



STANDING FIRM AGAINST FEDERAL OVERREACH

EPA Regulations Would Limit Economic Growth and Impose Significant Burdens in South Dakota

Sen. Thune has helped lead the fight against overreaching federal regulations that the Biden administration has pursued without congressional input.

Highlights of Sen. Thune's Commitment to Limit Government Overreach

Strongly Opposes the "Waters of the U.S." or WOTUS Rule:

- The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) have continued their effort to expand the jurisdiction of the federal government to regulate water. Unfortunately, a new WOTUS rule could apply to a countless number of small wetlands, creeks, stock ponds, and ditches that are typically regulated at a state level.
- Such an overreach would have significant economic impacts for property owners who would likely be hit with new federal permits, compliance costs, and threats of significant fines.
- Sen. Thune [led the entire Senate Republican Conference](#) in urging the EPA and USACE to suspend the pending WOTUS rulemaking until the U.S. Supreme Court completes its consideration of *Sackett v. EPA*, a case that is expected to have major implications on Clean Water Act scope and enforcement.
- The letter also criticized how the regulatory overreach proposed by the WOTUS rule would "snarl American economic sectors in red tape" and impose significant uncertainty to a range of stakeholders, especially farmers and ranchers.

Protecting Ranchers from Cattle Emission Taxes:

- Sen. Thune introduced the commonsense, bipartisan [Livestock Regulatory Protection Act](#) to prohibit the EPA from issuing permits related to livestock emissions.
- This bipartisan bill would amend the Clean Air Act to prohibit the EPA from issuing permits for any carbon dioxide, nitrogen oxide, water vapor, or methane emissions resulting from biological processes associated with livestock production. This legislation is aimed to prevent a "cow tax" from being proposed by the EPA.