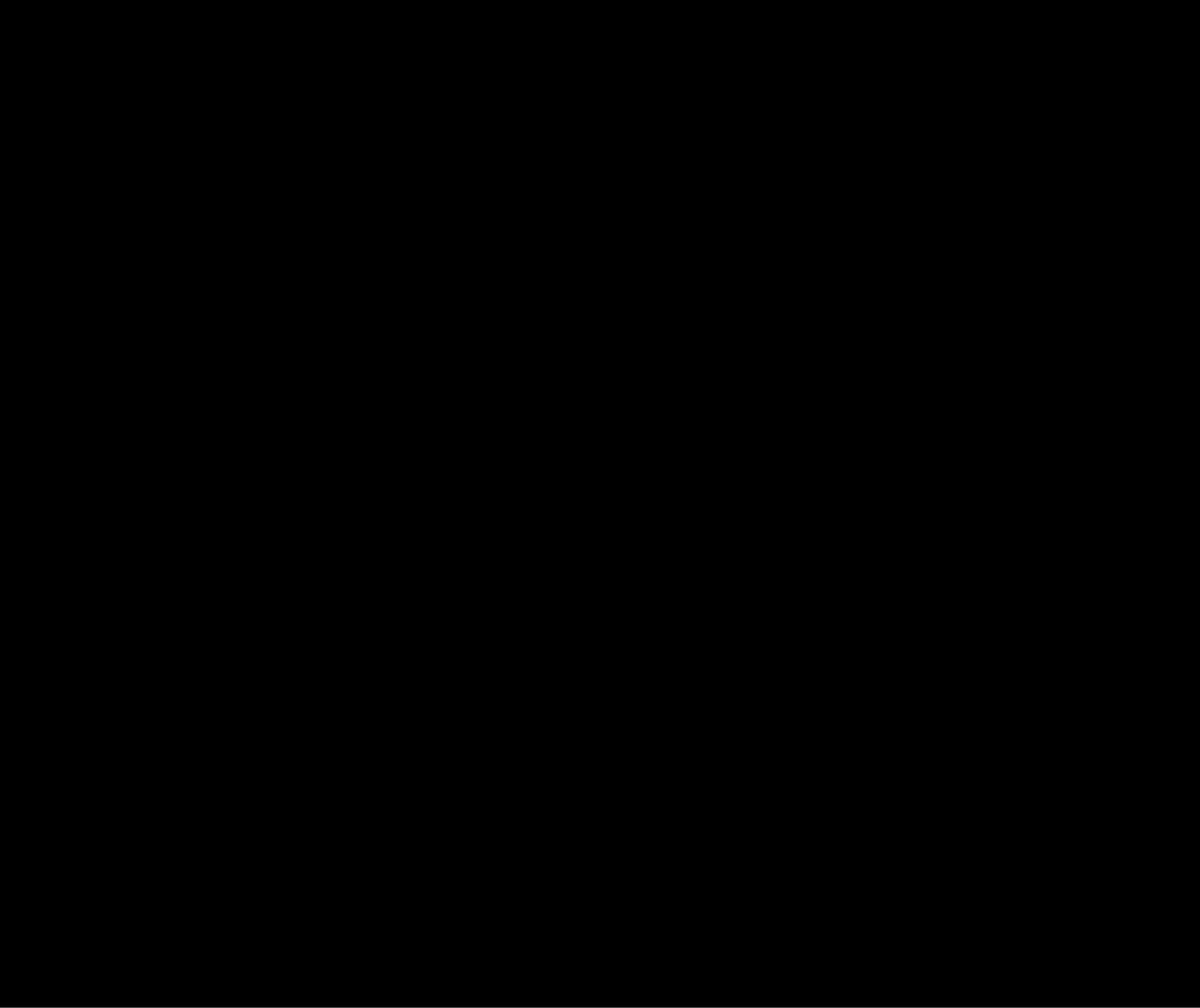
July 24, 2019 at 3:30pm

The Congressman will call 202-690-2769

(b)(5) Deliberative Process

A large, solid black rectangular box covers the majority of the page, indicating that the content has been redacted under FOIA exemption (b)(5). The text "(b)(5) Deliberative Process" is written in red at the top left of this box.

(b)(5) - Deliberative



Non-Responsive Record

Agricultural Goods

The **United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA)** is the most comprehensive and high-standard trade agreement ever negotiated. It fully updates, modernizes, and rebalances the NAFTA to meet the challenges of the 21st century economy and to ensure that American workers, farmers, ranchers, and businesses, including small- and medium-sized enterprises, share in the benefits of the agreement. It will help drive economic prosperity, promote fairer and more balanced trade, and help ensure that North America remains the world's most competitive region.

Mexico and Canada are Major Destinations for U.S. Agricultural Exports

2018 U.S. Agricultural Goods Exports to FTA Partners (% of Total)



Key USMCA Upgrades from the NAFTA Covering Trade in Agricultural Goods

The USMCA maintains NAFTA's existing zero-tariff treatment, significantly expands U.S. access to Canada's dairy market, and includes a number of other important upgrades. According to independent analysis by the U.S. International Trade Commission, **full implementation of the USMCA would increase U.S. agricultural exports to the world by \$2.2 billion.**

- ✓ **Provides for Unprecedented Market Access for U.S. Dairy Farmers into Canada**
 - Covers the full range of dairy products and access will not be shared with other countries.
- ✓ **Canada Will Eliminate Milk Classes 6 and 7 and Apply New Export Penalties**
 - These policies allowed unfairly low-priced Canadian dairy products to undersell U.S. products in Canada and in third country markets. Canada will also apply export penalties on shipments of skim milk powder, milk protein concentrates, and infant formula over specified quantity thresholds.
- ✓ **Canada Will Eliminate its Discriminatory Grading of U.S. Wheat**
 - And no country of origin statement will be required on Canada's quality grade certificates.
- ✓ **Includes a Modernized Chapter on Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Measures**
 - Establishes new and enforceable rules to ensure that SPS measures are science-based, and developed and implemented in a transparent and non-discriminatory manner.
- ✓ **Cooperation on Agricultural Biotechnology**
 - Includes rules – for the first time in a U.S. trade agreement – to address all biotechnologies, including new technologies such as gene editing, to support 21st century innovations in agriculture.
- ✓ **Includes a Number of Other Notable Achievements Concerning Agriculture**
 - Commits Canada to ensure British Columbia eliminates discriminatory treatment of U.S. wine in grocery stores and includes new non-discrimination and transparency commitments regarding the sale and distribution of alcoholic beverages.
 - Mexico will not restrict market access for U.S. cheeses labeled with certain names, just because they are labeled with certain names.

Wisconsin

USMCA
The U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement

Canada and Mexico are the top export markets for U.S. agriculture, totaling a combined \$40 billion in 2018. In fact, more than 29 percent of all U.S. farm and food exports went to our North American neighbors last year. The U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement, or USMCA, will make a good trade relationship even better, ensuring preferential market access for U.S. agricultural exporters and solidifying commitments to fair and science-based trade rules.



24,700

Wisconsin jobs supported by
agricultural exports

\$2.9 billion

Annual value of Wisconsin
agricultural exports

Source: USDA-ERS 2017 State Export Data

Key Provisions



Biotechnology

For the first time, the agreement specifically addresses agricultural biotechnology – including new technologies such as gene editing – to support innovation and reduce trade-distorting policies.



Geographical Indications

The agreement institutes a more rigorous process for establishing geographical indications (GIs) and lays out additional factors to be considered in determining whether a term is a common name.



Sanitary/Phytosanitary Measures

The agreement strengthens disciplines for science-based measures that protect human, animal, and plant health while improving the flow of trade.



Dairy

America's dairy farmers will have new market opportunities in Canada for a wide variety of dairy products. Canada agrees to eliminate the Class 7 milk pricing program that allowed its farmers to undersell U.S. producers and will impose export surcharges on dairy products that exceed agreed thresholds.



Soybeans

U.S. soybean growers maintain access to Mexico, their #3 customer, and to a combined market totaling nearly \$2.1 billion in 2018.



Corn

U.S. corn farmers maintain access to Mexico, their #1 customer, and to a combined market totaling nearly \$3.4 billion (27% of total export sales) last year.



Beef

U.S. beef producers maintain access to a \$1.8 billion market that accounted for nearly 22% of 2018 exports.



Wheat

Canada agrees to terminate its discriminatory wheat grading system, enabling U.S. growers along the border to be more competitive.

Top U.S. Agricultural Exports to Canada and Mexico, 2018

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 Corn (\$3.4 billion) | 6 Dairy Products (\$2.0 billion) |
| 2 Prepared Foods (\$2.7 billion) | 7 Fresh Vegetables (\$2.0 billion) |
| 3 Fresh Fruit (\$2.2 billion) | 8 Beef & Beef Products (\$1.8 billion) |
| 4 Soybeans (\$2.1 billion) | 9 Snack Foods (\$1.7 billion) |
| 5 Pork & Pork Products (\$2.1 billion) | 10 Poultry & Eggs (\$1.6 billion) |

USDA-20-0743-B-000059

United States Department of Agriculture
Foreign Agricultural Service



From: Osterlind, Anna - OSEC, Washington, DC
Sent: 3 Jun 2019 21:44:47 +0000
To: Bachmann, Peter - OSEC Washington, DC; Rich, Michawn - OC, Washington, DC; Bonner, Peter - OGC, Washington, DC; Kuske, Daniel - OBPA, Washington, DC
Cc: Church, Chris - FAS, Washington, DC
Subject: Clearance: U/S McKinney Testimony
Attachments: 06112019 DRAFT TFAA Testimony for Dept Clearance.docx

Hi all –

Attachment withheld under (b)(5) Deliberative exemption (5 pp.)

U/S McKinney will be testifying before the House Livestock and Foreign Ag Subcommittee on June 11th and before the full Senate Ag committee on June 13th. Both hearings will be general trade updates with Ambassador Doud.

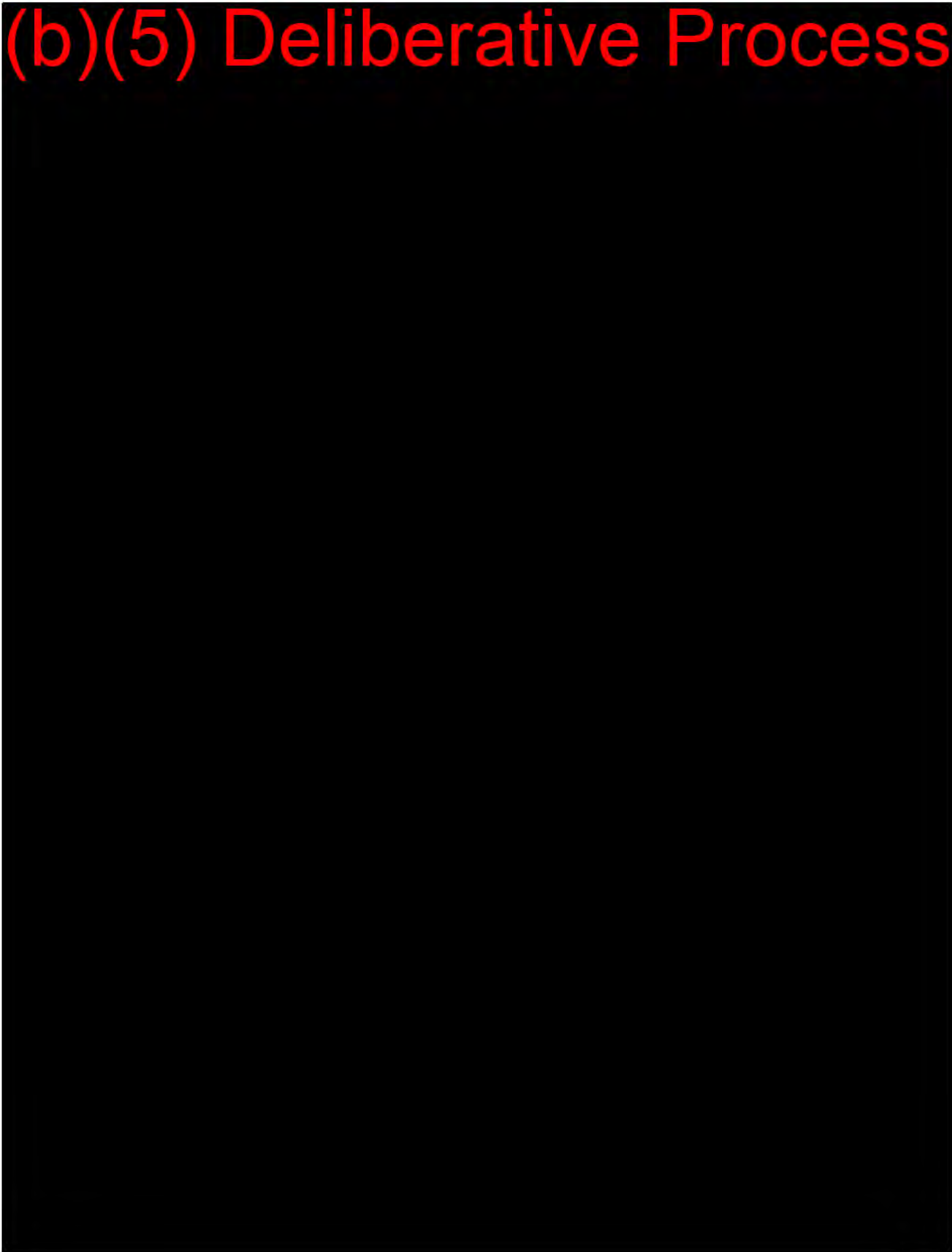
(b)(5) - Deliberative

(b)(5) - Deliberative Thanks, all.

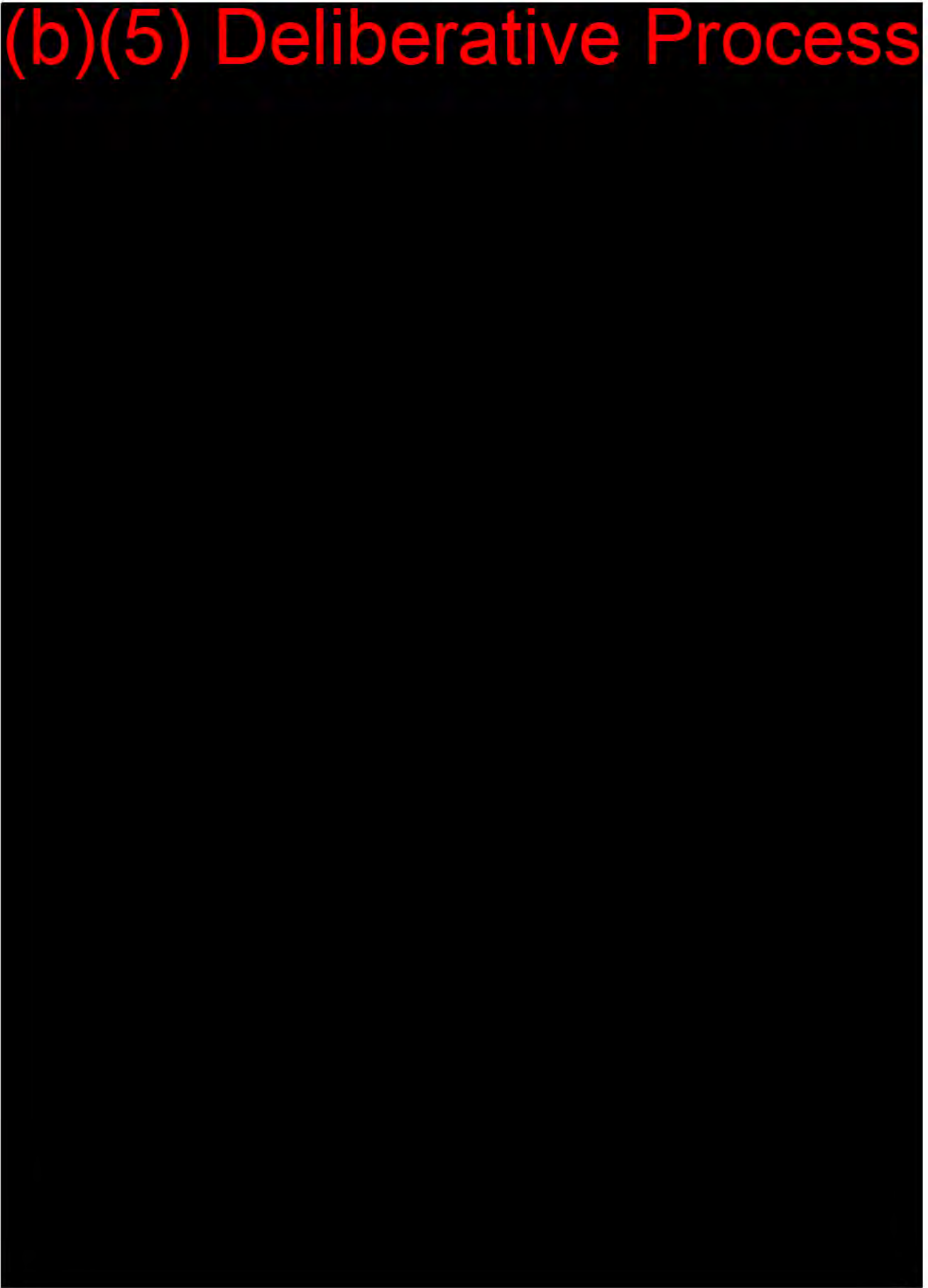


Anna Osterlind
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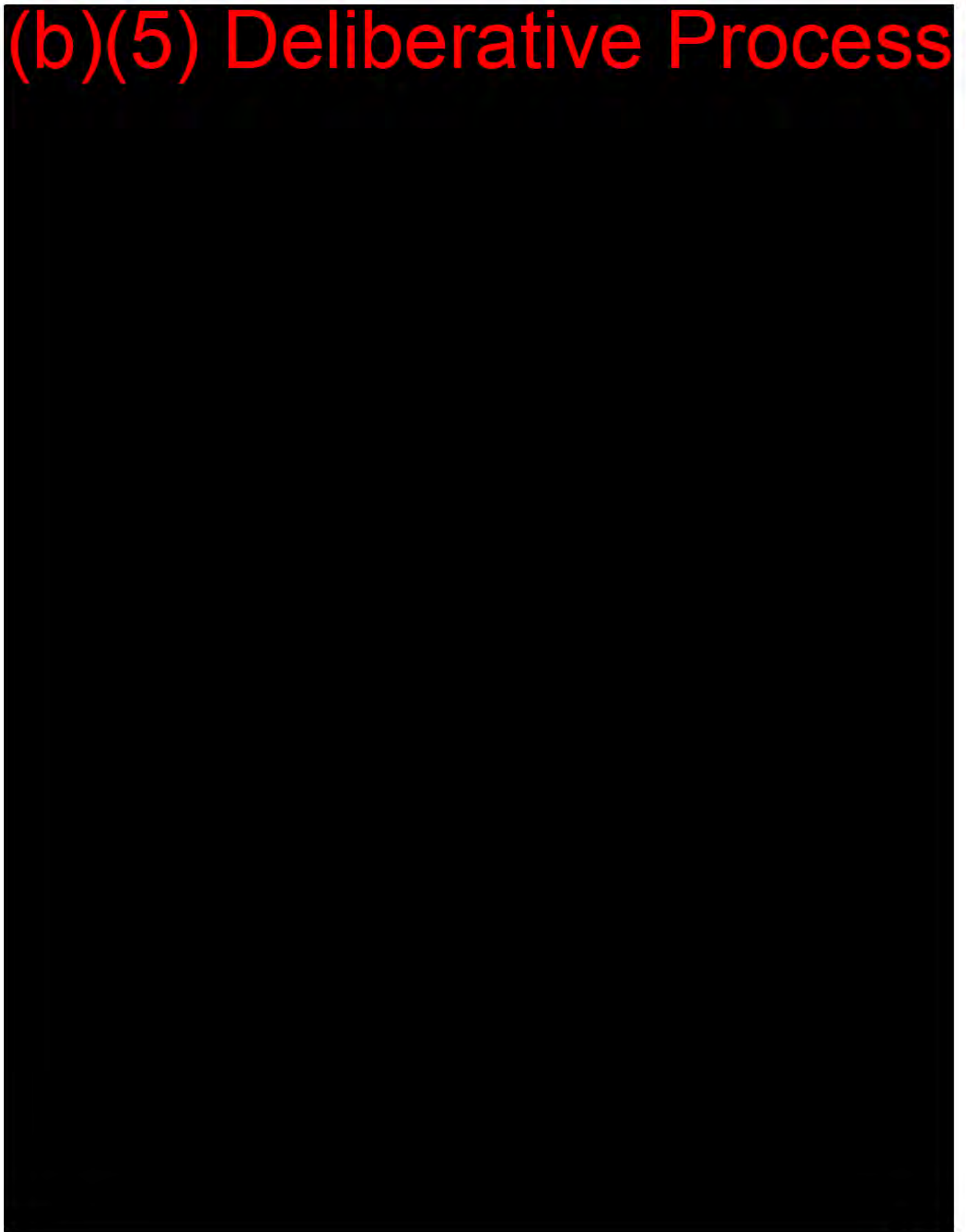
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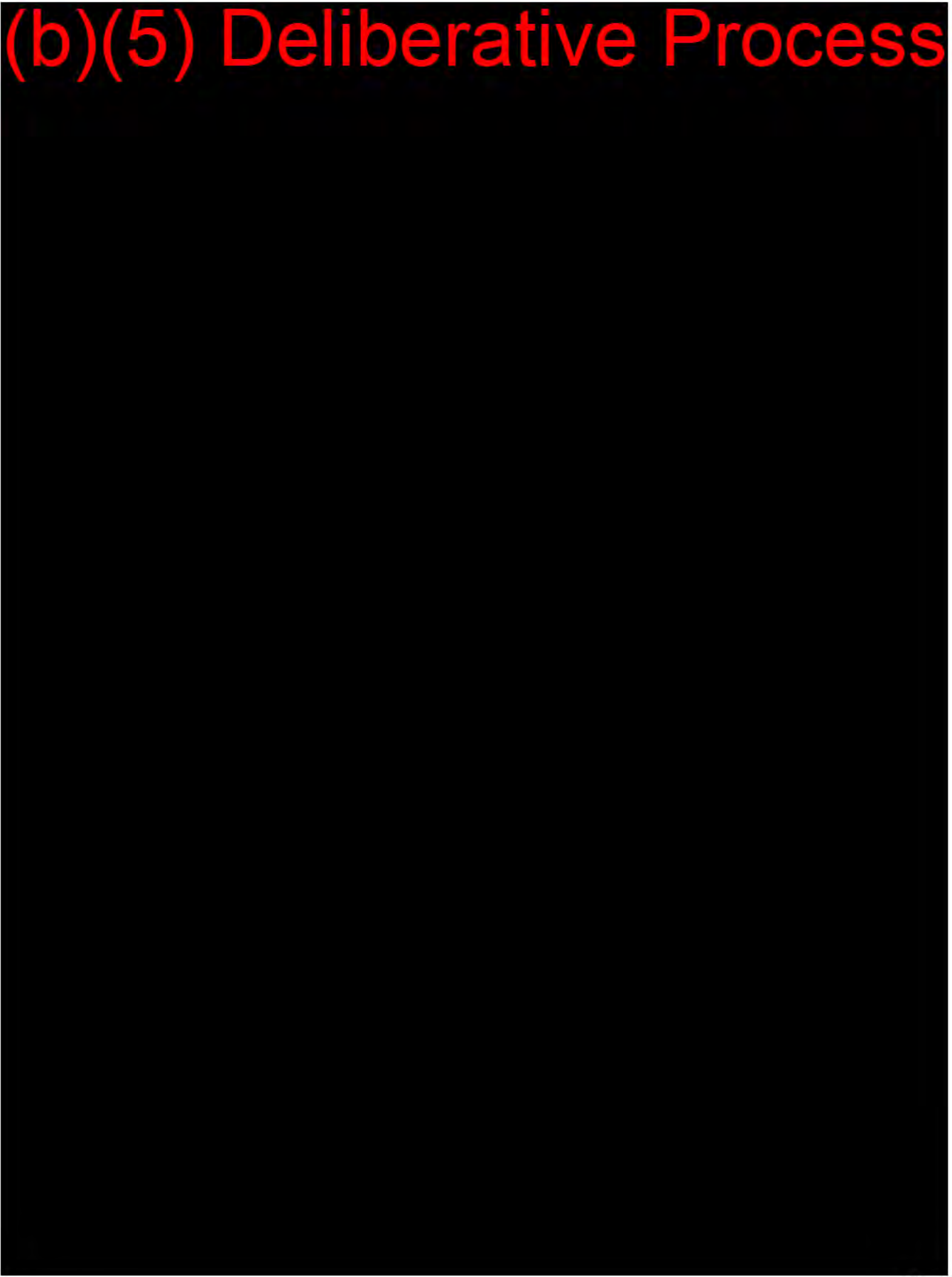
(b)(5) Deliberative Process



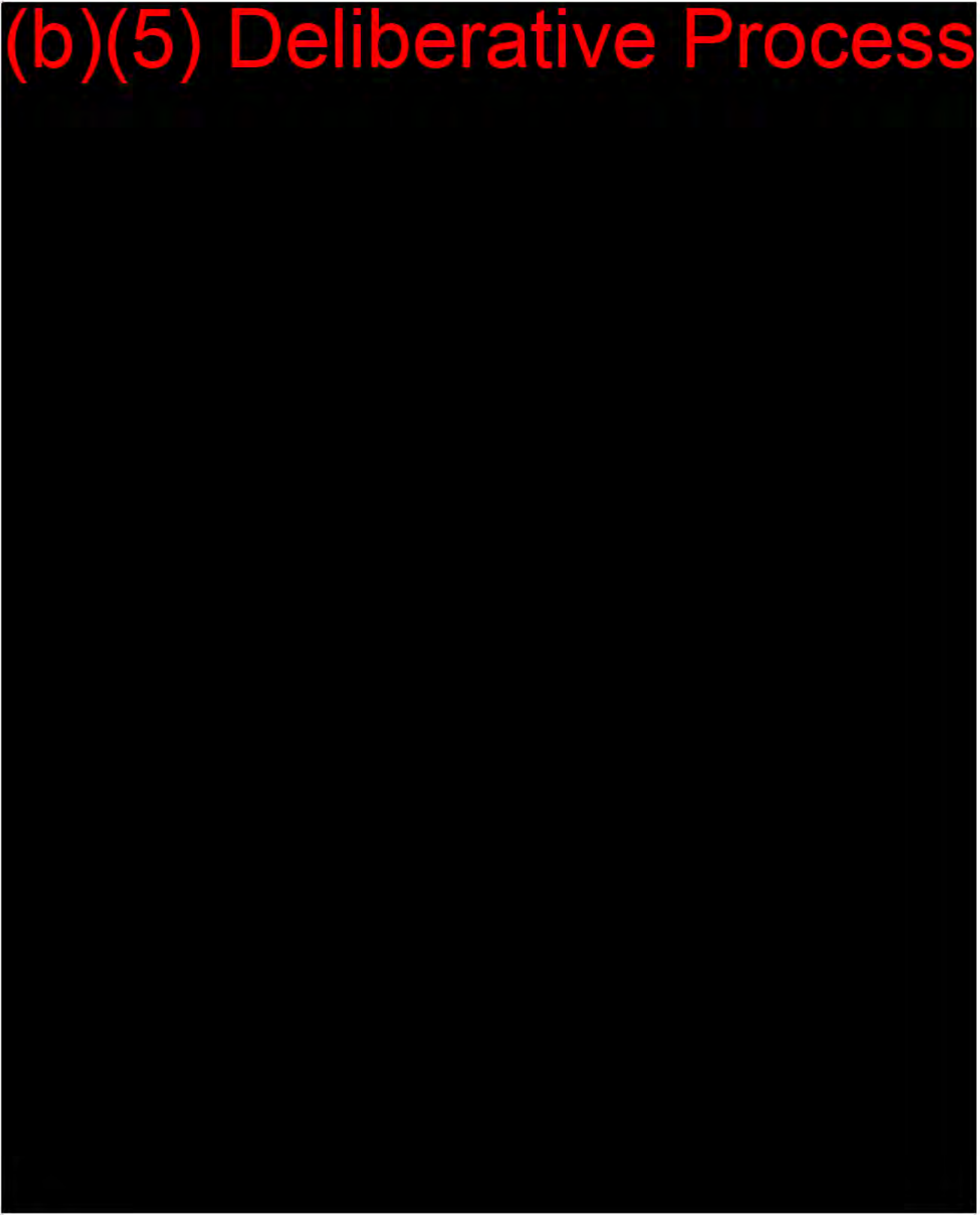
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(b)(5) Deliberative Process



(b)(5) Deliberative Process

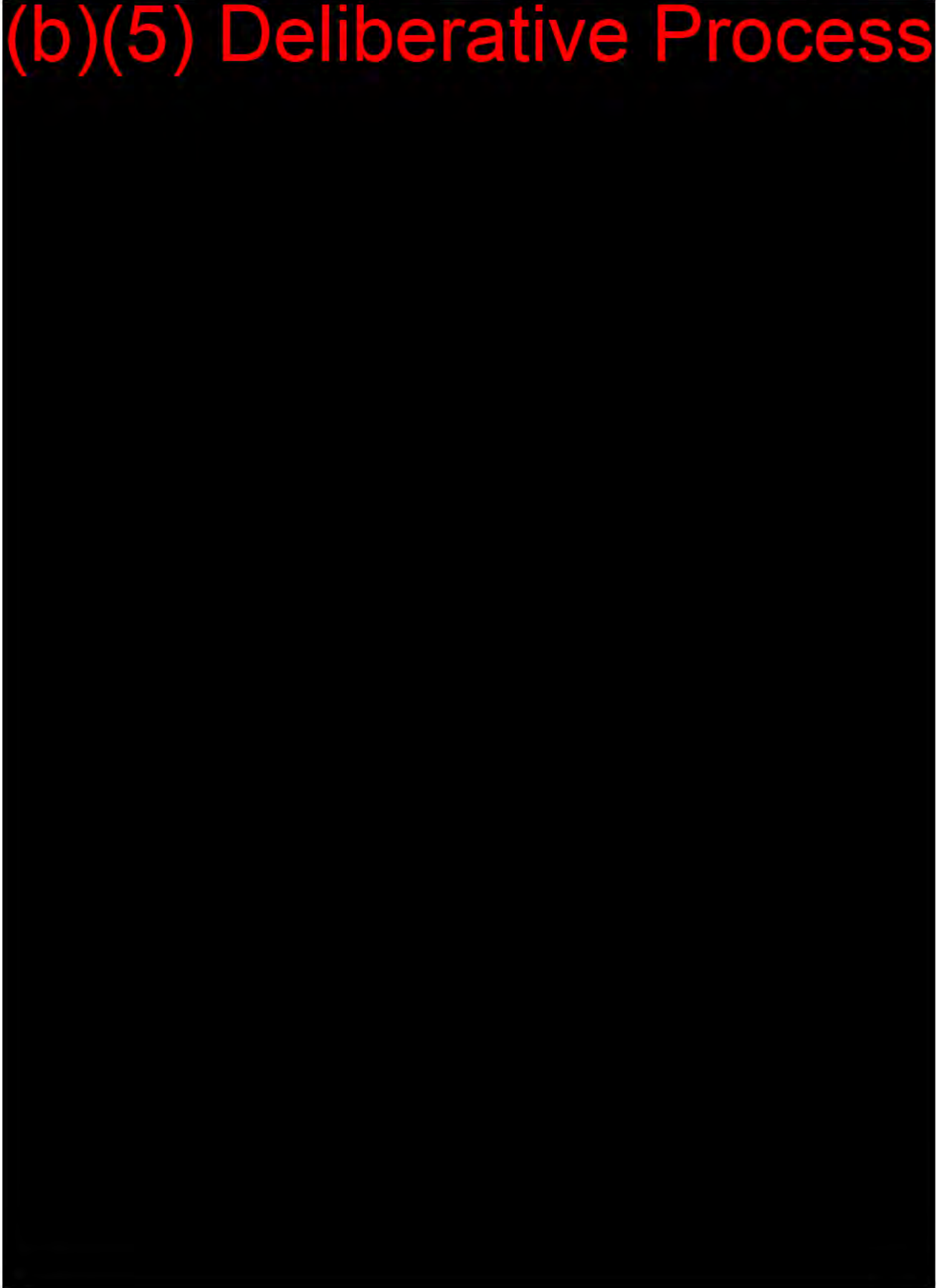


From: Church, Chris - FAS, Washington, DC
Sent: 30 May 2019 17:25:02 +0000
To: Osterlind, Anna - OSEC, Washington, DC
Subject: DRAFT TFAA Testimony 5.24.19
Attachments: DRAFT TFAA Testimony 5.24.19.docx

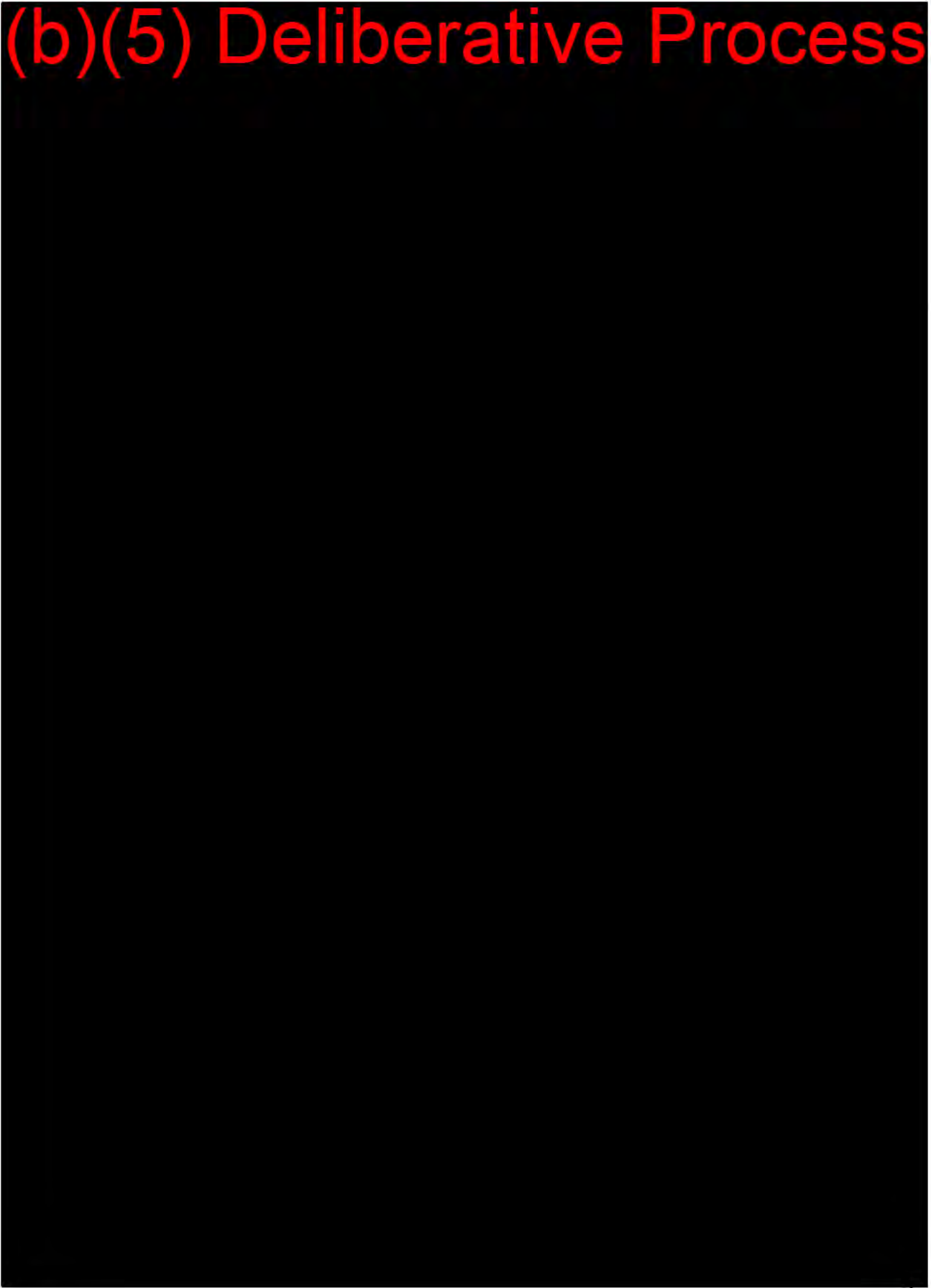
Draft WRITTEN testimony for House Ag Subcommittee Hearing attached.
Oral testimony is limited to 5 minutes at the hearing.
CC

Attachment withheld under (b)(5) Deliberative exemption (5 pp.)

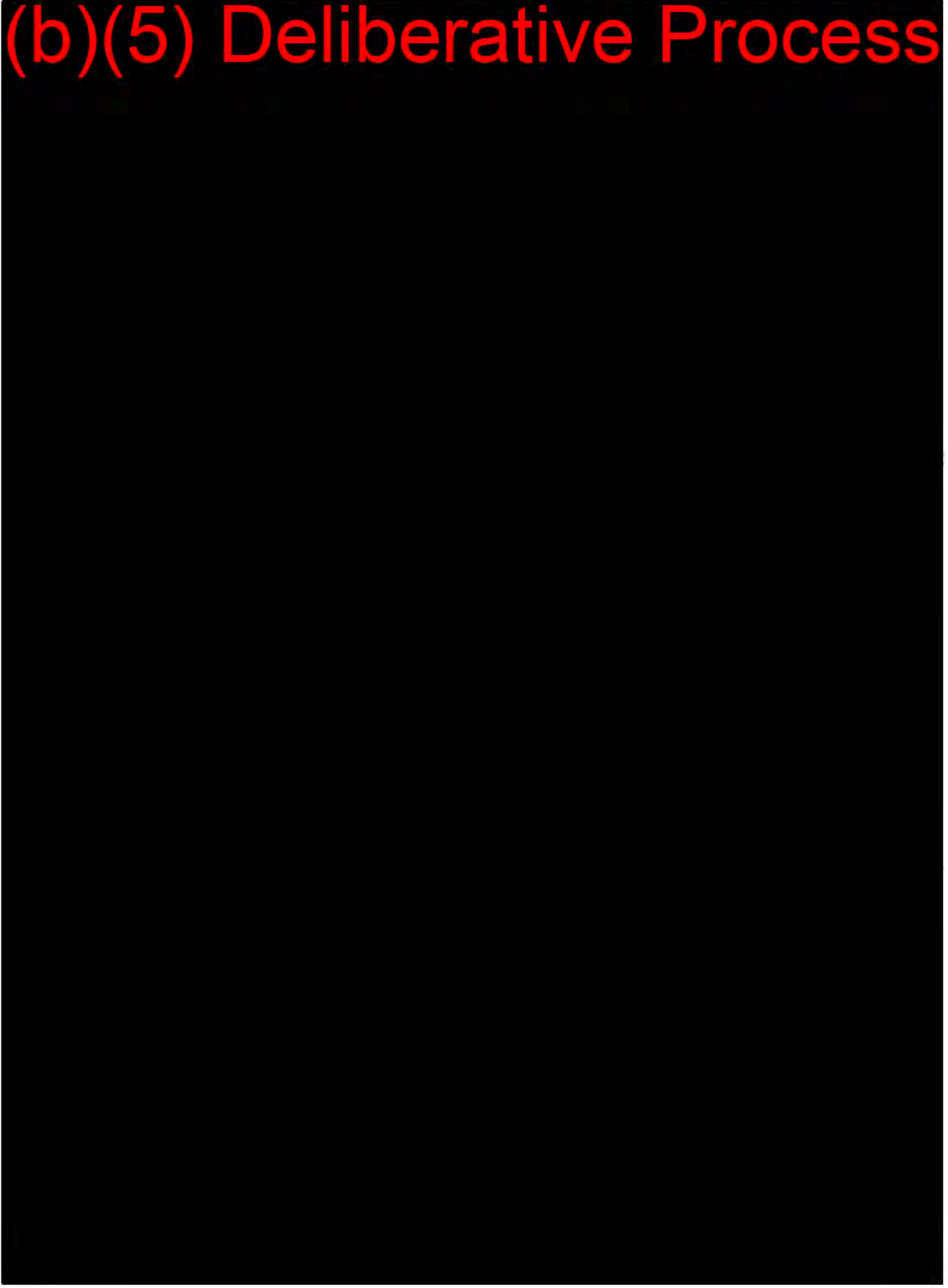
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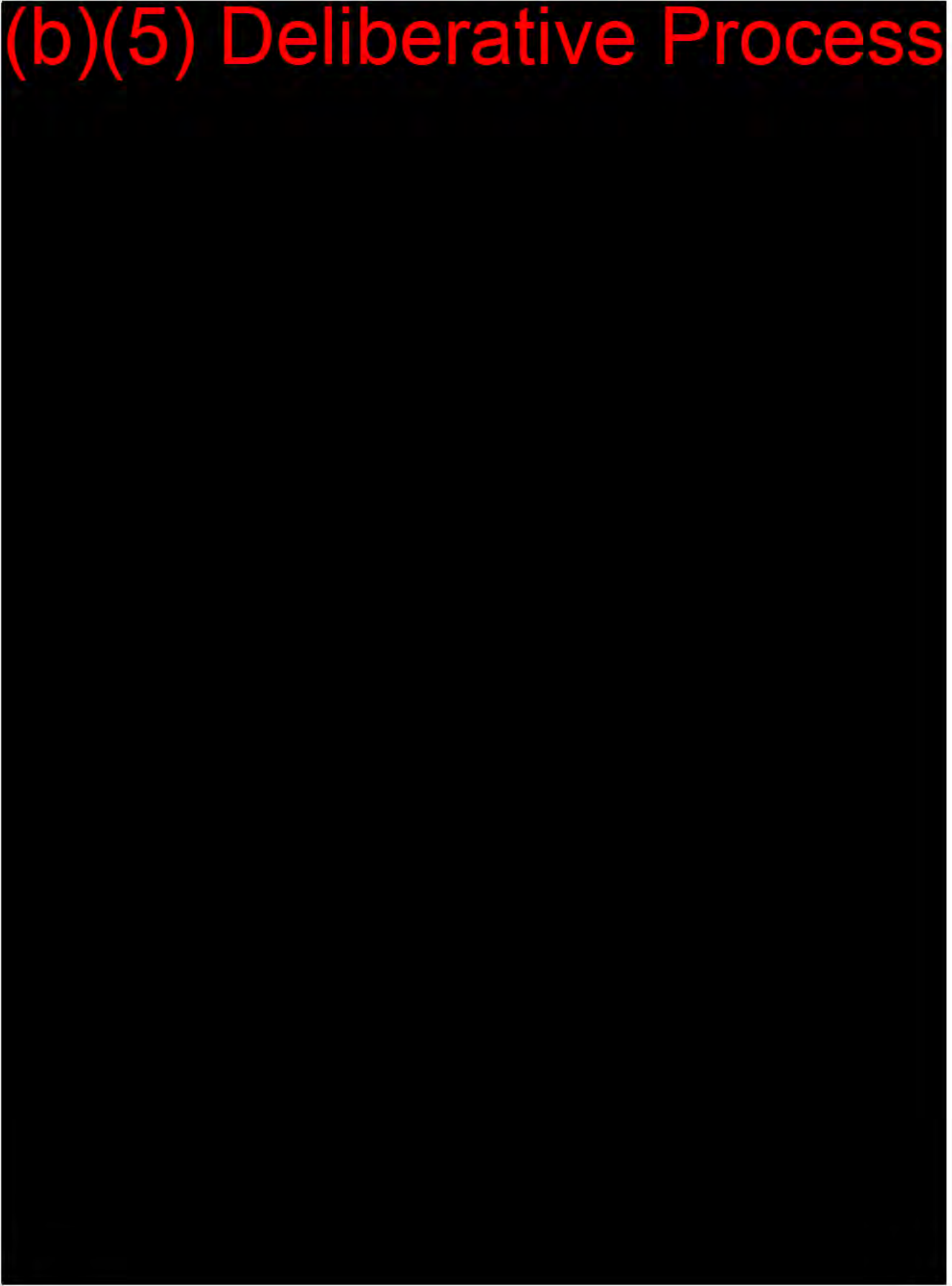
(b)(5) Deliberative Process



(b)(5) Deliberative Process



(b)(5) Deliberative Process



(b)(5) Deliberative Process



From: Norman, Jackie - OBPA, Washington, DC
Sent: 5 Jun 2019 12:01:22 +0000
To: Osterlind, Anna - OSEC, Washington, DC
Cc: Kuske, Daniel - OBPA, Washington, DC
Subject: FW: Clearance: U/S McKinney Testimony
Attachments: 06112019 DRAFT TFAA Testimony for Dept Clearance pb OBPA.docx

(b)(5) - Deliberative

Attachment withheld under (b)(5) Deliberative exemption (5 pp.)

From: Perry, Andrew - OBPA, Washington, DC
Sent: Tuesday, June 4, 2019 4:27 PM
To: Norman, Jackie - OBPA, Washington, DC <jackie.norman@usda.gov>
Subject: FW: Clearance: U/S McKinney Testimony

(b)(5) DPP
please!

From: Dahl, Blane - OBPA, Washington, DC
Sent: Tuesday, June 4, 2019 4:01 PM
To: Perry, Andrew - OBPA, Washington, DC <andrew.perry@usda.gov>
Cc: Norman, Jackie - OBPA, Washington, DC <jackie.norman@usda.gov>; Kuske, Daniel - OBPA, Washington, DC <daniel.kuske@usda.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Clearance: U/S McKinney Testimony

I agree with Dan, (b)(5) - Deliberative
Thanks.
Blane

From: "Kuske, Daniel - OBPA, Washington, DC" <daniel.kuske@usda.gov>
Date: Tuesday, June 4, 2019 at 8:58:54 AM
To: "Norman, Jackie - OBPA, Washington, DC" <jackie.norman@usda.gov>
Cc: "Dahl, Blane - OBPA, Washington, DC" <blane.dahl@usda.gov>, "Perry, Andrew - OBPA, Washington, DC" <andrew.perry@usda.gov>, "Smith, Mark - OBPA, Washington, DC" <mark.smith4@usda.gov>, "Johnson, Bradley - OBPA, Washington, DC" <bradley.johnson2@usda.gov>, "York, Kent - OBPA, Washington, DC" <kent.york@usda.gov>
Subject: FW: Clearance: U/S McKinney Testimony

Good morning, all.

Jackie,

(b)(5) - Deliberative

(b)(5) - Deliberative

(b)(5) - Deliberative

Thanks.

