

To the National Assembly –

One of the “next steps” that came out of the HPAI fall planning meeting held last week was to conduct a nationwide review of emergency resources. Secretary Vilsack has emphasized that this step is critical for joint Federal-State-industry efforts to prepare for potential HPAI outbreaks.

To accomplish that task, we’re asking States to send us information about many aspects of foreign animal disease planning: personnel, equipment, emergency plans, disposal options, etc. Instructions, including a link for submitting this information online, are in the attached document.

Please use this opportunity to take a comprehensive look at your response capabilities and share the results with VS. I appreciate your support for our shared responsibility to prepare for HPAI.