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# NEBRASKA CATTLEMEN

*"Representing the state's largest ag industry"*

December 16, 2009

The Honorable Senator Ben Nelson  
United States Senate  
720 Hart Building  
Washington DC 20510

Dear Senator Nelson:

On behalf of the Nebraska Cattlemen representing the entire cattle industry of Nebraska, I want to first thank you for your prior support of the UNL/ARS research facility that would be located in Lincoln, Nebraska at UNL's new Nebraska Innovation Campus.

Planning and design appropriations of \$1,390,000 in FY 2008 and \$1,000,000 in FY 2009 were a big step in the right direction and the \$3,750,000 appropriated by Congress for FY 2010 for construction indicates a commitment by Congress to the long term value of this project to the agricultural industry and the natural synergy that can be expected through a collaborative effort of the Agriculture Research Service (ARS) and the Institute of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources (INAR) at the University of Nebraska.

The Nebraska Cattlemen, at our recent annual convention, adopted a new strategic plan and the number one strategy of this plan is to make Nebraska the Epicenter of the beef cattle industry of the United States. In addition to helping the cattle industry achieve that goal, this UNL/ARS research facility will contribute mightily to the infrastructure of the agricultural industry as a whole in Nebraska and across the country.

The Nebraska Cattlemen want to encourage you to continue to provide leadership for this endeavor and seek the congressional funding necessary to bring this facility to fruition.

Sincerely,



Bill Rishel, President  
Nebraska Cattlemen