From: Bachmann, Peter - OSEC Washington, DC
Sent: Monday, June 3, 2019 6:39 PM
To: Osterlind, Anna - OSEC, Washington, DC <Anna.Osterlind@usda.gov>; Rich, Michawn - OC, Washington, DC <michawn.rich@usda.gov>; Bonner, Peter - OGC, Washington, DC <peter.bonner@usda.gov>; Kuske, Daniel - OBPA, Washington, DC <daniel.kuske@usda.gov>
Cc: Church, Chris - FAS, Washington, DC <Chris.Church@fas.usda.gov>
Subject: RE: Clearance: U/S McKinney Testimony

(b)(5) - Deliberative

From: Osterlind, Anna - OSEC, Washington, DC
Sent: Monday, June 3, 2019 5:45 PM
To: Bachmann, Peter - OSEC Washington, DC <peter.bachmann@usda.gov>; Rich, Michawn - OC, Washington, DC <michawn.rich@usda.gov>; Bonner, Peter - OGC, Washington, DC <peter.bonner@usda.gov>; Kuske, Daniel - OBPA, Washington, DC <daniel.kuske@usda.gov>
Cc: Church, Chris - FAS, Washington, DC <Chris.Church@fas.usda.gov>
Subject: Clearance: U/S McKinney Testimony

Hi all –

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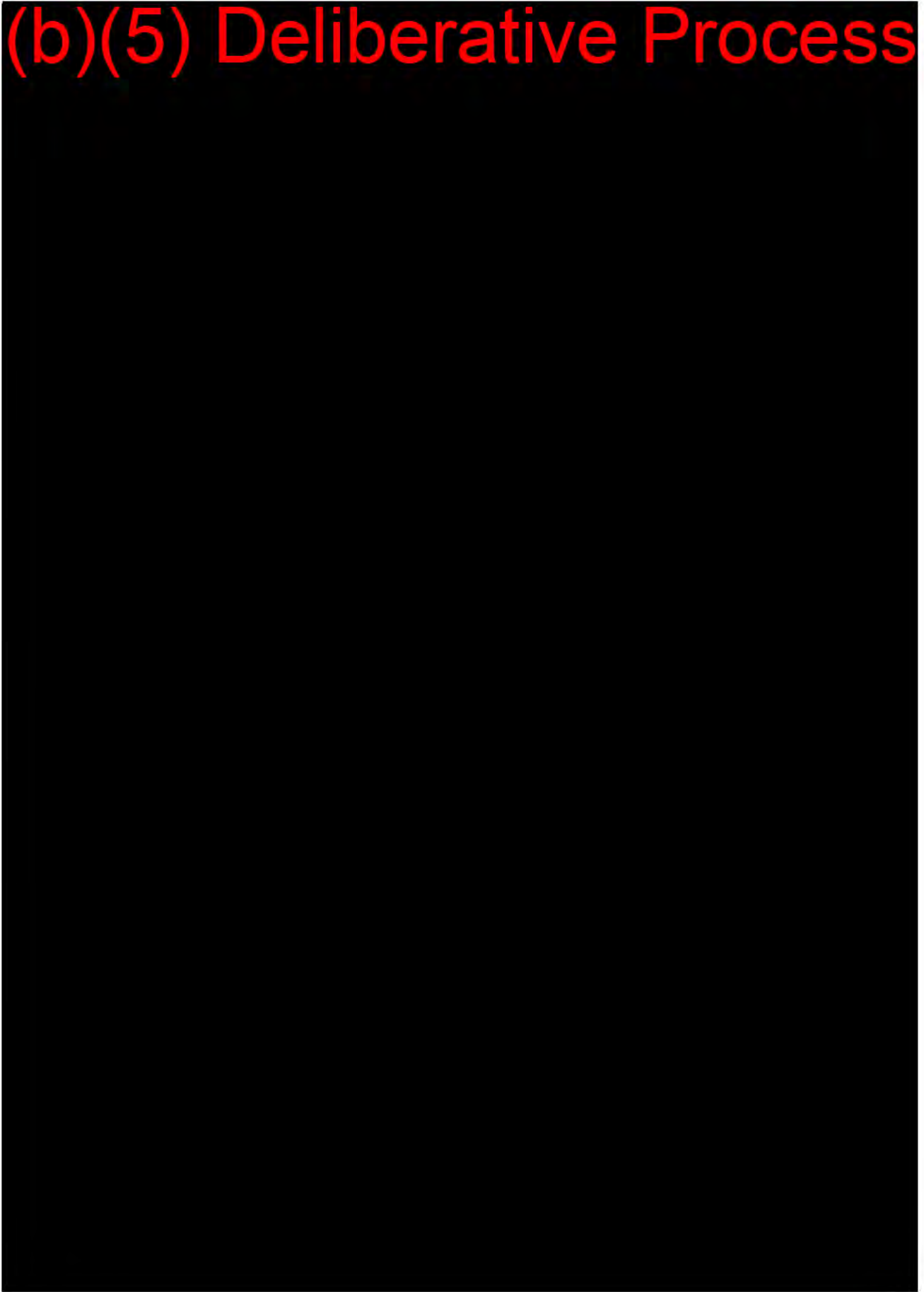
(b)(5) - Deliberative

(b)(5) - Deliberative Thanks, all.

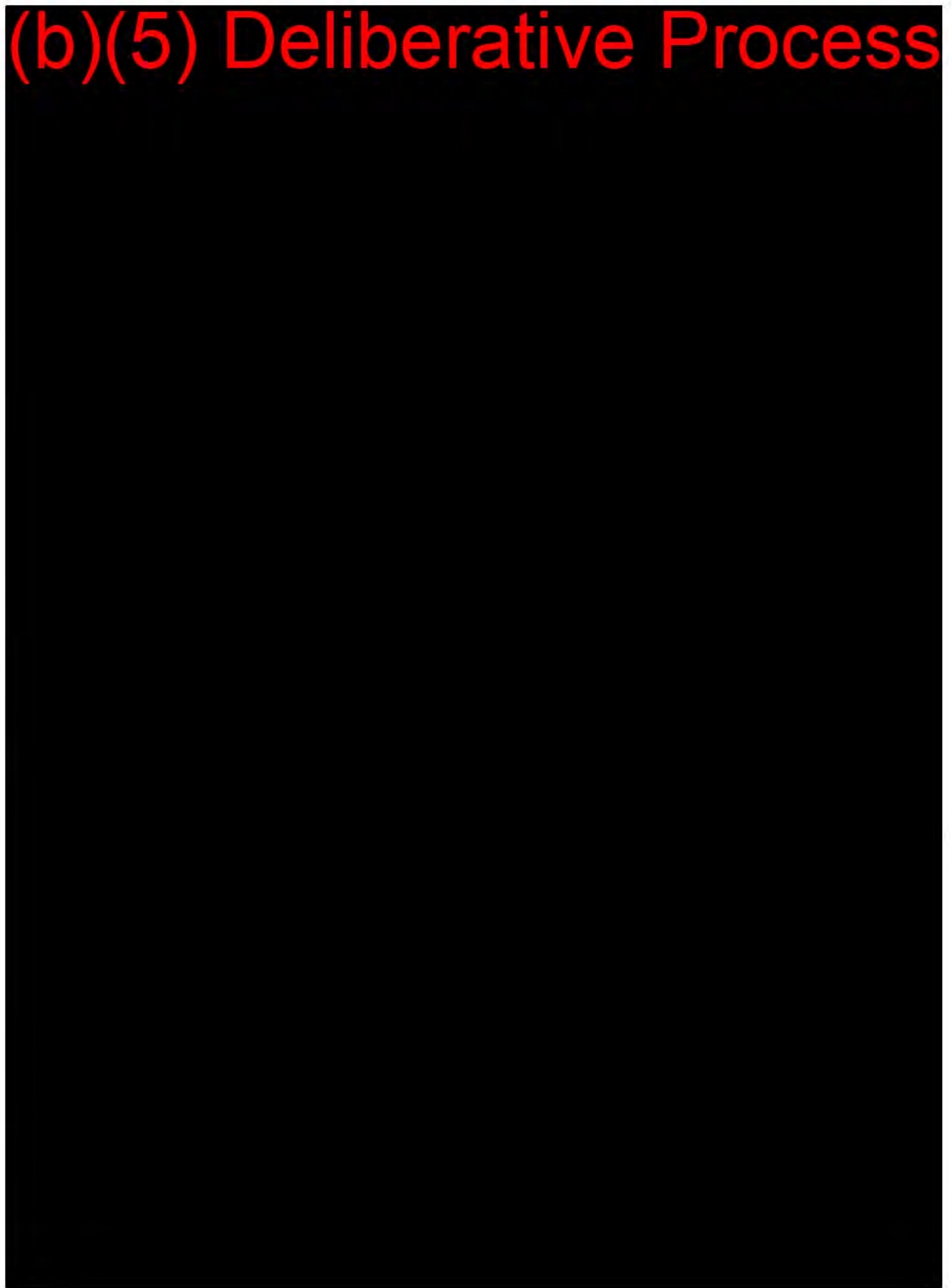


Anna Osterlind
Office of Congressional Relations
United States Department of Agriculture
202.650.7942
anna.osterlind@usda.gov

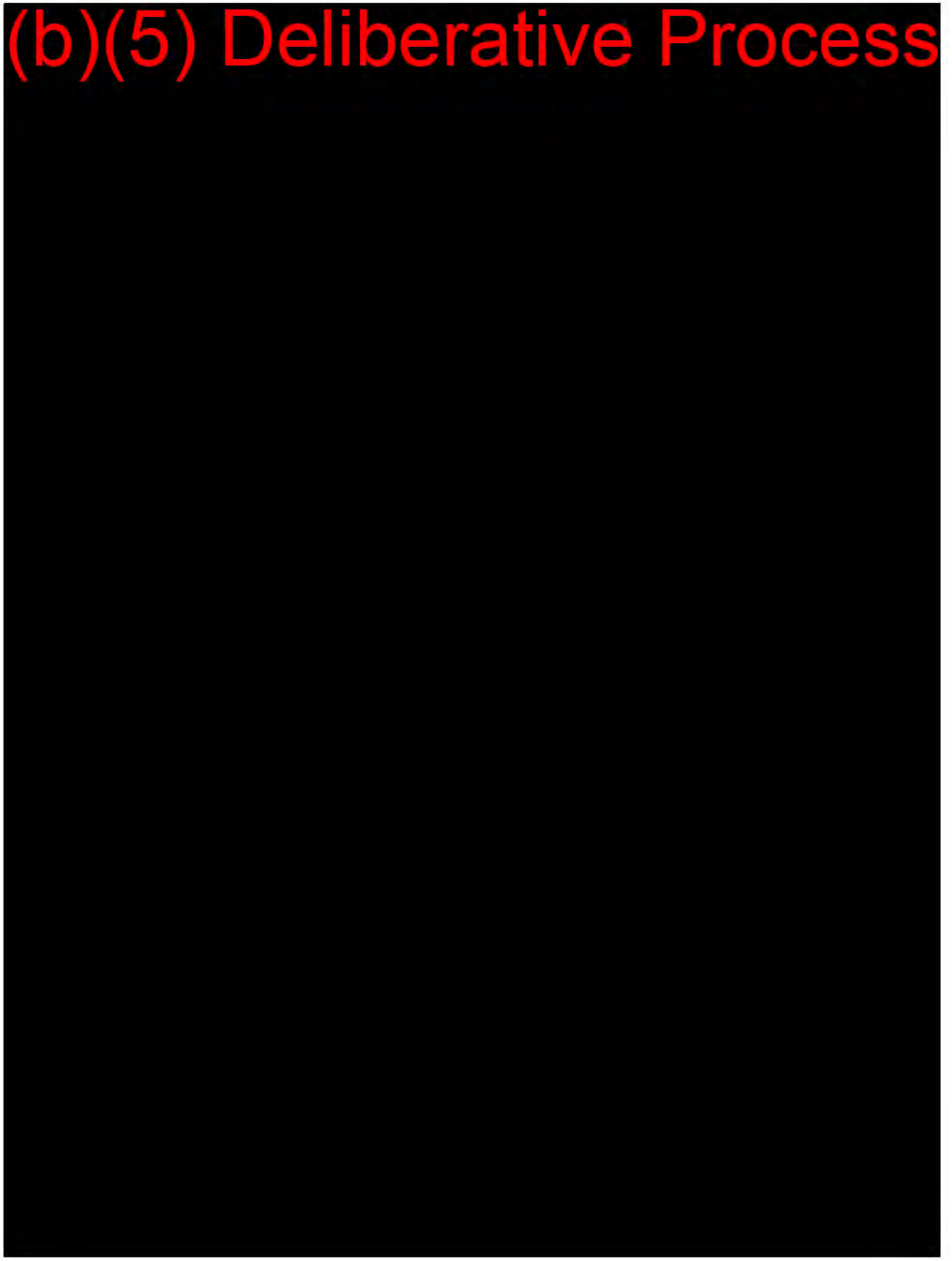
(b)(5) Deliberative Process



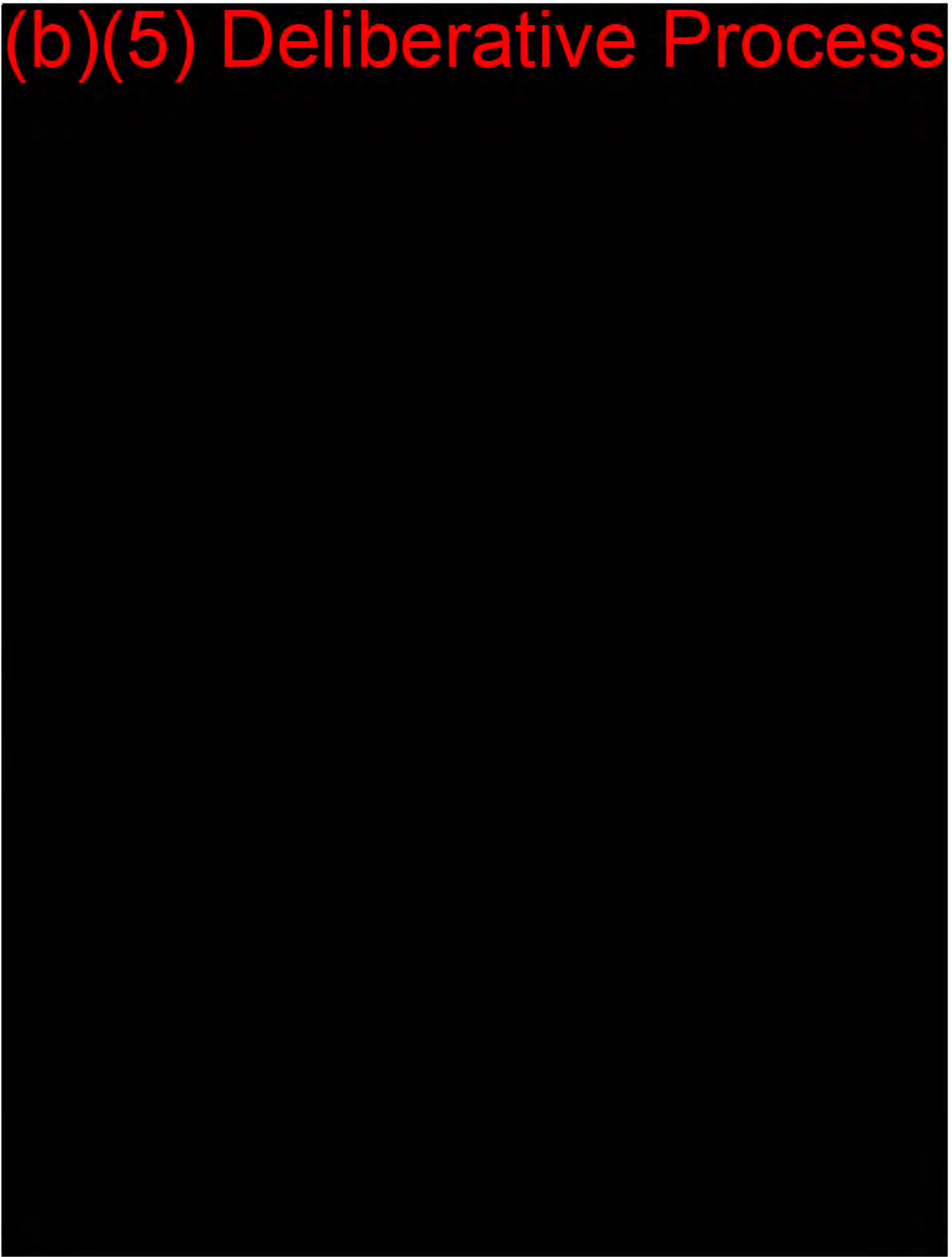
(b)(5) Deliberative Process



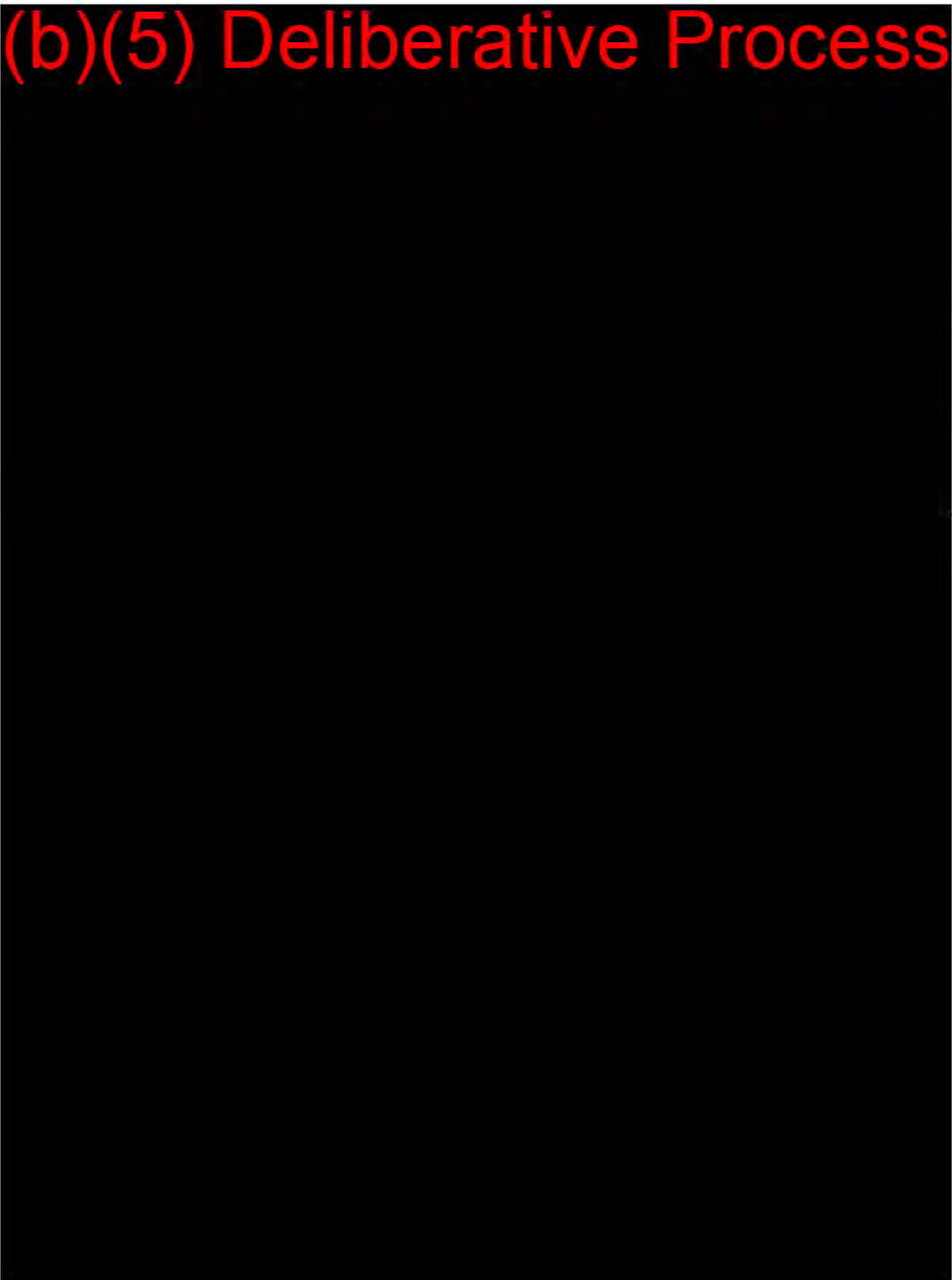
(b)(5) Deliberative Process



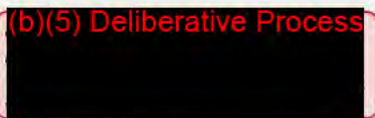
(b)(5) Deliberative Process



(b)(5) Deliberative Process



(b)(5) Deliberative Process



From: Tkacz, Kailee - OSEC, Washington, DC
Sent: 23 May 2019 15:15:25 +0000
To: Osterlind, Anna - OSEC, Washington, DC; Lee, Evan - OSEC, Washington, DC
Subject: FW: CLOSE HOLD ROLL OUT MATERIALS 2.0 - HOLD ON SHARING PRESS RELEASE
Attachments: EMBARGOED Farmer Support Package Release 5.23.19.docx

Attachment: Duplicate (2 pp.)

(b)(5) - Deliberative

From: Rodgers, Meghan - OC, Washington, DC
Sent: Thursday, May 23, 2019 11:11 AM
To: Tkacz, Kailee - OSEC, Washington, DC <kailee.tkacz@usda.gov>; CLS1, SLC1 - OSEC, Washington, DC <SLC1@usda.gov>; Osterlind, Anna - OSEC, Washington, DC <Anna.Osterlind@usda.gov>; Lee, Evan - OSEC, Washington, DC <evan.lee@usda.gov>; Hafemeister, Jason - OSEC, Washington, DC <Jason.Hafemeister1@usda.gov>; CloverAdams, Jamie - OSEC, Washington, DC <jamie.cloveradams@usda.gov>; Northey, Bill - OSEC, Washington, DC <Bill.Northey@usda.gov>; Johansson, Robert - OCE <robert.johansson@usda.gov>; Preston, Warren - OCE <warren.preston@usda.gov>; Adcock, Rebeckah - OSEC, Washington, DC <Rebeckah.Adcock@usda.gov>; LINDEN, RALPH - OGC, Washington D.C. <ralph.linden@usda.gov>; Lipps, Brandon - OSEC, Washington, DC <brandon.lipps@usda.gov>; Lyons, Maggie - OSEC, Washington, DC <Maggie.Lyons@usda.gov>; Ibach, Greg - OSEC, Washington, DC <Greg.Ibach@usda.gov>; Walker, Lorren - OSEC, Washington, DC <Lorren.Walker@usda.gov>; Rich, Michawn - OC, Washington, DC <michawn.rich@usda.gov>; Varsamis, Alec - OC 20174, Washington, DC <alec.varsamis@usda.gov>; Shuford, Campbell - OSEC, Washington, DC <campbell.shuford@usda.gov>; Young, Joby - OSEC, Washington, DC <joby.young@usda.gov>; McKinney, Ted - OSEC, Washington, DC <Ted.McKinney@usda.gov>; Bachmann, Peter - OSEC Washington, DC <peter.bachmann@usda.gov>; MacGregor, Robert - OSEC, Washington, DC <Robert.MacGregor2@usda.gov>; Brady, Lillie - OSEC, Washington, DC <lillie.brady@usda.gov>; Barbic, Ken - OSEC, Washington, DC <Ken.Barbic@usda.gov>; Willbrand, Zhulieta - OSEC, Washington, DC <zhulieta.z.willbrand@usda.gov>; Navarro, Erica - OBPA, Washington, DC <erica.navarro@usda.gov>; Hafemeister, Jason - OSEC, Washington, DC <Jason.Hafemeister1@usda.gov>
Subject: RE: CLOSE HOLD ROLL OUT MATERIALS 2.0 - HOLD ON SHARING PRESS RELEASE

I apologize everyone, attached is the final.

(b)(5) - Deliberative

(b)(5) - Deliberative

From: Rodgers, Meghan - OC, Washington, DC
Sent: Thursday, May 23, 2019 10:50 AM
To: Tkacz, Kailee - OSEC, Washington, DC <kailee.tkacz@usda.gov>; CLS1, SLC1 - OSEC, Washington, DC <SLC1@usda.gov>; Osterlind, Anna - OSEC, Washington, DC <Anna.Osterlind@usda.gov>; Lee, Evan - OSEC, Washington, DC <evan.lee@usda.gov>; Hafemeister, Jason - OSEC, Washington, DC <Jason.Hafemeister1@usda.gov>; CloverAdams, Jamie - OSEC, Washington, DC <jamie.cloveradams@usda.gov>; Northey, Bill - OSEC, Washington, DC <Bill.Northey@usda.gov>; Johansson, Robert - OCE <robert.johansson@usda.gov>; Preston, Warren - OCE <warren.preston@usda.gov>; Adcock, Rebeckah - OSEC, Washington, DC <Rebeckah.Adcock@usda.gov>; LINDEN, RALPH - OGC, Washington D.C. <ralph.linden@usda.gov>; Lipps, Brandon - OSEC, Washington, DC <brandon.lipps@usda.gov>; Lyons, Maggie - OSEC, Washington, DC <Maggie.Lyons@usda.gov>; Ibach, Greg - OSEC, Washington, DC

<Greg.Ibach@usda.gov>; Walker, Lorren - OSEC, Washington, DC <Lorren.Walker@usda.gov>; Rich, Michawn - OC, Washington, DC <michawn.rich@usda.gov>; Varsamis, Alec - OC 20174, Washington, DC <alec.varsamis@usda.gov>; Shuford, Campbell - OSEC, Washington, DC <campbell.shuford@usda.gov>; Young, Joby - OSEC, Washington, DC <joby.young@usda.gov>; McKinney, Ted - OSEC, Washington, DC <Ted.McKinney@usda.gov>; Bachmann, Peter - OSEC Washington, DC <peter.bachmann@usda.gov>; MacGregor, Robert - OSEC, Washington, DC <Robert.MacGregor2@usda.gov>; Brady, Lillie - OSEC, Washington, DC <lillie.brady@usda.gov>; Barbic, Ken - OSEC, Washington, DC <Ken.Barbic@usda.gov>; Willbrand, Zhulieta - OSEC, Washington, DC <zhulieta.z.willbrand@usda.gov>; Navarro, Erica - OBPA, Washington, DC <erica.navarro@usda.gov>; Hafemeister, Jason - OSEC, Washington, DC <Jason.Hafemeister1@usda.gov>
Subject: RE: CLOSE HOLD ROLL OUT MATERIALS 2.0 -HOLD ON SHARING PRESS RELEASE

The new version (b)(5) - Deliberative is attached.

From: Tkacz, Kailee - OSEC, Washington, DC
Sent: Thursday, May 23, 2019 10:48 AM Stephen Censky
To: CLS1, SLC1 - OSEC, Washington, DC <SLC1@usda.gov>; Osterlind, Anna - OSEC, Washington, DC <Anna.Osterlind@usda.gov>; Lee, Evan - OSEC, Washington, DC <evan.lee@usda.gov>; Hafemeister, Jason - OSEC, Washington, DC <Jason.Hafemeister1@usda.gov>; CloverAdams, Jamie - OSEC, Washington, DC <jamie.cloveradams@usda.gov>; Northey, Bill - OSEC, Washington, DC <Bill.Northey@usda.gov>; Johansson, Robert - OCE <robert.johansson@usda.gov>; Preston, Warren - OCE <warren.preston@usda.gov>; Adcock, Rebeckah - OSEC, Washington, DC <Rebeckah.Adcock@usda.gov>; LINDEN, RALPH - OGC, Washington D.C. <ralph.linden@usda.gov>; Lipps, Brandon - OSEC, Washington, DC <brandon.lipps@usda.gov>; Lyons, Maggie - OSEC, Washington, DC <Maggie.Lyons@usda.gov>; Ibach, Greg - OSEC, Washington, DC <Greg.Ibach@usda.gov>; Walker, Lorren - OSEC, Washington, DC <Lorren.Walker@usda.gov>; Rich, Michawn - OC, Washington, DC <michawn.rich@usda.gov>; Rodgers, Meghan - OC, Washington, DC <meghan.rodgers@usda.gov>; Varsamis, Alec - OC 20174, Washington, DC <alec.varsamis@usda.gov>; Shuford, Campbell - OSEC, Washington, DC <campbell.shuford@usda.gov>; Young, Joby - OSEC, Washington, DC <joby.young@usda.gov>; McKinney, Ted - OSEC, Washington, DC <Ted.McKinney@usda.gov>; Bachmann, Peter - OSEC Washington, DC <peter.bachmann@usda.gov>; MacGregor, Robert - OSEC, Washington, DC <Robert.MacGregor2@usda.gov>; Brady, Lillie - OSEC, Washington, DC <lillie.brady@usda.gov>; Barbic, Ken - OSEC, Washington, DC <Ken.Barbic@usda.gov>; Willbrand, Zhulieta - OSEC, Washington, DC <zhulieta.z.willbrand@usda.gov>; Navarro, Erica - OBPA, Washington, DC <erica.navarro@usda.gov>; Hafemeister, Jason - OSEC, Washington, DC <Jason.Hafemeister1@usda.gov>
Subject: RE: CLOSE HOLD ROLL OUT MATERIALS 2.0 -HOLD ON SHARING PRESS RELEASE
Importance: High

PLEASE HOLD ON SHARING (b)(5) Deliberative Process
(b)(5) Deliberative Process (b)(5) Deliberative Process

Thanks for your patience.

From: CLS1, SLC1 - OSEC, Washington, DC Stephen Censky
Sent: Thursday, May 23, 2019 10:16 AM
To: Osterlind, Anna - OSEC, Washington, DC <Anna.Osterlind@usda.gov>; Lee, Evan - OSEC,

Washington, DC <evan.lee@usda.gov>; Hafemeister, Jason - OSEC, Washington, DC
<Jason.Hafemeister1@usda.gov>; CloverAdams, Jamie - OSEC, Washington, DC
<jamie.cloveradams@usda.gov>; Northey, Bill - OSEC, Washington, DC <Bill.Northey@usda.gov>;
Johansson, Robert - OCE <robert.johansson@usda.gov>; Preston, Warren - OCE
<warren.preston@usda.gov>; Adcock, Rebeckah - OSEC, Washington, DC
<Rebeckah.Adcock@usda.gov>; LINDEN, RALPH - OGC, Washington D.C. <ralph.linden@usda.gov>;
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Michawn - OC, Washington, DC <michawn.rich@usda.gov>; Rodgers, Meghan - OC, Washington, DC
<meghan.rodgers@usda.gov>; Varsamis, Alec - OC 20174, Washington, DC <alec.varsamis@usda.gov>;
Shuford, Campbell - OSEC, Washington, DC <campbell.shuford@usda.gov>; Young, Joby - OSEC,
Washington, DC <joby.young@usda.gov>; McKinney, Ted - OSEC, Washington, DC
<Ted.McKinney@usda.gov>; Bachmann, Peter - OSEC Washington, DC <peter.bachmann@usda.gov>;
MacGregor, Robert - OSEC, Washington, DC <Robert.MacGregor2@usda.gov>; Brady, Lillie - OSEC,
Washington, DC <illie.brady@usda.gov>; Barbic, Ken - OSEC, Washington, DC <Ken.Barbic@usda.gov>;
Willbrand, Zhulieta - OSEC, Washington, DC <zhulieta.z.willbrand@usda.gov>; Tkacz, Kailee - OSEC,
Washington, DC <kailee.tkacz@usda.gov>; Navarro, Erica - OBPA, Washington, DC
<erica.navarro@usda.gov>; Hafemeister, Jason - OSEC, Washington, DC
<Jason.Hafemeister1@usda.gov>

Subject: CLOSE HOLD ROLL OUT MATERIALS 2.0

Importance: High

All,

As a follow-up to our meeting this morning, attached are the revised materials.

(b)(5) - Deliberative

(b)(5) - Deliberative

Thank you,

Steve

Stephen L. Censky
Deputy Secretary
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office (b) (6)

All:

(b)(5) - Deliberative

(b)(5) - Deliberative

Thank you,

USDA Announces Support for Farmers Impacted by Unjustified Retaliation and Trade Disruption

(Washington, D.C., May 23, 2019) – U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue today announced that the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) will take several actions to assist farmers in response to trade damage from unjustified retaliation and trade disruption. President Trump directed Secretary Perdue to craft a relief strategy to support American agricultural producers while the Administration continues to work on free, fair, and reciprocal trade deals to open more markets in the long run to help American farmers compete globally. Specifically, the President has authorized USDA to provide up to \$16 billion in programs, which is in line with the estimated impacts of unjustified retaliatory tariffs on U.S. agricultural goods and other trade disruptions. These programs will assist agricultural producers while President Trump works to address long-standing market access barriers.

“China hasn’t played by the rules for a long time and President Trump is standing up to them, sending the clear message that the United States will no longer tolerate their unfair trade practices, which include non-tariff trade barriers and the theft of intellectual property. President Trump has great affection for America’s farmers and ranchers, and he knows they are bearing the brunt of these trade disputes. In fact, I’ve never known of a president that has been more concerned or interested in farmer wellbeing and long-term profitability than President Trump,” said Secretary Perdue. “The plan we are announcing today ensures farmers do not bear the brunt of unfair retaliatory tariffs imposed by China and other trading partners. Our team at USDA reflected on what worked well and gathered feedback on last year’s program to make this one even stronger and more effective for farmers. Our farmers work hard, are the most productive in the world, and we aim to match their enthusiasm and patriotism as we support them.”

Background:

American farmers have dealt with unjustified retaliatory tariffs and years of non-tariff trade disruptions, which have curtailed U.S. exports to China. Trade damages from such retaliation and market distortions have impacted a host of U.S. commodities, including crops like soybeans, corn, wheat, cotton, rice, and sorghum; livestock products like milk and pork; and many fruits, nuts, and other crops. High tariffs disrupt normal marketing patterns, raising costs by forcing commodities to find new markets. Additionally, American goods shipped to China have been slowed from reaching market by unusually strict or cumbersome entry procedures, which affect the quality and marketability of perishable crops. These boost marketing costs and unfairly affect our producers. USDA will use the following programs to assist farmers:

- **Market Facilitation Program (MFP)** for 2019, authorized under the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) Charter Act and administered by the Farm Service Agency (FSA), will provide \$14.5 billion in direct payments to producers.
 - Producers of alfalfa hay, barley, canola, corn, crambe, dry peas, extra-long staple cotton, flaxseed, lentils, long grain and medium grain rice, mustard seed, dried beans, oats, peanuts, rapeseed, safflower, sesame seed, small and large chickpeas, sorghum, soybeans, sunflower seed, temperate japonica rice, upland cotton, and wheat will receive a payment based on a single county rate multiplied by a farm’s total plantings to those crops in aggregate in 2019. Those per acre payments are not dependent on which of those crops are planted in 2019, and therefore will not distort planting decisions. Moreover, total payment-eligible plantings cannot exceed total 2018 plantings.
 - Dairy producers will receive a per hundredweight payment on production history and hog producers will receive a payment based on hog and pig inventory for a later-specified time frame.
 - Tree nut producers, fresh sweet cherry producers, cranberry producers, and fresh grape producers will receive a payment based on 2019 acres of production.
 - These payments will help farmers to absorb some of the additional costs of managing disrupted markets, to deal with surplus commodities, and to expand and develop new markets at home and abroad.

- Payments will be made in up to three tranches, with the second and third tranches evaluated as market conditions and trade opportunities dictate. The first tranche will begin in late July/early August as soon as practical after Farm Service Agency crop reporting is completed by July 15th. If conditions warrant, the second and third tranches will be made in November and early January.
- Additionally, CCC Charter Act authority will be used to implement a \$1.4 billion **Food Purchase and Distribution Program (FPDP)** through the Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) to purchase surplus commodities affected by trade retaliation such as fruits, vegetables, some processed foods, beef, pork, lamb, poultry, and milk for distribution by the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) to food banks, schools, and other outlets serving low-income individuals.
- Finally, the CCC will use its Charter Act authority for \$100 million to be issued through the **Agricultural Trade Promotion Program (ATP)** administered by the Foreign Agriculture Service (FAS) to assist in developing new export markets on behalf of producers.

Further details regarding eligibility and payment rates will be released at a later date.

###

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.

From: Osterlind, Anna - OSEC, Washington, DC
Sent: 25 Jul 2019 17:07:17 +0000
To: Phillips, Matthews - OSEC, Washington, DC
Subject: FW: Materials for Tomorrow
Attachments: 072619 DepSec_Bryan Steil call.docx, WI-01 Fact Sheet.pdf, USMCA Agriculture 1-Pager.pdf

Attachment 1: Withheld under (b)(5) Deliberative exemption (1 p.)
Attachment 2: Non-Responsive Record (1 p.)
Attachment 4: Duplicate (1 p.)

Can you print two copies of these please?

--

Anna Osterlind
Office of Congressional Relations
U.S. Department of Agriculture
202-650-7942

From: Osterlind, Anna - OSEC, Washington, DC
Sent: Thursday, July 25, 2019 1:07 PM
To: Adams, Kiki - RD, Washington, DC <kiki.adams@usda.gov>
Cc: Tkacz, Kailee - OSEC, Washington, DC <kailee.tkacz@usda.gov>
Subject: Materials for Tomorrow

Kiki –

Attached are materials for tomorrow's call w Rep Steil. These are close to yesterday's materials, so feel free to let me know if he used them or not – in which case there may be a more useful format.



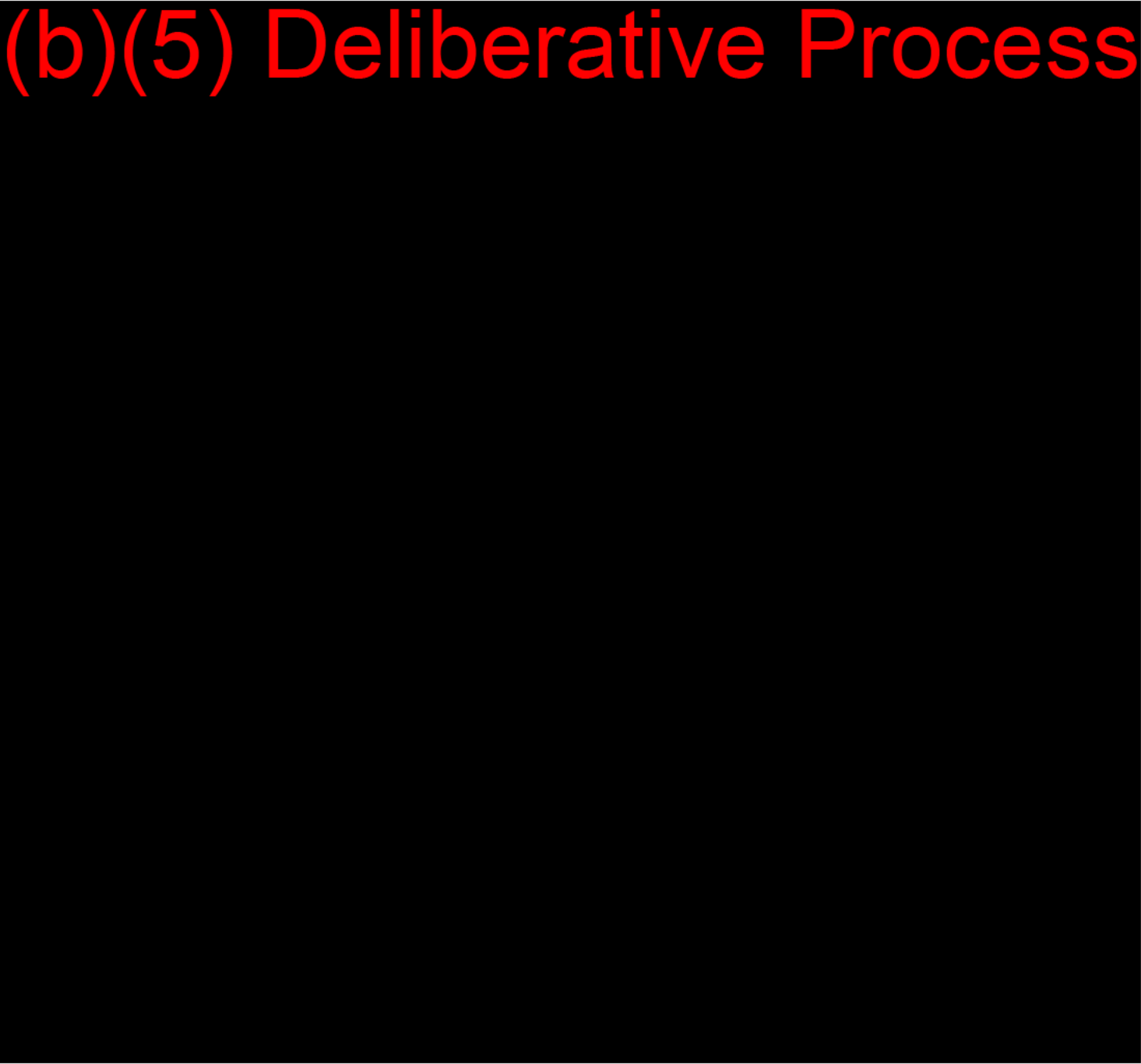
Anna Osterlind
Office of Congressional Relations
United States Department of Agriculture
202.650.7942
anna.osterlind@usda.gov



PRE-DECISIONAL, DELIBERATIVE BRIEFING DOCUMENT

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Wisconsin's 1st Congressional District

The Importance of Trade for U.S. Agriculture

In Wisconsin's 1st District, the total value of agricultural production was \$471 million with 16,100 people employed in agriculture and food manufacturing*. Grains and oilseeds accounted for 42 percent of the total production, followed by milk from cows (24 percent), and cattle and calves (11 percent). There are 83 food processing plants located in this district, including facilities of Conagra Foods, Inc., Hillshire Brands Co., and Hormel Foods Corporation.



Commodity	USMCA Market Rank**	Market Value of Agricultural Production
Grains, oilseeds	1	\$199 million
Milk from cows	1	\$115 million
Cattle and calves	2	\$53 million
Vegetables	1	\$23 million
Poultry and eggs	1	\$13 million

Grains and Oilseeds

- About 56 percent of U.S. grain and oilseed production is exported.
- In 2018, the U.S. exported \$59.6 billion of grain and oilseed products to the world.
- Canada accounted for 9 percent, or \$5.4 billion, of U.S. grain and oilseed exports.
- Mexico accounted for 14 percent, or \$8.6 billion, of U.S. grain and oilseed exports.
- In Wisconsin's 1st district, the value of grain and oilseed production was \$199 million.

Milk from Cows

- About 18 percent of U.S. dairy production is exported.
- In 2018, U.S. dairy exports totaled \$5.5 billion.
- Canada accounted for 12 percent, or \$641 million, of U.S. dairy exports to the world.
- Mexico was responsible for 25 percent, or \$1.4 billion, of total U.S. dairy exports.
- In Wisconsin's 1st district, the value of cows' milk production totaled \$115 million.

Cattle and Calves

- About 12 percent of U.S. beef and veal production is exported.
- In 2018, the U.S. exported \$8.4 billion of beef and beef products to the world.
- Canada accounted for 9 percent, or \$746 million, of U.S. beef and beef product exports.
- Mexico accounted for 13 percent, or \$1.1 billion, of U.S. beef and beef product exports.
- In Wisconsin's 1st district, the value of cattle and calf production totaled \$53 million.

* Estimated from the counties encompassing the congressional district

** Canada and Mexico rank as export customer for U.S. agriculture



Agricultural Goods

The **United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA)** is the most comprehensive and high-standard trade agreement ever negotiated. It fully updates, modernizes, and rebalances the NAFTA to meet the challenges of the 21st century economy and to ensure that American workers, farmers, ranchers, and businesses, including small- and medium-sized enterprises, share in the benefits of the agreement. It will help drive economic prosperity, promote fairer and more balanced trade, and help ensure that North America remains the world's most competitive region.

Mexico and Canada are Major Destinations for U.S. Agricultural Exports

2018 U.S. Agricultural Goods Exports to FTA Partners (% of Total)



Key USMCA Upgrades from the NAFTA Covering Trade in Agricultural Goods

The USMCA maintains NAFTA's existing zero-tariff treatment, significantly expands U.S. access to Canada's dairy market, and includes a number of other important upgrades. According to independent analysis by the U.S. International Trade Commission, **full implementation of the USMCA would increase U.S. agricultural exports to the world by \$2.2 billion.**

- ✓ **Provides for Unprecedented Market Access for U.S. Dairy Farmers into Canada**
 - Covers the full range of dairy products and access will not be shared with other countries.
- ✓ **Canada Will Eliminate Milk Classes 6 and 7 and Apply New Export Penalties**
 - These policies allowed unfairly low-priced Canadian dairy products to undersell U.S. products in Canada and in third country markets. Canada will also apply export penalties on shipments of skim milk powder, milk protein concentrates, and infant formula over specified quantity thresholds.
- ✓ **Canada Will Eliminate its Discriminatory Grading of U.S. Wheat**
 - And no country of origin statement will be required on Canada's quality grade certificates.
- ✓ **Includes a Modernized Chapter on Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Measures**
 - Establishes new and enforceable rules to ensure that SPS measures are science-based, and developed and implemented in a transparent and non-discriminatory manner.
- ✓ **Cooperation on Agricultural Biotechnology**
 - Includes rules – for the first time in a U.S. trade agreement – to address all biotechnologies, including new technologies such as gene editing, to support 21st century innovations in agriculture.
- ✓ **Includes a Number of Other Notable Achievements Concerning Agriculture**
 - Commits Canada to ensure British Columbia eliminates discriminatory treatment of U.S. wine in grocery stores and includes new non-discrimination and transparency commitments regarding the sale and distribution of alcoholic beverages.
 - Mexico will not restrict market access for U.S. cheeses labeled with certain names, just because they are labeled with certain names.

From: Barbic, Ken - OSEC, Washington, DC
Sent: 23 May 2019 03:08:59 +0000
To: Lee, Evan - OSEC, Washington, DC; Osterlind, Anna - OSEC, Washington, DC
Subject: Fwd: CLOSE HOLD: ROLL OUT MATERIALS
Attachments: Copy of PD MRF Stakeholder Calls Assignments 5.23 10PM.xlsx, Trade Support Press Release 5.23.19.pdf, PD OSEC Rollout Plan Farmer Support re Trade 5.23.19 .pdf, Trade Support Press Release 5.23.19.pdf

Attachment 1: Withheld under (b)(5) Deliberative exemption (1 p.)

Attachment 2: Withheld under (b)(5) Deliberative exemption (2 pp.)

Attachment 3: Withheld under (b)(5) Deliberative exemption (8 pp.)

FYI-close hold. Please be available for 8am mtg.

Attachment 4: Withheld under (b)(5) Deliberative exemption (2 pp.)

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From: CLS1, SLC1 - OSEC, Washington, DC **Stephen Censky**
Sent: Wednesday, May 22, 2019 10:23:50 PM
To: CloverAdams, Jamie - OSEC, Washington, DC; Northey, Bill - OSEC, Washington, DC; Johansson, Robert - OCE; Preston, Warren - OCE; Adcock, Rebeckah - OSEC, Washington, DC; LINDEN, RALPH - OGC, Washington D.C.; Lipps, Brandon - OSEC, Washington, DC; Lyons, Maggie - OSEC, Washington, DC; Ibach, Greg - OSEC, Washington, DC; Walker, Lorren - OSEC, Washington, DC; Rich, Michawn - OC, Washington, DC; Rodgers, Meghan - OC, Washington, DC; Varsamis, Alec - OC 20174, Washington, DC; Shuford, Campbell - OSEC, Washington, DC; Young, Joby - OSEC, Washington, DC; McKinney, Ted - OSEC, Washington, DC; Bachmann, Peter - OSEC Washington, DC; MacGregor, Robert - OSEC, Washington, DC; Brady, Lillie - OSEC, Washington, DC; Barbic, Ken - OSEC, Washington, DC; Willbrand, Zhulieta - OSEC, Washington, DC; Tkacz, Kailee - OSEC, Washington, DC; Navarro, Erica - OBPA, Washington, DC; Hafemeister, Jason - OSEC, Washington, DC
Subject: CLOSE HOLD: ROLL OUT MATERIALS

All,

Thanks to everyone for the many hours they have put in over the last few weeks regarding tomorrow's roll out. It certainly has been a team effort and none of this would be possible without each of you.

