



**STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COMMERCE**

CINDY HYDE-SMITH
COMMISSIONER

PRESS RELEASE

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Ag Commissioner Hyde-Smith Applauds EPA's Decision to Rescind WOTUS

JACKSON, Miss. — Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce Cindy Hyde-Smith applauds the decision by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to rescind the 2015 Clean Water Rule and recodify the previous regulations.

“I am pleased with the actions taken by the EPA and their willingness to consider the impacts this rule would have had on our farmers and ranchers,” said Hyde-Smith. As President of the Southern Association of State Departments of Agriculture (SASDA), Hyde-Smith looks forward to working with the EPA and agriculture commissioners and secretaries from across the country in developing a new rule.

“We must work collectively to ensure that our state's and nation's waters are kept clean, while simultaneously addressing the needs of our farmers, ranchers, and the agribusiness community. Farmers are some of the best conservationists and stewards of our land and water, and it is imperative that we protect them from overreaching, burdensome regulations.”

Rescinding the 2015 rule is the first step of a two-step process to redefine “waters of the United States.” Once the proposed new rule is published in the Federal Register, the public will be able to submit written comments.

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