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PRODUCERS • GINNERS • WAREHOUSEMEN • MERCHANTS • COTTONSEED • COOPERATIVES • MANUFACTURERS

April 11, 2018

Dear Senator,

The National Cotton Council and the undersigned cotton industry organizations fully support the nomination of Andrew Wheeler to be Deputy Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The agency has not had a Senate-confirmed deputy for over a year and needs this position filled in order to more effectively carry out its mission. We believe that Mr. Wheeler is the right person with the necessary qualifications for this position, and therefore, should be confirmed by the Senate.

The EPA fulfills an important role for the cotton industry, especially for our growers across the U.S. cotton belt from Virginia to California. For example, we rely on the efficacy, and the human health and environmental safety, of the crop protection products that EPA registers for use in cotton production. Without these products, numerous pests, diseases, and weeds would devastate cotton production in the U.S. In addition, the regulatory work of EPA on water and air quality regulations have a direct bearing on U.S. cotton farmers and other segments of our industry. Therefore, it is of the utmost importance that vacant leadership positions in the agency are filled in a timely manner with qualified, competent staff.

We appreciate your attention to this important matter and urge your support for Mr. Wheeler when his nomination comes before the Senate.

Sincerely,

National Cotton Council  
Agricultural Council of Arkansas  
Arizona Cotton Growers Association  
Blacklands Cotton and Grain Association  
California Cotton Ginnery and Growers Association  
Delta Council  
Georgia Cotton Commission  
Louisiana Cotton and Grain Association  
Missouri Cotton Producers Association  
North Carolina Cotton Producers Association

Plains Cotton Growers, Inc.  
Rolling Plains Cotton Growers  
Southern Cotton Growers Association  
Southern Rolling Plains Cotton Growers  
South Texas Cotton and Grain Association