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October 6, 2003

Robert B. Zoellick
Executive Office of the President
The United States Trade Representative
Washington, D.C. 20508

Subject: WTO's Agreement on Government Procurement (GPA)

Dear Mr. Zoellick:

I am writing in response to your September 12, 2003 letter requesting agreement from Utah to extend to other nations our commitment to conduct our procurements in accordance with the World Trade Organization's Agreement on Government Procurement to insure fairness, transparency, and objectivity that does not discriminate against other members of the WTO.

Our current laws governing state government procurement provides for the transparency and fairness to these other nations contemplated by your request. Therefore, based upon our current laws, I feel comfortable in agreeing that Utah would extent the same non-discriminatory procurement treatment that we currently extend to the current WTO member countries. Of course, I do not have the ability to commit future legislatures or future administrations to our current non-discriminatory procurement policies.

Please accept my best wishes for success in your negotiations with these nations. We appreciate your efforts to provide enhanced access to foreign markets for Utah produced products.

Sincerely,

Michael O. Leavitt
Governor