**Expert Opinion Letter (Confidential)**

Analysis of Positional Requirements for National Interest Waiver

Evaluator: Tracey Carrillo, PhD.

Evaluator Info: Head of Agriculture – Applied Carbon

**AREAS OF EXPERTISE**

* Agriculture
* Agronomy
* Soils
* Green Houses
* Business Development
* Farm Equipment
* Education
* Livestock
* Dairy Production
* Entomology
* Vineyards
* Orchards
* Turf Management

**EMPLOYMENT**

**Applied Carbon – Head of Agriculture Business Development**

* Oversee all aspects of agricultural business development for a startup company.
* Identify collaborators to develop feedstock sources to create bio char
* Feedstocks include waste byproducts from agricultural production such as gin trash, wood waste from timber mills, infield stubble, and other byproducts considered waste
* Develop relationships with key stakeholders to create collaborative efforts
* Scale up agricultural prototypes, pilot projects or projects

**Supra International – Management Sales Agronomist**

* Developed drought tolerant, cold hardy varieties of forage solutions.
* Expand territory for non GMO technologies for high value feeds for livestock
* Benchmark progress of crops utilizing highly digestible nutritious feed stock
* Measure intervention performance of side by side trials for crop inputs and planting density
* Create metrics and analytic solutions for reduced inputs such as fertilizer, water and pesticides

**Aqua-Yield, nutrient-based fertilizer company - Regional Manager – Texas, Current**

* Establish new customer*s/*dealerships for Texas, New Mexico and Oklahoma with

additional states and countries as opportunities arise

* Educate growers on nutrient technology, pesticide and fertility
* Use CRM to focus relationships with customers and track productivity
* Develop relationships with research entities to design and create research trials that better promote the nanotechnology for plant nutrients
* Travel extensively, trade shows, customer visits, new client visits, research field trials
* Present at conferences, workshops, clinics and field days to create awareness of ne*w*

technology and products

* Conduct field research trials on various cropping systems and regions

**Pro Ag Consultants - Litigation Expert - 1996- Present** –

*Cases have included agricultural litigation cases throughout the country*

* Pesticide misuse on cotton for boll weevil control, Texas
* Pheromone applications in cotton, New Mexico
* Causes and effects of peach pitting, California
* Herbicide damage to melons with drip systems, Arizona
* Powdery mildew product efficacy on watermelons, Arizona
* Tomato spotted wilt disease on tomatoes, Arkansas
* Fungicide resistance on cucurbits, Georgia
* Effects of herbicide overspray on vineyards, Minnesota
* Herbicide misuse on wetland non-targets for invasive weed control, Nevada
* Evaluate reasons for crop failure of corn, Kansas
* Herbicide contaminated fertilizer wheat, Oklahoma
* Turf grass on race track issues, Florida
* Herbicide cross contamination, Kentucky
* Fertility issues on turfgrass, New York
* Herbicide carryover in manure in other states

**John Deere Quality Implement - Precision Farming Integrated Solution Manager – Munday, TX  2016-2018**

* Precision Technology manager, variable rate application, GPS integration from satellite

to implement and tractor application

* Variable rate spray and seeding application
* Drone technology for prescription application of seed and herbicide
* Creation of product development and sales of technology
* Development of training packages for sales, parts and other staff
* NDVI and NIR imaging for drone prescriptions for disease and fertility recommendations, primarily in wheat, cotton and sesame
* Field monitoring of nutrient and water use efficiency
* Farm implement optimization and operation
* Develop third party collaboration and cooperation

**New Mexico State University, Agricultural Experiment Station - Assistant Director of Campus Farm Operations - Las Cruces, NM 2006 - 2016**

