

TO: Administrator Pruitt
FROM: OCIR, OPA
CC: Ryan Jackson
RE: Alabama Travel (July 6th)
DATE: July 6, 2017

Purpose: Senator Luther Strange (R-AL) will host you at two locations in Alabama to tour a local power plant and farm to highlight recent actions taken on the Clean Power Plan and WOTUS. You and Senator Strange will deliver brief remarks at each location focusing on the benefits of withdrawing both rules. Alabama is an ideal location to visit given both locations close proximity to each other.

Attire: Dress shirt (no tie), blazer and slacks.

Note: Birmingham, Alabama is in the Central Time Zone

AGENDA

6:00AM EST- 7:41AM EST	FLY: ^{Ex. 6 / 7(c)} to ATL Ex. 6 / 7(c) <i>Record Locator: GI4ABH</i>
8:38AM EST- 8:30AM CST	FLY: ATL to BHM Ex. 6 / 7(c) <i>Record Locator: GI4ABH</i> Drive time to Plant Gaston: 52 minutes
10:00AM CST- 11:30AM CST	Clean Power Plan Event Plant Gaston 31972 Highway 25 Wilsonville, AL 10:15am: Plant Manager gives the safety briefing, introduces SVP of Generation Jim Heilbron 10:20am: Remarks: (Open press) -Audience Size: 150 -Heilbron gives a brief welcome, introduces Sen. Luther Strange -Sen. Strange gives brief welcome, introduces Administrator Pruitt -Pruitt addresses plant employees -Heilbron thanks Pruitt and Strange, dismisses audience *There will be no press Q&A, press will be located in the back of the room during the remarks. 10:45am: Begin tour of plant 11:30: Depart for Brentwood Farms Drive time to Brentwood Farm: 60 minutes

12:30PM CST- 1:45PM CST	<p>Alabama Farm Federation Event Brentwood Farm</p> <p>12:30PM: Lunch with Chip and Mistie Burkes (owners) Attendees: Senator Strange, Administrator Pruitt Jimmy Parnell (President, Alabama Farm Federation)</p> <p>12:55pm: Tour of Farm led by Chip and Mistie Burkes 1:00pm: Larger group arrives (additional guests of Burkes family, state board and local farmers invited by ALFA, guests identified by Pruitt and/or Strange)</p> <p>1:20pm: Remarks (Open Press) -Audience Size: 50 -Chip Burkes introduces Jimmy Parnell for remarks -Jimmy Parnell introduces Sen. Strange to offer remarks -Sen. Strange introduces Administrator Pruitt for remarks *There will be no press Q&A, press will be located in the back of the room during the remarks.</p> <p>1:45pm: Depart for airport</p> <p>Drive time to BHM: 55 minutes</p>
3:52PM CST- 6:57PM CST	<p>FLY: BHM to DTW Ex. 6 / 7(c) Record Locator: GI4ABH</p>
8:15PM CST- 9:50 PM EST	<p>FLY: DTW to Ex. 6 / 7(c) Ex. 6 / 7(c) Record Locator: GI4ABH</p>

PLANT GASTON—CPP EVENT

Plant Gaston

Background

- Total of five generating units
- 1,975 MWs of capacity—enough energy to serve about 250,000 homes
- Approximately two million tons of coal and 6 MCF of natural gas burned annually.

Environmental Enhancements

- Invested \$900 million in the following environmental controls.
- Projected to spend an additional \$350 million on additional land and water controls.
- Site of the *National Carbon Capture Center*, a DOE-sponsored research facility that accelerates the commercialization of advanced technologies to enable fossil fuel-based power plans to achieve near-zero emissions.

Workforce/Economic Impact

- 305 full-time employees (198 are part of the IBEW union).
- \$26 million annually in labor (including overtime)
- \$83 million annually in contract labor

Clean Power Plan Talking Points

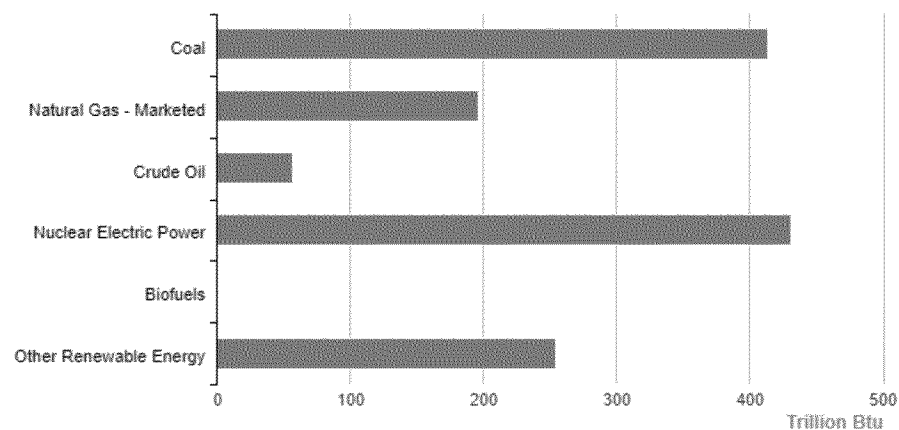
- Under the President Obama's Clean Power Plan, Alabama would have been required to hit a target reduction of 33%.
- On March 28, President Donald Trump signed the Executive Order on Energy Independence, which calls for a review of the Clean Power Plan.
- Subsequent to the President Trump's actions, I sent letters to state governors advising them that they are under no obligation to adhere to the Clean Power Plan rule.

