



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

DANIEL J FOREST LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

April 26, 2017

The Honorable Scott Pruitt
Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Ave NW
Washington, DC 20460

RE: Waters of the United States EPA Rules

Dear Mr. Pruitt,

It is with urgency that I ask your administration to repeal the Obama administration's EPA rules on the waters of the United States (WOTUS). I represent all of North Carolina as the elected Lieutenant Governor, and the current WOTUS rules, if they are allowed to go into effect, will cause great hardship on many citizens in North Carolina, especially those in our agriculture industry.

Agriculture is an industry in North Carolina that brings in over \$80 billion per year, and we have continued to see it grow over the last few years. We have a goal of making North Carolina a \$100 billion per year agriculture state within the very near future. However, the WOTUS rules and regulations would seriously hamper this effort. Especially east of the I-95 corridor, there would be little-to-no room for farm expansion based upon many of the models we have seen.

I couldn't agree more with your statement you made when ordering a review of these rules: "A few years ago, the EPA decided that navigable waters can mean nearly every puddle or every ditch on a farmer's land, or any place else that they decide. It was a massive power grab. The EPA's regulators are putting people out of jobs by the hundreds of thousands."

I encourage you, strongly, to repeal these rules following your administration's review.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dan Forest", written over a horizontal line.

Dan Forest
Lieutenant Governor of North Carolina

cc: Administrator Scott Pruitt, Senators Burr and Tillis, North Carolina's
Congressional Delegation