INTERFAITH CENTER ON CORPORATE RESPONSIBILITY

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

INVESTOR ENGAGEMENT YIELDS COMMITMENT FROM DOW TO ENSURE SAFE USE OF NEW PEST-RESISTANT SEED

Shareholder Proposal is Withdrawn when Company Agrees to Implement Monitoring and Reporting Program for Grower's Use of Enlist Weed Control System

NEW YORK, NY - Wednesday, February 25, 2015 - Members of the **Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility** and shareholders of the Dow Chemical Company have withdrawn a shareholder proposal after the company agreed to monitor and report annually on grower compliance with protocols for the use of its Enlist Weed Control System.

While all major seed companies have "label" requirements none have reported publicly on their monitoring and compliance results. Specifically, Dow Chemical's commitment states that the company will report annually on compliance measures and performance related to the use of the Enlist Weed Control System by farmers.

The Enlist system pairs genetically engineered corn and soy seeds with Enlist Duo (a mixture of glyphosate and 2,4-D.) When applied over the top of the Enlist seed, the herbicide eliminates unwanted weeds and pests without affecting the genetically modified corn or soy plants.

While the product has been approved for use by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA,) ICCR members are concerned about studies linking the use of 2,4-D to adverse human health impacts, including cancers; to environmental impacts including crop damage from off-target drift; and to increased weed resistance leading to the use of even more potent pesticides. These investors have argued that without monitoring to ensure its proper use by growers, the product could prove harmful.

During 2014, ICCR members held several meetings with Dow Chemical's corporate citizenship and Dow AgroSciences's sustainability management team to learn about the company's new product and present the case for increased disclosure on the company's management of the environmental and social impact of its products. Dow AgroSciences is a subsidiary of Dow Chemical.

On January 21, the company sent the shareholders a letter stating its commitment to comply with the request and, as a result, the resolution was withdrawn.

Margaret Weber, a member of the Adrian Dominican Sisters' Portfolio Advisory Board, stated, ***"This commitment by Dow Chemical is a major achievement, the first such commitment by any major producer of genetically engineered seed. We are encouraged to see the persistence of the Adrian Dominican Sisters pay off and Dow take this positive step forward. And we are hopeful other seed companies we engage, such as DuPont, come to see the importance of monitoring and public reporting in helping to build a safer and more sustainable food system."***

The engagement team looks forward to continued engagement with Dow and will be monitoring and reporting back to members on the implementation of this agreement.

About the Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility (ICCR)
Currently celebrating its 44th year, ICCR is the pioneer coalition of active shareholders who view the management of their investments as a catalyst for change. Its 300 member organizations with over $100 billion in AUM have an enduring record of corporate engagement that has demonstrated influence on policies promoting justice and sustainability in the world.

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