

## KCA Works to Protect Cattlemen from EPA Classification of GHG as Toxic Pollutant

“If the Environmental Protection Agency is permitted to declare green house gases as a toxic pollutant, then methane, a livestock emission, may be regulated and agriculture may be under attack once again.” The Kansas Cattlemen’s Association testified before the Senate Natural Resources Committee that with no internationally recognized set of standards available to measure livestock emissions, it is irresponsible for the EPA to even consider the possibility of regulating green house gas emissions from livestock sources or declaring them a toxic pollutant.

“Furthermore, gas emissions from cattle, such as methane are naturally occurring and do not endanger public health. Emissions from agricultural sources are minimal,” stated KCA Executive Director Brandy Carter.

“If green house gases from livestock sources are regulated by the EPA as a toxic pollutant, producers could be regulated out of business. With 89.4% of the beef inventory deriving from small ranches, this could be devastating to the U.S. cattle industry. For every dollar earned in agriculture, \$7 is generated in economic stimulus. The economic ramifications of this to rural America much less the national food security issues must be weighed before allowing the EPA to impose unreasonable regulations and declaring all green house gases a toxic pollutant.”

Kansas Cattlemen’s Association strongly encouraged the Senate Committee to look at all consequence of any action taken by the EPA with regards to green house gases.

“Foreign countries do not have the same safety standards for food production as the U.S., nor do foreign countries adhere to the same environmental regulations. If we lose production in Kansas and the U.S., foreign countries will be readily exporting more products to the U.S.,” Carter stated.

Kansas Cattlemen’s Association will continue to address this issue and openly communicate to Congress and the Kansas delegation the importance of intervening to protect U.S. food production from an over reaching EPA.