Alabama Energy Snapshot

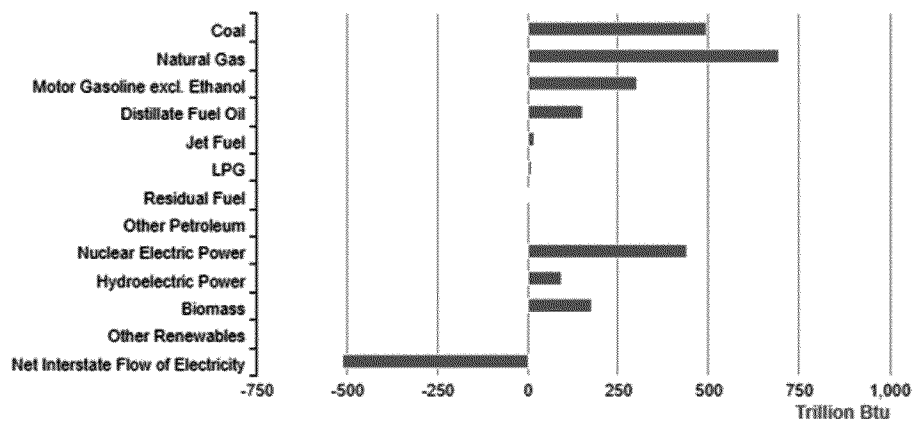
- The electric power sector is the largest consumer of natural gas in Alabama, accounting for 63% of consumption in 2016.
- In 2016, the port of Mobile, Alabama, handled the second-largest tonnage of U.S. coal imports, as well as the third-largest tonnage of coal exports (mostly coking coal used in steelmaking).

Alabama Energy Production Estimates, 2014

 [DOWNLOAD](#)



Source: Energy Information Administration, State Energy Data System



BRENTWOOD FARMS—WOTUS EVENT

Brentwood Farms

- A 625-acre farm that is owned and operated by Chip and Mistie Burkes
- The Burkes family has owned the property for approximately raise more than 350 head of Simmental and Sim-Angus cattle.

Waters of the US Talking Points

- We are taking significant action to return power to the states and provide regulatory certainty to our nation's farmers and businesses.
- This is the first step in the two-step process to redefine 'waters of the U.S.' and we are committed to moving through this re-evaluation to quickly provide regulatory certainty, in a way that is thoughtful, transparent and collaborative with other agencies and the public.

TO: ADMINISTRATOR PRUITT
FROM: OCIR, OPE
SUB: ORANGEBERG, SC VISIT ON WOTUS (4th Stop on Tour)
DATE: JULY 24, 2017

Super Sod is a sod farm agribusiness in Orangeburg, SC. There will be a short tour and subsequent roundtable followed by a media availability organized by OPA and Ag Commissioner Hugh Weathers (see line by line). Ag Commissioner Hugh Weathers will conduct the roundtable. Attendee list and talkers below.

ATTENDEES

Commissioner Hugh Weathers	Mac Rhodes - farmer
Attorney General Alan Wilson (tentative)	Danny Mixon - Mixon Seed Company
Senator Lindsey Graham	Delbert Foster - SC State University
Congressman Joe Wilson	Tom Dobbins - Clemson University
Jim Roquemore - Super Sod	Mark Nix - SC Homebuilders
Harry Ott - SC Farm Bureau	Bradley O'Neil - Coosaw Farms
Chalmers Carr - Titan Farms	Lydia Yon - Yon Farms
Mike Couick - SC Electric Co-ops	Tommy Lavender - Nexsen Pruet
Kenny Jackson - SCANA	Ted Pitts - SC Chamber of Commerce
Walter Dantzler - farmer	Lewis Gossett - SC Manufacturers Alliance
Bubba Flowers - farmer	Diane Denton - Duke Energy

WOTUS TOUR TOPLINE MESSAGES

- This is my fourth stop on my WOTUS tour in one week.
- Reviewing WOTUS is a top priority for this Administration.
- This is the first step in the two-step process to redefine 'waters of the U.S.'
- We are committed to moving through this re-evaluation to quickly provide regulatory certainty, in a way that is thoughtful, transparent and collaborative.
- EPA and the Administration are committed to keeping waters pollution free, promoting economic growth and minimizing regulatory uncertainty for Congress, state, local and tribal governments; as well as farmers, ranchers and property owners.
- The 2015 definition developed by the Obama Administration in the Clean Water Rule created regulatory uncertainty, threatened economic growth and did not make our water any cleaner.

TALKING POINTS: OKLAHOMA JULY 26–28

WOTUS

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WOTUS Oklahoma

- Oklahoma is home to 78,000 farms covering 34.2 million acres of land, with the average farm sizing in at 438 acres.¹
- Oklahoma is No. 1 for rye, No. 2 for beef cows and winter wheat, and No. 4 for pecans
- The economic impact of agriculture in Oklahoma is \$7.1B year²
- According to the OKFB the 2015 WOTUS Rule would have vastly expanded EPA jurisdiction by giving the agency authority over creek beds, ponds and even ditches

RFS

- EPA is proposing volume requirements under the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) program for 2018 for cellulosic biofuel, biomass-based diesel, advanced biofuel, and total renewable fuel, and biomass-based diesel for 2019 under the Renewable Fuels Program (RFS).
- The EPA is committed to successfully administering the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) consistent with the direction entrusted to this agency by Congress.
- Successful implementation provides certainty to our domestic refiners, the agriculture community and broader fuels industry that all play an important role in the RFS program.
- Increased fuel security is an important component of the path towards energy dominance.
- The agency is on track to meet the November 30th statutory deadline to make today's proposed Renewable Volume Obligations (RVOs) final.
- The agency is proposing and will finalize volumes consistent with market realities focusing on actual production and respective of the continued challenges that exist in bringing advanced biofuels into the marketplace.
- The agency is also taking comment on addressing concerns that some RFS obligations are increasingly met with imported fuel from Brazil, Argentina and Indonesia.
- Additionally, the agency is assessing higher levels of E0 (ethanol-free gasoline) and bolstering an existing MOU with the Commodity Future Trading Commission (CFTC) to analyze and address a host of market concerns, including the need for increased transparency.
- Finally, the Clean Air Act requires EPA to "reset" the volume targets that Congress originally laid out when certain conditions are met. Those conditions are likely to be met in the near future, and EPA will begin conducting technical analysis now that will inform future reset rules.

