

April 30, 2015

The Honorable Jim Inhofe  
Chairman  
Senate Committee on Environment and  
Public Works  
205 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Barbara Boxer  
Ranking Member  
Senate Committee on Environment and  
Public Works  
112 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Pat Roberts  
Chairman  
Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition  
and Forestry  
109 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Debbie Stabenow  
Ranking Member  
Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition  
and Forestry  
731 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Inhofe, Ranking Member Boxer, Chairman Roberts and Ranking Member Stabenow:

The undersigned agricultural organizations would like to convey our strong support for the *Federal Water Quality Protection Act*. We are committed to working with Senators Barrasso and Donnelly in pressing for its swift consideration by the Senate.

Our organizations have significant concerns about the regulatory action jointly proposed by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) to redefine federal jurisdiction for “waters of the U.S.” under the Clean Water Act. The *Federal Water Quality Protection Act* addresses significant flaws in the proposed WOTUS regulation and requires a more comprehensive regulatory proposal after the agencies have fully engaged in meaningful stakeholder consultation and administrative procedures. The sooner Congress acts, the sooner the agencies can re-craft a rule that more accurately reflects the will of Congress, while respecting the concerns of all affected parties. By acting before the agencies’ regulation is promulgated, Congress can provide the best opportunity and path to ensure that a final rule is practical, reflects congressional intent, and ensures appropriate environmental safeguards.

We applaud this legislation because it establishes sound principles to guide the agencies’ action on a “waters of the U.S.” rule so that the final result reflects the statutory limits created by Congress and ensures proper administrative procedures are followed. This legislation guides the agencies with regulatory principles that, when followed, will achieve greater balance and generate more widespread acceptance of the final provisions. We urge you to give strong support and quick consideration to the *Federal Water Quality Protection Act*.

Sincerely,

Agri-Mark, Inc.

American Agri-Women  
American Farm Bureau Federation  
American Horse Council  
American Soybean Association  
American Sugar Alliance  
Arkansas Pork Producers Association  
Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts  
Colorado Pork Producers Council  
Dairy Producers of New Mexico  
Dairy Producers of Utah  
Earthmoving Contractors Association of Texas  
Exotic Wildlife Association  
Georgia Pork Producers Association  
GROWMARK, Inc.  
Idaho Dairywomen's Association  
Illinois Pork Producers Association  
Independent Cattlemen's Association of Texas  
Indiana Pork Producers Association  
Iowa Pork Producers Association  
Kansas Agribusiness Retailers Association  
Kansas Grain and Feed Association  
Kansas Pork Association  
Kentucky Pork Producers Association  
Michigan Pork Producers Association  
Milk Producers Council  
Minnesota Agri-Women  
Minnesota Pork Producers Association  
Missouri Cattlemen's Association  
Missouri Corn Growers Association  
Missouri Dairy Association  
Missouri Pork Association  
Missouri Soybean Association  
National All-Jersey  
National Association of State Departments of Agriculture  
National Association of Wheat Growers  
National Cattlemen's Beef Association  
National Chicken Council  
National Corn Growers Association  
National Cotton Council  
National Council of Farmer Cooperatives  
National Pork Producers Council  
National Sorghum Producers  
National Turkey Federation  
Nebraska Pork Producers Association, Inc  
North Carolina Pork Council  
Northeast Dairy Farmers Cooperatives

Oklahoma Pork Council  
Oregon Dairy Farmer's Association  
Riverside & Landowners Protection Coalition  
Select Milk Producers, Inc.  
South Dakota Pork Producers Council  
South East Dairy Farmers Association  
South Texans' Property Rights Association  
South Texas Cotton & Grain Association  
Southwest Council of Agribusiness  
St. Albans Cooperative Creamery Inc.  
Sugar Cane Growers Cooperative of Florida  
Texas Cattle Feeders Association  
Texas Forestry Association  
Texas Pork Producers Association  
Texas Pork Producers Association  
Texas Poultry Federation  
Texas Seed Trade Association  
Texas Sheep & Goat Raisers Association  
Texas Wheat Producers Association  
Texas Wine and Grape Growers  
U.S. Cattlemen's Association  
U.S. Poultry & Egg Association  
United Egg Producers  
USA Rice Federation  
Virginia Agribusiness Council  
Virginia Pork Council, Inc.  
Virginia Poultry Federation  
Virginia State Dairymen's Association  
Vocational Agriculture Teachers Association  
Washington State Dairy Federation  
Western Peanut Growers Association  
Western United Dairymen  
Wisconsin Pork Association  
Wyoming Ag-Business Association  
Wyoming Crop Improvement Association  
Wyoming Wheat Growers Association

Cc: Sen. Barrasso and Sen. Donnelly