

Family Farming and Leading the Way on Climate Change 2016 Special Order of Business

Farmers, ranchers and rural residents are a large part of the solution in helping mitigate rising greenhouse gas emissions through the development of renewable energy and through implementation of carbon sequestration and sustainability measures that are scientifically proven to reduce these greenhouse gases.

NFU urges adoption of policies that transition away from coal and oil-based electrical generation and towards renewable energy that emits no carbon and uses no water, and furthermore calls for the phasing out of all federal subsidies to fossil fuel industries and those funds be used to incentivize the development and deployment of wind and solar electric generation.

NFU urges Congress and the Administration to consider and mitigate the negative impacts on our economy of eliminating coal-fired power plants before they achieve their maximum intended life cycle.

NFU should lead efforts to help educate family farmers, ranchers and rural communities about how to adapt to the effects climate change on their respective operations, as well as the enormous economic benefits that homegrown renewable energy brings to our rural areas.

NFU calls upon Congress to fund land-grant universities and USDA to do the necessary research to help farmers and ranchers better increase the water holding capacity and resiliency of our nation's soils through changing cropping patterns, production and conservation practices, and carbon sequestration.

NFU supports the promotion of voluntary conservation practices that focus on water quality and quantity concerns.

NFU should lead and support efforts for the advancement of carbon storage in the soils of family farmers, ranchers, and agro-foresters, with new agriculture-based markets that reward those that practice and implement conservation techniques scientifically proven to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.