(b)(5) - Deliberative

(b)(5) - Deliberative

You all should have an invite on your calendar for this meeting.

Attached you will find CLOSE HOLD rollout documents which contain the following:

(b)(5) - Deliberative

(b)(5) - Deliberative

PLEASE NOTE THE ATTACHED ITEMS ARE FOR EXTERNAL DISCUSSION, NOT EXTERNAL DISTRIBUTION.

(b)(5) Deliberative Process

As always I continue to appreciate your confidentiality in this process. See you in the morning. Thank you in advance.

Thanks and best regards,

Steve

Stephen L. Censky

Deputy Secretary

U.S. Department of Agriculture

Office (b) (6)

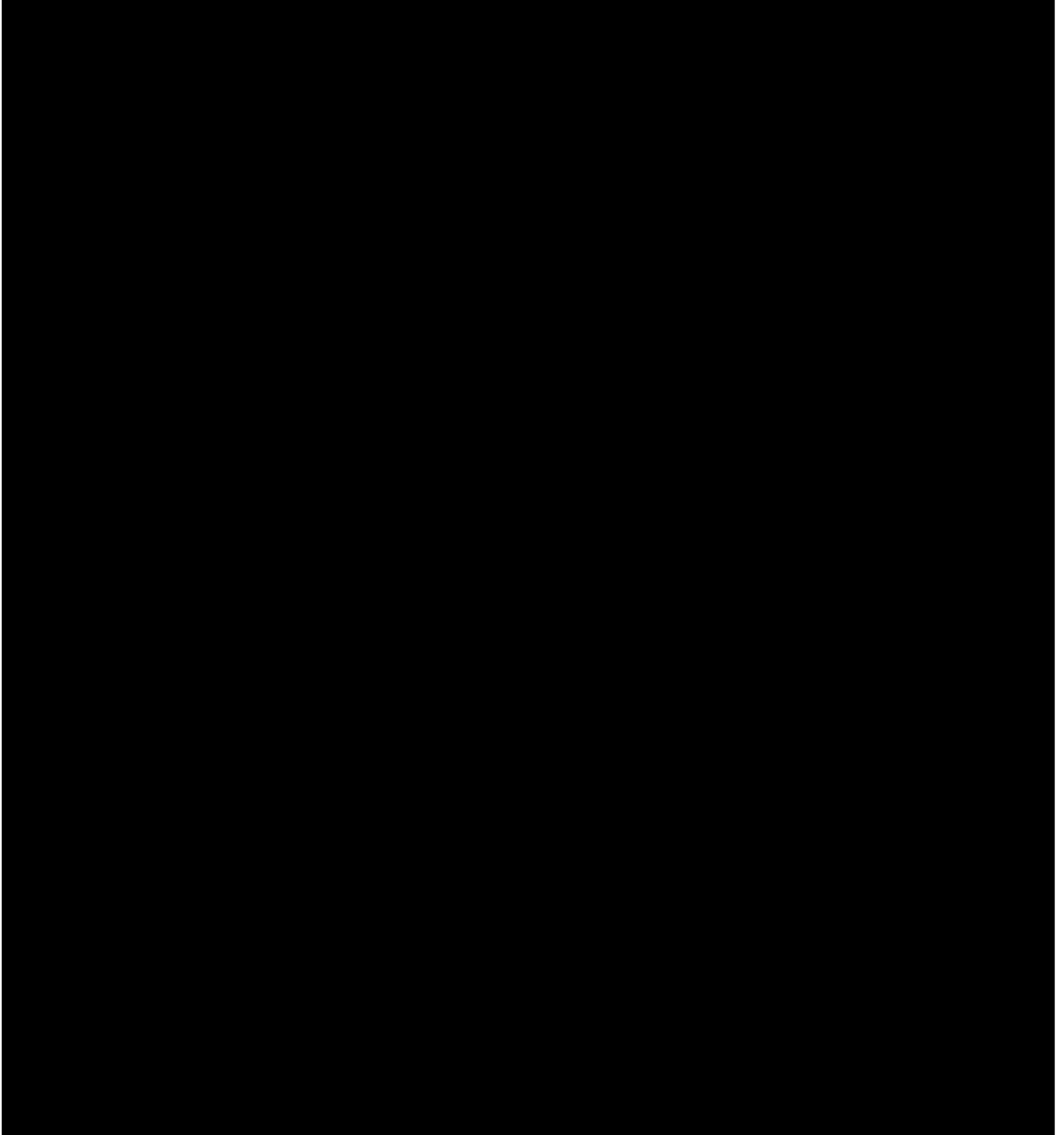
(b)(5) Deliberative Process

Pre-Decisional/Deliberative

(b)(5) Deliberative Process

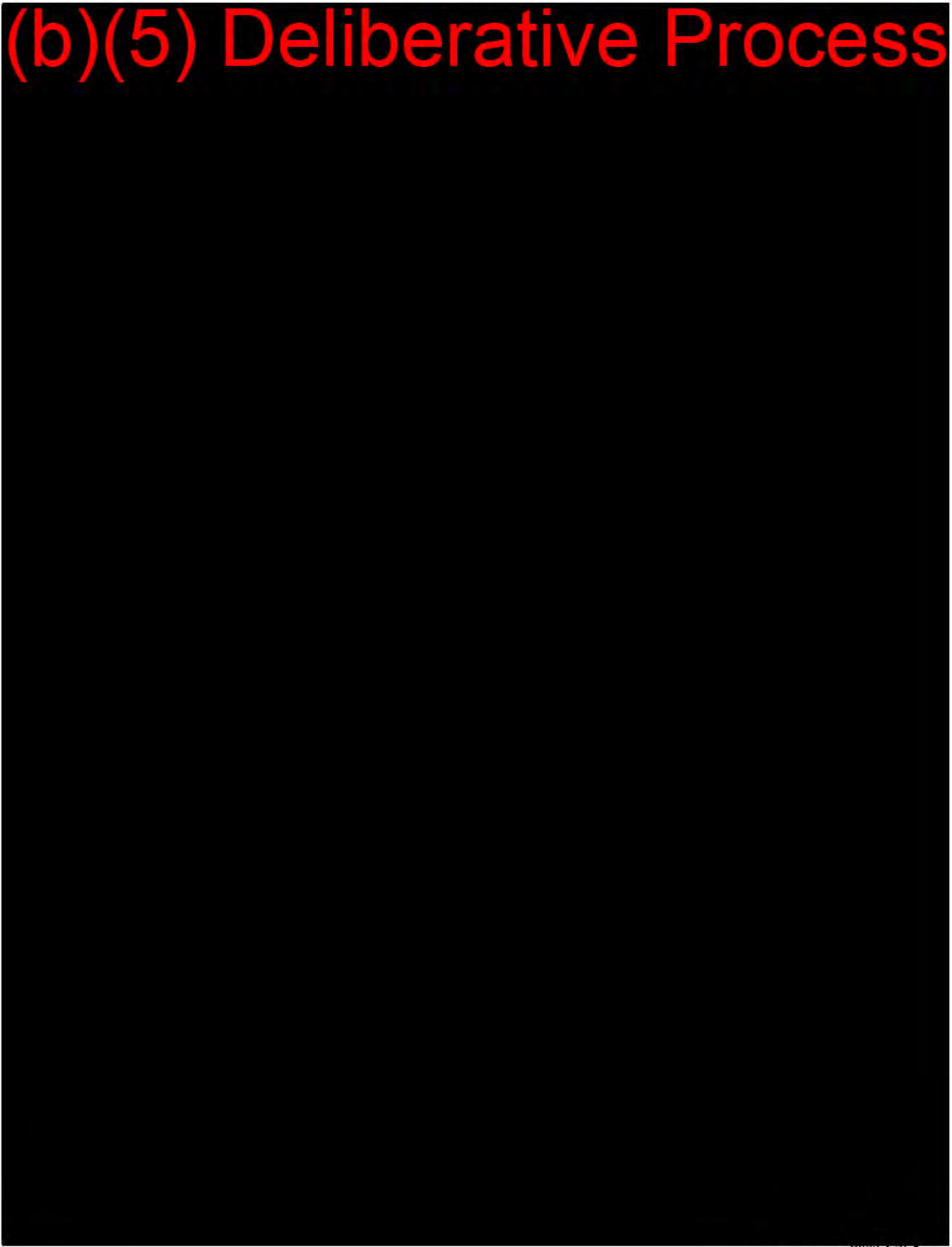


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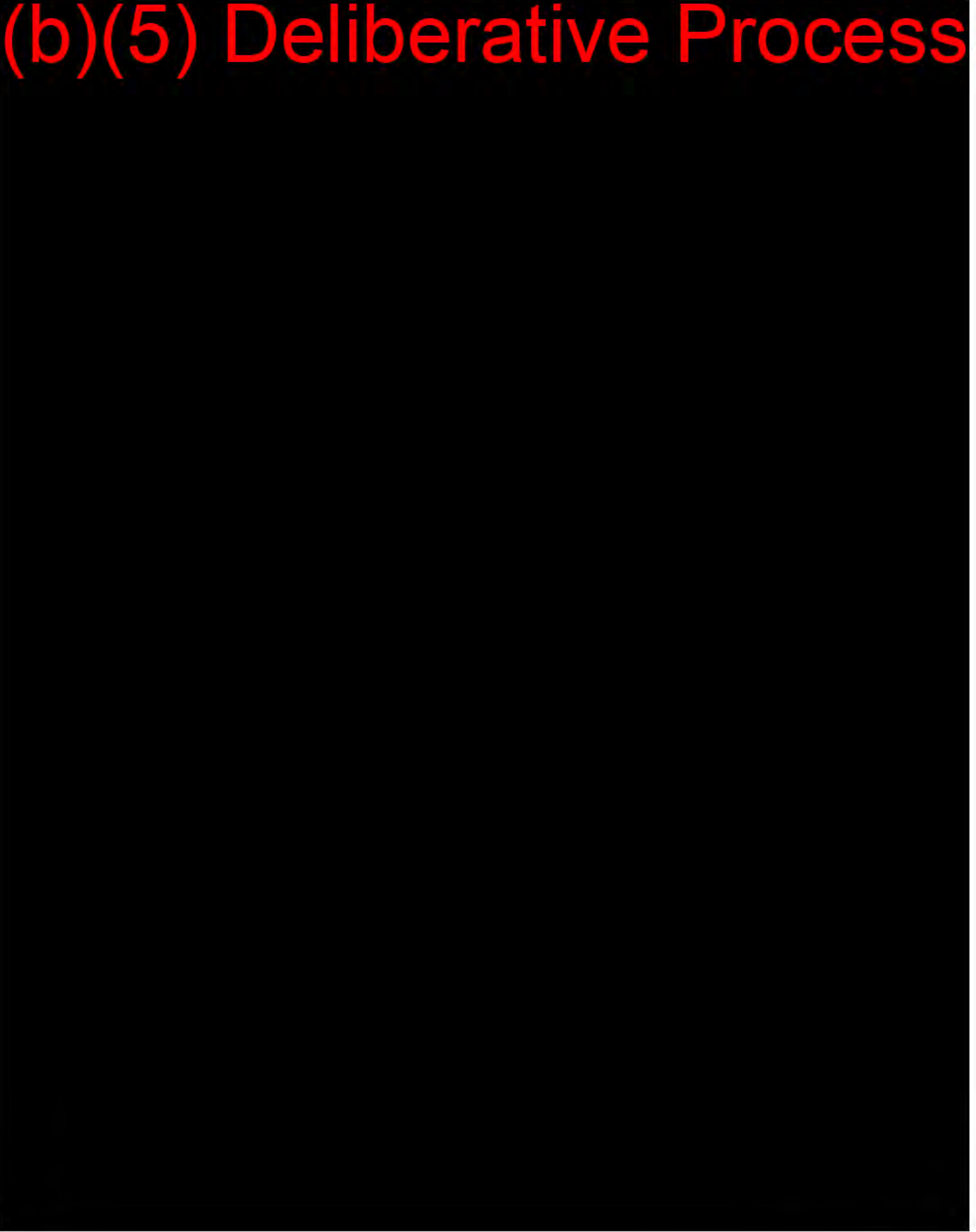


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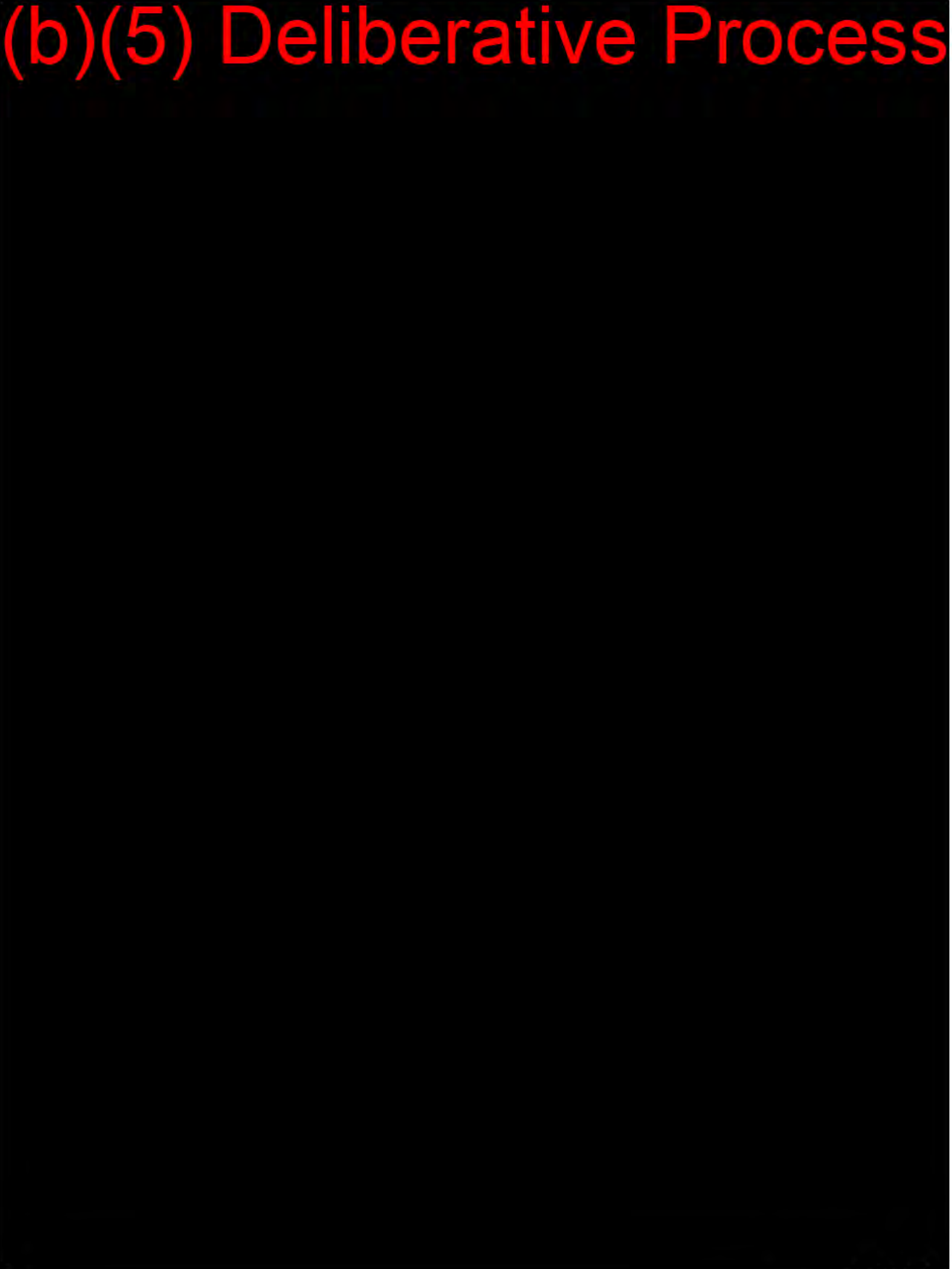
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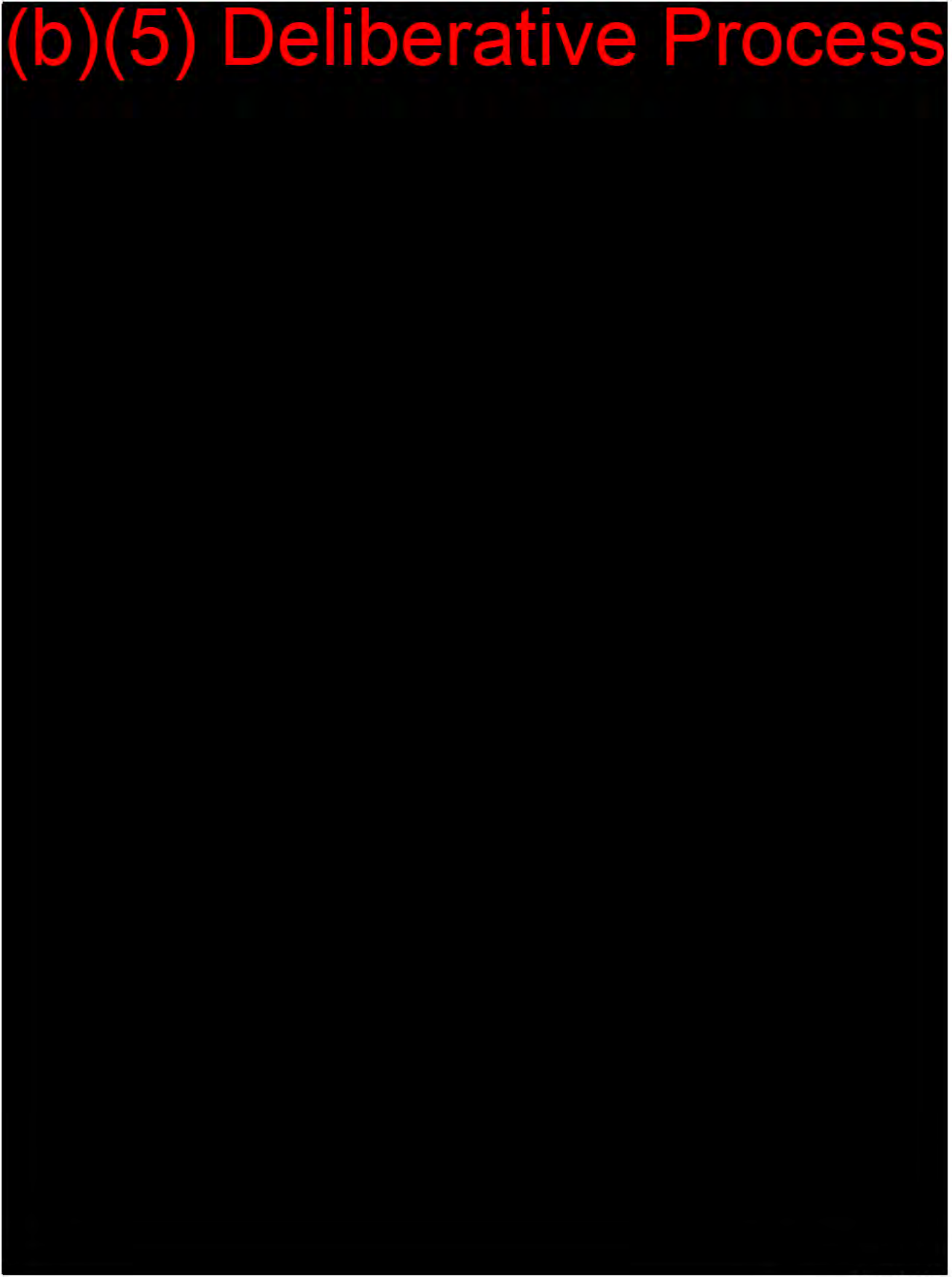
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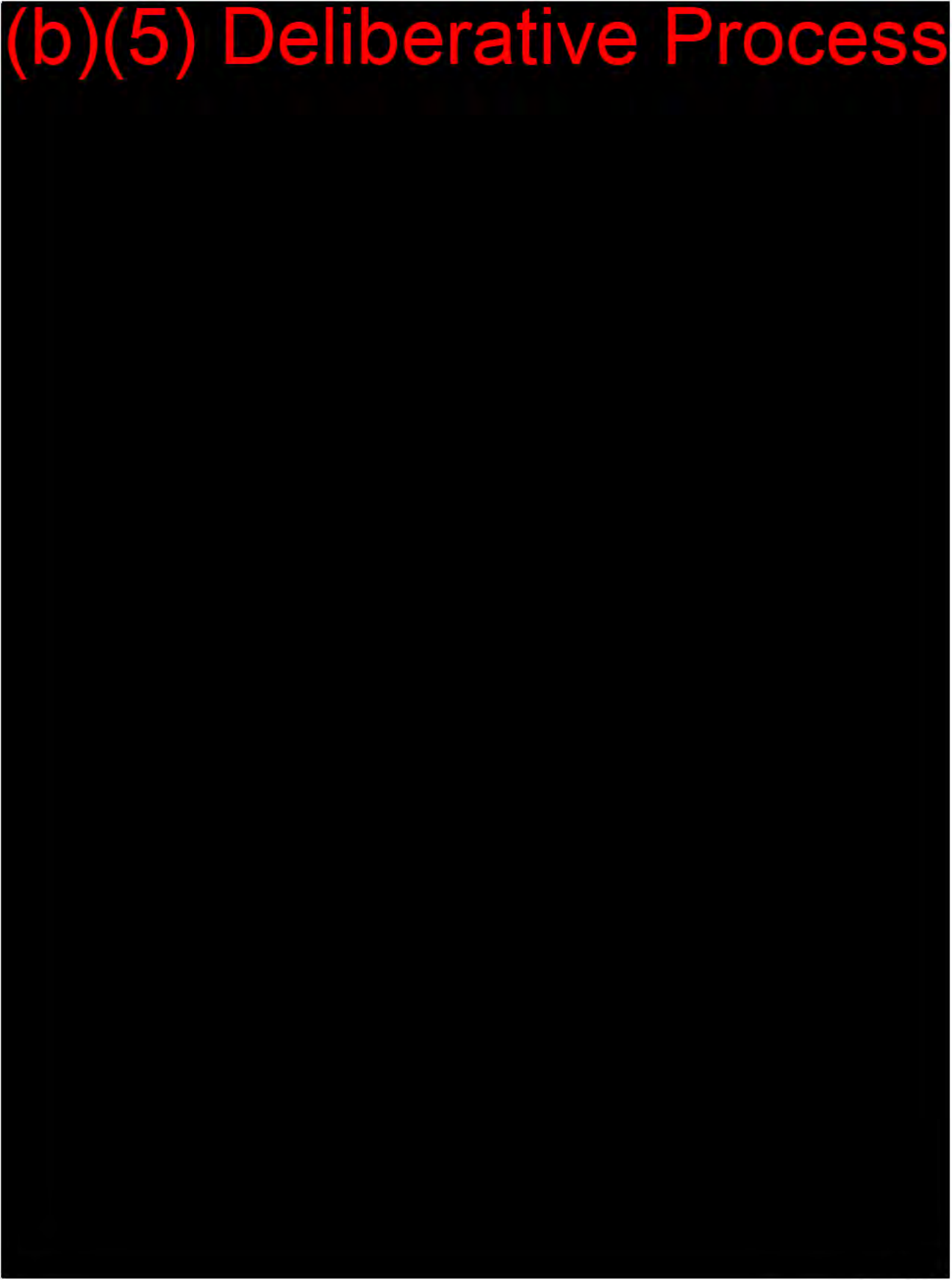
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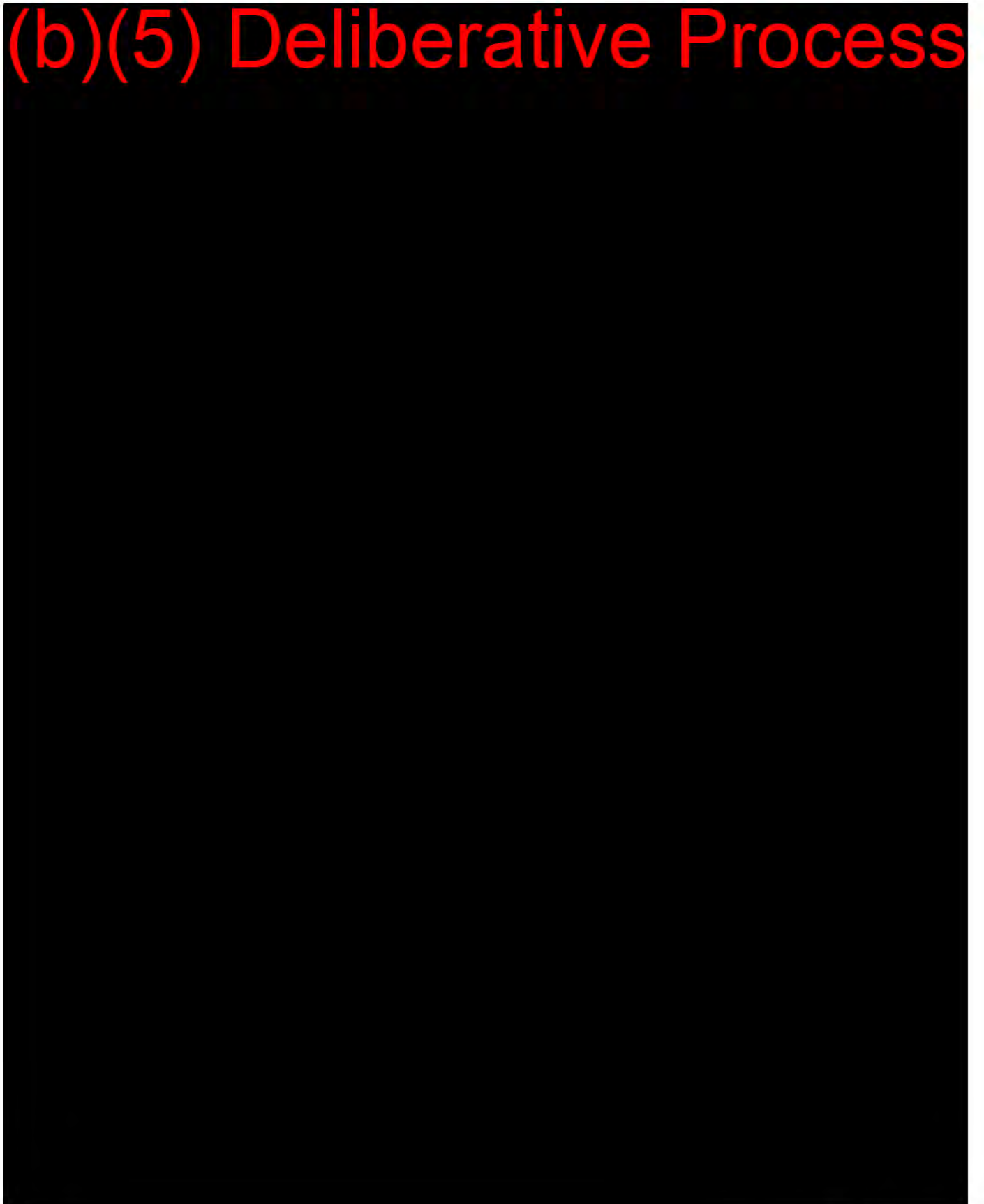
(b)(5) Deliberative Process



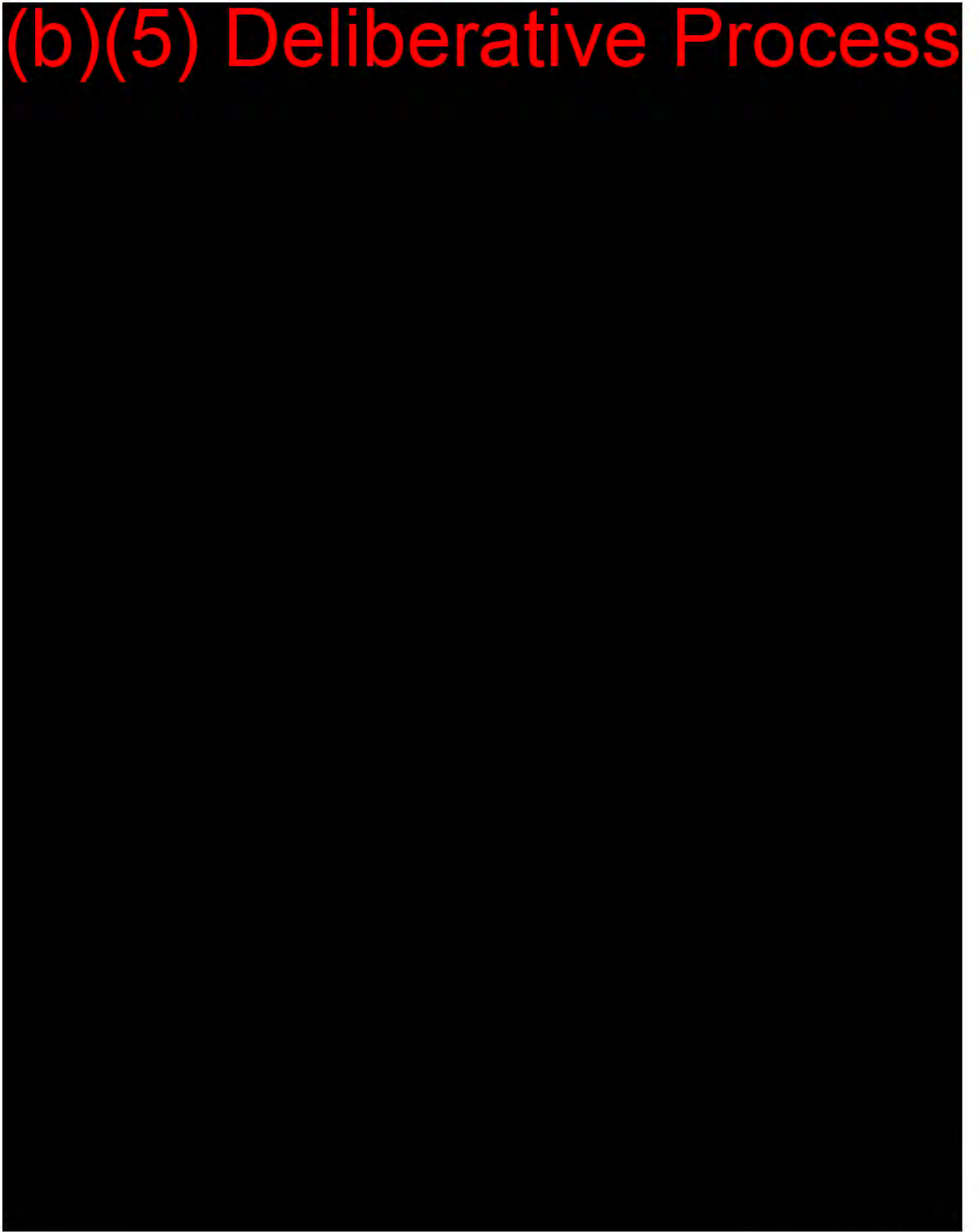
(b)(5) Deliberative Process



(b)(5) Deliberative Process



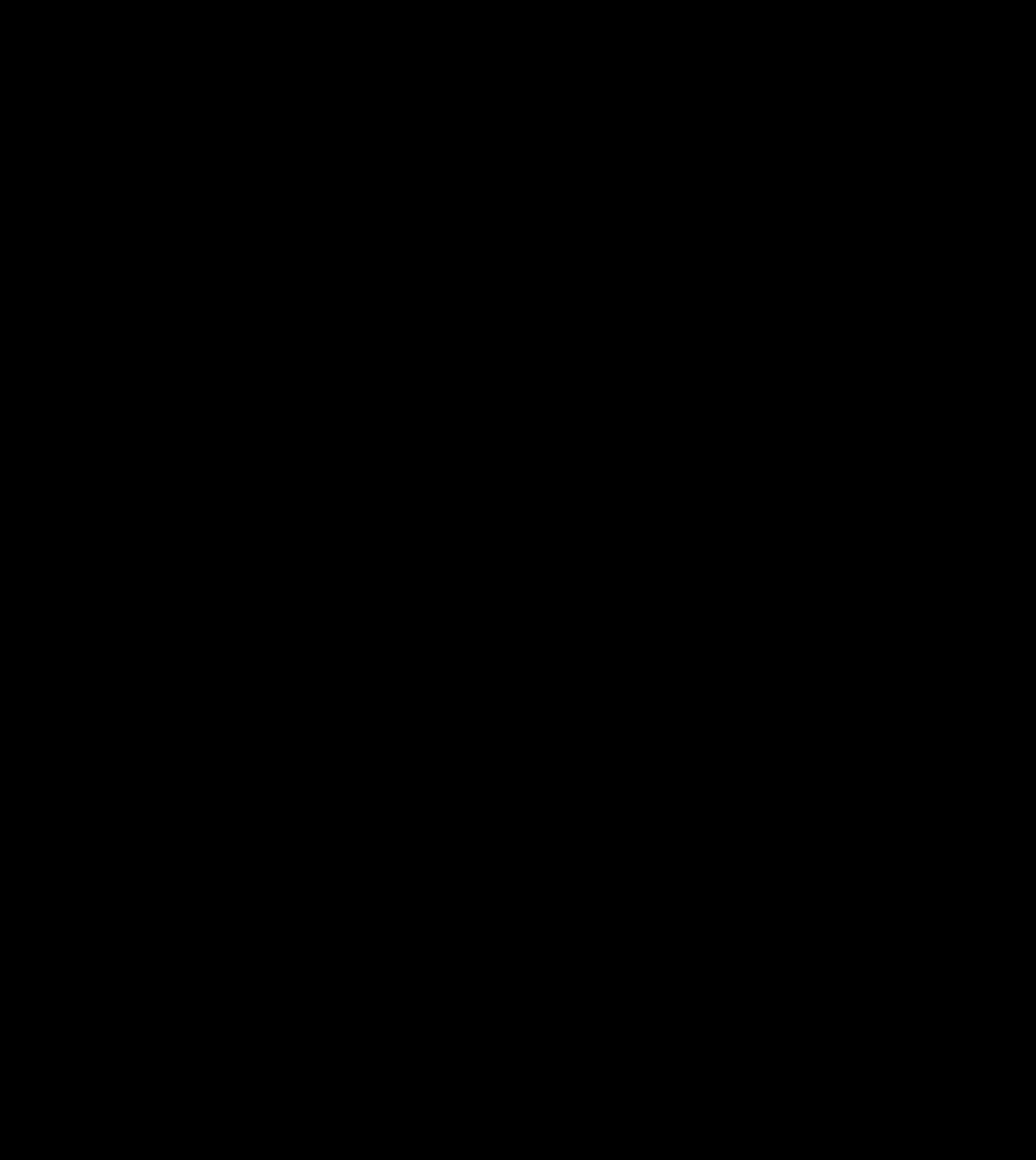
(b)(5) Deliberative Process



(b)(5) Deliberative Process



(b)(5) - Deliberative



(b)(5) - Deliberative

From: Ohagan, Christopher - AMS
Sent: 22 Oct 2019 18:57:48 +0000
To: Bridgforth, Turner - OSEC-MRP, Washington, DC
Cc: Mitchell, Marlene - OSEC; Osterlind, Anna - AMS
Subject: NAMI Talkers
Attachments: Draft NAMI talkers for MRP.docx

Hey Turner,

Attached are some talking points for U/S Ibach for his remarks at the NAMI Lunch.

If possible could you let Anna and I know what he intends to say given that Bruce is slated to go right after GI.

Thank you!

-Chris

U/S TP's

Support for Export Markets. In FY19, AMS facilitated the marketing of domestic livestock products by representing AMS regularly in negotiations with foreign governments. AMS assisted in the on-site audit of the Australia foreign government audit team to expand exports of domestic beef and demonstrated the AMS audit protocol to foreign government officials from Japan in support of a less-burdensome Export Verification (EV) program for U.S. beef processors, supporting negotiations that eased trade restrictions. AMS finalized a new EV program for Japan in May 2019 that allows for beef from cattle of all ages (slaughtered on or after May 17, 2019) as eligible for export, approved 15 new companies under this program as of late September, and ultimately increased the eligible beef supply for export to Japan by 7%.

Trade Mitigation: Earlier this year President Trump authorized USDA to provide up to \$16 billion in trade mitigation programs to support American agriculture. This is in line with the estimated impact of trade damage from China's unjustified retaliation and trade disruption. The purchase program will be extended through FY20 with funding of an additional \$1.4 billion assigned for purchases. TM2 contains an expanded list of protein items to purchase to include a variety of poultry products and lamb as well as pork and beef. These products will be distributed by the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) to food banks, schools, and other outlets serving low-income individuals. AMS will buy affected products in four phases, starting after October 1, 2019, with deliveries beginning in January 2020.

- Pork - \$208 million
- Beef - \$151 million
- Poultry - \$432 million
- Lamb - \$17 million

Regional Cattle and Carcass Correlation Training Centers. In support of the 2018 Farm Bill, AMS established three "correlation and training centers" to provide education and training for both USDA employees and industry stakeholders on reporting, delivery for CME, and official grading of feeder cattle, fed cattle, and carcasses. The first training center event took place the first week of October at WTAMU and included hands-on mock delivery and grade evaluation of live feeder cattle and fed beef in a Chicago Mercantile Exchange scenario, overviews of official standards for cattle grading and cattle carcass grading, and a correlation exercise comparing the live cattle graders and corresponding carcass quality grades.

From: Weeks, Audra - OSEC, Washington, DC
Sent: 4 Oct 2019 15:47:50 +0000
To: Perry, Robert - OSEC, Washington, DC
Subject: RE: Briefing Material
Attachments: Talking Points for McKinney Global Food Forum 10.7.19.docx, WSJ Global Food Forum McKinney 10.7.19.docx, Global Food Forum 2019 updated 9-27-2019.pdf

Hi Robert – **Attachment 1: Withheld under (b)(5) Deliberative exemption (5 pp.)**
 Attachment 2: Non-Responsive Record (2 pp.)

Attached is an interview brief, talking points and the event program.

Thank you! **Attachment 3: Non-Responsive Record (4 pp.)**

Audra

From: Perry, Robert - OSEC, Washington, DC <robert.perry1@usda.gov>
Sent: Friday, October 4, 2019 10:30 AM
To: Weeks, Audra - OSEC, Washington, DC <Audra.Weeks@usda.gov>
Subject: Briefing Material

Good Morning Audra,

Will you provide any briefing material for next week's New York trip?

Thank you,

V/R

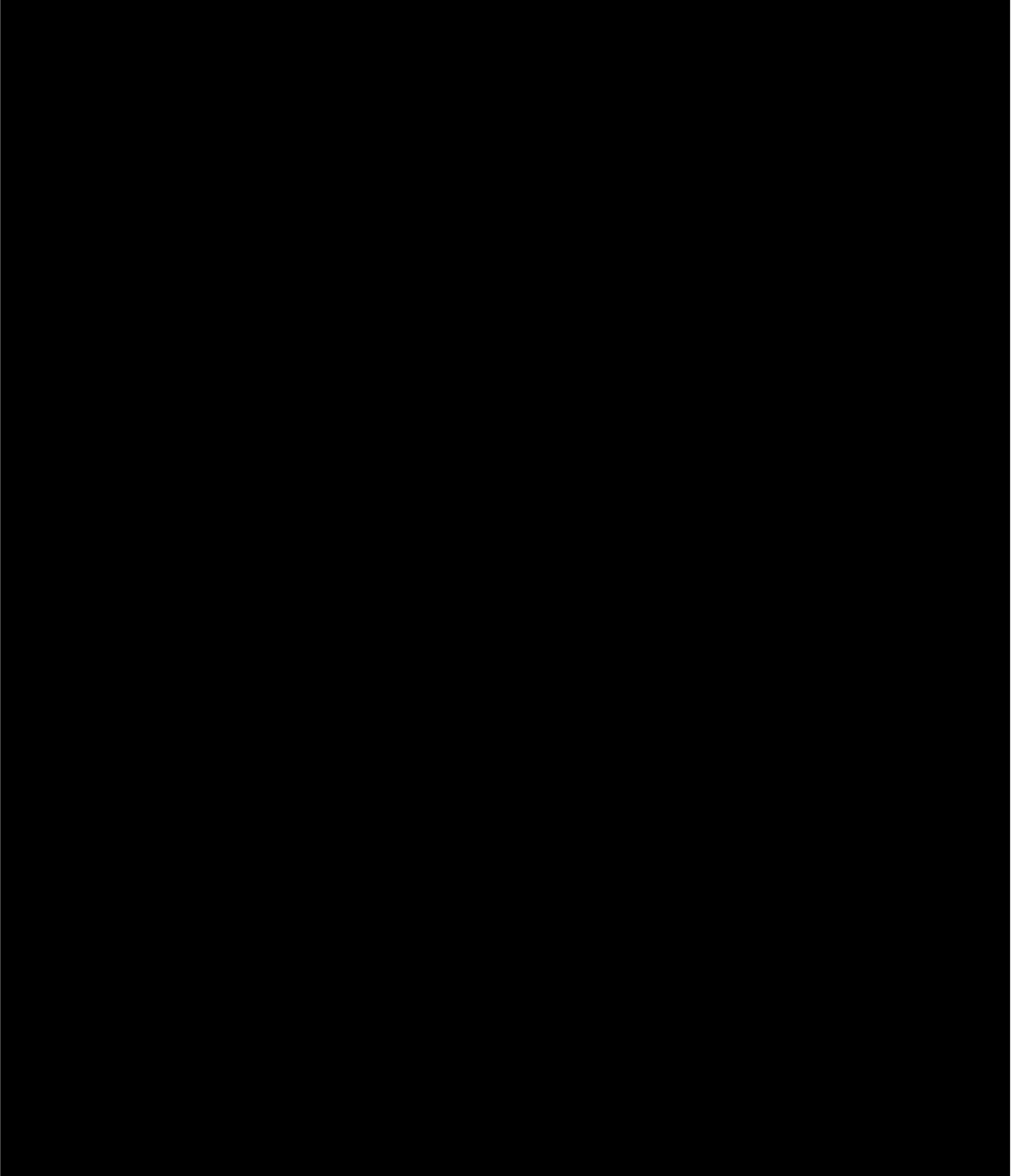
Robert Perry

Office of the Under Secretary
Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs
United States Department of Agriculture

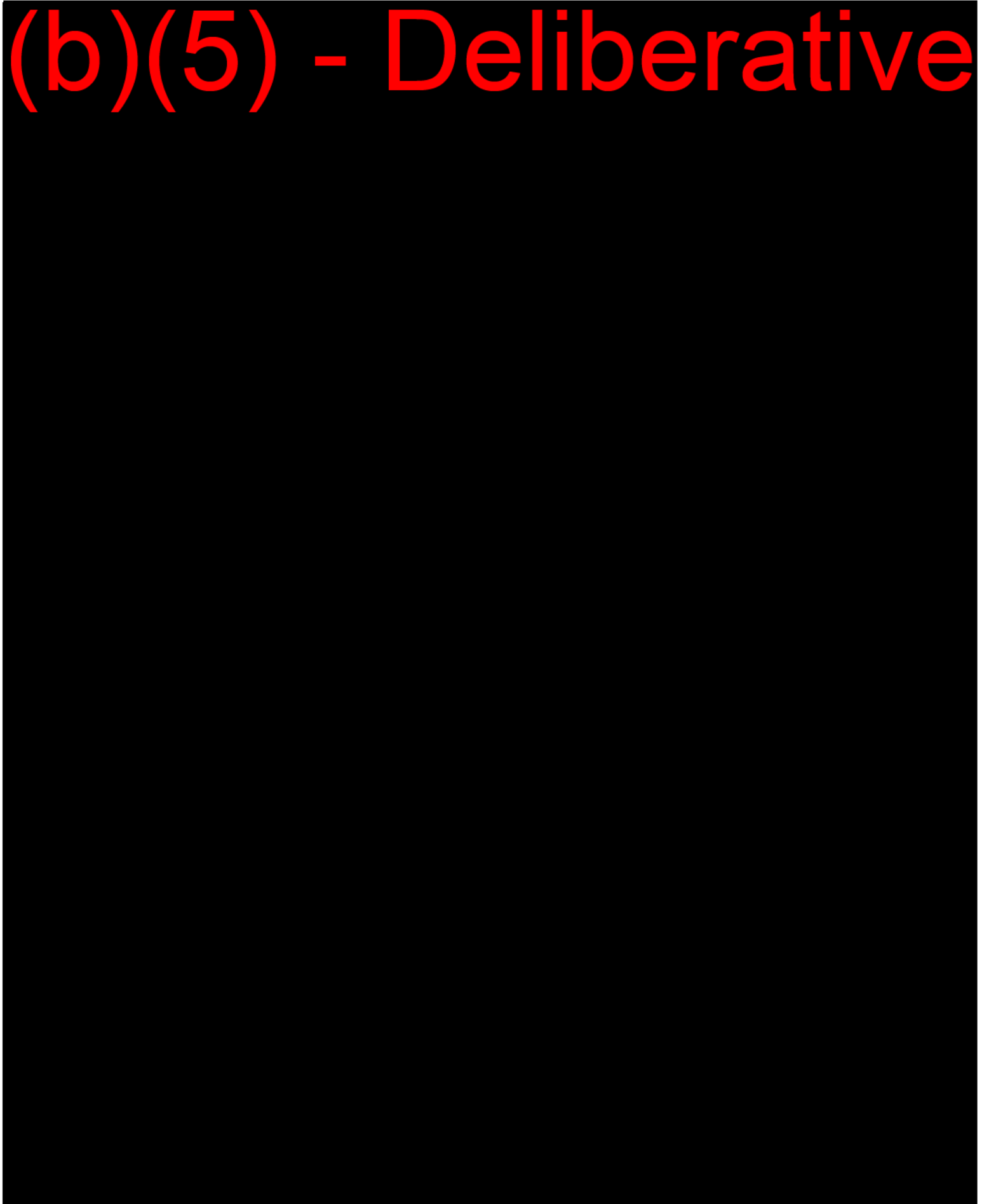
Desk – (202) 720-3111

Mobile – (b) (6)

