State of Wisconsin
Governor Scott Walker

Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection
Ben Brancel, Secretary

DATE: March 8, 2013

TO: Board of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection

FROM: Ben Brancel, Secretary PB for BB
Perry Brown, Policy Initiatives Advisor, Office of the Secretary

SUBJECT: Six Sigma – Continuous Improvement Initiative Report

TO BE PRESENTED BY: Perry Brown, Agency Six Sigma – Continuous Improvement Point of Contact

RECOMMENDATION / REQUESTED ACTION: None

SUMMARY / BACKGROUND:

The department's policy initiatives advisor will discuss the department's Six Sigma – Continuous Improvement program initiated under Executive Order #66 directing all Cabinet level agencies to implement a "Lean Government" program.

This presentation will illustrate how the department is utilizing Six Sigma processes and tools to look at services delivered to the citizens of Wisconsin that ensure the safety and quality of food, fair business practices for the buyer and seller, efficient use of agricultural resources in a quality environment, consumer protection, healthy animals and plants and the vitality of Wisconsin's agricultural commerce.

Many current business processes and administrative practices were established prior to the implementation of current computer/electronic technologies. By employing new automated technologies and harnessing staff led efficiency ideas, this initiative utilizes continuous improvement techniques to design the delivery of department services more efficiently to our customers.

In addition to streamlined processes, the initiative will also help the department identify data standardization issues and staff retraining needs.