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**From:** Bennett, Tate [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=1FA92542F7CA4D01973B18B2F11B9141-BENNETT, EL]  
**Sent:** 6/27/2017 7:39:19 PM  
**To:** Gage, Taylor [taylor.gage@nebraska.gov]  
**Subject:** RE: Media Release: Gov. Ricketts, Nebraska Ag & Business Groups Applaud WOTUS Repeal

Thank you for sharing!

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**From:** Gage, Taylor [mailto:taylor.gage@nebraska.gov]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 27, 2017 3:37 PM  
**To:** Bennett, Tate <Bennett.Tate@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** FW: Media Release: Gov. Ricketts, Nebraska Ag & Business Groups Applaud WOTUS Repeal

Tate --

Our office just pushed this out.

Best,

**Taylor Gage**

*Director of Strategic Communications*

Office of Governor Pete Ricketts

OFFICE **Ex. 6**  
CELL **Ex. 6**

[taylor.gage@nebraska.gov](mailto:taylor.gage@nebraska.gov)

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**From:** Gage, Taylor  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 27, 2017 2:36 PM  
**To:** Gage, Taylor  
**Cc:** Maher, Eric; Kamm, Christin; 'Craig Head'  
**Subject:** Media Release: Gov. Ricketts, Nebraska Ag & Business Groups Applaud WOTUS Repeal



**Governor Pete Ricketts**

*Growing Nebraska for the Next Generation*

**For Immediate Release:  
2:35PM CT on June 27, 2017**

**Media Contacts:**

Taylor Gage, Governor's Office, Ex. 6

Craig Head, Nebraska Farm Bureau, Ex. 6

Christin Kamm, Ag Department, Ex. 6

*Media Release:*  
**Gov. Ricketts, Nebraska Ag & Business  
Groups Applaud WOTUS Repeal**

**LINCOLN** – Today, Governor Pete Ricketts and Nebraska agriculture and business groups applauded an announcement by Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator Scott Pruitt that the Trump Administration had finalized the repeal of the 2015 Waters of the U.S. (WOTUS) rule.

“Thank you to President Trump and Administrator Pruitt for delivering on your promise to roll back this job-killing regulation,” said Governor Ricketts. “This policy returns federal oversight of intra-state waterways to pre-2015 standards, respects the rights of private land owners and states, and provides for ample protection of clean water. Removing this threat to our state’s top industries gives Nebraska the freedom to grow more opportunities for the next generation in the areas of agriculture and manufacturing.”

“Today, countless farmers, ranchers, homebuilders, manufacturers, county governments, golf courses, and small businesses are loudly celebrating the demise of EPA’s proposed WOTUS rule,” said Steve Nelson of Axtell speaking on behalf of the Common Sense Nebraska coalition. “For over two years, our coalition which represents the very industries who would have had to bear the brunt of this federal land grab, have worked tirelessly to stop this breathtaking assumption of authority by the federal government that flies in the

face of Congressional intent, legal precedents, and even science. We want to thank the Trump Administration and EPA Administrator Pruitt specifically for now going back to the drawing board to write a new rule that actually protects water without trampling the rights of businesses and state regulatory agencies.”

“I applaud the Trump Administration and Secretary Pruitt’s announcement to walk away from the previous administration’s WOTUS rule and begin the process to develop a new rule,” said Nebraska Department of Agriculture Director Greg Ibach. “The expansive reach and inability to determine what water or land may fall under jurisdiction under the existing regulation puts Nebraska’s agriculture industry in jeopardy. Our farmers and ranchers have proven to be thoughtful stewards of our land and resources, and jurisdiction of those resources should be the responsibility of the states. I look forward to the development of a new rule, founded in common sense, that will support Nebraska’s ability to protect our water and land resources.”

### **About Common Sense Nebraska**

Common Sense Nebraska is a diverse, Nebraska-based coalition consisting of organizations and entities that have united in response to the EPA’s “Waters of the U.S.” rule, a regulatory proposal that would harm both rural and urban Nebraskans through expansion of the EPA’s powers and authorities under the federal Clean Water Act. The coalition’s purpose is to build awareness and understanding of the EPA proposal and the impacts it would have on Nebraskans. For more information visit Common Sense Nebraska on Facebook.

Common Sense Nebraska Coalition members include:

AKSARBEN Club Managers Association  
Association of General Contractors - NE Chapter

Farm Credit Services of America  
Iowa-Nebraska Equipment Dealers Association  
National Federation of Independent Businesses/Nebraska  
Nebraska Agribusiness Association  
Nebraska Association of County Officials  
Nebraska Association of Resource Districts  
Nebraska Bankers Association  
Nebraska Cattlemen  
Nebraska Chamber of Commerce and Industry  
Nebraska Cooperative Council  
Nebraska Corn Board  
Nebraska Corn Growers Association  
Nebraska Farm Bureau Federation  
Nebraska Golf Course Superintendents Association  
Nebraska Grain and Feed Association  
Nebraska Grain Sorghum Association  
Nebraska Grain Sorghum Board  
Nebraska Pork Producers Association  
Nebraska Poultry Industries  
Nebraska Rural Electric Association  
Nebraska Soybean Association  
Nebraska State Dairy Association  
Nebraska State Home Builders Association  
Nebraska State Irrigation Association  
Nebraska Water Resources Association  
Nebraska Wheat Board  
Nebraska Wheat Growers Association  
Nemaha Natural Resources District  
Pawnee County Rural Water District #1

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Taylor Gage

*Director of Strategic Communications*

Office of Governor Pete Ricketts

OFFICE Ex. 6

CELL Ex. 6

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