

Kansas Cattlemen's Association

For Immediate Release
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EPA Overreaches its Authority with Clean Water Act

Kansas Cattlemen's is pleased with a recent ruling prohibiting the EPA from requiring feed yards and other animal feeding operations to obtain discharge permits under the Clean Water Act. The EPA was attempting to mandate that feeding operations obtain a permit with the presumption of the likeliness that they might pollute state waters.

"Producers have lived off of the land for hundreds of years. They take care of the land to keep it natural and protect water sources to ensure clean water for their animals, their families, and their community. Farmers and ranchers are the stewards of the environment providing safe, quality, and wholesome food for our nation. And yet, the EPA has continually overreached their authority through regulations on production agriculture that only serves to put farmers and rancher out of business and encourage food production to move to foreign countries like China. Producers have no intention of polluting the land and water that they care for every day. Kansas Cattlemen's Association is very pleased with the judgment," stated KCA Executive director, Brandy Carter.

Polluting state waters violates the Clean Water Act and by requiring a permit, some might believe that the EPA is trying to make farmers and ranchers liable for actions that they do not take. Over the last several years, the EPA has been created regulations that target farmers and ranchers.