Livestock Methane

Talking Points

- This issue affects farmers, meat and poultry growers across the country
- This is a cooperative federalism issue as local communities and industries have resources and solutions to address livestock methane emissions in ways that work for them because different manure treatment and storage methods affect how much of these greenhouse gases are produced.

¹ Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry

² National Agricultural Statistics Service

Background

- EPA sought a six month delay of the CERCLA mandate requiring facilities to report hazardous substances when they exceed certain thresholds
- Under the 2008 rule the CERCLA provisions exempted from the reporting requirements all air releases of hazardous substances exceeding reportable quantities from animal waste at farms. The EPCRA reporting exemption was similar but applied only to farms housing fewer animals than the thresholds for large concentrated animal feeding operations or “CAFOs.”
- A stay is needed for EPA to develop guidance for farms on how to measure emissions of hazardous substances from animal waste into the air in order to report releases of the substances exceeding threshold levels in compliance with CERCLA and EPCRA
- Waterkeeper petitioners have 10 days to file a response (July 27), and then our reply would be due 7 days later (August 3). The Court would rule sometime after that.
- The earliest we could get a ruling would be August 4, but more likely in the second or third weeks of August. The mandate will not issue until our motion is disposed of, at the earliest.

Regional Haze

Talking Points

- We’re committed to preserving cooperative federalism – working with the state of Oklahoma to ensure clean air
- I want to work with Oklahoma to ensure all Okies live in areas that meet stringent air quality standards
- EPA is working with Oklahoma to provide proactive technical support to insure that the state is set up for long-term success

Background

- The Regional Haze Rule implements sections 169A and 169B of the Clean Air Act by setting out the requirements that states must follow when submitting plans to protect visibility in 156 national parks and wilderness areas.
 - There are **three** national parks in Oklahoma
- The regional haze provisions of the CAA require certain listed major stationary sources of air pollution to install the “best available retrofit technology” (BART) for “any air pollutant which may reasonably be anticipated to cause or contribute to any impairment of visibility in any” federal Class I areas.
- EPA had disapproved of Oklahoma’s SIP and imposed a FIP
- The State of Texas with Oklahoma as a party, filed a petition to review challenging the regional haze FIP
- In July 2015 the US Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit stayed the EPA’s regional haze rule
- In granting the petitioners’ motion for stay, the court found that petitioners had a likelihood of success in establishing that the EPA acted arbitrarily, capriciously, and in excess of its statutory authority when it disapproved the Texas and Oklahoma implementation plans and imposed a federal implementation plan.
- In March 2017, the 5th circuit left the stay in place and now, under the new administration, EPA is working with Oklahoma and Texas to work to implement SIPs that better reflect state needs.
- EPA is working with Oklahoma and providing proactive technical support to insure that the state is set up for long-term success

Wild Fires

- Farming and ranching is a way of life in Western Oklahoma and this spring wildfires threatened the livelihood of so many
- In March, cattlemen, farmers, ranchers and property owners in Beaver, Harper and Woodward counties were hit with devastating wildfires
- Three separate wildfires burned hundreds of thousands of acres of NWOK
- farmers and ranchers lost over 3000 head of cattle and 1000 miles of fencing in NWOK
- on April 4, USDA, in response to a directive from President Trump, authorized emergency grazing on Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) lands located in Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas of cattle by ranchers who are facing the ruination of their herds due to lack of sufficient grazing land.

Travel

- Since beginning this job, I have made it a priority to get out of DC and hear directly from the American people. I have been to more than 15 states in just 5 months, met with governors – both Republican and Democrat, stakeholders, and citizens.
- The report was put out by the Environmental Integrity Project – an alt-EPA group, made up of Obama administration officials who clearly have an agenda.
- Last time I checked, Oklahoma is a state too, with citizens' voices that similarly deserve to be heard. [Insert State that he's been to more than once and say that he doesn't see anyone reporting on any of those trips, which have been really productive trips, actually] It's simple: when a trip is official, it's official. When the trip is for personal reasons, I pay for those out of my own pocket, as I have done.
- I have not been back in Oklahoma since early June.
- I fully refute the story that accuses me of being a "part-time cabinet secretary" and spending "half of spring in my home state."
 - The more than 30 regulatory actions we have taken would not be possible if I was working part-time.
 - The story is counting weekends as well as Fridays when I would fly out in the evening and Mondays when I would take the first flight out to DC.
- This is not anything new for a cabinet member to do. Previous EPA Administrators used the same practices, as do other current cabinet secretaries.
- My wife and kids have still been living in Tulsa. During that 3-month period, my son was a senior in high school and my daughter was gearing up to graduate college. [Don't think this is necessary. Seems to argue for why he would want to find reasons to go home. Also don't want to open the door to them asking about his personal life]

Emails

- It's unfortunate that this continues to a topic of discussion. I have been truthful and transparent from the beginning. [I voluntarily gave The Oklahoma Attorney General's office has all of my personal emails, and of course they have both OAG accounts.
- I don't want to get into specifics of the bar complaint, but it is clear there are political motives behind it. I'm committed to doing my job – to serve the President as EPA Administrator, and that is what I'm focused on.

Future political run

- Really, it's mind-boggling to me that it is still a question of whether or not I'm running for governor. Yes, I went through a grueling confirmation process, packed up and moved to DC...all to run for Governor. I guess I should be flattered...but no, if I were to run for governor I would've had no reason to come to DC to run the EPA. The President asked me to serve in this capacity and I'm committed to doing that.
- I have not even thought about what's next. A year ago, I never would've said I'd be EPA Administrator and here I am.