* Director of operations for two agricultural science centers, Leyendecker Plant Science and Fabian Garcia Science Centers and animal science facilities, botanical gardens
* Oversight of three farm managers, 20 support staff, equipment, tractors, implements, facilities, infrastructure, greenhouses, irrigation, production, experimental design, data collection, analysis and research programs
* Production activities include, corn, small grains, forage crops, cotton, peppers, peanuts, corn, peppers, onions, pecans, algae, aquaculture, turf, grapes, livestock and other Liaison to coordinate with local, state and regional commodity associations, advisory groups and research faculty
* Provide first class service to research and extension faculty, commodity groups and collaborators and stakeholders
* Develop innovative production systems such as biofuels, solar energy, *v*arietal plant improvements, nutrient and water efficiency, improved soil health, optimize herbicide and pesticide use, establish new aquaculture industries and feed nutrition for livestock
* Serve as the point person to channel all efforts and directives for on and off campus farm operations to improve facilities, equipment and infrastructure
* Serve as Director of New Mexico Seed Certification programs, the state's seed certifying agency to ensure quality and purity of varietal selections
* Create long- and short-term visions and goals for the centers in collaborative efforts with faculty, departments and commodity advisory groups
* Facilitate row crop, pasture, field crop and livestock production units

**Faculty, Director of Seed Certification Program, New Mexico State University, Extension Plant Sciences - Las Cruces, NM, 2007-2014**

* Oversee all aspects of Seed Certification for the state of NM
* Field inspections for certification of Noxious Weed Free Forage program
* Compliance with regulations of the Insect Resistance Management (IRM) program
* Work with strategic planners in developing vision and mission
* Seed crops, including but not limited to small grains, cotton, peanuts, and others
* Manage budgets and all operations of programs throughout the state
* Inspect and approve forage and seed crops for certification

**Senior Research Specialist, New Mexico State University, Entomology, Plant Pathology and Weed Science Department, Las Cruces, NM, 1989- 2007**

* Conduct field and lab research in cotton, pecans, alfalfa, peppers, wheat, corn and other cropping systems
* Teach, mentor, train, undergraduate and graduate students in research efforts
* Supervise masters and doctoral students' thesis work and professional staff
* Promote, research findings through extension and publication, and various avenues
* Lead and conduct all field and lab research, design, implementation and reporting
* Manage budgets, salaries, equipment, supplies, and miscellaneous expenses
* Write and submit proposals, journal articles and publications
* Instructor and guest lecturer for undergraduate and graduate courses
* Participate in student mentoring, recruitment programs, and committees

**EDUCATION**

**Ph.D. in Agronomy Science, College of Agriculture**

Environmental and Consumer Sciences, New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, NM, 2006

**MS in Entomology,**

Plant Pathology and Weed Science, New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, NM, 1988

**BS in Rangeland Management Wildlife Sciences**

Sul Ross State University, Alpine, TX, 1985

**CCA Certified Crop Advisor state of Texas**

United States Department of Homeland Security

Citizenship & Immigration Services

Re: Expert Opinion Letter for the classification of EB-2

To Whom It May Concern:

I have been asked to write a letter in support of XXXXXXX National Interest Waiver to waive the job offer and labor certification requirement to allow him to gain admission to the United States as a permanent resident.

With regard to my background, I am an Agronomist with extensive knowledge in sales, field research, and product development. My academic credentials include a Doctorate in Agronomy Environmental Plant Sciences and a Master of Science Degree in Entomology, Plant Pathology and Weed Science from New Mexico State University; and a Bachelor of Science Degree in Rangeland Management from Sul Ross State University.

I am currently the Head of Agricultural Business Development for a company called Applied Carbon. The company takes agricultural waste byproducts and converts the waste to a stable carbon source that is very beneficial for sequestering atmospheric carbon, serve as a soil amendment to improve soil health, help retain soil nutrients and soil moisture and reduce cost associated with over application of synthetic fertilizers.

As an evaluator, I am responsible for reviewing academic and experiential qualifications to form part of a candidate’s credential evaluation report, providing a detailed analysis of the academic background and occupational experience that a person has received outside the United States.

Through the aforementioned academic and professional experiences, I have developed an expert knowledge on how to analyze, evaluate, and characterize job duties, responsibilities, qualifications, and expertise.

Sincerely,



Dr. Tracey Carrillo

Professional Consultant

Pro Ag Consultants July 25, 2024