

May 2, 2017

President Donald J. Trump
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President,

We write today to express our gratitude and appreciation for the efforts of Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Scott Pruitt.

On April 25, Administrator Pruitt generously opened his doors to meet with representatives of North Dakota's rural electric cooperatives. Throughout the meeting, Mr. Pruitt demonstrated a strong understanding of our industry and the critical role electric cooperatives play in powering our nation's economy. We appreciated the positive and productive discussion regarding EPA's efforts to review rules impacting our coal-based generation fleet.

As a part of the meeting, we shared the major challenges we have experienced in recent years driven primarily by poorly designed regulations like the Clean Power Plan. We were facing the real possibility of making irreversible, irrevocable, and likely unwise decisions on the future of our generation assets. We believe with your direction and Administrator Pruitt's leadership, we will have the opportunity to continually improve our environmental performance while maintaining the affordable and reliable production of electricity that is so vital to our cooperative members.

In North Dakota, we have unique circumstances that require a detailed understanding of how regulations impact our facilities. After our meeting with Administrator Pruitt, we are convinced that EPA will work with our state to address our unique needs and provide much-needed certainty and stability in the regulatory processes. Continuing this open, constructive dialogue provides immeasurable benefits to both electric cooperatives and EPA.

While it is well-known that North Dakota is a national leader in energy production, it is also important to note that we are striving to lead in the development of next generation energy technologies. By supporting a rationale and reasonable regulatory framework, you are empowering us to continue pursuing these innovative technologies that will lead to

even better environmental stewardship. While we know the decisions you are required to make are difficult, we look forward to your administration's support as we work tirelessly to keep the lights on across rural America.

Your efforts matter.

Sincerely,



Mac McLennan
Minnkota Power Cooperative
President and CEO



Paul Sukut
Basin Electric Power Cooperative
CEO and General Manager

CC: Senator Heidi Heitkamp, Senator John Hoeven, Representative Kevin Cramer,
Governor Doug Burgum and Attorney General Wayne Stenehjem.