To: JWingerter@oklahoman.com[JWingerter@oklahoman.com]
From: Ferguson, Lincoln
Sent: Thur 7/27/2017 5:36:34 PM
Subject: Interview

Justin-

Here are some points/background for the interview today. We would like to focus on the State Action Tour/WOTUS...but obviously happy to discuss other issues as well.

Thanks!

- Administrator Pruitt is in Oklahoma for his State Action Tour. He has spent the last few weeks and will continue throughout August visiting states across the country, to hear directly from citizens, stakeholders, Governors and leaders how EPA can partner with the states to achieve environmental stewardship.
- The focus of discussions in Oklahoma will be on the 'Waters of the United States' Rule (WOTUS)
- Administrator Pruitt will travel to the Oklahoma panhandle on Thursday to see firsthand the devastating effects this rule has on rural America.
- He will also have a meeting to receive input from Governor Fallin, DEQ, Sec. of Ag and Sec. of Environment on Friday.
- State Action Tour stops completed: Utah, Minnesota, Arkansas, South Carolina
- This all goes hand-in-hand with the new EPA's Back to Basics agenda: bringing the agency back to its core mission.

- Back to Basics Agenda: Focusing our efforts on ways to be good stewards of our natural resources. Ensuring our air, land and water are protected, without placing unnecessary burden/harm on Americans.

- Regulatory certainty: Administrator Pruitt has taken nearly 30 significant regulatory actions since beginning this role (WOTUS, CPP, CRR, CAFE standards etc)

Sent from my iPhone

Administrator Pruitt

Set arrival time:

Arrival logistics: Arrive at Lyon Street entrance of DeVos place. Map below. Any vehicles can stay on Lyon Street. He will be greeted by President Bednarski and Sara Miller, Event Specialist

DeVos head of security contact: Cheryl Platschorre, Personal Phone/Ex. 6

On-site contact: Sara Miller Personal Phone/Ex. 6 (cell)

Would like him to be in the audience for the President's lunch, starting at 11:30 a.m. if possible

In prior years, the Governor has had the opportunity to 'work' the room with President Bednarski and talk with members. The Governor will not be arriving in time this year, if Administrator Pruitt would like to take on that roll. In the event that the Governor will arrive early, we can arrange time for the two of them to meet with President Bednarski in the remote security office.

Schedule of events:

Presidents lunch: 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. (Ballroom BCD)

- Availability to 'work' the room with President Bednarski
- Eat lunch with board members and listen to remarks

Move after lunch to Opening Delegate Session: 1:15 p.m. (Ballroom A); will be held back stage

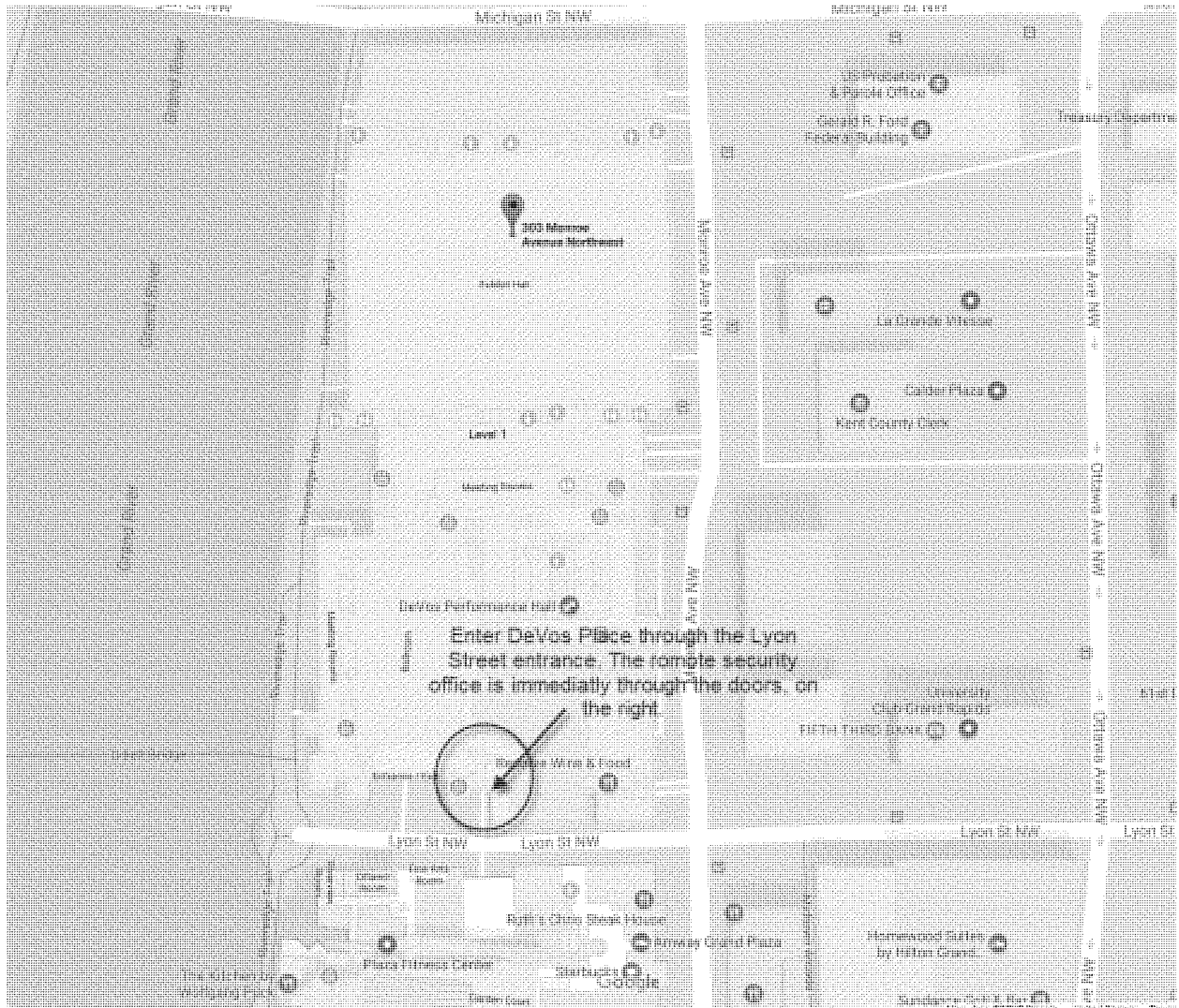
- Call to order
- Flag presentation/National Anthem
- Invocation
- Carl opens session, and rolls WOTUS video
- Carl introduced Administrator Pruitt (scripting below)
- Administrator Pruitt will be called on stage (approximately 1:20- 1:45 p.m. depending on how quickly we can get the session started)
- How long do you anticipate him to speak? Right now, we have scripting for approximately 20 min.
- We will not allow Q/A from the floor
- Immediately following his remarks, we will move back to ballroom BCD for Press availability.

