



United States Department of Agriculture
Research, Education, and Economics
Agricultural Research Service

April 26, 2018

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND
220 ARCH ST RM 02148
BALTIMORE, MD 21201-1531

Dear Laura Scarantino, Director Sponsored Projects

This letter provides official notification to all Department of Agriculture (USDA) non-Federal entity (NFE) partners and recipients that the USDA has lifted the Records Disposal Freeze on all paper and/or electronic records associated with your agreements that are held by you, awarded by the Agricultural Research Service (ARS), Economic Research Service (ERS) and National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS).

You should now follow the records retention guidelines set forth in the applicable regulation or administrative requirement; REE-452R, 2 CFR 200 (sec. 200.333(a) and (b)), or 7 CFR 550.

Please ensure the furthest dissemination of this letter within your organization. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact the following:

- *ARS*: the Authorized Departmental Officer identified on your agreement documents (REE-451, Award Face Sheet)
- *ERS and NASS*: Ms. Deborah Watson on 301-504-4411 or deborah.watson@ars.usda.gov

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert H. Maguire". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Director, Financial Management and Agreements Division