



www.sd cattlemen.org

February 26, 2009

Dear Senator Johnson,

On behalf of the 1,000 beef producer members of the South Dakota Cattlemen's Association, I find it necessary to voice our support of a bi-partisan resolution introduced by Senator Murkowski (R-AK) and Blanche Lincoln (D-AR) that formally states the Senate's disapproval of the Environmental Protection Agency's plan to self-impose restrictions on greenhouse gas emissions.

We agree with Senator Thune's assessment that inaction by the Senate would "pave the way for expensive regulations of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases under the Clean Air Act." Such regulations would harm South Dakota's farmers and ranchers by exponentially increasing input costs without offsetting increases in revenue. In addition, the beef industry must be able to participate on a level playing field worldwide if we're to maximize our profitability and sustainability and EPA's proposed regulation would create international market disparities.

The EPA's plans would devastate South Dakota as well as every other state in the nation. The huge tax increases would harm already struggling families in South Dakota, not to mention the enormous number of jobs, nearly 8,800 in South Dakota, that would be lost if the EPA continues down this road. The additional regulations placed on farmers and ranchers will put the agricultural economy at high risk based on weak allegations.

We urge you Senator Johnson to join Senator Thune and Representative Herseth-Sandlin in supporting the Murkowski-Lincoln resolution that would block the EPA from moving forward with regulating carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases under the Clean Air Act.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bryan Nagel".

Bryan Nagel
President, South Dakota Cattlemen's Association
Cattle Feeder – Avon, SD