



August 3, 2017

Ms. M. Frances Eargle
LGAC Designated Federal Officer
Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW.
(MC1301A)
Washington, DC 20460

Re: **Local Government Advisory Committee; Nomination (LGAC 2017 Nomination)**

Dear Ms. Eargle,

The National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NASDA) strongly supports the reappointment and nomination of The Honorable Jeff Witte, Director/Secretary of the New Mexico Department of Agriculture (NMDA), to the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Local Government Advisory Committee (LGAC).

NASDA represents the Commissioners, Secretaries, and Directors of the state departments of agriculture in all fifty states and four U.S. territories. State departments of agriculture are responsible for a wide range of programs including food safety, combating the spread of disease, and fostering the economic vitality of our rural communities. Conservation and environmental protection are also among these primary responsibilities.

Secretary Witte serves on the NASDA Board of Directors Executive Committee, and he will continue to bring invaluable state and federal-level perspective and expertise to the LGAC. In his capacity as Director of the NMDA, Secretary Witte oversees a wide range of regulatory responsibilities, including but not limited to, the administration, implementation and enforcement of pesticides under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act. Secretary Witte also works closely with a wide variety of stakeholders throughout New Mexico and around the country on such matters as food safety, homeland security, natural resource conservation, and water quality.

NASDA appreciates your consideration of Secretary Witte's nomination for the LGAC. Please let me know if you have any questions or would like any additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Barbara P. Glenn".

Barbara P. Glenn, Ph.D.
Chief Executive Officer