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WASHINGTON, DC 20510

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COMMITTEES:
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INDIAN AFFAIRS

The Honorable Scott Pruitt
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20460

Dear Administrator Pruitt:

I am writing today in regards to the Environmental Protection Agency's request to delay the reporting mandate in the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) and Emergency Response and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA). It is my understanding that the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit granted the request to delay until at least May 1, 2018. While a delay helps in the short term, we need to find a permanent solution to give our livestock industry the certainty it needs.

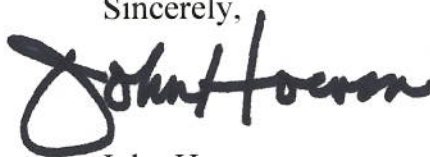
Imposing costly and unnecessary regulations on livestock emissions will not only hurt our livestock producers, but American families and our economy. That is why as a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee, I have voted in favor of appropriations bills that prohibited funds being made available to implement regulation requiring the issuance of permits for methane emissions resulting from biological processes associated with livestock production.

Our farmers' and ranchers' livelihoods are dependent upon the land and they have a real stake in protecting the environment. However, they should not be subject to heavy-handed regulations that hinder their ability to produce the highest quality, lowest cost food supply in the world.

We need common sense rules and regulations that do not overburden farmers and ranchers. That is why I urge the EPA to either make the fix permanent or work with Congress to pass legislation that will ensure that our agriculture industry is not subject to overreaching government regulations.

Thank you for your consideration and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



John Hoeven