

COUNTY OFFICERS

County Auditor	Lisa Herbel
County Treasurer/MVD	Ann Monson
County Recorder	Helen Christenson
County Sheriff	Steve Watson
State's Attorney	A. Swain Benson
Clerk of Courts	Rhonda Langehaug
Tax Director/Zoning Adm.	Lisa Peterson
Social Services	Kelly Jensen
9-1-1 Coordinator	Terry Volk
Disaster Emergency	Richard Hummel
Veteran's Service Officer	Dwight Nahinurk
Road Supervisor	Ritchie Gimbel
Official Newspaper	Courant

**BOTTINEAU COUNTY
NORTH DAKOTA**



314 West Fifth Street
 Bottineau, North Dakota 58318
 Fax (701) 228-5181

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

1 st District	LeRoy Rude Bottineau, ND 58318
2 nd District	Jeff Beyer Bottineau, ND 58318
3 rd District	Daniel Marquardt Bottineau, ND 58318
4 th District	Lance Kjelshus Souris, ND 58783
5 th District	Todd Streich Maxbass, ND 58760

December 5, 2013

Industrial Commission of ND
 Jack Dalrymple, Chairman
 Wayne Stenehjem, Attorney General
 Doug Goehring, Agriculture Commissioner
 State Capitol
 14th Floor, Dept 405
 600 E Boulevard Ave.
 Bismarck, ND 58505-0840

The Bottineau County commission has established a committee to write a letter to your commission with concerns about salt water and oil spills within our County. A letter was sent to your commission on the 7th of November, listing the concerns that the County Commission has over this issue. Our committee was wondering if anything has or will be done about these concerns and if the County will receive any type of response from your Commission.

At the November Bottineau County Commission meeting members of the NW Landowners Association attended and brought these concerns to the County Commission and requested a letter of support. Also, at the meeting was a representative from the Farm Credit Bureau who was asked about obtaining a loan on any land with salt water damage. He said it would be hard to obtain a loan on that land, if not impossible.

Because of all the damage that is done by salt water spills, our committee feels that it is up to all of us to do whatever we can to protect the lands of North Dakota from the severe damage that salt water causes. We are in no way against oil production within the of State North Dakota, but would like to see stiffer enforcement of regulations that relate to oil production to help protect and preserve the lands of our fine State of North Dakota.

Looking forward again to your response

Best regards

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Bottineau County Commission Co-Chair

Lance Hjelshus

Northwest Landowners Association

Larry Peterson

Bottineau County Commission

LeRoy Rude

Northwest Landowners Association

Pete Artz

Bottineau County Emergency Manager

Rick Hummel

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November 7, 2013

NOV 29 2013

Industrial Commission of ND
Jack Dalrymple, Chairman
Wayne Stenehjem, Attorney General
Doug Goehring, Agriculture Commissioner
State Capitol
14th Floor, Dept 405
600 E Boulevard Ave
Bismarck ND 58505-0840

The Bottineau County Commission is writing this letter to show our support for responsible oil development and express our appreciation of the prosperity and economic benefits the oil development brings to our county and citizens.

The Commissioners believe however, that positive actions must be taken to reclaim current sites and prevent future damage from oil field saltwater spills. These spills are happening at an alarming rate and are causing devastating damage to our prime farm and ranch land.

We are asking the Industrial Commission to assist our County with the positive actions to reclaim and protect our land, tax base, and the future of agricultural production and producers in Bottineau County.

We request that the Commission:

1. Require regulatory enforcement that holds violators fully accountable with real consequences for damaging the land that will sustain our rural prosperity for generations to come.
2. Use available resources to do an accounting of acres affected by oil field spills and inadequate reclamation of well sites.
3. Develop a plan to reclaim land to pre-exploration conditions so the land regains full productivity.

We look forward to working with your Commission and hearing from you soon.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeff Beyer,
Bottineau County Commissioner Chairman