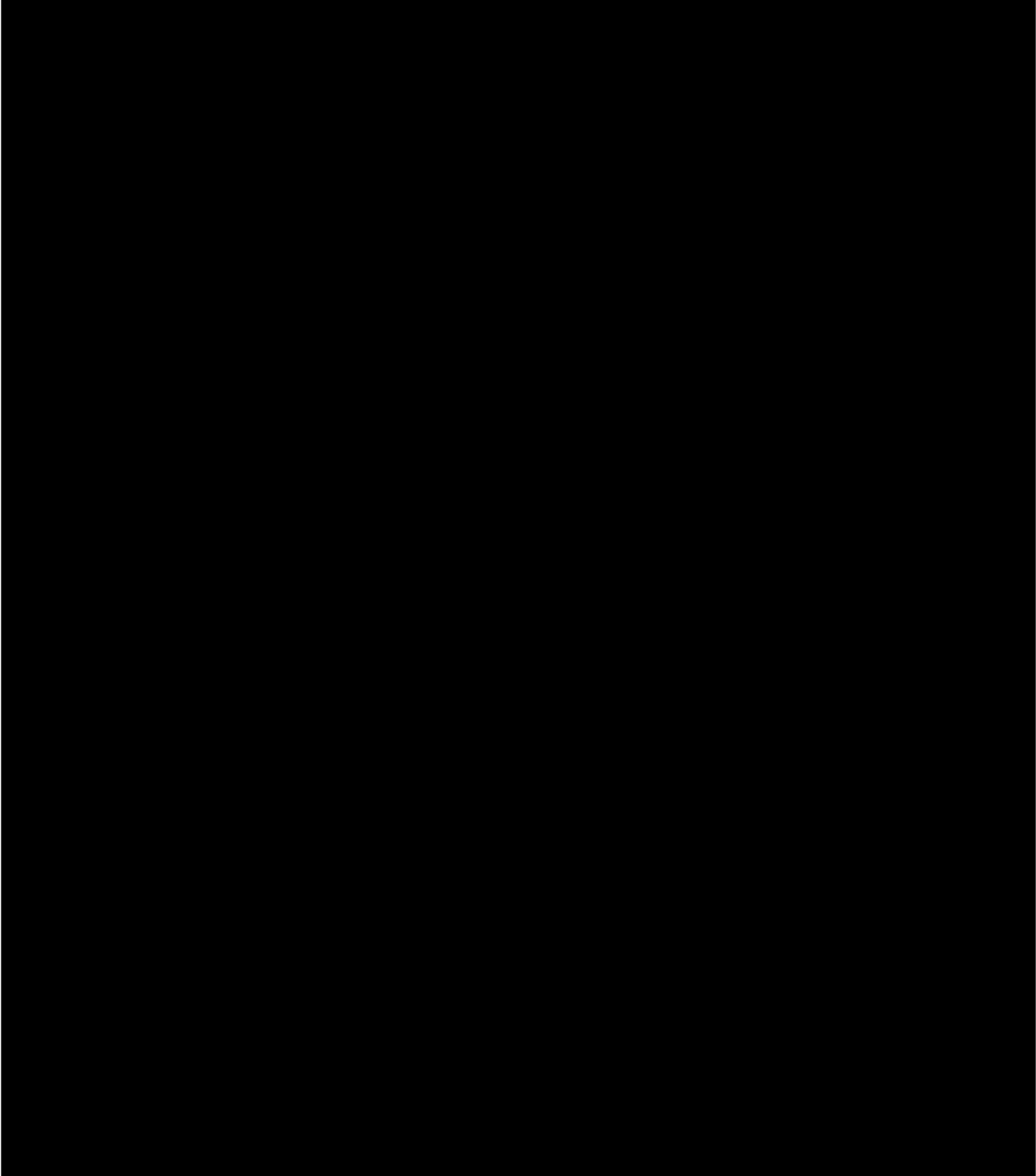
(b)(5) - Deliberative



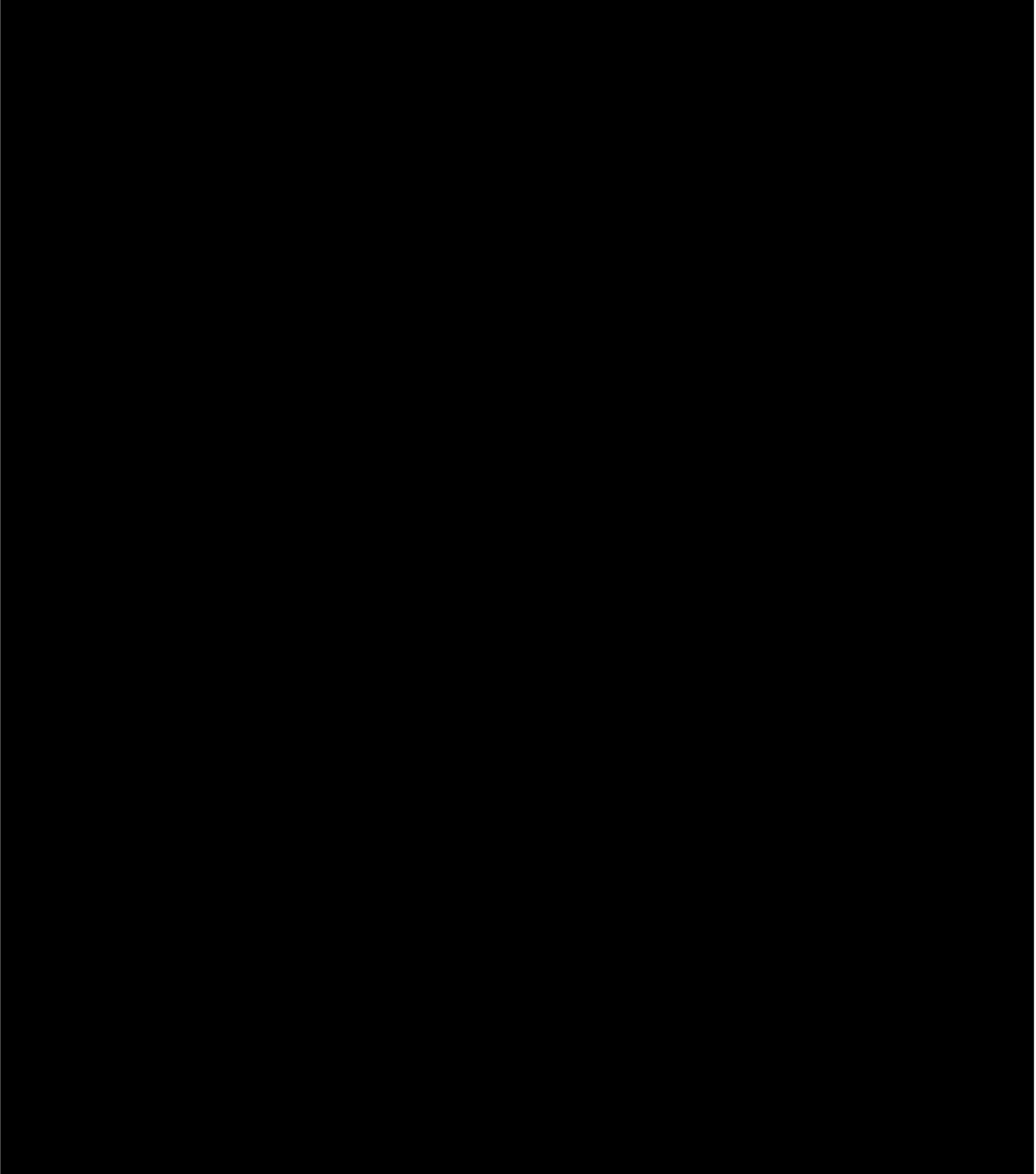
(b)(5) - Deliberative



(b)(5) - Deliberative



(b)(5) - Deliberative



(b)(5) - Deliberative



PRE-DECISIONAL, DELIBERATIVE
BRIEFING DOCUMENT

(b)(5) Deliberative Process

(b)(5) Deliberative Process

(b)(5) Deliberative Process

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OCTOBER 7, 2019

PROGRAM

Updated 9-22-2019 | globalfood.wsj.com

7:15 AM

NETWORKING BREAKFAST

8:15 AM

WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS

MATT MURRAY, Editor in Chief, The Wall Street Journal & Dow Jones Newswires
JOHN BUSSEY, Associate Editor, The Wall Street Journal

8:30 AM

BIG FOOD, BIG DILEMMA

Packaged-food companies have to keep up with fast-changing consumer tastes. If they don't, startups can gobble up market share. A look at the race.

DIRK VAN DE PUT, Chairman and CEO, Mondelez International
INTERVIEWER: ANNIE GASPARRO, Reporter, The Wall Street Journal

9:50 AM

MEATLESS BURGERS? MILK-FREE DAIRY?

Cattle ranchers and dairy farmers are scrambling to defend their turf against plant-based alternatives to traditional meat and milk. Is market share at risk?

JESSICA ALMY, Director of Policy, The Good Food Institute
JENNIFER HOUSTON, President, National Cattlemen's Beef Association
JAMES MULHERN, President and CEO, National Milk Producers Federation
INTERVIEWER: HEATHER HADDON, Reporter, The Wall Street Journal

9:15 AM

TECH DEMO: BRAIN WAVES

Can your brain tell the difference between good and bad food? The latest in neuroscience.

MARIO UBIALI, Co-Founder and CEO, Thimus
ANDREA BARISELLI, Co-founder and Chief Scientist, Thimus
INTERVIEWER:
DANIELA HERNANDEZ, Digital Science Editor, The Wall Street Journal

9:30 AM

THE DIGITAL FOOD CHAIN

Agricultural companies have struggled for years to reliably predict consumer purchasing habits and the profitability of crops. Now they're betting on automation and data analysis to change that.

DAN STEERE, CEO, Abundant Robotics
JOHN H. STONE, SVP, Intelligent Solutions Group. Deere & Company
INTERVIEWER: JACOB BUNGE, Reporter, The Wall Street Journal

9:50 AM

FOOD RX: A PERSPECTIVE

The connections between obesity, malnutrition, and climate change.

MEERA SHEKAR, PH.D., Global Lead, Nutrition, Health, Nutrition & Population
Global Practice. World Bank

10:05 AM

REFRESHMENT BREAK

10:40 AM

SILICON VALLEY'S GREEN THUMB

Entrepreneurs who want to deploy tech-industry tools in the Farm Belt are getting billions of dollars in investment from venture capital firms and food companies. But profits are elusive.

SANJEEV KRISHNAN, CIO and Managing Director, S2G Ventures
KIERSTEN STEAD, PH.D., Managing Partner, DCVC Bio, Data Collective (DCVC)
INTERVIEWER:
KEN BROWN, Financial Enterprise Editor, The Wall Street Journal

11:05 AM

WHEN THE BIG GUYS PIVOT

New technology and changing consumer tastes are transforming the fast-food business. Here's how the world's largest fast-food restaurant chain aims to keep pace.

CHRIS KEMPCZINSKI, President, McDonald's USA, McDonald's Corporation
INTERVIEWER: NIKKI WALLER, Editor, Live Journalism & Special Coverage,
The Wall Street Journal

11:25 AM

WATER SECURITY: PART I

It's a global problem. What do the best practices—and solutions—look like?

ERTHARIN COUSIN, Distinguished Fellow, The Chicago Council on Global Affairs;
Visiting Scholar, Center on Food Security and the Environment, Stanford
University; Executive Director, World Food Programme (2012–2017)
INTERVIEWER: ROBERT LEE HOTZ, Science Writer, The Wall Street Journal

11:45 AM

PLANT TINKERERS

A new generation of startups are harnessing gene-editing technologies to take on the multibillion-dollar giants of the crop-seed industry. Will consumers buy in?

PETER BEETHAM, PH.D., Co-Founder, President and CEO, Cibus
JAMES A. BLOME, CEO, Calyxt, Inc.
PONSI TRIVISVAVET, CEO and Director, Inari

INTERVIEWER:
STEFANIE ILGENFRITZ, Bureau Chief, Health & Science, The Wall Street Journal

12:20 PM

LUNCH AND ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSIONS

1:35 PM

THE NEXT FOOD CENTURY

Where does a 200-year-old agricultural dynasty look for opportunities to profit in the next century? Continental Grain invests in companies ranging from soybean processors to startups like plant-based burger-maker Impossible Foods.

PAUL J. FRIBOURG, Chairman and CEO, Continental Grain Company

INTERVIEWER: JOANNA CHUNG, Chicago Bureau Chief, The Wall Street Journal

1:55 PM

FIXING THE SUPPLY CHAIN

Sourcing and delivering food depends on supply chains that are sustainable. Agriculture has the most to gain, or lose. Will Big Ag lead the way?

RUTH KIMMELSHUE, SVP, Business Operations and Supply Chain & Chief Sustainability Officer, Cargill

INTERVIEWER: JACOB BUNGE, Reporter, The Wall Street Journal

2:15 PM

FAST FOOD 3.0

New restaurant companies are nipping at the heels of the big chains. And there's more to their success than data and technology.

JONATHAN NEMAN, Co-Founder and CEO, Sweetgreen

INTERVIEWER: HEATHER HADDON, Reporter, The Wall Street Journal

2:35 PM

PERSPECTIVE: HOT HOUSE

The forces shaping what we'll be eating in decades to come.

AMANDA LITTLE, Author, The Fate of Food: What We'll Eat in a Bigger, Hotter, Smarter World

2:50 PM

REFRESHMENT BREAK

3:25 PM

WATER SECURITY: PART II

U.S. farms, ever more productive, are draining water supplies and often fouling the nation's rivers. What can farmers do to improve water quality? And how is that objective balanced against the increasing demand for food?

SUZY FRIEDMAN, Senior Director, Agricultural Sustainability, Environmental Defense Fund

DON NILES, D.V.M., Owner, Dairy Dreams, President, Peninsula Pride Farms

INTERVIEWER: ROBERT LEE HOTZ, Science Writer, The Wall Street Journal

3:45 PM

UP THE BEANPOLE

Vertical agriculture is expanding to satisfy demand for "hyper-local" greens. Can it scale?

SONIA LO, CEO, Crop One Holdings

INTERVIEWER: SARAH NASSAUER, Reporter, The Wall Street Journal

4:05 PM

THE FARM ECONOMY

The U.S. farm economy has been hammered by bad weather and trade tariffs, among other factors. What's this mean for prices, growth—and recovery?

WANDA PATSCHE, Co-Owner, CW Pork, Inc.

PATRICK WESTHOFF, Professor and Director, Food and Agricultural Policy Research Institute, University of Missouri

INTERVIEWER: JOHN BUSSEY, Associate Editor, The Wall Street Journal

4:30PM

THE VIEW FROM WASHINGTON: PART I

Incidence of food-borne illness in America is outpacing prevention. How can regulators best respond to emerging threats?

FRANK YIANNAS

Deputy Commissioner for Food Policy and Response, U.S. Food and Drug Administration

INTERVIEWER: JOANNA CHUNG, Chicago Bureau Chief, The Wall Street Journal

4:50 PM

THE VIEW FROM WASHINGTON: PART II

Here's what's on the White House's agenda, at a time when trade tariffs and other global trends are clouding the outlook for U.S. agriculture.

TED MCKINNEY, Under Secretary for Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs, U.S. Department of Agriculture

INTERVIEWER: GERALD F. SEIB, Executive Washington Editor, The Wall Street Journal

5:15 PM

CLOSING RECEPTION

From: Rodgers, Meghan - OC, Washington, DC
Sent: 3 Oct 2019 22:28:10 +0000
To: SP3.PS3 - OSEC, Washington, DC **Sonny Perdue**
Cc: Rich, Michawn - OC, Washington, DC; DuRant, Ryann - OC, Washington, DC; Varsamis, Alec - OC, Washington, DC; Weeks, Audra - OSEC, Washington, DC
Subject: Interview Briefs for tomorrow
Attachments: Nexstar TV 10.4.19.docx, The Big Show 10.4.19.docx, AgriTalk 10.4.19.docx, Talking Points for October 4.docx

Sir –

Attachment 1: Non-Responsive Record (1 p.)

Attachment 2: Non-Responsive Record (1 p.)

Attachment 3: Non-Responsive Record (1 p.)

Tomorrow morning we have set up three back to back interviews for you (b)(5) - Deliberative – the briefs and the talking points are attached. One of them is for TV and two are radio. Please let me know if you have any questions, we will see you in the morning.

Thanks!
Meghan

Attachment 4: Withheld under (b)(5) Deliberative exemption (5 pp.)



Meghan Rodgers
Deputy Communications Director
United States Department of Agriculture
Office: (202) 720-5555
Cell: (b)(6)



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(b)(5) Deliberative Process



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BRIEFING DOCUMENT

(b)(5) Deliberative Process



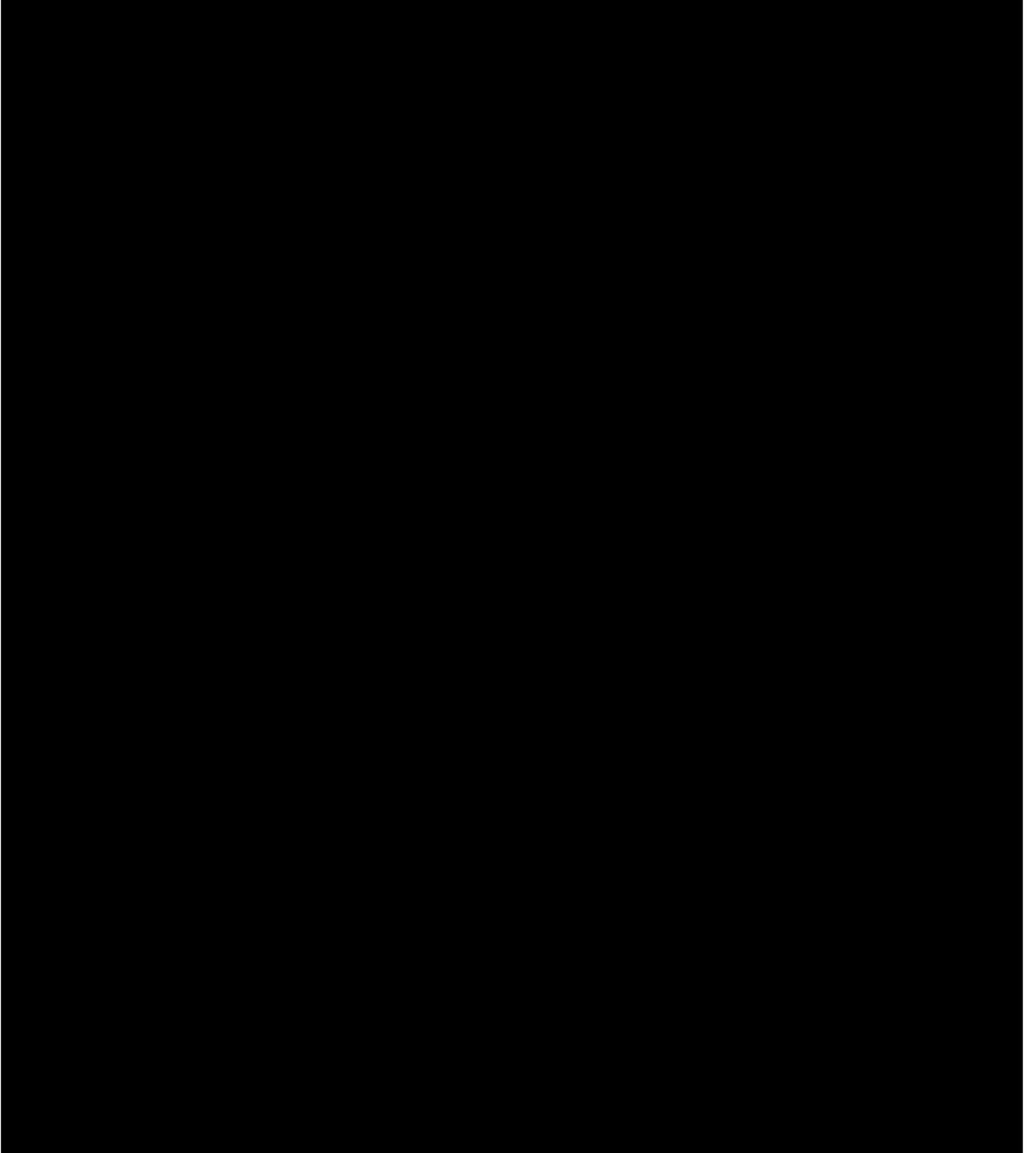
PRE-DECISIONAL, DELIBERATIVE BRIEFING DOCUMENT

(b)(5) Deliberative Process

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(b)(5) - Deliberative

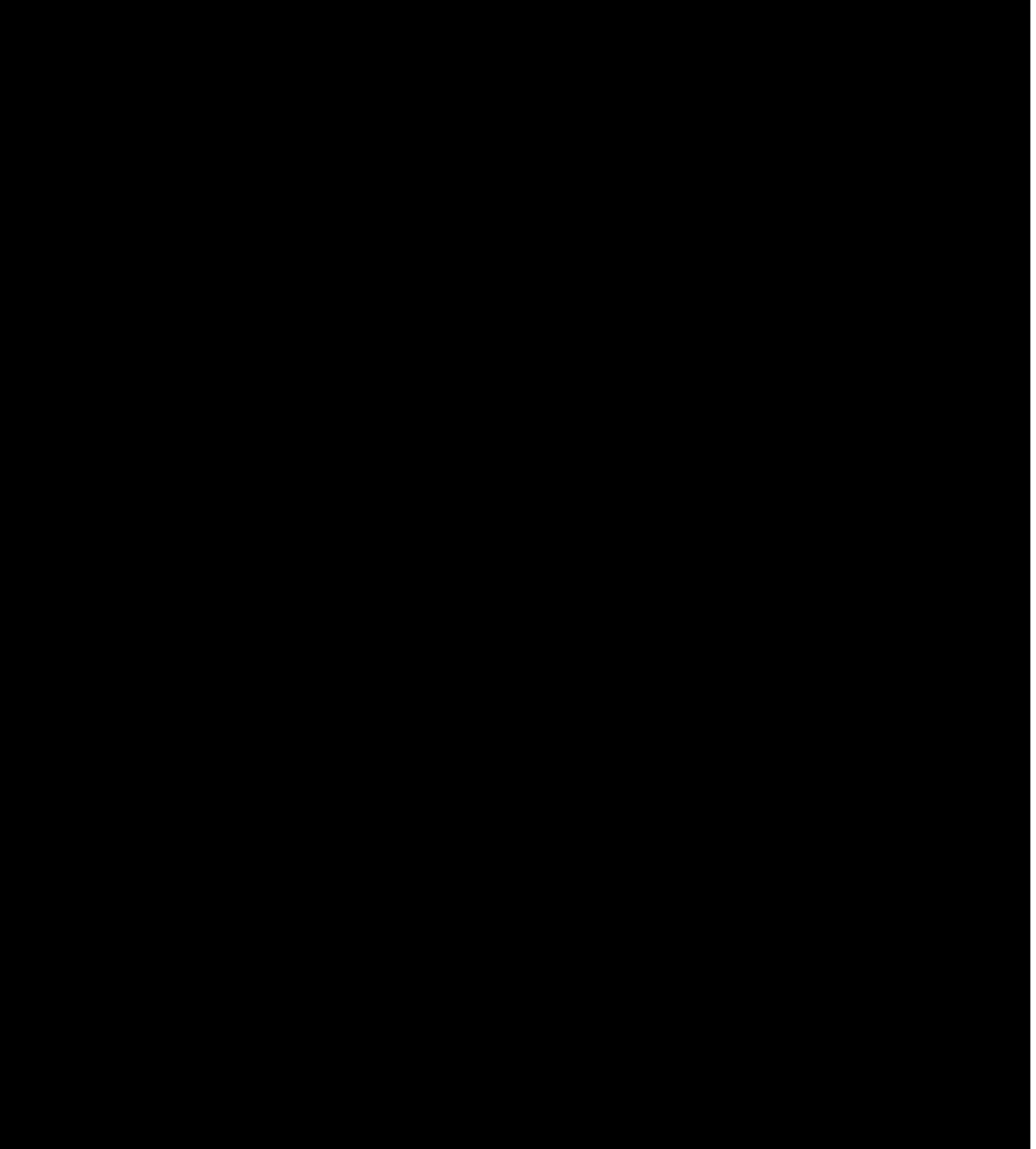
(b)(5) - Deliberative



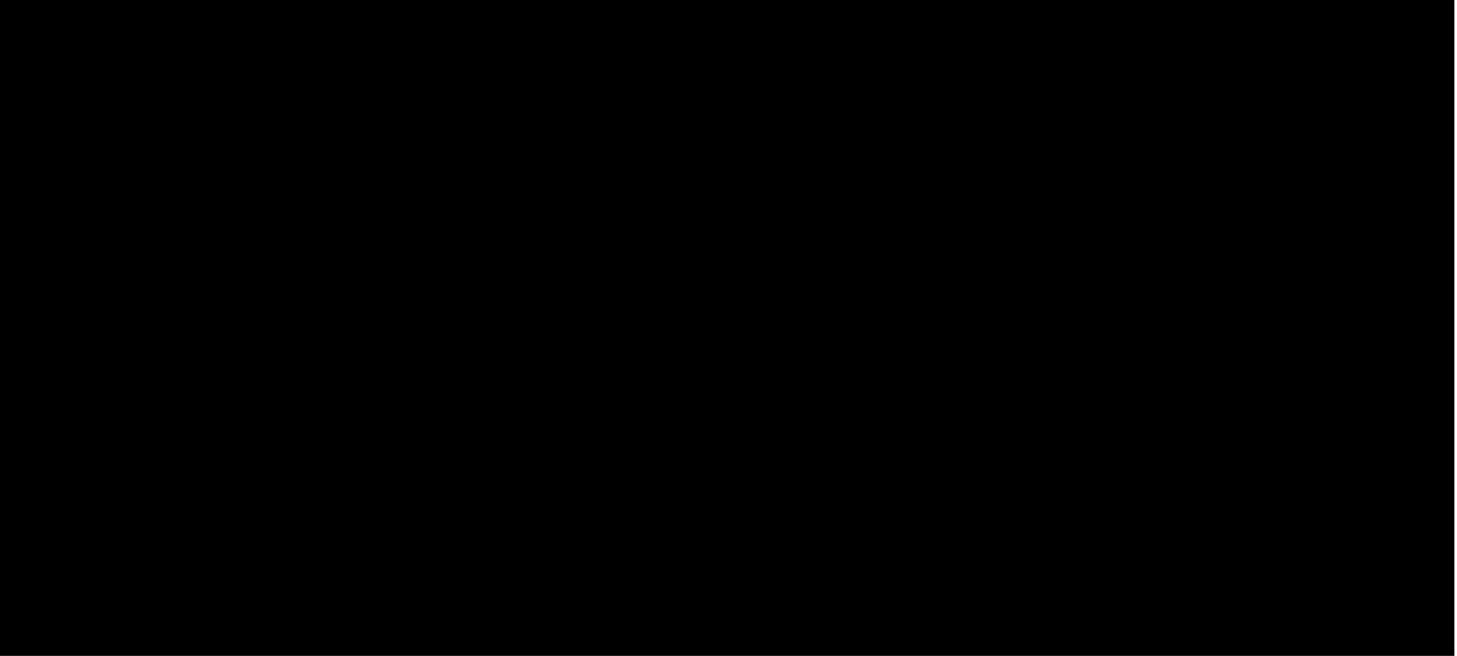
(b)(5) - Deliberative



(b)(5) - Deliberative



(b)(5) Deliberative Process



From: Murtaugh, Tim - OC, Washington, DC
Sent: 5 Dec 2018 00:28:27 +0000
To: SP3.PS3 - OSEC, Washington, DC
Cc: Starling, Raymond - OSEC, Washington, DC
Subject: Op-Ed Response to Washington Post
Attachments: WaPo - Rural America.docx

Sonny Perdue

Sir - Here's that op-Ed response to the Post.

Pasted below and attached.

**

President Trump has kept his promise to enhance economic opportunities and quality of life in rural America, contrary to what Jennifer Rubin claims in her opinion piece of November 29th. I have visited 47 states and two United States territories since becoming Secretary of Agriculture, and I can report that farmers and ranchers I have met appreciate President Trump's efforts on their behalf.

The most obvious area of concern for farmers is the ongoing trade dispute with China, which has been a bad actor on the world stage for decades. President Trump has brought the Chinese to the bargaining table by exerting pressure in a way none of his predecessors ever did. The farmers and ranchers I have met understand the necessity, because the long-term benefits will be good for the overall economy, including agriculture. Regretfully, China chose to retaliate with tariffs against U.S. agricultural products, rather than repairing their own behavior.

As a result, President Trump instructed me to craft a strategy to support farmers in the face of retaliatory tariffs from China and other nations. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) authorized up to \$12 billion in aid, including payments to producers, purchases of commodities, and marketing assistance. Since Labor Day, money has been flowing to farmers, who are paid based on their actual production in this crop year. Any delay in payments is due to one of the wettest seasons on record, which has slowed harvest and the calculation of farmers' productivity.

President Trump enjoyed a very productive meeting with Chinese President Xi at the G20 summit in Argentina, where the Chinese agreed to start purchasing American products, including those produced by American farmers. China will also begin negotiating other issues, including intellectual property theft, forced transfer of technology, and non-tariff barriers. At the same time, President Trump will not raise tariffs on \$200 billion worth of

Chinese products for 90 days as long as an agreement is reached. While the ball is clearly in China's court, these are undeniably positive developments.

The trade situation is just one issue. Last week we announced a \$449 million investment to help build an innovative water management system to increase the reliability of the California water supply and create more than 560 jobs in the Sacramento Valley. But this is just one highlight in the work of this Administration in rural America.

In 2018, the UDSA has invested in:

- High-speed e-Connectivity for more than 45,000 rural homes and businesses.
- Modernized rural electric infrastructure for more than 7 million customers.
- Water and wastewater infrastructure for nearly 3 million rural customers.
- Community infrastructure, including streets, transportation, aviation, ports, and water and storm water resources for 1.2 million rural Americans.
- Essential community facilities projects such as schools, libraries and municipal centers serving 9.3 million people.
- Health care projects serving 5.5 million rural Americans.
- Innovative distance learning and telemedicine projects to help 4.6 million rural Americans access health care, education, and job training opportunities.

Additionally, USDA soon will be rolling out a program of \$600 million in grants, loans, and loan guarantees for rural broadband expansion as part of the President's agenda.

The President also has focused on the opioid epidemic, which devastates rural areas, damaging health, economic opportunity, and quality of life. USDA's Rural Development mission area partners with communities to provide resources for prevention, treatment, and recovery.

We are also cutting red tape that stifles rural prosperity. We broke down regulations for rural communities in need of modernized infrastructure by streamlining and expediting the regulatory review process. Importantly, the Administration has targeted the hated Waters of the U.S. rule, which has impeded farmers' abilities to use their own land for production.

President Trump kept another promise by moving to expand the sale of corn ethanol, allowing E15 to be sold year-round. This will increase demand for corn, which is good for farmers, and thus for rural America as well.

USDA reacted quickly to hurricanes and wildfires in 2017 and 2018, helping to feed people in need and aiding farmers with our disaster assistance programs. At the same time, the USDA's Forest Service sent brave men and women to fight wildfires, while we worked to improve the way we fund firefighting programs and manage our forests.

This month, The USDA Economic Research Service announced that the decline in rural population, which began in 2010, has begun to reverse. In 2016-17, rural counties added population for the first time this decade. The recent upturn in rural population coincided with declining rural unemployment, rising incomes, and declining poverty rates.

The booming economy resulting from President Trump's policies is benefiting all Americans, including those in rural areas. Our specific efforts in these communities are helping to improve the quality of life as well, despite what political critics from D.C. would have you believe.

President Trump has kept his promise to enhance economic opportunities and quality of life in rural America, contrary to what Jennifer Rubin claims in her opinion piece of November 29th. I have visited 47 states and two United States territories since becoming Secretary of Agriculture, and I can report that farmers and ranchers I have met appreciate President Trump's efforts on their behalf.

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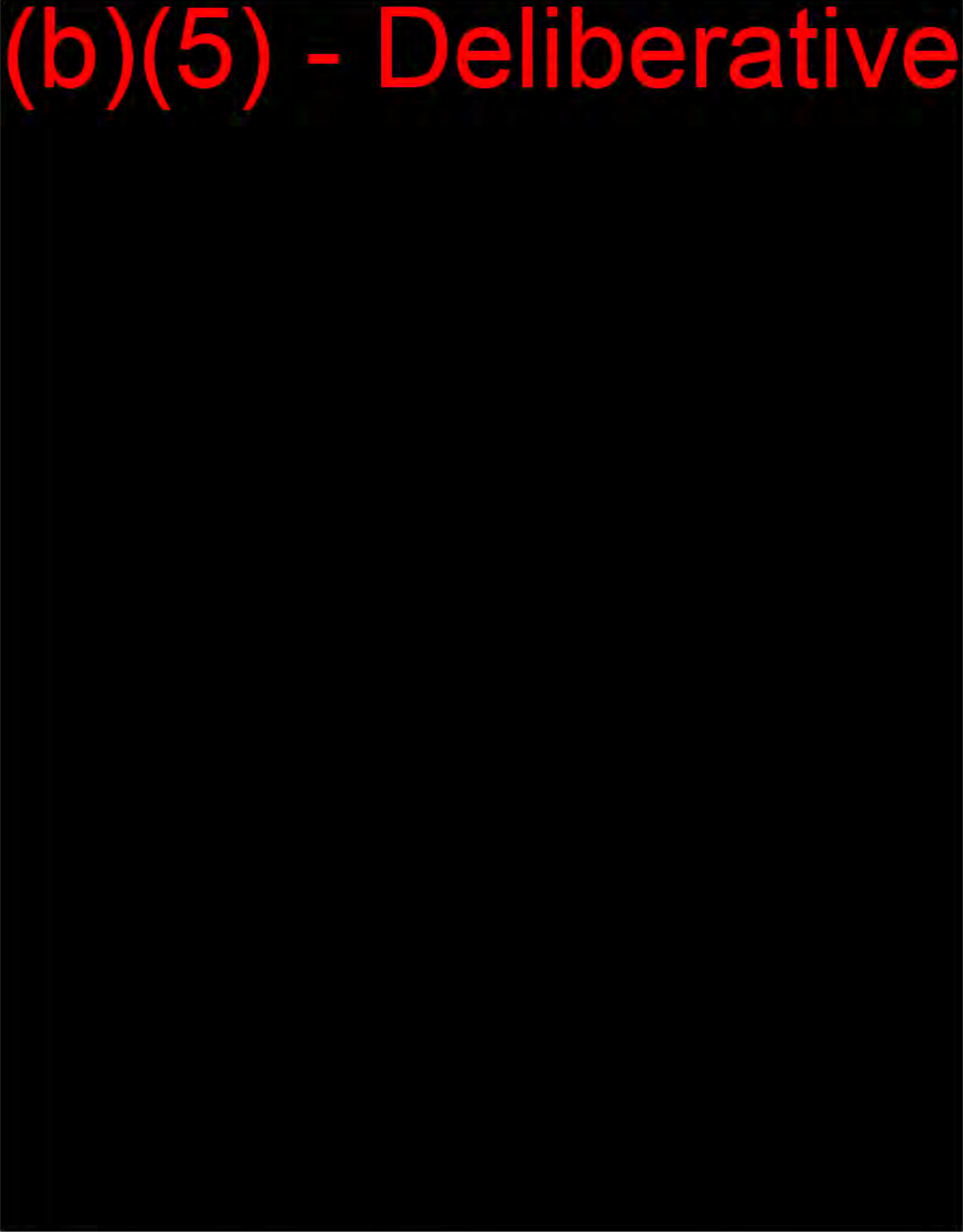
From: Murtaugh, Tim - OC, Washington, DC
Sent: 6 Dec 2018 13:27:31 +0000
To: SP3.PS3 - OSEC, Washington, DC
Subject: Re: (b)(5) - Deliberative

Sonny Perdue

Rural:

(b)(5) - Deliberative

(b)(5) - Deliberative



From: SP3.PS3 - OSEC, Washington, DC
Sent: Thursday, December 6, 2018 8:21:01 AM
To: Murtaugh, Tim - OC, Washington, DC
Subject: Re: (b)(5) - Deliberative

Sonny Perdue

My iPad does not allow me to edit word docs. Please send in html format which I can reply with edits. Thanks.

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Murtaugh, Tim - OC, Washington, DC
Sent: Thursday, December 6, 2018 7:43:52 AM
To: SP3.PS3 - OSEC, Washington, DC
Cc: Starling, Raymond - OSEC, Washington, DC; Crowe, Taylor - OSEC, Washington, DC; Rich, Michawn - OC, Washington, DC; Rodgers, Meghan - OC, Washington, DC
Subject: (b)(5) - Deliberative

Sir - since you have a lot of airplane time today, I thought I would send you (b)(5) - Deliberative

The first (b)(5) - Deliberative

The second one. (b)(5) - Deliberative

(b)(5) - Deliberative



Tim Murtaugh
Director of Communications

United States Department of Agriculture
Office: 202-690-0060

From: Murtaugh, Tim - OC, Washington, DC <Tim.Murtaugh@oc.usda.gov>
Sent: Friday, December 21, 2018 6:23 PM
To: Ryan McCrimmon <rmccrimmon@politico.com>
Subject: Re: Commodity Purchasing

Could you possibly send me the text of the new version of your story when it hits? I can't login to the website.

From: Murtaugh, Tim - OC, Washington, DC
Sent: Friday, December 21, 2018 5:38:47 PM
To: Ryan McCrimmon
Subject: Commodity Purchasing

Just to be clear on the purchasing program:

Funding for the Trade Mitigation Food Purchase and Distribution Program (FPDP) has already been provided to AMS for purchases, so purchase activities can continue during a Government shutdown.

Staff in the AMS Commodity Procurement Program will be partially working during a Government shutdown, and will continue activities under the FPDP. Vendors with current contracts under the FPDP will continue deliveries to food banks and other nutrition assistance programs. Food banks and other nutrition assistance program recipients will continue to place orders in preparation for Phase II of the FPDP.

This electronic message contains information generated by the USDA solely for the intended recipients. Any unauthorized interception of this message or the use or disclosure of the information it contains may violate the law and subject the violator to civil or criminal penalties. If you believe you have received this message in error, please notify the sender and delete the email immediately.

From: Murtaugh, Tim - OC, Washington, DC
Sent: 22 Dec 2018 01:34:40 +0000
To: Hoskins, Dudley - OSEC, Washington, DC; Navarro, Erica - OBPA, Washington, DC; Starling, Raymond - OSEC, Washington, DC; CloverAdams, Jamie - OSEC, Washington, DC; Zehren, Chris - OBPA, Washington, DC; Rich, Michawn - OC, Washington, DC; Rodgers, Meghan - OC, Washington, DC
Subject: Re: Commodity Purchasing



Sec. Sonny Perdue 
@SecretarySonny

Need to make something clear because of some reporting on MFP payments & commodity purchases in trade mitigation program. Farmers who have certified production WILL receive payments even with a government shutdown. Commodity purchasing will go on. Don't want confusion about this.

8:31 PM · 12/21/18 · [Twitter for iPhone](#)

From: Hoskins, Dudley - OSEC, Washington, DC
Sent: Friday, December 21, 2018 8:19:32 PM
To: Murtaugh, Tim - OC, Washington, DC; Navarro, Erica - OBPA, Washington, DC; Starling, Raymond - OSEC, Washington, DC; CloverAdams, Jamie - OSEC, Washington, DC; Zehren, Chris - OBPA, Washington, DC; Rich, Michawn - OC, Washington, DC; Rodgers, Meghan - OC, Washington, DC
Subject: Re: Commodity Purchasing

If you (b)(5) Deliberative Process
(b)(5) Deliberative Process as well.

From: "Murtaugh, Tim - OC, Washington, DC" <Tim.Murtaugh@oc.usda.gov>
Date: Friday, December 21, 2018 at 8:11:02 PM
To: "Navarro, Erica - OBPA, Washington, DC" <Erica.Navarro@obpa.usda.gov>, "Hoskins, Dudley - OSEC, Washington, DC" <Dudley.Hoskins@osec.usda.gov>, "Starling, Raymond - OSEC, Washington, DC" <Raymond.Starling@osec.usda.gov>, "CloverAdams, Jamie - OSEC, Washington, DC" <Jamie.CloverAdams@osec.usda.gov>, "Zehren, Chris - OBPA, Washington, DC" <Chris.Zehren@obpa.usda.gov>, "Rich, Michawn - OC, Washington, DC" <Michawn.Rich@oc.usda.gov>, "Rodgers, Meghan - OC, Washington, DC" <Meghan.Rodgers@oc.usda.gov>
Subject: Re: Commodity Purchasing

(b)(5) - Deliberative
(b)(5) - Deliberative?

From: Navarro, Erica - OBPA, Washington, DC
Sent: Friday, December 21, 2018 7:13:17 PM
To: Hoskins, Dudley - OSEC, Washington, DC; Murtaugh, Tim - OC, Washington, DC; Starling, Raymond - OSEC, Washington, DC; CloverAdams, Jamie - OSEC, Washington, DC; Zehren, Chris - OBPA, Washington, DC; Rich, Michawn - OC, Washington, DC; Rodgers, Meghan - OC, Washington, DC
Subject: Re: Commodity Purchasing

Agreed. Thanks Tim

From: "Hoskins, Dudley - OSEC, Washington, DC" <Dudley.Hoskins@osec.usda.gov>
Date: Friday, December 21, 2018 at 7:10:24 PM
To: "Murtaugh, Tim - OC, Washington, DC" <Tim.Murtaugh@oc.usda.gov>, "Starling, Raymond - OSEC, Washington, DC" <Raymond.Starling@osec.usda.gov>, "CloverAdams, Jamie - OSEC, Washington, DC" <Jamie.CloverAdams@osec.usda.gov>, "Navarro, Erica - OBPA, Washington, DC" <Erica.Navarro@obpa.usda.gov>, "Zehren, Chris - OBPA, Washington, DC" <Chris.Zehren@obpa.usda.gov>, "Rich, Michawn - OC, Washington, DC" <Michawn.Rich@oc.usda.gov>, "Rodgers, Meghan - OC, Washington, DC" <Meghan.Rodgers@oc.usda.gov>
Subject: Re: Commodity Purchasing

Works for the FPDP portion. Thanks Tim.

From: "Murtaugh, Tim - OC, Washington, DC" <Tim.Murtaugh@oc.usda.gov>

Date: Friday, December 21, 2018 at 6:45:46 PM

To: "Starling, Raymond - OSEC, Washington, DC"

<Raymond.Starling@osec.usda.gov>, "Hoskins, Dudley - OSEC, Washington, DC"

<Dudley.Hoskins@osec.usda.gov>, "CloverAdams, Jamie - OSEC, Washington, DC"

<Jamie.CloverAdams@osec.usda.gov>, "Navarro, Erica - OBPA, Washington, DC"

<Erica.Navarro@obpa.usda.gov>, "Zehren, Chris - OBPA, Washington, DC"

<Chris.Zehren@obpa.usda.gov>, "Rich, Michawn - OC, Washington, DC"

<Michawn.Rich@oc.usda.gov>, "Rodgers, Meghan - OC, Washington, DC"

<Meghan.Rodgers@oc.usda.gov>

Subject: Fwd: Commodity Purchasing

I sure hope this clarifies it.

From: Ryan McCrimmon <rmccrimmon@politico.com>

Sent: Friday, December 21, 2018 6:44:17 PM

To: Murtaugh, Tim - OC, Washington, DC

Subject: RE: Commodity Purchasing

Relevant sections in yellow:

Congress is hurtling toward a spending deadline at midnight Saturday with no clear plan to extend funding for the Agriculture Department and FDA, which would be forced to halt most non-essential activities and furlough thousands of employees if a shutdown takes place and is not resolved in short order.

USDA would keep about 60 percent of its current 95,383 employees active during a shutdown, depending on how long it lasts, according to official [contingency plans](#). That's a shift from the 16-day shutdown in 2013, when nearly 85 percent of USDA's workforce was furloughed. FDA intends to [retain](#) 10,344 employees, or 59 percent of its total 17,397-person staff.

At USDA, all non-essential operations would grind to a halt, including the work of the ethics and civil rights offices and most research and communications staff.

"For the first week of a potential shutdown, 61% of employees would either be exempted or excepted from shutdown activities," USDA said in a [statement](#) Friday providing fresh details on which operations would continue or cease. "If the shutdown continues, this percentage would decrease, and activities would be reduced as available funding decreases."

USDA's trade-relief efforts would also be complicated by a prolonged shutdown. A USDA spokesperson said commodity producers who already certified their 2018 production would continue to receive trade-aid payments, while those who have not certified production would need to do so within the first week of a shutdown in order to receive payments.

The Trump administration just announced a [second wave](#) of direct trade-aid payments on Monday, but those checks aren't expected to begin going out to producers for at least another week or two.

Joel Nelsen, CEO of California Citrus Mutual, said a delay in USDA's \$1.2 billion commodity purchase program — another component of its broader trade-relief package — would be

problematic for citrus growers, who were anticipating a wave of purchases by mid-January. USDA is buying up grapefruits, oranges, lemons, limes and other fruits, some of which are now in season, along with other commodities affected by trade disruptions.

"Where I am concerned is in the fruit purchasing program," Nelsen said. "Getting some of this excess fruit off the market is important to our growers. They are losing revenue because of lost export opportunities, and this program was designed to level the supply and demand dynamic."

The USDA spokesperson said ongoing commodity purchases were exempted by the White House Office of Management and Budget and would not be affected.

The department's most [critical activities](#) would continue during a shutdown, like food safety inspections, wildfire suppression and food assistance programs.

The Food Safety and Inspection Service would retain about 89 percent of its 9,461 employees to continue meat, poultry and egg inspections and emergency recall operations. The Forest Service would maintain more than 22,000 employees, or 67 percent of its normal workforce, to fight wildfires and carry out other essential programs.

The Farm Service Agency and the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service would each keep about 61 percent of their staff active. APHIS would continue monitoring imports for pests and diseases.

Government employees furloughed during a shutdown typically receive back pay once new funding is enacted and agencies reopen, but waiting days or weeks for that reimbursement can be difficult for those living paycheck to paycheck, especially during the holiday season. OMB released fresh [guidance](#) on government employee pay in the event of a shutdown.

If agencies do begin closing once the deadline passes, the shutdown could drag on for a while, especially with many lawmakers and President Donald Trump planning to leave D.C. for the holidays. Trump delayed his plans to depart Washington on Friday for his Mar-a-Lago resort in Florida, POLITICO [reported](#), a sign that the impasse could lead to a shutdown.

The [spending talks are hung up](#) over Trump's refusal to sign any continuing resolution that doesn't include \$5 billion to build a wall along the U.S.-Mexico border.

CLARIFICATION: This report has been updated to clarify how a prolonged shutdown would affect the USDA's trade-relief program based on information provided by the department.

From: Murtaugh, Tim - OC, Washington, DC <Tim.Murtaugh@oc.usda.gov>

Sent: Friday, December 21, 2018 6:23 PM

To: Ryan McCrimmon <rmccrimmon@politico.com>

Subject: Re: Commodity Purchasing

Could you possibly send me the text of the new version of your story when it hits? I can't login to the website.

From: Murtaugh, Tim - OC, Washington, DC
Sent: Friday, December 21, 2018 5:38:47 PM
To: Ryan McCrimmon
Subject: Commodity Purchasing

Just to be clear on the purchasing program:

Funding for the Trade Mitigation Food Purchase and Distribution Program (FPDP) has already been provided to AMS for purchases, so purchase activities can continue during a Government shutdown.

Staff in the AMS Commodity Procurement Program will be partially working during a Government shutdown, and will continue activities under the FPDP. Vendors with current contracts under the FPDP will continue deliveries to food banks and other nutrition assistance programs. Food banks and other nutrition assistance program recipients will continue to place orders in preparation for Phase II of the FPDP.

This electronic message contains information generated by the USDA solely for the intended recipients. Any unauthorized interception of this message or the use or disclosure of the information it contains may violate the law and subject the violator to civil or criminal penalties. If you believe you have received this message in error, please notify the sender and delete the email immediately.