Additional questions:

1. Contact info for on-site team:
2. Do you need any special press clearance?
3. Media style preference? Scrum or mic/Press feed?
4. Any background info on those on stage?
5. Additional security needs?
6. Any special meal requirements?
7. Box lunches for detail with Administrator?

Additional details:

1. Approximately 660 people will be in attendance at President's lunch (ballroom BCD)
2. 421 Delegates will be on the floor, and additional seating in the balcony for 90 people (ballroom A)
3. Business attire



OPENING DELEGATE SESSION

TUES, NOV 28, 2017

DEVOS - A 1:15 P.M. – 5:00 P.M

(ON STAGE, CARL BEDNARSKI, SCOTT PIGGOTT, JIM ROBINSON, ANDY KOK, DAVID BAKER, MIKE FUSILIER, ERIN HUMM - CHAIRPERSON OF THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE, DON SOMERS– CHAIRPERSON OF THE RULES COMMITTEE, KATIE PUNG AND AMANDA BEARD, THE AMERICAN FLAG IS IN THE BACK WITH COLOR GUARD & FB VETERANS READY TO CARRY IT TO THE STAGE.)

(BLANK AMENDMENT FORM AT BEDNARSKI'S PODIUM)

(SHADES OF GRAY QUARTET NEEDS HANDHELD MIC FOR SINGING OF THE NATIONAL ANTHEM – OFF STAGE LEFT)

(1:15 P.M. -- CARL BEDNARSKI GOES TO LECTERN) BEDNARSKI: (TAPS THE GAVEL THREE TIMES)

At this time, it is my pleasure to call the 98th annual meeting of the Michigan Farm Bureau to order. During the next three days, we will have the opportunity to discuss a variety of issues that will affect our farms, local communities, our state and nation. This is a culmination of a process that began with your county policy development committees and you are encouraged to be an active participant in this process. Our Farm Bureau will only improve with your active participation.

Next, I'd like to welcome the Junior ROTC from Union High School here in Grand

Rapids and the following veterans that are serving as delegates today:

Jared Greenia – St. Clair County

Scott Anderson – Branch County

to present the flags on stage to begin our annual meeting. Once they are in position, Kent County member Ron Thomet, Bud Kraft, Al Smith and RT Williams of the Shades of Gray quartet will lead us in the singing of the national anthem.

(FLAGS ARE PRESENTED IN FRONT OF STAGE, SHADES OF GRAY QUARTET ENTERS BEHIND THE FLAGS & NATIONAL ANTHEM SUNG)

BEDNARSKI:

Thank you Gentlemen.

(QUARTET EXITS STAGE)

Living in the United States, we certainly are the land of the free and the home of the brave. We wouldn't be able to enjoy those freedoms if it weren't for the sacrifices of those who have served in the armed forces. At this time, I would like to ask anyone that has served or is currently serving in the military to please stand so that we can show our appreciation and thank you for your service to our country.

(LEAD APPLAUSE – COLOR GUARD EXITS)

Thank you.

At this time, I would like to call upon Mike Fusilier who serves on the Michigan Farm

Bureau Board as District three director from Washtenaw County to lead us in the pledge of allegiance and an invocation to begin our meeting.

***FUSILIER GOES TO LECTERN TO LEAD PLEDGE FOLLOWED BY INVOCATION.
BEDNARSKI RETURNS TO PODIUM.)***

BEDNARSKI:

Thank you Mike.

We are going to break away from our normal delegate floor activities to extend a heartfelt welcome to someone that traveled a great distance to be with us today and provide an update for us on key national issues. Please direct your attention to the screen to learn more.

(ROLL PRUITT VIDEO)

With us today is the 14th Administrator for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Scott Pruitt.

Administrator Pruitt believes that promoting and protecting a strong and healthy environment is among the lifeblood priorities of the government, and that EPA is vital to that mission.

As Administrator, Mr. Pruitt's overarching goal is to lead EPA in a way that our future generations inherit a better and healthier environment as he works with the thousands of dedicated public servants at EPA who have devoted their careers to helping realize this shared vision, while faithfully administering environmental laws.

Prior to becoming the EPA Administrator, Pruitt served as Oklahoma's Attorney General for a number of years and led the fight to settle a historic water rights dispute between

Oklahoma, Oklahoma City and the Choctaw and Chickasaw Tribal Nations that preserved the ecosystems of scenic lakes and rivers on native lands.

Pruitt became a national leader through a career of advocating to keep power in the hands of hard-working Americans. He has a proven track record of working with others – including industry, farmers, ranchers, landowners and small business owners - who want to do the right thing by the environment.

