

**PFAS Presentation by Lt. Governor Walter Bradley Government and Business Relations for
Dairy Farmers of America**

August 5, 2022

Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee,

I am here to add some insight into the PFAS issue that the Dairy industry is monitoring nationwide while acknowledging Curry County New Mexico is ground zero as PFAS has contaminated the water, soil, animals and their food production and the people who have been exposed. As of today we have more questions than answers.

The first priority is awaiting EPA to provide a standard that can be measured. You may know our New Mexico Secretary of Agriculture, Jeff Witte, was appointed by the EPA Administrator and Chairs the Local Government Advisory Committee. This position has allowed him to monitor the PFAS issue and we have had many discussions. Recently EPA issued a new Health "Advisory" standard. The now old standard was 70 parts per trillion (ppt) for drinking water...the new "advisory" standard has been lowered to .004 ppt which is below detection levels. In discussion with Secretary Witte we conclude that this currently means if there is any detection then your water is contaminated. So then what happens? Do we turn a cities water supply off? We don't know. EPA said in a meeting hosted by Cannon Air Force Base a couple of months ago they working to have real standards sometime in 2023. This is a major major issue for all of us.

Now for a piece of optimism; EPCOR Water Company who is the water supplier for the city of Clovis is currently seeking funding for a feasibility study to clean the contaminated water from wells southeast of Cannon Air Force base. The concept is to tie several wells that are contaminated together and pipe that water to a filtration facility nearby that will remove the PFAS contamination. At that point the uncontaminated water will be piped to one of EPCOR's water treatment plants located a few miles west of Cannon Air Force Base. This project is totally separate from the Air Forces recharge program and in fact should enhance that project. EPCOR'S "conceptual" plan estimates a cost of approximately \$29.4 million.

I thank You and will stand for questions.