



April 13, 2015

The Honorable Bill Shuster
Chairman
Transportation and Infrastructure Committee
U.S. House of Representatives
2251 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Shuster:

The National Association of Wheat Growers (NAWG) is a federation of 22 state wheat grower associations that works to represent the needs and interests of wheat producers before Congress and federal agencies. Based in Washington, D.C., NAWG is grower-governed and grower-funded, and works in areas as diverse as federal farm policy, trade, environmental regulation, agricultural research and sustainability.

NAWG members are very concerned about the waters of the United States regulation issued by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) in April 2014. This regulation does not provide clarity to growers to allow them to understand which waters would be jurisdictional under the Clean Water Act. In addition, the broad provisions of the regulation and statements by EPA officials lead us to be very concerned about the broad reach of the proposal and efforts to bring additional waters under the jurisdiction of the Clean Water Act.

The National Association of Wheat Growers supports the Regulatory Integrity Protection Act of 2015. We believe this is important legislation to address the current Waters of the United States regulatory proposal by the EPA and the USACE. Your legislation would direct EPA and USACE to begin the process of developing a new regulation, with greater input and consultation with states and those affected by the regulation. We appreciate your work on this issue and look forward to working with you on this legislation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brett D Blankenship". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Brett Blankenship
President