Please join me in welcoming EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt to make some remarks to the delegate body.

Administrator Pruitt...

(LEAD APPLAUSE)

(PRUITT MAKES REMARKS FROM THE PODIUM, AT CONCLUSION, BEDNARSKI RETURNS TO PODIUM)

Thank you Administrator Pruitt for joining us today to kick off our policy session. Never before has a federal official of your stature taken the time to attend our annual policy session and we want to once again thank you for doing so... **(APPLAUSE)** Good luck continuing to represent the interests of farmers in your work.

Now, on to the delegate session...

Notice of our meeting must be sent to the county Farm Bureaus as a legal requirement of our organization. Andy Kok, our secretary is on stage and he advises me that this notice was mailed in accordance with the organization's bylaws and an affidavit to that effect is on file in the official records of the company.

The Credentials and Rules Committees have been appointed, and these committees have met and are now ready to present their reports.

(CHAIRPERSON HUMM GOES TO LECTERN)

The members of the Credentials Committee are **Chairperson Erin Humm from Gratiot County and committee members are Daryl Griner from Cass County and Greg Whitaker from Cheboygan County.**

Erin, would you please present the report of the Credentials Committee at this time?

(BEDNARSKI IS SEATED. WHEN THE REPORT IS CONCLUDED, HUMM RETURNS TO SEAT AND BEDNARSKI CONTINUES.)

BEDNARSKI:

Thank you, **Erin**. There is a motion to accept the report of the Credentials Committee. Is there a second? All in favor of the motion say aye, opposed, no. Motion carries.

There being a quorum of accredited voting delegates, and so reported, I now declare this meeting an official session. We are now ready to hear the report from the Rules Committee.

Don Somers from **Shiawassee** County Farm Bureau serves as the chairman of the rules committee. The other Committee members are:

Matt Mokma from Allegan County Farm Bureau and

Kristi Keilen from Clinton County Farm Bureau

Don, would you please present the Rules Committee report.

(SOMERS GOES TO LECTERN; BEDNARSKI IS SEATED. WHEN THE REPORT IS COMPLETED, SOMERS RETURNS TO SEAT AND BEDNARSKI GOES BACK TO LECTERN.)

BEDNARSKI:

Thank you, Don.

There is a motion to adopt the report of the Rules Committee. Is there a second? Any discussion? All in favor of the motion please say aye, opposed no. Motion carries.

Thank you, members of the Credentials and Rules Committees, for your assistance.

(COMMITTEE CHAIRS LEAVE THE STAGE. COMPANY MANAGERS SHOULD BE NEAR THE STAGE TO BE INTRODUCED TO THE DELEGATES.)

Andy Kok will be serving as our parliamentarian for the delegate sessions during our annual meeting. Andy is the General Counsel and Secretary for Michigan Farm Bureau.

We will now proceed with the reading of the minutes from the 2016 Annual Meeting, unless there is a motion to dispense with the reading and approve them as written. Is there such a motion? A second? All those in favor, say aye, opposed, no. Motion carries.

At this time, it would be appropriate for the delegates to ratify the actions of the board of directors and officers during the past year and for the president to be given authority to appoint the necessary committees for any special or annual meeting of this organization during the coming year. Is there such a motion? A second?

Now, I would like to introduce the managers of the Michigan Farm Bureau Family of Companies.

Scott Piggott is the **Chief Executive Officer** of **Michigan Farm Bureau**,

David Baker is the **Treasurer** of **Michigan Farm Bureau and Farm Bureau Insurance**,

And finally, **Jim Robinson**, serves as the **Chief Executive Officer** of **Farm Bureau Insurance**.

Thank you for being in attendance at the annual meeting today. The members of the Michigan Farm Bureau appreciate your efforts and dedication and we look forward to your participation.

I'd like to introduce two other people on stage who have an important role in the successful administration of our annual meeting.

They are **Amanda Beard**, who serves as executive assistant to the Michigan Farm Bureau Legal Department and **Katie Pung**, the Executive Assistant to the President. They will be taking the minutes of our meeting.

Last but not least, please help me show our appreciation to Farm Bureau Insurance for sponsoring the Koffee Klatcheteria and the snacks provided at each delegate table, as well as their tremendous financial support of the Michigan Farm Bureau Annual Meeting.

(PAUSE AND LEAD APPLAUSE.....)

If you were at lunch, you heard that our current Chief Executive Officer of Farm Bureau Insurance will retire in June. Jim Robinson has served in that capacity for the last 13 years and has presented an update on our insurance company every year at our annual meeting. Many of you in the delegate body may have enjoyed working with him in any one of his previous roles, but I can certainly tell you that your board of directors has appreciated all of Jim's initiatives during his tenure. Since Jim took over as CEO in December 2004 here are some of the financial accomplishments for growth:

- Total Assets of the Insurance Companies increased by over 70% to just under \$4 billion at \$3.96 billion.
- Total Capital and Surplus of the Insurance Companies increased by over 130% from \$492 million to \$1.1 billion.
- Life Insurance In force increased by over 100% from \$8.2 billion to \$17.2 billion.
- Property Casualty Direct Written Premium exceeded \$750 million in 2016, an increase of over 40% under Jim's leadership.

On a side note, Jim is looking forward in retirement to getting closer to his goal of sharing 1,000 sunsets over Lake Michigan with his family at their lake house in South Haven.

At this time, I'd like to ask Jim Robinson to present his last report to the delegate body.
Jim...

(ROBINSON TO LECTERN, BEDNARSKI IS SEATED.)

ROBINSON REPORT

(AFTER ROBINSON REPORT, BEDNARSKI RETURNS TO LECTERN, ROBINSON REMAINS FOR QUESTIONS.)

BEDNARSKI:

Thank you, Jim. Are there any questions?