From: Murtaugh, Tim - OC, Washington, DC
Sent: 4 Sep 2018 12:50:43 +0000
To: Ghee, Hailey - OSEC, Washington, DC
Cc: Starling, Raymond - OSEC, Washington, DC
Subject: RE: Draft Email to thank mitigation team

I think that's fine. (b)(5) - Deliberative

From: Ghee, Hailey - OSEC, Washington, DC <Hailey.Ghee@osec.usda.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, September 4, 2018 8:47 AM
To: Murtaugh, Tim - OC, Washington, DC <Tim.Murtaugh@oc.usda.gov>
Subject: RE: Draft Email to thank mitigation team

Yes that's the intent but Ray wanted to check with you and make sure you think that's a good idea?

Hailey Ghee
Special Assistant to the Secretary
Office: 202-205-9982
Cell: (b) (6)

From: Murtaugh, Tim - OC, Washington, DC <Tim.Murtaugh@oc.usda.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, September 4, 2018 8:26 AM
To: Ghee, Hailey - OSEC, Washington, DC <Hailey.Ghee@osec.usda.gov>
Subject: Re: Draft Email to thank mitigation team

(b)(5) - Deliberative Is that the intent?

If so, when?

From: Ghee, Hailey - OSEC, Washington, DC <Hailey.Ghee@osec.usda.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, September 4, 2018 8:21:21 AM
To: Murtaugh, Tim - OC, Washington, DC
Subject: FW: Draft Email to thank mitigation team

Hi Tim,

Are you the right person who would send this to the entire department?

Hailey Ghee
Special Assistant to the Secretary
Office: 202-205-9982
Cell: (b) (6)

From: Starling, Raymond - OSEC, Washington, DC

Sent: Monday, September 3, 2018 7:47 PM

To: Murtaugh, Tim - OC, Washington, DC <Tim.Murtaugh@oc.usda.gov>; Appleton, Brooke - OSEC, Washington DC <Brooke.Appleton@osec.usda.gov>; Shuford, Campbell - OSEC, Washington, DC <Campbell.Shuford@osec.usda.gov>; CloverAdams, Jamie - OSEC, Washington, DC <Jamie.CloverAdams@osec.usda.gov>

Cc: Ghee, Hailey - OSEC, Washington, DC <Hailey.Ghee@osec.usda.gov>

Subject: RE: Draft Email to thank mitigation team

(b)(5) - Deliberative

Hailey – can you please work with

(b)(5) - Deliberative

(b)(5) - Deliberative

Thanks,

-Ray

From: Murtaugh, Tim - OC, Washington, DC <Tim.Murtaugh@oc.usda.gov>

Sent: Sunday, September 2, 2018 9:36 PM

To: Starling, Raymond - OSEC, Washington, DC <Raymond.Starling@osec.usda.gov>; Appleton, Brooke - OSEC, Washington DC <Brooke.Appleton@osec.usda.gov>; Shuford, Campbell - OSEC, Washington, DC <Campbell.Shuford@osec.usda.gov>; CloverAdams, Jamie - OSEC, Washington, DC <Jamie.CloverAdams@osec.usda.gov>

Subject: Re: Draft Email to thank mitigation team

Here are my edits:

(b)(5) - Deliberative

(b)(5) - Deliberative

From: Starling, Raymond - OSEC, Washington, DC <Raymond.Starling@osec.usda.gov>

Sent: Sunday, September 2, 2018 2:32:25 PM

To: Appleton, Brooke - OSEC, Washington DC; Shuford, Campbell - OSEC, Washington, DC; Murtaugh, Tim - OC, Washington, DC; CloverAdams, Jamie - OSEC, Washington, DC

Subject: RE: Draft Email to thank mitigation team

Brooke, Campbell, Jamie, and Tim,

Can you all revisit this (b)(5) - Deliberative?

(b)(5) - Deliberative

(b)(5) - Deliberative

Thanks,
-Ray

(b)(5) - Deliberative

(b)(5) - Deliberative

From: Shuford, Campbell - OSEC, Washington, DC

Sent: Monday, August 27, 2018 5:59 PM

To: Appleton, Brooke - OSEC, Washington DC <Brooke.Appleton@osec.usda.gov>

Cc: Starling, Raymond - OSEC, Washington, DC <Raymond.Starling@osec.usda.gov>; Ghee, Hailey - OSEC, Washington, DC <Hailey.Ghee@osec.usda.gov>

Subject: Draft Email to thank mitigation team

Brooke,

Would you be able to draft
(b)(5) - Deliberative ?

(b)(5) - Deliberative
(b)(5) - Deliberative

(b)(5) - Deliberative

Campbell

From: Rollins, Blake - OSEC, Washington, DC
Sent: 3 Sep 2018 19:16:23 +0000
To: Starling, Raymond - OSEC, Washington, DC
Subject: Re: Flagging 3 Things

Ray, I think it looks good [REDACTED] (b)(5) - Deliberative Earlier the better as far as I'm concerned.

For your purposes, these are our options [REDACTED] (b) (6) I don't think you need to include this in the email, but this is what I'll discuss with him tomorrow.

[REDACTED] (b) (6)

From: "Starling, Raymond - OSEC, Washington, DC" <Raymond.Starling@osec.usda.gov>
Date: Monday, September 3, 2018 at 2:48 PM
To: Blake Rollins <Blake.Rollins@osec.usda.gov>
Subject: Flagging 3 Things

Blake – see if you think I've said what you want me to say.

Thanks,
-Ray

Mr. Secretary,

Hope you've had a good weekend. Touching base on a few issues.

First, it appears (b)(5) Deliberative Process

[REDACTED] (b)(5) - Deliberative

Second, (b)(5) - Deliberative
(b)(5) - Deliberative
(b)(5) - Deliberative Jason will follow-up with an e-mail later
today.

Finally, (b)(5) - Deliberative
(b)(5) - Deliberative Let us
know if you have thoughts or would like to see certain edits.

(b)(5) - Deliberative

Thanks and let me know if we need to talk.
-Ray

From: Murtaugh, Tim - OC, Washington, DC
Sent: 25 Jun 2018 22:17:12 +0000
To: Barbic, Ken - OSEC, Washington, DC
Cc: Starling, Raymond - OSEC, Washington, DC
Subject: Re: Secretary Perdue. "Donald Trump Will Protect American Farmers From China's Trade Retaliation"

No concerns here.

On Jun 25, 2018, at 6:13 PM, Barbic, Ken - OSEC, Washington, DC
<Ken.Barbic@osec.usda.gov> wrote:

I don't have any concern shooting this around. Do either of you?

Ken Barbic
Assistant Secretary-Office of Congressional Relations
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Cell: (b) (6)

From: Lai, Joseph G. EOP/WHO [[mailto:\(b\) \(6\)@who.eop.gov](mailto:(b) (6)@who.eop.gov)]
Sent: Monday, June 25, 2018 6:05 PM
To: Barbic, Ken - OSEC, Washington, DC <Ken.Barbic@osec.usda.gov>
Cc: Swonger, Amy H. EOP/WHO (b) (6)@who.eop.gov
Subject: Fwd: Secretary Perdue: "Donald Trump Will Protect American Farmers From China's Trade Retaliation"

Hi Ken:

Is it possible for your team to get this out to a Republican Members of Finance Committee?

I think it would be best for USDA to push out since the USDA/Perdue brand has a lot of currency with the Finance R's.

Thank you!

Joseph Lai

Special Assistant to the President

Legislative Affairs

The White House

Mobile: (b) (6)

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: White House Press Office <whitehouse-noreply@messages.whitehouse.gov>

Date: June 25, 2018 at 4:31:23 PM EDT

To: <(b) (6)@who.eop.gov>

Subject: Secretary Perdue: "Donald Trump Will Protect American Farmers From China's Trade Retaliation"

Reply-To: <whitehouse-noreply@messages.whitehouse.gov>

THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 25, 2018

SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE SONNY PERDUE: "DONALD TRUMP WILL PROTECT AMERICAN FARMERS FROM CHINA'S TRADE RETALIATION"

"President Donald Trump is standing up to China, which wrongly believes it can bully our farmers to get America to back away from defending our national interests."

Donald Trump will protect American farmers from China's trade retaliation

By Secretary Sonny Perdue

USA Today

June 25, 2018

...

American producers have benefited from the policies of the Trump administration, including historic tax reforms and reduced regulations. And farmers know that 20 cents of every dollar of their income relies on trade, which is why they are watching the situation with China closely. The simple truth is that when trading partners break the rules, there must be consequences.

...

To stop China's predatory attacks on America's innovation base, President Trump is instituting a program of tariffs and is considering investment restrictions and strengthened export controls. These tariffs will help pressure the Chinese to stop engaging in unfair practices and fully open up its markets to U.S. products, including U.S. technologies. The correct response from China would be to stop stealing from Americans and give American products a level playing field to compete in China, not to retaliate and

reinforce its own position.

There is no denying that the disruption in trade relations with China is unsettling to many in agriculture, but if the president succeeds in changing China's behavior, America's farmers will reap the benefits.

In the meantime, the president has instructed me to craft a strategy to support our farmers in the face of retaliatory tariffs. At the U.S. Department of Agriculture, we have tools at our disposal to support farmers faced with losses that might occur due to downturns in commodities markets.

...

But farmers should know this: They have stood with President Trump and his policies, and we will make good on our promise to stand with them as well. If China does not soon mend its ways, we will quickly begin fulfilling our promise to support producers, who have become casualties of these disputes.

...

The president is a tough negotiator, and I am confident that American agriculture will flourish because of trade relationships that are smarter, stronger and better than before. China might underestimate the strength and resolve of American farmers, but the president does not. And he will not allow our agricultural producers to suffer because of China's continued bad actions.

[Read the full op-ed here.](#)

###

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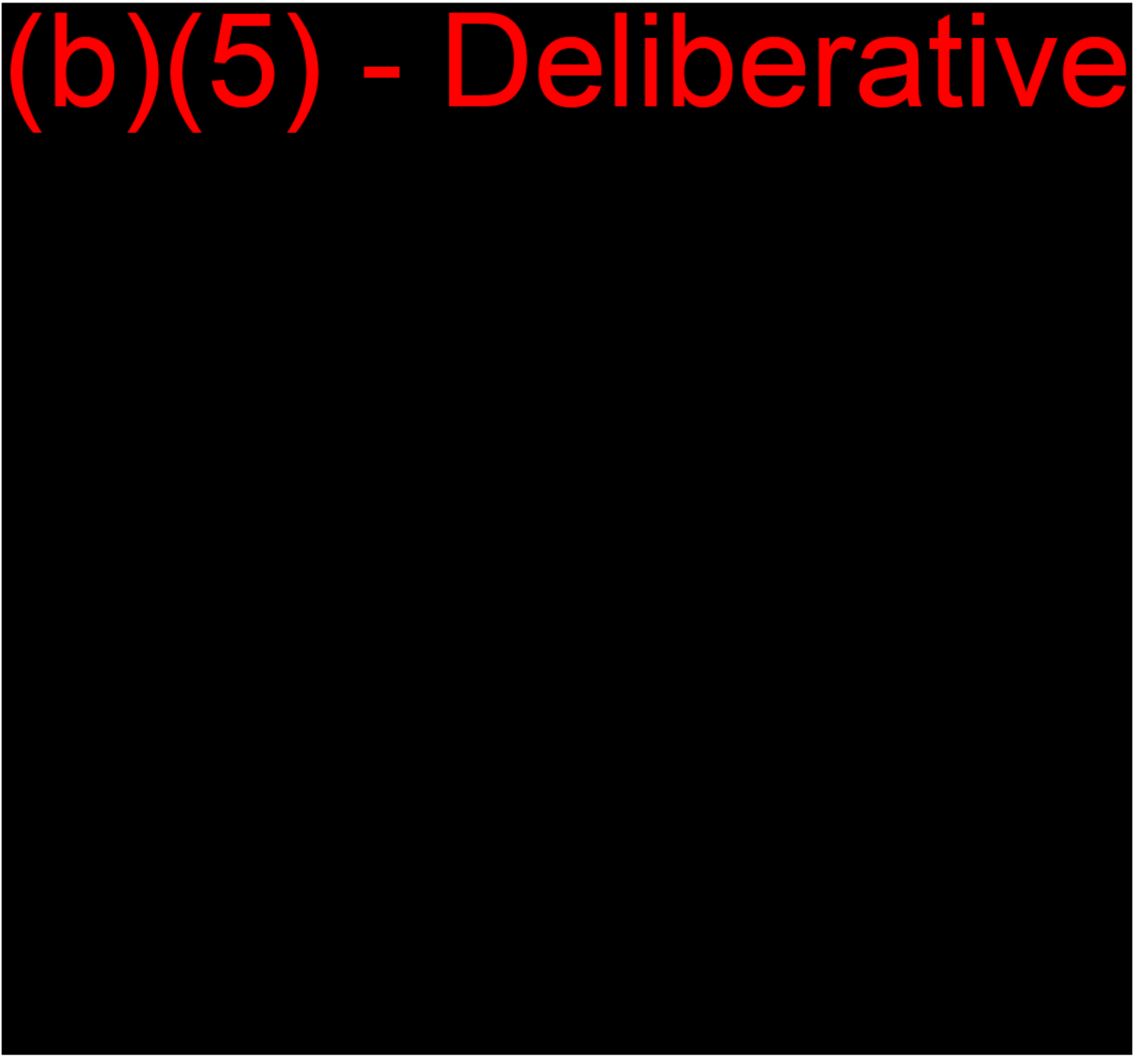
The White House - 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW - Washington DC 20500 - 202-456-1111

From: Murtaugh, Tim - OC, Washington, DC
Sent: 4 Sep 2018 12:53:46 +0000
To: Starling, Raymond - OSEC, Washington, DC
Cc: Ghee, Hailey - OSEC, Washington, DC; Rich, Michawn - OC, Washington, DC; Rodgers, Meghan - OC, Washington, DC
Subject: SP EMAIL - Trade Mitigation Launch
Attachments: Trade Mitigation Launch.docx

Ray – Attachment withheld under (b)(5) Deliberative exemption (1 p.)

Has SP signed off on this? I'm ready to get it in the queue.

(b)(5) - Deliberative



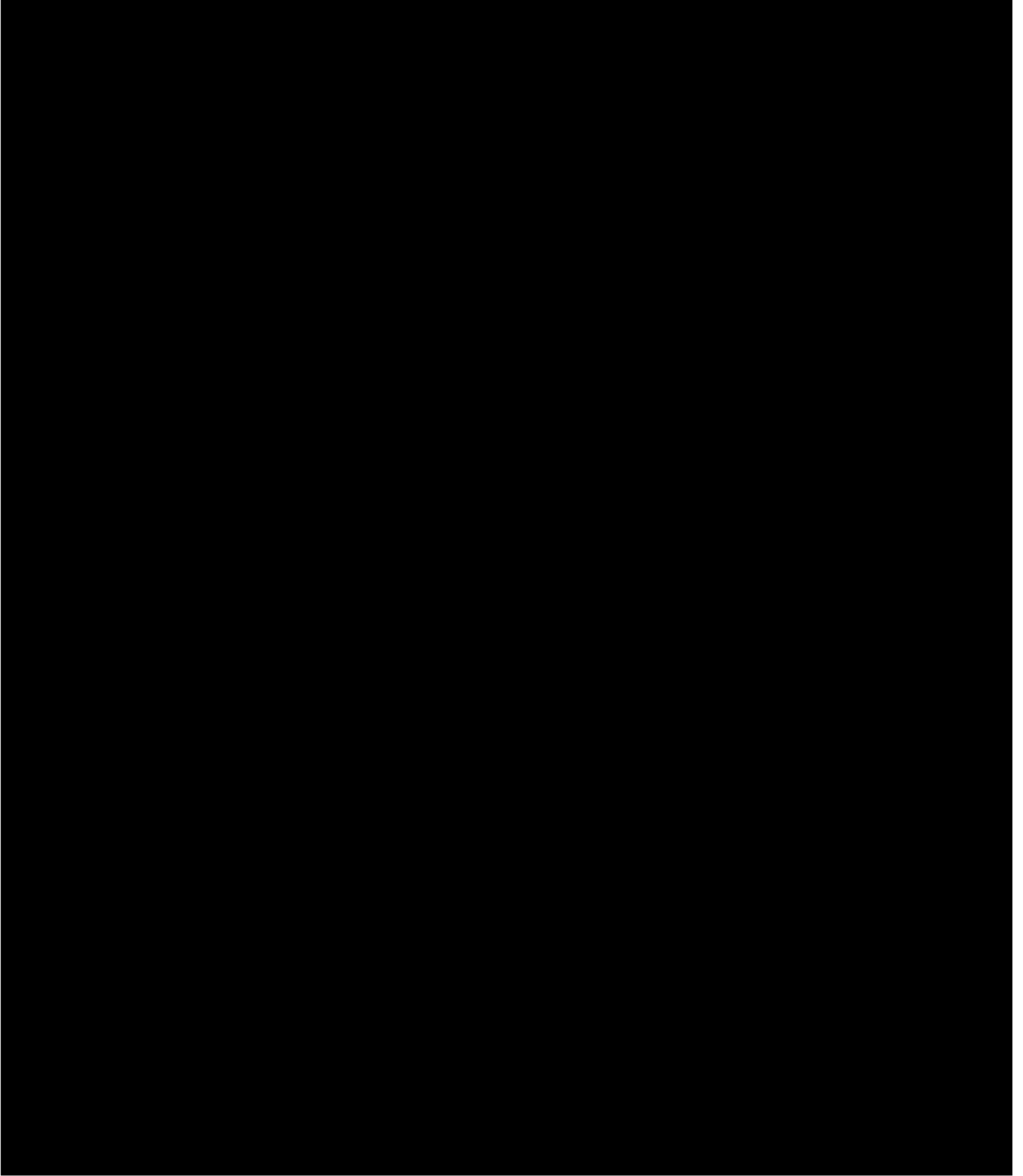
From: Murtaugh, Tim - OC, Washington, DC
Sent: 3 Dec 2018 01:31:21 +0000
To: Starling, Raymond - OSEC, Washington, DC
Cc: Bachmann, Peter - OSEC Washington, DC; Rich, Michawn - OC, Washington, DC; Rodgers, Meghan - OC, Washington, DC
Subject: WaPo Rural America Response
Attachments: WaPo - Rural America.docx

This is a draft of a response to the Jennifer Rubin piece of last week. (b)(5) - Deliberative
(b)(5) - Deliberative

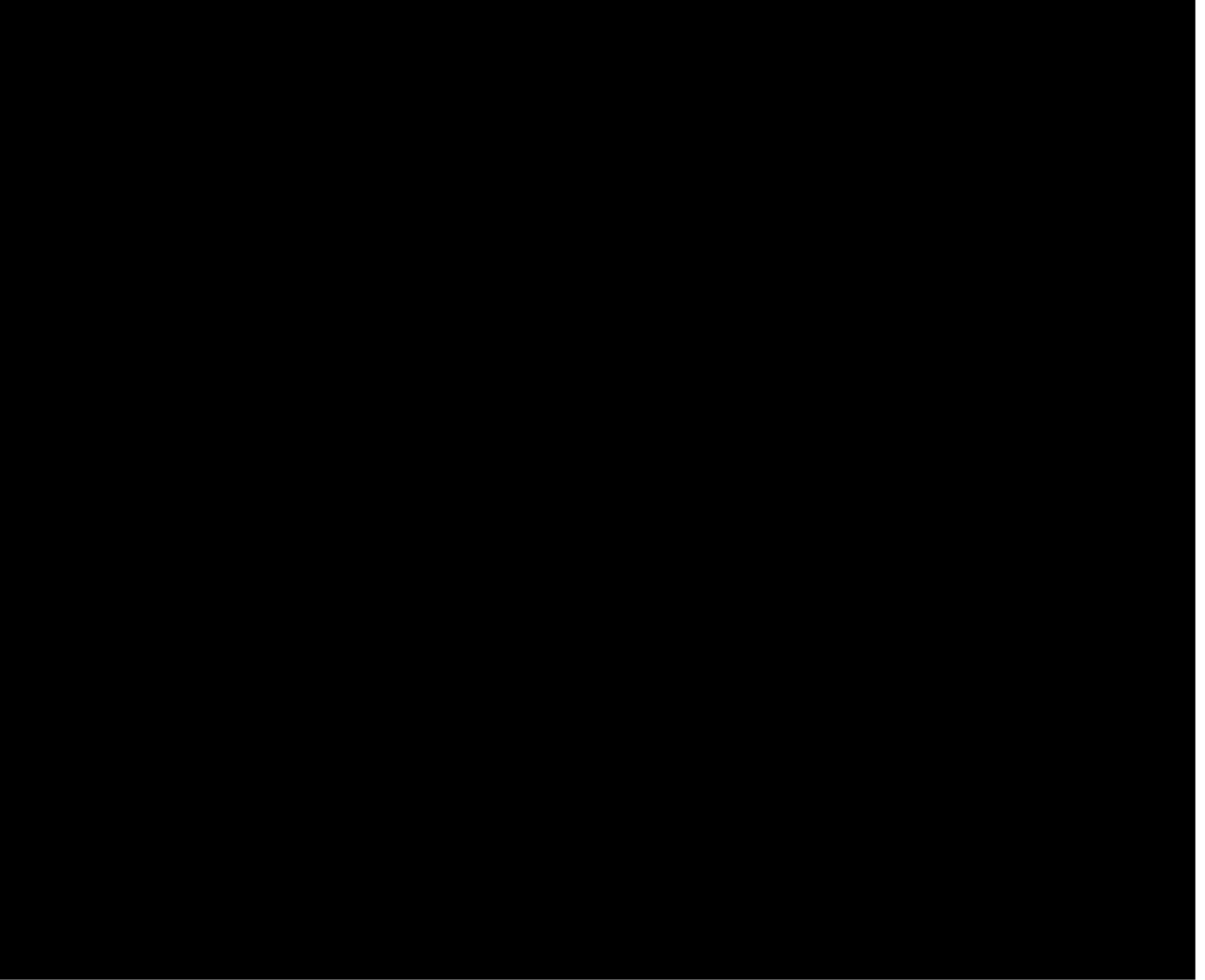
Attached

Attachment withheld under (b)(5) Deliberative exemption (2 pp.)

(b)(5) - Deliberative



(b)(5) - Deliberative



From: Starling, Raymond - OSEC, Washington, DC
Sent: 4 Sep 2018 13:03:03 +0000
To: Murtaugh, Tim - OC, Washington, DC
Subject: Fwd: E-mail from the Secretary

I told him (b)(5) - Deliberative

From: "Starling, Raymond - OSEC, Washington, DC"
<Raymond.Starling@osec.usda.gov>
Date: Monday, September 3, 2018 at 7:04:00 PM
To: "SP3.PS3 - OSEC, Washington, DC" <Sp3@osec.usda.gov> Sonny Perdue
Cc: "Blake - OSEC Washington DC Rollins (Blake.Rollins@osec.usda.gov)"
<Blake.Rollins@osec.usda.gov>, "Ghee, Hailey - OSEC, Washington, DC"
<Hailey.Ghee@osec.usda.gov>
Subject: E-mail from the Secretary

Mr. Secretary,

Per our discussion (b)(5) - Deliberative
(b)(5) - Deliberative
(b)(5) - Deliberative Let us know if you have thoughts or would like
to see certain edits.

(b)(5) - Deliberative

(b)(5) - Deliberative



Thanks and Blake and I will look forward to chatting with you tomorrow morning at 8:00 AM.

-Ray

Ray A. Starling
United States Dept. of Agriculture

From: Brady, Lillie - OSEC, Washington, DC
Sent: 29 May 2019 19:56:31 +0000
To: Young, Joby - OSEC, Washington, DC
Subject: RE: American Sugar Alliance statement on USMCA
Attachments: Trade Mitigation Statements.docx

Thank you!! I have attached a statements tracker I have been updating.

--

Lillie Brady
(202)845-3872

From: Young, Joby - OSEC, Washington, DC
Sent: Wednesday, May 29, 2019 2:52 PM
To: Brady, Lillie - OSEC, Washington, DC <lillie.brady@usda.gov>
Subject: FW: American Sugar Alliance statement on USMCA



Joby Young

Chief of Staff
United States Department of Agriculture

From: Ryan Weston <RWeston@sugarcaneleague.org>
Sent: Friday, May 24, 2019 3:20 PM
To: McKinney, Ted - OSEC, Washington, DC <Ted.McKinney@usda.gov>; Northey, Bill - OSEC, Washington, DC <Bill.Northey@usda.gov>
Cc: Aguero, Michael - OSEC, Washington, DC <michael.aguero@usda.gov>; Fisher, Andrew D - Washington, DC <andrewd.fisher@usda.gov>; Perry, Robert - OSEC, Washington, DC <robert.perry1@usda.gov>; Don.Phillips-FASContact (b) (6)
(b) (6) Young, Joby - OSEC, Washington, DC <joby.young@usda.gov>
Subject: American Sugar Alliance statement on USMCA

Gentlemen:

Our ASA letter of support for USMCA is attached for your files.

Hope you have a great Memorial Day weekend.

Sincerely,

Ryan

Ryan Weston
Florida and Texas Sugar Cane
1455 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Suite 320
Washington, DC 20004
Phone [REDACTED] (b) (6)

Trade Mitigation Announcement May 23, 2019 – Stakeholder Statements

Updated: May 28, 2019

National Potato Council

DAN MOSS REPRESENTS POTATO INDUSTRY AT WHITE HOUSE AGRICULTURAL TRADE EVENT

Today, the U.S potato industry was represented by Dan Moss at an agricultural trade event at the White House with President Trump. Mr. Moss is a potato grower based in Rupert, ID and former President of the National Potato Council (NPC).

“It was an honor to be included in this event at the White House,” Moss said. “The success of the potato industry heavily relies on trade and foreign market access. We appreciate the Trump Administration’s long-term desire to enhance U.S. agriculture’s global competitiveness and to mitigate the short-term impact of these negotiations.”

Last week, the U.S. potato industry was pleased to see the agreement lift the Section 232 tariffs. On Monday, Mexico responded by removing their 20% retaliatory tariff on fries, and we are pleased to be shipping again duty-free to our third largest fry export market.

With this issue resolved, the U.S. potato industry strongly urges Congress to pass the US-Mexico-Canada trade agreement immediately.

With \$95 million in U.S. potato imports, China is the sixth largest export market for U.S. potato products. As negotiations between the U.S. and China continue, NPC is hopeful in expanding the market substantially once an agreement is reached between the two countries.

“Should the U.S. potato industry gain workable access for both fresh and chip potatoes, China would vault into one of our largest export markets,” said Kam Quarles, NPC CEO.

As negotiations between the United States and China continue, the US potato industry appreciates this additional support offered to agriculture. The mitigation package includes direct payments, export promotion and surplus commodity purchases. The trade promotion support is expected to be used by the U.S. potato industry to expand our exports to emerging markets.

American Soybean Association

Washington, D.C. May 23, 2019. The news from U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue of trade mitigation including, most importantly to soy, Market Facilitation Program (MFP) payments and Agricultural Trade Promotion (ATP) program funding, is news welcomed by soy growers who have suffered from the ongoing ill effects of tariffs.

“We recognize and are thankful that these funds will help offset the persisting damage from tariffs, as well as enable new market development through ATP,” said Davie Stephens, president of the American Soybean Association (ASA) and soybean grower from Clinton, Ky.

Stephens reiterated, however, that the soybean industry needs open trade access, saying, “The key word from today’s announcement is “facilitation”: Trade assistance will only facilitate soy growers’ ability to farm, not make their losses whole or tariff woes disappear long term. Trade assistance will only help in the short term.”

The 2019 MFP program under the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) Charter Act and administered by Farm Service Agency (FSA) will provide \$14.5 billion in payments to producers, among them soy growers. Payments this year, however, will be based not on individual crops as in the past, rather on county-specific rates determined by, “long term distortion from tariff damage,” according to USDA. That single-county rate will be multiplied by a farm’s total planted acreage for all eligible crops to determine payment so that planting

decisions are not skewed, and eligible plantings cannot exceed total 2018 plantings. The first payments will begin in late July or early August after Farm Service Agency (FSA) crop reporting is completed July 15th. Second and third payments will be made in November and early January if conditions warrant, USDA has reported.

An additional \$100 million will be issued through the ATP to assist in developing new export markets on behalf of producers, along with Food Purchase and Distribution Program (FPDP) relief for other commodities.

ASA appreciates the Administration's effort to bridge the gap during this difficult time.

However, a second round of financial support to offset farm losses is only a partial and temporary solution, and not a permanent solution for soy growers who have lost their number one export market since tariffs were implemented by the U.S. and then China in July, 2019.

National Cattlemen's Beef Association

WASHINGTON (May 23, 2019) - National Cattlemen's Beef Association President Jennifer Houston today issued the following statement regarding the Trump Administration's new trade-relief plan for agricultural producers:

"There is no question that President Trump is committed to fighting for America's farmers and ranchers who face tremendous and unjustified trade barriers in foreign markets. It's long past time that somebody stands up to bad actors around the world, and we hope this strong stance will lead to the removal of many non-tariff trade barriers."

Almond Alliance

MODESTO, Calif. — Today USDA Secretary Sonny Perdue announced round two of support for farmers impacted by retaliatory tariffs and trade disruption in key export markets, specifically China. California almonds are included in the \$16 billion trade mitigation package. The package will consist of \$14.5 billion for the Market Facilitation Program (MFP), \$1.4 billion for the Food Purchase and Distribution Program (FPDP) and \$100 million for the Agricultural Trade Promotion (ATP) program. The damage assessment figure assigned to almonds is not known at this time. Payments for almonds will be based on a per acre basis, not Average Gross Income (AGI) like the first round of retaliatory tariff mitigation support.

Almond Alliance President Elaine Trevino noted almonds are one of California's top three valued commodities and the leading agriculture export. The California almond industry exports 67% of what it produces. "The Almond Alliance has been working tirelessly to ensure that almonds are included in the discussion, both in the trade impacts experienced to date and the desired mitigation outcome. During the first round of trade assistance, approximately 50% of California almond growers applied for direct payment, but many were limited due to the AGI limitations," said Trevino.

Almonds have been impacted by retaliatory tariffs in a significant way, and this announcement is confirmation of that reality by the Administration. The mitigation is based on the trade impacts in China, with almond exports down about 33%. Looking specifically at direct China shipments for the first quarter of 2019 (Jan-March), California almonds are at about 60% of what was shipped in the first quarter of 2018. Meanwhile, Australia has taken full advantage of the 0% tariff under their FTA with China, increasing their 11-month almond exports into China by almost 2,000 percent. These retaliatory tariffs have impacted California's market share of almonds in China, a region that the California almond industry has invested in for over 30 years to develop.

“While direct payments are not the ideal solution, they will help assist those who have been negatively impacted by the pricing effects resulting from the retaliatory tariffs and allow them to continue to operate in these uncertain times,” said Trevino. “I would like to strongly state that the California almond industry is focused on trade and market growth. None of the mitigation programs will begin to offset the financial impacts, the disruptions to our relationships with commercial partners, or the longer term effect this could have on the considerable market development investments the almond industry has made over the past decades.”

The California almond industry generates about 104,000 jobs statewide, over 97,000 in the Central Valley, especially in areas that suffer from chronic unemployment. The industry also generates more than \$21 billion in economic revenue and directly creates more than \$11 billion to the size of the state’s total economy.

The announcement by USDA Secretary Sonny Perdue pertaining to almonds is a result of the industry coming together and advocating through the Almond Alliance. “The California almond community should be proud that through a unified organized effort they were able to have their voice heard and be acknowledged for what they provide to the national economy and what significance they have in the international market place,” said Trevino.

USA Rice

WASHINGTON, DC -- Today, USDA Secretary Sonny Perdue announced \$16 billion in additional aid is being allocated to programs supporting farmers who have been impacted by retaliatory tariffs and the ongoing trade disputes. Rice had been excluded from a similar program last year, but was considered an impacted commodity this time around and rice growers will receive relief. While all of the programmatic details have yet to be released, this round of aid will again consist of direct payments to farmers; purchases of surplus commodities affected by trade retaliation for distribution to food banks, schools, and other outlets serving low-income individuals; and another round of trade promotion dollars for use in developing new international markets.

"The plan we are announcing today ensures farmers do not bear the brunt of unfair retaliatory tariffs imposed by China and other trading partners," said Perdue. "Our team at USDA reflected on what worked well and gathered feedback on last year's program to make this one even stronger and more effective for farmers. Our farmers work hard, are the most productive in the world, and we aim to match their enthusiasm and patriotism as we support them."

The three programs USDA is utilizing are the Market Facilitation Program (MFP), Food Purchase and Distribution Program (FPDP), and the Agricultural Trade Promotion Program (ATP) -- the three programs used in 2018. Fundamentally, FPDP and ATP will be structured in similar formats, but the MFP will be focused on direct payments to farmers "based on a single county rate multiplied by a farm's total plantings to those crops in aggregate in 2019," according to a press release from USDA this afternoon. This structure is different than the 2018 MFP, which was based on actual production. Rice has been deemed an eligible commodity for these payments.

Charley Mathews, Jr., USA Rice chairman and California rice farmer, met with President Donald Trump at the White House this afternoon to discuss the trade aid package and the damages the rice industry has incurred due to the stress of tariffs and the ongoing trade disputes on the rice market.

"It was an honor to be invited to the White House to meet with President Trump this afternoon to express our appreciation for being included in this round of tariff mitigation aid, as well as to convey just how badly our industry has been affected by tariffs and bad trade actors, like China," said Mathews. "The President acknowledged our position, but stressed his commitment of working towards getting China and other countries on a level playing field when it comes to trade."

USDA stated earlier that the provision that will establish these programs is currently in the rule-making progress at the White House's Office of Management and Budget, and once the rule has been cleared, more details on the programs will be announced.

US Dry Beans Council

TRADE MITIGATION PACKAGE PROVIDES NECESSARY SUPPORT TO US DRY BEAN INDUSTRY

U.S. dry bean growers and producers feeling the impact of ongoing global trade retaliation will soon feel relief with Secretary Perdue's announcement of a new package of support to farmers. "While we remain hopeful that we can soon reach deals to resume trade flows, we are very grateful for this support from the administration through the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to help our industry stay productive during this challenging time. Our public/private partnership with USDA remains strong and we remain committed to working through this together," noted Deon Maasjo, of Kelley Bean Company in Oakes, North Dakota and President of USDBC.

Rebecca Bratter, USDBC Executive Director emphasized, "The first tranche of trade mitigation support announced last year has already helped the U.S. dry bean industry by allowing us to contribute our dry beans to various domestic food assistance programs, and expand our presence into several new dynamic markets around the world. We look forward to these new global trade programs gaining a foothold and helping us increase our exports in the coming year."

USDBC is encouraged that for the first time, the new trade mitigation package includes dry bean growers in the Market Facilitation Fund, a \$14.5 billion dollar direct payment program administered by the Farm Service Agency (FSA). As a specialty crop, the dry bean industry is particularly sensitive to trade flows, which can impact business decisions over a very short time period. "We remain optimistic that this comprehensive suite of actions taken by the USDA to support all farmers and producers, will keep us on track until we get better deals with our trade partners," said Clint Stoutenburg, of Stoutenburg Farms in Sandusky Michigan, and Vice President of USDBC.

American Farm Bureau Federation

WASHINGTON, May 23, 2019 – The following may be attributed to American Farm Bureau Federation President Zippy Duvall.

"The Trump Administration's agricultural assistance package is welcome relief to an economic sector that has been battered by foreign competitors and retaliatory tariffs. We thank the President for living up to his commitment to stand by our farmers and ranchers. While farmers and ranchers would rather earn their income from the marketplace, they have been suffering during the agricultural downturn and trade war. This aid package will help us weather the storm as the Administration works to correct unfair trade practices that have hurt the U.S. economy for too long.

“We are grateful for the work that President Trump and Secretary Perdue have devoted to this issue. However, the real, long-term solution to our challenges in agriculture is good outcomes to current negotiations with China, Japan and the European Union, as well as congressional approval of the U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement. America’s farmers and ranchers need fair and open access to markets.”

Iowa Soybean Association

Trade Aid No Solution to Continued Impasse for Soybean Sales to China

Statement courtesy of ISA President Lindsay Greiner who grows soybeans near Keota, Iowa.

Today’s announcement of additional trade aid assistance for U.S. farmers recognizes the severe economic damage being done because of the ongoing trade war. It’s also welcomed news. When farmers can’t make sales, they can’t earn an income. Yet bills still need to be paid. This will help pay some bills.

The plan announced today raises several questions that will take time to answer. First and foremost is to what amount the program will benefit Iowa farmers and how it may impact planting decisions. The devil is in the details but ultimately, those details must continue to reflect the true damage to soybeans, the commodity most impacted by the ongoing trade war.

Short-term, stair-stepped subsidies are a poor remedy for trade. They stimulate production but not sales and therefore do little to undo the long-term log jam caused by not selling soybeans to destinations like China, the world’s No. 1 customer. Today’s announcement could very well bump planted soybean acres and thus production, almost assuring that the pile of soybeans will not be reduced.

Farmers have been reassured time and time again over the past year that results will be achieved, and agreements made with key trading partners. Yet it’s been all talk, and no action. It’s well past time for Congress and the Administration to put aside partisan differences, break the policy gridlock and get to work on issues that truly matter for the American people.

It can start by approving the U.S. Mexico Canada Agreement and trade pacts with Japan and the European Union and reinstating the biodiesel tax credit. It must also put serious time and resources into market access programs like those developed by the U.S. soybean industry, helping replace at least some of the lost sales experienced by the lack of trade with China.

National Cotton Council

U.S. Cotton Grateful for Trade Assistance Package

MEMPHIS, Tenn. – The National Cotton Council (NCC) conveyed its appreciation to the Trump Administration for instituting a second round of trade mitigation payments for U.S. farmers.

NCC Chairman Mike Tate said this round of assistance, like the first one initiated in 2018, will help partially mitigate the impacts of retaliatory tariffs being placed on U.S. raw cotton to China.

“This assistance program also continues the provision of funds for export promotion which the U.S. cotton industry needs to expand markets for our raw fiber,” Tate said.

The Alabama cotton producer, who participated in today’s announcement event, noted that this second round of assistance is timely as many producers across the Cotton Belt are still feeling the impact from severe weather-related events in 2018.

“While our industry is very thankful for this assistance, we strongly encourage the Administration to engage in constructive dialogue with China to address unfair trade practices and barriers,” Tate said. “China traditionally has been U.S. cotton’s top export destination.

Resolution of the current trade tensions remains our top priority.”

Recently, the NCC had conveyed to Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue several modifications designed to enhance the effectiveness of the trade assistance package.

The NCC also urged USDA to 1) assist the participants in the cotton merchandizing and distribution channels to offset the higher costs associated with shipping cotton to alternative markets and 2) recognize the significant impacts on the cottonseed segment and their product markets.

“The economic impacts extend beyond the farm gate and we will continue to work with the Administration to find avenues for further assistance,” added Tate.

The Memphis-based NCC’s mission is ensuring the ability of the U.S. cotton industry’s seven segments to compete effectively and profitably in the raw cotton, oilseed and U.S.-manufactured product markets at home and abroad.

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North Dakota Grain Growers Association

FARGO, N.D. (May, 24 2019) - U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue has announced the USDA will take actions to support farmers affected by recent trade disruptions. President Trump has authorized the USDA to provide up to \$16 billion for payments to farmers, food purchases and trade promotion.

North Dakota Grain Growers Association President Jeff Mertz said the programs won’t help farmers recoup all value lost from recent trade disruption caused by tariffs, but it is a step in the right direction.

“This news is a positive for agriculture. It shows us that Secretary Perdue is trying to look out for farmers during these troubling times,” Mertz said. “North Dakota is a national leader in wheat and barley production. So it’s important we do our best to ensure these federal funds benefit growers on a local level.”

Mertz said the new Market Facilitation Program should help provide added stability going forward. “It appears the new program is based more on total production acres so it’s not making crops compete with one another,” he said. “Hopefully that will limit market distortion and be a positive for all commodities.”

United States Durum Growers Association

Bismarck, N.D. (May 24, 2019) – Following U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue’s announcement yesterday that USDA will take actions to support farmers affected by recent trade disruptions, the Trump Administration is authorizing up to \$16 billion for payments to farmers, food purchases and trade promotion.

Organizations representing about 27 million acres of planted acreage in North Dakota and the surrounding region believe the package is a move in the right direction. While the groups support efforts to open markets for export, the new plan’s direct payments to producers and commodity purchases was expanded and significantly modified from last year’s aid program responding to retaliatory tariffs imposed on U.S. ag exports.

On May 21, these organizations sent a letter (attached) to Secretary Perdue asking that “future assistance does not incentivize nonmarket-based planting decisions and a fair and equitable program be developed to address trade-related losses across all commodities.” The groups included: United States Durum Growers Association, North Dakota Grain Growers Association, National Sunflower Association, North Dakota Corn Growers Association, North Dakota Soybean Growers Association, Northharvest Bean Growers, Northern Canola Growers

Association, Northern Pulse Growers Association, and Red River Valley Sugarbeet Growers Association.

In a call with ag groups yesterday, USDA officials said payment rates and other details will be worked out through a rulemaking process involving the U.S. Office of Management and Budget.

We eagerly await further information, and in the meantime believe the Administration has made a good faith effort not to distort existing markets and 2019 planting decisions.

Florida and Texas Sugar Cane

Statement on U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA)

“The Trump Administration has made free and fair trade for America’s farmers and ranchers a top priority, which is particularly important in today’s difficult farm economy. The successful ratification and implementation of USMCA would mark another stride in meeting this laudable goal. Our trade negotiators worked tirelessly and communicated diligently with our industry throughout the process of negotiating a modernized trade agreement between the U.S., Canada, and Mexico. America’s domestic sugar producers appreciate their efforts to limit any adverse effect on our industry and we support passage of USMCA.”

From: DuRant, Ryann - OC, Washington, DC
Sent: 27 Aug 2019 13:59:04 +0000
To: Lee, Evan - OSEC, Washington, DC; Rollins, Blake - OSEC, Washington, DC; Crowe, Taylor - OSEC, Washington, DC; Brady, Lillie - OSEC, Washington, DC; Westcott, Nick - OSEC, Washington, DC; Ziegler, Matthew - OSEC, Washington, DC; Liske, Kyle - OSEC, Washington, DC; Sullivan, Lauren - OSEC, Washington, DC; Barke, Sam - OSEC, Washington, DC
Cc: Barbic, Ken - OSEC, Washington, DC; Young, Joby - OSEC, Washington, DC
Subject: RE: IL Docs & Policy
Attachments: Talking Points for IL Trip.docx

Attachment withheld under (b)(5) Deliberative exemption (5 pp.)

Last addition to comms docs – talking points attached.

Ms. Ryann DuRant
Press Secretary
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office (b) (6)

From: Lee, Evan - OSEC, Washington, DC
Sent: Tuesday, August 27, 2019 8:28 AM
To: Rollins, Blake - OSEC, Washington, DC <blake.rollins@usda.gov>; Crowe, Taylor - OSEC, Washington, DC <Taylor.Crowe@usda.gov>; Brady, Lillie - OSEC, Washington, DC <lillie.brady@usda.gov>; Westcott, Nick - OSEC, Washington, DC <nick.westcott@usda.gov>; Ziegler, Matthew - OSEC, Washington, DC <Matt.Ziegler@usda.gov>; DuRant, Ryann - OC, Washington, DC <Ryann.DuRant@usda.gov>; Liske, Kyle - OSEC, Washington, DC <Kyle.Liske@usda.gov>
Cc: Barbic, Ken - OSEC, Washington, DC <Ken.Barbic@usda.gov>; Young, Joby - OSEC, Washington, DC <joby.young@usda.gov>
Subject: RE: IL Docs & Policy

+ Davis Bio attached!

--

Evan B. Lee
Chief of Staff
Office of Congressional Relations
U.S. Department of Agriculture
c: (b) (6)

From: Rollins, Blake - OSEC, Washington, DC <blake.rollins@usda.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 27, 2019 8:19 AM
To: Crowe, Taylor - OSEC, Washington, DC <Taylor.Crowe@usda.gov>; Brady, Lillie - OSEC, Washington, DC <lillie.brady@usda.gov>; Lee, Evan - OSEC, Washington, DC <evan.lee@usda.gov>; Westcott, Nick - OSEC, Washington, DC <nick.westcott@usda.gov>; Ziegler, Matthew - OSEC, Washington, DC <Matt.Ziegler@usda.gov>; DuRant, Ryann - OC, Washington, DC <Ryann.DuRant@usda.gov>; Liske, Kyle - OSEC, Washington, DC <Kyle.Liske@usda.gov>
Cc: Barbic, Ken - OSEC, Washington, DC <Ken.Barbic@usda.gov>; Young, Joby - OSEC, Washington, DC <joby.young@usda.gov>
Subject: RE: IL Docs & Policy

From: Crowe, Taylor - OSEC, Washington, DC <Taylor.Crowe@usda.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, August 27, 2019 7:52 AM

To: Brady, Lillie - OSEC, Washington, DC <lillie.brady@usda.gov>; Lee, Evan - OSEC, Washington, DC <evan.lee@usda.gov>; Westcott, Nick - OSEC, Washington, DC <nick.westcott@usda.gov>; Ziegler, Matthew - OSEC, Washington, DC <Matt.Ziegler@usda.gov>; DuRant, Ryann - OC, Washington, DC <Ryann.DuRant@usda.gov>; Liske, Kyle - OSEC, Washington, DC <Kyle.Liske@usda.gov>

Cc: Rollins, Blake - OSEC, Washington, DC <blake.rollins@usda.gov>; Barbic, Ken - OSEC, Washington, DC <Ken.Barbic@usda.gov>

Subject: IL Docs & Policy

All—please send all policy docs, bios, and briefing materials you have for the Farm Progress Show and Waterways Event as soon as you are able to this morning. All I have so far is Comms and Advance docs.

