

June 2, 2023

The Honorable Ben Ray Luján United States Senate Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Luján:

Thank you for your April 18, 2023 letter regarding automation of U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) collection of the Pecan Import Fee, which is assessed on imported pecans. Your letter requested confirmation that the Pecan Import Fee automation fee collection program will be implemented in October 2023, at no cost to the American Pecan Promotion Board (APPB).

The Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) is the backbone of U.S. trade facilitation and enforcement efforts and is used to collect customs duties, taxes, and fees owed to the United States. CBP continuously improves ACE to keep pace with the ever-evolving international trade landscape, including changes to U.S. laws and regulations such as the Pecan Promotion, Research, and Information Order (7 C.F.R. § 1223). Barring unforeseen circumstances, the Pecan Import Fee automated collection program will be implemented in ACE in October 2023 at no cost to APPB. It will be done as part of ACE Collections Release No. 7.

Should you need additional assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me, or to have a member of your staff contact Stephanie A. Talton, Deputy Assistant Commissioner for the Office of Congressional Affairs, at 202-344-1760.

Sincerely,

Troy A. Miller

Acting Commission \\