From: Greg Boerboom
To: Gunderson, Larry (MDA)
Subject: Nitrogen Fertilizer Rule Comments
Date: Friday, August 25, 2017 9:20:04 AM

Dear Supervisor Gunderson,

I am a farmer and wish to express concerns with the Minnesota Department of Agriculture's proposed nitrogen fertilizer rule. Water is important to me and my family and I want to maintain the safest, purist and best water possible, however, there are concerns that need to be addressed in this proposed rule.

Research is key and The Department of Agriculture needs to conduct more thorough research before nitrogen limitations are put into place. Instead of a rule, the Department should support outreach and education efforts to further the adoption of improved nitrogen management practices. Research focus should be on the most up-to-date best management practices, timed applications of nitrogen fertilizer, and usage of precision agriculture technology. Today's technology is so advanced and continues to advance rapidly, taking advantage of this advancement is imperative to maintaining our water quality.

Water quality is a top priority for Minnesota farmers and ranchers. However, I urge the Department to do away with the first part of the proposed rule and instead focus on helping farmers implement best management practices that work on each farm, rather than another one-size fits all approach. One size fits all is not a solution.

Sincerely,

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