Let's thank Jim for his report and more importantly, his 42 years of dedicated service to the members of Michigan Farm Bureau.

The chair will entertain a motion to accept the report from Farm Bureau Insurance. A second? Any discussion? All those in favor say aye, opposed, no. Motion carried. (rap gavel)

(ROBINSON EXITS THE STAGE)

Those who are annual meeting veterans know this week's priority focus is on policy development.

(PD COMMITTEE ENTERS STAGE)

While the Policy Development Committee members are getting to their seats, I'd like to take a moment to thank all of our members who took time this year to participate in our grassroots policy process. I had the privilege of attending many of your county annual meetings this fall, and I was very impressed with the quality of the issue discussion and debate.

I'd now like to introduce a key player in that process – Michigan Farm Bureau's **Vice President, Andy Hagenow**.

Andy is serving his sixth year as chairman of the State Policy Development Committee. He and his wife, Char, operate a livestock and cropping operation near Rockford, here in Kent County.

(PD POWERPOINT 17 GOES ON SCREEN)

At this time, I will ask Andy to introduce the members of the 2017 Policy Development Committee.

(BEGIN SLIDE SHOW – ADVANCE TO SLIDE 2) ANDY HAGENOW:

Thank you, President Bednarski. It has been my privilege to work with the members of the Policy Development Committee. On behalf of the Farm Bureau members, I'd like to say thank you to these individuals who have invested their time and knowledge in the formation of the policies we will present this week.

I would ask them to please stand as I call their names. Representing **district one** from **Van Buren County** is **Art Thomas**.

From **Jackson County** and representing **district two** is **Jill Sears**.

District three's representative is **Carl Graham** from **Wayne County**.

Brad Lubbers of **Allegan County** serves as the member from **district four**, and is also the vice chairman of our committee.

And **district five's** representative is **John Forell** of **Eaton County**.

Rob Haag from **Huron County** represents **district six**

Scott Henry of **Newaygo County** represents **district seven**.

From **Saginaw County** and representing **district eight** is **Teresa Crook**.

Dean Smallegan of **Missaukee County** represents **district nine**, and representing **district ten** from

Otsego County is Larry Nowak.

From the **Upper Peninsula** is the **district eleven** committee member, **Scot Menke** of **Menominee County**.

Serving in **at-large** positions are **Helen Dietrich** of **Ottawa County**, **Laurie Laing** of **Calhoun County**, and **Will Wilson** from **Shiawassee County**.

Three members represent the state young farmer committee. They are **Mitch Bigelow** of **Bay County**, **Nathan Engelhard** of **Tuscola County** and **Caleb Stewart** from **Clinton County**.

Three members represent the **MFB Board**. They are **Doug Darling** of **Monroe County**, **Brigitte Leach** of **Kalamazoo County**, and I serve as the final board member and chair of the committee.

These volunteers worked hard sifting through over 750 recommendations that were acted upon at county Farm Bureau annual meetings. We're proud to present the final product of that grassroots policy development process for your consideration this week.

Please join me in showing the committee our appreciation for the many days and hours of work they have already put in.

(APPLAUSE)

(BEDNARSKI RETURNS TO LECTERN, HAGENOW REMAINS AT THE SECOND PODIUM.) BEDNARSKI:

Thank you **Andy** and members of the Policy Development Committee. Your efforts are most appreciated.

In the rules approved, we have agreed to a two-minute time limit for debate by delegates. I would call your attention to the red light here in the front of the room, which will serve as a timer. When the red light comes on, please conclude your remarks.

Also, please remember to identify yourself and indicate your county before you speak.

If you are currently on the delegate floor, you are probably already aware of this, but you'll note we have one common entry point where assigned staff are verifying that you have your name badge and delegate badge, signifying you are a properly registered delegate. That process will be followed the entire week – so make sure you have the delegate badge – if you don't, please visit with your respective delegate chair.

If you are not a delegate and you want to sit and listen to delegate session, feel free head to the upper level via stairs or elevator and watch from above.

And finally, before we begin consideration of resolutions this afternoon, I'd like to introduce the staff to my left who will be doing the screen work and taking care of your amendments.

Please help me recognize **Andrena Reid**, **Dennie Olson** and **Melissa Palma** and **Corina Salinaz** behind the curtain who will be processing your amendment forms. Thank you in advance for your help this week.

(BLANK AMENDMENT FORM AT BEDNARSKI'S PODIUM) BEDNARSKI:

As we begin to work on our proposed policies, I want to make the delegates aware of how the process will work.

I suggest you follow along in the book until a change from the floor is made and then use the screen to clarify the change. Proposed language made by the policy development committee will be underlined, just as in the resolution book.

Language that was removed by the policy development committee will have a line through it, just as in the book.

When an amendment or change is suggested from the floor, the operators will make the change on the screen and it will appear in blue and either double underlined or double strike through.

Changes that are only two or three words can be made from the floor. If you are suggesting an amendment that is more than five words, or a substitute resolution, we request that you write it out on the amendment form at your tables **(hold one up, attached)**.

It is very important that changes be clearly printed so our computer operators can enter the exact language you will be proposing. Once you complete the form, remove the pink copy for yourself and give the rest of the form to an MFB staff member seated on standby **(ask assigned staff members to raise their hand)**.

We ask that you anticipate changes before the resolution is taken under consideration by the delegate body and turn in your forms at least four resolutions prior to the one you are proposing to change.

This will give the computer operators a chance to enter it before you present the change to the delegate body, which will help with the flow of our session.

Some of you have asked for more guidance on parliamentary procedure and Roberts

Rules of Order. In the front inside cover of your delegate book you find a summary of common motions and how to use them. Also, feel free to talk to any of the Farm Bureau staff if you have questions about how to make motions in this process and they can help you.

