



415 Second St. NE, Suite 200 • Washington, D.C. 20002 • (202) 547-7800

Regulatory Reform

Like the owners of other small businesses, agricultural producers are tasked to comply with a wide variety of federal regulations. Since farmers are typically landowners or caretakers of land on behalf of their landlords, many of the regulations they interact with are related to our nation's natural resources – soil, air, water and wildlife habitats.

Farmers are quite conscious of what happens on their land – after all, they make their living on the land, they live on the land, they feed their families from the land and most hope their children will someday have the opportunity to continue the operations they have grown. Agricultural producers have a serious stake in the quality of our environment, but they also know the costs that come with duplicative regulations and new initiatives that would force them to change practices with dubious return on the investment.

NAWG is concerned about several recent regulatory proposals and executive branch activities that are not meeting Congressional intent and are not operating within a transparent, science based decision-making process. The Waters of the US regulation that does not provide clarity to growers, agency activities impacting the availability of crop protection tools that are not based on sound science, and agency actions that have been determined to be unlawful by Government Accountability Office. The Administrative Procedure Act, enacted in 1946, sets out the rulemaking process for executive branch agencies. After seventy years, the Act remains largely unchanged even though the range of regulatory proposals from the Federal government has escalated dramatically. The regulatory process should be reviewed to ensure that agencies are basing decisions on transparent actions and meeting Congressional intent.

NAWG Talking Points:

- Make regulatory reform a top priority during this Congress
- NAWG supports legislation to remove duplicative regulatory requirements for certain pesticide applications, and the requirement to obtain an NPDES permit.
- NAWG opposes the Waters of the US Regulation and supports legislative and administrative efforts to revise the regulation.
- NAWG supports a reasonable, workable Endangered Species Act consultation process for pesticide registration review.
- NAWG supports balanced agency registration and review of crop protection products that uses sound science and transparent procedures.
- NAWG supports the Regulations from Executives in Need of Scrutiny Act (REINS)

For more information, contact Keira Franz, kfranz@wheatworld.org

www.wheatworld.org