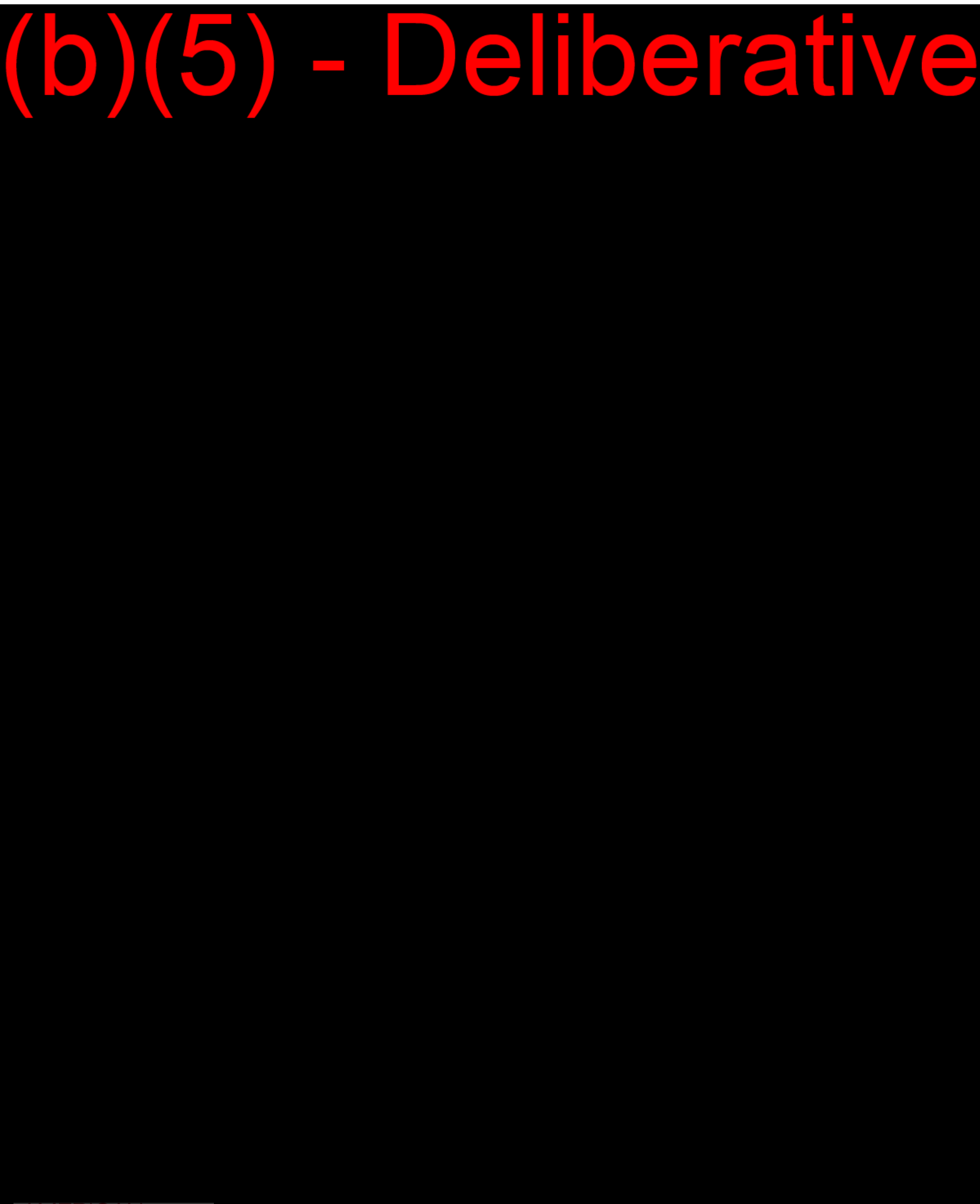
Thanks,
Taylor



Personal Assistant to the Secretary
Office of the Secretary
United States Department of Agriculture
Cell: [REDACTED] (b) (6)

(b)(5) - Deliberative

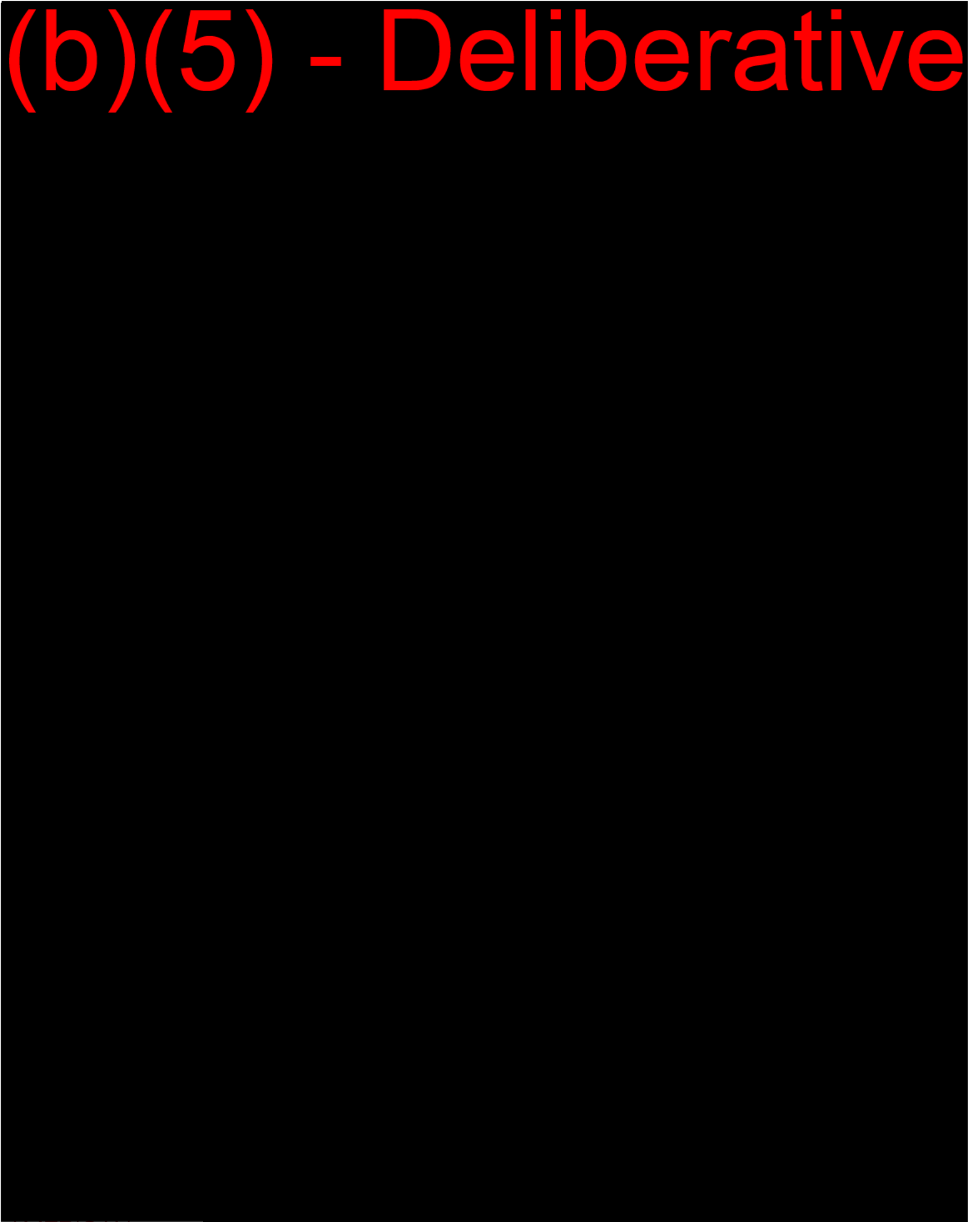
(b)(5) - Deliberative



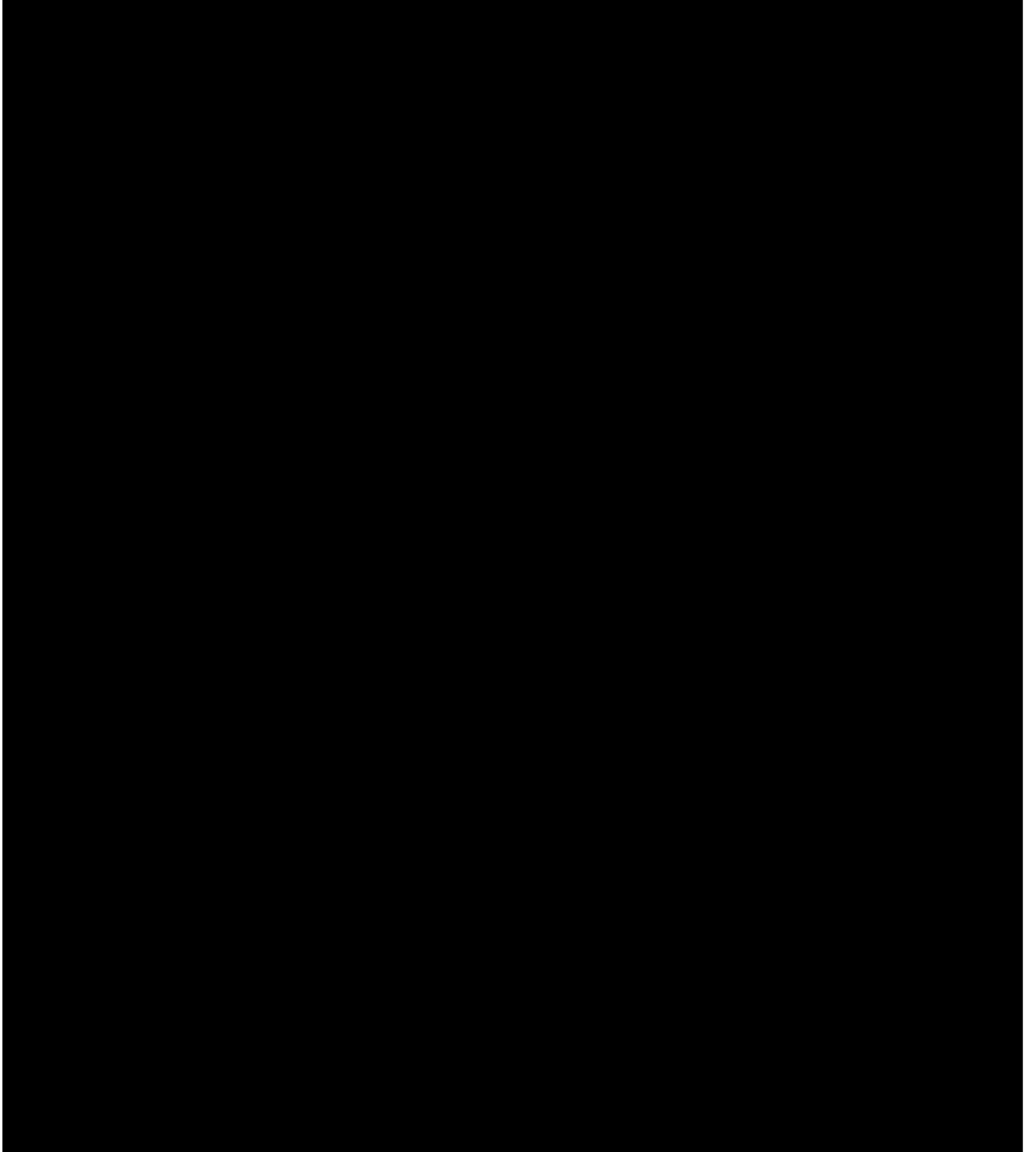
(b)(5) - Deliberative



(b)(5) - Deliberative



(b)(5) - Deliberative



From: Rich, Michawn - OC, Washington, DC
Sent: 14 Nov 2019 15:09:15 +0000
To: Ghee, Hailey - OSEC, Washington, DC; Brady, Lillie - OSEC, Washington, DC; Rollins, Blake - OSEC, Washington, DC; Ziegler, Matthew - OSEC, Washington, DC; Willits, Ashley - OSEC, Washington, DC; Westcott, Nick - OSEC, Washington, DC; Crowe, Taylor - OSEC, Washington, DC; Rodgers, Meghan - OC, Washington, DC; Boswell, Kristi - OSEC, Washington, DC; Hoskins, Dudley - OSEC, Washington, DC; Adcock, Rebeckah - OSEC, Washington, DC; Shuford, Campbell - OSEC, Washington, DC; Bonfitto, Jordan - OSEC, Washington, DC; Barbic, Ken - OSEC, Washington, DC; Lee, Evan - OSEC, Washington, DC; Young, Joby - OSEC, Washington, DC; MacGregor, Robert - OSEC, Washington, DC; Sullivan, Lauren - OSEC, Washington, DC; Tkacz, Kailee - OSEC, Washington, DC; Beal, Mary Dee - OSEC, Washington, DC; Bonfitto, Jordan P. EOP/WHO; Boswell, Kristi - OSEC, Washington, DC; Liske, Kyle - OSEC, Washington, DC; DuRant, Ryann - OC, Washington, DC; CloverAdams, Jamie - OSEC, Washington, DC; Johansson, Robert - OCE; Knupp, Courtney - OSEC, Washington, DC
Subject: RE: Kansas City-Nov 15
Attachments: Talking Points for Kansas City Trip 11.15.19.docx

Actually, use these talking points. Attachment withheld under (b)(5) Deliberative exemption (6 pp.)

From: Rich, Michawn - OC, Washington, DC
Sent: Thursday, November 14, 2019 9:14 AM
To: Ghee, Hailey - OSEC, Washington, DC <hailey.ghee@usda.gov>; Brady, Lillie - OSEC, Washington, DC <lillie.brady@usda.gov>; Rollins, Blake - OSEC, Washington, DC <blake.rollins@usda.gov>; Ziegler, Matthew - OSEC, Washington, DC <Matt.Ziegler@usda.gov>; Willits, Ashley - OSEC, Washington, DC <ashley.willits@usda.gov>; Westcott, Nick - OSEC, Washington, DC <nick.westcott@usda.gov>; Crowe, Taylor - OSEC, Washington, DC <Taylor.Crowe@usda.gov>; Rodgers, Meghan - OC, Washington, DC <meghan.rodgers@usda.gov>; Boswell, Kristi - OSEC, Washington, DC <kristi.boswell@usda.gov>; Hoskins, Dudley - OSEC, Washington, DC <dudley.hoskins@usda.gov>; Adcock, Rebeckah - OSEC, Washington, DC <Rebeckah.Adcock@usda.gov>; Shuford, Campbell - OSEC, Washington, DC <campbell.shuford@usda.gov>; Bonfitto, Jordan - OSEC, Washington, DC <jordan.bonfitto@usda.gov>; Barbic, Ken - OSEC, Washington, DC <Ken.Barbic@usda.gov>; Lee, Evan - OSEC, Washington, DC <evan.lee@usda.gov>; Young, Joby - OSEC, Washington, DC <joby.young@usda.gov>; MacGregor, Robert - OSEC, Washington, DC <Robert.MacGregor2@usda.gov>; Sullivan, Lauren - OSEC, Washington, DC <lauren.sullivan@usda.gov>; Tkacz, Kailee - OSEC, Washington, DC <kailee.tkacz@usda.gov>; Beal, Mary Dee - OSEC, Washington, DC <MaryDee.Beal@usda.gov>; Bonfitto, Jordan P. EOP/WHO <(b) (6)@who.eop.gov>; Boswell, Kristi - OSEC, Washington, DC <kristi.boswell@usda.gov>; Liske, Kyle - OSEC, Washington, DC <Kyle.Liske@usda.gov>; DuRant, Ryann - OC, Washington, DC <Ryann.DuRant@usda.gov>; CloverAdams, Jamie - OSEC, Washington, DC <jamie.cloveradams@usda.gov>; Johansson, Robert - OCE <robert.johansson@usda.gov>; Knupp, Courtney - OSEC, Washington, DC <Courtney.Knupp@usda.gov>
Subject: RE: Kansas City-Nov 15

Attached are the comms docs for the trip.

From: Ghee, Hailey - OSEC, Washington, DC <hailey.ghee@usda.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2019 5:22 PM
To: Brady, Lillie - OSEC, Washington, DC <lillie.brady@usda.gov>; Rollins, Blake - OSEC, Washington, DC <blake.rollins@usda.gov>; Ziegler, Matthew - OSEC, Washington, DC <Matt.Ziegler@usda.gov>; Willits, Ashley - OSEC, Washington, DC <ashley.willits@usda.gov>; Westcott, Nick - OSEC, Washington, DC

<nick.westcott@usda.gov>; Crowe, Taylor - OSEC, Washington, DC <Taylor.Crowe@usda.gov>; Rodgers, Meghan - OC, Washington, DC <meghan.rodgers@usda.gov>; Rich, Michawn - OC, Washington, DC <michawn.rich@usda.gov>; Boswell, Kristi - OSEC, Washington, DC <kristi.boswell@usda.gov>; Hoskins, Dudley - OSEC, Washington, DC <dudley.hoskins@usda.gov>; Adcock, Rebeckah - OSEC, Washington, DC <Rebeckah.Adcock@usda.gov>; Shuford, Campbell - OSEC, Washington, DC <campbell.shuford@usda.gov>; Bonfitto, Jordan - OSEC, Washington, DC <jordan.bonfitto@usda.gov>; Barbic, Ken - OSEC, Washington, DC <Ken.Barbic@usda.gov>; Lee, Evan - OSEC, Washington, DC <evan.lee@usda.gov>; Young, Joby - OSEC, Washington, DC <joby.young@usda.gov>; MacGregor, Robert - OSEC, Washington, DC <Robert.MacGregor2@usda.gov>; Sullivan, Lauren - OSEC, Washington, DC <lauren.sullivan@usda.gov>; Tkacz, Kailee - OSEC, Washington, DC <kailee.tkacz@usda.gov>; Beal, Mary Dee - OSEC, Washington, DC <MaryDee.Beal@usda.gov>; Bonfitto, Jordan P. EOP/WHO <Jordan.P.Bonfitto2@who.eop.gov>; Boswell, Kristi - OSEC, Washington, DC <kristi.boswell@usda.gov>; Liske, Kyle - OSEC, Washington, DC <Kyle.Liske@usda.gov>; DuRant, Ryann - OC, Washington, DC <Ryann.DuRant@usda.gov>; CloverAdams, Jamie - OSEC, Washington, DC <jamie.cloveradams@usda.gov>; Johansson, Robert - OCE <robert.johansson@usda.gov>; Knupp, Courtney - OSEC, Washington, DC <Courtney.Knupp@usda.gov>

Subject: RE: Kansas City-Nov 15

Importance: High

Hi all,

I am filling in for Taylor on this trip. Please send me any information needed for the Secretary

(b)(5) - Deliberative Thank you!

Hailey Ghee

Special Assistant to the Secretary

Office of the Secretary

Cell: (b) (6)

From: Brady, Lillie - OSEC, Washington, DC <lillie.brady@usda.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2019 4:56 PM

To: Rollins, Blake - OSEC, Washington, DC <blake.rollins@usda.gov>; Ziegler, Matthew - OSEC, Washington, DC <Matt.Ziegler@usda.gov>; Willits, Ashley - OSEC, Washington, DC <ashley.willits@usda.gov>; Westcott, Nick - OSEC, Washington, DC <nick.westcott@usda.gov>; Crowe, Taylor - OSEC, Washington, DC <Taylor.Crowe@usda.gov>; Rodgers, Meghan - OC, Washington, DC <meghan.rodgers@usda.gov>; Rich, Michawn - OC, Washington, DC <michawn.rich@usda.gov>; Ghee, Hailey - OSEC, Washington, DC <hailey.ghee@usda.gov>; Boswell, Kristi - OSEC, Washington, DC <kristi.boswell@usda.gov>; Hoskins, Dudley - OSEC, Washington, DC <dudley.hoskins@usda.gov>; Adcock, Rebeckah - OSEC, Washington, DC <Rebeckah.Adcock@usda.gov>; Shuford, Campbell - OSEC, Washington, DC <campbell.shuford@usda.gov>; Bonfitto, Jordan - OSEC, Washington, DC <jordan.bonfitto@usda.gov>; Barbic, Ken - OSEC, Washington, DC <Ken.Barbic@usda.gov>; Lee, Evan - OSEC, Washington, DC <evan.lee@usda.gov>; Young, Joby - OSEC, Washington, DC <joby.young@usda.gov>; MacGregor, Robert - OSEC, Washington, DC <Robert.MacGregor2@usda.gov>; Sullivan, Lauren - OSEC, Washington, DC <lauren.sullivan@usda.gov>; Tkacz, Kailee - OSEC, Washington, DC <kailee.tkacz@usda.gov>; Beal, Mary Dee - OSEC, Washington, DC <MaryDee.Beal@usda.gov>; Bonfitto, Jordan P. EOP/WHO <(b) (6)@who.eop.gov>; Boswell, Kristi - OSEC, Washington, DC

<kristi.boswell@usda.gov>; Liske, Kyle - OSEC, Washington, DC <Kyle.Liske@usda.gov>; DuRant, Ryann - OC, Washington, DC <Ryann.DuRant@usda.gov>; CloverAdams, Jamie - OSEC, Washington, DC <jamie.cloveradams@usda.gov>; Johansson, Robert - OCE <robert.johansson@usda.gov>; Knupp, Courtney - OSEC, Washington, DC <Courtney.Knupp@usda.gov>

Subject: RE: Kansas City-Nov 15

Hi, everyone. Just re-upping this in peoples inboxes. Thanks so much!

--

Lillie Brady
Cell: (202)845-3872

From: Rollins, Blake - OSEC, Washington, DC <blake.rollins@usda.gov>
Sent: Thursday, November 7, 2019 11:59 AM
To: Ziegler, Matthew - OSEC, Washington, DC <Matt.Ziegler@usda.gov>; Willits, Ashley - OSEC, Washington, DC <ashley.willits@usda.gov>; Westcott, Nick - OSEC, Washington, DC <nick.westcott@usda.gov>; Crowe, Taylor - OSEC, Washington, DC <Taylor.Crowe@usda.gov>; Rodgers, Meghan - OC, Washington, DC <meghan.rodgers@usda.gov>; Rich, Michawn - OC, Washington, DC <michawn.rich@usda.gov>; Ghee, Hailey - OSEC, Washington, DC <hailey.ghee@usda.gov>; Boswell, Kristi - OSEC, Washington, DC <kristi.boswell@usda.gov>; Hoskins, Dudley - OSEC, Washington, DC <dudley.hoskins@usda.gov>; Adcock, Rebeckah - OSEC, Washington, DC <Rebeckah.Adcock@usda.gov>; Shuford, Campbell - OSEC, Washington, DC <campbell.shuford@usda.gov>; Bonfitto, Jordan - OSEC, Washington, DC <jordan.bonfitto@usda.gov>; Barbic, Ken - OSEC, Washington, DC <Ken.Barbic@usda.gov>; Lee, Evan - OSEC, Washington, DC <evan.lee@usda.gov>; Young, Joby - OSEC, Washington, DC <joby.young@usda.gov>; MacGregor, Robert - OSEC, Washington, DC <Robert.MacGregor2@usda.gov>; Sullivan, Lauren - OSEC, Washington, DC <lauren.sullivan@usda.gov>; Tkacz, Kailee - OSEC, Washington, DC <kailee.tkacz@usda.gov>; Beal, Mary Dee - OSEC, Washington, DC <MaryDee.Beal@usda.gov>; Bonfitto, Jordan P. EOP/WHO <(b) (6)@who.eop.gov>; Boswell, Kristi - OSEC, Washington, DC <kristi.boswell@usda.gov>; Liske, Kyle - OSEC, Washington, DC <Kyle.Liske@usda.gov>; DuRant, Ryann - OC, Washington, DC <Ryann.DuRant@usda.gov>; CloverAdams, Jamie - OSEC, Washington, DC <jamie.cloveradams@usda.gov>; Johansson, Robert - OCE <robert.johansson@usda.gov>; Knupp, Courtney - OSEC, Washington, DC <Courtney.Knupp@usda.gov>
Cc: Brady, Lillie - OSEC, Washington, DC <lillie.brady@usda.gov>
Subject: Kansas City-Nov 15

Hi team,

On November 15th, the Secretary is headed to Kansas City for events.

-

Rundown of trip:

(b)(5) - Deliberative

Likely Policy Issues:

(b)(5) - Deliberative

(b)(5) - Deliberative

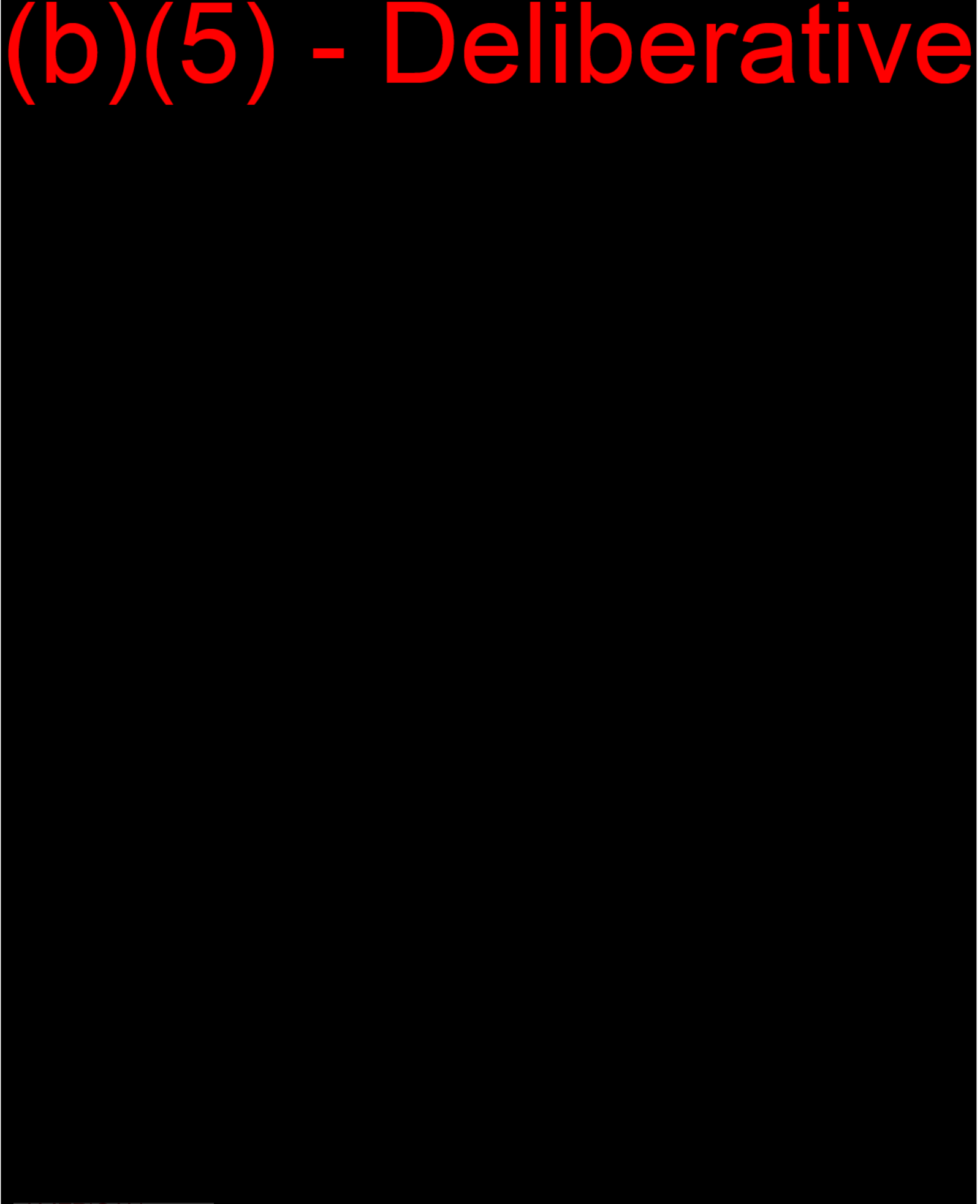
Thanks all,
Blake



Blake Rollins
Deputy Chief of Staff

United States Department of Agriculture
Office: (202) 205-4380

(b)(5) - Deliberative



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JL

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(b)(5) - Deliberative

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(b)(5) - Deliberative

From: Rich, Michawn - OC, Washington, DC
Sent: 4 Sep 2019 15:18:32 +0000
To: Brady, Lillie - OSEC, Washington, DC; Rollins, Blake - OSEC, Washington, DC; Ziegler, Matthew - OSEC, Washington, DC; Willits, Ashley - OSEC, Washington, DC; Westcott, Nick - OSEC, Washington, DC; Crowe, Taylor - OSEC, Washington, DC; Rodgers, Meghan - OC, Washington, DC; Bachmann, Peter - OSEC Washington, DC; Boswell, Kristi - OSEC, Washington, DC; Hoskins, Dudley - OSEC, Washington, DC; Adcock, Rebeckah - OSEC, Washington, DC; Shuford, Campbell - OSEC, Washington, DC; Barbic, Ken - OSEC, Washington, DC; Lee, Evan - OSEC, Washington, DC; Young, Joby - OSEC, Washington, DC; MacGregor, Robert - OSEC, Washington, DC; Sullivan, Lauren - OSEC, Washington, DC; Tkacz, Kailee - OSEC, Washington, DC; Beal, Mary Dee - OSEC, Washington, DC; Bonfitto, Jordan P. EOP/WHO; Boswell, Kristi (b) (6)@who.eop.gov; Liske, Kyle - OSEC, Washington, DC; DuRant, Ryann - OC, Washington, DC
Subject: RE: Policy Request: NASDA in New Mexico 8/9
Attachments: NM Fact Sheet.pdf, Talking Points for New Mexico Trip.docx, Sep 09-SP Remarks - NASDA Annual Convention.docx Attachment 2: Withheld under (b)(5) Deliberative exemption (6 pp.) Attachment 3: Withheld under (b)(5) Deliberative exemption (2 pp.)
Comms docs are attached. Will have an interview brief to add later this week.

Ashley (b)(5) - Deliberative

From: Brady, Lillie - OSEC, Washington, DC <lillie.brady@usda.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, September 4, 2019 9:51 AM
To: Rollins, Blake - OSEC, Washington, DC <blake.rollins@usda.gov>; Ziegler, Matthew - OSEC, Washington, DC <Matt.Ziegler@usda.gov>; Willits, Ashley - OSEC, Washington, DC <ashley.willits@usda.gov>; Westcott, Nick - OSEC, Washington, DC <nick.westcott@usda.gov>; Crowe, Taylor - OSEC, Washington, DC <Taylor.Crowe@usda.gov>; Rodgers, Meghan - OC, Washington, DC <meghan.rodgers@usda.gov>; Rich, Michawn - OC, Washington, DC <michawn.rich@usda.gov>; Bachmann, Peter - OSEC Washington, DC <peter.bachmann@usda.gov>; Boswell, Kristi - OSEC, Washington, DC <kristi.boswell@usda.gov>; Hoskins, Dudley - OSEC, Washington, DC <dudley.hoskins@usda.gov>; Adcock, Rebeckah - OSEC, Washington, DC <Rebeckah.Adcock@usda.gov>; Shuford, Campbell - OSEC, Washington, DC <campbell.shuford@usda.gov>; Barbic, Ken - OSEC, Washington, DC <Ken.Barbic@usda.gov>; Lee, Evan - OSEC, Washington, DC <evan.lee@usda.gov>; Young, Joby - OSEC, Washington, DC <joby.young@usda.gov>; MacGregor, Robert - OSEC, Washington, DC <Robert.MacGregor2@usda.gov>; Sullivan, Lauren - OSEC, Washington, DC <lauren.sullivan@usda.gov>; Tkacz, Kailee - OSEC, Washington, DC <kailee.tkacz@usda.gov>; Beal, Mary Dee - OSEC, Washington, DC <MaryDee.Beal@usda.gov>; Bonfitto, Jordan P. EOP/WHO <(b) (6)@who.eop.gov>; Boswell, Kristi (b) (6)@who.eop.gov <(b) (6)@who.eop.gov>; Liske, Kyle - OSEC, Washington, DC <Kyle.Liske@usda.gov>; DuRant, Ryann - OC, Washington, DC <Ryann.DuRant@usda.gov>
Subject: RE: Policy Request: NASDA in New Mexico 8/9

Morning! I wanted to re-up this in everyone's inboxes. (b)(5) - Deliberative

-Lillie

Lillie Brady
Cell: (b) (6)

From: Rollins, Blake - OSEC, Washington, DC <blake.rollins@usda.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 29, 2019 1:14 PM
To: Ziegler, Matthew - OSEC, Washington, DC <Matt.Ziegler@usda.gov>; Willits, Ashley - OSEC, Washington, DC <ashley.willits@usda.gov>; Westcott, Nick - OSEC, Washington, DC <nick.westcott@usda.gov>; Crowe, Taylor - OSEC, Washington, DC <Taylor.Crowe@usda.gov>; Rodgers, Meghan - OC, Washington, DC <meghan.rodgers@usda.gov>; Rich, Michawn - OC, Washington, DC <michawn.rich@usda.gov>; Bachmann, Peter - OSEC Washington, DC <peter.bachmann@usda.gov>; Boswell, Kristi - OSEC, Washington, DC <kristi.boswell@usda.gov>; Hoskins, Dudley - OSEC, Washington, DC <dudley.hoskins@usda.gov>; Adcock, Rebeckah - OSEC, Washington, DC <Rebeckah.Adcock@usda.gov>; Shuford, Campbell - OSEC, Washington, DC <campbell.shuford@usda.gov>; Bonfitto, Jordan - OSEC, Washington, DC <jordan.bonfitto@usda.gov>; Barbic, Ken - OSEC, Washington, DC <Ken.Barbic@usda.gov>; Lee, Evan - OSEC, Washington, DC <evan.lee@usda.gov>; Young, Joby - OSEC, Washington, DC <joby.young@usda.gov>; MacGregor, Robert - OSEC, Washington, DC <Robert.MacGregor2@usda.gov>; Sullivan, Lauren - OSEC, Washington, DC <lauren.sullivan@usda.gov>; Tkacz, Kailee - OSEC, Washington, DC <kailee.tkacz@usda.gov>; Beal, Mary Dee - OSEC, Washington, DC <MaryDee.Beal@usda.gov>; Bonfitto, Jordan P. EOP/WHO <(b) (6)@who.eop.gov>; Boswell, Kristi <(b) (6)@who.eop.gov>; Liske, Kyle - OSEC, Washington, DC <Kyle.Liske@usda.gov>; DuRant, Ryann - OC, Washington, DC <Ryann.DuRant@usda.gov>
Cc: Brady, Lillie - OSEC, Washington, DC <lillie.brady@usda.gov>
Subject: Policy Request: NASDA in New Mexico 8/9

Hi folks,

On Monday September 9th, the Secretary will be in Albuquerque, New Mexico for the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NASDA) Annual Meeting.

Likely Meetings:

(b)(5) - Deliberative

Likely Policy Issues:

(b)(5) - Deliberative

(b)(5) - Deliberative

Thanks all,
Blake



Blake Rollins

Deputy Chief of Staff

United States Department of Agriculture
Office: (202) 205-4380

New Mexico

USMCA
The U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement

Canada and Mexico are the top export markets for U.S. agriculture, totaling a combined \$40 billion in 2018. In fact, more than 29 percent of all U.S. farm and food exports went to our North American neighbors last year. The U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement, or USMCA, will make a good trade relationship even better, ensuring preferential market access for U.S. agricultural exporters and solidifying commitments to fair and science-based trade rules.



6,400

New Mexico jobs supported by
agricultural exports

\$762 million

Annual value of New Mexico
agricultural exports

Source: USDA-ERS 2017 State Export Data

Key Provisions



Biotechnology

For the first time, the agreement specifically addresses agricultural biotechnology – including new technologies such as gene editing – to support innovation and reduce trade-distorting policies.



Geographical Indications

The agreement institutes a more rigorous process for establishing geographical indications (GIs) and lays out additional factors to be considered in determining whether a term is a common name.



Sanitary/Phytosanitary Measures

The agreement strengthens disciplines for science-based measures that protect human, animal, and plant health while improving the flow of trade.



Dairy

America's dairy farmers will have new market opportunities in Canada for a wide variety of dairy products. Canada agrees to eliminate the Class 7 milk pricing program that allowed its farmers to undersell U.S. producers and will impose export surcharges on dairy products that exceed agreed thresholds.



Beef

U.S. beef producers maintain access to a \$1.8 billion market that accounted for nearly 22% of 2018 exports.



Wheat

Canada agrees to terminate its discriminatory wheat grading system, enabling U.S. growers along the border to be more competitive.



Corn

U.S. corn farmers maintain access to Mexico, their #1 customer, and to a combined market totaling nearly \$3.4 billion (27% of total export sales) last year.



Poultry and Eggs

U.S. poultry producers will have new access to Canada for chicken and eggs, and expanded access for turkey.

Top U.S. Agricultural Exports to Canada and Mexico, 2018

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 Corn (\$3.4 billion) | 6 Dairy Products (\$2.0 billion) |
| 2 Prepared Foods (\$2.7 billion) | 7 Fresh Vegetables (\$2.0 billion) |
| 3 Fresh Fruit (\$2.2 billion) | 8 Beef & Beef Products (\$1.8 billion) |
| 4 Soybeans (\$2.1 billion) | 9 Snack Foods (\$1.7 billion) |
| 5 Pork & Pork Products (\$2.1 billion) | 10 Poultry & Eggs (\$1.6 billion) |

Source: USDA-FAS Global Agricultural Trade System BICO HS-10

USDA-20-0743-B-000188

United States Department of Agriculture
Foreign Agricultural Service



Get to know farms in New Mexico

Farm facts

**Number
of farms**
24,700

**Acres of
farmland**
40,500,000

**Net farm
income**
\$842,787,000

**Government
payments**
\$111,867,000

**Federal
insurance
premiums**
\$28,374,000

**Federal
insurance
indemnities**
\$60,670,000

Ranked by: Cash receipts 2018

Cash receipts
2008-2018



Top 5 cash receipts

1 Dairy products, milk	\$1,208,634,000
2 Cattle and calves	\$919,041,000
3 Miscellaneous crops	\$197,315,000
4 Pecans	\$173,090,000
5 Hay	\$119,204,000

Top 5 production expenses

1 Feed	\$565,450,000
2 Livestock purchases	\$332,724,000
3 Hired labor	\$317,790,000
4 Miscellaneous*	\$235,386,000
5 Capital consumption*	\$192,864,000

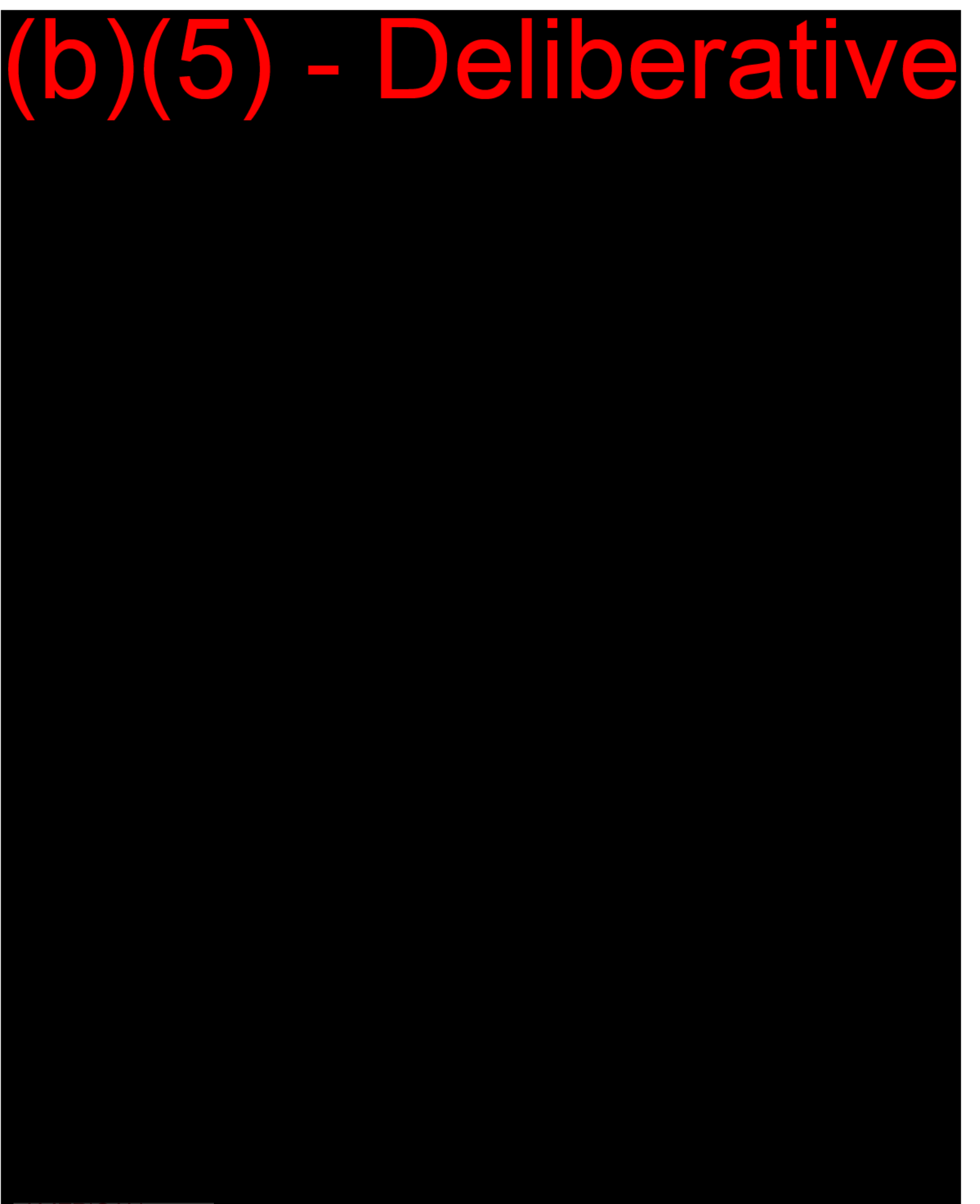
*Includes expenses associated with operator's dwellings.

**Includes landlord capital consumption.

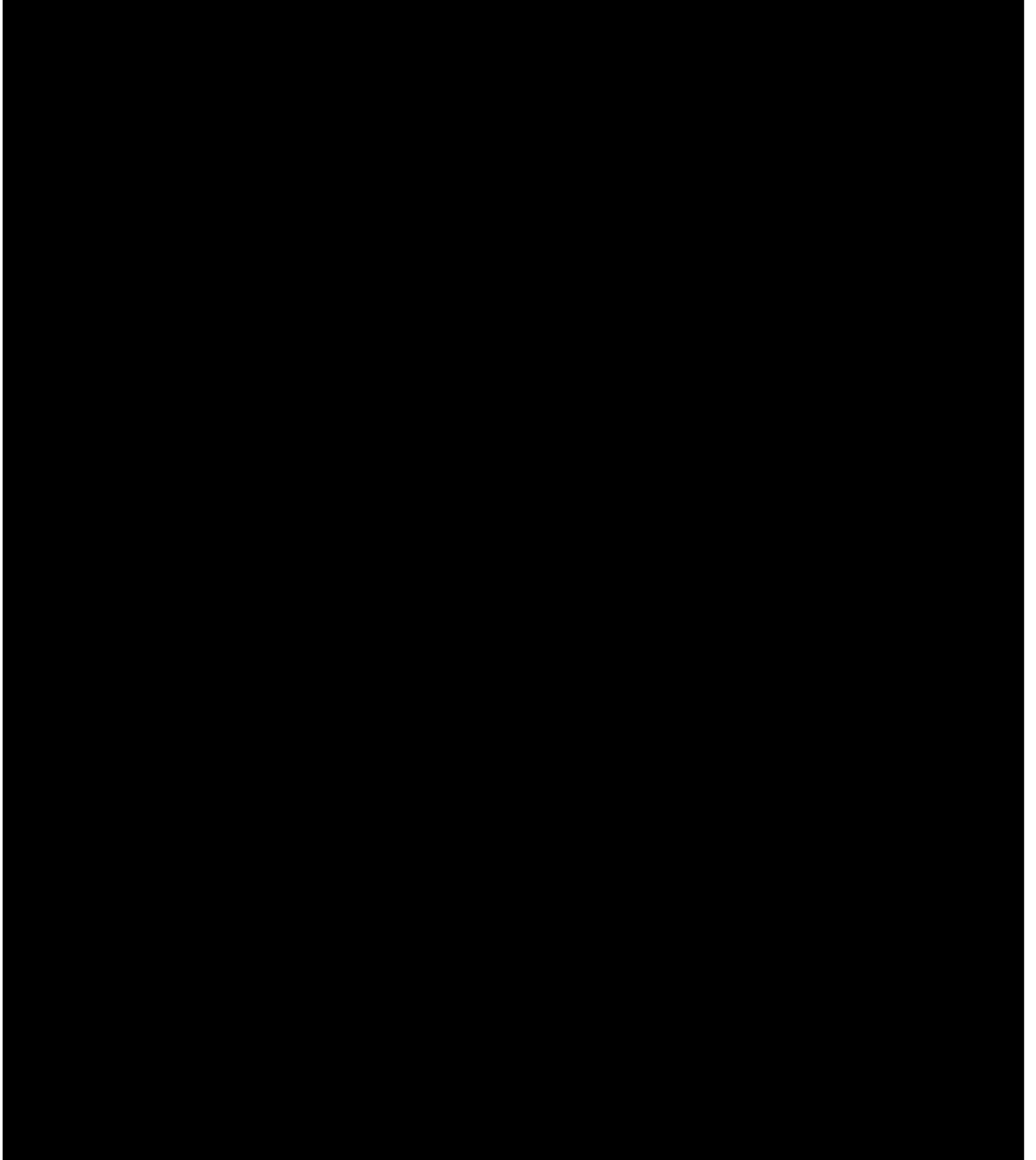
Created by: The ERS Farm Income Team,

Source: <https://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/farm-income-and-wealth-statistics.aspx> released August 30, 2019. Number of farms and acres of farmland come from USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, Farms and Land in Farms (<https://usda.library.cornell.edu/concern/publications/5712m6524?locale=en>).

