



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF NATIONAL DRUG CONTROL POLICY

Washington, D.C. 20503

December 30, 1999


Dear Acting Administrator Marshall,

The December 7, 1999, memorandum from the U.S. Customs Service Director of Trade Programs to All Directors of Field Operations, Subject: Guidelines for the Trade Community Regarding the Importation of Hemp Seed and Related Products to be Disseminated (*sic*) to All Interested Parties, has just come to my attention. It creates a significant change in drug policy that is not certified, in accordance with Section 1704 of Title 21 of the United States Code.

Understand that the policy change is intended to reflect guidance provided by the Drug Enforcement Administration. Accordingly, I am awaiting your briefing on the consistency of the change with the *National Drug Control Strategy*. Understand you intend to provide such a briefing during the second week in January.

Until I have certified that the policy change is consistent with the *Strategy*, have requested that Customs suspend its provision that, "[A]ny hemp product, or part thereof, which contains less than 0.3 percent THC, may be imported legally into the United States." Need your assurance that no such significant policy changes are instigated, in the future, without appropriate coordination.

Sincerely,



Barry R. McCaffrey
Director

The Honorable Donnie Marshall
Acting Administrator
Drug Enforcement Administration
Washington, DC 20537