

May 25, 2018

The Honorable Andrew Wheeler
Deputy Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington DC 20460

Dear Deputy Administrator Wheeler:

Congratulations on your recent confirmation as Deputy Administrator. We look forward to working closely with you as you begin to make progress on the significant issues facing our nation's environment and economy.

Since 2015, leaders from 17 agricultural and agribusiness organizations have met regularly as an informal Production Ag CEO Council to discuss common challenges facing food, agriculture, and the environment. You'll find a list of our current members attached. During our meeting last week, we discussed the need to identify ways that we could support EPA's current efforts to evaluate and streamline regulations that are impeding both environmental protection and business efficiency. We are writing to request a meeting with you to discuss how we might better cooperate with your agency on items of mutual interest.

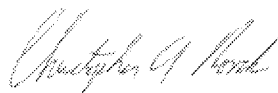
We did meet with Administrator Pruitt in March of last year (see attached agenda from that meeting), and a great deal has happened since that meeting, so we look forward to picking up that conversation with you.

Thank you for your consideration. We will follow up this note to begin to identify potential meeting dates.

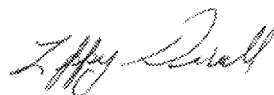
Sincerely,



Jay Vroom
Co-Chair



Chris Novak
Co-Chair



Zippy Duvall
Co-Chair

attachments

CEO Council Members

American Farm Bureau	Vincent “Zippy” Duvall, President (<i>Co-Chair</i>)
American Seed Trade Association	Andrew “Andy” LaVigne, President and CEO
American Soybean Association	Ryan Findlay, CEO
Biotechnology Innovation Organization	Dana O’Brien, Executive Vice President
CropLife America	Jay Vroom, President and CEO (<i>Co-Chair</i>)
The Fertilizer Institute	Chris Jahn, President
National Association of Wheat Growers	Chandler Goule, CEO
National Cattlemen’s Beef Association	Kendal Frazier, CEO
National Chicken Council	Michael Brown, President
National Corn Growers Association	Chris Novak, CEO (<i>Co-Chair</i>)
National Cotton Council	Gary Adams, President and CEO
National Council of Farmer Cooperatives	Chuck Conner, President and CEO
National Farmers Union	Roger Johnson, President
National Milk Producers Federation	Jim Mulhern, President and CEO
National Pork Producers Council	Neil Dierks, CEO
United Fresh Produce Association	Tom Stenzel, President and CEO
USA Rice Federation	Betsy Ward, President & CEO
National Association of State Departments of Agriculture	Barb Glenn, CEO, <i>ex-officio</i>

FINAL PROPOSED AGENDA TOPICS

Meeting Information: Office of EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC
Thursday, March 30, 2017 3:45-4:30 PM

Topic
1. Thanks to Trump Administration and Administrator Pruitt for <u>early decisive</u> actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. WOTUSb. Chlorpyrifos Petition
2. <u>Top Priority Issues</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Ag Advisor Position – We recommend adding additional title of “Assistant Deputy Administrator” as a titleb. Water<ul style="list-style-type: none">i. Next steps to refine / clarify beyond WOTUSii. NPDES permits (CAFO Program needs work; legislation to fix water permits NOT needed for lawful use of pesticides)c. Pesticides Policy<ul style="list-style-type: none">i. Endangered Species Act conflicts with Pesticide Regulation and Biotech Regulationii. Epidemiology Study Policy (as aftermath from Chlorpyrifos matter)iii. Reform Certification & Training and Worker Protection Rules – Suspend implementation and revised. Renewable Fuels Standard – current program kept consistente. Communication / Messaging / Opinion Polling – vital to all parties’ ability to advance sound policyf. EPA and USDA Cooperation and Coordination – Already vast progress; <u>more</u> can be done!g. Environmental Justice, Research & Development, and Children’s Health Offices – Better integration with and reform of EPA program offices; sound scienceh. Regulation of Manufacturing & Mining Facilities for Ag Inputs – Restore science and processi. Public and Science Advisory Panels at EPA – Balance, strategic agendasj. “Air Emissions” from farming operations

CEO Attendees

American Seed Trade Association	Andrew “Andy” LaVigne, President and CEO
American Soybean Association	Steve Censky, Chief Executive Officer (Co-Chair)
Biotechnology Innovation Organization	Dana O’Brien, Executive Vice President
CropLife America	Jay Vroom, President and CEO (Co-Chair)
The Fertilizer Institute	Chris Jahn, President
National Association of Wheat Growers	Chandler Goule, CEO
National Corn Growers Association	Chris Novak, CEO (Co-Chair)
National Cotton Council	Gary Adams, President and CEO
National Council of Farmer Cooperatives	Chuck Conner, President and CEO
National Pork Producers Council	Neil Dierks, CEO
United Fresh Produce Association	Tom Stenzel, President and CEO
USA Rice Federation	Betsy Ward, President & CEO
National Association of State Departments of Agriculture	Barb Glenn, CEO, ex-officio

Others

American Farm Bureau Federation	Dale Moore, Deputy Executive Director
Corn Refiners Association	John Bode, President & CEO
National Farmers Union	Rob Larew, Senior VP