



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

RQ-2

September 5, 2007

Luther Allan Markwart, Treasurer  
American Sugarbeet Growers Association  
Political Action Committee  
1156 15<sup>th</sup> Street NW, Suite 1101  
Washington, DC 20005

**Response Due Date:  
October 5, 2007**

Identification Number: C00167684

Reference: Mid-Year Report (1/1/07-6/30/07)

Dear Treasurer:

This letter is prompted by the Commission's preliminary review of the report(s) referenced above. This notice requests information essential to full public disclosure of your federal election campaign finances. **Failure to adequately respond by the response date noted above could result in an audit or enforcement action.** Additional information is needed for the following 4 items:

1. Schedule A of your report discloses one or more contributions totaling \$2,998.94 from "Country Cruizin", "Green Acres", "M And M Farms", "Mereness Farms", "Popson Farms" and "T & T Farms", which appears to be a corporation(s). 2 U.S.C. §441b(a) prohibits the receipt of contributions from corporations unless made from a separate segregated fund established by the corporation.

If any apparently prohibited contribution in question was incompletely or incorrectly disclosed, you should amend your original report with clarifying information.

If you have received a prohibited contribution(s), you may have to make a refund. If within 30 days of receipt you (1) transferred the prohibited amount to an account not used to influence federal elections, and (2) provided written notice to the person making the contribution of the option of receiving a refund, you may retain the contribution in an account not used to influence federal elections. Any request from a donor for a refund must be honored.

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If the foregoing conditions for transfers to a non-federal account were not met within 30 days of receipt, the prohibited amount must be refunded. See 11 CFR §103.3(b)(1).

Please inform the Commission of your corrective action immediately in writing and provide a photocopy of your check for any transfer-out or refund. In addition, any transfers-out or refunds should be disclosed on Schedule B supporting Line 22 or 28 of the report covering the period during which the transaction was made.

Although the Commission may take further legal action concerning the acceptance of a prohibited contribution, prompt action by your committee to transfer-out or refund the amount will be taken into consideration.

2. Schedule A of your report discloses an apparent contribution(s) from "Sidney Sugars", an apparent corporation(s), totaling \$7,541.73. You are advised that a contribution from a corporation is prohibited by the Act, unless made from a separate segregated fund established by the corporation. 2 U.S.C. §441b(a)

The Commission notes the refund of the prohibited contribution(s) disclosed on your report. Although the Commission may take further legal action concerning this matter, your prompt action in refunding the contribution(s) will be taken into consideration.

3. Schedule B of your report discloses an in-kind contribution(s) made to Mark Udall, Norm Coleman and Sherrod Brown, which are designated for the general election, but made before the primary election. In-kind contributions of equipment, such as computers, with a long-term useful life (e.g., an election cycle, or perhaps longer) are similar to contributions of money and may be designated for elections beyond the next election, provided the contributor designates the contribution as such in writing. A contribution of this type of equipment is distinguishable from in-kind contributions that are used only for one particular election, such as non-exempt contributions of food or beverages consumed by primary election day workers, or printing or mailing costs related to general election events or fundraisers. Please amend your report to include a description of the nature of the in-kind contribution(s) in question. If the in-kind contribution(s) on your report does not have a "long-term useful life", it may constitute an excessive contribution(s) for the primary election (see Advisory Opinion 1996-29).

If any apparently excessive contribution in question was incompletely or incorrectly disclosed, you should amend your original report with clarifying

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information.

If you have made an excessive contribution, you must request a refund or provide a written authorization for a redesignation of the contribution pursuant to 11 CFR §110.2(b) within 60 days of the treasurer's receipt.

If the foregoing conditions for redesignations were not met within 60 days of the treasurer's receipt, your committee must obtain a refund.

Please inform the Commission of your corrective action immediately in writing and provide a photocopy of the refund or redesignation request sent to the recipient committee(s). In addition, any refunds should be reported on Schedule A supporting Line 16 of the Detailed Summary Page of the report covering the period in which they are received. Redesignations should be reported as memo entries on Schedule B of the report covering the period in which the redesignation is made. 11 CFR §110.2(b)

Although the Commission may take further legal steps, prompt action by your committee to refund or seek redesignation of the excessive amount will be considered.

4. Please amend Schedule B supporting Line 23 by providing the address, office sought, state and congressional district, if applicable, for each contribution made. 11 CFR §104.3(b)(3)(ii) and (v)

-Your report disclosed a category of financial activity that has been reflected on the wrong line of the Detailed Summary Page. Contributions from other political committees should be properly disclosed on a separate Schedule A, supporting Line 11(c) of the Detailed Summary Page. Please refer to the instructions for each line when determining the proper categorization(s) for your next filing.

**Please note, you will not receive an additional notice from the Commission on this matter.** Adequate responses must be received by the Commission on or before the due date noted above to be taken into consideration in determining whether audit action will be initiated. Failure to comply with the provisions of the Act may also result in an enforcement action against the committee. Any response submitted by your committee will be placed on the public record and will be considered by the Commission prior to taking enforcement action. **Requests for extensions of time in which to respond will not be considered.**

Electronic filers must file amendments (to include statements, designations and reports) in an electronic format and must submit an amended report in its entirety, rather than just those portions of the report that are being amended. If you should have any

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questions regarding this matter or wish to verify the adequacy of your response, please contact me on our toll-free number (800) 424-9530 (at the prompt press 5 to reach the Reports Analysis Division) or my local number (202) 694-1141.

Sincerely,



Daniel T. Buckley  
Campaign Finance Analyst  
Reports Analysis Division.

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