Again this year, we will be using electronic voting devices. Throughout the session I may request the use of the devices to expedite the voting process. This will not replace the voice vote but may replace the hand vote if needed. When an electronic vote is requested you will see a yes or no on the screen.

1 will be a “yes” vote and 2 will be “no.”

You can begin voting when I say “vote now.” There will be a 15 second time limit and you can change your vote during those 15 seconds if needed. Let’s test the clickers now.

(BEDNARSKI - DIRECT ATTENTION TO THE SCREENS WHERE A SLIDE WILL APPEAR)

BEDNARSKI:

Here’s the question I would like you to vote yes or no on to test our clickers?
Is this your first Michigan Farm Bureau annual meeting serving as a delegate?
Press 1 for yes, 2 for no, vote now.
(Results will be shown after the 15 second timer.)

Now, it is time to start our policy considerations.

Andy would you please begin these proceedings?

(HAGENOW APPROACHES PODIUM TO BEGIN THE PD PROCESS)

(AT 4:20 PM – ACMOODY AND KUTCHEY MOVE TO STAGE LEFT TO BE INTRODUCED ON STAGE)

(AT APPROXIMATELY 4:30 P.M. BEDNARSKI MAKES THE FOLLOWING INTRODUCTION TO GIVE A REPORT ON THE STATE STUDY COMMITTEE)

At last year's annual meeting, the delegates requested a Study Committee be appointed to review our entire organization and provide recommendations to next year's Council of President's Conference, to do so, I have appointed Amanda Kutchey from Macomb County and Brian Acmoody from Branch to co-chair the committee, and I thought it would be important for them to give you an update on their progress.

(KUTCHEY AND ACMOODY TAKE THE PODIUM)

(HECK, BLIGHT, HOLLINGER AND TOP SIX YOUTH AND COLLEGIATE DISCUSSION MEET FINALISTS STANDBY)

BEDNARSKI:

Before we close, I'd like to welcome the Michigan Farm Bureau Youth and Collegiate Discussion Meet competitors in the audience and call Chris Heck, State Young Farmer Committee member, to the stage for an award presentation.

HECK:

Thank you, President Bednarski. From blue corduroy jackets to suit and ties, polished opening statements to intelligent solutions, we've spent this morning and afternoon watching some of the state's best and brightest young leaders compete in the Youth and Collegiate Discussion Meet. Seeing them in action, it's evident we grow informed

advocates and passionate leaders. It's my pleasure to introduce our top six competitors. I'd like to ask State Young Farmer Committee member Afton Blight to bring our finalists on stage.

Please hold your applause until all students have been introduced.

(BLIGHT ESCORTS TOP SIX YOUTH DISCUSSION MEET FINALISTS ONSTAGE IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER, BLIGHT SHAKES EACH PERSON'S HAND AS THEY ARE INTRODUCED)

_____ from _____ County

_____ from _____ County

_____ from _____ County

_____ from _____ County

_____ from _____ County, and

_____ from _____ County

Let's give all our Youth Discussion Meet finalists a round of applause!

(PAUSE & LEAD APPLAUSE)

Ladies and gentlemen, our 2017 State Youth Discussion Meet runner up is:

_____ from _____ County

(BLIGHT SHAKES HAND, PRESENTS PLAQUE AND POSES FOR PHOTO WITH RUNNER UP)

And our 2017 State Youth Discussion Meet winner is:

_____ from _____ County

(PAUSE & LEAD APPLAUSE)

(BLIGHT SHAKES HAND, PRESENTS PLAQUE AND POSES FOR PHOTO WITH WINNER AND THEY EXIT THE STAGE)

Now, for our college students. It's my pleasure to introduce our top six Collegiate Farm Bureau Discussion Meet competitors. Gy Hollinger will you please escort our top six finalist to the stage. Please hold applause until all students have been introduced.

(HOLLINGER ESCORTS TOP SIX YOUTH DISCUSSION MEET FINALISTS ONSTAGE IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER, HOLLINGER SHAKES EACH PERSON'S HAND AS THEY ARE INTRODUCED)

_____ from _____ County

_____ from _____ County

_____ from _____ County

_____ from _____ County

_____ from _____ County, and

_____ from _____ County

Let's give all our Collegiate Discussion Meet finalists a round of applause!

(PAUSE & LEAD APPLAUSE)

Ladies and gentlemen, our 2017 State Collegiate Discussion Meet runner up is:

_____ from _____ County

(HOLLINGER SHAKES HAND, PRESENTS PLAQUE AND POSES FOR PHOTO WITH RUNNER UP)

And our 2017 State Collegiate Discussion Meet winner is:

_____ from _____ County

(PAUSE & LEAD APPLAUSE)

(HOLLINGER SHAKES HAND, PRESENTS PLAQUE AND POSES FOR PHOTO WITH WINNER AND EXITS STAGE)

Congratulations to all our contestants. I'll pass things back to President Bednarski to wrap up our first delegate session.

BEDNARSKI:

(MAKES THE CLOSING ANNOUNCEMENTS TO ADJOURN FOR RECEPTION AND ANNUAL BANQUET)

Just a few announcements before we close our first delegate session.

Be sure to enjoy the reception prior to tonight's banquet in Exhibit Hall B and check out our Young Farmer Excellence Award Winners Kevin and Sarah Messing's presentation in Grand Gallery Room F at 5:30.

All of our receptions will be held in the exhibit hall for you to interact with our sponsors and member service providers. The reception begins at 5:30 and the banquet will begin promptly at 6:30.

Be sure to visit the Foundation Country Store for Farm Bureau items and ag in the classroom books and to bid on items in the silent auction and our Collective Memories exhibit to inspect the photographs from our nearly 100 year history. It is your chance to share your story with us and contribute your knowledge of who is in one of our historical photos.

Stop by the booth of tonight's reception sponsor, Consumers Energy. Enjoy the reception. See you