(b)(5) - Deliberative

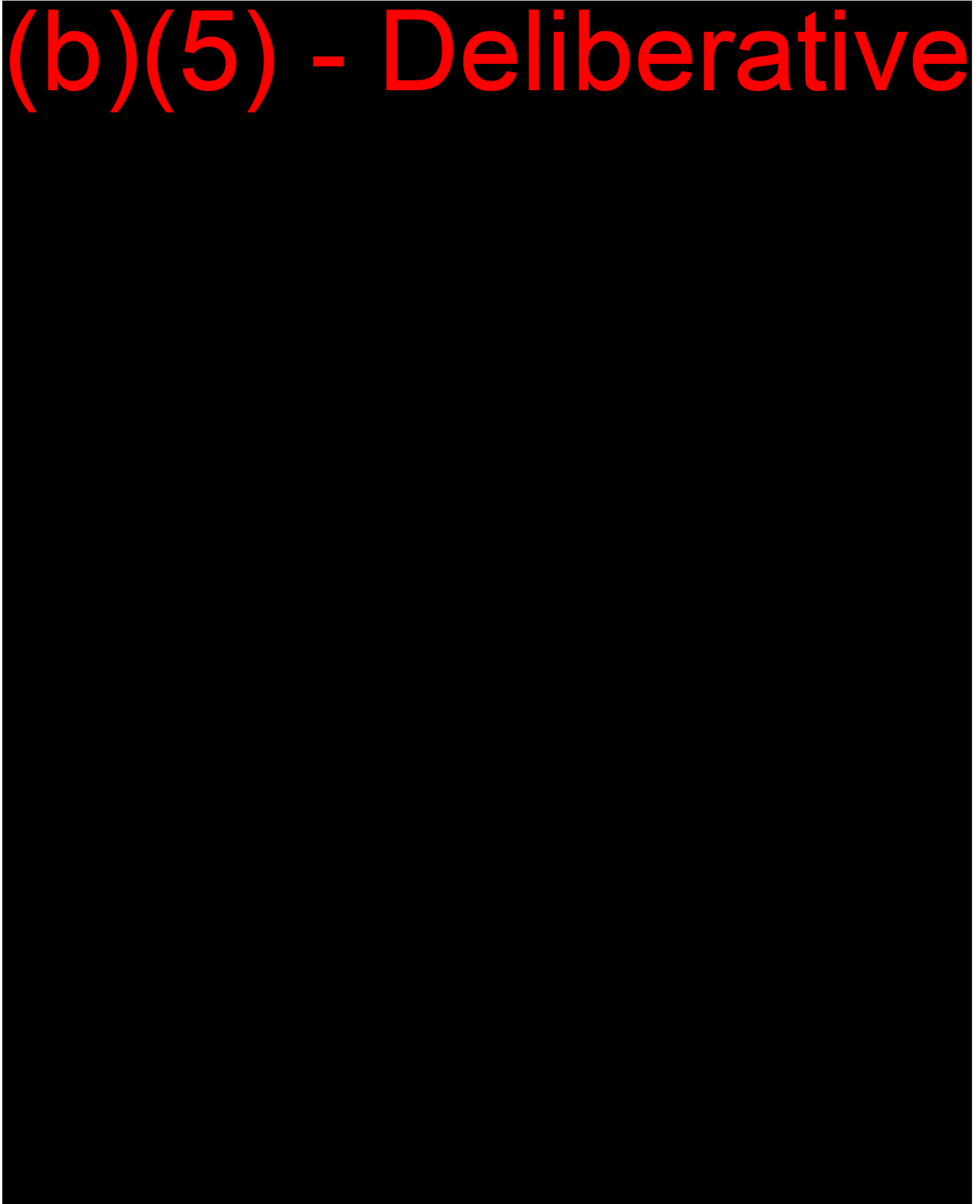


(b)(5) - Deliberative

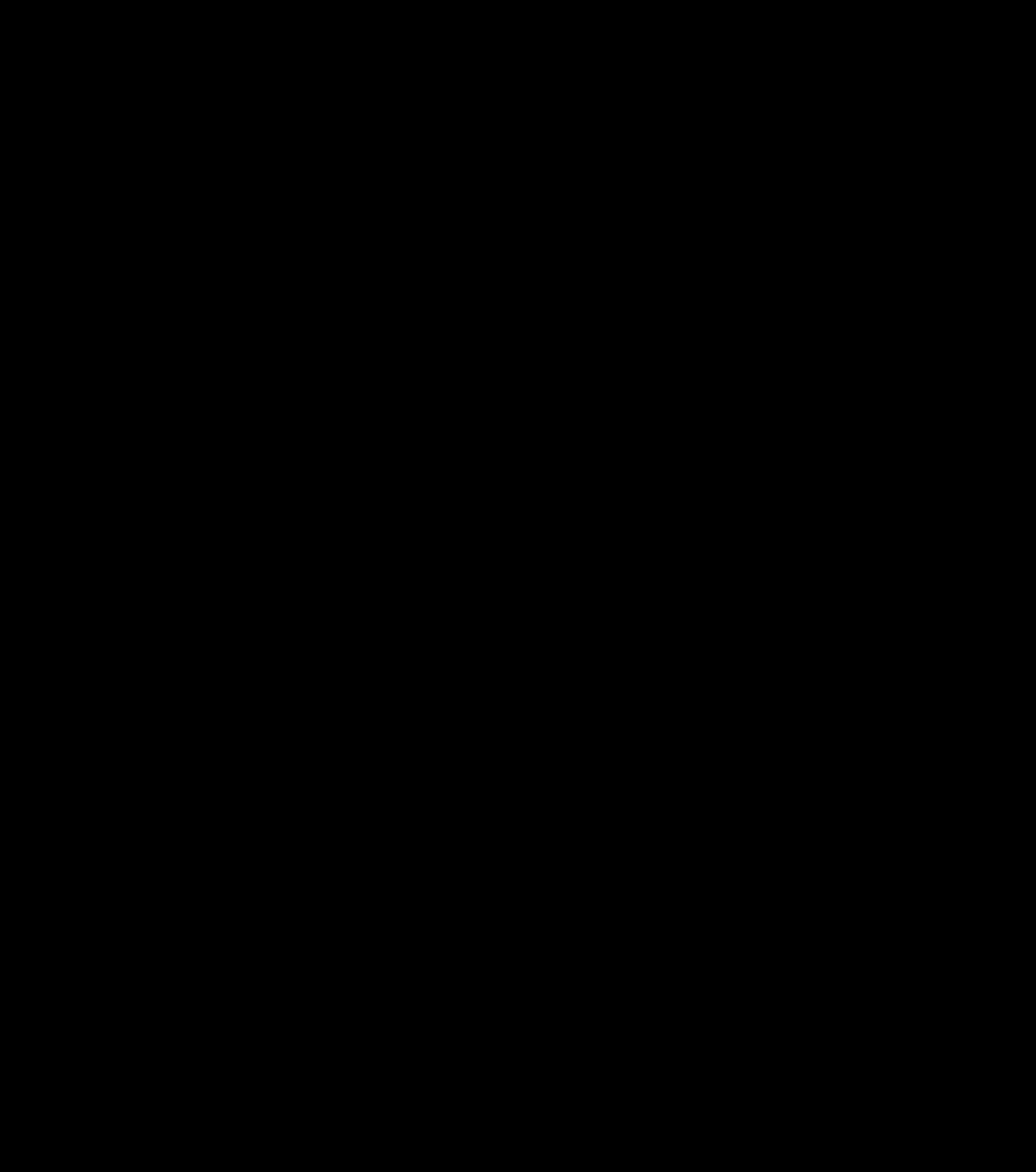


(b)(5) - Deliberative

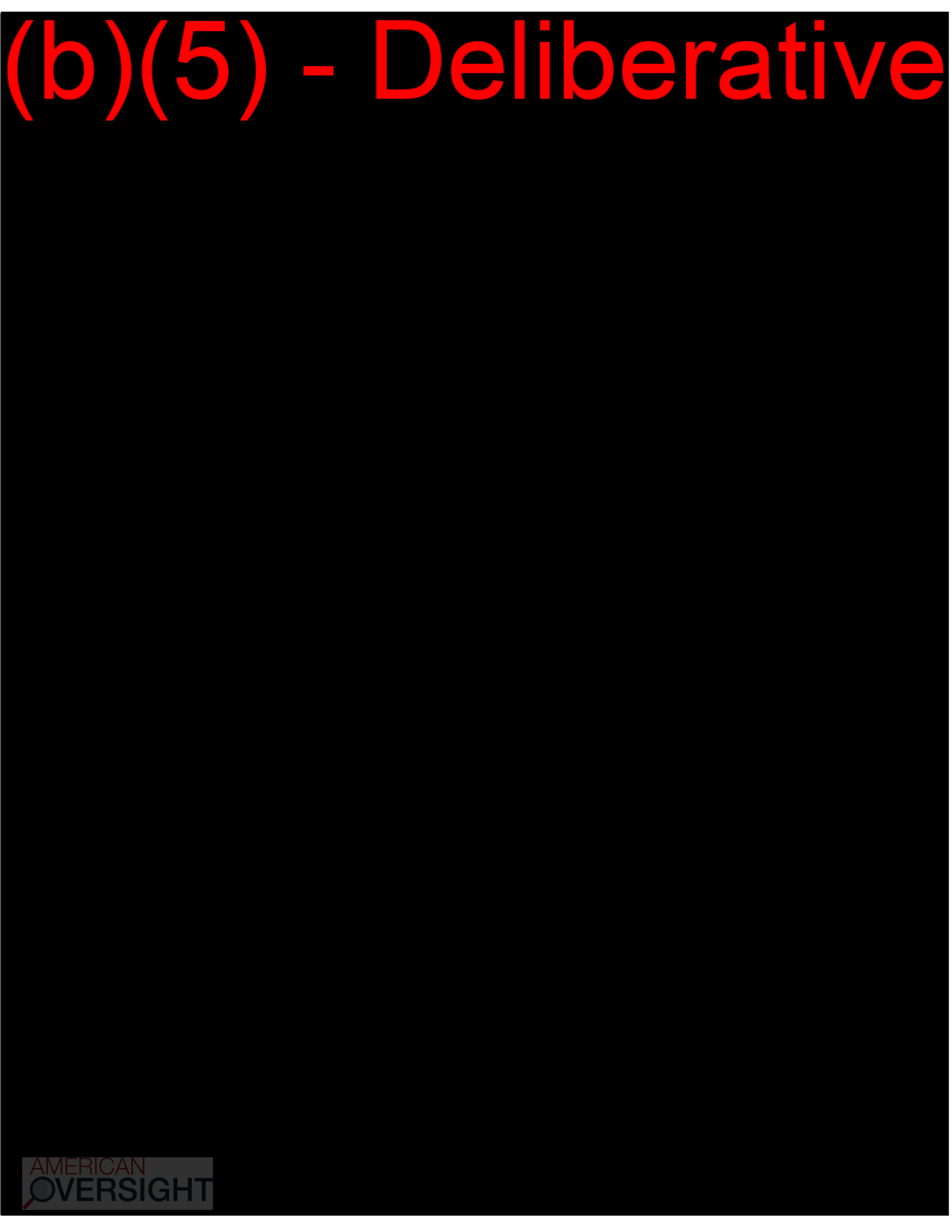
(b)(5) - Deliberative



(b)(5) - Deliberative



(b)(5) - Deliberative



(b)(5) - Deliberative

(b)(5) - Deliberative

From: Rich, Michawn - OC, Washington, DC
Sent: 23 Aug 2019 21:38:58 +0000
To: Rollins, Blake - OSEC, Washington, DC; Ziegler, Matthew - OSEC, Washington, DC; Willits, Ashley - OSEC, Washington, DC; Westcott, Nick - OSEC, Washington, DC; Crowe, Taylor - OSEC, Washington, DC; Rodgers, Meghan - OC, Washington, DC; Bachmann, Peter - OSEC Washington, DC; Boswell, Kristi - OSEC, Washington, DC; Hoskins, Dudley - OSEC, Washington, DC; Adcock, Rebeckah - OSEC, Washington, DC; Shuford, Campbell - OSEC, Washington, DC; Bonfitto, Jordan - OSEC, Washington, DC; Barbic, Ken - OSEC, Washington, DC; Lee, Evan - OSEC, Washington, DC; Young, Joby - OSEC, Washington, DC; MacGregor, Robert - OSEC, Washington, DC; Sullivan, Lauren - OSEC, Washington, DC; Tkacz, Kailee - OSEC, Washington, DC; Beal, Mary Dee - OSEC, Washington, DC; Bonfitto, Jordan P. EOP/WHO; Boswell, Kristi (b) (6)@who.eop.gov; Liske, Kyle - OSEC, Washington, DC; DuRant, Ryann - OC, Washington, DC Attachment withheld under (b)(5) Deliberative exemption (4 pp.)
Cc: Brady, Lillie - OSEC, Washington, DC
Subject: RE: Policy Request: VA Trip-8/26
Attachments: Talking Points for Virginia Trip.docx

New China TPs in the attached. Please swap out.

Thanks,
Michawn

From: Rich, Michawn - OC, Washington, DC
Sent: Friday, August 23, 2019 12:30 PM
To: Rollins, Blake - OSEC, Washington, DC <blake.rollins@usda.gov>; Ziegler, Matthew - OSEC, Washington, DC <Matt.Ziegler@usda.gov>; Willits, Ashley - OSEC, Washington, DC <ashley.willits@usda.gov>; Westcott, Nick - OSEC, Washington, DC <nick.westcott@usda.gov>; Crowe, Taylor - OSEC, Washington, DC <Taylor.Crowe@usda.gov>; Rodgers, Meghan - OC, Washington, DC <meghan.rodgers@usda.gov>; Bachmann, Peter - OSEC Washington, DC <peter.bachmann@usda.gov>; Boswell, Kristi - OSEC, Washington, DC <kristi.boswell@usda.gov>; Hoskins, Dudley - OSEC, Washington, DC <dudley.hoskins@usda.gov>; Adcock, Rebeckah - OSEC, Washington, DC <Rebeckah.Adcock@usda.gov>; Shuford, Campbell - OSEC, Washington, DC <campbell.shuford@usda.gov>; Bonfitto, Jordan - OSEC, Washington, DC <jordan.bonfitto@usda.gov>; Barbic, Ken - OSEC, Washington, DC <Ken.Barbic@usda.gov>; Lee, Evan - OSEC, Washington, DC <evan.lee@usda.gov>; Young, Joby - OSEC, Washington, DC <joby.young@usda.gov>; MacGregor, Robert - OSEC, Washington, DC <Robert.MacGregor2@usda.gov>; Sullivan, Lauren - OSEC, Washington, DC <lauren.sullivan@usda.gov>; Tkacz, Kailee - OSEC, Washington, DC <kailee.tkacz@usda.gov>; Beal, Mary Dee - OSEC, Washington, DC <MaryDee.Beal@usda.gov>; Bonfitto, Jordan P. EOP/WHO (b) (6)@who.eop.gov; Boswell, Kristi (b) (6)@who.eop.gov; Liske, Kyle - OSEC, Washington, DC <kyle.liske@usda.gov>; DuRant, Ryann - OC, Washington, DC <Ryann.DuRant@usda.gov>
Cc: Brady, Lillie - OSEC, Washington, DC <lillie.brady@usda.gov>
Subject: RE: Policy Request: VA Trip-8/26

Attached are the comms docs for this trip. Please let me know if you have any questions.

(b)(5) - Deliberative

-Michawn

From: Rollins, Blake - OSEC, Washington, DC <blake.rollins@usda.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, August 21, 2019 6:22 PM
To: Ziegler, Matthew - OSEC, Washington, DC <Matt.Ziegler@usda.gov>; Willits, Ashley - OSEC, Washington, DC <ashley.willits@usda.gov>; Westcott, Nick - OSEC, Washington, DC <nick.westcott@usda.gov>; Crowe, Taylor - OSEC, Washington, DC <Taylor.Crowe@usda.gov>; Rodgers, Meghan - OC, Washington, DC <meghan.rodgers@usda.gov>; Rich, Michawn - OC, Washington, DC <michawn.rich@usda.gov>; Bachmann, Peter - OSEC Washington, DC <peter.bachmann@usda.gov>; Boswell, Kristi - OSEC, Washington, DC <kristi.boswell@usda.gov>; Hoskins, Dudley - OSEC, Washington, DC <dudley.hoskins@usda.gov>; Adcock, Rebeckah - OSEC, Washington, DC <Rebeckah.Adcock@usda.gov>; Shuford, Campbell - OSEC, Washington, DC <campbell.shuford@usda.gov>; Bonfitto, Jordan - OSEC, Washington, DC <jordan.bonfitto@usda.gov>; Barbic, Ken - OSEC, Washington, DC <Ken.Barbic@usda.gov>; Lee, Evan - OSEC, Washington, DC <evan.lee@usda.gov>; Young, Joby - OSEC, Washington, DC <joby.young@usda.gov>; MacGregor, Robert - OSEC, Washington, DC <Robert.MacGregor2@usda.gov>; Sullivan, Lauren - OSEC, Washington, DC <lauren.sullivan@usda.gov>; Tkacz, Kailee - OSEC, Washington, DC <kailee.tkacz@usda.gov>; Beal, Mary Dee - OSEC, Washington, DC <MaryDee.Beal@usda.gov>; Bonfitto, Jordan P. EOP/WHO - (b) (6) <[\(b\)\(6\)@who.eop.gov](mailto:(b)(6)@who.eop.gov)>; Boswell, Kristi - (b) (6) <[\(b\)\(6\)@who.eop.gov](mailto:(b)(6)@who.eop.gov)>; Liske, Kyle - OSEC, Washington, DC <Kyle.Liske@usda.gov>; DuRant, Ryann - OC, Washington, DC <Ryann.DuRant@usda.gov>
Cc: Brady, Lillie - OSEC, Washington, DC <lillie.brady@usda.gov>
Subject: Policy Request: VA Trip-8/26

Hi team,

On Monday August 26th, the Secretary will be in Virginia for events.

Rundown of Trip:

(b)(5) - Deliberative

Possible Policy Topics:

(b)(5) - Deliberative

(b)(5) - Deliberative

Thanks much,
Blake

Blake Rollins



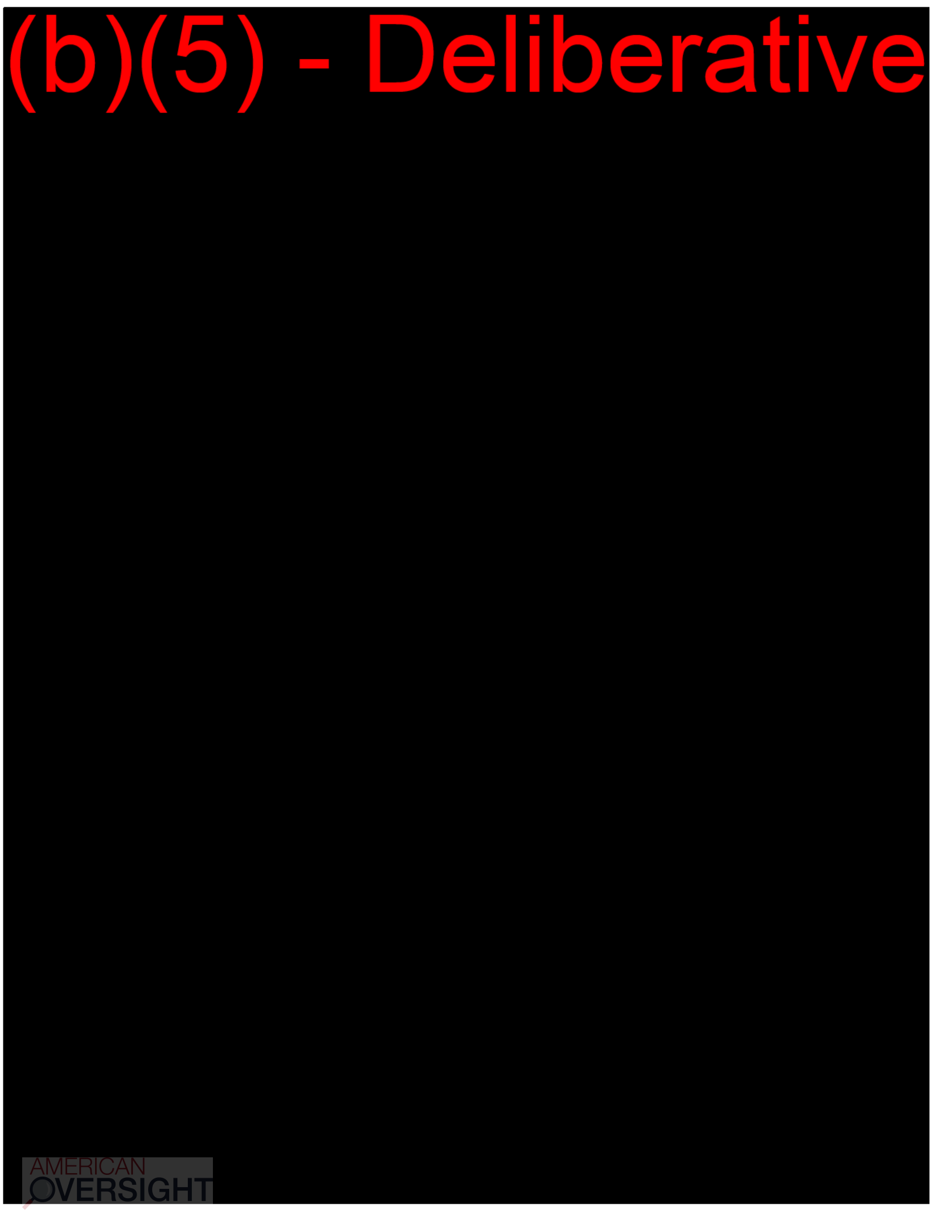
Deputy Chief of Staff

United States Department of Agriculture
Office: (202) 205-4380

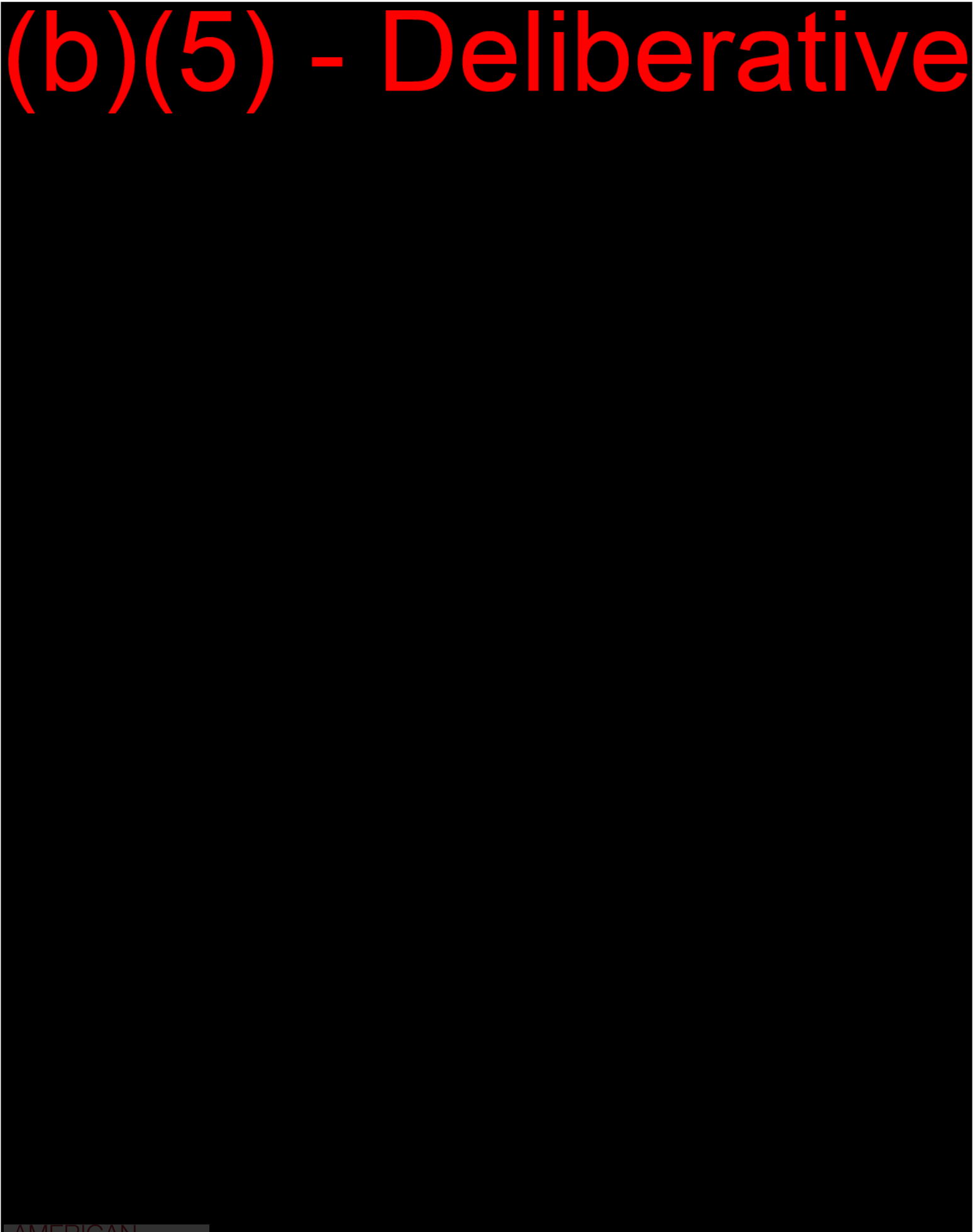
(b)(5) - Deliberative



(b)(5) - Deliberative



(b)(5) - Deliberative



(b)(5) - Deliberative

From: Adcock, Rebeckah - OSEC, Washington, DC
Sent: 23 May 2019 01:25:02 +0000
To: Tkacz, Kailee - OSEC, Washington, DC; Rich, Michawn - OC, Washington, DC; Bachmann, Peter - OSEC Washington, DC; Young, Joby - OSEC, Washington, DC
Cc: Adcock, Rebeckah - OSEC, Washington, DC
Subject: Rollout Documents
Attachments: PD OSEC Rollout Plan Farmer Support re Trade 5 22 19 FOR USE.docx, PD OSEC Rollout Plan Farmer Support re Trade 5 22 19 FOR USE.pdf, DRAFT Trade Support Press Release 5.23.19.docx, PD MRF Stakeholder Calls Assignments 5.23 PM UPDATE.xlsx
Importance: High

For your use, Kailee - rollout plan attached in word and PDF, with draft press release and call assignments.

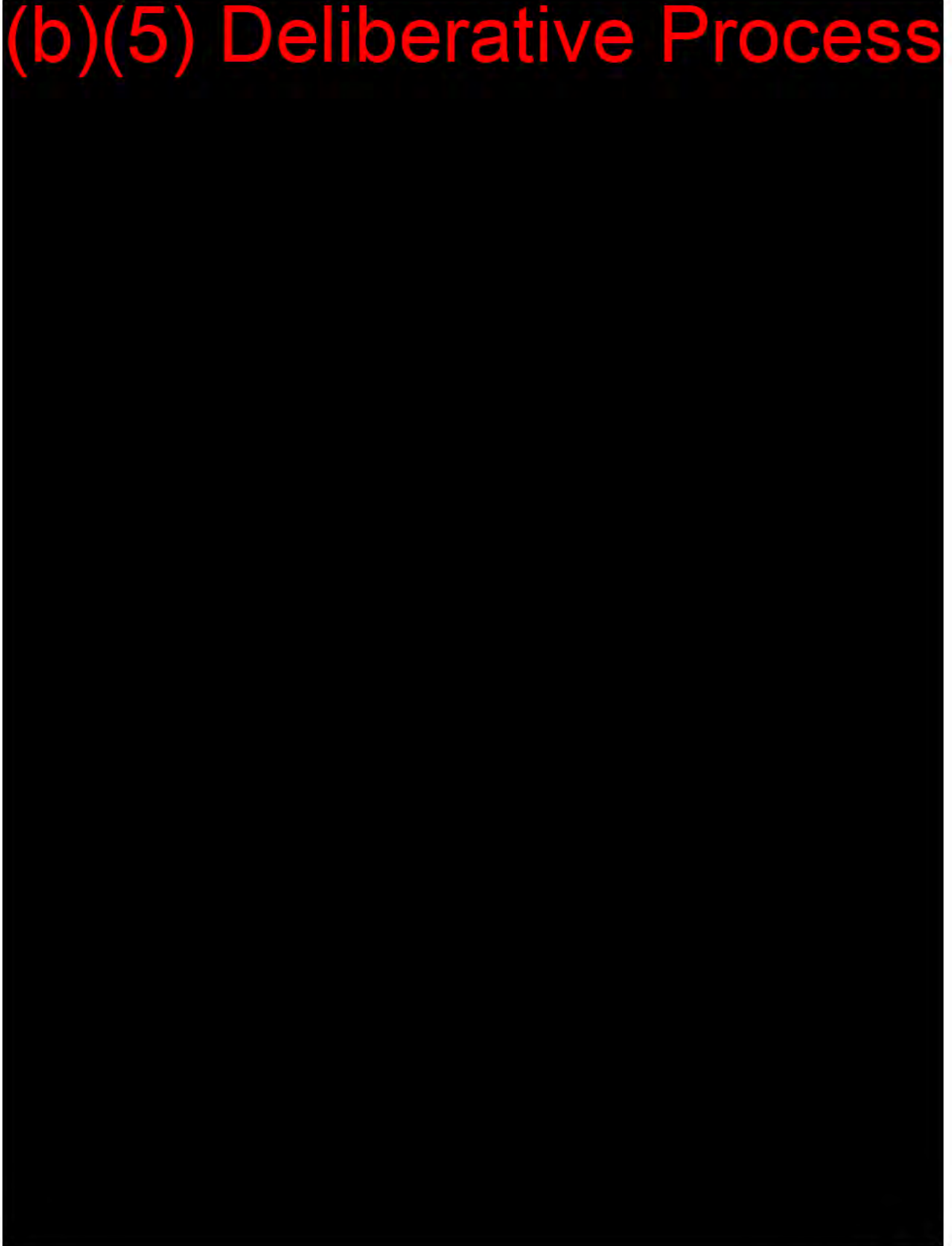
Michawn, up to you to make (b)(5) - Deliberative

Joby et al - (b)(5) - Deliberative
(b)(5) - Deliberative I am have not included them on the rollout package send.

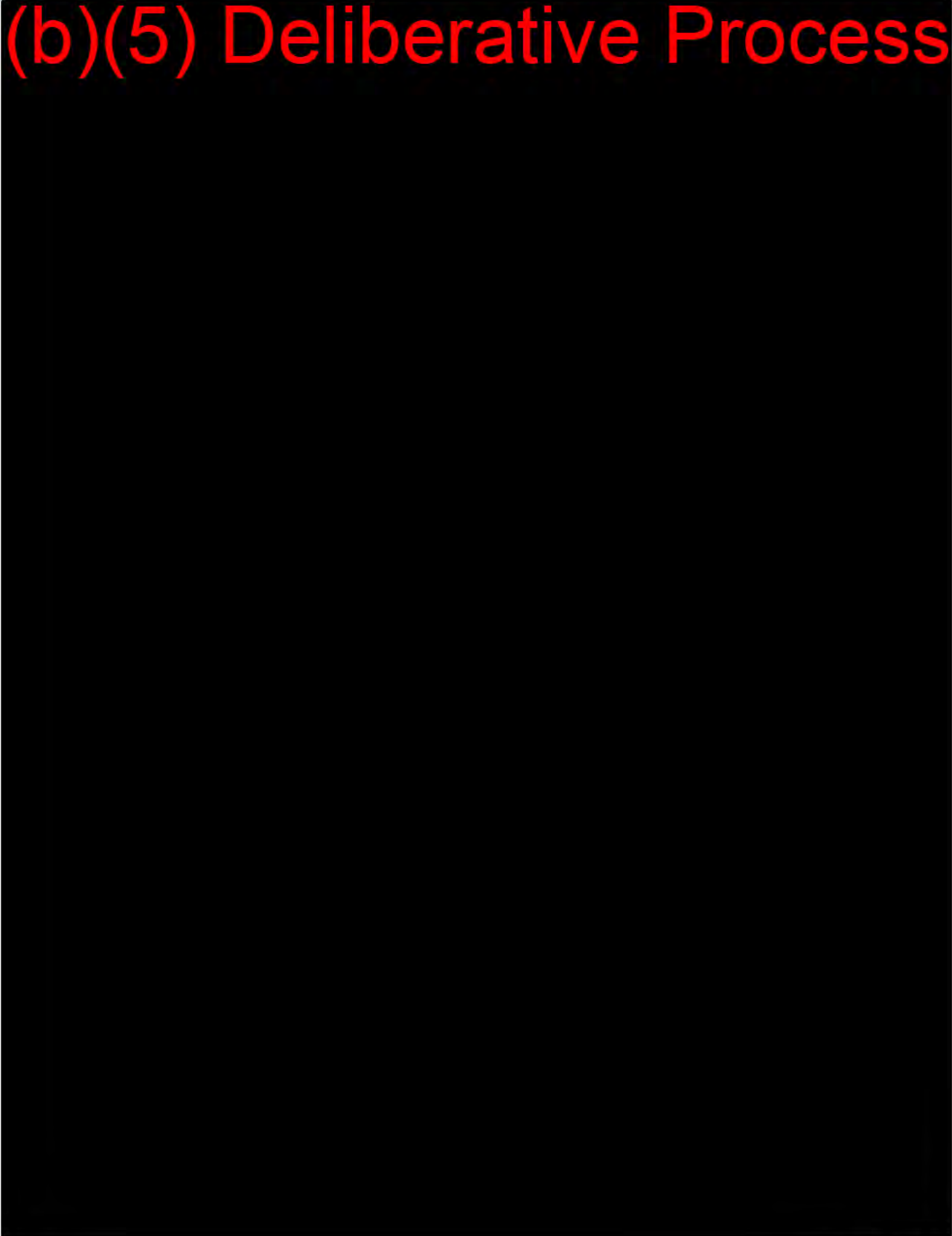
See y'all in the mornin',
Reb

Attachment 1: Withheld under (b)(5) Deliberative exemption (8 pp.)
Attachment 2: Duplicate (8 pp.)
Attachment 3: Duplicate (2 pp.)
Attachment 4: Duplicate (1 p.)

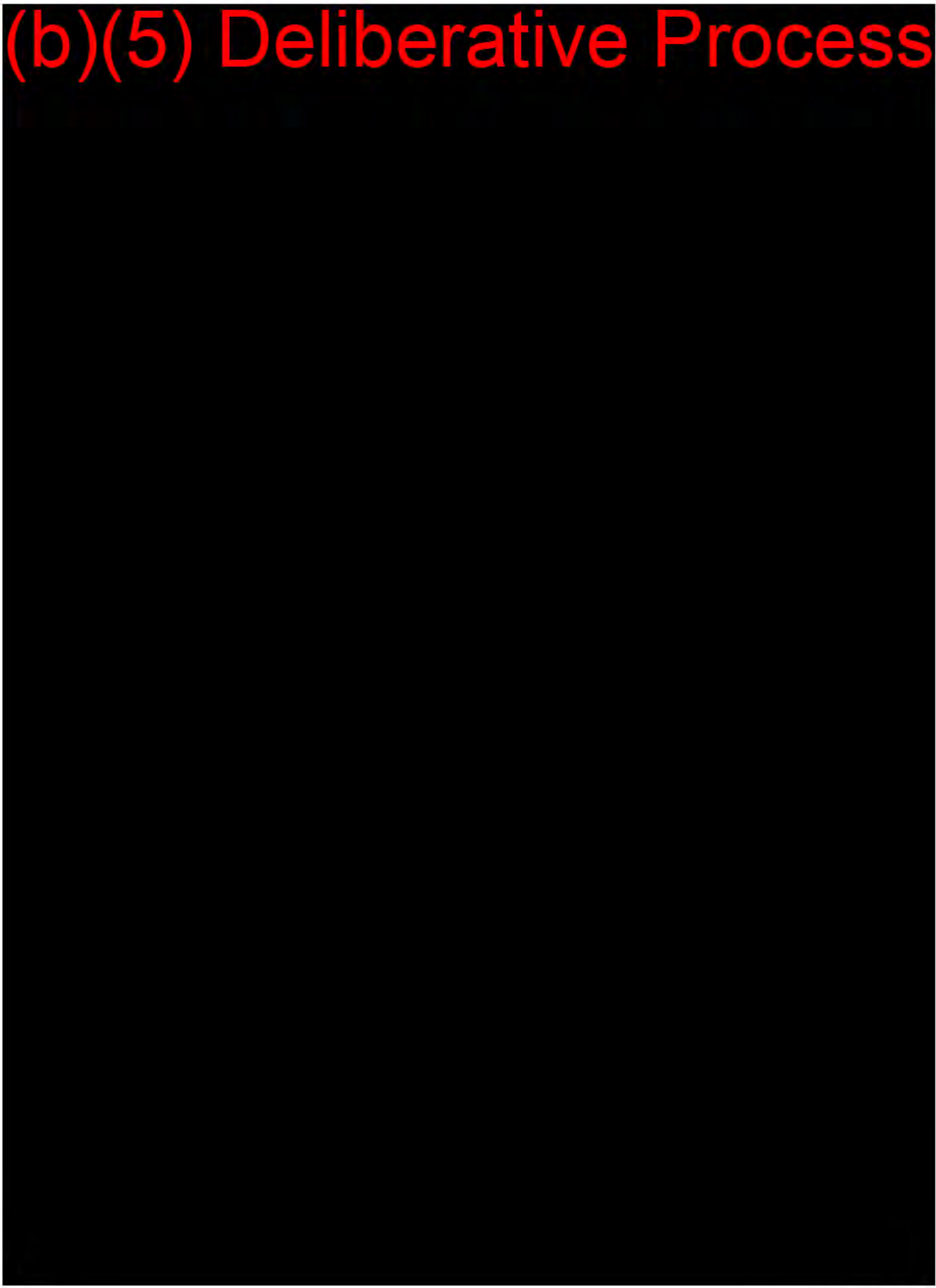
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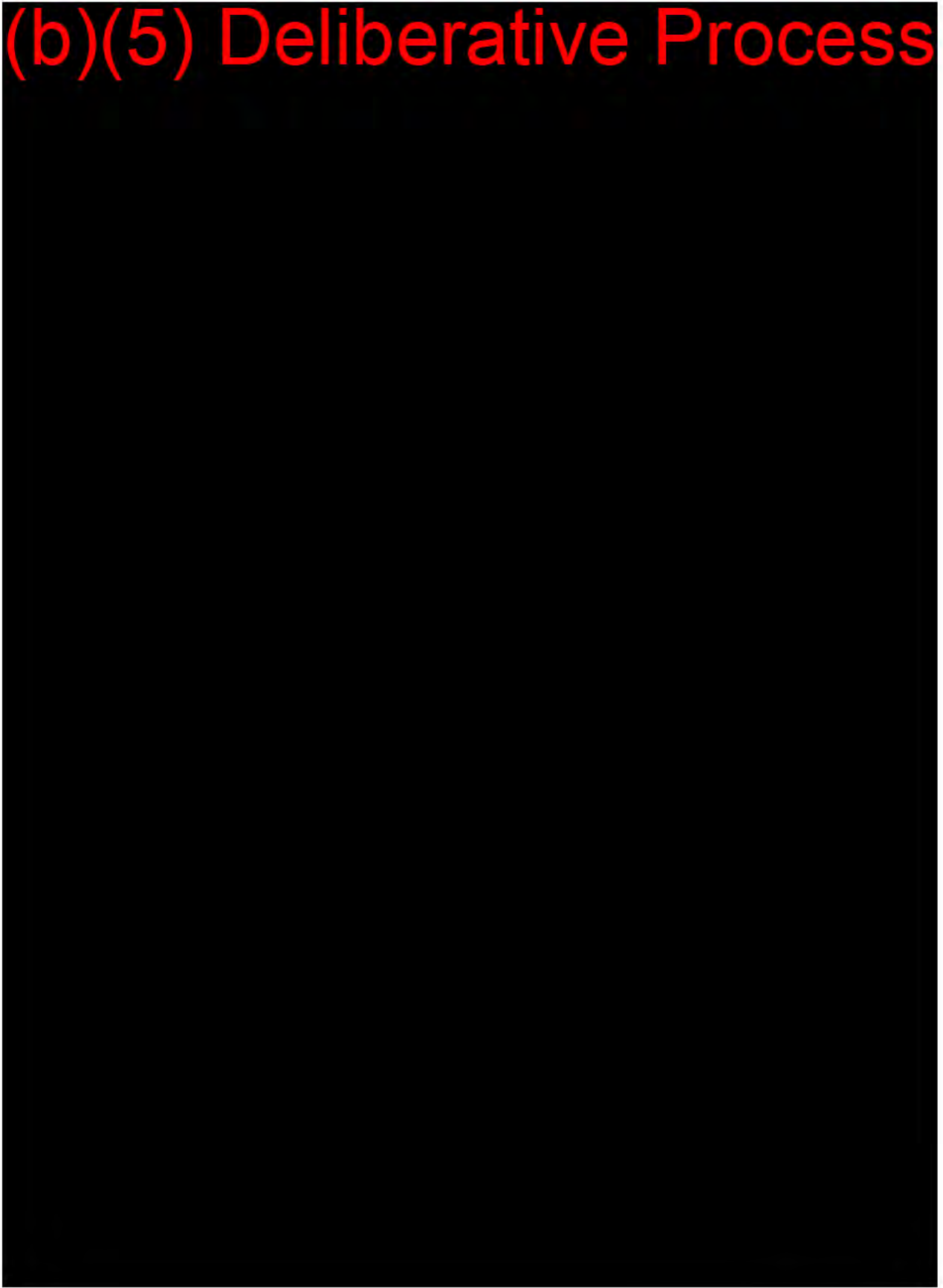
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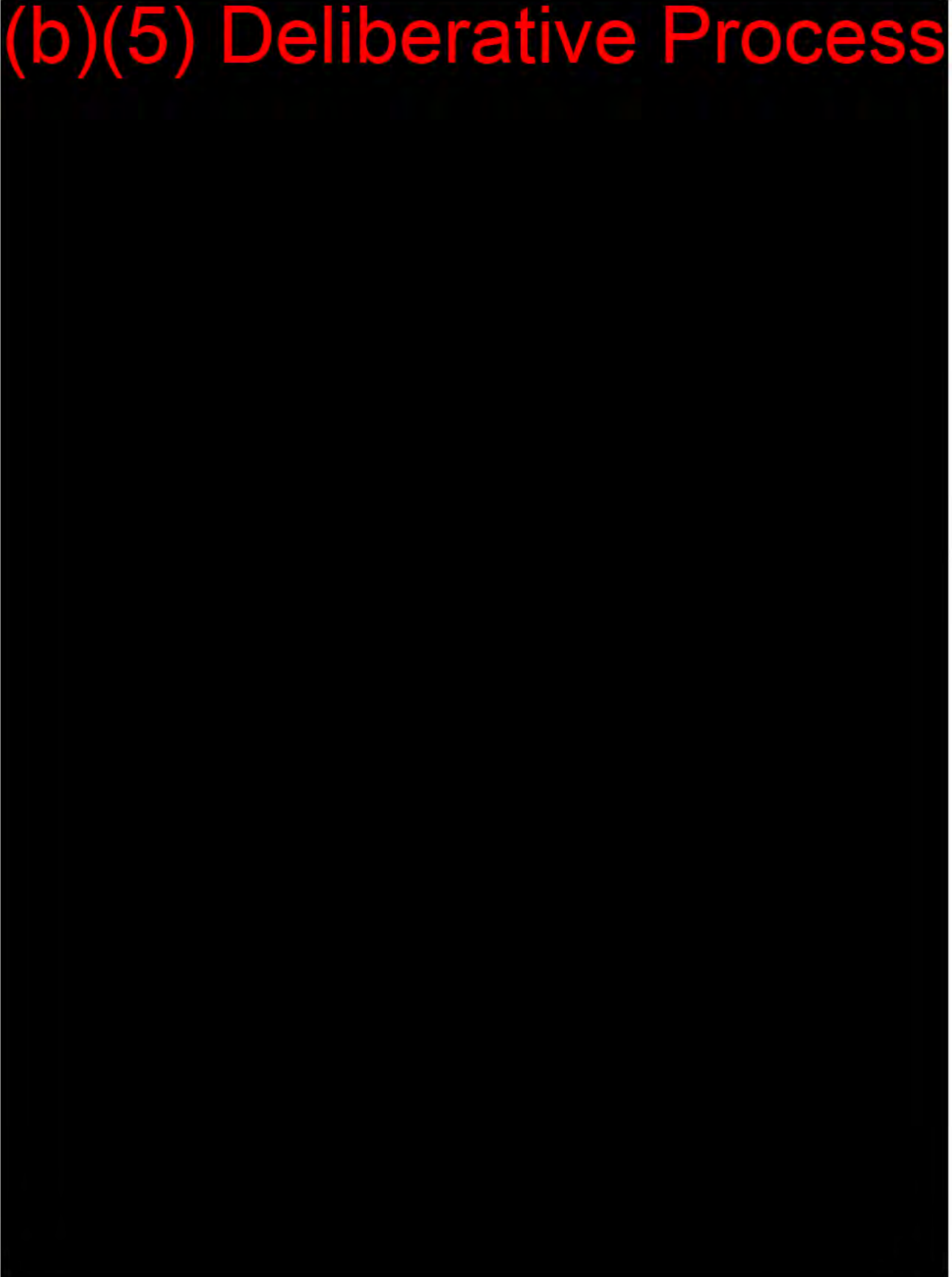
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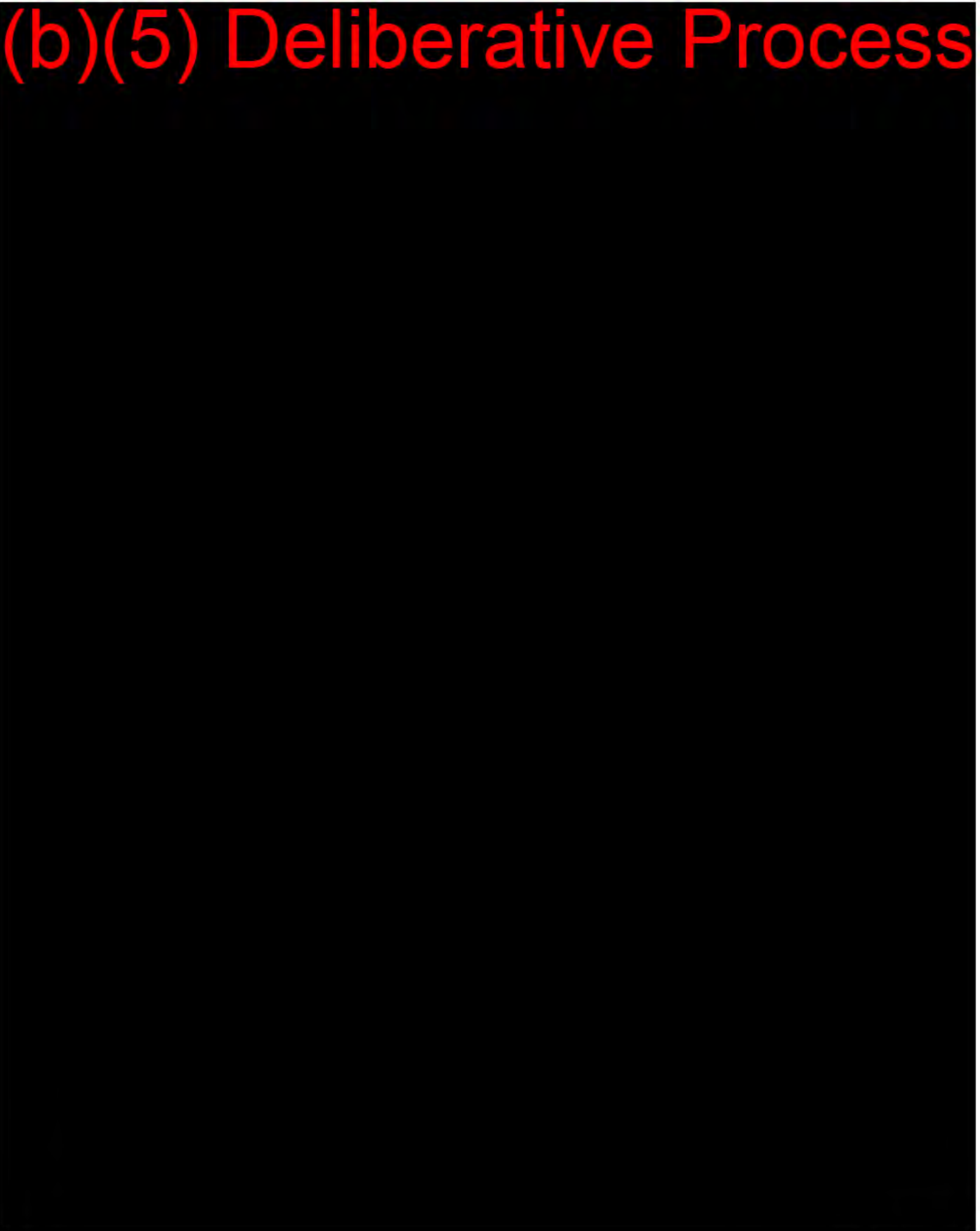
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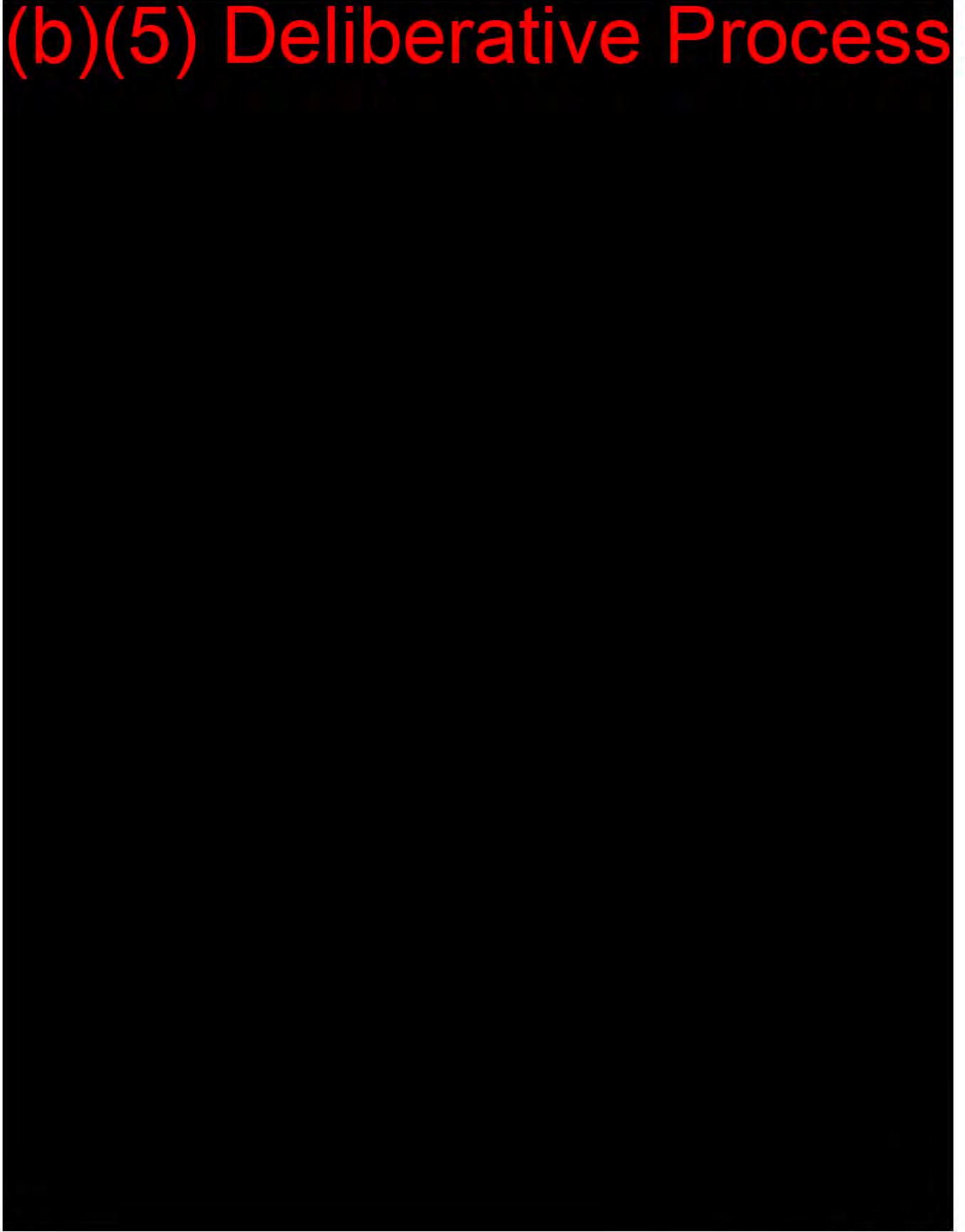
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(b)(5) Deliberative Process



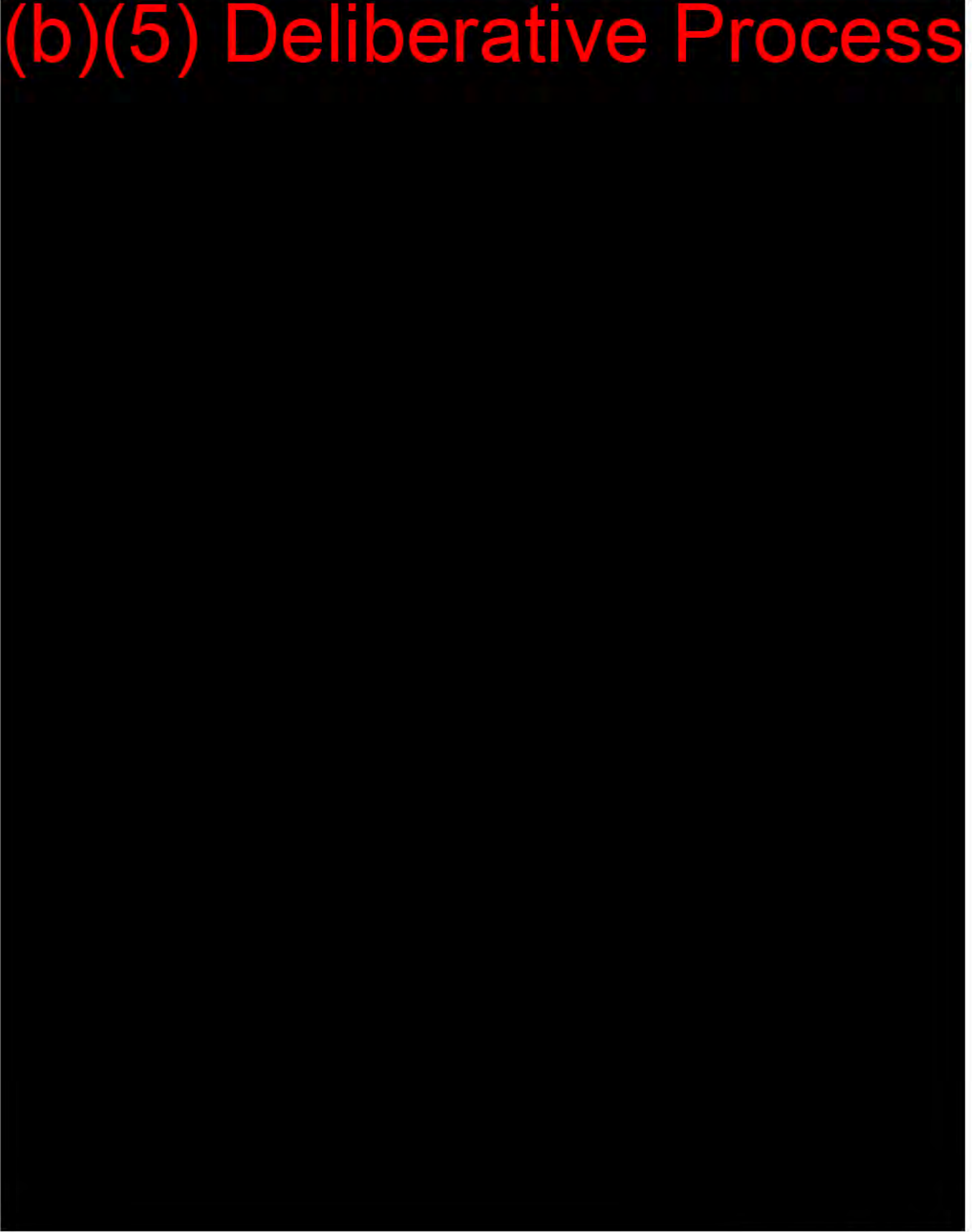
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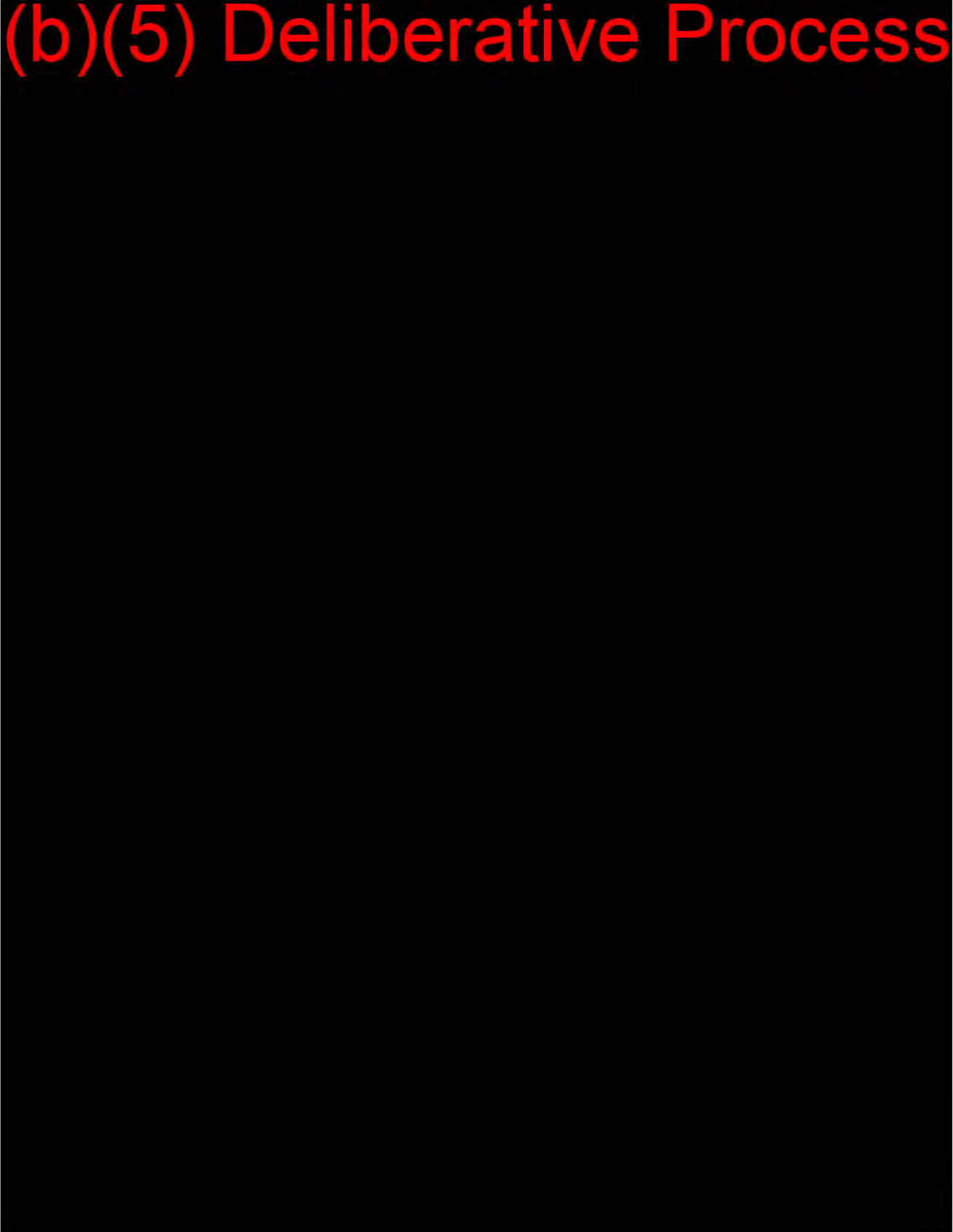
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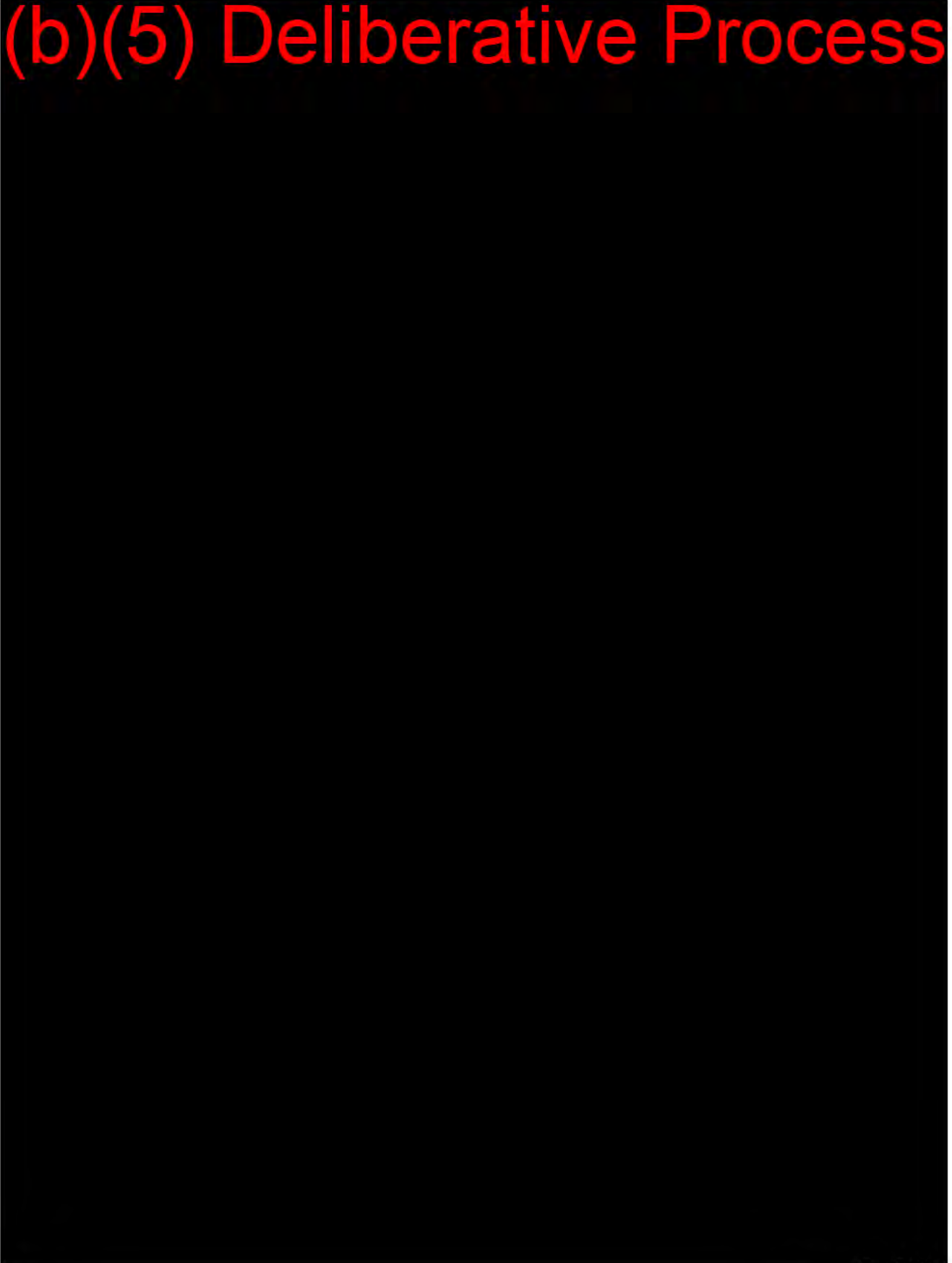
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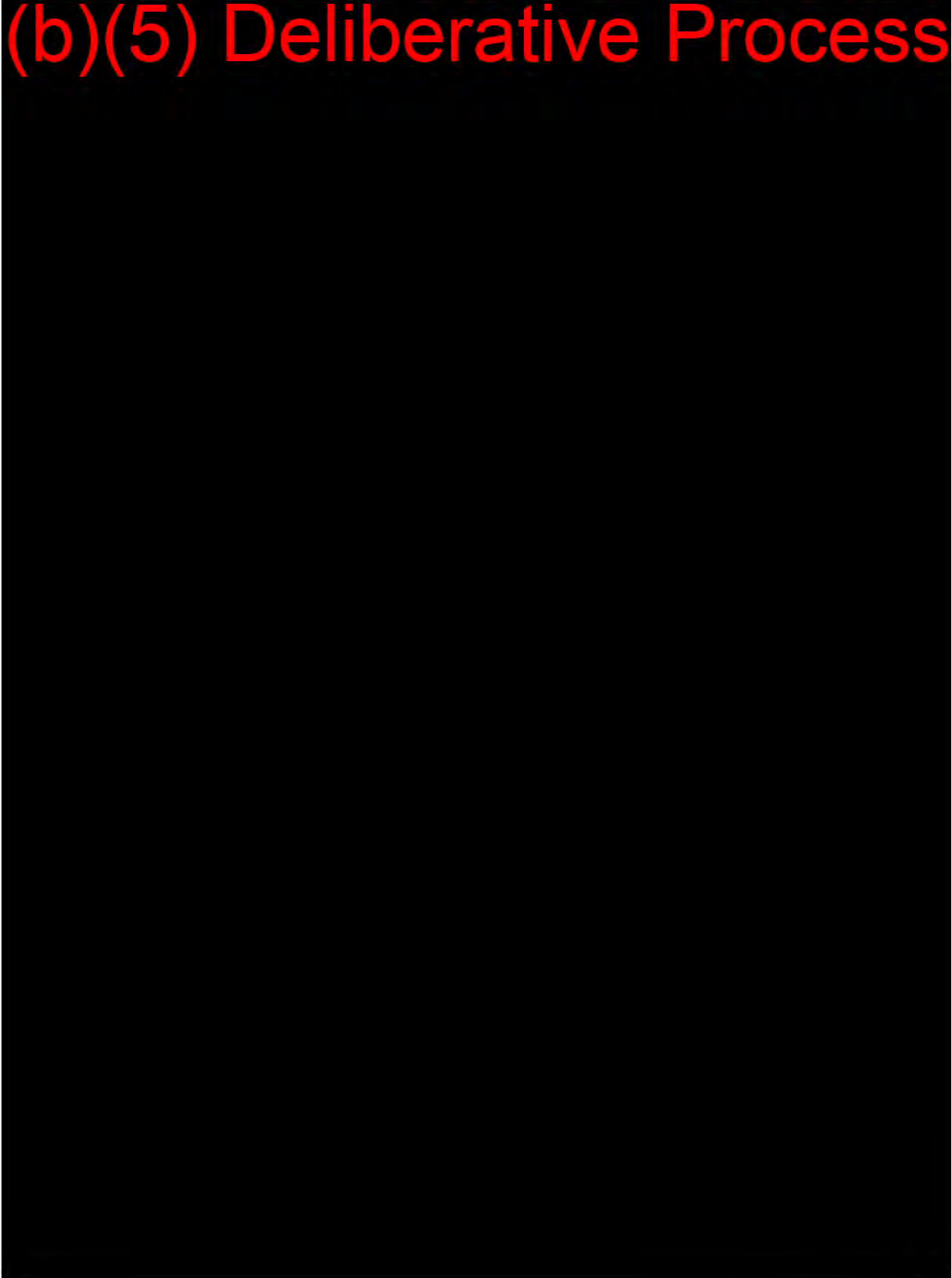
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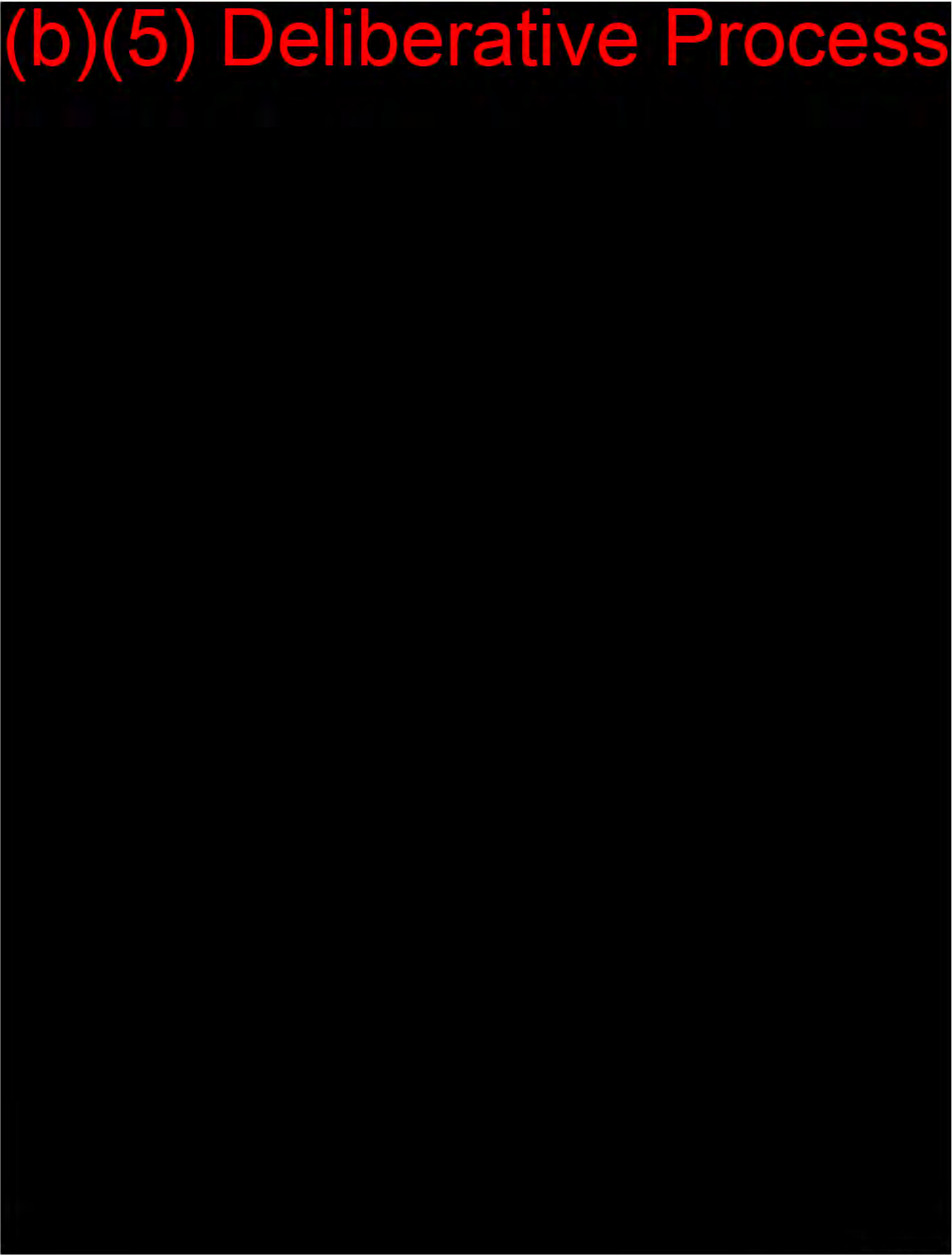
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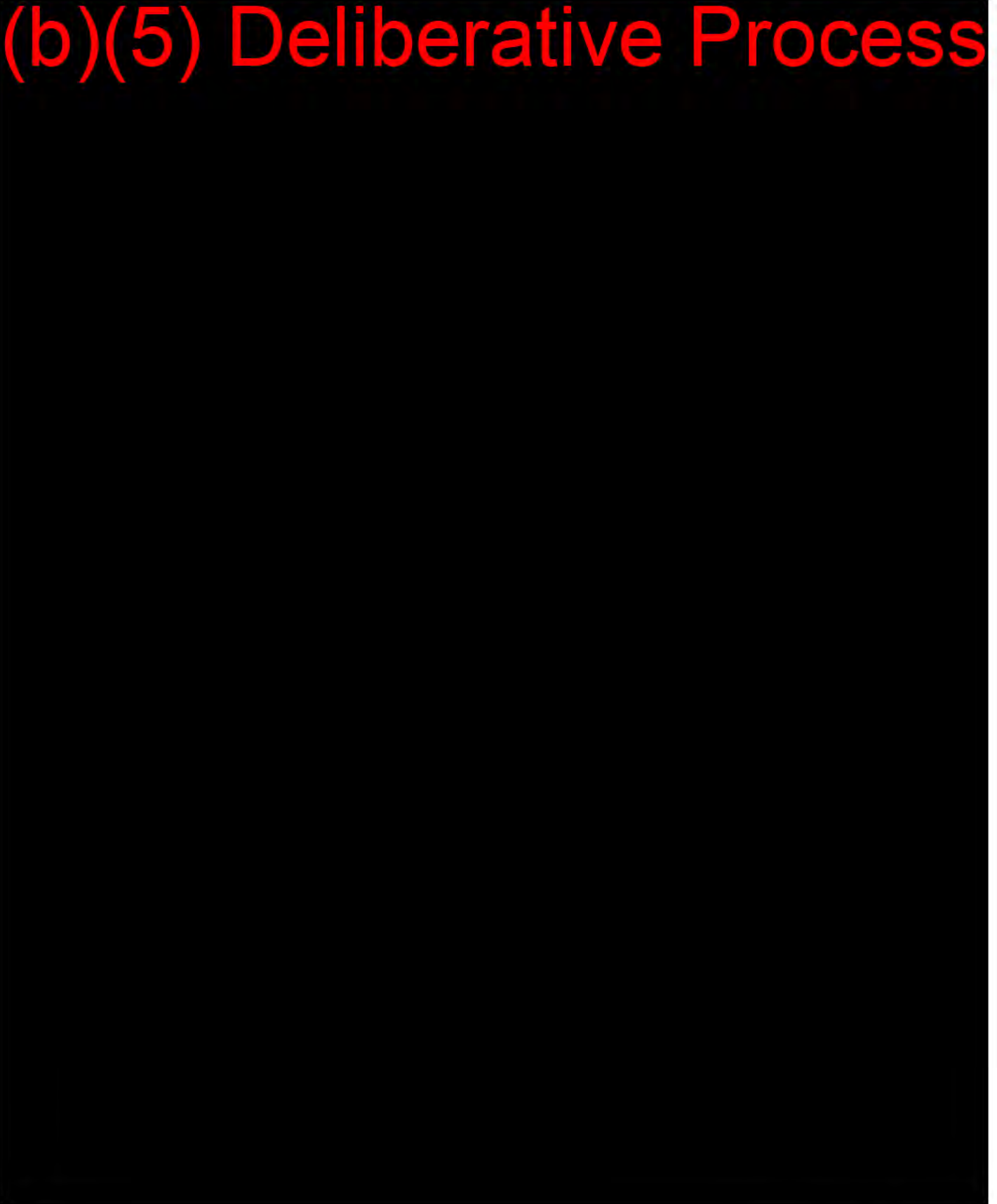
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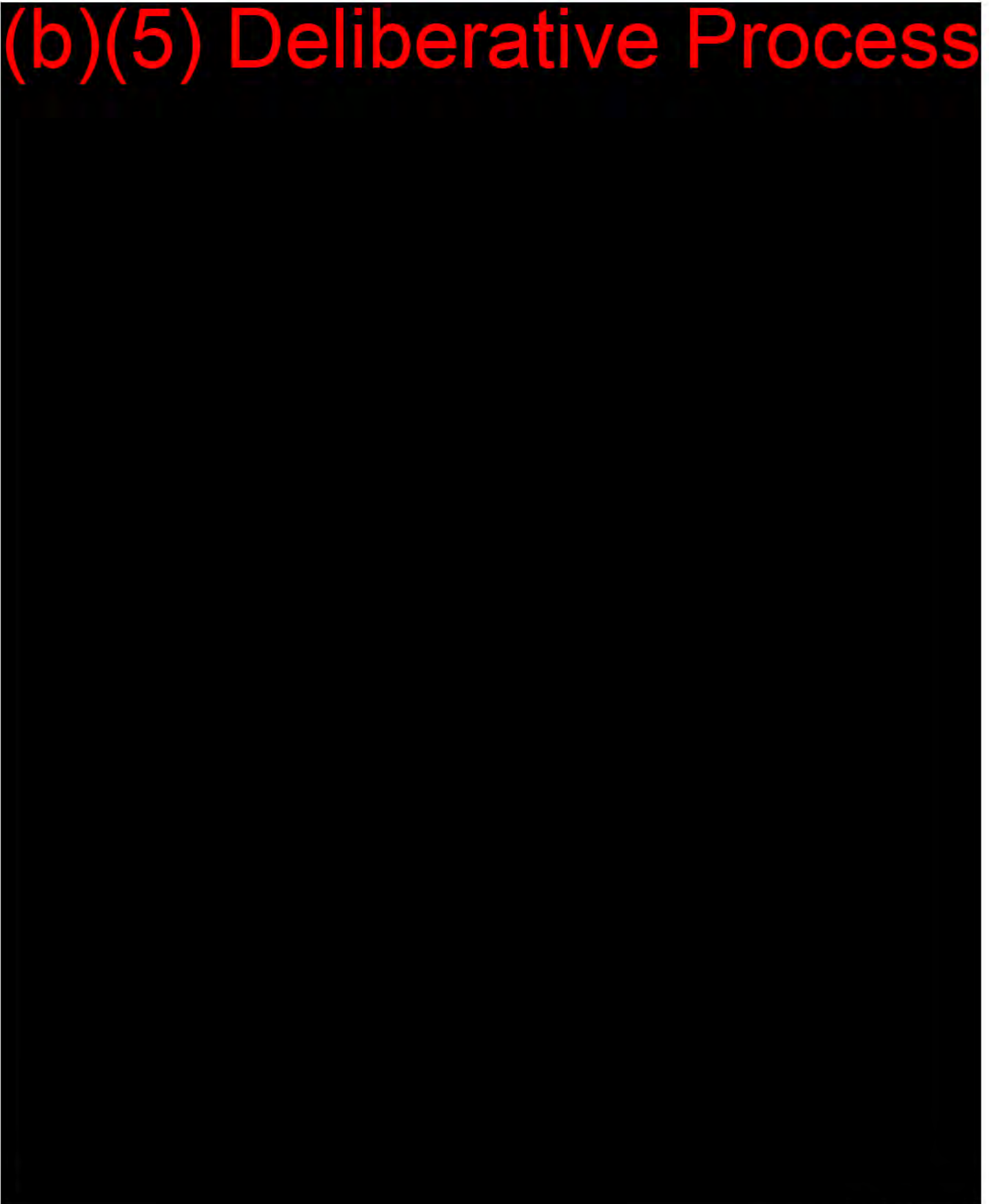
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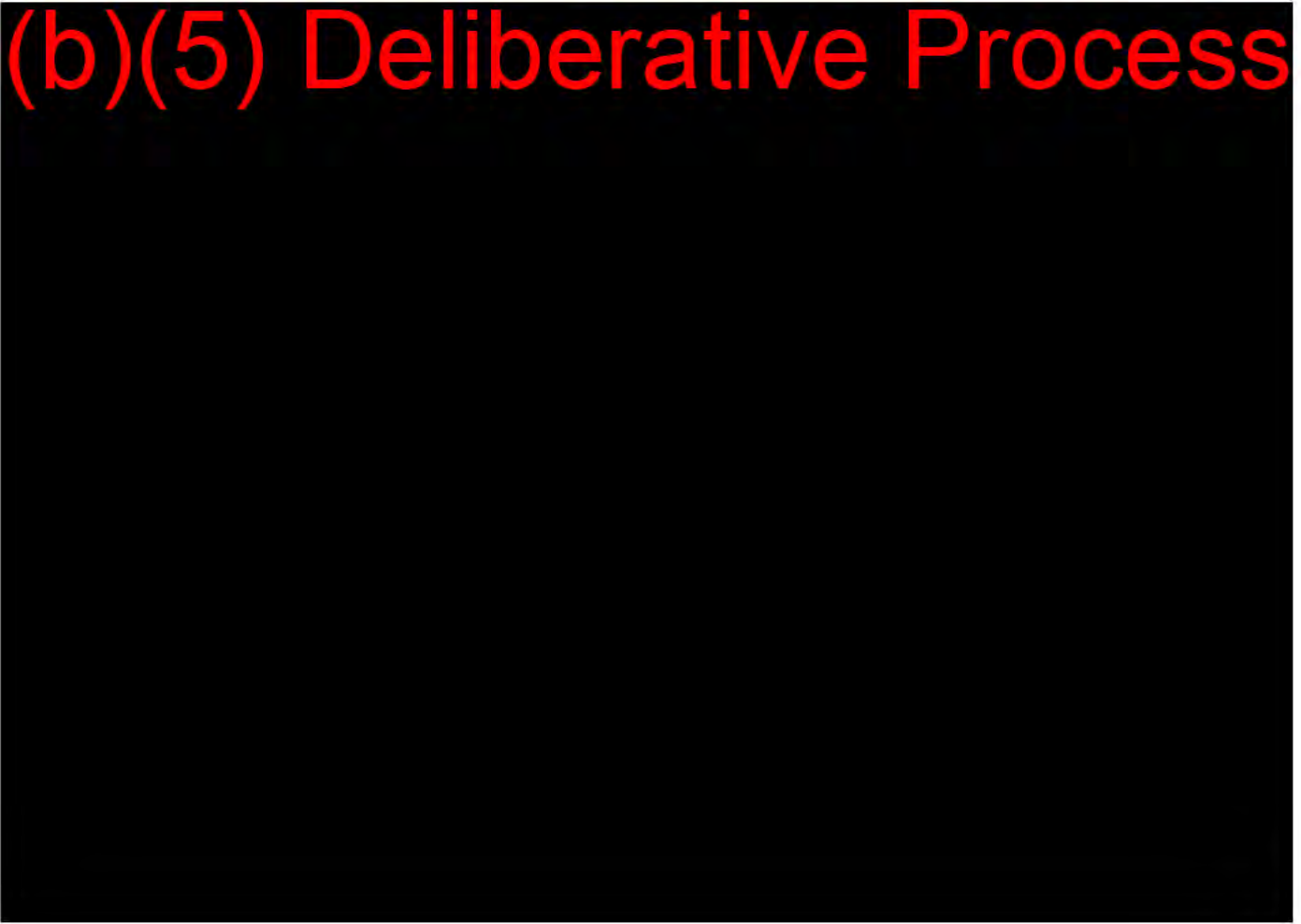
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(b)(5) Deliberative Process



(b)(5) Deliberative Process



Duplicate

Duplicate

(b)(5) Deliberative Process

Pre-Decisional/Deliberative

(b)(5) Deliberative Process

From: Rich, Michawn - OC, Washington, DC
Sent: 21 Jul 2019 23:39:53 +0000
To: SP3.PS3 - OSEC, Washington, DC **Sonny Perdue**
Cc: Young, Joby - OSEC, Washington, DC; Rollins, Blake - OSEC, Washington, DC; DuRant, Ryann - OC, Washington, DC; Crowe, Taylor - OSEC, Washington, DC; Ghee, Hailey - OSEC, Washington, DC; Sullivan, Lauren - OSEC, Washington, DC
Subject: Market to Market Interview
Attachments: Market to Market 7.22.19.docx, Market to Market Interview Talking Points 7.22.19 copy.docx
Attachment 1: Non-Responsive Record (1 p.)
Attachment 2: Withheld under (b)(5) Deliberative exemption (7 pp.)

Sir - attached are the brief and talking points for tomorrow morning's interview. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,
Michawn

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

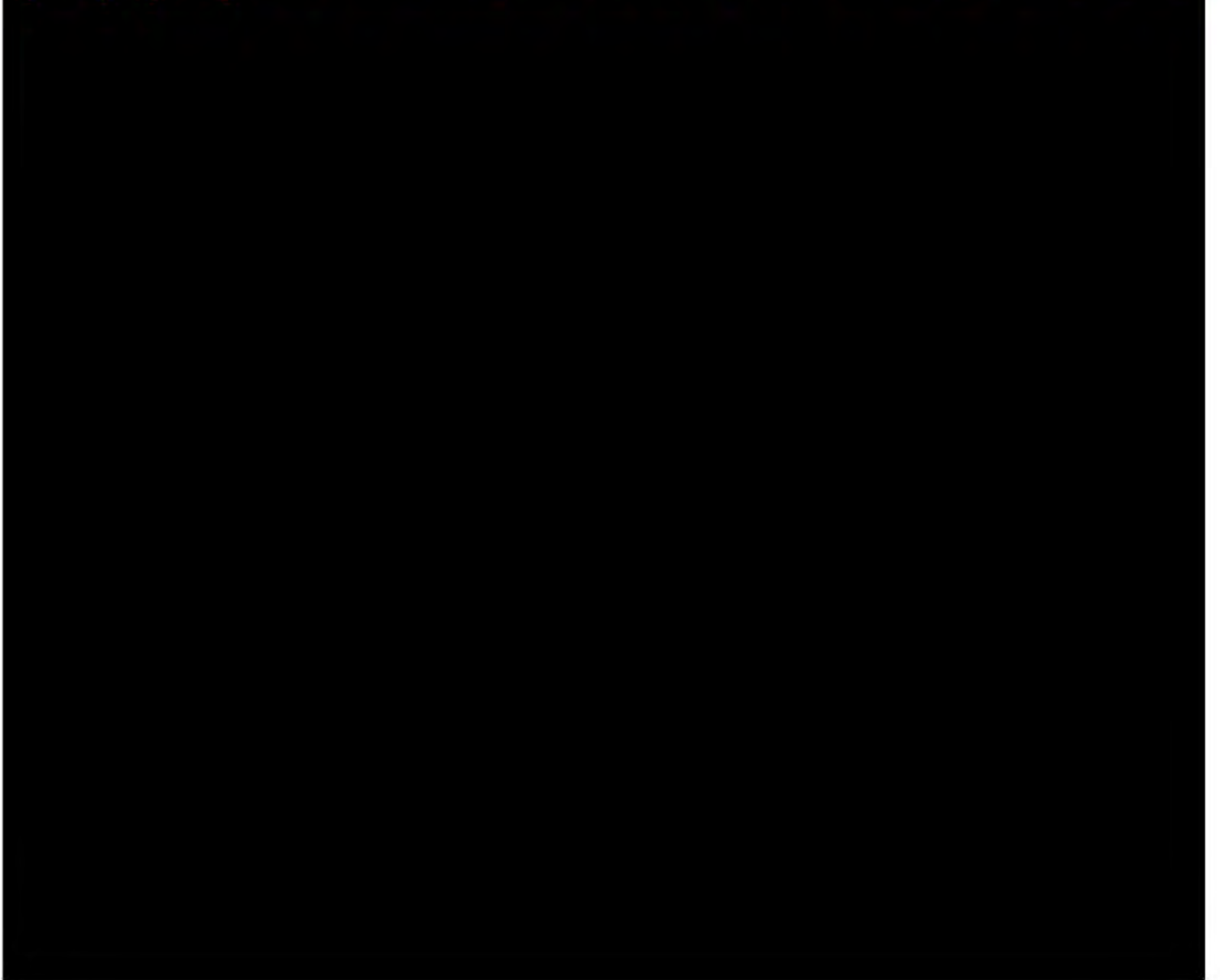
From: Michawn Rich <(b) (6)@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, July 21, 2019 7:35:58 PM
To: Rich, Michawn - OC, Washington, DC <michawn.rich@usda.gov>
Subject:

Sent from my iPhone

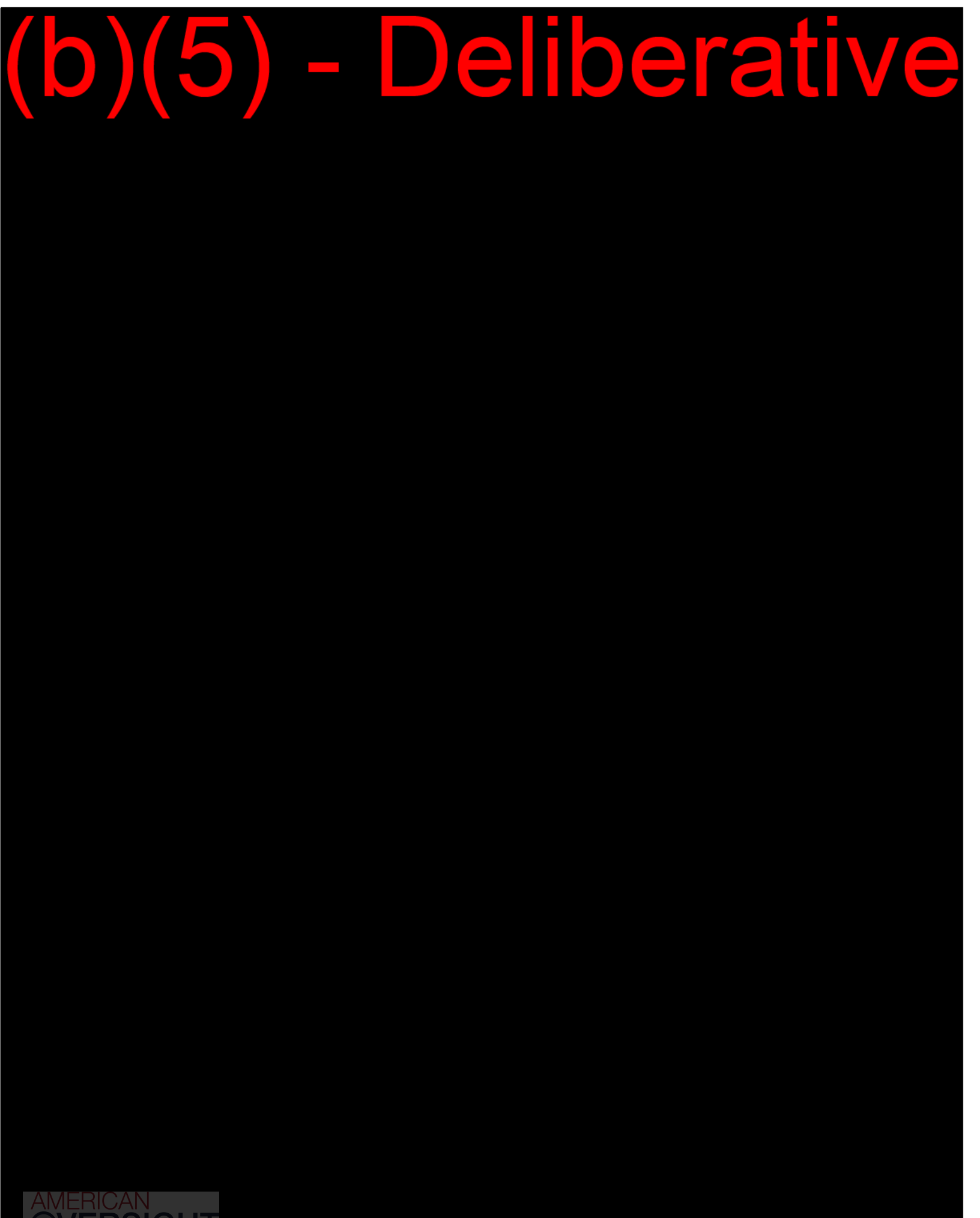


PRE-DECISIONAL, DELIBERATIVE
BRIEFING DOCUMENT

(b)(5) Deliberative Process



(b)(5) - Deliberative



(b)(5) - Deliberative



(b)(5) - Deliberative

(b)(5) - Deliberative

(b)(5) - Deliberative

(b)(5) - Deliberative

(b)(5) - Deliberative

From: Bomer Lauritsen, Sharon E. EOP/USTR
Sent: 23 May 2019 12:35:42 +0000
To: Young, Joby - OSEC, Washington, DC; Greer, Jamieson L. EOP/USTR; Doud, Gregory F. EOP/USTR
Subject: RE:
Attachments: Mitigation 2 Release.docx

I strongly recommend changing the word "protect" to "support American farmers".

USTR: (b)(5) Deliberative

Thanks.
Sharon

From: Young, Joby - OSEC, Washington, DC <joby.young@usda.gov>
Sent: Thursday, May 23, 2019 8:15 AM
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with questions.

202-816-9260

Joby Young
Chief of Staff
U.S. Department of Agriculture

From: Rich, Michawn - OC, Washington, DC
Sent: Thursday, May 23, 2019 7:44:00 AM

To: Young, Joby - OSEC, Washington, DC

Subject:

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USDA Announces Support for Farmers Impacted by Unjustified Retaliation and Trade Disruption

(Washington, D.C., May 23, 2018) – U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue today announced that the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) will take several actions to assist farmers in response to trade damage from unjustified retaliation and trade disruption. President Trump directed Secretary Perdue to craft a relief strategy to protect support American agricultural producers while the Administration continues to work on free, fair, and reciprocal trade deals to open more markets in the long run to help American farmers compete globally. Specifically, the President has authorized USDA to provide up to \$16 billion in programs, which is in line with the estimated impacts of unjustified retaliatory tariffs on U.S. agricultural goods and other trade disruptions. These programs will assist agricultural producers while President Trump works to address long-standing market access barriers.

“China hasn’t played by the rules for a long time and President Trump is standing up to them, sending the clear message that the United States will no longer tolerate their unfair trade practices, which include non-tariff trade barriers and the theft of intellectual property. President Trump has great affection for America’s farmers and ranchers, and he knows they are bearing the brunt of these trade disputes. In fact, I’ve never known of a president that has been more concerned or interested in farmer wellbeing and long-term profitability than President Trump,” said Secretary Perdue. “The plan we are announcing today ensures farmers do not bear the brunt of unfair retaliatory tariffs imposed by China and other trading partners. Our team at USDA reflected on what worked well and what we could have done better when we ran last year’s program to most effectively redesign this new program to support farmers. Our farmers work hard, are the most productive in the world, and we aim to match their enthusiasm and patriotism as we support them.”

Background:

American farmers have dealt with unjustified retaliatory tariffs and years of non-tariff trade disruptions, which have curtailed U.S. exports to China. Trade damages from such retaliation and market distortions have impacted a host of U.S. commodities, including crops like soybeans, corn, wheat, cotton, rice, and sorghum; livestock products like milk and pork; and many fruits, nuts, and other crops. High tariffs disrupt normal marketing patterns, raising costs by forcing commodities to find new markets. Additionally, American goods shipped to China have been slowed from reaching market by unusually strict or cumbersome entry procedures, which affect the quality and marketability of perishable crops. These boost marketing costs and unfairly affect our producers. USDA will use the following programs to assist farmers:

- **Market Facilitation Program (MFP)** for 2019, authorized under the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) Charter Act and administered by the Farm Service Agency (FSA), will provide \$14.5 billion in direct payments to producers.
 - Producers of alfalfa hay, barley, canola, corn, crambe, dry peas, extra-long staple cotton, flaxseed, lentils, long grain and medium grain rice, mustard seed, dried beans, oats, peanuts, rapeseed, safflower, sesame seed, small and large chickpeas, sorghum, soybeans, sunflower seed, temperate japonica rice, upland cotton, and wheat will receive a payment based on a single county rate multiplied by a farm’s total plantings to those crops in aggregate in 2019. Those per acre payments are not dependent on which of those crops are planted in 2019, and therefore will not distort planting decisions. Moreover, total payment-eligible plantings cannot exceed total 2018 plantings.
 - Dairy producers will receive a per hundredweight payment on production history and hog producers will receive a payment based on hog and pig inventory for a later-specified time frame.
 - Tree nut producers, fresh sweet cherry producers, cranberry producers, and fresh grape producers will receive a payment based on 2019 acres of production.
 - These payments will help farmers to absorb some of the additional costs of managing disrupted markets, to deal with surplus commodities, and to expand and develop new markets at home and abroad.
 - Payments will be made in up to three tranches, with the second and third tranches evaluated as market conditions and trade opportunities dictate. The first tranche will begin in late July/early

August as soon as practical after Farm Service Agency crop reporting is completed by July 15th. If conditions warrant, the second and third tranches will be made in November and early January.

- Additionally, CCC Charter Act authority will be used to implement a \$1.4 billion **Food Purchase and Distribution Program (FPDP)** through the Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) to purchase surplus commodities affected by trade retaliation such as fruits, vegetables, some processed foods, beef, pork, lamb, poultry, and milk for distribution by the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) to food banks, schools, and other outlets serving low-income individuals.
- Finally, the CCC will use its Charter Act authority for \$100 million to be issued through the **Agricultural Trade Promotion Program (ATP)** administered by the Foreign Agriculture Service (FAS) to assist in developing new export markets on behalf of producers.

Further details regarding eligibility and payment rates will be released at a later date.

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